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A Study of Leadership in Greenwich Village

by

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

<u>CHAPTER</u>		<u>PAGE</u>
	Preface	1
I	The Aim and Methods of the Study	1
	1. Statement of the problem,	
	2. The importance of the problem.	
	3. The mode of procedure.	
	a. Interviews.	
	b. Reading.	
II	The History of Greenwich Village	6
III	Recent Changes in Greenwich Village	14
IV	Facts about Leaders in the Area	20
V	Work of the Leaders in the Area	34
VI	The Outstanding Needs of the Area	50
	Bibliography	64
	Appendix	

NOV 6 1929 17013 Gift of Miss Brindley

PREFACE

The Greenwich Village district secretary of the Charity Organization Society found it impossible to get capable people who were sufficiently interested in the affairs of the Village to serve on special committees which are technically called "Case Conferences." She felt that a study of the leadership of the area would reveal some of the reasons for this situation and would acquaint her with other leaders who were willing and capable to serve but previously unknown to her. As a result the problem was referred to one of the sociology classes of New York University and this study was undertaken by the writer with four others from the class who assisted in the interviewing.

The work of the Charity Organization Society is of an investigating nature. When it has found a case needing relief the appropriate agency is called upon to render the needed assistance. The city is divided into districts with a secretary for each district. "The district offices are neighborhood centers where committees of residents of the vicinity and representatives of the local social agencies consult, in order to bring to the help of families needing assistance the maximum resources of the neighborhood. These committees also are frequently able to obviate abuses and improve living conditions in their territory. In each of the districts salaried and volunteer visitors carry out the plans of the committee for the welfare of the families under their care." (1)

(1) Directory of Social Agencies, New York, 1926--P. 63.

This was found to be a difficult field to study as very little has been written to aid in the interpretation. Much time was consumed in making the interviews and it was impossible to achieve a complete study of all leaders.

The study could hardly have been made without the aid of many helpful suggestions received from numerous sources. Most of the people who were interviewed were sympathetic and anxious to help by giving any information which they had. Suggestions regarding the method to follow and interpretation of materials were given by the Professor and others. For this assistance the writer is greatly indebted.

Chapter I

The Aim and Methods of the Study

The aim of this study is to make a general survey of the leadership of Greenwich Village. The boundaries of the original Village are usually placed at Fourteenth Street on the north, Sixth Avenue on the East, Charlton Street on the south and the Hudson River on the west. Because the Village has expanded, the boundaries for this study were changed to Canal Street on the south and to West Broadway and Fifth Avenue on the east. The boundaries on the north and west remain the same.

The chief things to be discovered are:

1. The known facts about leaders in various professions in this area.
2. Work of the leaders in the area.
3. The outstanding needs of the area.
4. Reasons social agencies are unable to find leaders who are interested in serving on Committees.

The writer was unable to find any other complete study similar to this and comparatively very little on leadership. Carl W. Strow, Professor of Sociology at Knox College, Galesbury, Illinois, made a study of the leadership of his town. He has published only two articles giving parts of his method and his findings. One is "The

Turnover of Leadership in the Community" (1) and the other is "Human Resources for Community Welfare." (2)

The method used in this study of leadership in Greenwich Village included, first, a reading of material bearing upon the subject of leadership in general and, also, that giving a general sociological background for a community study, followed by personal interviews. A few who were acquainted in the Village suggested the names of leaders. The membership list of the Lower West Side Council of Social Agencies was secured, also. With these for a basis the interviewing was started and those who were interviewed suggested the names of other leaders.

The importance and the logic of this type of study is well expressed by Strow. "Scientists have been surveying our natural resources and mapping out prospective wealth in terms of ore deposits, etc., so now science is turning its attention to analyzing our human resources and to estimating our human wealth." (3)

Since not all of the leaders could be interviewed personally the sampling method was used. An attempt was made to see two or three outstanding personalities of every nationality, every type of leadership and organization. This was not done in every instance. The leaders of the various

(1) Strow, C. W. - Journal of Applied Sociology. March 1926. P. 366

(2) Strow, C. W. - Social Forces. March 1926. P. 563

nationalities proved to be especially difficult to find.

The names of the leaders were divided among the interviewers chiefly according to their personal interests. Appointments for the interviews were made by telephone. Greatest success was attained when the interviewer explained that she was from New York University gathering material for a special study of leadership. This made the one to be interviewed feel at ease and willing to give any information without the fear of having his or her name made public. Contrary to the usual experience in interviewing it was found possible to take a few notes while talking, without any fear on the part of the person being questioned. The one essential point was to look straight into the face of the one being interviewed and read there the reaction to the questions asked. It was found best to gather facts from a general conversation when possible, the interviewer supplying leading questions when needed.

A definite schedule was made for the interviewing but it had to be modified to suit the individual. The general scheme was as follows:

- (1) Observation concerning age, general appearance of person and of surroundings.
- (2) Personality as observed by writer or associates of the individual.
- (3) In how many organizations do you hold an office?
- (4) In how many others are you a member?

- (5) Name of all the organizations.
 - a. How active in each?
 - b. How much time do they take?
 - c. What are your leading interests?
- (6) List of organizations in area with the officers, board of directors and address of each.
 - a. Get copies of annual reports if possible.
 - b. Type of membership of each.
 - c. Leaders in these organizations.
- (7) How much do you know about the social organizations in the area? (concrete questions were asked about the community.)
- (8) Who are the leaders in the neighborhood at present?
In Village?
 - a. Name. b. Address. c. Description of what they are doing. d. Age. e. Sex. f. Religion. g. Nationality.
- (9) What kind of cooperation exists among various leaders?
- (10) To what extent do leaders of various groups overcome the prejudices of religion and nationality?
- (11) What are the outstanding problems of the community?
- (12) What does the Village need most in the way of leadership?
- (13) What changes have taken place in leadership?
 - a. Do these changes reflect changes in the Village?
 - b. If so, what?

(14) Mobility of leaders.

- a. How many leaders were born in the area?
- b. Where have people come from, if from outside the area?
- c. Do you live in the area or outside?
- d. How long have you lived where you now live?
- e. If outside, how do you happen to be interested in the area?
- f. Are you a leader elsewhere and merely living in the area?

(15) Mobility of the population.

- a. What is the rate of mobility of population - incoming and outgoing?
- b. How does this affect the problems of leadership?

(16) Do you have opportunity to participate in community projects as much as you desire? Would you like to do volunteer work of some kind? If so, what?

The facts acquired were recorded after each interview was made.

Chapter II

History of Greenwich Village

Greenwich Village is the oldest known settlement on the Island of Manhattan. When Hendrick Hudson reached the island in 1609 he found this section inhabited by the Indian tribe, "Sappokainkan". Like all Indians they had the gift of picking out the best location for their wigwams. This section was the finest, richest and driest of the island. There were cleared fields, and woods that furnished a wonderful hunting region. The Minetta Waters, which cut this section off from the rest of the island, furnished their fishing. These waters remained famous for many years for their brook trout.

About 1625 Peter Minuit, one of the Dutch governors of New Amsterdam, purchased Manhattan Island from the Indians for \$24. He set aside this choice spot for the Dutch West India Company. Governor Wouter Van Twiller appropriated it for himself. Near Clarkson Street he built a mansion for his home and started the cultivation of the fields by raising tobacco. Peter Stuyvesant, in turn, took the property when he came into power.

Later the English captured New Amsterdam from the Dutch. This property was granted to Sir Peter Warren in 1744, who continued raising tobacco. He made his summer

home here, and gave it the name of Greenwich. Others became interested and built homes, making it a fashionable resort. Only the wealthy could live here. The only mode of travel was by the stage coach which started from Canal Street.

It gradually grew into a little Village, the streets being named for many English people. With the end of the Revolution and the passing of the British rule every name that could remind them of England and English ways was changed but those named for the English who were friendly to America, such as Sheridan Square, remained.

In 1822 an epidemic of yellow fever hit the small city which lay south of Canal Street. For some reason which they were unable to explain there was no sickness in Greenwich Village. The secret as later explained by science was good drainage and no mosquitoes. Thousands fled to the highlands of the north - our Village of today - and camped out for the summer. Public offices and stores were hurriedly opened and banks were moved into tents along the lane, hence the name Bank Street today. Tradition has it that all who knew the safe combinations died during a previous epidemic. As a result they were unable to get any money out until a boat could go to the old country and bring back one who knew the combinations.

This sudden influx demanded street improvement. Existing streets were lengthened, foot paths and alleys

were widened, but all done without any regard to regularity." (1) In time the Village was swallowed up by the city. The Village streets were changed, attempting to make them fit with the city streets. This proved an impossible task. These irregularities in the streets are taken as conclusive proof that there is still today a Greenwich Village, separate and distinct from New York. "The city streets and the Village streets come together, but, like chemicals of opposing natures, refuse to join".(2) "West Fourth Street starts regularly and properly, at Seventh Avenue it begins to go wild. It runs amuck across West Tenth Street, West Eleventh and Twelfth Streets and finally in despair of penetrating further north commits suicide in the arms of West Thirteenth Street." (3)

Many interesting historic places are connected with the Village. In 1796 they were displaying the state prison with great pride. From Barclay to Chambers Street was College Place, the original site of Kings College, which later became Columbia University. A Potter's Field was located at the present Washington Square until 1823, when it was moved up to 42nd and Sixth Avenue because it was too near the Village.

- (1) Hemstreet, Chas., Nooks and Corners of Old New York. P.101
- (2) Hemstreet, Chas., When Old New York was Young. P. 94
- (3) Suydan, E. H., and Irvin, Will,
High Lights of Manhattan, P. 95

One of the old inhabitants gave the following brief history of the Village, after saying with great pride that she was born there, as was her father before her.

(1) The Village was formerly a beautiful spot with lots of lovely trees, green grass and beautiful two story homes. At the corner of King and Hudson Streets was a pump where the children stopped to get water going to and from school. Grove Street school, now number 3, was "The School" of the area and Morton Street was "The Street". The homes were occupied by many wealthy and prominent people.

The first settlers of the area were Dutch. It was a very select section. Germans and Irish moved in. Jones and Cornelia Streets which were occupied by negroes were the only dirty streets of the area. The Italians moved in and made the negroes move out. Though a very few are still left in the district the Italians keep pushing up into the Village area.

Artists first came in because of the beauty of the place. They started the Bohemian atmosphere - cellar holes and lofts for tea rooms. The respectable people of the area would not live with them and moved out since the artists were there to stay. There is a great change in population; I see few people I know now when going up and down the streets and I once knew every one. Some claim the Village is coming back to its old reputation as a cultured place, but I don't believe it ever will. (1)

Not all of these details agree with those gained from other people, but it does give a vivid picture of the beauty of the place, the true Village characteristics which it had, and the pride with which old residents think of it.

With the development of the uptown area, the more wealthy inhabitants started moving up there from the Village, either from personal choice or because of the urge of their

(1) Interview with former Villager.

children. Twenty years ago business started to invade the area, but was stopped. Still more residents left. Owners of the houses would not spend their money on modern improvements. As a result of all this the substantial and dignified mansions became cheap boarding houses and sweat shops. The poor element was getting control because of the low value of property and the cheap rent.

In the "Romantic Nineties" of the last century budding aspirants of fine arts began to inhabit the Village. "The district was short on bath tubs and long on colonial fan lights, short on sanitation and long on carved marble fire places, short on steam heat and long on mysterious doorways. Add that the French population with their unsurpassed table d'hote restaurants fringed it on one side, that the Italians with their color and vivacity impinged on the other, that rents were ridiculously cheap and any one who understands artists knows why they preferred Greenwich Village to Harlem." (1)

These facts give us the reason for Greenwich Village becoming the Bohemian area or Latin quarters of New York. A real estate man saw how the property was decreasing in value because of the cheap element in the area.

(1) Suydam, E. H., and Irwin, Will, -
High Lights of Manhattan. P. 97

He had a vision. He bought up all the property that he could get. He remodelled the houses, putting in heat, lights, modern plumbing and other conveniences. He hired a news reporter to give publicity to the Village in the daily papers. For this reason many people were interested and moved into the area. Today he gets \$3000 per month rent for 124 Waverly Place instead of \$75 per month as 12 years ago.

On a walk through the Village today one is most impressed by great variety in human nature and the surroundings. Business, slums, and lovely homes are all sandwiched together. In the windows on one street the curtains look expensive and well kept. The next building may convey the futuristic atmosphere. In the basements are attractive tea rooms. On the next street one hears only foreign languages, sees meat shops and poorly kept grocery stores. Rising up from the basements are all kinds of vile odors. On the upper floors are dirty curtains or bare windows. On the fire escapes and elsewhere clothes are hanging to dry. All is in striking contrast with the last street.

Doubtless each Villager would give a different reason for living in the area but certain basic facts are true for all. The following document gives us a vivid picture of the present life among the artists and

explains the "atmosphere" which is so attractive to them.

Reason for the Village Being my Choice of a Place to Live.

(2) "The Village" in this collective sense is largely an illusion. By this, I mean not that it does not exist, but in the nature of illusions, it exists differently for each individual. Nearly every one there who has taken the trouble to analyze his purpose has a reason which is individual. There are, however, general likenesses in what people hope to get out of this strange little metropolitan by-path.

The most important, the most maligned and the most illusory in many ways, is the atmosphere of unconventionality. I say "atmosphere" advisedly because it is rather a sense of freedom than freedom itself. Nearly every Villager I have heard express himself or herself has done it to this effect - "I want to be free to do what I please even tho' I don't take the trouble to do it." It is a kind of defense mechanism against the sense of oppression and sense of unimportance that the highly institutionalized schools and firms induce in persons, subjects and complexes. The individual, that over-developed entity in the boundaries of the Village, has a chance to "express himself" (another by-word). This may or may not be a fact because, of course, the really important social inhibitions or whatever you call them work as well here as other places. I find the chief laxity in the smaller details - table etiquette, the wearing of clothes in a certain manner, standardization of interior decorations are avoided more or less obviously. There is a deliberate attempt to ignore these useless conventions. Conservative people are apt to stigmatize this attitude as highly conventional in a kind of perverse way. This is perhaps true, but the fact remains that there is only one way of being conventional, while the number of ways of expressing unconventionality is unlimited.

I think, too, that there is less observation of the modes of life of other people. I have lived uptown in New York, and find there that the population is more or less permanent, and eventually one finds the same criticism of other people that is supposedly characteristic of the small town. This

is not so evident in the Village because the population is much less permanent and because there is a kind of tacit observance of the individuality ideal. There is gossip enough but little criticism.

Further, the physical features of the Village are attractive. The houses are small and infinitely more home-like than the hive-like apartments. The streets are crooked and old-world, and the rather too rapidly increasing background of noisy Italian children provides good local color.

The Village serves its purpose. It imitates an older civilization, stresses a careless, artistic atmosphere in the midst of a highly standardized civilization. By its very nature, this kind of a community (if I have the right to call it that) must be artificial. But it temporarily satisfies people of a restless temperament. These things do happen unexpectedly. The small typical restaurant and tea room cultivates an attitude of easy informality, so that there is frequently a genuine opportunity to watch people of a different type.

Some of the proprietors of these places are worthy of separate study. They watch the Villagers, the would-be-Villagers, the semi-drunk up town Villagers with a kind of amused impersonality that implies superiority. This type is usually a middle aged Italian. There is also the Village restaurant that has a smoked proprietress who cultivates atmosphere by one ear ring, a cigarette and an exaggerated ease of manner. Most persons who are patently "Villagers" are frauds. There is a great deal of this people who are not frank enough to go after liquor and sex freedom under their own names, but pursue them intently under the guise of "art" and "liberty". But there are a good number of people in the little houses and odd streets of the Village who live quietly and who "want to be free to do what they please, whether or not they do it." (1)

(1) Villager's own story.

Chapter III

Recent Changes in Greenwich Village

In the history of Greenwich Village it was discovered that real estate men saved it from boarding houses and sweat shops. Through the publicity given the area the Bohemian element was attracted to it. The middle class and semi-wealthy saw the attractiveness and romance of that section of the city and they also started moving in.

The rector of the church St. John the Evangelist desired to remedy the condition of tenements and rundown apartments which were surrounding his parish. One by one the houses were acquired, then remodeled into apartments of distinction and charm. The back yards of these houses have been made into one beautiful Italian garden. This great change has brought cultured people into the houses, and many people of prominence. Among these we find Eva Le Gallienne.

These changes are encouraging other people to invest in real estate in the area. The result is that more homes are being remodeled and new apartments are being built. The occupants of these apartments are usually people with no children.

(3) "This remodeling of apartments is bringing in studios and the type of people who have no children. They don't ask God any thing about what they should do. They live a selfish life. (1)

These new apartments are higher than the old buildings and the result is that they are spoiling the light for the studios of the area. Some of the artists are forced to use a new electric light which makes colors true but they regard artificial light as unsatisfactory.

With increasing publicity as to the romantic atmosphere of the area and these improvements in property has come a great increase in rent.

(4) I live near Columbia and pay \$85 per month for a cozy, comfortable apartment. The Village price for an old and poorly equipped apartment is the same or higher. (2)

(5) Real Estate men have bought up the property and have improved it in order to bring a better element into the district and obtain higher rent. In my day rent has been raised from \$9 to \$125 for the same apartment, with little improvement. (3)

(6) The Village is being exploited by pseudo-artists and freaks and, particularly, by speculators in real estate. The poorer classes are really suffering and being forced to even denser crowding. The block on which the school stands is an example. The tenements opposite are worth at most from \$15 to \$30 a month. They have little light, very poor equipment and in some cases practically no modern improvement in spite of the tenement laws. Several of these have been bought, renovated just enough to come within the law, and now rent from \$40 to \$60 a room. (Not an apartment). (4)

- (1) Interview with principal of public school.
- (2) Interview with librarian of the Village.
- (3) Interview with teacher of the Village.
- (4) Interview with teacher of the Village.

Many others give the same story concerning high rents in the area.

We find also that these high rents which the wealthy are willing to pay are driving out the Bohemian element. "Greenwich Village was one of the last Bohemias of the world, and now it is perishing, as we are told, under the patronage of the rich. It had its beginnings because its rent was low, and it created an atmosphere much too attractive to persons to whom rents mean nothing".(1)

Prohibition has closed the saloons of the area but hip flasks and "speak easies" have taken their place. The latter are found in many tea rooms. They are an out-growth of the care-free gatherings the real Villagers previously had in their tea rooms.

(7) Polly ran a tea room in an old shack. The real Villagers gathered there each evening in bed room slippers and kimonas for a social chat after their days' work. She was persuaded to go into partnership with a couple of fellows from uptown who induced her to remodel the place as Greenwich Village Inn of today. Then came a crowd of curiosity seekers and jazzers from uptown. (2)

(8) The real Village tea rooms are in cellars more or less concealed. Here the artists meet in a social way. The uptown people are attracted by the artificial local color created by business and found in more conspicuous places where, with their hip flasks, they spend thrilling evenings. (3)

- (1) Editorial, Our Fading Bohemia, Literary Digest, February 18, 1928. P. 25
- (2) Interview with Villager.
- (3) Interview with Villager.

(9) We artists never go to those tea rooms. They are visited only by the uptown people hunting for a thrill and something to drink, and also by fake poets and painters of the Village. We who live here for the freedom of life which is possible call such places slums. (1)

The uptown people seem to think that the Village is a free area where they can do as they please and no one will report them or will even resent anything they do.

(10) The great change in the character of the Village came with prohibition, jazz, hip flask, and thrill seekers mistaking license for liberty. (2)

The permanent influence of this kind of places upon the young girls who come into the area, depends upon them and their background.

(11) To a girl who has led a normal adolescence used to entertaining and meeting people and able to make social contacts in ordinary situations, the Village is a new field, a play ground for curiosity, fun, and temporary amusement. She enjoys a new experience and then returns to the kind of life she lived before. The Village craze fills the interim while new and more satisfying primary contacts with real friends and permanent interests are being formed.

On the other hand, the girl who is unable to depend upon her own resources during the period of readjustment to a new life, or the girl who is a bit "off color" in her standards (defined as she who mistakes and desires license for liberty) becomes a "hanger on" at one of the many Village haunts, and gradually connects herself with the group of, for the most part, lonely, unsatisfied people, who comprise a distinct strata of Village society. These gradually sink into a lowered moral standard and general looseness and laxness of life from which they cannot wrench themselves. (3)

- (1) Interview with artist of Village.
- (2) Interview with Villager.
- (3) Interview with social worker.

Prohibition has had a different influence upon the poor and the working class.

(12) The present unemployment situation is, of course, taxing the band of nurses but they feel that this is only temporary and, compared to other periods of seasonal and periodic unemployment, it is of little consequence. A good part of this is due to prohibition; the closing of the saloons has actually led to savings bank accounts, which are of use now; and in the neighboring Italian district bootlegging has brought riches unknown before. (1)

The Holland tunnel, which has been completed in the past year, is making the Village a most accessible area to commuters. This accessibility makes it an ideal section for business and the result is that homes are being crowded out by business.

(13) Commercialism has come into the area and crowded the homes out. All the buildings around us are new and they are either business houses or loft buildings. This makes the rent problem a great one. (2)

The subway extension which is now under construction in the Village has required the tearing down of numerous tenement houses. This has tended to increase rents. Many people have been forced to move out of the area and others have moved into smaller apartments.

(14) The new subway cut has required 3500 Italian families to move out of the area. (3)

(15) The subway coming through this section has moved many people out of the area and has forced others to live in more crowded conditions. (4)

- (1) Interview with social worker.
- (2) Interview with one who has taught in area 20 years.
- (3) Statement made by secretary of Lower Manhattan Industrial Association.
- (4) Statement made by teacher of the area.

Each school visited reported a decrease in its enrollment and one public school in the area has been closed because of this decrease.

(16) In the ten years which I have been principal of this school the enrollment has dropped from 3000 to 2000 children. The reasons are:
 (1) attraction of outlying boroughs. (2) the Sixth Avenue extension which moved many families away.
 (3) prosperity takes people to better quarters.
 (4) the remodeling of apartments brings in the type of people who have dogs and no children. (1)

This partial crowding out of poor people causes resentment on the part of those who are left in the area.

(17) Until three years ago we lived on Twenty First Street. There we knew our neighbors who were laborers. We always spoke to each other and were friendly. But we have never been able to win the friendship of our neighbors here. They feel that our presence has made their rent higher and so they resent our being here. (2)

The changes which have taken place among the working class are well summed up in the report from Greenwich House.

(18) Then came the after-war. Vast changes have taken place to which we have yet to adjust ourselves completely. Still we are called upon for help, but not so often as in the needy days of old. For so many the whole level of life has altered. Gone are the days of coal cards, of ice cards, of workrooms for the unemployed. Fewer families are afraid to meet their landlords, furniture no longer fills the sidewalk on the first of the month. Gone are the shawls from the heads, the breakfast-less children. Gone - from our district at least - are the gunmen. (We had one for a janitor for a year, and a good one he was.) Gone the saloons and the shoot-ups; there are fewer fights. There is more money and more understanding of how to spend it. (3)

- (1) Statement made by principal of school.
- (2) Interview with labor worker.
- (3) Simkhovitch, Mary K., The Story of Greenwich House. 1928

Chapter IV

Facts about Leaders in the Area

As previously stated, the boundaries of Greenwich Village for this study are: Fourteenth Street on the North, the Hudson River on the West, Canal Street on the South and West Broadway and Fifth Avenue on the East.

In making a study of the leadership of the area, the first problem was to decide who and what constituted the leadership. Since the word itself denotes guidance, or drawing along or going before, the study was directed toward those who as individuals or through institutions apparently exerted the most influence over the area, whether for good or bad. An attempt was made to find the outstanding professions and nationalities of the area, and a few of the outstanding people from each of these groups were sought in order to find their interests, their relationship to the Village and their idea of the needs of the Village. The essential known facts about these people are tabulated. This furnishes the basis for the development of this subject. As an introduction to the leaders the professional classification of those interviewed is given.

Table I - Professional Classification of Leaders

<u>PROFESSION</u>	<u>NUMBER OF PEOPLE</u>
Social Worker	16
Medicine	2
Education	13
Business	11
Law	3
Clergy	12
Church Worker	7
Literary Field	5
Art	9
Drama	2
Total	80

Table II - Approximate Age of Leaders

Range of years	20-30	30-40	40-50	50-60	60-70	Total
Number of individuals	3	16	14	30	14	77
Percentage of totals	3.89	20.77	18.19	39.96	18.19	100%

A study of these people with regard to their age is just an approximation except in the instances when they told their ages with great pride, either because of their extreme youth or because of their many years. The youngest in the group was found to be 25 while the oldest is 70. It is observed from Table II that a majority of the leaders are between 50 and 60 years of age.

Table III - Sex and Marital Status of Leaders

	<u>Men</u>	<u>Women</u>	<u>Total</u>
Married	20	18	41
Married and with family	(12)	(6)	(18)
Not married	<u>10</u>	<u>27</u>	<u>33</u>
Totals	30	45	74
Marital Status unknown			6

Table III reveals the fact that the number of married and unmarried people, among those interviewed, are evenly divided and also that the number of men and number of women who are married is almost the same. (1) About half of those who are married have families. The absence of children among these people may indicate general attitudes toward family life which may be prominent in such areas as the Bohemian group represents.

Of those who have families twelve are men while six are women. At least two of these women have small children, which they leave in the care of another while they work. Children in the other families are older and do not need the care of the mother.

The number of unmarried women is more than twice as large as that of unmarried men. This may indicate, not

(1) Of these, only in three instances were both man and wife interviewed.

necessarily, the predominance of single women, but that the type of work in the Village is carried on successfully by them while it apparently appeals less strongly to men. There is no way to tell whether these women have acquired a profession because they are not married or that because of their profession they did not marry.

Of the ten unmarried men six are Roman Catholic priests.

One instance of a Boston Marriage and one instance of free love were found in this group. The latter form is said to be unpopular because it is harder to separate than in the case of a legal marriage.

Religion does not play an important part in the leadership of the area. Though a large percentage of the population is Catholic, the greatest number of those who were interviewed are Protestant. Of the Protestant denominations the Episcopal Church has the highest number of representatives. Most of the Episcopalians told their church affiliation with great pride, especially the members of the Church of Saint John the Evangelist, which has within recent years added a colony of houses and an Italian garden to its possessions.

Table IV - Religious Affiliation of Leaders

<u>Churches</u>	<u>Number</u>
1. Protestant	28
a. Episcopal 20	
b. Presbyterian 6	
c. Baptist 1	
d. Salvation Army 1	
2. Catholic	18
3. Jewish	1
4. Church unknown	23
5. No church	<u>10</u>
Total	80

In relation to the church affiliation, a study was made of the number of churches in the area. It was discovered that the number of leaders of each church is well proportioned according to the number of organizations of each church in the area.

Table V - The Churches of the Area

<u>Churches of the Area. (1)</u>	<u>Number</u>
Lutheran	1
Episcopal	4
Presbyterian	4
Baptist	3
Methodist	3
Catholic	6
Jewish Synagogue	2
Christian Science	1
Interdenominational	<u>2</u>
Total	26

(1) New York Federation of Churches.

One fact showing that religion has an unimportant part in the leadership is that one eighth of those interviewed claimed no vital interest in religion, while the others, except in the case of ministers and church workers, claimed no vital interest in the churches even though they are nominally members.

In only one instance is there found any religious prejudice. This is not between two churches, but between a church and an organization which has no religious views. There seems to be a dislike by each for the work carried on by the other. Neither of the leaders of these organizations would talk freely; so it was impossible to find the root of the trouble.

Though there is no prejudice, neither is there any cooperation among the various churches. Each church plans its own program according to its own desires without any regard for the others and their work. Four church workers intimated that their work would be more successful if they were willing to cooperate more, but no one seems to desire to make such a movement for fear the other will not follow.

Table VI - Nationality of the Leaders

<u>NATIONALITY</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>PERCENT</u>
Jewish	1	1.25
Syrian	1	1.25
Irish	1	1.25
French	1	1.25
Scotch	1	1.25
Belgium	1	1.25
English	2	2.50
German	2	2.50
Spanish	4	5.00
Italian	4	5.00
American	59	73.75
Unknown	<u>3</u>	<u>3.75</u>
Total	80	100.00

The largest number of the people who were interviewed was found to be Americans, though the population as a whole is largely foreign. An effort was made to find the leaders among the foreign people but it proved to be an impractical task.

(19) It is said that there are leaders among the foreigners but I could not discover who they are or any thing about them. I talked with one of the more educated Spanish girls about this but she did not know any who could be classed as leaders. (1)

(20) One finds no leaders among the Italians. They let the neighborhood houses and other such organizations be their leaders. (2)

There is doubtless an unconscious leadership among these people. They follow without realizing it, so that in their own minds they have no leaders.

- (1) Interview with teacher who has been in the area 7 years.
 (2) Interview with successful Italian business man.

The great lack of national prejudice among the children is shown by the wonderful spirit between the various nationalities in the public schools.

(21) Most of the children are Italian, but we have a few Negroes and Jews. There appears to be the greatest feeling of friendship. Because these people have been in this country for two or three generations, they have lost their national traditions, and feel that all are the same. (1)

(22) In this school the enrollment according to nationality comes in the following order in respect to number: Spanish, Italian, Irish, German, Czecho-Slovakian, Greek, Russian, with one Jew and one Chinese. There is absolutely no racial antagonism. There is a good spirit and understanding between the parents and the school. (2)

The presence of this friendly spirit among the children suggests its existence among the parents, since they, especially the Italians, are inevitably the ones who foster among their children antagonism or unfriendliness. In only one instance was there found any national prejudice. This was between an Irish parish and an Italian parish. Neither would talk freely for fear of being quoted and causing more trouble.

Most of those interviewed claimed that politics played an important part in leadership but would not state in what way. A study of the political organizations reveals that they do a great deal of social service work expecting votes in return for the service rendered. That is an easy way for the poor people to pay their debts and they

(1) Interview with public school principal.
(2) Interview with public school principal.

gladly accept the terms, thus obligating them to do as their political leader says do.

(23) We do a regular social service work among the poor. We supply their needs as far as possible when they are worthy. Our chief task right now is to find work for the unemployed. We in turn get their vote. The captains and district leaders visit among their people in order to find their needs and to keep their friendship so that they will vote for us. The wealthy people read their papers and keep informed. They don't want to be bothered with visits from political leaders. We have their votes anyway. (1)

The aim of each political club appears to be to get all of their members to vote their own ticket. In order to win this friendship and vote, it is the duty of the club leaders to help any family in any way possible. When this family receives help it is obligated to vote the ticket of the one who helps.

Table VII - Mobility of Leaders

<u>PERIOD OF YEARS</u>	<u>NUMBER OF PEOPLE</u>	<u>PER CENT OF PEOPLE</u>
Born in area.	6	7.5
35-40	3	3.75
30-35	2	2.5
25-30	3	3.75
20-25	4	5.0
15-20	3	3.9
10-15	13	16.25
5-10	7	8.75
1- 5	21	26.25
Years in area unknown	<u>18</u>	<u>22.5</u>
Total	80	100.0

"The turnover of leadership serves as an index of change in society." (2) One-fourth of these people have

- (1) Interview with Republican political leader. The Democratic leader told practically the same story.
- (2) Strow, Carl W., Journal of Applied Sociology. May 1925. P. 367

been there less than five years, while one-sixth have been there between ten and fifteen years. Three of them have lived there 40 years, while six were born in the area. This shows that new leaders are continually coming in even though some of the former ones remain. The reason for this will be further explained by the classification of the leaders. The history of the Village shows the continued change in the make-up of the population. With the incoming of each new type of people and work comes a new set of leaders.

Table VIII - The Relationship of the Leaders
to the Life of the Village

	<u>Number of people.</u>	<u>Per cent of people.</u>
Live in Village and work in Village	42	52.5
Live outside Village and work in the Village	26	32.5
Live in Village and work outside	<u>12</u>	<u>15.0</u>
Total	80	100.0

The figures from Table VIII show that about one half the leaders of the area both live and do their work in the area, these being chiefly clergy and church workers, with a number of social workers, artists and business people. Much of their work affects people outside the

Village and is not purely community work. Their interest is in the success of their own enterprise whether it makes or mars community life. Practically one-third live elsewhere but come into the Village for their work. These include chiefly educators and social workers. The fifteen per cent who live in the Village and work outside are evenly divided among the various professions and have no interest in the Village except as a comfortable place in which to live and to enjoy the "atmosphere". Through attempts to interview certain people it was discovered that there are many who have this interest.

(24) We have lived in the Village only a few years and we know nothing about it. We have absolutely no interest in the place except its "atmosphere". All of our connections are with outside organizations and they are numerous. We really are too busy to see you and we would be of no assistance to you if we had the time. (1)

(1) Interview over telephone with Villager, and typical of several which were made.

Table IX - Organization Affiliation of Leaders

Membership in Organizations				Offices in Organizations (1)	
Number of people who have membership	Number of Organizations	In the Village	Outside the Village	Number of people who hold Offices	Number of Organizations
1	1	1	0	12	1
2	1	0	1	5	2
3	2	1	1	2	3
2	2	0	2	2	4
1	3	0	3	3	6
2	3	2	1	1	18
1	3	1	2		
1	4	2	2		
1	4	1	3		
1	5	1	4		
1	5	0	5		
1	5	2	3		
1	6	0	6		
1	6	2	4		
1	6	2	2		
3	6	4	3		
1	7	3	3		
1	7	1	6		
1	7	5	2		
1	7	2	5		
1	10	1	9		
1	10	2	8		
1	24	2	22		
1	32	2	32		
1	Numberless	2	Numberless		
1	Numberless	3	Numberless		
4	Numberless	-	-		
20	Organization unknown	-	-		
Total	58			25	34

Table IX giving the organizations affiliation of these people is not complete because many did not appear willing to give that information. This table makes clear the fact that practically all are in numerous organizations although not so many hold offices.

(1) They did not divide their offices according to area.

A great many stated that they were "mail order members" of most of their organizations and really took no active part in them. Others said that high dues kept them from becoming members of more. For others, lack of time prevented membership in greater number. Many have membership in professional clubs which are an aid in their line of work. Eight people are studying at Universities in the city.

In most instances the greater individual membership is in organizations which do not belong to the Village. The Lower West Side Council (1) appears to be the most popular Village organization. Other organizations are the Washington Square Association, Greenwich House, numerous health groups, and numerous small clubs among the artists and poets.

One person after giving her organization affiliation added "And you will find my name in the Social Register".(2) After a study of the register seven of their names were found, and nine were found to be in Who's Who in America. (3)

- (1) The Council of Lower West Side Social Agencies is a clearing house of all the social service agencies of that section of the city.
- (2) "Records full names and address of members of prominent families, grouped together, the clubs to which they belong, marriage, death, European arrival and departure of each person as it may occur".
Social Register, New York 1928.
- (3) Who's Who in America, 1928.

Chapter V

Work of the Leaders in the Area

In order to see what is being accomplished for social betterment by certain types of leadership a study is made of the work being done by the individual leaders of each professional group and the institutions through which they work.

Among the social workers one would logically conclude that Mrs. Simkhovitch is the outstanding leader, and that Greenwich House, of which she is director, sponsored by The Cooperative Social Settlement Society of the City of New York, is the most influential neighborhood house of the area.

(25) Why don't you go to Mrs. Simkhovitch for this information? She knows the community better than any one else and is a very popular and influential person among the people. (1)

(26) You should go to Greenwich House for this information. We keep no records here but go there for any facts or figures we may want. (2)

(27) The work of Greenwich House so over-shadows all others that it is the first mentioned in considering the Health work done in this district. It is a headquarters for so many agencies. (3)

The aim of Greenwich House as stated in the certificate of incorporation, May 26, 1902, (4) is:

"For social, educational and civic improvements, to be carried on in conjunction and association with the people residing in the neighborhood". "The Story of Greenwich

(1) Interview with Villager and typical of many.

(2) Interview with Clergy of the Village.

(3) Interview with Health worker.

(4) Simkhovitch, Mary K., The Story of Greenwich House, 1928.

House" written by Mrs. Mary K. Simkhovitch, gives in a little more detailed way the work done by the House and how its workers have been one with their neighbors to see their needs and then supply them. Their plan is: "Not to dictate from the top down, but to subcontract responsibility, to spread the germs of energy into the whole protoplasm of neighborhood life. And always our house is a home for all the people, regardless of race and creed and economic circumstances". (1)

Other social workers and church workers direct the activities of the neighborhood and settlement houses, of which there are about twenty. These are sponsored by various charitable organizations and churches, and each institution aims to be a community center helping its neighbors wherever and whenever they need help.

(28) The aim of our institution is to make good citizens. Tho' I do not live in the community I understand that a great change for the better has taken place as the result of our work. We do our work thru clubs. A part of their work is to furnish wholesome entertainment for the boys and girls. Our Prize Fight among the boys and the dances seem to be the most popular. (2)

(29) A very important work of the settlement house which is run in connection with our parish, is the Day Nursery. Here we have 100 children ranging from 3 to 5 years. The equipment to meet this need is very fine. We also have a fine gym and swimming pool to supply the needs of the boys. We are a poor parish but most of our money is expended in serving the needs of our youth. (3)

- (1) Simkhovitch, Mary K., The Story of Greenwich House, 1928.
- (2) Interview with Community Center leader.
- (3) Interview with Priest.

(30) We have a day nursery where the children are kept while the mothers work. There are clubs for both sexes and all ages. Each club attempts to meet the needs of its own members, whether it be for junior boys or working mothers. The programs are largely social and recreational. There are also regular classes. These classes have instruction in sewing, cooking, wood work and pottery. Talented children are given music lessons. There are special classes in English for the foreign group. (1)

(31) Very few destitute cases are brought to us from among the Jews. Most of our work is creating understanding and dispelling fear of our institutions. (2)

(32) She handles any problem whether domestic or delinquent. The greatest problem is poverty, often being compelled to use her own funds. She secures pensions for men and women and sees that poor people who are ill are taken to the hospital free of charge and for \$15 if they can afford it. Mental cases and epileptics as well as delinquent girls are sent to the places where they can receive proper care. (3)

Social workers who give special attention to health in the community, work through the neighborhood houses and church settlements as well as through special health organizations. The Judson Health Center sponsored by the Baptist Church, the Northern Dispensary supported mainly by voluntary annual contributions, and the Greenwich Division of the Henry Street Settlement Visiting Nurses Association which is under the direction of its Board of Directors, are the outstanding health organizations.

(33) The health centers give medical service for a small fee, or free to those who cannot pay. In some of the clinics the doctors and nurses merely act in an advisory capacity, sending the patient to the proper place for treatment. In others medical treatment is given. (4)

- (1) Interview with social worker.
- (2) Interview with Jewish social worker.
- (3) Interview with Church social worker.
- (4) Interview with Visiting Nurse.

Visiting nurses often go into the homes in case of sickness. Their calls may come through a school, a doctor, a business firm or the home itself. The New York Tuberculosis and Health Association publishes and distributes literature dealing with different health problems.

(34) So efficiently is the Henry Street Visiting Nurses Corps organized and equipped that there is no need for any one in the district to be without medical care. (1)

(35) The department of which I am supervisor acts as headquarters for materials which are distributed to all agencies doing work in health promotions. (2)

(36) The health agencies do not go out seeking cases. They are brought to our notice through schools, clinics, settlement houses and social workers in churches. The Lower Westside and Eastside are the best organized and cared for districts in New York as far as health and social aid is concerned. (3)

(37) Our fine filing system gives accurate statistical data. Reports show 32 cases on the list for special care, that is, braces, crutches, massage or hospital treatment. Transportation to hospitals for treatment is provided free. (4)

(38) The Northern Dispensary has been established for the purpose of affording Medical, Surgical and Dental relief to such worthy sick poor persons as reside in that portion of the city bounded on the North by 23rd Street; on the East by Broadway; on the South by Spring Street, and on the West by the North River. (5)

The Sullivan Street Health School aims to adjust and treat problems of defective children.

- (1) Interview with Supervisor of Visiting Nurses Association.
- (2) Interview with health worker. P. 37
- (3) Interview with health worker.
- (4) Interview with health worker.
- (5) Annual Report for Northern Dispensary for 1926.

(39) The aim of this institution is to adjust and treat problems and particularly defective children and to do everything within human power to raise the standard to the normal of the average New York school child. The double purpose of individual health approach and compliance with the New York Board of Education Mental requirements makes this an especially interesting school to visit. (1)

(40) In our Health Center as well as in many others, there is a Mothers Club which teaches pre-natal care and also care of the mother and baby after birth. (2)

It is said by some people that there is a great overlapping in the work and by others that there is not.

(41) So well is this district covered and so many are the agencies which work in connection here at present, that the nurse is sometimes at a loss as to just what her province is in the home. Years ago a family was "theirs" in a particular proprietary fashion, and the nurses felt responsible for all the members. Today the social worker "specialist" has attacked the moral, the mental, and the physical side in her effort at adjustment. This raises a real problem, for in many cases the social worker has usurped the nurse's province, the nurse is resentful and the conflict reacts on the family for worse, not better. (3)

A thorough study of all the work of the health organizations with their relationship to each other and to the other social agencies would make an interesting and worthwhile study.

The importance of the social worker who is hostess in the home for small wage or destitute girls is revealed in the annual report (1926-1927) from the Association to Promote Proper Housing for Girls. There are approximately eight of these homes in the area. Business girls between 18 and 30 earning not more than \$30 a week are allowed residence in one

- (1) Interview with principal of Sullivan Street Health School.
- (2) Interview with health worker.
- (3) Interview with health supervisor.

of the houses. Girls who live in the neighborhood are allowed membership in the Residence Club provided they present satisfactory references and pay their annual dues. If the girls are out of work a position is found.

The destitutes who are sent to the homes are usually the girls or women who have run away from home, or have been driven away. They are allowed to stay in one of these homes until better provision or adjustment can be made for them.

(42) Mrs. _____ is a most motherly type of woman, tall, robust, full of interest and sympathy, a person to whom one would confide almost any difficulty or sorrow. From the attitude of the girls who came into speak to her during my brief conference, it would appear that she takes an intense personal interest in each one, and lets no opportunity pass that will be of value to them. (1)

(43) I asked her what means of protection the Y.W.C.A. had in the danger of being hospitable to questionable characters. She said no means at all except one's own shrewdness in detecting the earmarks of a woman of the street. People who do not carry baggage are generally questionable.. Such cases are directed to the best welfare home of which there are about eight for the type of person they happen to be. (2)

The workers of the Charity Organization Society, Settlements, and other leaders of the tenement section were responsible for securing the appointment of a Commission during the last legislature (February 1928) to revise the Tenement House Law, lessening fire hazards and insuring greater light and air and better sanitary conditions.

- (1) Description of Chief Hostess of _____ home for Low Waged Girls.
- (2) Interview with social worker.

The Charity Organization Society "Meets Monthly to discuss emergency problems of the neighborhood. Usually discuss with an outside speaker some subject in which the Council is particularly interested. Makes a special study of the neighborhood regarding housing, health and recreation facilities". (1)

One severe criticism was brought against the social workers of the area.

(44) The social workers of the Village consider Mrs. _____ "a thorn in the flesh" in many ways, because in several cases she has upheld her so-called "delinquents" as being of greater moral character than the workers themselves. These, she feels, are not interested in their cases as human beings, but as a means of getting the "kick of life", altogether vicariously and second hand. (2)

In addition to their regular practice most of the doctors of the area give professional aid to the poor either through health clinics, which have been discussed, or to needy people of their own acquaintance.

(45) I most enjoy doing charitable work amongst the poor, to elevate them and promote their welfare, and providing proper hospital care in cases of the very needy. (3)

One Doctor was found who used her medical knowledge to educate others rather than to minister to their physical needs.

(46) My work is giving talks, both over radio and regular lectures, on various phases of health. Moving pictures are often used in connection with the lectures. I gave a course to the Social Workers of this section on "A Proper Medical Working Background for Social Workers". (4)

- (1) Extract from personal letter from Charity Organization Society Secretary, June 27, 1928.
- (2) Interview with social worker.
- (3) Interview with Doctor of the area.
- (4) Interview with Doctor of the area.

The librarians and teachers furnish educational leadership for the area.

(47) I belong to no organizations because of my public position, but I cooperate with all of them and especially with the schools in every way possible thru the library. (1)

(48) I spend some time wandering up and down the streets in my neighborhood, looking at the types of houses and picking up conversation with the people on the streets that I may know our neighbors and the type of literature they desire and should have so that the library can supply it. (2)

The public schools furnish the general education for the children. Two of the schools are outstanding in providing recreation for the children and also in promoting club and scout organizations for them. The leaders of these activities are teachers who care to give of their free time for the benefit of the children.

(49) Besides teaching the required subjects our schools aid in Americanization. (3)

(50) Special mention was made of the work of the Principals in the schools in this district in creating a sentiment for all public agencies and using all possible aid for their children's interests, especially in reporting the children from their schools who need special care to the health and guidance clinics. (4)

The parochial schools furnish the same general education as the public schools but give religious instruction also.

It is the work of the secretary of Lower Manhattan Industrial Association to watch developments in business and predict the future trend. This prediction

- (1) Interview with librarian.
- (2) Interview with librarian.
- (3) Interview with Public School Principal.
- (4) Interview with social worker.

serves as a guide to the business men concerning their future business plans. The Association does not strive primarily for social betterment, but indirectly brings it about through its aim: "To promote civic, commercial and industrial interests and thus to build up the district". (1)

(51) Under the leadership of Mr. _____ Trinity Church has become powerful though formerly land poor. She will not rent her land except to business of which she approves. In this way she may have retarded development, or may have kept it in the right class. At any rate Trinity Corporation is a real leader in the area. (2)

Tea rooms and cabarets through their proprietors are business enterprises which are dominating forces in the night life affecting the Village and, in some instances, the whole city.

(52) There are two types of tea rooms in the Village - one catering to the real people of the real Village - unpretentious places, excellent food, quiet atmosphere, conversation, games of bridge or chess. Such are Vagabondia, Chantrela, Silhouette, Mad Hatter, Romany Marie, etc. The other kind bids for the patronage of the jazzy hip flask crowd from up town, strives for outlandish atmosphere and are not frequented by the real Villagers. Such are Pepper Pot, Pirates Den, Open Door, etc. (3)

(53) The one absolute necessity for making a living in the Village is uniqueness. In one year Mrs. _____ has watched twenty-eight tea rooms, dance halls and art shops open - only to close down in a month or so. Greenwich Village is the city of novelty, and you must have a satisfying differentness for either the artist or the amusement and pleasure seeker. (4)

- (1) Interview with Secretary of Lower Manhattan Industrial Association.
- (2) Interview with Secretary of Lower Manhattan Industrial Association.
- (3) Interview with Villager.
- (4) Interview with Villager.

(54) Many interesting people come here every night. They have tea, then just sit and talk, sing, read poems, or do anything they wish. Mr. _____, one of the great poets comes here. Also, Mr. _____, one of the three greatest explorers of the world.

When revenue officers come in and see our animated look they want to know the cause, since we claim to have had nothing to drink. I always explain that we have something real to talk about and that we need nothing else. (1)

It was learned from others that she closes early if interesting people do not come.

The lawyers interviewed have as their chief motive success in their profession. Those connected with political organizations do through them a certain amount of social service work, as described in Chapter IV. Both the Democratic and Republican lawyers frankly stated that they gave a great deal of their time doing legal work to win votes for their party.

The Clergymen minister to the "spiritual needs" of the people through their regular religious services, through their visiting and also through the visits of people to their offices. Many other needs and problems are also brought to them, all of which enables them to serve in an advisory capacity.

(55) I had to wait for my turn to see Mr. _____. Some of the people who were calling appeared to be wanting financial aid and others advice concerning their problems. (2)

- (1) Interview with proprietor of tea room.
- (2) Interview with minister of the area.

(56) The Young People are my chief interest and I am trying to find a means by which I can lift them to a higher level. (1)

(57) This Church was a mere shell when I came here - no spiritual life. Their interest is increasing but I want to stay with them until I have completed my work. (From others I heard that he is doing a great work among the people of his church.) (2)

(58) This church serves the needs of the down town business people. We have four services a day and the church is always open. (3)

(59) The ministers of the various churches are the outstanding leaders. They know the most about the community and do the most good. (4)

Each church has in addition to its clergyman a staff of workers promoting a great variety of activities. Some are teachers who give religious education to the children on Sundays and week days. Others are leaders of clubs which are for the boys and girls. Their program is both educational and social. Still others do a distinctly social service work, as discussed in the early part of this chapter. Visitors from the churches go out into the homes. By these contacts they gain a knowledge of the home life and are more capable to advise when problems arise.

(60) There are no poor in our parish but we carry on an active religious education program among our children. During the week their clubs meet which are both educational and social. (5)

The leaders among the artists and writers can hardly be judged or studied as those in the other professional

- (1) Interview with minister of the area.
- (2) Interview with minister of the area.
- (3) Interview with Priest of the area.
- (4) Interview with Villager.
- (5) Interview with church worker.

groups. They seem to be engrossed in their own work and most of them want to be allowed to continue quietly and alone letting their literature speak for them.

One writer was discovered who was a class mate of Mr. Hoover and at the time was engaged in writing to aid in his election to the presidency.

The prose writers might be divided into two classifications, those who aim to produce fiction which is chiefly for entertainment and those who desire to help solve present day problems by presenting to the public the facts with their solution. Willa Cather and Will Irwin are striking examples of the first classification and Robert W. Dunn of the latter.

The poets in their style of writing form many groups but a broad classification might allow them to be divided into two.

Edna St. Vincent Millay is an outstanding poetess in the one group. She follows the old form with the old meter. In subject matter she has found new liberty in writing of little things. She considers anything worthy of a poem.

The modern poetry, without bondage to set form either in rhyme or rythm, is seeking to create hard clear images and an atmosphere which will result in an emotional response. These poets are experimenting in new forms with

the idea of liberty that will be compatible with the spirit, age and themes with which they are dealing.

A poem by Beulah May is a striking example of the modern school.

Portrait Pathetic

No one remembers her name but the minister's wife
 Her clothes have the air of coming out of a trunk,
 They fit anyway,
 She uses rouge delicately,
 But not in the right place,
 She never understands
 Though she is always quoting the Literary Digest,
 She is continually smiling
 To show that she has a sense of humor
 But never gets the point of your joke,
 Her bony hands fly about touching things,
 Seeking
 And her restless shifting eyes ask,
 Why don't people like me, why don't they care?" (1)

Three poets' clubs were discovered.

(61) I started this poets club so that my students could meet those from other colleges, that each might receive inspiration from the other. They take turns in reading their poems at the meetings.

The Village is made up of two elements. Those who are failures, but are still striving and the young who imagine they have a future. They spend all of their time going to meetings and waste their energy performing. They sleep all day and talk all night. (2)

(62) He runs his club for the money he can get. It is a help to only a few for he chooses the ones who have the privilege to read their poems. At my Poets' Soiree any one is allowed to read their productions and receive the helpful criticism from those present. (3)

- (1) May, Beulah - Farnassu - March 15, 1928. P. 16.
 (2) Interview with English professor and leader of poets' club.
 (3) Interview with leader of Poets' Soiree.

The work of the artist is creative and must be individual. Real leadership in art is known in the next generation by that which has survived. The artists of the Village are hard to classify because they follow so many different schools. A broad division might be that of the academic and the modern artists. Carl Rungius from the academic group is considered the best animal painter of today. The moose in the Canadian Rockies is his favorite. John Sloan is one of the outstanding men in the modern field of art.

The artists do not seem to have formed a social milieu as the poets of the area.

(63) I do not know of any artists' clubs with social gatherings. We all try to work alone and keep the other fellow from knowing about our style. (1)

(64) I belong to the Salmagundi Club, chiefly for the social fellowship. I most always go there for Sunday dinner. (2)

(65) Sketch classes meet in the club twice a week. A small fee is charged to pay the expense of the poser. No teacher is present but the people improve their work by comparing it with that of the others present. (3)

Mrs. Gertrude B. Whitney's studio and the Salmagundi Club exhibit the work of their members which is for sale.

Mrs. J. D. Livingston, with the idea that a woman who does not need to work should not go into business

- (1) Interview with artist.
- (2) Interview with artist.
- (3) Interview with artist.

and take the opportunity from those who need it, for pastime organized "The Playreaders" which is an incorporated organization of which she is president.

(66) The object of this organization is to teach people to read, to give young writers a chance to get their plays heard by others and bring out weaknesses in plays and to build up an audience to express opinion. Her emphasis is on diction. This is also a good way to get plays before managers of theaters. (1)

(67) The American theater as we have it today started in Greenwich Village and then moved to Broadway. (2)

Eva Le Gallienne is a young dramatist of Danish and French extraction who has seen the success of the repertory theater in Europe, and established the Civic Repertory Theater on West 14th Street.

(68) She aims not to make money but to make her theater a part of community life. She wishes her productions to be real and live again and again in the hearts of the people. She is not at all in competition with Broadway. She caters to those who truly crave artistic nourishment. She feels that when you compromise your art, that is, commercialize it, you are deprived of the gift. (3)

This theater is not a Village organization, but is patronized by the people of New York City, as a whole.

- (1) Interview with president of "The Playreaders".
- (2) Interview with writer of the Village.
- (3) Interview with outside manager for Eva Le Gallienne.

Chapter VI

The Outstanding Needs of the Area

When inquiring regarding the needs of the area, a majority of the people answered that they had never thought of that question. Some of them would not even attempt to suggest the greatest need, or any need, while others felt competent to give it from their point of view.

The following are needs of the area as given by those who expressed themselves:

The need for play grounds and gymnasia for the boys and girls was most often expressed by the people. One church worker stated that there was only one gymnasium in the area, but a survey reveals the fact that there are two parks, ten or more gymnasia, and indoor play grounds in all of the public school buildings. Both of the parks are small. Washington Square can boast of green grass but no flowers. When passing Hudson Park after school in the afternoons one has the feeling that it does not supply enough space for play for the children and that none is left for grass or flowers.

Each gymnasium is said to be filled to capacity every evening. The hostess of one girls' rooming house reported that her girls are disturbed by the small boys who play on the streets in the evenings. Social workers report

gambling among the gangs and also the fact that they hide in loft buildings and other places planning mischief of different kinds.

(69) That Club work with the boys of the street is necessary as a recreational outlet may be proven by the fact that the street has been the scene of several murders in the last year, and by the additional evidence that eight of the minors sentenced to terms in the reformatory schools and houses of correction by a nearby magistrate were boys from Sullivan Street itself. (1)

(70) For modern neighborhood needs, Mrs. _____ mentioned playgrounds for the younger boys and girls. None of her girls have been bothered by the gangs that Miss _____ mentioned, but they are annoyed by the misdirected energies of the ten and twelve year olds who tag along doing all they can to gain attention. (2)

(71) There is a crying need for further recreational facilities in the neighborhood - for parks, playgrounds, swimming pools, and recreation docks. Particularly ought arrangements to be made whereby outlets are provided for the gangs of boys between fifteen and twenty who hang around with nothing to do. These groups seem to know and respect the nurses (whose uniform they have come to recognize), but they annoy many others during the day, and are especially disturbing at night. (3)

(72) The great problem of neighborhood is that of providing recreation on account of congestion in living conditions. (4)

(73) From my point of view the greatest need of the area is for the churches to cooperate and build a church community house for recreation for children. St. Luke's gym is the only one south of Twenty-third Street, that I know of. (5)

- (1) Interview with social worker.
- (2) Interview with social worker.
- (3) Interview with social worker.
- (4) Interview with teacher.
- (5) Interview with church worker.

(74) The greatest need of the area is for a good play ground for the children and for a park with flowers for the children to see. They never have any flowers at Washington Square. (1)

(75) Normal social life for the boys and girls so they can work and play together is one of the great needs of the area. They display no initiative for creating their own recreation. (2)

(76) I feel that the Boy Scout work could be much extended in the area and thus accomplish more. (3)

Since the ministers, teachers, church and social workers are the ones who have enough interest in the boys and girls to realize that they need more parks, play grounds and gymnasias, they are the logical ones to show their further interest in the boys and girls by supplying these needs. If they themselves do not have the time to make a complete survey of the number of boys and girls in relation to the number of recreational centers and how evenly they are placed in relation to the homes of the young people, an outsider might be brought in to make the study. If the ministers, teachers, church and social workers see that they cannot supply the needs as revealed by the study they might exert their influence upon the City and City social service organizations to supply the recreational facilities which are necessary.

- (1) Interview with teacher.
- (2) Interview with church worker.
- (3) Interview with Scout Leader.

Those who are interested in the Village merely as a home might, also, be interested in increasing the number of parks and flowers in them just for the beauty that they would add to their home and community.

The ministers, librarians, teachers and social workers of the area report crowded conditions in the tenements. Church workers expressed a need for more houses so that their congregation would not be forced to leave the area.

The interviews as stated before show that many tenements have just enough improvements to let them pass the tenement law. Some worth from \$15 to \$30 a month are renting for from \$40 to \$60 a room. The apartments are cold, dark and poorly furnished. Yet the rent is as high or higher than that in other sections of the city.

(77) You can now get two rooms for the same amount that you could once rent a whole house. (1)

Real estate men themselves confess that they get a great increase in their rent.

(78) The outlook for her people in this area of the city Mrs. _____ feels is very pessimistic. It is being so exploited by pseudo-artists and freaks, and particularly by speculators in real estate, that the poorer classes are really suffering and being forced to even denser crowding. (2)

(79) The greatest need is houses for people, and at a moderate rent. Jews have bought houses and remodeled them. The second and third floors previously rented for \$35 and now the price of the attic is \$150 per month. (3)

- (1) Interview with artist.
- (2) Interview with social worker.
- (3) Interview with minister.

(80) Homes nearer places of work is the greatest need of the community. (1)

(81) Commercialism has crowded out the homes. All the buildings around us are new - loft or business houses. The rent problem is a great one. People move away but come back in spite of the crowded conditions because they like to be nearer their work. (2)

(82) The entire Village has been exploited by real estate agencies. (3)

(83) Crowded housing is one of the problems of the area. (4)

The social workers as stated in Chapter V are working through the legislature to improve housing conditions, and they might bring to the attention of the city authorities the problem of exorbitant rents.

(84) There is a need for more rooming houses to take care of the girls who can afford to pay only \$8 to \$10 a week. There is also a lack of accommodations for the women over 30 with small means. (5)

(85) The clubs find it difficult to place Jewish girls in positions. It is harder to get any girl a job if she lives in the Village than it is when she lives up town. (6)

The reports sent out by the association in charge of the rooming houses for low salaried girls and women over thirty who have small means, tell what they are doing and include a plea for more funds that they may provide for more people. If funds are given this need

- (1) Interview with librarian.
- (2) Interview with teacher.
- (3) Interview with social worker.
- (4) Interview with church worker.
- (5) Interview with social worker.
- (6) Interview with social worker.

will be supplied.

Since these rooming houses are for the low waged girls not necessarily of the Village it would appear that the increase in number of houses should be supplied in other parts of the city, because of the already crowded conditions in the Village because of the unfortunate friendships which are often formed in the Village tea rooms and because it is harder for girls who live in the Village to get work. This problem, too, would have to be met by the social workers.

(86) The immediate need is for evening classes in stenography, bookkeeping, etc. (1)

No record was found concerning classes in stenography and bookkeeping. Only one person stated that there is a need for these classes. This does not indicate that there is no such need nor that it is not partially being met already. Whether or not there is a need for such classes might be determined by social workers who are leaders of the various clubs where they have close contact with the young people, and become acquainted with their ambitions and needs.

If the need for these classes is discovered they could be supplied through the clubs of the community or possibly through the Lower Manhattan Industrial Association.

(1) Interview with business man who is also a volunteer church worker.

The teachers might be local people teaching because of their interest in the community or might be paid teachers from within or without the community.

(87) The people need to be taught to get the most out of life. The kind of leadership needed is hard to define. Young men come in from the outside, some qualify as leaders, some do not. An indefinable something is necessary to make them leaders. (1)

(88) The problems of the area are: (1) Lack of interest in the bigger things of life. (2) No feeling of responsibility - girls arrive late for club meetings, etc. (3) Adult training neglected. (2)

(89) Our need is to teach self-control to the individual. (3)

One person stated that the people should be taught to get the most out of life. He evidently meant that the people should be taught to use the advantages which are theirs, that they may develop and be prepared to enjoy the privileges which will come to them. The work of the clubs in the settlements with their social life, recreation and industrial activities broadens their outlook and gives them a greater variety of interests and activities with higher ideals.

The health centers are striving through their varied programs to lead the people to a better appreciation of what it takes to obtain health. The New York Tuberculosis

- (1) Interview with social worker.
- (2) Interview with church worker.
- (3) Interview with teacher.

and Health Association is working in the Village to check the spread of tuberculosis.

(90) Of course I look at the community needs through health, so I feel that the greatest is to lead the people to a better appreciation of what it takes to obtain health. (1)

(91) The outstanding problems which I meet are the tuberculosis problem, the recreational problem for children and the removal of people in tenements. (2)

(92) A great many of the Irish people are Tuberculosis patients and were longshoremen who had contracted it and stayed around the docks in rooming houses, not getting proper care. The mortality rate maps showed the lower West-side in New York to have an equal mortality rate in Tuberculosis to that of Welfare Island on which the City Hospital is located. (3)

Judging from the number of health centers a sufficient number of Doctors, Nurses and general health workers already exist in the area to meet the health problems. Several of these centers are branches of larger organizations. When this is true the workers are more likely to be sent in from outside the area. The local organizations may also be compelled to go outside the area for competent workers. It is not likely that any new organization not located in the area now would be interested in coming into the area to aid in the health work because of the numerous organizations already there.

- (1) Interview with health worker.
- (2) Interview with priest.
- (3) Interview with health worker.

(93) Ministers do not stay long in their work in the area as they seize any chance for advancement - the Village is used as a stepping stone. (1)

Four ministers were interviewed. One of these had been pastor of his church for sixteen years. The others had been there for three, two and one years. Two of these intimated that they expected to remain in their position as long as possible. The third said he expected to stay until he had built up the church. His program as planned takes at least five more years.

(94) New York University students also have a disturbing effect upon the old order. Their desire for jazz, for noise, and for liquor has no sympathy with a group of artists working quietly and earnestly, though poorly, together. In Mrs. _____ own tea room she has had groups come in and upset the respected and reverential atmosphere of her Chinese antiques, boys bringing their own drinks (stronger than her delicious jasmine tea), knocking over her delicately poised china, and finally walking off with one of her oldest and most treasured Buddhas. Of course they never had any interest in coming again, but that element is abroad in the Village and finds its satisfaction in many places. (2)

(95) The greatest problem as I see it is of people going to places where they should not. The noisy, wild parties in front of the cabarets annoy me most. (3)

- (1) Interview with business man who does volunteer church work.
- (2) Interview with tea room hostess.
- (3) Interview with Doctor.

The reputation of the Village as a free place draws the type of person who wants the wild parties and strong drink. The proprietors of some of the tea rooms and cabarets cater to that type of patronage, often selling them the strong drink, regardless of the law. People will doubtless continue to be noisy and have no regard for the property of others as long as they receive this encouragement.

(96) The greatest need is for a change in political leaders, but that is hopeless for they would only get in "more men of the same type". Greenwich is a closed district, all do as Mr. _____ says. (1)

According to the one who expressed this need, a political leader to be a success must be "a first class rowdy". The fact that he saw them drunk each day influenced this statement. Only four political leaders were interviewed and, in the single contact with each, no objectionable qualities in their character were discovered. Their chief aim appeared to be to win votes for their parties. They always live in the district of which they are the leader so are doubtless interested in their area.

(97) The greatest need is for people who understand Italians, because of their peculiar characteristics. The immigration law has improved conditions by not allowing so many to immigrate. People become Americanized more quickly when few come in at a time. (2)

- (1) Interview with Doctor.
- (2) Interview with Teacher.

The Italians have traditions which are a great influence in their lives. Many of these do not fit into their American environment. One who helps them in their adjustment to their new surroundings must have an understanding of their old traditions. Many people are working among the Italians, some are of their own nationality.

The Italians who have attended the Public Schools here and through them have become at least partially Americanized in spite of their respect for their own traditions would doubtless be the most capable workers among the Italians. However, some understanding is bound to exist already because of the fact that a large amount of the social service work done in the Village is with Italians.

(98) For an off-hand statement from the Syrian point of view, the greatest need is for a strong organization to make the Syrians more self-respecting as a certain stock of people. (1)

The Syrians, after coming to this country become so interested in their livelihood and perhaps their desire for wealth that they lose interest in their nationality to a large extent. With this lack of interest they lose pride in themselves and often sink to a lower level than they would otherwise. A personal appeal to them as individuals and as a distinct nationality might help to make

(1) Interview with Syrian Magazine editor.

them a more self-respecting stock of people. Their ministers, a leader from their own nationality and especially one just arriving from their home land, would doubtless appeal to them strongly.

(99) "Common interests" is the greatest need in creating a better and more unified community. (1)

People from ten different professional groups were interviewed. The chief interest of each group was different and no interest which was common to all was discovered. 16.86% of the people were interested in the Village as a place to live, 39.78% were interested in it as a place of business and 43.36% were interested in it that they might build up the community. Some of the people in the same professional groups had the same interests but they were working through various organizations in which there was little or no cooperation even though there was no opposition.

Mrs. Simkhovitch has summed up the general needs of the poor people of the area in her statement. The solution she gives is a practical one - fresh vision and more experimentation.

(1) Interview with minister.

(100) But the understanding has not kept pace with the money, a fact that flings us a new challenge. And the prosperity is thin in places, and will bear more careful consideration than it generally gets. There are still families where the breadwinners have died, where there is still the old struggle for family understanding, for increased opportunities; still the need for learning how to act together; still the need for appreciation of the higher ways of living which make a true civilization.

Our problems today are complicated. They lack the drama of the days of a more colorful tenement house life. They tax the heart and brains differently but no less than our early problems. They call for a fresh vision for more experiments. (1)

(101) We have formerly had professional social service workers to act on case conferences and in other capacities but I feel that more constructive work could be done if lay people of the community could be interested in serving. So far, we as well as other social agencies, have been unable to interest competent people to do this work. (2)

Since the social agencies are unable to find competent people to serve on their committees, a study was made to determine the cause of this lack of interest. From the known facts about the leaders of the area and the work they are doing, the following conclusions were drawn:

1 - Only 25% have families. The others lack in personal feeling and sympathy for the needy families.

2 - 15% of those interviewed consider the Village as merely a place to sleep. 32.5% never become

- (1) Simkhovitch, Mary K., The Story of Greenwich House.
 (2) Interview with social worker.

a real part of the Village because they live outside of the area though their work is on the inside. The work of many who both live and work in the Village is not purely a Village work.

3 - Only three or less of the teachers from each public school live in the area. The other teachers do not have a vital interest in the community problems.

4 - St. Lukes Church is left but its members have moved to other communities. They come into the Village only to worship in their church. This is said to be true of other churches.

5 - Girls' community clubs of the Village supply homes for 526 girls with low salaries. They have no interest in the area except for their economic betterment.

6 - An indefinite number of people go to the Village for "Atmosphere" that requires individuality and they cannot develop it while they help to care for the interests of others.

7 - Only 6% of the people interviewed do not have a full time position. This leaves 94% with little or no time to do any volunteer work.

8 - Impatience with the routine of organized charity.

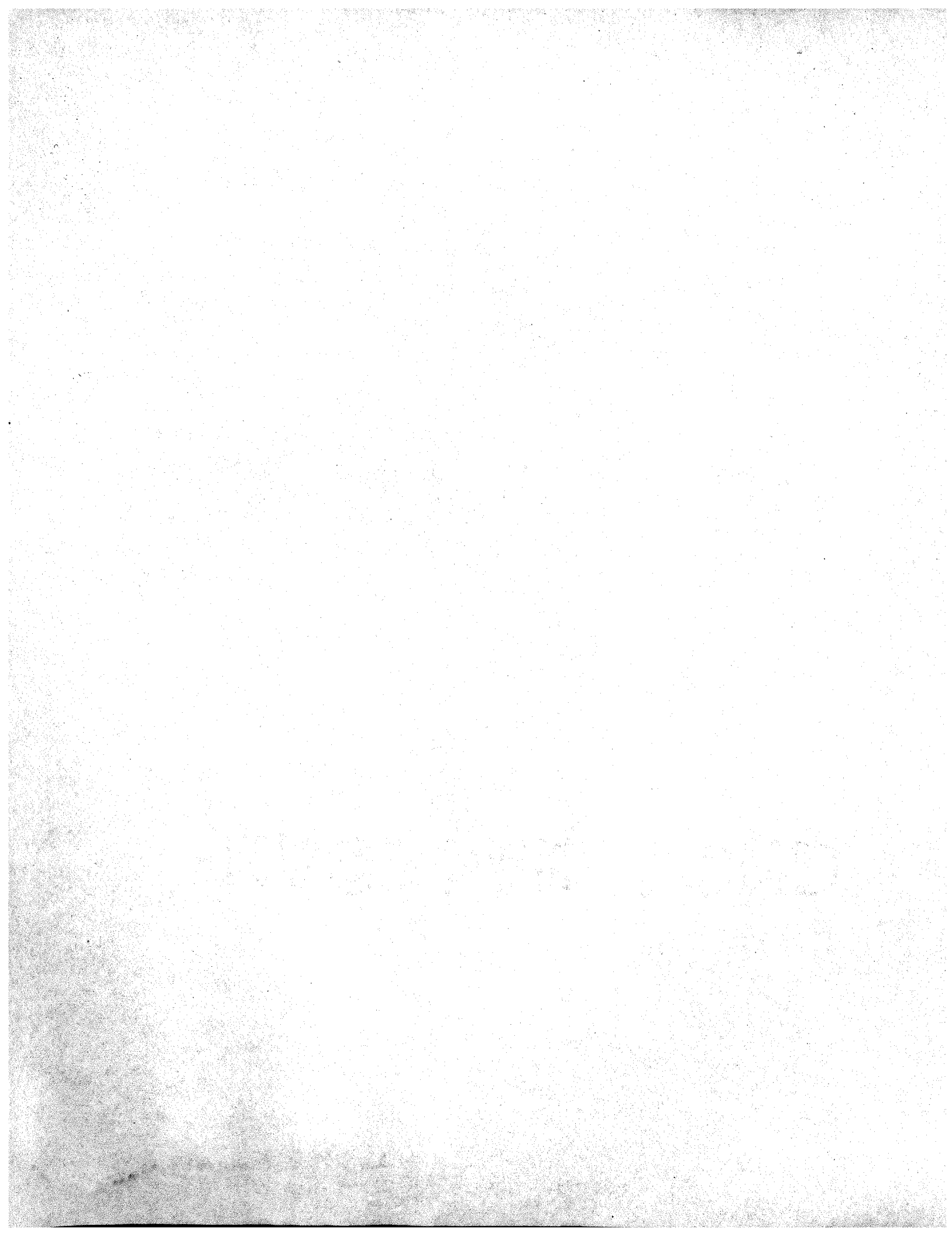
9 - Only one of those who gave their organization affiliation are not members of organizations outside of the Village. This divided interest prevents them from desiring to spend more time in the Village organizations.

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Interview # 1

Mrs. ----- is a leader from without the Village area doing work in the Sullivan Health School for the benefit of the Italians who inhabit the district. She has been connected with the school for ten years. Previous to that, the school, a sixty year old structure, had been a trade school for negroes, then the dominant race. The trade teaching is still continued but the aim of the institution is to adjust and treat problem and particularly defective children and to do everything within human power to raise the standard to the norm of the average New York school child. The double purpose of individual health approach and compliance with New York Board of Education mental requirements makes this an especially interesting school to visit.

In addition to the daily session, Mrs. ----- and her associates direct a very active center for club work with the street boys at night. That this side of the work is necessary as a recreational outlet may be proven by the fact that the street has been the scene of several murders in the last year, and by the additional evidence that eight of the minors sentenced to terms in the reformatory schools and houses of correction by a nearby magistrate were boys from Sullivan Street itself.

The outlook for her people in this area of the city Mrs. ----- feels is very pessimistic. It is being so exploited by pseudo artists and freaks, and particularly by speculators in real estate, that the poorer classes are really suffering and being forced to even denser crowding. She took the block on which the school stands as an example. The tenements opposite

are worth at most from \$15. to \$30. a month: They have little light, very poor equipment, and in some cases practically no modern improvements, in spite of the tenement laws. Several of these have been bought, renovated just enough to come within the law, and now rent from \$40. to \$60. a room (not an apartment.) (This speculative scheme was given as being a pet hobby for New York women school teachers!)

When asked about the artistic element in the Village, this leader said she would estimate about ten or twelve as the number of original leaders who were still about. She cited Mrs. Harry Payne Whitney's Studios on Eighth Street, Macdougall Alley, and Minetta Lane as being art centers, genuine outgrowths of what was once a serious and intellectual artistic movement. Practically everything else from studios to tea rooms she grouped as speculative schemes, founded on the popular notion of a city area that was "different" and purposely feeding the modern jazz-age desire for excitement and thrills and atmosphere.

Interview by Joan Chater, Spring of 1928.

Mrs. ----- Hostess at "The Bamboo Forest", a Chinese tea room run by a Mandarin student. Proprietor of "The Gong", 1 Macdougall Alley.

Familiarly known as Kai Ma, or God-mother, to so many of the Chinese students and other Villagers who are always dropping in at The Bamboo Forest, Mrs. ----- has a real God-motherly interest in the area and its inhabitants. She and her husband were recommended by Dr. ----- at Columbia and chosen by Dr. Tien Liu to be sponsors and general advisers for the Chinese-American cultural center in Macdougall Street. This was several years ago, and though Dr. Liu has returned to China Mrs. ----- still continues as "mother" to the boys running the tea shop. Last November, feeling the need of expressing herself with her own things rather than the precious Chinese antiques and treasures owned by the boys, she supplemented her interest in the tea room by opening a luncheon and tiffin shop at 1 Macdougall Alley. Here, in a tiny kitchenette, back of the low, softly Oriental room, she is playing with recipes, and working on a whimsical, fanciful cook book to amuse other kitchenette cooks.

She said that during the war, she had done a good deal of work in the New York Institution for the Blind, and here she met Mrs. -----, now in charge of St. Barnabas House. For her she has the greatest respect as one who with practically no education (Mrs. ----- never went to high school), has made her life of lasting influence with so many people. Not only were these two leaders together at the Blind Institution, but they were also co-workers at

the Waverly Detention House.

I have tried to single out the main points of Mrs. ----- very voluble flow about the Village, and these follow:

1. The real Greenwich Village is characterized by a group of earnest workers, seeking satisfying and real values for life, poor, because they have not yet found a fitting milieu for their talents, and desiring above all things a chance to be left alone and develop unmolested what they feel to be their use in life.

2. The section of the city is chosen because the old-fashioned houses with their spacious rooms and their fireplaces have a homelike charm. In addition the little alleys - Macdougall, Patchen Place, Grove Lane, have an almost continental atmosphere and gather groups of friends.

3. The recent building schemes, bringing higher rents and increased prices in the area, are rapidly driving the older villagers out. Forty-seven artists of all sorts who were in the area a year or two ago wrote to Mrs. ----- at Christmas time from Paris where they have now made their permanent homes. Many others, now successful perhaps keep a studio in the Village but live elsewhere. This is true of several of the Macdougall Alley artists - Mr. Eil-etti, sculptor, - Mr. Giddens, etcher - Mr. Campbell, portrait painter.

4. The one absolute necessity for making a living in the Village is uniqueness. In one year Mrs. ----- has watched twenty-eight tea rooms and dance halls and art shops open - only to close down within a month or so. Greenwich Village is the city of novelty, and you must have a satisfying different-ness for either the

artist or the amusement and pleasure-seeker.

5. The city building movement toward the section has commercialized the shops. Eighth Street was once Village, now it even boasts some stores selling silk underwear! The earnest artist a few years ago wore cotton - if she wore any at all. A year ago few "classy" private cars were seen about Washington Square, but One Fifth Avenue the new apartment, has put an end to that impoverished state of affairs forever.

6. New York University also has a disturbing effect upon the old order. The desire for jazz, for noise, and for liquor has no sympathy with a group of artists working quietly and earnestly, though poorly together. In Mrs. _____ own tea room she has had groups come in and upset the respected and reverential atmosphere of her Chinese antiques, boys bringing their own drinks (stronger than her delicious jasmine tea), knocking over her delicately poised china, and finally walking off with one of her oldest and most treasured Buddhas. Of course they never had any interest in coming again, but that element is abroad in the Village and finds its satisfaction in many places.

7. Mrs. _____ views on the political situation are absolutely null and void. In fact she said that in her twelve years there she had never even seen anybody vote!

Interview by Joan Chater, Spring of 1928.

Mrs. ----- Chief Hostess at Laura Spellman Hall.

Laura Spellman Hall is a branch of the Y.W.C.A., run as a resident hotel for business girls between the ages of eighteen and thirty earning not more than \$30. a week. Students are also accommodated but the majority of the one hundred and fifty girls who live there are in business.

Mrs. ----- is from the west. For six years she was associated with Judge Gary in building up the model city, and when she came to New York mere chance led her to the Village. She has no interest in the community and only remains as hostess because her daughter is an actress and enjoys a home and a mother! Mrs. ----- is a most motherly type of woman, tall, robust, full of interest and sympathy, a person to whom one would confide almost any difficulty or sorrow. From the attitude of the girls who came in to speak to her during my brief conference, it would appear that she takes an intense personal interest in each one, and lets no opportunity pass that will be of value to them.

Her knowledge of the Village area is of two sources, first the direct effect that she sees in the influence on the girls in the house, and second what she hears from friends of her daughter, many of whom were or are real Villagers themselves.

The influence of the tea rooms and dance halls upon girls coming into New York depends upon the home background and standard of values already established. To a girl who has led a normal adolescence, used to entertaining and meeting people, and able to make social contacts in ordinary situation, the Village is a new field, a playground for curiosity, fun, and temporary amusement.

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She enjoys a new experience and then returns to the kind of life she has lived before. The Village craze fills the interim while new and more satisfying primary contacts with real friends and permanent interests are being formed.

On the other hand, the girl who is unable to depend upon her own resources during the period of readjustment to a new life, or the girl who is a bit "off color" in her standards (defined as she who mistakes and desires license for liberty) becomes a "hanger on" at one of the many Village haunts, and gradually connects herself with the group of, for the most part, lonely, unsatisfied people, who comprise a distinct strata of Village society. These gradually sink into a lowered moral standard and general looseness and laxness of life from which they cannot wrench themselves.

Mrs. -----second opinion is second hand, since it is gathered from others, but she cited as one authority Peter Adams, son of one of the most prominent of Trinity Church's ministers, who is a writer in the area at present. To him the Village as an interesting center no longer exists. The homsey, folksy, intellectual, wholesomely active group are gone and pseudo-artists, exploiters, and speculators take their places. And it was this small town friendliness combined with the traditions of its history and the convenience of its location that was its greatest asset.

For modern neighborhood needs, Mrs. ----- mentioned playgrounds for the younger boys and girls. None of her girls

have been bothered by the gangs that Miss ----- from the
Henry Street Nurses Association mentioned, but they are an-
noyed by the misdirected energies of the ten and twelve year olds
who tag along doing all they can to gain attention.

Interview by Joan Chater - Spring of 1928.

Mrs. ----- Secretary Civic Club of New York.

The Civic Club, inasmuch as it was probably a direct outgrowth of the old Liberal Club which at one time was so prominent in the Village, ought to stand out as one of the big developments of the area; but Mrs. -----, having come to New York several years after its reorganization, could give no first hand information of its transition period. The change took place in 1917, and Henrietta Rodman was prime mover and chief organizer. The war at that time put especially difficult restrictions on those who did not follow the popular trend of "patriotic" thought, and the open forum of the Civic Club gave them an opportunity to debate and discuss their own particular views on world subjects, in which most of them were vitally interested. The Club has absolutely no restrictions of color, race, or creed, so that it lays claims to one of the most diversified and interesting groups of members possible.

The Club has no particular interest in the Village as a community, but it gives its support to neighborhood movements wherever it can. Not long ago it took an active part in the attempt to have the Jefferson Jail torn down, on the grounds of the unsanitary condition of the building and the practise of holding open court at night for the women brought in from neighboring environs socially detrimental. (Parties making an evening of Village life often chose to end with a midnight visit to the women's court where they seemed to find the public cases of the unfortunate run-ins entertaining.) The movement was not successful due to the fact that half of the group of buildings in which the jail is situated is con-

trolled by merchants who run the Jefferson Market, and their opposition was strong enough to force the institution to continue as a neighborhood disgrace.

Mrs. ----- is an English woman. She has lived in Jane Street since coming to New York nine years ago, but other than enjoying the convenience of the area as the place for her home, she knows little of Village life. She is a delightful person to meet and talk to; a woman of about thirty-five, with a great deal of vivacity and enthusiasm. Her whole interest seems to be centered in her belief in liberty and freedom for the lower classes, and she belongs to several organizations working for this purpose. It was during a protest meeting against keeping food from the Russians at the last Democratic convention that her husband was killed in an airplane accident, at which time she too was in action, picketing the convention hall, and since then she has represented workers' movements in Passaic and Washington. Last summer she went to Boston to protest the Sacco-Vanzetti case, and just missed being arrested for disturbing the peace of the city. Her membership in clubs whose headquarters are in Village territory - League for Mutual Aid, 104 Fifth Avenue, - League for Industrial Democracy, 70 Fifth Avenue, - Civil Liberties Union, 100 Fifth Avenue, - Vanguard Press, 60 Fifth Avenue, - The Workers Party, 108 East 14th Street, - League to Abolish Capital Punishment, 104 Fifth Avenue, and International Committee for Political Prisoners (John Haynes Holmes, Chairman, and also minister of Community Church) seems to indicate that there exists in the section an extremely energetic and active

group of people working, not theorizing, about the masses of humanity. These were stoutly proclaimed as being not radical, not Bolsheviks, but merely progressive thinking and forward looking.

Interview by Joan Chater - Spring of 1928.

Interview # 5

Mrs. ----- St. Barnabas House.

The work of St. Barnabas House, a settlement for destitute women and children, is not directly connected with Greenwich Village, as the house is supported by the Protestant Episcopal Mission and the people are referred from all parts of Manhattan, Brooklyn, and Long Island. However, there is an indirect influence felt from the effect of the community upon the house inmates. Many of the girls find their way into such places as "The Blue Horse" and "The Founty Fair" and either contract entangling alliances with the "boy friends" picked up there, or have their health affected by the bad booze sold.

Mrs. ----- is well fitted for her work as supervisor. During the war she taught in the New York Institution for the Blind, and following that she was connected with the Waverly Detention House. It is still strange to her, she says, why she should have been chosen to succeed a long line of religiously inclined deaconesses in a place so closely associated with the church.

With the social workers of the Village, this leader is not altogether in sympathy. She says they consider her "a thorn in the flesh" in many ways, because in several cases she has upheld her so-called "delinquents" as being of greater moral character than the workers themselves. These, she feels, are not interested in their cases as human beings, but as a means of getting the "kick of life", altogether vicariously and second hand

Mrs. ----- is a Southerner, her husband lives with her at St. Barnabas House, and she has three grownup children. While

her daughters were at Barnard, the family lived in the Village, and she found the intellectual stimulation and informal friendliness of the tea rooms at night one of the assets of the area. Two places on MacDougal Street, "The Bamboo Forest ", and "Vagabondia", were cited as haunts where, after the day's stress, interesting characters would drop in for a smoke, or a chat, or a game of chess.

The St. Barnabas House work is sufficient to occupy all of its supervisor's time, and she is not actually connected with any other organization.

Interview by Joan Chater - Spring of 1928.

Mr. _____ - in his studio on Macdougall Street

Mr. _____, commonly called "Bobby" by all those who have their homes in Greenwich Village, is the bard of the area. He is often heard in the evenings singing his ditties to the accompaniment of a strangely painted ukelele, in any number of tea rooms and food shops. Vagabondia, Romany, Marie's, Sanis, The Bamboo Forest, The Gong, and so on, from what he said, ad infinitum.

His studio - where he makes and paints his cat-decorated ukeleles, which hang like a frieze around his very gay room, where he works away at his pictures, his stories, his songs and poems, or where he will make a most artistic photograph of you should you desire his services, is perched at the top of --- Macdougall Street. He himself was not very gracious at first about his knowledge of the Village, declared that he knew nothing about it, and had no interest in it. He took it for granted that I was some "curious young lady" writing a thesis about him and this made him especially antagonistic. A few minutes later, however, he did condescend to talk, and though he disclaimed news of vital interest going on at present, he boasted of the Village as the only center for the beginnings of any new movement in any line, from Freud and the psycholanalysts to the fine art of real estating as established by Mr. _____ Experimentation in art, in writing, in drama, in life, in radical and social political views, all are born in the Village, and while at times it seems to be a home for lunatics and crazy folk, it is the most fascinating spot in New York.

When Mr. _____ came to New York in 1906, there was no "atmosphere" - in fact he had to eat at the Judson Settlement House

in order to get a decent meal. But one good friend gathers another and soon Club A' with a meeting place in an old-fashioned house now supplanted by One Fifth Avenue, began to put the Village on the map as the artistic center. Here, in fun, frolic, and the most absolute gaiety gathered those who were later to become the Liberal Club, the Radicals, and the theatrical and artistic personages of Greenwich Village. In all of which movements Mr. -----, as Jack of All Trades, took part. Neysa McNein appeared one night in a one piece dyed calico (or maybe it was burlap) costume that was the forerunner of the two yard frock; and the first modern exhibition of Picasso and other continental painters was sponsored here. Polly Holliday was a leading spirit, and Mr. ----- reminisced about the fights between the liberals and the radicals who both found their way to her inn for food at anytime of the afternoon or night - (but mostly early in the morning).

Free love flourished till the participants discovered that it was more difficult to separate than in a conventional alliance, and they took to marriage in order to procure freedom through divorce. Radicalism was hot and heavy until the war made many of them turn suddenly 100% American and absurdly patriotic. Others won success; and material progress, according to Bobby, killed some of the fun and play spirit. "Jig" (George Gram) Cook left the Provincetown Playhouse, where experimentation with plays was giving way to the individual development of the actor, and that movement gradually became a commercial venture.

Now the Village is more or less of a memory. Often the old crowd gathers, purely accidentally in Romany Marie's, or Sanis, and

there is music and talk, but prohibition and bridge (particularly the latter, for the Village appears bridge mad to Bobby) have done their worst. In addition, this old Villager thinks that modern youth does not know how to play, and that they must go home and go to bed every night instead of making the most of the time as before.

----- had been known to me in name only before the interview, as one "who sang naughty songs to questionable ladies." Mrs. -----, proprietor at The Gong, in urging the interview described him as "having his ways" but being "quite all right" at heart. His whole attitude, after he recovered from the idea that I had come to view him as some sort of peculiarity in the Village, was delightful - the true "Honored Gentleman" as he is supposed to have been somewhere in the past.

Interview by Joan Chater - Spring of 1928.

Miss ----- Supervisor, Henry Street Settlement Visiting Nurses Association (Greenwich Branch).

The results of this interview are based on the knowledge of one who actually goes into the homes of those in need of medical care in the Greenwich section.

This particular area, centering round West 12th Street, from Hudson Street to Broadway, is mainly Irish (perhaps a dozen families in all of Poles, Finns, and Russians), and has been so for the past six years. When the subway was cut through, many families from the torn down houses moved to the Bronx, but no new inhabitants have yet taken their place, though it is Miss ----- opinion that the new development will be of expensive and highclass apartments.

The work of this Association is in health leadership, and so efficiently is the Henry Street Visiting Nurses Corps organized and equipped that there is no need for anyone in the district to be without medical care. The present unemployment situation is of course taxing the hand of nurses but they feel that this is only temporary, and compared to other periods of seasonal and periodic unemployment, it is of little consequence. A good part of the mildness is due to prohibition: the closing of the saloons has actually led to savings bank accounts which are of use now; and in the neighboring Italian district bootlegging has brought riches unknown before.

There is a crying need, however, for further recreational facilities in the neighborhood - for parks, playgrounds, swimming pools, and recreation docks. Particularly ought arrangements to be

made whereby outlets are provided for the gangs of boys between fifteen and twenty who hang around with nothing to do. These groups seem to know and respect the nurses (whose uniform they have come to recognize), but they annoy many others during the day, and are especially disturbing at night.

So well is this district covered and so many are the agencies which work in connection here at present, that the nurse is sometimes at a loss as to just what her province is in the home. Years ago a family was "theirs" in a particular proprietary fashion, and the nurses felt responsible for all the members. Today the social worker "specialist" has attacked the moral, the mental, and the physical side in her effort at adjustment. This raises a real problem, for in many cases the social has usurped the nurse's province, the nurse is resentful and the conflict reacts on the family for worse, not better.

Interview by Joan Chater - Spring of 1928.

Interview #8

Repertory Theatre - Eva LeGallienne

Through the courtesy of Professor Somerville of New York University I was able to secure an interview with Miss Nolle who is outside manager for Miss LeGallienne. She said it was impossible to see "Eva", as she was completely swamped with work. Miss Nolle is a most refined personality and very easy to meet. She seemed happy to be able to discuss the problem with me and talked much about Eva's early life and efforts.

Eva is 28 years old. As a child she lived in England and in France. She is of Danish and French extraction. It is probably because of her first hand information of the theatres of Europe that she is so successful in putting across her ideas. As a young girl she was very poor and she has worked hard for every bit of success attained. When she gave her plays on tour she noticed that the cheap seats sold first and then concluded that the public wants good plays if they can afford to pay for them. She put the price in her Fourteenth Street theatre at \$1.65 maximum. She is now attempting to bring it down to 75¢.

It seems peculiar that right on the site where old New York disported itself this great artist should come defending old ideals against the white lights of commercialism. She aims not to make money but to make her theater a part of community life. She wishes her productions to be real and live again and again in the hearts of the people. She is not at all in competition with Broadway. She caters to those who truly crave artistic nourishment. She feels that when you compromise your art, that is,

commercialize it, you are deprived of the gift.

The theater first opened in October, 1926, when Eva appeared in "Saturday Night". Later she gave "Three Sisters". Before the end of the season Eva's dream of a repertory theater that would be part of New York Community life had proved to be an actual fact.

She writes a beautiful message to children which I am attaching.

Dear Children -

I want to send you this personal message, because you are the future of America, because you hold in your small hands the power to make America glorious with an ever growing vision and ideal, or of letting her sink back into the rut of mental and spiritual laziness which too often follows on the steps of great prosperity.

It is above everything important that you should not lose your sense of beauty, your sense of poetry, your sense of magic. Do not let these divine attributes of the Art of Living be crushed by the machinery of modern civilization. Do not forget that if Mr. Ford creates millions of meters every year, God still lets millions of flowers spring from the earth; remember that though hundreds of aeroplanes rush across the sky, that sky is still glittering with millions of God's stars.

You will wonder what all this has to do with the theatre. I will try to tell you. The theatre was originally a part of religion. It belonged to the people, they did not have to buy it with hard-earned gold. This instrument for service has become gradually a vast machinery for getting, and the public have to pay an exorbitantly high price for the few hours of entertainment offered to them; entertainment which sometimes proves of real worth

but which too often offers a useless collection of rubbish.

I am convinced that the people of America are in no degree less intelligent than the People of Europe, that their ideals are as high and their powers of appreciation every bit as great. Yet there is no town of importance in Europe and particularly in Central Europe, Russia and Scandinavia, that does not provide its people as a matter of course with a popular priced repertory theatre, a theatre that is to the town a library of living plays, representative of all the best in dramatic literature.

A superstition is prevalent in this country which you children can do so much to stamp out; the belief that a play written by a great artist, either modern or classic, must of necessity be dull. Such a belief is absurd. If you had the chance, as have the children of Europe, to see adequately presented at an admission charge equal to that of the average moving picture (that is to say, 50¢) the plays of Shakespeare, Goldoni, Ibsen, Tchekov, etc. you would find them every bit as entertaining as "Abie's Irish Rose" or "Getting Gertie's Garter", and furthermore, you would leave the theatre with food for your brain and your spirit, and be transported for a few hours out of your everyday humdrum self to a world that still holds the simple true magic of flowers and stars.

Help me and help yourselves to build a theatre in your midst that may have the chance of giving you some of these things. Your demand will create the supply. Have faith in us workers inside the theatre, as we have faith in you, the future workers outside, and let us work together on a basis of mutual service, understanding and confidence.

Em LeGallienne.

INTERVIEW # 9

St. _____ Chapel Dr. _____, Vicar.

Having been assigned to Catholic centers I was very much surprised to find this an Anglican Church. I succeeded in interviewing Dr. _____. The Vicar is about sixty years of age, virile, with great dignity and a charming manner. He is a man of few words but what he says is meaningful. From his conversation I would judge him to be of high ideals and great spirituality.

His church is of the old English type of architecture. There is no adornment of pictures or statuary, although he claimed the Roman Catholic Church is closely akin to the Anglican. The altar is severely plain with no tabernacle light. Most of our conversation hinged around the rubrics of the two churches. His form of confessional is just like the Roman Catholic with one exception. Ours is much more private. We have the confessional box where the penitent is in one compartment and the confessor in another, a screened partition separating. The Vicar hears in the sacristy, both penitent and confessor facing one another. Dr. _____ is married and has one son. I asked him how he was able to fulfill his domestic and church duties at the same time. Of course he says Mass and must fast until after service. He answered he had married a very high type of woman who was in perfect sympathy with his duties. It is because of the duties of married life that our Catholic priests do not marry. The life of a priest is one of great sacrifice.

Dr. _____ church staff consists of a Vicar Emeritus, a curate, and a parish visitor who attends to all the welfare work of the parish. She is Miss _____. They have also an organist

and choir master.

This church serves the needs of the down town business people.
They have four services a day and the church is always open.

The daily services consist of:-

8:00 A. M. Holy Communion

12:00 M Holy Communion

5:00 P. M. Evening Prayer

5:15 P. M. Stations of the Cross

The Sunday services for children are:

9:30 A. M. Church School

10:00 A. M. Children's Eucharist

10:30 A. M. Morning Prayer

Interview by May G. Dunn - Spring, 1928.

Interview #10.

St. _____ Monastery Franciscan Order

Father_____.

This monastery is situated in the heart of the Italian district. Looking from the window one could well imagine himself in Rome. Father_____ is a young man about thirty, very active and progressive. He has spent much of his time in Boston. In the monastery he is assistant to the pastor.

The parish formerly was made up of Irish and German, but now is for the most part Italian. They are chiefly laborers.

The church societies consist of the Holy Name which has an active enrollment and the Vincent De Paul which takes care of the poor of the parish.

A very important work is the Day Nursery. Here they have 100 children ranging from three years to five years. Their equipment to meet this need is very fine.

To provide for the boys' requirements they have a fine gym and swimming pool. The parish school has 900 children and serves elementary needs.

The priests' offices are of the most humble types. It is a poor parish and most of the money seems to be expended in serving the needs of the young.

During our conversation I learned that Mr. Burnham who has an office in the City Hall and is Parole Officer would be a very interesting person to meet. He is in close touch with the cocaine sellers of New York.

Interview by May G. Dunn - Spring, 1928.

Interview #11

_____ Hotel - Y. W. C. A. Librarian

Mrs. _____, although she is not a social worker, is in a position to know of the leading social welfare centers in Greenwich Village. She is a very high type of woman, about sixty years of age, and one impressed with the sincerity of her mission. While her position is to take care of a reading room she comes in contact with human nature and is very often able to help those in distress. I asked her what means of protection the Y. W. C. A. had in the danger of being hospitable to questionable characters. She said no means at all except one's own shrewdness in detecting the earmarks of a woman of the street,- Blotches on the face, unkempt hair, dirty teeth, straggling clothes, dirty nails, etc. People who do ^{not} carry baggage are generally questionable. The thought struck me then that virtue is its own reward. I next asked how such cases were disposed of if they should ask to be a guest. She directs them to the best welfare house for the type of person they happen to be. Among such institutions which are doing good work she mentioned the following:

Presbyterian Church, 6th & 7th Aves & W. 13th St.

Metropolitan Temple, 14th St.

City Federation Hotel, 462 W. 22nd St.

French Y. W. C. A., 124 W. 16th St.

Ladies Christian Union,

Joan of Arc, 253 W. 24th St.

St. Mary's Convent, 144 W. 14th St. & 9th Ave.

Laura Spellman Hall, Y. W. C. A.

Mrs. Hutchison, 8th Ave. & 12th St.

Mrs. _____ usually refers social cases to the social worker of the Y. W.C. A. who has residence at this hotel.

Interview by May G. Dunn - Spring, 1928.

Interview #12

St. Agnes Day Nursery.

This nursery is no longer in existence due to the fact that it was impossible to finance it. The neighbors directed me to the Church of the _____ 11th St. and 5th Ave. Here I met the sexton of the church. He was also an undertaker and had been since he was a very young man. He impressed me as being above the job of sexton. His English was very fine and he had so much general information. It was interesting to note that he had quite a different opinion of Greenwich Village from those whom I had previously interviewed. He thought that in this section were segregated a group of people whose code was entirely different and who wished to be left alone. He did not claim that they were immoral but if they were it would not surprise him as they kept strictly to themselves.

He then went on to describe a locality in Troy, N. Y. He said that this city was very clean morally due to the fact that crime and immorality were all committed behind the "dead line". If a person committed serious crime and was brought before the judge he was told to leave town or go behind the "dead line". Here no one is molested by the police. People may be murdered and there is no interference. The Board of Health, however, patrols the section to keep down disease.

I have inquired of many about this place but no one seems to have heard about it.

Interview by May G. Dunn - Spring, 1928.

Interview #13

St. _____ Church - Father _____

Although this Jesuit Church is not within the limits of Greenwich Village, I felt that much data could be secured because of its age and the constructive work which is being done.

I interviewed ^{The} Rev. Father _____ who has charge of all the parish work. He is a venerable man of some seventy odd years, but very keen and alert. His manner would probably frighten one of immature experience. Underneath his abruptness is a most kindly spirit, and I found myself being invited into his private office and having a heart to heart talk about his most intimate work. Right here I would like to emphasize that the successful interviewer wins with such a type by having a sense of humor. Telling a good joke sometimes breaks the ice.

The Sodalties and Societies connected with this church are numerous:

1. Xavier Alumni Sodality - 300 members
2. Young Ladies Sodality
3. Men's Sodality
4. Holy Name Society - 1000 men
5. Women's Sodality
6. St. Vincent De Paul Society - for the poor of the parish
7. Bona Mors Society
8. Ephpheta Society for the Deaf
9. Parochial School Association
10. Parish Library

In the Alumni Society are many of the doctors, lawyers, and judges of New York City.

The work of the Vincent De Paul Society is extensive. The receipts for 1927 were \$2,970.89 and the disbursements were \$2,527.24.

They have a parish school consisting of 300 boys and 295 girls. The high school is for boys only. The enrollment is 1075. The boys come from almost every state in the Union. The Jesuit System aims at developing the moral and intellectual faculties of the students and sending forth into the world men of sound judgment, acute intellect, and upright and manly conscience. Physical training in this school is secured by military drill. The Dep't details two army officers to instruct the students of the school in military tactics. The weekly drills are held in the 9th Reg. Armory. Students are obliged to wear military uniform. On Monday, Tuesday, and Friday. Commissioned officers of the battalion attend, after school hours, a special class of instruction on the duties of their office.

Friends of the school have founded scholarships which are open to graduates of grammar schools, parochial or public schools. Memberships are awarded by competitive exams held in January and June. At one time this church carried a college but because of a lack of finances it had to be abandoned.

The parish is made up of American, Irish and Italian. The foreign element is on the increase. The parish workers were very optimistic about conditions in Greenwich Village.

Interview by May G. Dunn - Spring, 1928.

Interview # 14.

Mrs. _____, the social worker, takes care of all the social work for _____ Church. She receives a salary and her work extends from South Ferry to Canal St., and from Broadway to West Bowling Green. She is a mother and a woman of wide experience. Her work is affiliated with the Catholic Charities, the C. O. S., the A. I. C. P., the Family Court, the Children's Court, the Department of Public Welfare, and the Catholic Big Sisters. When I met her a flock of little children were around her, clambering for first place, truly indicative of the type of woman I was about to interview. She is about 45 years of age, very well fitted for her work as she possesses an easy manner of meeting people, not arbitrary, sincere in her work, and very optimistic.

She claims that like _____ Parish the type of parishioners is changing from Irish to Syrian and other nationalities from southern Europe. She handles any problem either domestic or delinquent. Her greatest problem is poverty and she is compelled often to use her own funds. She finds few fallen girls. Since last June she has had only two such cases. She secures pensions for men and women. She sees that poor persons who are ill are taken to the hospital free of charge and for \$15.00 if they can afford it. Mental cases are sent to ^{the} mental clinic at St. _____ Hospital. Epileptic cases are sent to _____ Clinics, and there they are sometimes cured with "Laming Tablets". She sends many girls delinquents to _____ Shelter.

She has placed four in the Home for the Aged.

I asked about the Big Sister Movement and she thinks they are doing a fine work. They are unsalaried women. The Board is made up of women of wealth, including Lady Armstrong, Countess Islen, Caroline Lincherr, and Miss Sadie Kelly as Secretary.

Interview by May G. Dunn - Spring, 1928.

Interview #15

St. _____ Church _____ Social Worker

Mrs. _____ is a woman of about fifty-five years and has one son nineteen years of age. She is in a position to do good welfare work as she is wealthy. Some of her father's estate includes "Greenwich Village Inn". She, like Father _____, was born in the Village, and has lived next to the "Inn" all of her life. She is very loyal of course to the "Village". She says there is nothing wrong, at least no more than there is on Broadway and Forty-second Street. They smoke and dance at the "Inn", but no drinking parties are allowed. She has seen "freaks" go in and out and around the streets but they are perfectly harmless.

She is president of the Ladies Auxiliary which has about fifty active members. It is connected with the Catholic Charities. They solicit clothes, supply milk for poor families, send out five or six investigators, take care of poor and old people, and secure work for unemployed. They raise most of their money by card parties.

They are very careful not to let their work conflict with that of any other society.

Mrs. _____ was quite proud of the fact that her father and the Mayor's father were close pals. I think because of this friendship she has been able to carry much weight in civic affairs. She lauded the work of Mrs. _____ as did Father _____.

Interview by May G. Dunn - Spring, 1928.

Interview #16

_____ Church - Father _____

I think my interview here was most unsuccessful. It was due to the fact that there is not very much harmony between this Italian parish and an adjacent Irish parish. The pastor seemed very reticent about disclosing facts as he seemed to fear they might be repeated and used against him. I think perhaps he has had some unpleasant experiences.

He impressed me as a zealous kind of man, ready to help and doing very fine work in his own parish. A very large church and rectory have just been completed. The architecture is a copy of St. John Lateran in Rome. I think from personal observation of the Basilica in Rome there are many flaws. However, this priest is a man of high ideals. He has been in the Village for twenty-nine years and is optimistic about conditions. His congregation is decreasing because of the new station and subway. He finds the "gang" spirit very strong among his boys and has afforded an outlet by giving them a very fine "gym". He has an organization for seventeen year old boys called St. Aloysius Society. He finds gangs between West Houston and Christopher Streets.

He has a kindergarten which accommodates from fifty-two to one hundred children. He has a young women's club, Rosary Society, and Holy Name Society.

Interview by May G. Dunn - Spring, 1928.

Interview #17

St. _____ Father _____

Father _____ is the pastor of St. _____ Roman Catholic Church, and has two curates under him. He is an Irishman of about fifty-five years of age. At first he appeared very reserved, and impressed me as being rather reticent about meeting women. I did not blame him for this as a rectory is always besieged with women who have no aim in view but complaining about their husbands. However, when I told him I wanted to know about Greenwich Village he was pleased, as he was born and brought up in the Village. He left and returned to take charge of this parish when Monsignor _____ former pastor, left to take up the work of Vice Rector of the _____ at Rome.

Father _____ says that most of the talk about Greenwich Village is pure fiction. Some time ago there was a colony of artists who dressed differently. The women smoked and came out and sat on porches in abbreviated costume, but there was nothing particularly immoral that he knew of. Greenwich Village has an outstanding advantage inasmuch as it is close to all that makes up life. There were no foreigners in the Village until twenty-five years ago. The tenement houses in his parish are fast changing to apartments. Poverty is not bad here. The enrollment in his school has become lower because of the moving away of large families. The building of the new subway in this district has also decreased the parish. There is a distinct anti-

Catholic ward in the Village.

This church has twelve organizations. The outstanding problems which Father _____ meets are the tuberculosis problem, the recreational problem for children, and the removal of people in tenements.

Greenwich Village has given some leaders: Mayor Walker, District Attorney Banton, James Egan, chairman of the Welcoming Committee of Visiting Guests, George Olvaney.

Interview by May G. Dumm - Spring, 1928.

Interview # 18

She has been a case worker on lower Westside altho now holding an executive position. The name of Miss Woods was given as being a better person to see but I could not wait long enough for her. From Miss Sindel I obtained a report of the cases now being treated in lower Westside district. Altho the A. I. C. P. refers to clinics and other specialized agencies for help because of the danger of overlapping each organization has its own special workers.

Now on list in lower Westside:

52 cases--relief--illness, etc.
 30 T. B.
 15 Distitute
 97

28 Italian
 31 Irish
 Greek
 Polish
 Syrian
 American

A. I. C. P. has:

1 Case vistor--14th Street to Battery.
 1 Field Nurse.
 T. B. Combination Worker--Nurse and Social.
 District Workers.
 Dietitian.

Interview by Helen Walker--Spring of 1928.

Interview # 19

Miss Volkman--N. Y. T. B. & Health Asso. 244 Madison Avenue

Young, enthusiastic--has charge of poster publicity and advertising work. Her department acts as headquarters for materials which are distributed to all agencies doing work in health promotions. Her chief contact with village was thru reports which she used for the maps showing existing conditions. Contrary to what I expected the list showed a greater number of Irish names than any other one nationality. She had heard that this was due in part to the fact that most of the names were those of T. B. patients and were longshoremen who had contracted T. B. and stayed around the docks in rooming houses not getting proper care. The mortality rate maps showed the lower Westside in New York to have an equal mortality rate in T. B. to that of Welfare Island on which the City Hospital is located. There is to be a luncheon very soon at which all leaders will undoubtedly be present. Tickets probably obtainable at Greenwich House.

At this office (244 Madison Avenue) was the following:

Research Department.
Dental Committee.
Heart Committee.
Education Committee.
Lectures Committee.

All these departments are acting as a headquarters for activities being carried on.

Interview By Helen Walker--Spring of 1928.

Interview # 20

Miss Marguerite Pettengill--Social Worker and
Admitting Clerk Northern
Dispensary.

Has worked here ten years with the visiting nurse--Evelyn Vredenburg, who has been here 30 years and the druggist who has been here 24 years. Also talked with Miss Mabel Eckert, the Dental Hygienist, a young girl who is a student at New York University. All these people showed a keen knowledge of the community and a real interest in its well being. The report gives a good summary of the work done. They spoke especially of the work of a Miss Rochester, principal of the Grove Street School, in her interesting cases reported from that school, and also of the Sisters of St. Josephs Catholic School.

Interview by Helen Walker--Spring of 1928.

Interview # 21

Miss Middler--Jewish Social Service, 104 E. 9th St.

Busy each time, altho she allowed me to listen in on interviews she was having. It was the week before the Passover holidays and an effort was being made to give immediate aid to those cases on hand. Not a large number were from Westside. Greatest work on Eastside. Great contrast between this office and other offices, not as business like. Very few really destitute cases. Most aid given in creating understanding and dispelling fear of our institutions.

Interview # 22

Miss Randall--Jewish Social Service, 83 East 2nd. Street.

Has 4 cases that would come in lower Westside District. Many cases come to her thru Unions and factories. Offices are located in district where great percentage are Jewish workers. Work appears to be rather haphazard as compared to work of our older well-organized relief organizations, altho all work done is case work method.

Interviews by Helen Walker--Spring 1928.

Interview # 23

Miss Ann School--Jewish Social Service.

After waiting one hour for Miss School I obtained the information that she would only do the Westside and intend nothing whatever of the work on the Eastside and wished that the Council would drop her name from their lists. She however gave the names of two people who have worked on the Westside: Miss Miller; Miss Daniels 85 East End St.

Interview # 24

Dr. Johnston (Woman) N. Y. I. B. and Health Association.

Gives talks, radio and lectures, and moving pictures on request of various agencies or by her own suggestion. Gave a course to Social Workers on lower Westside on a proper Medical Working Background for Social Workers. She would be glad of any suggestions we might have to offer as to a need for such work as we might see it.

Research department would like suggestions for any health research that might arise as a result of these interviews.

Interviews by Helen Walker--Spring 1938.

Interview # 25

The work of Greenwich House so overshadows all others that it is the first mentioned in considering the Health work done in this district since it is a headquarters for so many agencies. Each organization has its own workers and is jealous of its own field but there is less and less friction. The Council was organized as a sort of clearing house for all organizations but some following a well-beaten path practically refuse to take advantage of it or are afraid that too big an organization will lose sight of the individual. One felt this especially at a place like the Northern Dispensary which has been sufficient unto itself for so many years, altho willing to do for others it does not wish to give up anything that it has of its own. The A. I. C. P. is especially interested in schools of Lower Westside, especially continuation schools and provides scholarships helping in getting children out of schools as early as possible but prepared to work at something definite.

One fact which stands out is that it is not so much the district as the type of leaders in the

42

district who determine the amount of work which can be accomplished. Special mention was made of the work of the Principals in the schools in this district in creating a sentiment for all public agencies and using all possible aid for their children's interests. These agencies do not go out seeking cases. The cases are brought to their notice thru schools, clinics, Settlement Houses and Social Workers in churches. Most people in this field are people of vision and a fine knowledge of the work not only under their immediate supervision but of the whole field. The Lower Westside and Eastside are the best organized and cared for districts in New York as far as health and social aid is concerned.

Interview by Helen Walker--Spring 1928.

Interview # 26

Miss----a special worker of this association on Lower Westside. Greatest work of the association has been on lower Eastside and Westside. Schools, settlements, churches, doctors, and clinics report cases for help. Most work begun under this association, ^{is} now under Board of Education. Very fine filing system gives accurate statistical data. Miss----- report showed 32 cases now on the list for special care, that is, braces, crutches, massage or hospital treatment transportation to hospital for treatment provided free. Miss-----is very busy and must depend on reports and conferences for her contact and knowledge of work in various parts of the city. New extension work being done in Bronx.

Interview by Helen Walker--Spring 1926.

Interview # 27

I took lunch at the Pepper Pot and asked the hostess if she could give me names of any well-known people, important in various field of activity who frequented the Pepper Pot. She said she couldn't but that she would find Mr-----the proprietor who could probably give me the information. I told Mr.-----my errand, explaining that I was from New York University and was making a study of leadership in the village. He said he was out of town--up state--so often that he was rather out of touch with affairs in the village and suggested that Mr.-----his brother-in-law might be better informed. Mr.-----did not seem to think of any names as he also was up state much of the time. He did mention Gene Tunny, and Billy Seamon(chum of Mayor Walker). He referred me to an article on changing conditions in the village in Literary Digest of February 18 and to Washington Square Association membership list. He gave me the names of two reporters: Mr.-----of-----and Mr.-----of-----but I failed in locating them.

Interview by Marie Todd--February 25, 1928.

Interview # 28

Miss-----is about 40 years of age, seems to be careless in personal appearance but of pleasing personality, friendly, responsive, willing to help, and takes a great interest in her neighborhood. She said the clubs found it difficult to place Jewish girls in positions. There is a need for more rooming houses to take care of the girl who can afford to pay only \$8 to \$10 a week. There is also lack of accommodations for the woman over 30 with small means. The women in charge of these various houses as a rule remain in their positions a long time and so can bring much experience and training to bear on the problems in their line of work.

Clubs have given up any plan for recreation activities as the girls did not respond favorably to them. They seem to prefer finding their social life outside the club. It is harder to get a girl a job if she lives in the village than it is when she lives uptown.

Miss-----has only two evenings a week free and on one she has a class at New York University.
Interview by Marie Todd--March 6, 1938.

Interview # 29

Miss-----is full time worker as leader of girls clubs. She appears much below medium height, is inclined to plumpness, and is about 26 years of age. Personality: full of pep, responsive, quick in action. Nationality: Italian. She was Catholic but is now a Protestant. She was born in the village and has been in her present position 2½ years. She works evenings as well as days and takes work at Teacher's College three mornings a week. She is especially interested in dramatics and religious work, and especially with the adolescent girl. She is not active in any other organization.

The neighborhood is continually changing. This means that leaders must come from outside. Problems of the area: (1) That of crowded housing. (2) Lack of interest in bigger things of life. (3) No feeling of responsibility--girls arrive late for club meetings etc. (4) No initiative for creating own recreation. (5) Adult training neglected. (6) To provide normal social life for the boys and girls so they can work and play together. The Italian girl is not allowed to receive a young man at her home. She questions the value of a Protestant Community House in Catholic district.

Interview by Marie Todd--Spring 1928.

Interview # 30

Mr.-----is at the chapel 2 or 3 evenings a week and Sunday. His occupation is that of book-keeper. He lives in area. He was born in Scotland but came to America when a young man and attended what is now the First Presbyterian Church. A friend of his was teaching a class of boys every Sunday at Bethel Chapel. He asked Mr.-----to teach the class during his absence. Mr.-----did so--was very glad to turn the class over to his friend when he returned. Other friends of his in the church persuaded him to go on with work at the chapel. So he did and became quite interested in boy's club work. He is now active in work of First Presbyterian; is one of the elders and the vice-chairman of committee to look after the work of the church at Bethel Chapel. He does not care to enlarge his responsibilities--rather lessen them. Problems are: To teach people to get the most out of life. There is a need for evening classes in stenography, bookkeeping, etc. Kind of leadership needed hard to define. Young men come in from outside, some qualify as leaders, some do not.

An indefinable something is necessary to make them leaders. He must let his group know that he is boss. Ministers do not stay long in their work in that area as they seize any chance for advancement--the village is a stepping stone. There is cooperation between Protestant leaders in the work--games between teams etc. but no cooperation from the Catholic leaders, who allow or tolerate the children to benefit by the social and club life but discourage their participation in the religious part. When the chapel first started the neighborhood was composed of many nationalities: French, German, negro, Lithuanian, etc. now it is almost solidly Italian. Mr.-----personality? modest, reticent, enthusiastic over work but very reluctant to talk about self.

Interview by Marea Todd--March 15, 1928.

Interview # 31

Mr. -----was pleasant, business-like, but anxious to get the interview over with. He is about 38 years of age. He lives on Long Island, tho he was born in Greewich village. He is a member of five organisations outside the area, two being also work in scouting. He is an active member in only one of these five. He has been in boys' work 15 years. Work with boys, especially scouting, is his chief interest. Is at 18 Leroy St. every night and 2 or 3 afternoons. He knew of no problems in the neighborhood. Cooperation is excellent because the religious element does not enter into his work. There are twenty troops in the neighborhood. His group is Irish and Italians. He can see results of work expressed in attitudes of the boys. Most of the Gang of boys in Leroy St. attend Pompeii Church so instead of organizing them as part of the group at 18 Leroy Street he has them meet at Pompeii Church. He feels that the work could be much extended in the area and thus accomplish more. He would not care to take on any extra volunteer work.

Interview by Marea Todd--March 15, 1928.

Interview # 32

Interviewed Mr.-----in his office at the chapel. Found him easy to interview and quite willing to give any information possible. Personality plus in responsiveness, positiveness, poise, initiative, etc. He is a graduate of Princeton and Union Theological Seminaries. He has been at -----Chapel 4 years and was in club work at Madison Avenue Presbyterian church for previous $2\frac{1}{2}$ years. He is married and has one child. He is about 30 years of age. He is a member of Greenwich village neighborhood association. Says he is a passive member. Is working on some project with Dr. Thrasher. -----Chapel is located in the heart of an Italian settlement and combines the functions of church and neighborhood house. Rev.-----, an Italian minister, devotes his time to holding church services in Italian and working with the elder group of people^{and is} a full time worker.

There is a day nursery in charge of Mrs.----- who was formerly at Bloomingdale nursery. She has a trained nurse assisting her.

Kindergarten work is carried on under the direction of New York Kindergarten Association and is in charge of Miss-----who has been therefor twenty years.

Miss-----leader of girls clubs is a college graduate and has had in addition one year at Hartford School of Religious Education and 2 years at Teacher's College, Columbia.

Miss-----has charge of the story hour group which meets twice a week. She is a graduate of Northfield Seminary and has been a long time in present job. She also has charge of industrial and sewing classes.

Miss-----has no technical training but has had scout training and 5 years of experience at Bethel Chapel.

Mr-----senior student at Union Theological Seminary is doing work with boys clubs. He lives in Mulligan Alley. He is a graduate of Columbia and has had experience in summer camp work. He is doing work with boys clubs in a church at 36th street.

Great problem of neighborhood is that of providing recreation on account of congestion in living conditions. There is no cooperation among leaders of various religions and nationalities; on the other hand not actively hostile.

Catholic leaders are decidedly uncooperative and seem to resent the coming of Catholic children into the clubs at -----Chapel. There is no proselyting at this chapel. About 700 young people come to this chapel each week.

Interview by Marea Todd--March 3, 1928.

Interview # 33

Stopped in the Silhouette about 10 P. M. There is a tiny, narrow entrance-way opening into a small room with four or five tables. Men were around two tables evidently enjoying a game of bridge and cigarettes. Beyond that room was another small one with three tables. I asked woman who served me if she would talk to me while I ate. She gave the following information.

A Mrs.-----formerly owned the Silhouette but it is now owned by two young men. Her daughter, Helen, is a professional shopper in A. & S. in Brooklyn. Her daughter Sally is living in Fiskkill and is editor of a paper there.

Dr. Simkevitch could give much information concerning social life of village.

The Little Theater movement grew out of the village. It started in an old shack on Seventh Avenue.

Barney Glennis on Third Place is an eating house with Bohemian atmosphere. Visitors wear evening clothes. It is said to be one of nicest in village. I went to Vagabondia to locate the "Count". No one seemed to know of him, but I located Sophie Hanson "the real villager". She has a tea room of her own across the street, the "Chantrella"; inquired there about the "Count" and was

finally informed that he is a very disreputable character who hangs around the "gin houses" most of the time and could not be termed the leader in any sense of the word.

Many well known people come to the Chantrelle, artists, writers, movie actors, New York University instructors, etc, etc.

Sophie Hanson has a pleasing personality, is fond of cigarettes and of bridge; is a business woman during the day. She has had the tea room $1\frac{1}{2}$ years.

The interview was unsatisfactory as interviewee was more desirous of playing bridge than of being interviewed and interviewer felt superfluous.

There are two types of tea rooms in the village-- one catering to the real people of the real village--- unpretentious places, excellent food, quiet atmosphere-- conversation, game of bridge or chess. Such are Vagabondia, Chantrelle, Silhouette, Mad Hatter, Romany Marie, etc. The other kind bid for the patronage of the jazzy hip-flask crowd from uptown and strive for outlandish atmosphere and are not frequented by the real villagers: Pepper Pot, Pirates Den, Open Door, etc.

The real village life is the life of the studios, rather than of the public gathering places.

Mina St. Vincent Millay has a tiny house on Grove and Cherry Lane. Has her own crowd.

Pally ran an old shack on the site of the present Greenwich Village Inn. Real villagers used to gather there

in bedroom slippers and kimono. Polly trusted many who were "broke", some ^{are} now famous and no longer in village. She was persuaded to go into partnership with a couple of fellows from up town who induced her to remodel the place as Greenwich Village Inn of today. Then came a crowd of curiosity seekers and jazzers from uptown. Polly couldn't stand these so she left the old place and opened up a new one in a different section (Perry Street). Her old village clientele followed her. The uptowners finally rediscovered her so she closed this also and moved uptown. She was found several weeks ago wandering the streets in Village, slightly demented and is now in Belleview under observation. (How much of this is true I cannot say.)

The great change in the character of the village came with prohibition. Jazz, hip-flasks, thrill seekers, mistaking license for liberty.

Interview by Marea Todd--Spring 1928.

Interview # 34

The interview took place in Dr.-----office. He is a kindly, courteous and positive type of person. He is an Italian, not married.

He is a member of the following organizations:

County Medical Society.
 Independent Order of Odd Fellows.
 Michael Perilli Lodge--Independent Order of Sons of Italy.
 Downtown Democratic Club.
 League of Foreign Born Citizens.
 Member of Advisory Committee.
 Italian Physician and Surgeons Society.

He is very active in all of these and gives as much time as he can outside of his professional appointments in ministering aid to sick and poor who cannot afford to pay for professional service.

He is a Catholic. He has lived in the Village 35 years and in his present home 20 years.

The things he likes best are: "Doing charitable work amongst the poor, to elevate them and promote their welfare, providing proper hospital care in cases of the very needy, and carrying on the work of my late brother."

The greatest problem as he sees is of people going to places where they should not. The noisy, wild parties in front of the cabarets annoy him most.

He has another office on Sullivan Street. Many letters come in asking for assistance financially as well as medically. Historic buildings are being replaced by sky scrapers is a result of the fact that more money is coming into the neighborhood.

Interview by Marea Todd--Spring of 1928.

Interview # 35

Mr.-----is a Social Service Secretary of the Protestant Episcopal Church of New York. He is a member of 32 or more organizations; a member of 12 Board of Directors; and Secretary of 6 organizations. None of these are village organizations and they take all of his time.

Mrs-----spends all of her spare time and more as secretary of the Girls Friendly Society of the Episcopal Church and is a member of two Boards. In the Village she is on the advisory committee of C. O. S. She has no time for any other work.

They knew about the organizations in the Village in a general way, and suggested that ministers of various churches were outstanding leaders, knowing most about the community and doing the most good.

Spanish people live around 14th Street and Germans are also in the Village but Italians are the predominating foreign element. They knew nothing about the cooperation among the various leaders. They thought politics played a leading part but really didn't know. The Village was once Democratic, but the new element moving in are Republicans. The last representative from the district was Republican. They suggested Miss-----as a person who could tell more about the political situation.

The old apartments of the area are being remodeled. The poor and foreign element are moving out and the middle class of people are moving in. They claimed no knowledge of other leaders but felt that "common interests" was the greatest need in creating a better and more unified community.

They have lived in Village for 3 years and lived in New York and suburbs for past 20 years. They talked very enthusiastically of the Village, thinking of it as the nicest place in city in which to live and as the coming area.

They are people of about 50 years of age. He has a very business like manner and considered each question before answering. If he wasn't sure he frankly said so. She was more hasty in replying. Both were lovely people--very polite and interesting. Their home was well furnished having good taste and quality.

When I was thru and ready to leave she mentioned the fact the Dr.-----had been elected to C. O. S. Committee; also that I had called Mrs.-----asking for an interview. Then he said: "What is this for, a thesis?" I confessed. He talked a little more interested, if at all changed. He told me I had a hard and big task ahead of me and wished me success in it. They said Mrs-----was the outstanding leader of the area.

Interview by Ollie Brindley--February 20, 1928.

Interview # 36

Mr.-----'s office appeared to be that of a typical printer. He was in shirt sleeves. He was very courteous and seemed glad to help me. He gave me the impression of considering my questions and of trying to be very accurate. He appeared business like.

He is about 35, married, and lives in New Jersey. He is a member of the Catholic Church and is Syrian. A man with a straight-foward look and a pleasing personality.

He belongs to no organizations and holds no offices. He came to this country from Syria 25 years ago and settled in the community. At that time all kinds of foreigners were living there but others moved out leaving the Syrian group. They organized their own business, banks, two churches, six or seven newspapers, and one magazine. They are the only Syrian papers published in the U. S. so their influence reaches every where in this country. Two other newspapers were started elsewhere but did not succeed.

After the World War business began pushing into their section so most of the people moved to Brooklyn and the Bronx for homes but kept that section for business.

He referred to Bowling Green Neighborhood Association several times and stated that they might give more information concerning the Syrians.

When asked the greatest need of community, he said: "It depended upon the point of view. For an off-hand statement from Syrian point of view it was a strong

organization to make them more self-respecting as a certain stock of people."

When I left he wished me success in my work and expressed hopes that I would graduate with honors. He sent his regards to Miss Morris and hoped that he had fulfilled his duty in giving me the information I wanted, since she had recommended him. He seemed to appreciate that fact. He also gave me a copy of his magazine.

Interview by Ollie Brindley--February 21, 1928.

Interview # 37

I was searching for the door bell when a man opened the door. I thought he was a janitor or similar person until he informed me he was Dr.-----, I was taken into his office. The appearance and equipment at first glance did not come up to my expectation of a modern office.

He at once informed me that he wasn't interested in the Village and was going to get out as soon as possible. The city had taken his home away from him for Holland Tunnel. Old families were moving out and factories coming in. Later he told me people who were coming in were more educated. He was contradicting himself. Mr.----- told me that people thought that he considered himself superior to them, so they didn't like him and would give him no practice.

Dr.-----has lived in and around New York City all of his life and has been in the Village for 25 years. He is a member of St. Lukes Church--goes to Catholic mass on Christmas and Easter. He is married and mentioned his daughter who went to New York University.

He implied that he was a member of several organizations but I could find out only the Huron Club (Democratic Club) and the Masonic Order--everything

connected with latter--but hastened to say they were all uptown.

Politics seemed to be his major interest. He gave me the name of Republican and Democratic leaders, saying they were splendid men. Said he didn't aspire to be a political leader for in order to be one he must be "A first class rowdy." That morning he had brought in a political leader so drunk he couldn't walk.

The greatest need is a change in political leaders, but said that was hopeless for they would only get in "More men of the same type." This was an impossible idea as Greenwich is a closed district--all do as -----says.

Dr-----is about 50, was very friendly and willing to talk. When I came in he said he was just getting ready to leave but invited me in. He showed no signs of being anxious to go. Either he wasn't calling on his patients or he was very unconcerned about them.

Interview by Ollie Brindley--February 23, 1928.

Interview # 38

Mr.-----is pastor of -----, His is married, has a family and is about 30 years of age. He has a pleasing personality, and impresses one with his enthusiasm for his work.

Mr.-----is on the advisory committee of the C. O. S. and takes work at New York University. The rest of his time is consumed in his own church. He has lived in the area and has been pastor of this church for three years. He went there because he thought there was a great need in the churches of lower New York. He wanted a place where he could really do something for the people. The specific church was a mere shell when he went there--no spiritual life. From others I have heard that he is really successful in his work.

To be sure that the salary was not an attraction I asked about the pay there in proportion to other places. He quoted salaries which showed that his was among the lowest. Then he told me of two wonderful offers which he had had in the past year, but refused them because he wanted to complete the work he had started in serving these people.

He told me of various people and organizations in the area. Because of lack of time I was unable to get more definite facts about them.

Interview by Ollie Brindley--February 23, 1928.

Interview # 39

Miss-----is a very attractive woman of about 35 or 40. She started by saying she doubtless could tell me little so she recommended Mrs.-----as most of them do. She has lived in and around New York City all of her life. Her present home is on Long Island.

With her dancing teacher she went to-----church to play. She liked the deaconess very much and gradually took more work in church. When the deaconess left she took her place and filled this position 11 years. When the pastor left he asked her to come to -----church and she has been there two years.

She prepared to be a kindergarten teacher. Children were passing thru room while we were talking. She greeted them all without disturbing our conference. One could easily see her ability to work with them and their love for her.

She said that all of the churches were friendly but that there was no cooperation. They have no foreign element in their church and she didn't know anything about them.

From her point of view the need was for the churches to cooperate and build a church community house for recreation for children. According to her St. Luke's gym is the only one south of 23rd. St.

The poor people of community are thoroughly American. Years ago the Rockland County people came down to Manhattan with their produce for sale. The sons of the pioneers settled here. Many ederly people live here who never have been further north then 42nd. St.

Dr.-----has purchased the delapidated tenements and remodeled them and in this way is improving the class of people in this locatlity.

Behind the church and between these houses he has built a beautiful Italian garden. This place is called St. Johns' Colony.

Interview by Ollie Brindley--February 23, 1928.

Interview # 40

He is a man of about 55 and has been at the church one year. He said he knew nothing about the area and advised me to go to Greenwich House because the whole community was centered around it. He taught in a boys school near Baltimore for 18 years before coming here.

Father----- has been here for 19 years and is a Godly man. They keep no records but make up enough to send report to -----Parish in order to get money to run institution. They get facts from Greenwich House and from the monthly luncheon meetings of L. W. S. Council. He is a member of the latter and attends regularly.

With the exception of L. W. S. Council he knew of no cooperation in the work. They have no foreign element in their church. Most of their people have moved away but come back there to worship.

He told me of one boy who coached basket ball, was secretary of several organizations in church, and is now working in a bank. He was the only leader he knew in the church.

All of the teachers and leaders in the church are hired from elsewhere.

The only thing he seemed to know about the village was that the Jews had bought houses and remodeled them. The second and third floors had previously rented for \$35 and now the price of attic is \$150 per month. The greatest need is houses for people and at a moderate rent.

Interview by Ollie Brindley--February 23, 1928.

Interview # 41

I had an appointment to meet Mrs-----but she begged to be excused because she was very busy with a church supper to be held that night.

Mr-----said he was willing to excuse her because she had only been there since September and knew less about the work than he so she could answer very few of my technical questions. He said that she just did church visiting. Implied that she was very good at that but knew little more.

Interview by Ollie Brindley--February 23, 1928.

Interview # 42

Mrs-----has been working there for seven years and for last six years has been in executive position in charge of the place. She was born and reared on a stock farm in the middle west. She is now married to an Episcopal minister who is at -----;

Besides working here she is rearing her three small children. She is chairman of committee of L. W. S. Council and is member of C. O. S. Time for the latter two come out of her working hours and are in connection with the center. She also pays dues to five different organizations out of the Village but takes no active part in them. With this she finds time for one class at New York University.

She is an efficient appearing woman, well dressed and neat.

As far as leadership in district was concerned she knew little. Said they dealt with individuals and their idea was to give service. People were not studied from that point of view. She felt that they were hard to study from such an angle because there was no homogenous group; continual changes are taking place.

She looked at needs of community thru health, of course, so she said the need was to lead people to a better appreciation of what it takes to obtain health.

Since she could think of no outstanding leaders she introduced me to one of her staff--a very efficient looking woman. It was then time for my next interview so I left my address and she is to have another woman send me the names of the leaders that she knows.

Interview by Ollie Brindley--February 24, 1928.

Interview # 43

Mr.-----is a very attractive man of about 35, gray hair, married, and has a family. He graduated from Union Theological Seminary. He has been here for two years, having been moved by the church board from Second Avenue Baptist on Eastside.

He might be classified as a born executive. He has a multitude of varying duties in his work. He could answer few of my questions, but called in a stenographer who was Italian and knew their leaders. The other questions which I asked he gave a brief answer but told me who could answer more fully. I talked to him chiefly about leaders in district and not about his own work in church.

He knows many people in district without knowing anything about them. His object in his work is to make friends and by personal contact in freindly way to bring them to deeper christian life. He has a personality which makes friends quickly and which is very influential over others. (I worked in a church with him for a year so I am judging part of his character from that).

His chief interest is of course in his church and he is trying to find the means by which he can lift the young people up to a higher level, Young People being his chief interest.

Besides work in his church he does a great deal of religious education work with his church board. He teaches in a training school in the city. Also does V. B. S. work and at present he is helping plan a curriculum for the city mission churches.

In the Village he is a member of the district committee of C. O. S. and of L. W. S. Has now become a member of Guidance Clinic Association.

In the community are chiefly Italians. He said they had no intense national feeling until Massoline became prominent. Few of the intelligent Italians are christians. With education comes cynicism and materialism. Italians ministers say: "One is wasting time trying to convert them." It is difficult to learn about Italians as they are Catholic and are closed mouth with protestants.

He feels the Village is divided into so many groups that it is quite a task to study their leaders.

Interview by Ollie Brindley--May 24, 1928.

Interview # 44

Mr-----is a retired business man from the Equity Life Insurance Company. His age is about 60. He was born in Village but moved away and came back to live about a year ago. He has no interest in the Village and cares nothing about reforming or improving it. He is a member of the church of St. John the Evangelist, and is intensely interested in the colony.

He is a member of many organizations out side of the Village. I don't know the number of in how many he holds an office. He entertained the Prince of Wales in his home when the Prince was in America.

Over the telephone he said his family was his greatest interest. I later found that he has a granddaughter of which he is very fond.

He is said to be very attractive and interesting.

These facts were gained by telephone conversation with him and from Miss-----of the church.

Interview by Ollie Brindley--February 24, 1928.

Interview # 45

Mrs-----is a member of St. Johns Episcopal church and lives in the colony. She is about 55 years of age and dramatics is her hobby. She is a New Yorker and has lived in the Village since 1918. She has two sons.

She has an idea that a woman who does not need to work should not go into business and take the opportunity from those who need it. So far pass-time she started her "play readers" which is an incorporated organization of which she is president.

The object of this organization is to teach people to read, to give young writers a chance to get their plays heard by others and bring out weaknesses in plays and to build up an audience to express opinion. Her emphasis is on diction. This is also a good way to put plays before managers of theaters. These practices are held in St. Johns Church. Last year they gave their programs in the Town Hall. She was delighted to tell me about all of this for it gave her a chance to advertise it.

Her whole interest has been in theaters and she has worked in Settlement theaters. She has given up interest in woman suffrage and all similar organizations for this one. She added: "You will find my name in the New York Social Register, if that is any interest to you."

Interview by Ollie Brindley--February 27, 1928.

Interview # 46

Mrs----- is a charming widow, her husband having been killed in the World War. She was born in Mississippi about 50 years ago. When she was married they moved to Scotland. She has no children.

She has lived constantly in the Village for the past six years so she knows the people very well.

She is not a member of any Village of similar organisations because of her public position as librarian. She cooperates with them in ^{the} library in every way possible.

She told me of the Spanish settlement. Their business is around 14th St. but the families live up town. Also she spoke of the French who live in the area and have their business there.

She says only Catholic churches are filled on Sunday as the Protestants are not going to church. There are many parochial schools and good ones in the area. They had to close one public school because there were not enough Protestant children.

All the musical area is up town as only writers and artists are in the village.

This section is a great publishing area for magazines--Ladies Home Journal, etc. Newspapers are published farther downtown.

Artists are found on 9th and 10th Streets.

Interview by Ollie Brindley--February 27, 1928.

Interview # 47

Miss-----is a woman of about 50 years of age and has worked in the library about 20 years. She is very neat in appearance and is very accomodating.

She lived on 12th Street but moved to Washington Heights, near Columbia. There she has a cozy, comfortable apartment for 85 dollars a month and would have to pay that amount for a poorly equiped one in the Village. She is a member of Episcopal Church but she attends very little.

She belongs to four organizations. Three are up town which keep her informed in her work or are social. Also she belongs to the L. W. S. council of which she is treasurer.

She is a member of a staff which started a house to house canvass of the community in order to study the people but had to give up the task. She enjoys talking with people and casually starts a conversation with them. In this section you find a group of wealthy people while in the next block are the poor, foreign element where you do not hear a word of English spoken. Residences are mingled with the business houses and business is pushing into the Village from south and west.

She knew nothing of artists and writers. The leaders could not be judged or studied as others, as they work quietly and alone and don't want to be a leader in any other sense.

Homes nearer places of work was the greatest need of the community.

Interview by Ollie Brindley--Feb. 28, 1928.

Interview # 48

Miss-----is a nursery kindergarten teacher. She is about 50 or 60 years of age. She has a forceful character and ^{is} a great talker ~~she is looking in V. P. re.~~

She has a mothers' club but is not as successful as Miss-----, Miss-----spoke highly of her.

She has been working there for 20 years. When she first came here this was the roughest section of the city. Policemen refused to let her enter certain houses because it was not safe. There are great changes since those days.

Real estate men have purchased the property and improved it in order to bring a better element into ^{the} district and obtain higher rent. In her day rent has raised from \$9 to \$125 for same apartment with little improvement.

She thought the greatest need was people who understood Italians, because of their peculiar characteristics.

The emmigration law has improved conditions by not allowing so many to immigrate. People become americanized more quickly when few come in at a time.

She said that the C. O. S. spent more time and money investigating cases than they gave to cases. She hastened to say that this was five years ago. Since that time she knew nothing about them. She cited one instance in which they spent six weeks investigating the case.

Interview by Ollie Brindley--March 7, 1928.

Interview # 49

Miss-----is an attractive and efficient looking kindergarten teacher and is about 55 years of age. She is a member of the Presbyterian Church and lives on 16th Street. She has been in this school for 20 years.

As an outgrowth of the public school work she has a Mothers Club which meets twice a month and from 60 to 80 mothers attend. From others I heard that she was very successful in working with mothers. This club is self supporting.

She is not in any organizations. Her work takes all her time and she feels that she needs improvement so she takes one course at Columbia.

The community has changed greatly since the war--commercialism has crowded out the homes. All the buildings around them are new--loft or business houses. The rent problem is a great one. There are no really poor people in the area. People move away and then come back. They like to be nearer their work.

Interview by Ollie Brindley--March 7, 1928.

Interview # 50

Mr. ----- is a man of 45 or 50 years of age and graduated from New York University in 1903. He is an Episcopalian. He once lived in the Village but now lives in Brooklyn. His ancestors have their names on Richmond Hill tablet. This association has only been in existence a year and a half and he has been secretary since its beginning. I didn't learn what was his previous occupation. He is well informed concerning the Village and is an interesting talker. He is a "mail order member" of three organizations out of the Village. Dropped two others because they were too expensive.

He started discussion by saying their aim was to develop leadership of the district.

It is his business as secretary to watch developments and predict what will be the future effect. When he started a year and half ago, they wouldn't take his word. Later they would come saying they wished they had done specific things. He would get out his files and show that he had suggested just that. Now they take his advise because they see he is right.

He said Village had made a decided change for the better.

The Sixth Avenue subway has wiped out 3500 Italian families. He said that not enough were left to be expressed in leadership. The Spanish are not ^{of} a high caliber. He knew nothing about the French as there are very few in the Village.

Catholic Church is the dominating church of the area. The Episcopal Church formerly controlled and is still a great factor in leadership. They formerly were land poor. Under the leadership of Mr.-----they have become powerful. They started acquiring land in 1780 and have not been allowed to sell any. The state did condemn and get some of their land for the Holland Tube. Money from lands supports the Diocese of New York and Trinity School on 91st Street. He graduated from this church in 1899. Trinity will not rent her land except to business of which she approves. In this way she may have retarded development, or may have kept it in right class. At any rate Trinity Corporation is a real leader in area.

Mayor Walker is a real leader because people are doing what he wants done.

Night clubs and cabarets are a dominating force in the night life and affect the whole city.

Broadway has a slump in night life except for theaters. Work and play makes up man's life. These furnish his play. Cabarets are often rough and not good type. "Those in Village are more refined, tho' common." Greenwich Theater provides a high type of leadership now.

The Bozarre Way of looking at life is typical of Village. The art and poetry are "Phases as expression of internal readjustment."

Old firms are going nearer the river where rent is cheaper provided they do not need show windows to display their wares. New facilities have generated new district and new section. People who rightly belong there are not there.

Canal to St Lukes place and to 15th Street is the greatest industrial center. The Village will never be wiped out. New York has the tendency to walk to work by living near their work.

His great question was: What in the Village leadership since 1680 has made it lasting as a Village?

Interview by Ollie Brindley--March 7, 1926.

Interview # 51

Members of the -----club use it as a place for displaying their work which is for sale. All of the exhibits are opened with tea. Members of the club are invited to come and bring their friends.

Sketch classes meet in the club twice a week. A small fee is charged to pay the expense of the poser. No teacher is present, but the people improve their work by comparing it with that of the others present.

There are many artists of note in the section. Mrs.-----gave the name of several from each school. She suggested that many live and have their studios there because it was a much cheaper place to live.

Interview by Ollie Brindley--February 28, 1928.

Interview # 52

Mr.-----is an attractive man of about 50. He has a keen sense of humor and was a good conversationalist. His studio was a large bare room, except for the pannels which he was painting. A small stove supplied the heat.

Mr.-----said there were no leaders in art, that their aim was to be individual. He classified them as: the academic, the modern academic and the radical modern. The latter is just a phase, not lasting. They have good ideas and material, but do not finish their work. He, himself is an academic and laughed at the absurdities of the various artists. The moderns think that only their work is good and will not condescend to look at the work of others.

Mr.-----came to the Village and McDougal Alley 20 years ago from St. Louis. When only a few artists were here the rent was much cheaper. He is not a member of any church and does not attend. He said there were no regular artists clubs with social gatherings. He spoke very highly of Mrs.-----saying she had done more to help the poor artists than any one would know.

Interview by Ollie Brindley--February 26, 1928.

Interview # 53

Father-----is about 60 years of age, though from appearance I would have judged him to be younger. He was born in Belgium. He spent 20 years as a missionary in Chile before coming to this country. He spoke English very poorly so neither of us understood the other very well.

He knows the people of his church as he meets them there but knows nothing about their leadership. He is not a member of any outside organization. The church membership is composed of people from all of the Spanish speaking countries. They come to that church from all over the city.

This was not a satisfactory interview but was very interesting.

Interview by Ollie Brindley--March 7, 1928.

Interview # 54

Mr.-----is about 65 years of age--a retired traveling salesman. He is a very pleasant man. Through his son-in-law he became interested in this work and has been here for two years.

The prize fights and dances given by the clubs are his greatest pride. The dances are not chaperoned but every thing goes nicely.

The chief aim of the place is to make good citizens. When he was asked about changes in the community since he came, he interpreted the question to be in the light of their work. He replied that he did not live there so he did not know, but he had been told by reliable authority that the great change for the better had taken place.

He said there had evidently been proselyting by the church next door for the people refused to come to the clubs until they were assured that the church had nothing to do with the organization now.

Mr.-----chief interest is in politics. He offers his services every election day and does all he can in politics. He is a member of Town Hall Club and thinks it is a wonderful place.

He refused to live in the district because he wants to ^{be} away from work out of working hours.

Interview by Ollie Brindley--March 7, 1928.

Interview # 55

Mr.-----had no idea how many Spanish lived in the Village. He said that it was chiefly a business section for them and that they lived in another section. He felt that in a business way they mingled with all the people but for social life they clung together. Their language and other national ties are the things that hold them together. He saw no need for leadership among them for each one was working for himself.

Just as I was ready to leave another man came in. He introduced me to him so that he might give me more information. He lived in Brooklyn and knows nothing about Village life, but from him I learned that most of the Spanish societies in the Village are Benevolent societies. There is one society for the people from each country. The only requirement for admission is to pass a physical examination. They pay a certain amount each month.

These societies also play a large part in the social life of the people. They have dances practically every Saturday and Sunday. Those societies which are not benevolent have even more social life. The consulate presides over the meetings of his own country-people. He has a great influence on the life of the people.

Interview by Ollie Brindley--March 20, 1928.

Interview # 56

Mr.----is an artist from Chile who has been in America only a year. He is about 30 years of age. His interest is in portraits and classical work, but on the side he makes sketches for "Life" and for designing companies. They are for his ready money.

He knew nothing about the Spanish as a whole. Said he was not in any of their benevolent societies. He did not seem to understand my questions and so I left without getting any more information. He is truly an individual as a leader if a leader at all.

Interview by Ollie Brindley--March 20, 1938.

Interview # 57

Mrs.-----is a woman of about 45. She has straight hair, old maid curls at ears with rather sad and sober face.

She said that she knew nothing about the Village. She sleeps there and that is all. She has lived in the Village for ten years, lived at Greenwich House at first and now has an apartment of her own. She is a member of the Co. O. S. but does not know any more about it than about any of the other charity organizations in the city: to know all is a part of her work.

She classified the Villagers into three groups--the wealthy at lower end of Fifth Avenue who are members of the Washington Square Association; the artists who haunt the tea rooms, about which she knew nothing; and the poor working classes. She does not associate with any of these.

When churches were mentioned she said she knew nothing about them as she had been to only one in her life.

She felt Tammany had a great influence in the area and that I should get the facts from their leaders. A great many years ago she made a suffrage canvass and discovered the influence of Tammany at that time.

Hertime is equally divided between Welfare Council and Social Service Exchange. She is also a member of City Womens Club--not a Village organization.

Interview by Ollie Brindley--March 22, 1928.

Interview # 58

He is a man of about 40, pleasing personality, and strong face. He once lived in Village but does not at present. Because of his interests in labor organizations, and of the fact that so much centers there, he knows many of the leaders who are in the Village.

Mr-----spends a great deal of his time traveling to various colleges, attending Student Volunteer meetings, etc. where he gives lectures, and attempts to bring about race equality and better labor conditions.

He thought a study of labor itself would make a Master's Thesis.

Interview by Ollie Brindley--March 21, 1928.

Interview # 59

I called over the telephone to ask for an appointment and Mrs-----answered. She said that Mr.----- had no time to see me because he was very busy. She felt that they had nothing they could give me.

They have lived in the Village only a very short time, having previously live in New Roschelle for a great number of years. They have absolutely no interest in the Village except the atmosphere. I concluded that they are interested in St. John's Colony. Mr.-----teaches at New York School of Social Service. He is author of several books.

All of their interests are outside of the Village and I judge from what she said they were numerous.

Interview by Ollie Brindley--March 26, 1928.

Interview # 60

Mr.----is said to be the outstanding modern artist today.

I called asking for an interview. He said he was not a leader and knew nothing about any one in the Village. The he said he did not live in the Village. I told him what area I was including and he replied: "Yes taking the boundaries of the real estate men. All they want is more rent. You can now get two rooms for the amount you once could get a whole house. This is an area used by uptown people for drunken sots."

He suggested that I see----because he is a real leader. Then he added--"But he might not like this stuff any more than I do." He gave me the address and I called. His wife answered the telephone and said that Mr.----was going away but that I might see him if I would call two weeks later.

Interview by Ollie Brindley--March 26, 1928.

Interview # 61

She is a woman of about 35 or 40, red hair, rather sneering, and with an unhappy face. After each question she asked, "and what has that got to do with your thesis?" I would explain and she would answer the question. Finally she said "I feel like Mussolini being interviewed, what is this going to be a personal write-up?"

She herself does not live in the area and only two of her teachers do. She has been in the school only a year. Her school work is her leading interest. She is a member of five outside organizations but takes no active part in any. Three of these are recreational and social nature and two are educational organizations.

She said that about 98% of the children in the school were Catholic and that there was no religious antagonism except where a teacher caused it. The greatest need in the area is for a good play ground for children. Washington Square has no flowers for them to see.

She said that clanishness had brought Italians into the community. Immigration laws are decreasing the number coming into the country. New apartments are being built and old one are being remodeled. Married couples with no children or groups of unmarried people ^{fill them.} All are coming to the Village for atmosphere.

Interview by Ollie Brindley--March 26, 1928.

Interview # 62

Miss-----is a lovely woman of about 60 years. She has been principal of the school for 14 years but she lives outside of the area. Only two from the school who teach there live in the area. With the New York system one cannot tell where they will be placed. They "sign up" and are placed where there is a vacancy. Teachers prefer to live away from the children. This way they will not see too much of them or know too much about their pupils.

Politics has no part in the schools, but she thought it has a great influence in the area. Most of her children are Catholic. She felt that there was no racial or religious prejudice. This is because there was only one nationality, Italians, and only one religion.

At this time school was out, children came with various things and the teachers came in with their reports.

She is a "mail order" member of six organizations out side of the Village but she has no office and little interest in any. She is a member of the L. W. G. in the Village.

Interview by Ollie Brindley--March 26, 1928.

Interview # 63

Miss-----is an attractive, elderly lady of about 67 years of age. She is assistant principal of school no-----, She was born in the area and lived there until the Bohemian element came in. Her father was also born in the Village.

Greenwich Village proper is bounded by Sixth Avenue on the east to Hudson River on west, by Houston Street on the south to 14th Street on the north. It was the old 9th ward of the city. The area just below that is the old Richmond Hill section which was the 8th ward.

The Village was formerly a beautiful spot with lots of pretty trees, green grass and two story homes. At the corner of King and Hudson streets was a pump where children stopped to get water going to and from school. Grove Street School, now number 3 was "the school" of the area and Morton Street was "the street." The homes there were occupied by wealthy and prominent people.

The first settlers of the area were Dutch. Then Germans and Irish came in. It was a very select section. Jones and Cornellia were the only dirty streets of the area. Negroes occupied the latter. The Italians moved in and made the negroes move out. The Italians continue pushing into the Village area.

Artists first came in because of beauty of place. They started the Bohemian element--holes in cellars and lofts for tea rooms. The respectable people of the area would not live in such an area so they moved out since the artists would not. There is a great change in the population. She sees few people she knows when going up the street and she once knew every one. She said some claimed the Village was coming back to its old reputation as a cultured place but she thought it would never^{be} what it was.

Interview by Ollie Brindley--March 27, 1928.

Interview # 64

Mr.-----is a very approachable man of about 45 or 50 years of age. He was educated to be a civil engineer but later started teaching. He does clay modeling for his avocation. He likes boys' work and is said to be very successful in his boy scout work. He likes himself a great deal and also his wisdom and knowledge.

After asking ^{about} the different nationalities in his school, he gave me a lecture to the effect that none of us but the Indians were real American citizens etc. When he had finished with that and I did not disagree, he told me that most of the children are Italians of the second generation, so he feels that they belonged there. A few negroes are enrolled. He did not know where they lived. He has been principal of the school for ten years. During this period the enrollment has dropped from 3000 down to 2000. The reasons given for that were: (1) Attraction of outlying boroughs. (2) The Sixth Avenue extension which moved many families away. (3) Prosperity among the people takes them to better quarters. (4) Remodeling of apartments, bringing in studios and types of people who have dogs and no children. "They don't ask God anything about what they should do." The apartments in the area are miserable,

cold, and dark with high rent. In Columbia area one can get much nicer apartments for less money. The new element live a selfish life.

When I was leaving I thanked him for his kindness. He answered, "Well forget me but do not forget what I told you."

He is a member of the L. W. S. Council and is in four organizations out of the area and is on the executive committee of one of these. He thinks too much of his home to be a regular "joiner." He does not live in Village area and only two of the teachers from the school live in the Village.

Interview by Ollie Brindley--March 27, 1928.

Interview # 65

Mr.-----came over from England a year ago and is making a study of certain phases of the work here. He belongs to no organizations but their army. Their organization is a member of the L. W. S. council and they join all other bodies making for social betterment.

None of their workers live in the Village but they go there in the same way in which they go to all of New York. He told of "two invasions of the Village." Their workers visited all of the cabarets the night preceeding their last invasion. They were met cordially and offered prayer in each one.

Most of the people in the cabarets are outsiders down there trying to see life. Many of the inhabitants of the Village are the honest laborers

The saloons of the area are gone but the "speak easies" take their place. In them people get their drink and leave, having no social life.

Interview by Ollie Brindley--February 28, 1928.

Interview # 66

Mr.-----is about 50 years of age. He came over from Italy in 1887 and since then he has lived in the Village. He is a member of four organizations and is on the board of directors of one of these.

Twenty years ago business started invading the area. Old residents left and went uptown. The value of property decreased so that the old homes became sweat shéps and furnished rooms.

Local men were loosing money until Mr.----- conceived the idea of developing the Village as the Bohemian section of New York. The houses were re-modeled, heat, electric lights and modern plumbing were installed. The press gave publicity to the improvements. Twelve years ago 124 Waverly place rented for \$75 per month and now they get \$3000.

Bohemians were defined as "happy go lucky people who develop the free atmosphere." The more wealthy people with a democratic nature who do not want to live in luxury prefer the Village. Here they live a life of simplicity, mingling with the other people. They like the big rooms with fire places which the old homes furnish. Many of the old houses are being torn

down and large apartments are taking their place. The area is convenient because it is near the business and the shopping area. The new people who are moving in are chiefly those without children. They are artists, writers, etc. They are the liberal class of people.

Interview by Ollie Brindley--March 28, 1928

Interview # 67

Miss-----is an attractive woman and is about 50 years of age. She does a great deal of research work herself so was very glad to help me and was interested in my problem. She had been ill so took me into her tiny bed room where she could lie down and talk with me.

She talked at random telling me about herself and other labor people.

Robert W. Dunn is a Yale graduate of 1917. He became interested in laborers so started studying their problems. On the day of this interview he was in Pa. studying ^{the} coal strike situation preparatory to writing. He also speaks a great deal. He has written "Foreign Investments of U. S." and "Trade Unions in Soviet Russia". He is member of two boards of the schools and is a very interested worker. The schools are progressive and modern. Mrs. Mitchell with her money started it and Miss Pratt is her assistant. The labor people of the Village all send their children there.

Miss-----has interest in and lived in a one of the "Consumers Cooperating Housing". All put in a little money and own their own apartments. There is no profit for any one. Thirty-five families hold membership in this organization.

When discussing the Village itself she said the laboring class of people resented the "Intellectuals" coming in and raising their rent. Real estate offices have made a good thing of the developments. She spoke of living on 21st. street. Three years later they moved down to the Village.

The entire Village has been exploited by real estate agencies. The Village became popular to Bohemian element because of the low rents. Many are "would be artists." There is lots of pose and pretense--the they have not been exaggerated. Outside girls come in for the thrill.

Miss----works in "Bureau of Women in Industry". It is a state organization. She also does labor research writing--making state reports and does research for books. She is a member of six organizations. She works for or is interested in Federal Press. It gives more information than is available elsewhere.

Several years ago she made a house to house visitation finding out about the work done by women in the homes. They make mens' coats, artificial flowers, womens' clothes, fancy lamp shades, garters, stitching on gloves, etc. All the income from this work goes to help support the family.

Interview by Ollie Brindley--March 27, 1928.

Interview # 68

A man about 50 years of age greeted me. As I entered he had on his paint smock, but was very neat, clean and attractive looking. He asked me to seat myself on the sofa. He stood up and talked. He had a very pleasing personality and was a willing helper.

He was born in Germany and his parents for many years were Lutheran ministers. He came to America in 1894 on a wild animal hunt. He was so charmed with the country, the animals, etc. that he stayed. He spends his summers in the Canadian Rockies and winters in New York. His home is in Brooklyn. He said that his studios were in that building because his friends were there.

He is a member of three clubs--Salamagundi, Fifth Avenue and 12th Street ^{being one.} It is a membership club. He enjoys that because of the fellowship. He holds no offices in any of his clubs. Painting is his chief interest--wild animals his speciality. He is known as a great animal painter.

He asked if I would like to meet his friend who might give me more information so he took me next door and introduced me.

Interview by Ollie Brindley--March 27, 1928.

Interview # 69

Mr.-----is a pleasing man of 50 years or more. He said that leadership in art is hard to define because artists follow so many schools. Men are influenced by old masters. He named many of them. Modern people think they are right and will not look at work of others. If you can not understand their painting, they say that you just cannot understand modern art. The moderns follow Cretans--an adoption of the very primitive--with our modern way of looking at it. They also follow early Egyptians.

Leadership in art is what survives. Many people today are following them. We will have to wait several generations to see who are the present day leaders.

This man is a landscape painter and is a member of three organizations. He does not live in the Village but has his studio there. He spends his summers on Long Island. He is married and spoke of his daughter who had written a book as the result of a visit to Russia.

Interview by Ollie Brindley--March 27, 1928.

Interview # 70

Mr.-----greeted me at the door. He is a man of 55 or 60 years of age. I was ushered into his vast studio which includes the whole length of the building. He uses the back end for his work. The front was decorated with furniture, tapestry and trinkets from all over the world.

He said that there were two kinds of leaders in art. (1) a man who teaches thru his proficiency and (2) a great teacher. He considers Mr.-----as a leader decidedly. He got into politics and some unpleasant thing occurred. As a result he became very timid which doubtless accounts for his refusal to see me.

He is a member of two clubs. Teaches in Boston School of Fine Arts and in New York. He has been in New York 35 years and in this studio for 16 years.

The new buildings under construction are interfering with his lighting system so he has bought a new device in electric lights which makes the colors true. He spends only part of the year in New York. Stated that there were many great painters in the Village today but that there were so many freaks who did so many crazy things and that we heard only heard of this type.

Interview by Ollie Brindley--March 27, 1928.

Interview # 71

Miss-----is a woman of about 40 years of age, and is not very impressive at first appearance. She said she had nothing to give me but soon started talking in the most interesting fashion giving me facts about the children of the community.

She came to the school in February but lives outside of the area. This lady is a marvel with children and has taught children of every nationality. She is a member of two organizations but spends little time with them.

Greatest number of children in the school are Spanish, next in number is Italians with Irish coming third. Many students are dull because of poverty and drink in the homes. Many nationalities are represented in the school but there is no racial antagonism. A good spirit exists between the parents and the school.

The Spanish are very appreciative of anything. They are less sturdy than the Italians. The poor Italians go to Lady Pompil Church. The Italians vote while the Spanish are not interested in citizenship. The Spanish are a clean type of people and they are not really poor.

Interview by Ollie Brindley--March 27, 1928.

Interview # 72

Miss-----is a most attractive woman of about 35 years of age. She was very nicely dressed except for her array of jewels. As she was not very conversational it was rather difficult to get any information from her.

She is a member of two outside organizations. Because she had been in the area only one year she did not know the district very well. In this school they have Italians, Irish, Germans, Spanish, Swedes, and negroes.

She spoke of their D. B. L. Southland Association. An alumni association of boys of the school. Charles W. Culkin, sheriff of New York, is now their president and they are very proud of the fact that he is an alumni of their school.

Interview by Ollie Brindley--March 27, 1936.

Interview # 73

A young man of about 30 years of age and not very neat in appearance was very glad to explain the political system and to emphasize all the work of their party.

The assembly districts are divided according to law. They have district leaders, two or three, according to population. These leaders are required to live in the district. It is an unpaid work--usually men with money hold the office. It is their business to help men find work. Tammany had placed 35 men that day. He said, "Now we have their vote."

They pay the rent for poor families who have not money to meet this obligation. If a law suit comes up they send young lawyers over to take the side of the family in the court. They help out churches in drives, etc., etc. When trying to find out other influences in area, he could not understand, so it seems that the above stated is all that they do.

They also have election district captains. These districts are from three to six blocks in size, depending upon the population. It is the business of these captains to look after their people in the area. Apply for help for them when needed, etc. They have charge of elections when they are held.

He gave me the names of the leaders of all the clubs in the area in which I was interested.

Democratic district leaders:

1. Charles L. Kohler, 139 W. 14th St.
2. Danell E. Finn, 15 Vandam St.
3. Harry O. Perry, 364 Bowery St.

Republican district leaders:

1. Clarence H. Fay, 6 W. 268th.
2. Wm. G. Rose, 32 McDougall St.
3. George M. Fanelli.

Interview by Ollie Brindley--March 26, 1926.

Interview # 74

Mrs.----is a very gracious person who greeted all who entered the meeting. She introduced me to all the people then seated me to talk to a Miss-----.

I stumped her with my questions so she introduced me to Mr.----- . He laughed when I uttered Greenwich Village so I joked with him being unable to get any facts. Two negro women entered. He looked disgusted and then said: "There are two fine seats right here." So they were seated in front of us. During the whole evening no one greeted these women but Mrs.-----.

Miss.-----, a woman lawyer was seated on my right. Because of numerous interruptions my conversation with her was not very satisfactory. She claimed Greenwich Village to be the only part of the city that is unspoiled. It has the old fashion village atmosphere. Everyone knows everyone else. It would make a typical New England town if it only had the town meetings. There is a great feeling of loyalty for a local man. They even split party votes in order to elect him.

Then came their speaker, Mr. Harvey who has been at bottom of unearthing the Queens Sewer Scandal.

He was an Irishman and give his account of the affair in a very interesting and amusing way. His interesting statement was: "We need not say so much about the Democrats for we as Republicans are involved too. We must clean up politics. America first then Republicans." Some cheered but not all. Democrats are backing him more than Republicans. This is because they realize their party has swindled them out of so much money.

After all of this was over I talked with Mrs----- and she again explained their system of captains, leaders, and etc.

They do just as much social service work as the Democrats do--"only we don't talk so much about it." They work for the idea to get jobs for men if they are on the right side. She spoke of a man out of a job with seven votes in his family who was in that night and added: "We will get him a job and that means his votes too." I could not find any influence or form of leadership they put forth in the area except to help needy people in order to get their votes. The wealthy read the papers themselves and keep informed so they do not want to be bothered with visits from political leaders. "We have their votes already." They prided themselves to be superior to the Democrats.

Interview by Ollie Brindley--March 29, 1928.

Interview # 75

Mr.-----is about 45 years of age. He has a pleasing personality, is married and lives in Brooklyn. He came from Spain to America in 1915. He is now an American citizen and speaks English fluently. He is a member of the Catholic Church.

Mr.-----gave me the name of a Spanish newspaper and suggested that some one on the staff would give me any information about the Spanish people. He intimated that he did not want to give me any facts.

He is a member of the Democratic Club but has no other interests in the district. He mentioned another organization but shrugged his shoulders as if it was trivial. Then he said: "I do not want to be connected with any specific organizations. I have given you the name of the newspaper so go there for any other information you may want." I thanked him and left.

In the New York Times of July 10, 1928 there was an article telling of the arrest of this man because he had accepted a deposit of \$1,000 when he knew the bank was insolvent. They claim discrepancies have existed since 1921.

Interview by Ollie Brindley--March 27, 1928.

Interview # 76

Miss----- is an attractive woman of about 30. She teaches English at New York University and directs "The Art Club" which meets at Cherry Lane. She started this club for New York University students so that they could get in touch with other poets and be in another atmosphere. Students from Columbia and City College are also members of the club. They take turns in reading their poetry at the meetings. Some years they accomplish a great deal, other years they do little. She has been disappointed in their work this year.

She herself is from New Mexico but did her college work at the University of California. She has been in the Village for four years but is not associated with the life any way. She is merely interested in a place to live which is close to her work.

When I was asking about the poets she immediately said to go to the Grub Street meeting at Greenwich Inn. They meet on Monday night and Henry Harrison is the leader. She thought it was the rarest crowd she had ever seen.

The Village is made up of two elements--"Those who are failures, but are still striving and the young who imagine they have a future. They spend all of their time going to meeting and waste their energy performing. They sleep all day and talk all night."

The artificial local color attracts the uptown people. The real village tea rooms are in cellars and are more or less concealed.

Edna St. Vincent Malay is one of the real poets, and she thought I could get in touch with her thru her publisher--Parker Brothers.

Sam Swartz, 140 McDougal St. has a tea room where they sell plenty to drink. He likely would tell me a little about the people.

Miss Hazel Hyde, 114 E. 76th St., lived in area. She knows Bohemian element. She went with them in order to study them.

Harry Kemp is one of the real poets. He wrote "Tramping on Life." Alfred Kramyborg is also a poet.

Romany Marie, a gypsy, still had one of the real village tea rooms. She takes care of the poets who have nothing to live on. She does not allow drinking and has a real worth while place.

There is the least of race prejudice in the Village, but there are a few tea rooms where negroes are not allowed. She cannot go into tea rooms any where else in New York with her negro friends.

There are various groups of poets in the Village. The school of modern poetry, without bondage to set form either in rhyme or rythm, is seeking to create, hard, clear images and an atmosphere which will result in an emotional response.

The more conservative modern poets, of which Edna St. Vincent Malay is an example are guided by and follow the old school. They follow the older forms with new ideas, follow the old meter but in subject matter have found a new liberty emphasizing the little things. They consider any thing as worthy of a poem. They are interested in responses.

Interview by Ollie Brindley--March 27, 1928.

Interview # 77

I entered, went down several flights of stairs, saw a table, cat meowing, things not very clean or attractive. I was greatly surprised after what I had just heard. No one was to be seen. I looked around and wondered. Pictures, maps, etc. were on the walls. Finally I decided to wander thru as far as possible. I knew no place could be worse than Lew May's. I saw some stairs and ascended. I found myself in a most attractive dining room. Dishes of all unique styles were hanging by strings from the ceiling. I heard more cats and a manish voice which was talking over the telephone behind a partition in the room. No one else was present.

A fire was cracking in the fire place in the far end of the room so I went over and sat down.

Soon Romany Marie came out. She had on a dark red sleeveless dress. She had a large red covered scarf which was folded in the middle around her shoulders. Many beads were around her neck. Bracelets were on her arms. She seated herself in front of the fire and talked as she smoked her cigarette. Her voice was very deep but pleasing.

I told her of my Thesis and my desired information. She said many interesting people came in most every night.

They had tea, then just sat and talked, sang, read poems or did anything that they wished. Harry Kemp one the great poets comes there. She said he was quite busy so it was hard to get an interview with him. But that he would talk with me there. Stephenson, one of three greatest employers in the world, comes when in the city.

Revenue offices come in and upon seeing their animated look want to know the cause since she claimed to give them nothing to drink. She always explained that they had something real to talk about and that they needed nothing else.

She said to come down between 10 and 11 P. M unless I wanted dinner--for the place never got interesting until then. She always introduces people if there is any need for them to know each other.

I learned from others that she closes the place if interesting people do not come in.

Interview by Ollie Brindley--March 27, 1928.

Interview # 78

Mr.----is a heavy set, jolly man of about 55. He is a member of the Episcopal Church. He is a writer and lecturer. He came to the Village in 1921 that he might be in Bohemia.

"The Village of Song and Story" is known only by those who live the high life. There are many definitions of Bohemians but Mr.-----defined them as "one who repudiates all obligations and lives only for the day.

The area continues to be called the Village because it still is a village east. People talk over their back fence to one another. There is still the picturesque atmosphere about the place.

New York City grew to the Village area in 1820. At that time the good middle class were the predominant inhabitants. Others were the Irish and a small section of negroes. The place degenerated into the poor district until it was built up by the real estate men ten years ago.

There are still people living in the houses occupied by their grand parents. They live to themselves and are not conscious that the artists are in the area.

The re-creation of the American theater took place in the Village. Then the theater was moved uptown and to Broadway.

The Village is filled with "fluff and triflers." The picturesque and real creative work is in the minority. But good work is always done in groups.

The interview was not a successful one because of numerous disturbances. One telephone call was to inform Mr.-----that he had been elected president of a certain organization the preceding evening. He was unable to tell the number of organizations of which he was a member or in which he held office. He considered none as Village organizations.

Another telephone call was concerning articles about Mr. Hoover written by Mr.---^{who}---is doing all in his power to assist in the election of Hoover.

Interview by Ollie Brindley--March 28, 1928.

Interview # 79

Mr. _____ had the appearance of a business man rather than that of a minister, and one might judge from the colony of his church that he had great business ability. He is a heavy set, forceful looking man of about 50 years.

He is not married but lives in his colony of which Miss _____ told me. He has been rector of that church for 16 years and has been in New York "for a great many years". He is a member of 24 organizations, 22 of which are up-town organizations, and is an officer in 6. His chief interest is his church and colony.

He knows the people and told me of several (which I already knew). The interview was brief and unsatisfactory because of many interruptions.

Interview by Ollie Brindley, February 27, 1928.

Interview # 80

Misses Todd, Cheater and I went over to the Cabaret after class one evening. The proprietor who was talking with other guests came forward and seemed glad to talk with us when we told our mission. He sat across from us at the "family table" (table where family and intimate friends were always seated). He was a handsome man of about 35 years, pleasing personality, and a University graduate who spoke English perfectly. One might judge from his conversation that he was from a wealthy family of high standing in Spain.

Mr. _____ came to this country first in 1913 and has gone back and forth numerous times. He has spent about 6 years in United States and about $4\frac{1}{2}$ years of the time in the Village, though he always spends his summers in Spain. Hanging on the wall behind us was a picture of his home town - a picturesque and beautiful place on the coast.

His wife was in Spain at the time. He spoke often of her and his family, four brothers, two of whom are artists, one is a student at Columbia. One brother brought down a German plane during the war. Because of that he was given his first naturalization papers, but he has never taken out others. All of the American business is put in his name.

The brothers have another business which they are occupied with during the day but he was very impersonal and we couldn't find out what it was if it was not reporting to

foreign newspapers. Their family has been in newspaper business for years. He spoke of reporting the visit of a College friend of his who is the most famous bull fighter of Spain.

One of the brothers wrote some articles against the Catholic church so had to leave Spain. From the power he claimed the church has in Spain it appeared that the whole family left because of the boycott (so to speak) against their business because of their opposition to the church. He told many things about the church and stressed the immorality of the priests. Many Spaniards go to Cuba, North and South America for religious freedom. He believes in God and leans toward the Christian Science Church tho he belongs to no church.

They have the Cabaret called "Chico" (meaning small, tiny, child like) to give Spanish atmosphere to the Village and to furnish a meeting place for the Spanish. Sunday is their big day. Their professional dancers, singers, etc., come down and they perform as they feel inspired. At least one Benevolent society meets there regularly.

Mr. _____ and his brother help the dissatisfied Spaniards in this country to find work.

Mr. _____ was very cordial and said he was glad to talk to people about the Spanish at any time. One could see that he was glad to represent the higher type from Spain.

Interview by Ollie Brindley March 23, 1928.

Interview # 81

From what Mr. _____ had told me I expected an erratic person but I was not fully prepared to meet the bath robed figure who greeted me, even tho I had climbed three flights of dirty, deserted stairs and had found his door still covered with his dusty, curled Christmas cards.

Because it was a very cold day Mr. _____ took me into the adjoining room which was warmer. No poor home in the mountains ever looked more dirty or uncouth than the sight that greeted my eyes, old dirty wrinkled clothes hanging on the wall, dirty dishes on a table, the bed unmade, while the other tables and chairs were littered with papers of various sorts. A cat slept by the fire. (From an interview that afternoon I learned that he borrowed the cat from a friend to catch the rats that usually played over his dirty dishes between meals.)

When I told my business he became interested saying that he had done research work for the University of Iowa for three years.

Many interruptions came, which I welcomed, for I felt alone up there.

He rambled on at length and out of this I gathered a few facts that might be worth recording. He came to the Village 11 years ago to study creative imagination. He "made love to 3 or 4 girls in an evening, trying to get that emotion

which was necessary to create poetry."

Because of his pride in showing the place to visitors he was given the title of "King of the Village" which later grew into the title of "Mayor" which he has today. The signature to all of his articles published was "_____ Self-Designated Mayor of Greenwich Village"

From one of the articles in the scrap book, which I read while he entertained his other visitors, I read: "I am Mayor of Greenwich Village because there isn't any, I live to protect the Village, not to commercialize it. I live to create and idealize my atmosphere, not to make a purely public show of it. Rubberneck wagons and two fifty tourists may continue their lackadaisical and camouflaged stops at Pepper Pot, Open Doors, Seldom Inn, Windy Mills and Riotous Taverns. But atmosphere can't be bought like batiks and you can't create it unless you have creative imagination and lots of it".

Mr. _____ is the leader of one of the poets clubs which meets weekly. There any one has the privilege of reading any poetry.

While discussing his "Poets' Soiree" a girl entered whom he introduced as _____. She announced that she had a job and must start to work at one so she hurriedly started getting dinner - coffee, pan cakes and syrup. Their invitation to eat with them was cordial but I had a dinner engagement up town.

Thus ended my first and only interview which seemed to reveal the truth concerning the wild tales of Village life.

Interview by Ollie Brindley, March 19, 1928.

Interview # 82

Miss _____ is an attractive mannish type from Berlin. Her brother is considered the greatest animal painter of the day and she was assisting him in some drawing for the Museum of Natural History.

Her definition of leadership in art was: "One who has gone far enough to make a name and be recognized by the public". She gave me the names of Gardner Simon, Carl Rungius, and Grenville Smith as outstanding academic artists of today. From the modern artists she mentioned John Sloan, Eugene Specker and Henry Mac Fee.

She is a member of the only Whitney Club. She goes to church for the music and the beautiful effect of the lights.

Mrs. _____, whom I later discovered to be her partner in their Boston Marriage entered and we were unable to get back to the subject of art. Mrs. _____ took me to the roof to show me the studios of other artists and sculptors. After that I went into her room for a visit. I received no valuable information but rather interesting facts about their Bohemian life.

She told me more of _____ and Ruth and that they were not married but were living together - free love - she called it.

Interview by Ollie Brindley, March 19, 1928.