

## STRAUS WILL GIVE ALL TO CHARITY

Philanthropist Tells Conference He Hopes to Die a Poor Man.

New York, May 15.—Nathan Straus for the last ten years has devoted all of his income and a sizeable part of the principal of his fortune to Zionism, milk pasteurization and other philanthropies. Mr. Straus made his first public commitment to this effect in an address before the United Synagogue of American Convention at the Hotel Astor.

Long since Mr. Straus had given as his philosophy of life: "It is my ambition to die a poor man, for then I shall be rich in happiness and in good works."

Little more than a clue to the scope and real with which he had put this into practice was given by Mr. Straus in his address at the Astor. There he merely said the appeal that public comfort, health and welfare exerted upon him had inspired him to "give every cent that I make." He added, too, that the principal of his fortune had been likewise dedicated in the same direction.

Later Mr. Straus was interviewed at his home in Mamaroneck, where, while enlarging the point in some detail, he nevertheless preferred to dwell upon the ends accomplished rather than the means he had furnished toward them.

Mr. Straus said he could not decide whether his work in Palestine or his world crusade for pure milk was the greater of his interests. He had labored for thirty-two years for milk pasteurization, and now was advancing this movement on a broad scale in England and France.

The cause of Zionism, a more recent philanthropy in point of years, moved

him to enthusiasm as he recalled the strides he had found the Zionists making in Palestine. He had just returned from a several months' visit, having spent his seventy-sixth birthday in Jerusalem.

"No one who has not visited there recently," said Mr. Straus, "has the remotest idea of the wonderful improvement presented. It is inevitable. For one thing, I found absolutely no dissension among the Jews and the Arabs. The only trouble comes from a minority of 'hot air' people, agitators that one finds everywhere. They do not count. The Jews and the Arabs are in complete harmony, and the Arabs are profiting as much by the development of Palestine as the Jews."

"The most beautiful part about it is that the colonists are not the so-called moneyed men. The idea of money for itself does not exist. The spirit there evokes the strongest admiration."

Returning with some reluctance to a discussion of the extent of his beneficiaries, Mr. Straus said he could not tell.

"When I give," Mr. Straus said, "I dismiss it from my mind. I forget it. I have kept no records of that sort of thing. I have no figures to give."

Reviews Welfare Work in Zion

He reviewed much of the social welfare work he had started in Palestine in 1912, and said the organization, for which he had set aside a trust fund, was providing meals for 1,700 persons daily. A Health Bureau with a Bacteriology Department and a Pasteur Institute were functioning importantly.

Mr. Straus said his latest provision was to eliminate begging in Jerusalem. Scores of beggars assembled at the Wailing Wall, and the Zionist authorities had asked funds to provide them with one meal a day. He had countered with an offer to provide two meals a day on condition that the begging was stopped and that this element was absorbed socially in some way. He said his proposal had just been accepted.

Mr. Straus said he was attempting to concentrate in Palestine for the present in helping the colonists until all living standards there had been developed to the full. In all this work, he emphasized, the spirit was exclusively non-sectarian. Race or creed was no bar to any deserving of the benefits provided.

The appearance of Mr. Straus at the Astor was a surprise to the delegates, and Rabbi Elias Solomon, President of the United Synagogue, invited him to speak as "the grand old man of American Jewry." During his attendance it was learned from Senator Nathan Straus Jr. that his father had recently been operated upon successfully for a small growth on his forehead. Dr. Joseph A. Blake was the surgeon.

## WATERLOO STREET CHURCH ANNUAL

Officers are Elected—Several Mentioned for Pastorate Vacancy.

A successful year financially and satisfactory membership were reported at the annual meeting of the Waterloo street Baptist church last night. The church has been without a permanent pastor since the resignation of Rev. J. A. Sweetnam and several names were mentioned last night in connection with the vacancy. H. E. Hoyt was the chairman of the meeting and prayer was offered by Deacons W. B. Keirstead and Ernest Gibbs.

J. W. Mott submitted his report as clerk and the various organization reports were presented as follows: Fuel committee, W. B. Keirstead; Willing Workers, Mrs. Herbert Hoyt; adult Bible class, Miss Florence Keirstead; mission band, read by Mrs. Thomas Robinson in the absence of Miss Margaret Hamilton; music committee, Mrs.



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CANADIAN SERVICE

Gordon Lawson; young people's club, Mrs. Gordon Lawson; W. M. A. S., Miss Ada Coates; hospital aid, Mrs. Thomas Robinson; treasurer, H. E. Hoyt. The treasurer's statement showed total receipts of more than \$4,000 with a balance of \$197.96.

The meeting re-elected the officers as follows: Clerk, J. W. Mott; treasurer, H. E. Hoyt; Sunday school superintendent, J. W. Mott. Mr. Mott was to select his own associate superintendent.

The members of the advisory board chosen were as follows: W. B. Keirstead, Amos Gibbs, H. E. Hoyt, J. W. Mott, Robert Boyce, George Brown, William Crabbe, Fred McColgan, William Smith, John Nelson, Gordon Lawson, Donald Morrison, Thomas Griffin and Mr. Bain.

The first meeting of the advisory board was announced for next Wednesday evening and at that meeting the sub-committees will be appointed.

MINSTRELS GO TO HOSPITAL.

The St. John the Baptist minstrels last evening gave their splendid show, which had its initial appearance in their hall on Broad street 10 days ago, for the patients in the East St. John Hospital. J. B. Moore was in charge of the expedition and John M. Elmore was director of the programme, acting again as interlocutor for the comic end men, who excelled themselves in humorous sayings and local hits. All the patients who could be allowed the privilege were assembled on the second floor of the hospital to hear the company of forty. Dr. H. A. Farris thanked the men for their kindness and the patients showed their appreciation in hearty applause. Frank McGarrigle, head of the entertainment committee of the hospital, also added his word of praise.

More than 60 per cent. of the women tried in the Chicago morals court were drug addicts.

## DEPOSITORS' CLAIM IN HOME BANK CASE

Ottawa, May 14.—The Royal Commission investigating the Home Bank entered upon the last stage of the first phase of its inquiry today. This phase is concerned entirely with the claims of the depositors against the Dominion Government, and R. J. McLaughlin, K.C., one of the depositors' counsel, occupied a part of the morning and the whole of the afternoon sitting, in submitting argument on their behalf. It is

now almost certain that the inquiry will go over until next week.

Today's sitting was featured by a statement from Royal Commissioner, Mr. Justice H. A. McKeown, that he did not think the idea of recompensing the depositors by taking over the wreck of the bank would recommend itself to the Government.

It was during Mr. McLaughlin's argument that the point arose. Mr. McLaughlin had pointed out the difficulty of ascribing the exact amount which would be necessary to pay the depositors, and W. T. J. Lee suggested that the Commissioner might recommend that the Government take over the bank, pay the depositors and reimburse itself out of the salvage.

"I would not think that the idea of recompensing the depositors by taking

over the wreck would recommend itself. I don't think so," remarked the Commissioner.

Mr. McLaughlin—"That is, of course, what we hope the Government will do." Commissioner McKeown—"Well, it may. I have no right to say that it will not."

RAIL PRESIDENT COMING.

B. R. Pollock, president of the Boston & Maine Railway, is expected to arrive in Halifax tomorrow or Friday. His private car passed through St. John yesterday to meet him in Halifax. Mr. Pollock has been making an extended tour of European countries and may stop over in this city on his way home to Boston.

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