

modious building, erected at an expense of \$50,000, on the corner of Franklin and Post Streets, where they have over two hundred children under their care. A few years since, our Hebrew citizens organized the Pacific Hebrew Orphan Asylum, and have adopted measures for the speedy erection of a building which will meet the wants of that portion of our population.

But the ladies' charity does not end here. The San Francisco Female Hospital; the Lying-in and Foundling Asylum; the Magdalen Asylum; the St. Mary's Ladies' Society, and numerous others, attest the scope of their unobtrusive care. The kind attention and the liberal expenditure by the ladies of San Francisco, without distinction of nationality, race, or religion, are most honorable and praiseworthy, and every citizen of San Francisco is justly proud of their untrifling exertions.

The broad field of labor of the San Francisco Benevolent Association has been well filled, the members exercising a generous guardianship over the distress and wants of the city. Neither membership in other societies, nor race or condition, forbid their action, but their compassion, like the cloak of charity, covers all. The Young Men's Christian Association occupies a noble position among the benevolent societies of San Francisco. Possessing a fine hall, with library, gymnasium, baths, etc., it is well enabled to extend the hand of charity to all, to guide the erring, and to give pleasure and instruction to its members and proteges.

The Episcopal Church supports a great many charities, such as St. Luke's Hospital, on Bernal Heights, founded in 1872; the Church Union, founded in 1870; and the Church Home, also founded in 1870, all of which are liberally maintained, the receipts and expenditures amounting to several thousand dollars annually.

The Ladies' Pastoral Aid Society is a recent organization by the ladies of Trinity Church, having for its object the care and protection of the destitute and friendless within the bounds of Trinity Parish; to find employment for those requiring it; to provide clothing and assistance for such as may be in need; to visit and comfort the sick; to endeavor to bring to the church those who are neglectful of its services, particularly the poor and friendless classes; to gather children into the Sunday School, and to aid in providing active and competent teachers; to advance the interests of the Church of Christ, and to extend the privileges and blessings of the Gospel.

The Union Missionary Society is organized for the purpose of visiting the sick and administering to the wants of the needy. They also propose to establish a sewing school for poor girls, and to extend such facilities as may be deemed advisable for their future well-being; also a laundry, for the employment of women in need of work.

Among other recent organizations are the Boys' and Girls' Aid Society, to better the condition and elevate the tastes of friendless and neglected boys; the Little Sisters' Society, to take care of the young children of working women, thus allowing the mothers to perform a day's work; the Teachers' Mutual Aid Society; St. Patrick's Mutual Alliance of the U. S.; and the Netherlands Benevolent Society.

The Little Sisters is a peculiar organization, arising from the endeavor of a few children to hold a fair for the purpose of aiding a needy family; and finding their effort a success, organized as a society to continue the kind work. The society now has an Infant Shelter at 805 Bush Street, where, in pleasant and spacious rooms, they have fitted up an attractive nursery.

The secret orders and societies are in great number and of high standing. The orders of Masons, Odd Fellows, Druids, Red Men, etc., are bodies of great wealth and usefulness, and fill an important place in the society of San Francisco. Several of these possess stately edifices, have extensive libraries, maintain banks, publish papers, and in various ways manifest their importance and perform their duties. Added to these are the Immigrant Aid Association, Prison Aid Association, Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, and numerous others, showing the broad field occupied.

The benevolent societies, composed of people of foreign birth, for the object of aiding their fellow-countrymen, are numerous and efficient. The English, Scotch, Welsh, and Irish have their organiza-

tions, divided into several classes and divisions, all with a large number of members. The British Benevolent Society exercises a supervision over the wants of the subjects of that kingdom, relieving in the past year one thousand and nine persons, and expending \$5,176. The Germans, French, Italians, Russians, Portuguese, Mexicans, Greeks, Scandinavians, Slavonians, Hebrews, and Chinese maintain organizations for the same purpose, showing a benevolence of the highest character, and most worthy occupying their appropriate fields of usefulness. The German General Benevolent Society is a large and effective organization, having one thousand nine hundred and thirty-two members residing in the city and two hundred and fifty in the interior. This generous society maintains a hospital worthy of its high character, and which would be an honor to any city or state.

The French Benevolent Society is an institution in keeping with the most noble of its class here, where the rank is of the highest grade. This society has one of the finest hospitals of the State. It is a spacious edifice of brick, with pleasant gardens and ornamented grounds surrounding it, making it a most desirable home to the invalid. Other nationalities maintain their hospitals and their homes, thus indicating the care taken of all and the unbounded benevolence of all classes and peoples who have made San Francisco their abiding place.

It is difficult to form an estimate of the amount received as contributions and dues and expended by this vast array of benevolent associations. The Orphan Asylums, the Odd Fellow, Masonic, Red Men, and Druid organizations, the German, French, and Italian societies, etc., each disburse many thousands of dollars annually. But this is not all. The State generously steps in and lends a helping hand. The appropriations by the Legislature for benevolent purposes is about three quarters of a million dollars annually; chiefly, however, for the charities directly under State control, as the Insane Asylum, Deaf, Dumb, and Blind Asylum, and State Reformatory for Boys, and a large sum also goes to charitable institutions outside of this city. Among the appropriations of the last Legislature, are the following to the various Orphan Asylums of the State: San Francisco Protestant, \$4,000; San Francisco Roman Catholic, \$4,000; San Francisco Pacific Hebrew, \$3,000; Boys', San Rafael, \$3,000; Protestant, Sacramento, \$1,500; St. Joseph's, Sacramento, \$1,500; Grass Valley (Catholic), \$2,000; Pajaro (male), \$1,500; Santa Barbara, \$1,500; Sisters of Mercy, Los Angeles, \$1,500; Good Templars, Vallejo, \$1,000; St. Vincent, Petaluma, \$1,000. To other societies as follows: San Francisco charities: Magdalen Asylum, \$5,000; Female Hospital, \$6,000; Ladies' Relief and Protection, \$7,500; State Woman's Hospital, \$4,000; Lying-in Hospital, \$6,000; Protestant Episcopal Church Home, \$1,000; Old Women's Home, Rincon Hill, and St. Luke's Society, \$1,000; Howard Benevolent Society, Sacramento, \$2,500, and \$1,000 each to the Ladies' Benevolent societies in interior towns as follows: Stockton, Marysville, Napa, Placerville, Grass Valley, Vallejo, Oakland, San José, Nevada City, and San Diego.

To give a full account of all the associations for charitable and social objects would exceed the limits we could devote to the purpose, but would refer to the Appendix on pages 439-456 inclusive, for a complete list of the different organizations, exhibiting in detail their operations during the past year and their present condition, to which attention is invited.

AID UNION.

This society was incorporated June 12, 1874, and has now one hundred and fifty-three members. The object of this society is to pay to its sick members \$1.50 a day, and to the heirs of its members \$500 for each membership a member holds. There are no assessments at the deaths of members, as the lives of the members are re-insured in the Pacific Mutual Life Insurance Company, the Union paying all premiums thereon, as long as they remain members. The benefit of this re-insurance is: 1. That only persons, who are at the application sound and healthy can join the Union and participate in the sick fund. 2. That every member knows exactly how much he has to pay. 3. That members do not lose their money if they cease to be members, as the policy of life insurance will then become their property.