

OUR GERMAN.

The Chief Element of Our Foreign-Born Population.

Interesting Facts and Figures Concerning the Teutons of Chicago.

The Manners, Customs, and Peculiarities Which They Bring from the Fatherland.

Their Contributions to the Arts and Sciences.

German Societies for the Advancement of Religion, Benevolence, Music, Physical and Intellectual Culture.

At certain times when issues on public questions enlist attention, much is said about "Our German Element," and so easily and cheaply is the term employed, that it may be actually made to appear as if the circus of a saloon round table held this entire representative element.

A SOBER AND FRUGAL PEOPLE, not opposed to temperance laws because they are addicted to intoxicating drinks, but they have been brought up in a country where wine flows like milk, and when lager beer is the national beverage; yet no one would think of disgracing himself by drinking more than his measure, any more than he would think of eating any more than he was able to digest.

THE GERMAN OF CHICAGO. One-third, or nearly 100,000, of Chicago's inhabitants come from Germany, and nearly all of them are imbued with these ideas and convictions.

AS TAX-PAYERS. Many of our noblest and finest public buildings and churches have been reared by their enterprise, and they pay a large share of our taxes. The tax-books at the City Collector's office reveal the fact that they pay fully two-thirds of the real estate, as well as of the personal property taxes, on the North Side, and of the taxes of the South and West Divisions they pay a large share; nor are these people among the so-called "tax-fighters," but, as the City Collector, Mr. George Von Hollen, avers, they are the promptest tax-payers in the city.

IN TRADE. There is hardly a branch of business or a trade in this city in which the Germans are not represented. Certain branches of trade are almost exclusively in their hands, as for instance, the butchers, bakers, milkmen and gardeners.

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL HOUSES, BANKS, ETC. But not only the trades, but also some of our largest and best managed wholesale and retail houses are in the hands of Germans. Most of the business at the Stock Yards is done by Germans, and many of our importers belong to the same nationality.

years amount to one and a half million of dollars, and upwards of 8,000 accounts have been opened during the same length of time.

THE FINE ARTS, SCIENCE, AND MUSIC. But where Germans most excel is in the fine arts, sciences, and music. Mr. Ziegfeld's Conservatory of Music is one of the best institutions of the kind in the country.

GERMAN-AMERICAN POLITICS. That Germans are, politically at least, not all of one mind, is best shown by the different German daily papers published in this city, each one being of different politics.

THEIR MORAL STATUS. While Germans are a very liberal-minded, and to the outward observer a rather heretic people, yet there is no nationality on the face of the earth which has more religion at heart and whose moral status is purer than theirs.

1. St. Paul's Church, corner of Franklin and Superior streets, Rev. H. Wunder, pastor, which office he has filled for the last twenty-one years. This congregation was organized in 1846, and they erected a beautiful brick edifice in 1864, which building was destroyed by the great fire of October 9, 1871.

2. Immanuel Church, corner of Taylor and Brown streets, Rev. R. Lange, pastor. Organized in 1854. Is attended by about 1,000 people every Sunday. The day-school has seven teachers and 600 pupils.

3. Zion Church, corner Lake and Mark streets, Rev. A. Wagner, pastor. Organized in 1868. About 1,100 people attend this church every Sunday. The day-school has five teachers and 600 pupils.

4. St. Johannes Church, corner of First and Bickford streets, Rev. J. Gross, pastor. Organized in 1867. This church is attended by 1,100 worshippers every Sunday. The day-school has seven teachers and 800 scholars.

5. Trinity Church, corner of Kossuth and Hanover streets, Rev. F. Toederlein, pastor. Organized in 1866. Is attended every Sunday by about 900 people. The day school has five teachers and 500 pupils.

6. St. Jacoby Church, corner of Dayton and Sophie streets, Rev. William Bartling, pastor. Organized in 1870. Is attended by about 1,000 worshippers every Sunday. The day school has five teachers and 500 pupils.

7. Bethlehem Church, Paulina street, near North avenue, Rev. August Reimke, pastor. Organized in 1871. Is attended by some 700 members every Sunday. The day school has three teachers and 800 pupils.

8. St. Peter's Church, Burnside street, near Thirty-ninth, Rev. Franz Lehmann, pastor. Organized in 1871. About 200 people are attending this church every Sunday. The day school has one teacher and ninety pupils.

9. Matthew's Church, on Twenty-second street near Ashland avenue, Rev. M. Guenther, pastor. Organized in 1872. Church is now being built, and will be dedicated next Sunday. The day school has two teachers and 200 pupils.

OTHER DENOMINATIONS. The German United Evangelicals have three congregations in the city:

1. St. Paul's Church, corner of Ohio and La-Salle streets, Rev. Joseph Hartmann, pastor, and Rev. G. A. Zimmerman, assistant. This is the oldest German brick church in Chicago, built in 1844, and destroyed by the great fire Oct. 9, 1871. It has been rebuilt since the fire, at a cost of \$35,000, in a style much superior to what it was before.

2. St. Peter's Church, corner of Noble street and West Chicago avenue, Rev. G. Lambrecht, pastor. Organized in 1862. About 500 people are attending this church every Sunday. The day school has two teachers and 180 pupils, and Sunday School has 150 pupils.

3. Salem Church, corner of Bushnell street and Wentworth avenue, Rev. Carl von Wargowsky, pastor. About 600 people attend this church every Sunday. The day school has two teachers and 120 pupils. Sunday-school has 14 teachers and about 150 pupils.

THE INDEPENDENT EVANGELICAL LUTHERANS have three congregations in this city, as follows:

1. St. Stephen's Church, corner of Twenty-fifth street and Wentworth avenue, Rev. Ernst Guntrum, pastor. This church was erected in 1871, and is attended every Sunday by about 600 worshippers. Its day school has three teachers and 200 pupils. The Sunday-school has 16 teachers and about 150 pupils.

2. Trinity Church, corner of Snell street and Chicago avenue, Rev. John Proud, pastor. Organized in 1870. This church has 250 members. Its day school has three teachers and 300 pupils. The Sunday-school has 25 teachers and 400 pupils.

3. Zion's Church, corner of Union and Mitchell streets, Rev. J. Hansen, pastor. Organized in 1868. About 500 people attend this church every Sunday. The day school has three teachers and 300 pupils.

THE GERMAN METHODISTS are composed of six congregations:

1. Van Buren Street Church, Rev. C. A. Loeber, pastor. Their church was destroyed by the great fire of Oct. 9, but they are worshipping in a temporary structure on the old lot. They intend to erect on this lot a large business block similar to the Methodist Church Block, next spring. It comprises 200 members, and its Sunday school has 35 pupils and 12 teachers.

2. Clybourn Avenue Church, Rev. Fred. Rinder, pastor. The church was destroyed by the fire of Oct. 9, 1871, but they are now worshipping in a temporary structure. It comprises 170 members, and the Sunday School has 160 pupils and 16 teachers.

3. Maxwell Street Church, Rev. J. W. Roeker, pastor. It comprises 175 members. The Sunday School has 215 pupils and 14 teachers.

4. Ashland Avenue Church, Rev. G. L. Malinger, pastor. It comprises 150 members, and its Sunday school has 175 pupils and 12 teachers.

5. Portland Avenue Church, Rev. Wilhelm Keller, pastor. It comprises 100 members, and its Sunday school has 60 pupils and 12 teachers.

6. Southwest Mission, corner of Ashland and Blue Island avenues, Rev. Peter Hinners, pastor. The church is now being built, and will be dedicated about Christmas.

Rev. J. J. Keller is the Presiding Elder of the

Chicago district. To this denomination belong two Sick and Relief Societies, and an Educational Society to assist poor but meritorious young men to an education in the higher branches.

THE GERMAN BAPTISTS are composed of three congregations:

1. First German Baptist Church, corner of Second and Bickerdyke streets, Rev. Beaudenber, pastor.

2. Second Baptist Church, corner of Chicago avenue and Chase street.

3. North Avenue Mission, on North avenue, near North Halsted street, Rev. J. Schwuchow, Superintendent.

SWEDENBORGIAN. The German disciples of J. J. Scammon New Jerusalem Society (Swedenborgian) comprise two congregations:

1. Temple, east side of Ashland avenue, Rev. Wilhelm Weiser, pastor. Gustav Ruprecht is the Superintendent of the Sunday school.

2. South Mission, South Park avenue, corner of Thirty-third street.

THE GERMAN CATHOLICS comprise five congregations:

1. St. Michael's Church, corner of Linden and Hurlbut streets. Organized in 1852. Erected a beautiful Cathedral of immense proportions in 1863, which was partially destroyed by the great fire of Oct. 9, 1871. The Cathedral is now being rebuilt, and will soon be ready for occupation.

2. St. Joseph Church, corner of Hill and Market streets. This congregation had a splendid cathedral on the corner of Chicago avenue and Cass street, which was destroyed by the great fire of Oct. 9. Next spring they intend to erect a beautiful edifice on the block where their temporary structure now stands.

3. St. Francis' Church, corner of Newberry and Twelfth streets. Rev. Father Ferdinand Kallvilage, rector, and Rev. Father Carl Schmickel, assistant. Organized in 1854. Erected the present brick church in 1866. About 2,000 people worship here every Sunday. Connected with it are two day schools, which have 800 pupils and 9 teachers. Its Sunday school is attended by 800 pupils.

4. St. Peter's Church, corner of Polk and Clark streets. Rev. Father Fischer is the rector, and Rev. Father Kastenberger, assistant. Fifteen hundred people worship in this church every Sunday. The day school adjoining the church has 260 pupils and 4 teachers, and another on the corner of McGregor and Hanover streets has 400 pupils and 7 teachers. Its Sunday school is attended by 800 pupils.

5. St. Boniface Church, corner of Noble and Cornell streets, Rev. Father Clement Fenn, rector. Organized in 1864; 1,200 people are attending this church every Sunday. Its day school has 400 pupils and six teachers, and the Sunday school is attended by about 450 pupils.

THE ALEXIAN HOSPITAL is a German Catholic institution, and is situated on Franklin street, between Hill and Elm streets. This hospital was first started in a frame building on Dearborn street, near Schiller street, in 1866. In 1863 they erected a fine brick edifice, 50x81, three stories high, containing 50 rooms, on its present site, which building was destroyed by the great fire of Oct. 9.

THE HEBREWS are composed of five congregations:

1. Kehiloh Ansho Maaser (Men of the West), corner of Peck court and Wabash avenue. Organized in 1847. Rev. M. Machol, Rabbi. Mr. L. Adler, reader. One hundred and seventy members belong to this congregation and its day school has 55 pupils and one teacher. The Sunday school is attended by 125 pupils. Connected with this congregation is a Ladies' Sewing Society to distribute articles of comfort to the needy. They also have their own cemetery on the Green Bay road just outside the city limits.

2. Kehiloh Benai Sholom (Sons of Peace) worship temporary in the First Baptist Church,—their structure on the corner of Harrison street and Fourth avenue having been destroyed by the great fire of Oct. 9. Connected with this congregation is a society of Sisters of Peace, for the purpose of aiding the poor and sick.

3. Sinai Congregation. The Temple, corner of Third Avenue and Van Buren street was destroyed by the great conflagration, and they are now worshipping temporarily in the Episcopal Church, corner of Wabash avenue and Fourteenth street. Rev. D. D. Kohler is the Rabbi. This congregation numbers about one hundred members, and the wealthiest Hebrews in the city belong to it. Connected therewith is a young Ladies' Benevolent Society.

4. Zion Congregation, corner of Sangamon and Jackson streets; organized in 1864. Its number about one hundred members. Its school has 100 pupils. A Ladies' Relief Society is connected with this congregation.

5. Kehiloh Redef Sholem (Promoters of Peace), corner of Second and May streets. Mr. Moses Hirsch is the President. It has 80 members.

These congregations, together with the following relief and benevolent societies, constitute THE UNITED HEBREW RELIEF ASSOCIATION:

The Ladies' Sewing Society; Hebrew Benevolent Society; Chebooh Gemiloth Chassidim Ubikin Cholin; Young Ladies' Hebrew Benevolent Society; Sisters of Peace; Relief Society; and the following lodges of the Independent Order of Benai Revith (Sons of the Covenant): Ramah Lodge No. 33; Hillel No. 72; Maurice Mayer No. 105; Jonathan No. 130; Sovereignty No. 148; and Oriental No. 189. The officers of this association consist of the following prominent gentlemen: Abraham Hart, President; Henry Greenbaum, Vice President; Philip Stein, Recording Secretary; Charles Kozminski, Financial Secretary; and Nelson Morris, Treasurer.

The Jewish Hospital on La Salle street, between Schiller and Goethe streets, was destroyed by the great conflagration, but a new building, which will be an ornament to the city, is in contemplation.

THE GERMAN RELIEF SOCIETIES, not belonging to religious denominations, are very numerous. There are no less than five Arbeiter Vereins (workmen societies). One of them owns the Globe theatre. The Hildesheim Bund has some five or six branches, and the Bismarck Bund has also several branches. The German

SECRET SOCIETIES are exceedingly numerous. Of purely German Masonic lodges there are five in the city. Lesing No. 557, Germania No. 182, Accordia No. 277, Methra No. 410, and Herder No. 669. The German Odd Fellows have four encampments and six lodges in the city. Of encampments there are the Germania No. 40, Humboldt No. 101, Herman No. 110, and Teutonia No. 114. And of lodges there are the Robert Blum No. 58, Harmonia No. 221, Goethe No. 329, Hoffnung No. 353, Olympia No. 277, and Southwest Chicago No. 484. There is also a German Rebecca lodge, Germania No. 45, connected with this order.

The Ancient United Order of Chaldeans have five German Lodges in the city: Thunselda No. 3; Achmet No. 4; Modera No. 5; and Kabbala No. 6.

The German Order of Harugari have ten lodges in the city: Cherusker No. 92; Teutonia No. 96; Germania No. 117; Harmonia No. 130; Helvetia No. 133; Chicago No. 153; Columbia No. 178; Beckman No. 138; Wm. Tell No. 194; and Walthalla Manie No. 9.

The Independent Order of the Sons of Herman has thirteen German lodges in the city: Encampment Teutonia; Chicago No. 1; Thomas Paine No. 2; Freie Maenner No. 3; Sigel No. 4; Washington No. 5; Cottage Hill No. 6; Lincoln No. 10; Koerner No. 11; Schiller No. 7; Alexander No. 8; Germania No. 12; and Eintracht No. 13.

The Ancient Order of Good Fellows has five lodges in this city: Schreiber Encampment No. 3; Chicago Degree Lodge No. 1; Arion No. 4; Germania No. 6; Etting No. 7; Humboldt No. 8; and Lessing No. 11.

The United Ancient Order of Druids has ten German lodges (Hains) in this city: Schiller No. 4; Goethe No. 9; Humboldt No. 12; Garden City No. 13; Concordia No. 15; Uhlard No. 16; West Chicago No. 21; Harmonia No. 22; North Chicago No. 23; and one Hain under dispensation.

The Independent Order of Knights of Pythias has three German lodges in this city: Humboldt No. 2; Hoffnung No. 7; and Schiller No. 15.

THE FOUR GERMAN TURNVEREINS must also be classed under the head of Aid Societies, as they support their own sick, though

their main object is the development of muscular powers and the intellectual amusement of the members. They are composed as follows:

1. The Chicago Turngemeinde, whose building was destroyed by the great fire, have just completed a magnificent cut-stone front building on North Clark street, between Chicago avenue and Chestnut street.

2. The Voorwarts Turnverein has a fine building on West Twelfth street, near Halsted.

3. The Aurora Turnverein has a splendid brick building on the corner of Second street and Milwaukee avenue.

3. The South Chicago Turnverein occupy Burlington Hall at present, but will soon erect a fine building of their own.

There are also a multitude of German SOCIAL AND INTELLECTUAL SOCIETIES, such as the Germania Maennerchor, the Orpheus Gessangverein, the Schuetzenverein, the Rauch Club, etc., in the city, and last, but not least, is the German Society for the Protection of Immigrants and the Friendless.

TRUE AMERICAN CITIZENS. Though Germans, as has been shown above, retain their convictions, peculiarities, manners, and language long after they have become American citizens, and although they rejoiced when their brethren in Fatherland marched victoriously through France and conquered that arch-enemy of theirs, yet they never forgot that they owe allegiance first to their adopted land. No less than three purely German regiments were sent from this city to aid in suppressing the rebellion, and almost every German was on the side of Union, Right, and Liberty. They love Germany as a man loves his mother, who leaves her to share his fortunes with his bride, his wife; and though he loves his wife above all, yet whenever the sound of "mother" strikes his ear, a cord of love is struck in his heart, and he devotedly remembers her who gave him birth. Because Germans lovingly remember their mother country is no reason why they should not love equally well, if not better, their bride—their wife, this, their adopted country, America.