

Narrative Report for January 1952

During the month of January the enrollment increased approximately 25% due to the lowering of the fee and institution of group piano techniques. The revenue from tuition will probably not be up to the monthly budget requirement for the month of January due to the fact that a slight lag existed between the period of doubling up in group piano classes of former private students and the signing up of new students. According to the registration figure for the first week in February the monthly income will be more than \$100.00 above the monthly income budget requirement for tuition alone.

New classes were instituted in adult voice and piano with rates as follows:

Adult voice or piano	
maximum of four per class	\$1.00 per session

Adult voice or piano	
maximum of eight per class	.60 per session

A guitar class was started for beginners. The class is free for Palama members and has grown out of an interest arising among the members of the dramatics club. It is planned to hire one of the older Palama boys, an experienced and skillful player, to teach the class in the near future.

Mrs. Nesta Obermer turned over to Palama Settlement a total of \$1,312.00 accruing from the sale of her paintings at the Moana Hotel in January. This is for scholarships and the money has been put into the Welfare fund. An afternoon party was held in the music building for Mrs. Obermer. Settlement staff and friends and Palama children. The occasion was also the formal start of the murals project with the artists, Juliette May Fraser, Mr. Jean Charlot, Mr. David Asherman and Mrs. Obermer and three University art students who will assist present. Four of the paintings from Mrs. Obermer's show which were unsold were donated. Two were hung in the group work department and two in the music building.

The chief development from the standpoint of the development of a cultural program at the Settlement was the overcoming of the former barrier that existed between the group work children and the music department program. In the past the music department program has appealed only to the children of the more well-to-do parents in the Palama area with the children of lower income brackets being deprived of the opportunity to study due to the high fee system. With the lowering of the fee many children known as "group work kids" entered the music department program. An increasing number are being given scholarships. These children although presenting a problem of developing a respect for the discipline, quiet and orderliness of a program of education and study, are nonetheless very talented musically and offer a large resource for cultural development in the community.

The music department is seeking to develop a program of non-fee cultural activities. At present it consists of a dramatics club of approximately twenty five members for teenagers; a playacting and instrument band club for ages seven to thirteen with approximately twenty five members, an adult community chorus with around twelve members and the guitar class.

John Kelly
Director
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