We doubt if anything Herbert H. Lehman ever has done has given him more satisfaction than presenting, jointly with Mrs. Lehman, a new four-story building at 305 Henry Street to the Henry Street Settlement. This is the kind of gift that can never be measured in dollars. It is a fitting memorial to the Lehmans' son, Peter, who was killed in England in 1944 while an officer in the United States Air Force.

Providing athletic facilities and equipment, administrative offices, recreational and study space, the new building will more than double the Settlement's welfare activities. The germ of the idea for such a project as this may have been planted in the mind of Herbert Lehman back in 1900, when he led a club there. At any rate, the intimate knowledge he had of the Settlement then and the vast experience in social welfare activities and allied work that he was to acquire later in a lifetime in business, philanthropy and public life gave him the background he needed to plan the new Henry Street building as a youth center.

Facilities for the Henry Street youngsters will not only be athletic and recreational. The new building will have a third-floor woodworking shop with drill presses, lathes, sanding machines and hand tools. A skilled cabinetworker will be the instructor; the shop may be used to repair furniture from the youngsters' own homes. On the same floor there will be a children's library containing new books on handicrafts, biography, fiction and interracial and intercultural relations. It is trite, albeit true, to say that the Lehmans have earned the gratitude of the city. It is more important to say that they have made a valuable and lasting contribution to the lives and characters of our city's future citizens.