

A HISTORY OF THE CORNELIA MEMORIAL CHILDREN'S HOME

In 1944, Carrie Stout Binford, who had been a member of the Board of Managers of the Cornelia Memorial Children's Home, wrote a brief history of the Home. This was soon after the Home was closed, and it is most useful as an account of its final days. I have also read thru the minutes, which usually had an interesting account of some problem or triumph, and I found some of the early newspaper stories detailing the first few anniversary reports, very helpful.

The untiring efforts and devotion of the women who made up the Board of Managers, was nothing short of admirable. They were the ones who dealt with the day to day problems – leaking roofs; furniture repair and replacement; clothing for the children; interviewing and hiring matrons, cooks and other workers; pitching in when a dozen or more children were sick at one time; helping with picnics, boatrides or other amusements; securing playground equipment; having the furnace and fences mended; dealing with new eye glasses or special shoes for the children, and on and on. It was a tremendous undertaking and they did it with a dedication and love that shines thru the routine minutes.

Here is a quote from the speech given by the President, Mrs. Sarah A. Bradley on March 26, 1878, at the first anniversary tea given by the Board of Managers at the first home.

“When I began to think about making a report of the origin of the Orphan's Home of New Albany, my mind went back to the winter of 1873-74, when the people of the city determined to do something more than usual for the relief of the poor. Many of you remember the time. A meeting was called; the 1st Presbyterian Church was the place of meeting. The gentlemen organized and raised quite a large amount of money that evening, and added to it as occasion required during the winter. They then requested the ladies to organize a distributing society. They did so, under the name of the Benevolent Association of N. A. and worked well, we think, until the money was gone.

“The books were balanced and laid away, but the Association never disbanded, but remained quiescent until Jan. 1877, when the Silver Band gave a concert, from which one half the net proceeds would be given for the benefit of the poor. The amount raised was \$55.50. This was offered to some members of the Benevolent Association. The next Sabbath, notices were read in all the churches, asking the members of the Association to meet at the rooms of the WCTU at Bank and Spring. They accepted the money with eager gratitude and began, as best they could, to help the needy poor. Very soon after this, Mr. DePauw, hearing the Association had gone to work, said he would give them \$100 to continue their work. This inspired some of the ladies to think they could do something more than they had been doing; and one, Mrs. Elizabeth Wolf, said she had long felt N. A. ought to have a home for the friendless [so] that the little destitute children might be taken off the streets and cared for in some other way than begging from door to door. Mrs. J. B. Riley joined in the plea. Others thought the undertaking too great. Times were hard, money scarce, and it seemed impractical to undertake it just then. But these two, with a little encouragement from one or two others, urged the matter until the

President appointed a committee of from 3 to 5 to talk about it and get some expression from the citizens as to what had best be done.

"Just here, the worthy secretary said she had a suggestion to make – that they take the matter under prayerful consideration until the next meeting, and then perhaps they would be better able to decide. This all readily agreed to. Two weeks after, when they came together at the regular meeting, they were fully impressed with the thought that these ladies were right, and immediate steps were taken in this direction." They thought it was their bounden duty and service to enter upon such an obligation and engage in such labor for Christ's sake."

A committee was appointed to visit the Orphans' Home in Jeffersonville to gather ideas of importance for the proposed N. A. venture. At the next meeting, Mrs. Cornelia Culbertson reported on their visit (no details given in the minutes) and the managers of the Jeff[ersonville] Asylum were present to answer questions on funding, etc.

Mrs. Culbertson then reported that Mr. J. K. Woodward had offered the front part of the Tabler House on Main Street at the corner of Washington, overlooking the Scribner Park – free of rent for 1 year. A vote of thanks was passed unanimously and ordered sent promptly.

Many names for the Home were considered "Home for the Friendless", "Home for the Homeless" – finally decided on "Orphans' Home of New Albany and the County of Floyd" – but usually was referred to as the "Orphans' Home".

They formed a Board of 28 ladies and drew up a constitution and by-laws. Mrs. Sarah Bradley was elected President, Martha H. Mahon, Secretary, Miss Helen Haskins, Treasurer and 12 gentlemen as Trustees. It was interesting to see that Article VII of the Constitution states the Board of Trustees "UNDER THE DIRECTION OF THE BOARD OF MANAGERS" (which meant the women had final say) shall have the management of the Estate, Investments and personal securities and permanent funds of the society, except for current expenses. The only other article that I found interesting was Article X "Children from birth to six years may be received by the Committee on Admissions and Indentures, foundlings excepted." Here foundling was scratched out and the word "bastard" substituted. They adhered to that stipulation for at least the first 4 years, but they immediately took in children older than 6 years and hesitated to accept those younger than 1 year.

The By-Laws set up a Household Committee of two Managers who would serve for one month (alphabetically) and see that the household was "administered with order, prudence and economy and proper attention be paid to the habits, manners, and persons of the children, and that peace, harmony and domestic propriety are cultivated."

The Admissions Committee shall meet every Monday at 2 o'clock at the Home and all applications for admissions shall be decided by this committee. Consent of parents or guardians must always be in writing. They shall keep a record book with the name and age of every child received, the date of admissions and from whom received, its near kindred, if any; and place of residence. They shall determine if the child has had measles, scarlet fever, whooping cough or small pox, or has been vaccinated. Dismissals shall also be recorded, or the death of a child, or when a child is bound out, etc.

Dues will be 5 cents per week, or \$2.60 per year – and this amount was continued til the end in 1943. \$25 made one a member for life, and \$100 for a patron.

26 ladies were at the 2nd meeting: Mrs. or Miss Bradley, Lewis, Newland, Jennings, Haskins, Leach, David, Smith, Culbertson, Bragdon, Vance, Croxall, Day, Bowman, Matheny, Wolfe, Martin, Jackson, Cadwalader, Loughmiller, Bicknell, Hedden, Dowling, Bull, Force and Galbraith.

To go back to April, 1877. Applications for matron were considered and a Mrs. McClain was chosen. During these early years, she was highly praised, but except for the day she was hired, she was always referred to as 'matron', never by name, either in the minutes or newspaper. She agreed to do all the work until there should be three children, for \$2 per week, after which the washing is to be hired out.

Committees reported 5 stoves donated, two used in the home and the others sold for \$6. Committees on house cleaning reported it attended to. I was curious if the ladies did it themselves, had their servants do it, or had hired it out. On the first annual report there was an item for \$20 for house cleaning.

Donations poured in: Coal – Fawcett Bros.; extension table, Mrs. Stotsenburg; bedsteads, Mrs. Day; feathers and makings of ½ dozen pillows, Mrs. Miller; towels and tablecloths, Mrs. Reineking, carpets, kitchen table, crib and tubs from Mrs. Culbertson; quilts, pieced and quilted from the Old Ladies Home; 1 bedstead, 1 mattress, 2 pairs sheets and pillow slips from Mrs. Short; 1 lounge, Mrs. Bowman. Bureau, Mrs. Bradley; cradle, Mrs. Smith; chairs from Mrs. Lapsley plus food and clothing of all descriptions. The first outpouring was astounding, and this continued at a slower pace for the first few years, and never completely stopped, although eventually they stopped listing every item... especially when you consider they listed 3 papers pins and 3 papers needles, a framed motto and 2 pairs drawers and 2 chemises. Carpet rags were in great demand. It was decided to continue taking 1 quart milk daily from Mr. Broecker for 5 cents per quart. Ladies having cows were requested to send in milk when convenient.

From the minutes of May 14th. After the minutes had been read, the ladies "produced needles, thread, thimbles, etc., and the matron sat down at the sewing machine and soon a very busy and interesting scene was presented. Garments were cut out and speedily put in shape, material donated being used for the purpose, and domestic muslin and gingham, variegated and adorned the different costumes thus lovingly ministering to the necessities of those henceforth so dependent upon their Christian charity. It soon became necessary for the President to restrict the conversation and claim special attention to the necessary business of the meeting." They discussed the propriety of receiving a 19-year-old girl from the poor House, and a child 18 months old. Voted no on the 19-year-old, but the infant was accepted. Much discussion of whether a mother can place her fatherless children in the Home until age 12 and then take them? Not possible, since the By-Laws state the children would be under control of the Home til age 18, and must be regularly bound out (indentured).

The matron reported the father of the Jones children was becoming very troublesome, coming to the institution at improper times and in an unfit condition. Matron was instructed to send for a police officer, and if necessary have him arrested.

A pretty dress received as a donation was deemed not suitable for the purposes of the home and it was decided to sell it for not less than \$5, although it was worth much more.

Discussed letting money out at interest of 5% at the N.A. Banking Co. The operating expenses the first month were \$24.80 and it now presents a comfortable and homelike appearance, in great measure due to the matron, who is in every way remarkably well fitted for the position. There is a marked improvement in some of the children. A gentleman of the advisory board sent a special message to the ladies recommending feeding well the children under their care. This bit of ponderous advice was received with much merriment and many comments. Can't you just hear the groans: Men!!!

Since the cistern was inadequate, the committee advised a water box being installed, and Mr. Gebhart sent word that he would see about putting in the water at no cost.

A nice-looking German woman had applied for the foundling that had been left on our doorstep by some inhuman person, but since the mother was in the Poor House, the Society had no jurisdiction. Besides "it was not a proper subject of our charity, such children not being admissible under our rules." Article X

There are now 3 boys and 4 girls in the Home, and a uniform for the children was discussed and a resolution made that they be dressed in checked aprons always at home. Application for Josephine by certain parties at the Commercial House respectfully declined. Request for Malvina declined and decided not to take applications for other children until they are more settled. Discussion of the propriety of electing 12 gentlemen to act as trustees. Action postponed. (I'd love to know what that discussion was all about.)

August – the president stated that the large Winstandley house and lot at the southwest corner of Spring and Upper 3rd was offered the society as a permanent home by Mr. W. C. DePauw. The announcement was received with an outburst of joy and gratitude and accepted with enthusiasm. The taxes had been paid by Mrs. DePauw, and Mr. DePauw would pay for the moving expenses and a kitchen range.

It was decided not to accept donations from anyone who was under the influence - and there was constant discussion of how soon to let children be bound out, upon application, the form such applications should take, and how to keep the best interests of the child in mind. Decided to send 3 of the children to the public school. Matron reported jealousy of one child wearing better clothing on Sunday than the others because of the variety of clothing donated. She asked that uniforms be provided, and waterproof cloaks and felt hats, alike in color and shape. The cloak was decided against, and shawls would be provided. The following week they decided not to do anything, but purchased a bolt of GOOD gingham at 10 cents per yard for the aprons, which they made. A bolt of pretty dark calico was received and it was voted to make Sunday dresses very plainly,

October – Mr. DePauw sent another \$100 in the name of his little daughter Jennie, in celebration of her birthday. At the request of Mrs. DePauw it was used to buy 12 chairs and window shades for the parlor and furniture and shades for the two front rooms upstairs.

The city council gave a deed for a grave lot in Fairview Cemetery. There are now 14 children in the Home.

There have been many requests to lend the name of the home to performances – elocutionists, speakers, concerts, raffles, providing the proceeds would be split. All respectfully declined. A lecture by a Rev. Dr. Chadwick was accepted and brought in \$97.00, and after discussion, it was decided to invite Henry Watterson to deliver a lecture in N. A. for the benefit of the Home.

On Dec. 24th, 3 children had whooping cough, but a tree and turkey and small gifts were given to the children. Another foundling 2 years of age refused because of Article X. Persons applying for Malvina were well recommended and it was decided to permit them to take her for a month's trial. Another foundling was refused because of the same article. Disbursements of \$37.50 for the month, with 10 cents on hand solemnly handed over to the incoming committee.

Preparations were considered for the first anniversary. There are now 15 children from 2 years to 15 in the Home. There were two requests for Annie and one for James, but it was decided not to separate brother and sister. A lady asked to take James on trial in hopes her husband would fancy the boy, so they could have both. The German woman who had been taking care of the foundling, reported she could not keep it any longer. They located the mother who was earning wages in the family of one of our citizens, so the German woman said she would keep the child if she was allowed \$1 per week.

Col. Watterson gave his lecture and it was well attended, but since he charged \$50 for his lecture, the net gain was only \$40. (So they didn't do any better than with those who offered to split proceeds 50-50.) Mr. DePauw offered the property adjoining the Home as a Home for Colored Orphans, but this was never mentioned again. At this time they received a magnificent gift of \$1,000 City of Louisville bond from Mrs. Lapsley. It was tax free and paid 6%.

The first anniversary was a great success, from which I have already read part of the president's address. The children sang, a little child recited a poem described as "touching" and a reading of a full list of donations certainly must have taken 10 minutes – as the Ledger said "It is very lengthy and its publication would fill almost one side of this paper.

In May of 1878 they held an ice cream and strawberry luncheon and supper of some kind that was a great success, despite the storm which lasted all day and evening. It was held at the Red Ribbon Hall, and realized a profit of \$87.50. Special thanks to Mrs. Short and Mrs. Culbertson for sending their servants, relieving the ladies of much fatigue.

There was a request to take Emma and Maggie, but Emma is so helpful in the Home she would not be allowed to go, but Maggie could go. All the girls, including Josephine, would be taught to sew each day. Josephine was crippled, and was often mentioned. It was suggested and agreed that each lady would take one child in her special care, looking out for the welfare of the child. Drew lots for 14 children, even those who had been adopted. Malvina, the first orphan put out by the Home had visited there with her guardian, seeming perfectly happy and exceedingly well cared for. She had seen David, the very first child admitted, who is now at Bloomfield. He said he was very happy and perfectly delighted with his mother.

A sad day was occasioned by the death of Mrs. Lapsley, a great benefactor, who died less than a month after giving the \$1,000 bond.

In discussing economical management, it was thought 24 bars of soap too much to be used. Money is very scarce (Aug. 1878) and it was agreed children would do all the washing, even if necessary to stay from school. (Think of this in relation to the laundry equipment exhibited at the Culbertson Mansion basement laundry room.) A note about punishment – it was decided that the use of pepper tea and keeping a child in bed for one day was more effective than a good beating. Another type of punishment was bread and water and solitary confinement. In showing the accomplishments of the children, chemises and drawers were exhibited showing the industry and skill of Josephine and Annie, and the painstaking care of the matron. Beautifully done. (Note the changes in names for underwear that we will encounter.)

The Committee talked to one of the fathers who reported him very much excited about having given up Willy, and stubbornly refuses to 'sign away' another child, but is willing the little girl should stay in the Home. Mrs. Barth hoped the ladies would keep the child, who was under the worst influence if left with the father. It was agreed to make this case an exception and keep the child. A Mrs. Brooks brought in an application to admit an 11-year-old girl, a very needy and forlorn case. There was no prospect of rescuing the child for the present, unless the father would be sent to the poor house.

Mrs. Bowman brought a paper sack such as is used in the Rochester, NY Orphanage. The bags are printed with an appeal for the Orphans and distributed all over the city, and are returned laden with the good things needed and desired. The following week the committee reported they could be purchased and printed for \$6.75 for 400, and this was done. Also, 500 tickets were printed for a concert for which a lady named Osborne in Ohio volunteered to perform if only expenses would be paid. Mr. Gebhart would be asked to take charge. The concert on December 27 was a great success \$50 collected.

The matron reported much trouble with care of the bedding, due to a 'weakness' in 3 of the children. Decided to call a physician, and to hire out the washing to a capable colored woman.

The child Mrs. Brooks brought in was again discussed. The father could not be moved to the Poor House without endangering his life, but the little girl was living under the most debasing influence. Resolved to have Dr. Newland see how she could be helped. Several weeks later her father died, and she was finally brought to the Home.

Various pipes burst, leaky basement, broken pavement, dining room carpet worn out – continuous problems. The call went out for dark rags, so that a new carpet could be made for the parlor and that one moved to the dining room. Ladies offered a pound each of dark rags, and volunteers began making it.

The second anniversary in April, 1879. Mrs. Bradley reported "There have been 20 children received into the home in the past two years – almost all friendless and entirely destitute of any means of support. You do not see what has been done, because you do not see what we see: the little half-starved, pinched, sad-looking faces when they come, and in a few weeks with the kind care of the matron, and the substantial food they eat, they are transformed into

rosy-faced happy children." Second year receipts \$1,820; Disbursements \$695.00, balance \$928. Life members (\$100) were, Mrs. Cornelia Culbertson, Mrs. W. C. DePauw and 3 other DePauws, Rev. Chadwick, Mrs. Lapsley and Mr. Woodward. The donors of \$25 (life members) were the Jesse Browns, the Bradleys, the Newlands, Sloans, Mrs. Short, Gebhart, Kerr, Johnson, Day and Mr. & Mrs. Osborne of Ohio. The following doctors gave their professional services free of charge and also some medicines: Drs. Bowman, Sloan, Nutt and Meurer.

After the anniversary dinner, at which \$25 was realized, the Ledger had this description of the entertainment: "Miss Anna Stokes, whose recitations have made her enviously lovable on several occasions, but never more superbly than on this one. Like a meteor showing with beauty and reflected sunlight across the firmament of stars, so does this young lady appear along the horizon of our social world. Sweet in voice, perfect in elocution, tasteful and painstaking in her selections, she is chief captive among 10,000." This dichotomy of saccharine sentimentality on the one hand, and the practical expertise, obvious capabilities and intelligence on the other, continually surprised me.

A few months later a man in Tennessee offered a home to his nephew and niece, Davy Richards and Josephine, the first children who came to the home, but both are now in good homes. There is a report that property in Tennessee may be coming to the children. The Advisory Board will decide. It was later learned that Davy had \$500 coming to him. Dr. Newland will be his guardian to protect him from any imposition.

Here the first minute books ends and we'll never know if Davy received his inheritance, but we do know Josephine was still there 3 years later, according to the annual report printed in the Ledger. There is a long gap in the minutes until 1917. This considerable interval prevents us from understanding the transition from mostly Victorian attitudes to the more modern approach of this century. We also do not have the detailed record of the magnificent gift by Mr. Culbertson of the Home on Ekin Avenue. For that we'll have to see what the Ledger tells us, but first we'll check the Ledger for the detailed annual reports for 1880 and 1881.

April 1880: 3rd Anniversary. Prof. Wunderlich and his little 7-year-old daughter Alinda played "The Orphans' Waltz", the execution of the bright and beautiful little girl was professional in all respects. The President, Mrs. Bradley, included these remarks in her address: "It is one of the questions of the hour, and it occasions profound perplexity to those who, from principle, avoiding indiscriminate and unthinking charity as the root of pauperism, are so often discouraged by the enervating effects, morally, of their benefactions upon the worthy poor. It is the opinion of some that institutions like this have not the effect intended upon those for whose benefit they are designed. They contend that the sooner the incorporated bodies can place children in families, where they will share the wants, the toils, the pains, the pleasures, the successes of their employers, the better for the children and the better for the State. This may be so, but these institutions become the very dispersing centers for such children who otherwise might not have any hope of an alleviation of their condition. It is to care for and to help the children who have no helpers, to strike at the very root of vagabondism and pauperism with all their train of vice and crime and misery that we have signed our association bond." And women like this couldn't vote? We still are trying to solve the problem she so well describes.

On October 18, 1880 the Board of Managers was assembled in prayer at the home, asking for the recovery of their President, Mrs. Cornelia Culbertson, when word came of her death. A great cry of grief arose from the assembled band. "She was a woman strong in doing good and considering wisely what she did, a woman whose talents, virtues, and magnetic sympathies rendered her conspicuous and beloved wherever she was known."

Early in 1881, Mr. W. S. Culbertson sent a message to the Board to the effect that he had purchased an acre of ground commanding the salubrious site overlooking the city, and a contract had been signed with the Mssrs. Banes for the erection of a building of brick, suitable for permanent use of the Society. The property would be an absolute gift, unlimited by any conditions whatsoever to the Corporation known as the Orphans' Home Society of New Albany. This new site offered the advantage for outside exercise in gardening, playgrounds and unattended by the inconvenience of exposure to the public thoroughfare as had the site on Spring Street. But Mr. DePauw was not undervalued or forgotten for the gift of the home on Spring Street which had been used from 1877 to 1882.

At the 4th Anniversary in 1881, an appeal was made by the President, Mrs. Kerr, to begin a hospital, giving heartbreaking descriptions of need, but no action was taken. Josephine, the 2nd child admitted to the home, came of age this year. One of our devoted members, who had very liberally contributed to her comfort during her stay in the asylum, provided her with material for both under and outer garments, and the note which the Board received from Josephine was very gratifying. Mrs. Kerr had taken up her duties during Mrs. Cornelia Culbertson's protracted illness and continued in office after her death. She reported the inmates of the Home were spared the fatal effects of epidemic disease, although there were 12 at one time with the measles, one case of typhoid fever, and one very severe case of boils and abscesses, and late an epidemic of chicken pox.

5th Anniversary. There are now 26 children in the home. 14 admitted, 4 dismissed, 2 of these were placed in good homes, one buried in Northern Cemetery and one placed in the Reformatory in Indianapolis. Epidemic disease visited the Home, in one case followed by pneumonia. I believe this death was of 10-month-old Johnny Sharp. The epidemic was of measles, with 9 cases. Our good Matron in her efficiency as nurse is of excellent judgment, faithful and experienced, who at every annual meeting has been appointed by unanimous vote. The Committee visited the Reformatory and described their former child: She is a child abandoned by her natural protectors, whose example you were not willing should contaminate the other inmates of this home, with the hope that the habit of obedience and industry will amend her life. The committee brought encouraging news and we have received a very hopeful and cheering letter from Maggie.

6th Anniversary. 1883. This anniversary was held at the new and beautiful Home on Poplar St. (now Ekin Ave.) cost over \$20,000 including 1 acre of land. It is 3 stories high and contains 16 large rooms with a hall in the center. It was finished complete and furnished with gas and water. It was not endowed, as was the Culbertson Home for Widows. Mr. Culbertson left a legacy of \$1,000 - \$600 of which was used to buy furniture. *[There are photos and memorabilia on the table for you to look at later.]*

We begin again in the severe winter of 1918, with frozen pipes, and problems with heating. I gave a few case histories in the first segment and will tell you of representative cases in this 2nd period. You will also notice different ways of dealing with similar problems.

There are now 22 children in the home, 12 in school. Toilets downstairs not working, pipes filled with tree roots. One boy ran away; not a bad boy, just homesick.

High chairs are needs. Table expenses are now \$21 week and Household \$26. These amounts covered a month in last century. By this time children could be boarded for a period of time, and the parents paid for their board when possible, and some were paid by 'government'. Some are in arrears. Mrs. R. requested to come to see her children several days in a month, but not on visiting days because she works and cannot get off. Board decided not to bend the rules – if they did it for one, they'd have to do it for all. Mrs. R. would have to come at regular time or not at all.

Miss Mary wants to know if children can go on moonlight excursion. Permission refused. Permission given to go to DePauw Sunday School picnic. Various people remembered children with entertainment and machine rides.

1919. Fences falling down, so front fences were used to repair back one. Butter was so high most ladies used oleomargarine in their homes and voted to use it in the asylum, except for Matron's table. Water bills so enormous, plumbing needs to be checked. Mr. Beeler said it would cost about \$200 to repair. Work ordered done. Received a letter from a former inmate who is now in France.

Colored eggs, doughnuts, candy and cream chocolate for Easter all donated. Mr. Beeler reported he would not charge for any of the plumbing which is now completed. County Board inspected home and condemned floors in 4 or 5 rooms, advised new wiring and separate beds for all children. Also State inspector requested single beds. Assistant matron reported making 4 shirt waists, 6 pantie waists and 3 petticoats in one month. Notice the change from chemises and drawers. Mr. Zapp offered to give milk to the Home. This was almost too good to be true. House being very cold, the meeting adjourned.

January 1920. Little Louise was badly burned and matron, Mrs. McCollough burned her hands putting out the fire. A few days later Louise was in critical condition and taken to Louisville Free Hospital. It was found that we could get single beds from St. Edwards Hospital as they now have new ones.

Voted to 'mother children' . . . each woman to take one to watch over: health, teeth, eyes, clothes, etc. A new matron, Mrs. Short and her husband, were hired at \$8 week with husband to do all maintenance. Mrs. Marsh took 13 boys to her husband's barber shop for free haircuts.

New rules for the home were decided upon. These involved the duties of the matron and assistant and the cook. [*I photocopied them and they are on the table.*] The Board of Managers were not listed, but some of those active in the early 20s were: Miss Hangary, Mesdames Baker, Riley, Zinsmeister, Martin, Sieboldt, Klerner, Hickey, Collins, Hartley, Hazlewood, Stephenson, Paris, Starr, Lovell, Knight, Ellis, Best, LaFollette, Hice, Erni, Briggs, Hartman, Fawcett.

Since the house was now almost 40 years old, there was much discussion of a complete overhaul, the estimated cost being \$10,000. No such project could be considered, but the playroom was painted and a stove purchased. Plans were made for a social to defray the costs. An invitation to the Sunday school picnic was declined, to the Masonic picnic at Glenwood Park, accepted. Outsiders questioned the quantity of meat served and it was reported in one month 76 pounds of meat and 30 lbs. of fat were consumed. The President cautioned members against talking outside the meetings about matters that occurred here, as gossip greatly exaggerated all problems, and absentees should get their reports from the secretary's minutes, not second hand from members who were present. Dr. Severinghaus reported the next week that the children's health was excellent and in better condition than he had ever seen them, and they were getting all the meat they should have. It was decided to purchase everything wholesale.

1921 – Mrs. Paris spoke on the subject of the Probation Officer and the bad effects of his being such a bug-a-boo that the children should be made to understand that he was their friend. It was decided that outside children not be allowed to come in and play at the Home, and that the older girls should do their own darning and mending and also for the younger children. The older girls were taken to Dr. Anna McKamy for examinations.

The problem of showing partiality to certain children by taking them out for entertainments and treats was discussed. This was a recurring problem and was probably the result of each woman being assigned one child to 'mother' – how to give individual attention to each child and yet not show partiality, because the brighter and more attractive children would be more favored, in most cases. When the children were invited to see a moving picture (first time this was mentioned) at the Presbyterian Church, 3 ladies properly conducted them.

A swing was given to the children and a slide is being made. Decided to use the back yard as a play yard rather than a garden. Tanbark and a sand box was donated. The matron was instructed not to send the children to bed before 8 p.m.

Mrs. Short, the matron, to get 4 weeks [of] vacation, and assistant will get a friend to help her. The next month, the minutes show that the Home was disorganized in Mrs. Short's absence and she now refuses to remain unless Mr. Short would consent to also remain. Asked Mr. Short what he required, and he said \$1 per day. A month later Mrs. Short requested being relieved of her duties and resignation was final – due to health, but she offered to help out when needed.

Two children asked to be allowed to correspond with their mother, but it was decided no intercourse except on visitors day and then only in presence of matron. The children attended the Calumet Club Picnic and American Legion picnic but only for the morning. They remained 'quietly at home in the afternoon'. The latter was a great success, the children were called for and returned in machines. From now on children's birthdays would be celebrated.

Carl was returned by his foster parents, but 2 night shirts and 2 new suits of underwear were not returned. The Secretary wrote and asked for their return.

At least once a month, thru 1921, fire escapes were discussed. Mr. Stotsenburg finally stated that the State Fire Marshall would have to supply plans and specifications. With the wiring of the house being replaced, there was need for insurance inspection. The furnace needed

repair, instructions were given to buy a ton of lump coal, but to sift ashes to save quite a bit of coal that way. A month later the State Fire Marshall presented a list of companies that could meet specs and make bids. The roof leaks. The matron reported 7 children need tonsils removed and some need care of teeth. Doctors and dentists were contacted for help in these matters.

Report that no fire escapes needed unless 3rd floor is used. The Church committee reported children were well spoken of and behaved nicely, but Ivan has been insubordinate in school and Prof. Buerk requested that the matter be turned over to Mrs. Kurfess, the probation officer. The State Inspector came to see the fire escapes (which had not yet been installed), and officially were told that since it is a 3-story building and unless the third floor is sealed, escapes must be added.

Mrs. Brown, the new matron, given a vote of thanks for her fine work during a stressful 3 months. The state will now be charged 25 cents for lodging and 25 cents for board for keeping a child overnight. Mr. Stotsenburg notified the Board to reorganize under present Constitution which requires dues of 5 cents per week. All present immediately paid 10 cents to become qualified members of the Corporation. Membership was once 450 so a drive was initiated to acquire new members.

Four children of Mrs. 'G' are boarding at the home. She is a 'public character' and was sentenced for correction. A few weeks later the same children had been made wards. If mother reforms in next two years she could have them, if she 'falls' they would become permanent wards.

Fire escapes – order received to put one on front of building. Voted to file claim for exemption. At that moment there was a report that Mrs. Ellis' home was on fire, so meeting adjourned.

Empty canning jars discovered in basement. All members asked to take as many as possible and fill them during the summer when they did their home canning. Mrs. Collins was made honorary Treasurer for life for her 38 years of service.

There is another gap in the minutes to 1926, which begins with a report that Mr. Mathew (owner of the Indiana Theater) took the children to see Tom Mix on Saturday afternoon.

Stella was sent home from school, possibly measles. She did not want treatment because she had seen Christian Science literature on the matron's dresser. The Managers decided since she was 15 they had no right to interfere in her religion and she could go to the church of her choice.

There were 20 children in the home and the total assets had grown from over \$3,000 in 1921 to \$13,206 in 1926. Since the home was now over 40 years old, remodeling was again considered. First estimates and plans too high, but after some changes were made the contracts were signed and work proceeded.

Mrs. Martin reported children spend their Sunday school money on chewing gum and then chew it in church. Also, the children refused to speak to Mrs. Martin on the street. It was

moved that Mrs. Mallett speak to the children on the error of their ways. Miss Wilson, the assistant matron, reported punishing Henry by strapping his hands behind his back, for which she received outside criticism. The Board approved her method of punishment.

The children went to see Rin Tin Tin and attended a picnic at Sugar Grove and had a delightful time with contests, games and a nice lunch.

Drs. Hill, Redens and Cellise donated dental work, and firemen requested permission to give a benefit for the home with a vaudeville performance on two nights. Idea graciously accepted. Net proceeds \$332. Because of the smallpox situation, children's committee will decide if vaccination should be done. The following week 12 children were vaccinated.

New mattress covers all made, and also 14 sheets and 12 nightshirts.

June 1927. The Board gave Ida Mae a raincoat and hat for a commencement present which greatly pleased her. Two weeks later Ida Mae reported working 2 or 3 hours a day for Mrs. M. She helps her dress and straighten up her room. Two children brought to the home with no clothing. Mrs. Laufer brought a cake to the home which was a reproduction of the Shelby St. School, for which she had won a prize at the State Fair.

Mrs. Knight reported spending \$11,783 on remodeling which is now complete. The Fireman's Fund paid for beds, rugs and chairs.

The older boys need heavy coats and Mr. Dubin offered to supply lumber jackets at costs. Children taken to see Jackie Coogan and also Ben Hur, which they enjoyed very much.

January 1928. Mildred will stay at the home and go to the Louisville Beauty College. She will be able to cut the children's hair.

Here we are again, 6 years later: committee appointed to see about fire escape. John and Charles will be allowed to join the Navy. Girls at home given permission to visit Girl Scout Troop #1 at their camp. The assistant matron resigned. John has been accepted by the Navy and is at Great Lakes, but Charles is color blind and was refused, so he is now working for Mr. Binford. Mildred is in the hospital, and after her release Miss Goulding took her into her home to take care of her.

Mrs. Glass was hired as the new assistant matron, with her daughter to board. Charles has left the home and boards on Main Street, but must report to Prof. Buerk for advice. Stella wants to go to work but has only 1 dress, but since she lived with Mrs. R. for 3 years, she is entitled to clothes from her, but Mrs. R. refuses to buy her any. The committee will try to help her. The following month, the committee visited Stella in Borden. She is working at 5 & 10 but needed help. The Board voted to use fireman's fund to help her. She is buying a coat for \$25, with \$2 down. She said \$26 was taken from her by Mrs. R.

January 1929. 15 children and cook ill with flu and 2 with chicken pox and matron resigned. Ida Mae is in high school but wishes to take training at Children's Hospital in Louisville where she will get board, tuition and uniforms and \$12 month pay. Stella wishes to enter training also, and the matter of her money having been taken by Mrs. R. was turned over to Mr.

Stotsenburg. Mrs. B., former foster mother, reported that Ida Mae had had a hemorrhage two years ago while at her home. Ida denied this. It later developed that Mrs. B. had taken this method to delay Ida's entrance in nurses training for fear that Stella's chance for training might be imperiled. Ida Mae had her tonsils removed and was cared for by Mrs. Rasmussen in her home. When she recovered she began her training as a nurse. Mildred reported to have been married Feb. 10.

2 bolts of crepe were purchased to make pajamas for the girls. Squeaking swings complained of by neighbors. Stella and Ida Mae reporting doing well in training. The assistant matron, Mrs. Glass, agreed to stay if she could keep her 13-year-old daughter with her.

The following month it was reported Ida Mae had eloped with a soldier she had met at Ft. Knox 4 weeks earlier, and she is now working in a shirt factory. Mildred's husband sued for divorce on grounds of desertion. These two girls have been the subject of untiring love and kindness on the part of members of the Children's committee for the years they have been in the home. It must have been most discouraging. Later reports said that Mildred had chosen the 'red light' life.

January 1930. The Board sent a special vote of thanks to the firemen for their loving care. They had furnished Christmas presents, clothes, radio, fire gong, and fire doors, nurses salary, and held fire drills, with the name of Monroe Merker as the most interested friend. They had again donated \$259 for the home. Costs must be held down and children cannot get haircuts as often. Barbers on Vincennes St. asked to cut 2 boys once a month. Tonsils need to be removed and teeth extracted for 4 children – Doctors donate services and charge only for medication. They will try to consult several doctors rather than always the same. School nurse reported one child had no vision in one eye. Mrs. Conner will donate services and glasses for those needing them. Cod liver oil was donated by Dr. Alexander. Letters of thanks were sent to Drs. Severinghaus, Winsteadley, Funk and Mitchell for all their fine care.

Matron asked for a playroom for boys on rainy days. The boys have been sliding down the banisters and Jimmy fell and broke his arm while doing so. Household committee to add screens to upstairs windows to make them safer.

Cook said table scraps would feed a few chickens and requested permission to buy some, which was approved and housing and fencing arranged for. State officer pleased with home, and 5 former inmates visited on Sunday and were very pleased with improvements. Cooking utensils in bad shape, so bought stainless steel as recommended by the cook at the hospital. Dormitory and matron's room need repapering and new bedspreads. 43 tons of coal needed for winter, 21 panes of glass broken or cracked, 10 door knobs off and 1 lock needed. 17 boys, 24 girls in home. Elmer graduated from Mt. Tabor and wants to go in Navy. Visiting day quite an ordeal with so many children in home – 2 members of board will assist. Mrs. Holmes suggested that the Household Committee visit the Louisville Orphan Home to get ideas on management, and this was done.

Children received bathing suits and are now enjoying showers given by firemen. Attractive playroom on 2nd floor finished, there is need for another on third floor for the boys, but it will need heat, window guards and supervision. Later it was found the 3rd floor could not be

heated, so basement was used, with cash donations saved to remodel it, since funds from county are delayed.

September 1930. It was decided that four 16-year-old girls need vocational training. Board applied to state school, which will accept them and give thorough training in housework, sewing and homemaking. Each must have suitable clothing and 1 change, if possible. They will then be placed in homes at wages. State will charge the home 75 cents board per day. Legal arrangements were made and Mr. Seabrook and Mrs. Hartley were sworn in as deputies and took them to Indianapolis in Mr. Seabrooks' machine, which was cheaper than the railroad.

Elmer was turned down by the Navy examiner, who stated there is nothing wrong with his mouth, his lisp is just a habit. Several years later he was in Chicago at Electrical School where the Board paid his tuition and loaned him \$50. A letter of appreciation was received from Elmer.

No child will be sent to high school who did not make an A average in grade school. Business College has taken Tillie at ½ price, paid for by the Board. The Home will try to find work for her when course is completed.

2 boys leaving on Sunday but never arrive at Sunday School or church. Suggest we ask Mr. Buerk to have a talk with the boys about this, and to all the boys about "Hygiene". Former resident, Eddie K., came for a visit and talked to the children, which did them a world of good. An extra \$5 week has been given to Mrs. Walts, the cook, since her work has doubled since she was hired.

December 1930. A representative Christmas during the depression. Kiwanis Club asked for list of gifts, so they could buy things the children really wanted. They would have an entertainment for them on Dec. 23rd. Mrs. Merker arranged for the children's gifts at the Home: for each girl a doll and house slippers, two sets of play dishes to be used by all. Bibles for all the children who could read. For each boy, house slippers and caps – gym playroom to be ready for boys by Christmas. Children making chain decorations for the house and tree. The Silver Street School tree will be brought and placed in the Home. Mrs. Holmes and Mrs. Riley reported they were with the children on Christmas Eve for their celebration. Virginia Glass played Santa Claus for the children. Mr. Himmelheber fixed up all the doll carriages in the Home and they looked like new. This was a donation. Mr. Slung sent a 25 lb. Turkey, others sent food and clothing.

January 1931. State agent ok'd the window guards and fire doors. Two weeks later a letter arrived saying to take the window guard down, and all the fire doors are incorrect.

Kiwanis offered to have some men take interest in the boys – a good idea since they don't have enough contact with men.

June 1931. Virginia Glass appointed Playground Supervisor by Recreation Board thru efforts of Mrs. Binford and Mrs. Hedden. The yard will be a playground 2 days each week and neighborhood children can attend. Virginia will get \$2 week. She thanked the Board and put on a program with a group of the boys. Playground equipment purchased: basketball and backstop; volleyball; baseball and bats, and Virginia was given permission to buy hacks, balls, paperdolls, etc. All children will see Tom Sawyer next Saturday. After a few days, the neighbors

were all pleased with playground and the behavior of the children. Mr. Gilchrist who lives across the street, will chaperon boys to the new swimming pool, and the Eastern Star will take the girls. At the end of the summer, playground was declared a great success due to Virginia's work, and they gave her a vote of thanks. There were 45 children in the home, and 8 had tonsils removed. Mrs. Walts, Mrs. Holmes, Binford, Marker and Hedden helped nurse the children. There was no charge by Dr. Voyles.

In September there was an interesting account of a board member visiting Dr. Allen's laboratory in Louisville, where she talked over the question of determining negro blood. The doctor said there is so far no conclusive evidence available. Later other board members went to Louisville to interview an elderly colored woman of a superior type who has been interested in inter-racial work. She says the young woman in our care can be placed with a mulatto family or sent to a school, if she's of the type to take training. The girl has given some trouble in the home. In the next month three board members investigated a home in Indianapolis for her, but the woman who had 8 children in her care some very black and some almost white, did not impress the Board very favorably. They then visited a home in Louisville. They reported it a fine home, but too fine, because they would not consider taking the girl for the amount we could pay. Another suggestion was the Kentucky Home Society for Colored Children, a home for colored and mixed blood. But the Board preferred a private home if possible. The next home they investigated in Louisville was even finer than the one visited the previous week. They have in their care an 18-year-old girl and a boy of 19 who is not normal, so this home was unsuitable. The next week they took her to Dr. McKamy, and after a physical exam of the girl, Dr. McKamy stated there is no trace of colored blood. They took her to Indianapolis for a further exam. She was told the reason for going and was happy to go. For the next month she was under observation at Riley Hospital and they considered her white. The Board talked to the Harrison County agent, and they agreed to send her to Plymouth Training School. The case is now out of the Board's hands.

Since the Home is losing money at the previous rates paid by the county, new rates were set at 65 cents [a] day for first 20 children, 55 cents for 2nd 20, and 50 cents for the rest. The Board decided to put \$3,000 in Government bonds at 3-1/8% interest.

Another interesting case was a child named Avonelle. She had been in several homes and was in frail health but by December 1932 she was given \$1 week because she works very hard, is trustworthy and a valuable assistant, and has no money of her own. Her name will be mentioned from time to time over the next ten years. The minutes report that James W. returned for a visit. He had been placed in a foster home 8 years ago and now seemed prosperous and contented. But a current problem was Dallas, who had become very adept at picking locks. It was decided to have the Scout Leader talk to him.

The next case is a sad one, which occurred in early 1933 when Edward Tyler became very ill with intestinal flu and an extremely high fever. A practical nurse was hired to care for him, and then a second nurse was called in, but two weeks later he died. It had been 40 years since the previous death. Drs. Severinghaus, Winstandley and Habermel took care of him. After he died, the Board allowed Mrs. Glass an extra \$10 and a few days [of] vacation to rest and recuperate, in grateful recognition of her loving and devoted care for this child. Mrs. Stocksedale, the nurse, called Mrs. Janes to tell her that during the 12 days and nights she was on duty at the

Home, she had opportunity to observe the Home at all hours and under every condition, and she wanted us to know she thought the Home was expertly managed and that the cooperation between Mrs. Glass and Mrs. Walts was wonderful. She also wants to contribute something when we get ready to do some work on the infirmary. Mrs. Glass said that since she had been spending so much time in the infirmary, she has noticed that it needs new paint, linoleum and a lock on the door, and also 5 new window blinds for the girls' dorm.

The economic situation began to worsen: Household expenses were now \$300 to \$400 per month. Mrs. Glass was paid \$36, Mrs. Walts \$30 and Miss Anderson \$28. Cost of milk in bulk was 25 cents per gallon, 6 cents less than wholesale. Mr. Zapp continues to donate 2 gallons per week. 7 more children taken to hospital for tonsillectomies, the doctors charged nothing and board members again helped in the care of the children. One had a bad hemorrhage and several were kept overnight. It was decided that \$5 was a fair charge to pay the hospital for their care. There were 17 children boarded out for the summer, leaving 15 at the Home. The minutes show discussion of problems because of restrictions on withdrawals from the bank during this year of 1933. Orange County was in financial straits. Mr. Stotsenburg was asked for advice on selling bonds, but he advised against it and suggested consulting with the County Attorney. Mrs. Kurfess called upon Judge Paris to see about payment from Floyd County, and the Judge was amazed that the county had not paid since 1932. The county auditor said no money available until the county bonds go on sale. The next month reported no sales of the bonds and therefore no revenue from the county at present. Much discussion of how to reduce expenses and a budget was made out and instructions given to the staff. The Elks plan a fund raiser with a street fair with booths, ball games, etc. If they make \$500 we can keep going one month without selling bonds, as the average monthly expense is \$727. Boys need shirts and all children need shoes. The Elks fair was a success and they contributed the surprising sum of \$2,650. No money will be available from county til November when taxes are due. But when December came, Mrs. Holmes reported 3 unsuccessful attempts to see the county attorney regarding money due the Home. Finally in January 1934, \$4,126 was received from the county to repay December to June 1933. Balance on hand, \$5,888.

The children went to see Little Women and 13 girls were eligible for Scouts. The troops will pay the registration fee and not ask for dues. A bonus for \$5 given to each member of the staff, Mrs. Glass, Mrs. Walts, Virginia and John. An assistant is needed for Mrs. Glass but no money available.

Fire brick in furnace has crumbled and home came perilously close to burning. Grand jury inspected home and suggested it be painted inside and out, but the board asked them where the money would come from? The grand jury suggested using CWA funds, but after investigation, this was not possible because home is privately owned. After months of discussion with various agencies, they were finally able to get it painted using federally paid labor, the Home paying for cost of the paint. In July the county paid all arrears and more children were taken into the home, as the number had dropped to 21. Mrs. Hedden, the ex-president, said this had been the most trying period in the history of the home, and Mrs. Holmes as finance chairman had done remarkable work, even tho the county had reduced payment from 75 cents per day to 60 cents and they were operating at a loss of 21 cents for each child.

Mrs. Janes asked permission to take some of the mentally slow children thru the clinic in Louisville. This was done and the report showed regression in mental ability but the clinic thought that the extra care they received at the home was better than any other institution.

Suggestions to economize included closing the boys' dorm and put beds for little boys in sewing room. Older girls to do the ironing, staff should buy staples and canned goods in bulk. Adopt more uniform dress for girls – wool skirts and blouses or middies, not a strict uniform but something that would cut down on the \$60 laundry bills. The older girls had made 25 slips and Mrs. Glass had made 25 dresses since returning from vacation.

A child named LaVerne was returned to the P family but there is no money to pay them for her board. They are so attached to her they felt they must have her even tho it seemed almost impossible to provide, but they insisted they would share what little they have. Motion made and carried to send Mrs. P money (\$25.00) at Christmas for LaVerne's care, with \$1 for LaVerne.

A girl named Thelma had not been doing well in high school until the art teacher realized she had some ability in that skill. She asked her to do some art work for her and Thelma did such a good job she paid her for it. The other teachers then reported that Thelma's regular school work had showed a marked improvement; it was decided to take Thelma and Lena to Louisville for a treat. Lena had never been there. Later the board bought an entire outfit for Thelma's graduation and she was as well dressed as anyone. Board decided to write to her uncle who had taken an interest in her to let him know of her progress. The following summer Thelma returned to the Home every Sunday and went to Sunday school with the children. She seemed very fond of the Home.

February 1935. Mrs. Glass reported that there had been 250 children in the home in the 7 years she had been there. Virginia Barker, her daughter, is now assistant matron at \$10 week, and her husband will live in and help with the boys. There are now 27 girls and 11 boys at the home. The teachers at W. Spring have noted an improvement in several children since they have been in the Home, and this was very gratifying to the Board. 19 Girl Scouts at the Home go one day a week to Colonial Club Day Camp and have pool privileges. Undertakers can no longer transport Scouts to Day Camp because of "change in their code of operations".

A child named Dorothy is in a home that is almost destitute, but has good, loving care and does not want to leave. This foster family has been on 'the welfare' for a while, but no longer. They sold their cow and are living on that money. Dorothy is so happy and well cared for, but so poor. The neighbors say all concerned are satisfied. Decided to leave the child there for the summer and then re-consider.

All outside activities have been curtailed because of Infantile Paralysis quarantine, so the children could not go to the circus. Most orphan homes are at only 50% of capacity, ours is one of the few that is full. It was decided that the older boys and girls should have social contact and be allowed to go out together in the evenings un-chaperoned, and also have a social hour where they can be together. The State Agent suggested paper routes for boys and that the older girls be permitted to go out to work on Saturdays. She also suggested a birthday party

once a month for all those with birthdays in that month. The children are planning a surprise party for Mrs. Glass on her birthday and all the children are excited by their plans.

Even at this late date (1935) water for baths must be heated on a coal stove – no money to pay for larger water heater. The current one is in the furnace and has only a limited capacity.

Virginia Glass Barker donated a painting she had done to the Home. She also displayed one which will be exhibited at Speed Museum.

The final item in that minute book was that a marker had been purchased for the grave of Edward Tyler who died in 1933. There is another gap in the minutes til 1940.

A meeting of the Board of Managers with the Advisory Board resulted in the decision to keep the Home operating as long as possible until all funds are exhausted. Meanwhile an effort would be made to increase the number of children in the Home, because the overhead expenses remain the same.

We can now follow the experiences of a young boy named Joe. In the summer of 1940 he was sent to CCC camp and in September asked to join the U.S. Radio Service, but he was still underage at 16. Mrs. Binford will try to keep him interested, and arrangements were made for a room for his apparatus.

Mrs. Walts, the cook, left after being at the home over 10 years. The boys need new suits, and the Board will pay half, using the money the boys earned picking strawberries in June as the balance. The girls want to make plaid sports jackets, and permission was given to buy the material. Some sewing is being done by the NYA (National Youth Association). They will make housecoats to be presented to the girls at Christmas. Need 4 pairs corduroy pants and winter coats for two of the girls – got one at the White House for \$16.95 and one at Hellmans for \$10.98.

In October \$1,000 was transferred from savings to checking, and Mrs. Rasmussen will talk to Mr. East to see if some kind of plan can be worked out for the Home. The principal asked that the children eat lunch nearer the school, and since Rookies can serve them for 15 cents, this arrangement has been made.

Avanelle wrote that she is doing well. Joe still wants to join the Radio Service. In February \$350 transferred from savings to checking. In the May audit by Mr. Hedden, he warned that since we are operating at a deficit, we can only continue operating 2 more years. Lost \$2576 last year, assets now \$6532.

Two older girls slipped away at 6 p.m. and went to Jeffersonville. They were reported and returned to the Home about 11 p.m. Girls have been impertinent and resentful over Virginia's leaving. Mrs. Hedden reports on talk with the children at lunch today. She explained the Board's relationship to the Home and to them, and the Home's relationship to the Welfare Board. She asked children for their cooperation and loyalty. They listened attentively and courteously and Delma later sought a private interview and said she was sorry she had gone to Jeff[ersonville] and would promise to help improve conditions.

Mrs. Hedden asked that all the Board members try to visit the Home oftener and learn to know the children better. The new state supervisor visited the Home and was very favorably impressed. She had no suggestions except to invite Mrs. Tyler of the Welfare Department to our Board meetings, which will be done. Hazel, age 15, had made dresses which were on display and beautifully done. Della also sews well. Girls to be allowed to select material for Easter dresses. Bertha bought herself a new outfit with money earned after school and on Saturdays. Rosa, now 21 years old and away from the Home, has expressed her appreciation of her life there and 'the good old days'. Joe's TB test was negative and he won \$150 at the Elks. Aaron, who is now in the Marines, visited the home and other married graduates have visited or written telling of their current experiences.

June 1941. Joe, Earl and George are at camp in various states.

February 1942. Mrs. Glass not well and needs more help. Gave her 1 month leave with pay, with 2 weeks advance. Avanelle's husband is to be sent to Harvard as an instructor.

A Board member reported attending a State meeting which discussed sex problems in institutions which was very helpful. It was decided to have checkups for all children and get them in good physical shape before all doctors in the city go in the Army. A service flag inscribed with the names of 'our boys' has been displayed. Joe has had another promotion which doubles his pay and he is very happy in radio work.

August. \$1,000 drawn from savings. State Legislature allows only 75 cents per day per child. Attempts are made to get help from Community Chest or turn Home over to the County Commissioners or Welfare. Also unsuccessful attempts to secure more funds from Clark and Floyd Counties. Mrs. Newland Cannon was asked to appeal on her radio program for surplus food. Asked sororities for coats in good condition but outgrown and many good coats were secured. Joe and Charles are now at Guadalcanal – gifts will be sent to them.

This is the 60th anniversary of the building. A portrait of Mrs. Michael Kerr was found in the attic, and given to St. Paul's rectory since that was her former home.

November 1942. \$1,000 from savings to checking. Matron and assistant raised \$3 week, housemaid by \$1.

January 1943. Mrs. Glass tendered her resignation as of January 7. Board gave her \$50 for her long years of service.

A final report on some former children: One is in a mental hospital, one is a phone operator, one has a baby and her husband is in Egypt, one was deserted by her husband and left with 3 children. And one final nice report: Avanelle's husband has been ordered to South America and she will go with him.

The summer was full of complications. Cook quit without notice, and won't give reason for leaving; cleaning woman left the same week without notice. Matron finds work too heavy and asks to be replaced. Another \$1,000 taken from savings. Competent and reliable help are harder to find in war time and on September 20, 1943 at a called meeting, the Board and advisory committee met at the home of Miss Hazel Bird and the President, Mrs. Rasmussen,

reported as follows: "Besides the lack of sufficient funds and problems with staff, the fact of our changed status as an institution makes a decision imperative – that we are now serving merely as a boarding house for children until they are placed in homes found by the Welfare Department and as a clearing house for same. Whereas in former years, children came to us and found a true Home, and stayed in many cases until they were able to go out into the world on their own, now our children are being constantly changed, sometimes staying only a few weeks or even days. This places all the responsibility for their behavior on us, but no authority to control it. After many questions from the Advisory Board and much discussion, they advised us to close the Home for the duration of the war." That is, close within 60 days, by November 20, 1943. Every member felt a deep sorrow that such a drastic step seemed imperative and that each one has a fervent hope that after the war, "our Home may again serve neglected and dependent children in the fullest sense, and in the way that the institution was originally intended to serve, as a refuge and a real home."

Researched by Ruth Ann Kramer
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