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Annual Report of the
Superintendent of Neglected
and Delinquent Children,
Nova Scotia. : : : : :

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PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA

Report of the Superintendent of
Neglected and Delinquent
Children.



(Printed by Order of the Legislature.)

HALIFAX, N. S.
Commissioner of Public Works and Mines,
King's Printer.
1919.

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF NEGLECTED
AND DELINQUENT CHILDREN OF
NOVA SCOTIA.

*To the Honorable O. T. Daniels,
Attorney-General.*

Sir:—In compliance with the provisions of the Children's Protection Act, I herewith submit my sixth annual report on the work of this office for the year ending September 30th, 1918.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

ERNEST H. BLOIS,
Superintendent.

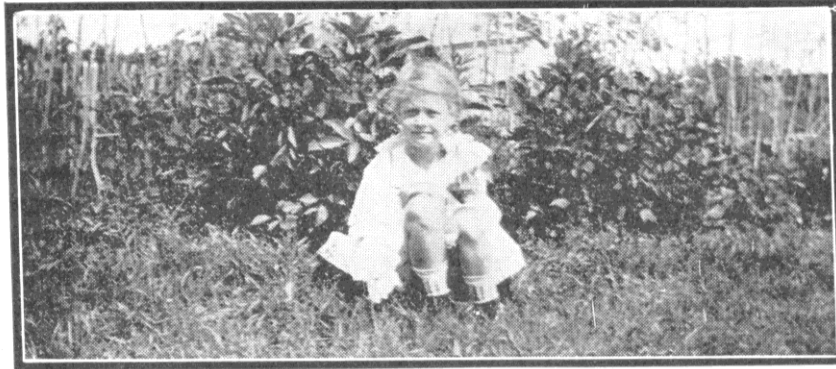
REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF
NEGLECTED AND DELINQUENT
CHILDREN.

*To the Honorable MacCallum Grant,
Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia.*

*May it please your Honor:—*I have the honor to submit herewith the sixth report of the Superintendent of Neglected and Delinquent Children for the year ending September 30th, 1918.

Respectfully submitted,

O. T. DANIELS,
Attorney-General.



"There seems to me no more patriotic duty than that of protecting the children who constitute one-third of our population."—*President Wilson.*

"I am profoundly convinced that we need to devote more thoro and systematic care to child-welfare problems and the care of the mother before and after child birth."—*Premier Lloyd George.*

The year ending September 30th, 1918 was one of intense activity for this office. Our usual duties, consequent upon the growth and development of our work, were more than enough to keep us busy. When therefore there was added the extra work resulting from the great disaster of December 6th, 1917 at Halifax, this year will ever stand out as one of extraordinary stress and activity.

Statistics cannot give an adequate idea of the work attempted or the results accomplished. By far the greater part of our labor is devoted to advising and assisting in delicate and complex family and personal matters, which should not be made public.

We believe that a report of this kind should not merely record the actual work done, but should present a fair view of the existing conditions and the most important of the problems confronting us. Therefore this year we publish the usual statistics with accompanying explanations, together with as brief statements as possible regarding the several children's institutions, and the various child problems brought to our attention.

A brief report relating to the Halifax Disaster will be found in Appendix A.

Dollars and Numbers.—The following facts and statistics will give an idea of the problem of caring for delinquent, neglected and dependent children in Nova Scotia:—

\$498,000.00 are invested in buildings and grounds.

\$100,000.00 are invested in equipment.

\$235,866.00 is the estimated annual cost of the institutions.

\$17,400.00 are spent annually by the Nova Scotia Government.

\$40,000.00 are spent annually by the municipalities.

\$100,000.00 in buildings now under construction.

\$10,000.00 are expended annually from private sources.

The Number of Children:

Reformatories	293
Orphanages and Infants' Homes.	408
County Homes	82
This Department has in foster homes.	410
On Probation and under Supervision.	650
Institutions have in foster homes (estimated)	500

Typical Problems.—It is quite impossible to give even a brief outline of every case brought before us for consideration. We publish four typical cases, reported by Miss Hazel Bell of our staff. These may be taken as indicating the character of the work we are trying to do with this class of children.

It was in a dark attic room of a wretched hovel in one of the worst districts of our city that we found him, a little bundle of rags and filth, with his feet cut and bleeding and a huge unsightly growth on his neck. A good scrubbing revealed a beautiful boy of about five years with a sad pathetic face and thin undernourished body badly in need of hospital treatment. With difficulty his mother was traced and

finally located working in a rather questionable "Boarding House." A pretty girl with a very weak face, dirty and untidy in her dress—her story was anticipated before she told it. She was only a child of fourteen when her baby was born and she had tried to be straight, but was evidently well started on the road that is so easy for the girl who has made a bad beginning. It was a long, hard struggle and many times we felt that the odds were against us. But there was a spark of mother love there and that was something to work on. Finally we won out and she accepted the good position we had secured for her. She has now been there for five months and under the influence and careful supervision of splendid Christian women is developing into a clean wholesome girl and a devoted little mother. The boy is still in hospital recovering from several serious operations and getting stronger all the time. The mother's day and afternoon off are always spent with him and every cent she can save goes towards buying him some new toy or delicacy. Friendly relations now exist between the girl and her father, from whom she had been estranged for many years and he has agreed to help pay for the child in the good boarding home which is ready for him as soon as he leaves the hospital.

A familiar sight in certain quarters of the city for some years has been a boy and girl of eight and ten years, dirty, ill-clad, under-nourished, cross-eyed, veritable little street Arabs with "sub-normal" written all over them. They have an awful heritage, every form of mental and physical defect on the father's side and tuberculosis and alcoholism on the mother's. These children are the inevitable result of such a union and such a home—a few crowded evil smelling rooms in a mouldy tenement. Our effort to place the girl in the I. O. D. E. Home met with violent opposition on the part of the parents. The mother was a pathetic sight. Her grief was like that of an animal being deprived of her young and her grasp of the situation equally intelligent. She was converted however by seeing the Home bathed in sunshine with the little girls at their games surrounded by the evidence of love and comfort. It was a strong contrast to the dangers of the street and she was reconciled. But the boy is still at large. One day he is seen dragged from under the wheels of an automobile, the next he is selling papers and bruised and buffeted by the ruffian who robs him. Unfortunately he is only one of many. There is no place for him, but ultimately, the poor house or the jail.

A man, his wife and four children, the youngest a wee sickly baby, the oldest a boy of ten and a cripple, all living

in two small rooms. The kitchen is dark, cold and damp, littered with utensils, toys and washing, with the plaster down on all four walls, never having been repaired since the explosion. The bedroom is smaller and in the same condition. They have recently taken in, as a boarder, a friend who was desperate and could get accommodation nowhere else. This is an honest sober workman earning a good salary and willing to pay a fair rent. He says that he has lost many days of work searching the city for better accommodation in vain. We can well believe it for we have done the same ourselves for this family and others. Such is the housing situation in Halifax.

In striking contrast to the previous cases and illustrative of some of our most difficult problems is one of a young girl of 14, timid, sensitive and well-bred, with a splendid school record. Two years ago she developed a propensity for stealing small sums of money from the members of her own family. Her parents tried every method of gentle reproof and correction until things became serious and they were forced to use more severe measures but without success. Finally the climax was reached when she appropriated a large sum of money from her father giving no satisfactory account of its disposition. The case was reported, the girl summoned to court and every effort made to gain her confidence without success. She failed to respond to the most sympathetic, tactful appeals or formidable threats. She was put on probation and visited frequently. For three months there was no recurrence of the trouble and we were convinced that it was merely a passing phase. Then all our hopes were shattered by the report from her father that she had run up a huge bill in his name at a neighboring store and run away from home. Nothing could be more favorable than this girl's home conditions. They are intelligent, honest, devout people of unassailable reputation, living simply but comfortably. The most searching investigation revealed no defect in any member of the family or their antecedents. They were utterly heartbroken and mystified by the whole affair. After a few days she returned voluntarily to her home offering no explanation for her behaviour. As before she was sullen, obstinate and silent. We are still baffled by this problem. Possibly the girl is defective, or there may be some misunderstanding, lack of sympathy, or injustice on the part of the parents which has not yet come to light. She has been removed to a boarding home under strict discipline and close observation. Time and change of environment we hope will help to solve the mystery.

Widowed Mothers' Pensions and that Sort of Thing—We wish to call to the public attention two cases among a number

brought to our notice during the year. These two are typical of a great many. Has the time not arrived when organized society, avowedly Christian, can provide some better way of treating such cases?

Mrs. A. is a widow with three children,—a girl of fifteen years, a boy of eleven and a baby of four years. She has been a widow about two years. Her husband had a fairly good position and the home was comfortable. They were from the "old country" and have no relatives on this side of the water. They have no relatives anywhere who are financially able to help them. The husband died very suddenly. When the doctor's bills and the funeral expenses were paid she found she had less than \$500.00 in all. The oldest girl is tubercular. The mother thought she could get a position as housekeeper, but found that no one would keep her and the three children. To board the children would cost more than she could earn. Finally she rented a room and tried going out to work by the day. This left the children alone. The boy fell into bad company and bad ways. The girl fell in love with the street. Finally the mother came to the Superintendent to see if he could have the boy placed in one of the Homes, as he was getting beyond her control. The eldest girl had in the meantime been placed out at service; but partly because of her ill health and partly because of her street loving ways she was soon discharged. The mother had no particular training but while her husband lived she took good care of the children and her home. She can do that. She cannot earn nearly enough to pay her children's board, and besides the children require her care, especially the boy. What is to become of them, and why should this woman, against whom there is not the slightest shadow cast, be made to suffer and worry and her children become public charges?

The other case is a woman whose husband deserted her. She has five children. We have known the woman for some years. She is a hard working, quiet, home loving person, who has struggled bravely to keep her children together. Many times she has not been able to provide proper clothing and the children have had to stay home from school. When they are sick, she cannot afford to stay home to look after them, as she must go out every day to work. As the children grow older they show the lack of care and training. After school hours they roam the streets until the mother returns from work. Often the woman is really too ill to work, but go she must or starve. Now when the children get beyond her control, or become delinquent, the Municipality may be called upon to support them in some institution. And

if the woman, which is very likely to occur, breaks down in health and has to give up, the children must be supported. But there is no way for her to receive help now except thru some charitable organization. How much better if that woman could stay at home and care for her children? Would it not be cheaper in the end for the state to help her now?

Baby Clinics.—The Victorian Order of Nurses have established a Baby Clinic in the same building as the Juvenile Court, Halifax. The Clinic is open one afternoon each week and a doctor and several nurses are in attendance. Mothers of small children and infants are given instruction regarding the care and feeding of their children. When medical treatment is necessary the family physician is consulted, or if none, a doctor is provided, and the nurses visit the home to see that instructions are carried out. About one hundred and fifty babies received treatment during the summer of 1918.

The Victorian Order of Nurses are doing a splendid work, and one of the most important parts is the campaign being carried on for healthier and better babies. The good effects are seen not only in the infants and younger children but in the improved conditions of the households, with more comfort and health for the older children and adults.

Street Trades.—We believe that the time has come when some restriction must be placed on young children engaging in the street trades in our cities and towns. It is not an uncommon sight to see children of a very tender age selling papers, post cards, and small wares on the street even until late hours at night. We have particularly watched a number of these small children and we have found that in many instances they beg from people on the street. Not a few make a plea of never having the change, and in that way secure many unearned coppers. A great many of these children become exceedingly bold and saucy, and the number of delinquents brought before the Juvenile Court who have been engaged in some street trade leads us to the conclusion that it is not a favorable calling for young children. We have no particular fault to find with boys of over fourteen years of age selling papers within reasonable hours, but we do consider it exceedingly objectionable that children of from five to ten years of age should be on the street in all kinds of weather endeavoring to sell their papers. The few pennies earned are of no considerable importance, and they are generally spent for the child's own pleasure on candy or the movies.

We reprint our observations on this same matter from a former report. We are more convinced than ever of the soundness of the views herein expressed;

"A large percentage of delinquent boys are engaged either wholly, or outside school hours, in some street trade, such as paper selling, messenger service, errand boy or driver's assistant. In many places children are prohibited from engaging in any such occupations after certain hours at night, usually eight o'clock. The ages vary greatly in different places, but as a general rule, the law prohibits girls under sixteen and boys under fourteen years of age from such occupations after certain hours. Here, at the present time, we have few, if any, girls engaged in these callings. In many instances where boys of very tender years have been before the Court for offence---generally theft-- we have found that the boy was on the street after leaving school at 3.30 o'clock in the afternoon until a late hour at night, and that his companions were nearly always boys considerably older than himself. From our investigations and the best information obtainable, the child's small earnings were not needed at home. Indeed, it frequently happened that the parents, on their own admission, did not receive one cent from the child. Whatever was earned went for candy, cigarettes or the 'movies'. In a few cases, the parents even denied any knowledge of the boy being engaged in such street trade, stating to the Court that they believed "the boy was playing" on the street, or just went out with one of the boys for company."

"A law to prohibit such children from these street trades after a certain hour at night only, would, we believe, be useless. Judging from the cases we have had in court, the offence generally occurs late in the afternoon. This is particularly true in the months of November and December, when a larger number of petty thefts are reported then than in any other months of the year. A few cases occurred in the early morning.

"One method of regulating this matter is by licensing the boys. This has some points in its favor, as it would make allowance for a few cases where the child might be of real service to its parents, without incurring any risk of injury to the child. The best possible solution is for the parents to regulate the matter themselves. But as this appears to be impossible the question arises as to the next best possible course to be taken. We do not believe that any one can be found who would defend the practise of permitting children of 6 to 10 years of age to be on the streets at late hours, associating with older boys and learning much evil. The ill effects of such living are shown in many ways. Not only does the child hear and see a great deal of evil, not only is the child unduly tempted, but its health suffers, its interest in the school and its studies suffer. One small boy told me, and the statement was confirmed by his mother, that while he did not sell very many papers in the evening he always managed to get quite a few cents, by people giving him five or ten cents for a paper and he, not having the change, would keep the coin. The mother could see nothing wrong in the boy's conduct.

"Our opinion at the present time is that boys under ten years of age should be prohibited from street trades, at all hours, and that boys from ten to sixteen years of age should be licensed."

Once Neglected Children, Now Soldiers.—A considerable number of the older boys of this department enlisted for over-seas service.

The number of enlistments from the boys' reformatories is remarkably large. Some of these boys have made an enduring name for themselves. Several have been made officers. While alas! some will not come back, but sleep in Flanders Fields.

Crippled Children.—There are a few crippled children for whom no proper care is provided. The number is not large, but we have found it impossible to properly provide for the few cases under our observation. No institution will receive them. They are absolutely helpless. The \$3.50 per week provided by law will not clothe them and pay their board in private families, even if we should discover a private family willing to undertake the care of such a child. Here is an opportunity for some noble soul who can serve in this way, if in no other. Surely there must be some good woman who will take such a child and care for it solely for the good she can do.

Conflict of Laws.—The laws relating to children's institutions and neglected and delinquent children have been of long and slow growth. We find that local and Dominion legislation overlap and in some instances conflict, and the charters of some of our institutions conflict with the general law of the Province.

It is an opportune time to have all these carefully reviewed and revised and the Dominion and Provincial statutes made to supplement and complement each other.

Truancy.—Truancy cases bulk largely in the Juvenile Court statistics for the City of Halifax. Considerable comment is heard upon this subject, and nearly every person has his own peculiar ideas as to the causes and cure for this form of juvenile delinquency. We have discussed this matter in several former reports, and we are more thoroughly convinced than ever before that our conclusions were correct.

No *one* explanation can be given to cover *every* case of truancy. There are often several boys before the Court on the same Saturday morning. We have examined and studied these cases for many years and we know that the underlying cause in one case may not be present in another at all. We have found however that there are more cases which can be properly grouped under certain heads than under others, and that nearly all come within the following main groups:

The first and by far the largest group is the class of boys who have not been taught to obey anyone, least of all their parents.

When this boy is told by his father to get ready for school he pays no attention. His parents, (most generally the mother appears with him in Court) tell the Court that "John is a good boy, *but he won't mind a word I say to him.*"

His father keeps telling him he must mind but he just won't pay any attention. I don't know what in the world is going to become of him. I wish, Judge, you would give him a good talking to,—try to frighten him, tell him you will send him to the Home."

John is usually a boy of ten to fourteen years of age (occasionally he is seven or eight), who has heard his mother "jaw" and scold all his life. He may have received a rap over the head when mother was particularly angry, but he has never been taught to obey his parents, has never been punished for disobedience,—not even when he has been playing truant. Often the father will stand before the Judge and say; "I can't make John mind. I do all I can but he won't mind me." In answer to questions the father says; "I never punish him, but I tell him he must go to school. I go to work and when I come home I find he did not go to school. I do all I can."

The second largest class come from the homes where the parents are downright neglectful of the children and make little effort to train or care for them, beyond providing shelter of an indifferent kind, and food and clothing of sorts. The father is most generally a drunkard and the mother alas, often keeps him company. The home is squalid, dirty and destitute. As long as the children are out of their way the parents care not what becomes of them.

A third group is made up from families who lived in rural districts, where the truancy act is unknown, and who have recently come to the City. They sent the children to school or kept them home just as they pleased when in the country, and can see no reason why they cannot do the same in the City. These cases are not very hard to deal with once the parents realize that there is a law compelling them to send their children to school and that the law will be enforced.

A fourth group includes the backward or dull children and the feeble minded. Very often the child is several years older than the majority of pupils in his grade. He is laughed at by thoughtless companions, scolded and harrassed by his teacher, and is often misunderstood by his own parents. To this poor lad our most sincere sympathy is extended. The ordinary school room is no place for him. He requires special classes with special teachers and in the case of the clearly defined feeble minded a special institution with protecting care all his life.

Another class which is not large, but which deserves special consideration, are the boys who will not go to school because

they do not like the teacher. These children carry home "tales out of school" and the parents magnify them till in the eyes of the child they transcend all else. These parents often come to Court with awful tales of how badly their child has been treated. It usually boils down to this: The child has carried home untrue stories which the parent has never taken the trouble to investigate, but has added to the child's dislike of the teacher by unfriendly and unfavorable comment.

While considering the subject of truancy we would point out that some of our towns are not enforcing the act. The law is, in the main, good, but has one defect which should be corrected. When parents convince the School Board that they are too poor to provide clothes to send their children to school,—*there is no provision made to furnish these essentials, and the children lose their education.* Surely the School Board could be enabled to provide clothing in these cases. The Children's Aid Societies in two or three of the towns have been assisting in this work, while in Halifax the Association for Improving the Condition of the Poor have greatly assisted by furnishing boots, and stockings and other clothing.

Neglect in Rural Districts.—Many people think that cases of neglect are confined to our cities and towns. This is an entirely erroneous idea, and we wish to draw attention to the cases of neglect in our country districts. It is often stated that our cities and industrial towns not only show, but produce the most wretched conditions of human life. But we have found during the seven years of our experience, travelling from one end of this province to the other and investigating many cases of neglect, that the most degraded conditions are to be found in the country districts. We have seen children and old people living under conditions in country places in this province which for downright poverty, bad sanitary conditions, filth, and vile moral atmosphere cannot be duplicated in any of our towns or cities. The problems facing this Department are not confined to any particular districts. They are found distributed over the whole province.

A Curfew Law.—There are far too many children—many of very tender years—on our streets during the evening hours and even till late at night. The number of young girls seen on the streets of an evening is appalling. The older ones walk up and down the principal streets for hours at a time. They are often seen "picking up" men and boys. Younger children play, and with eyes and ears wide open learn much of the evil of life.

Surely the time has come when the curfew bell should ring in the evening after which no child under sixteen years should be upon the street, unless accompanied by an adult.

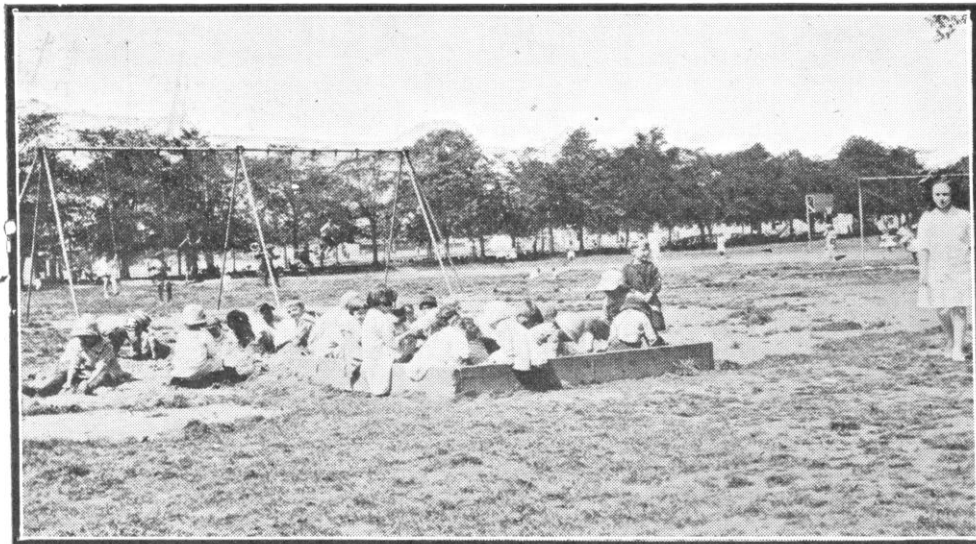
Blasphemy and Vile Language.—The use of blasphemous words and vile language by very young children is becoming very common on our streets. One is often appalled by the huge swear words and filthy talk of mere babies on the street. It is not a sign of a healthy and moral social state. Little children but repeat what they hear. Before there can be a great improvement there must be an awakening of the religious and moral life of the parents.

Supervised Playgrounds.—The movement for establishing supervised playgrounds is making progress wherever the welfare of the children is being considered. In Halifax



Halifax Playgrounds.

City the beneficial results have been felt during the summer school vacation when the playgrounds have been in operation. It is a great pity that these could not be kept open for longer periods, and we believe they should be extended to cover the winter outdoor sports, such as skating and coasting. We believe these playgrounds perform a very important part in the development of character and we are quite sure that they are among our best means of keeping down juvenile delinquencies. The equipment is not so important as the supervisor. May the day soon come when naturally endowed, and properly trained, directors for this work will be available for every school in our cities and towns. We are gladdened by the fact that several of our towns are looking forward to taking up this work next year.



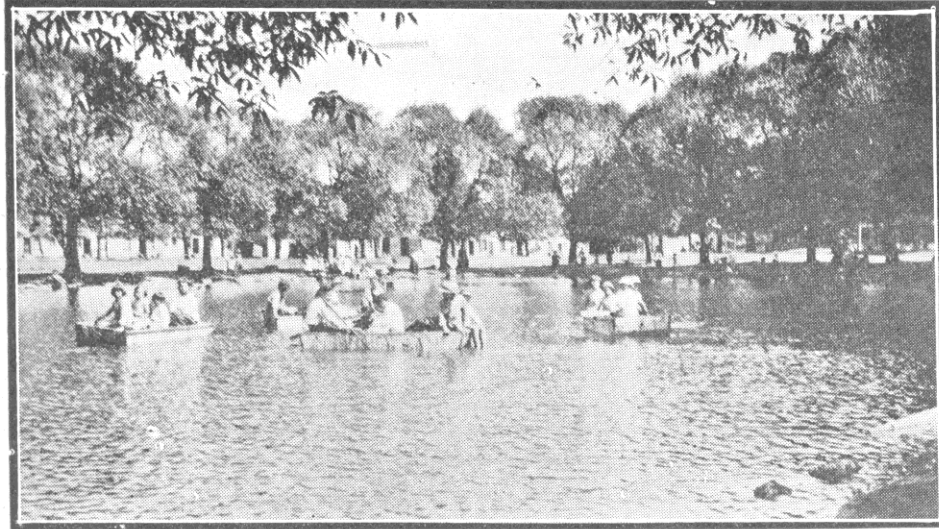
Halifax Playgrounds.

“To obtain efficient results in play it is necessary to provide supervision, and that supervision should be in the nature of trained and intelligent leadership.”
—*Theodore J. Smergalski, Supt. of Playgrounds, West Chicago Parks.*

“More play in all sections of the city for all classes will promote democracy and tend to decrease autocracy. Playgrounds for all ages and sizes should be advocated, so that conditions such as now exist, whereby a boy is not a boy and far from being a man has no place for enjoyment, would be entirely eliminated.”—*Louis M. Kittlaus.*

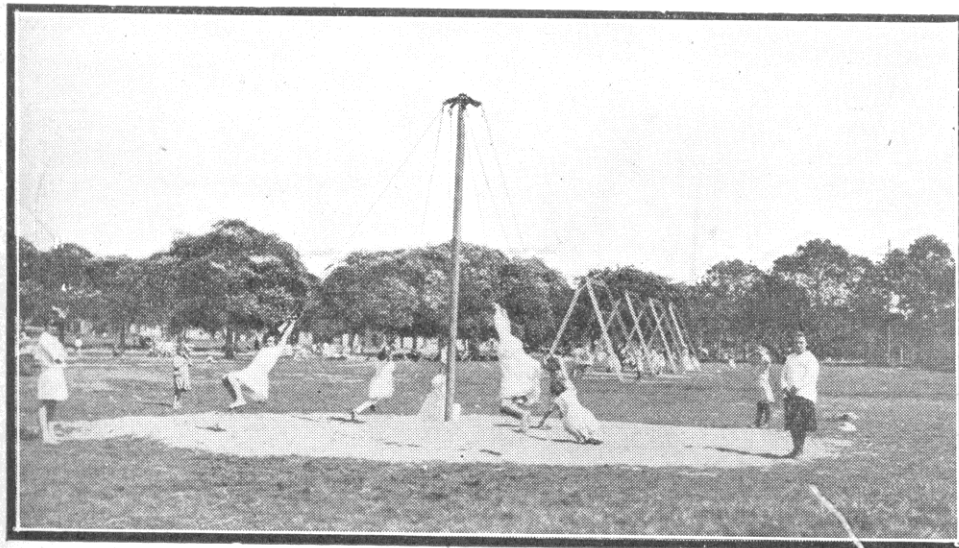


Halifax Playgrounds.



Halifax Playgrounds.

"Play has a biological significance. It serves the purpose of education during the period of immaturity, and prepares the child for the serious activities of later life. Through play a child grows and develops and forms habits of life. It does not teach one French or chemistry, but it does produce muscular and nervous co-ordination and development, which form an integral basis for mental growth and development."—*Theodore J. Smergalski, Supt. of Playgrounds, West Chicago Parks.*



Halifax Playgrounds.

Foster Homes.—Selecting foster homes and placing children therein is one of the most responsible duties imposed upon us.

There was a time when children were “*given away*” by institutions and committees with as little thought and consideration as there would be in parting with so many little kittens. The practice is not entirely done away with yet, but happily there has been awakened a truer and juster sense of responsibility and thus we find our best children's institutions employing expert visitors and investigators for this important work. Many a child has been condemned to a life of misery because of the thoughtless recommendations of some person who was either ignorant of the true character and conditions of the home making the application, or what is more likely, too weak to refuse a request for a certificate of good character.

We are growing to rely very little on letters of recommendation. Often we find that the writers of these recommendations will tell us privately quite a different story. Experience teaches us that a personal visit, by a person trained and qualified by a natural and acquired understanding of human nature, should be made at the home of every applicant. Nor is this enough. The visitor must also know the child. It requires fine discernment to place the right child in the right home.

Visiting the children after placing is a very important duty. As the children grow older and the question of leaving the foster home to go out in the world for themselves comes up, the duty becomes heavier. When a mistake has been made—and they do occur—by placing a child in an unsuitable home, considerable tact and moral courage are required to do the right thing. It is so easy to sacrifice the child. It is usually helpless and silent. All kinds of influences are brought to bear upon the visitor. Very few of us like to make a fuss or create enemies. When such action is taken and a child is removed the public can rest assured that there were good and sufficient reasons for so doing.

In one of the happiest homes in the Province are two of our reunited children. A year ago there were three little homeless ones. Then the brother was killed in the disaster and the little sisters of three and four years eventually drifted to homes widely separated in location and character, the older child being surrounded by almost ideal conditions but the younger one not so successfully placed. Reports of our visitor to this home were unfavorable and after an intensive investigation we decided definitely to remove her. She came without a protest but not without violent opposition on the

NEGLECTED AND DELINQUENT CHILDREN 19

part of the foster-parents. All doubts as to the wisdom of our action were removed when we witnessed their demonstrations of temper, their fluent use of profanity and the look of terror in the pale appealing face of the little child. That look has never been seen there since. In its place is a joyous,



contented smile, trustful and unafraid. The greeting between the two sisters was beautiful and touching. Elaborate preparations had been made for her arrival and before many hours had passed she was calling her new foster-parents "Mother" and "Daddy." They now share the love and attention with which the older child had been surfeited and for which this little lonely heart was hungry.

It required considerable persuasion to induce the foster-parents of an idolized six year old girl to include her little brother in their family circle. But they were both big-hearted people who gave evidence of their fine Christian spirit by their answer to the appeal of "One of the least of these." They have been amply rewarded by the great joy that he has brought to their home. He has made his own way into their hearts and now they say they could not live without him. As for the little girl, it is the best thing that could have happened for her. She was in danger of becoming selfish and spoiled but he has developed in her all those delightful sisterly characteristics which they did not know she possessed. On seeing them play together one cannot help feeling that something very sacred was being violated in their separation.

Juvenile Courts.—The work of the Juvenile Courts is fairly well known and appreciated. The Halifax Court is handicapped for proper quarters, the accommodations at present

being entirely inadequate. An additional probation officer is greatly needed, as the cases requiring supervision are now far beyond the possible compass of the present staff.

Judge W. B. Wallace, of the County Court, after nearly seven years' faithful and gratuitous service as Judge of the Juvenile Court, Halifax, resigned on his appointment to the Halifax Relief Commission. His cheery and kindly manner, his keen appreciation of the value of child life, and his absolutely fair and impartial judgments will ever be remembered in the City of Halifax.



Judge Hunt.

Dr. J. J. Hunt, K. C. succeeds Judge Wallace in the Juvenile Court. He brings to his new office a well founded reputation for a deep interest in children, a scholarly and matured mind, and a pleasing personality. May his term of office be as distinctly successful as that of his predecessor.

Judge George Patterson of the County Court continues to perform the duties of Juvenile Court Judge for Pictou County. The number of cases coming before this Court is not large, but each one receives the careful and sympathetic consideration of the Judge. The work of the Court is carried on quietly and effectually.

Halifax Juvenile Court

Report of Judge J. J. Hunt, D.C. L., K. C.

On the fourteenth day of February next, if living, I will have been associated with the above Court in the City of Halifax as Judge for one year. My illustrious predecessor, Judge Wallace, had filled the position from the fifteenth day of February, 1911, or from its beginning. His work all through was marked with great success and his resignation met with general regret of the entire city. To succeed such a man required a considerable courage.

On assuming my duties as Judge, I found the work much more extensive than I expected, and was more than surprised at the number of Juvenile delinquents brought before me from day to day.

During the ten months I have been in office, I have tried 250 cases. I disposed of these cases as best I could, considering in all matters the interest of the child. From the beginning I realized that the object of the Juvenile Court, and that for which it was created was for the benefit and protection of the child, and not for punishment. To lift up neglected and delinquent children out of the adverse conditions they may be



Juvenile Court Building, Halifax.

in.—to take hindrances out of their way and to insure if possible the growth of honest and good citizens is the best thing in the world. Sentences were imposed, not as a punishment, but as an aid towards building up character. Josh Billings once said that, "we could not have an honest horse race without an honest human race," and we all realize we can not have honest and good citizens unless our rising generation is properly trained and cared for.

All cases coming before the Juvenile Court are classed under one of two heads, viz: as neglected children or delinquents. Neglected children are those whose parents fail to provide or care for them, and hence they suffer. Neglected children, if continued to be uncared for, soon become delinquents. In cases when adults or parents are guilty of neglecting their children or of contributing to their delinquency, the Court has the power of punishing by a fine up to the extent of \$500. or to imprisonment for not more than one year. I have had occasion to enforce a fine more than once with good effect.

Delinquents are juveniles who are guilty of such acts as would be called criminal, if such juveniles were over the age of 16 years. I have tried, during my time of office, 220 delinquent cases, 30 under the neglected class, and 8 adults.

In the treatment of delinquents, the aim of the Judge is to deal with them, in such a way that the process tends to make them better, informing himself concerning their life, and of their environments and temptations. The exercise of a little sympathy goes a long way, and in very many cases there are circumstances such as to arouse every sympathy. I find a little interest shown in such cases often inspires the child with ambition for something higher and better. A Judge may, if so disposed and he deems it for the best interest of the child, suspend sentence, and in this way give an opportunity to do better, or if conditions are not what they should be at home, send to institutions where the child will be properly cared for. If the parents are able they can be compelled to pay for their support.

There was a time when a child was only a chattel and subject only to the caprice of its father. While a parent's rights are regarded, happily now, they are restricted, and a Judge has power, if in his opinion it is for the best interest of the child, to deprive the parents of their lawful right. But if a father has his rights, the law gives the child his also. The child has a right to be cared for, fed, clothed and sent to school. A right above all else to be trained for future usefulness. The

child does not belong to the father alone but to the country in which he was born. Children are our greatest and best assets, and as such we have not only the right but it is our duty to protect the child in his rights if necessary. There is one thing on which we are determined, that the purity of child life must be preserved at all costs. The possibilities of what a child may become in usefulness to his nation, is tremendous. We may save a child and that child may save a nation.

We have, it seems to me, far more delinquent children to deal with than there should be. The reasons for this may be many, I might mention two or three that seems apparent from the cases brought before me.

First: The lack of affection in some parents. It has been a matter of surprise to me to find so many parents seemingly caring so little for their children. In some cases, they seem to be considered a burden, and if possible, parents endeavor to throw the support and care of them upon the city, at its institutions. In other cases, the future welfare of the child is ignored and it seems of little consequence to parents to keep their children from school in order to help at home, and so they are allowed to grow up in ignorance. I remember well the case of a mother who spent her evenings at moving pictures, locking the door of her house and putting her little boy of ten years on the door step to await her return at ten o'clock in the evening. I may refer to another case, of a father who has a salary of over a hundred dollars a month, bringing his three children and desiring to have them sent to the care of an institution, they were dirty and nearly unclothed. I saw at once the father was neglecting his children and I had a charge preferred against him, for neglect and imposed a fine of \$100. which he paid at once. He was also made to pay for the care and future support of his children.

Secondly: The Home Conditions:—Owing perhaps to the cost of living, the condition of some of the homes are not what they should be. The high rents, the poor and small, overcrowded tenement houses and apartments, with no room for family gathering goes a long way to break up home life, and send the younger members of the family to spend their evenings in the street. In connection with this, I strongly advise that the Halls connected with our School Buildings should be open every evening in the winter, for use of our children with their parents. In this way the children could be sheltered from the street temptation, books and quiet games provided, and kind and good advice given to both parents and children by many of our intelligent citizens from time to time.

We must not be unmindful of the change in the condition of things since pre-war times. New problems as to our boys and girls are facing us and we have to meet them at any costs. Never were more rights conceded to children than now, never more license given to them than at the present time. We owe it to ourselves and to our children that they should be more carefully guarded than ever. We owe it also to the brave soldier who left his little ones in our care, as he went forth to die, if necessary for us on the plains of Flanders, above all else that his child would be protected and cared for while absent. A trust most sacred! We should guard it well. When an epidemic like the "flu" broke out in our midst lately, hundreds of our children lay in danger of dying. We became aroused and strenuous efforts were put forth to stay the progress of the disease. Remember the children on the street and in some homes face a far worse plague than this. And yet but little comparative effort is put forth on their behalf.

Thirdly: Lack of Parental Authority: If there is, as I believe, a lack of parental affection, there is also often seen and felt a lack of parental authority and discipline. The consequence of this is seen in the bold attitude of children in the presence of their parents and older persons. Children are not corrected at home when they do wrong. A fond mother in her mistaken love for her children shields them from a deserved punishment. The child not only suffers for this but the home also and above all the fond mother—would that such mothers would remember the words of Solomon in Holy Writ— "The rod and reproof give wisdom but the child left to itself brings his mother to shame." It is indeed true that the lack of correction in childhood creates criminals in manhood.

Fourthly: I would mention the lack of religious teaching, many of those among our delinquent children have no such teaching in their homes and are not connected with any Church or Sunday School. The number of such are increasing, and our delinquents increase in proportion. The evil of to-day, it has been said, is the decay of religion and the necessary sequence is the decay of morals. Somehow and somewhere every child has a right to receive religious instruction and in this right he should be protected. Such instruction is more important than any other. Important to the child, important to the Nation to which the child belongs and in which he is soon to become an active member.

In my duties as Judge I have to deal with a large number of truancy cases. The offence of truancy may not seem to some to be very serious, but nevertheless it is. The serious-

ness of it is, not in the mere loss of school days to the boy or girl, but it leads a child to think he can defy the law—can do as he likes—that we cannot enforce the law against him. No more dangerous sentiment than this can exist in the mind of a child. A child must be taught the sacredness of the law at any cost.

The causes of truancy are various, in some cases parental indifference, in others, the lack of interest in school work and in other cases the charm of the street.

In concluding my report I must bear record to the successful work of Mr. Blois, the Superintendent of our neglected and delinquent children and also the work of his most competent staff, Miss Baxter and Miss Bell. Mr. Blois's work extends over the whole province, and continues to grow every year. It is only by the hardest efforts of himself and his assistants that he can accomplish it. His office rooms, I may say, are not nearly sufficient for his requirement, and it is to be hoped soon that an important change may be made in this matter. Mr. Blois's services to the Province are invaluable.

I would like to refer to the work of Mrs. Egan, her duties are tremendous and she is untiring in her efforts. The people of this City have yet to learn what a benefit her service has been to us. She has been the means of saving hundreds from ruined lives.

Before closing I must refer to the bravery of our young lads who went from our school rooms to engage in the awful conflict, now, thank God, ended in complete victory over our enemies. Our brave lads never hesitated for a moment to answer the call of their country in time of its greatest danger. They passed through the severest battles, sustained with courage second to none. Some of them we know will never come back, but they can never be forgotten. Some monument should be raised to their memory, but what form that monument might take I do not now suggest, but it should bear witness to the courage of our brave school lads, who laid down their lives on our behalf, and also to our thankfulness and faith in God, who through them gave us Victory.

J. JOHNSTON HUNT.

There are two Juvenile Courts in this Province. One at Halifax, having jurisdiction in the City of Halifax, and another at New Glasgow, having jurisdiction over the County of Pictou.

We submit the following statistics of these two Courts for the year ending September 30th, 1918:

JUVENILE COURT, HALIFAX.

TOTAL NUMBER DELINQUENTS BEFORE COURT 220.

Number of males.....	213
Number of females.....	7

AGES.

Number	7 years old	5
"	8 " "	12
"	9 " "	16
"	10 " "	27
"	11 " "	22
"	12 " "	34
"	13 " "	26
"	14 " "	38
"	15 " "	24
"	16 " "	6
"	Adults	8
Age not given		2

RELIGION.

Roman Catholic.....	126
Church of England.....	50
Baptist.....	13
Methodist.....	17
Salvation Army.....	8
Presbyterian.....	3
Lutheran.....	1
Greek.....	1
Jewish.....	1

DISPOSITION BY COURT.

Released on probation.....	75
Released conditionally.....	46
Warned and discharged.....	16
Dismissed.....	19
Committed to institutions.....	62
Transferred to other courts.....	2

OFFENCES CHARGED.

Truancy.....	63
Theft.....	54
Breaking, entering and theft.....	56
Damaging property.....	15
Violation of civic ordinance.....	14
Contributing to delinquency.....	4
Contributing to neglect.....	2
Assault.....	5
Vagrancy.....	3
Cruelty to animals.....	4

NEGLECTED CHILDREN, JUVENILE COURT, HALIFAX.

Total number before court.....	29
Total number made wards of Superintendent.....	25
Total number placed in temporary shelter.....	23
Total number placed in foster homes.....	2
Total number returned to parents or guardians.....	4
Total number returned to their parents after being in institutions for a time...	5
Religion { Roman Catholic.....	10
{ Protestant.....	19

JUVENILE COURT, PICTOU.

TOTAL NUMBER DELINQUENTS BEFORE COURT 25.

No. of males.....	22
No. of females.....	3

AGES.

Number	9 years old	2
"	10	" "	1
"	11	" "	3
"	12	" "	1
"	13	" "	5
"	14	" "	8
"	15	" "	5

RELIGION.

Protestant.....	19
Roman Catholic.....	6

DISPOSITION BY COURT.

Committed to institutions.....	4
Dismissed.....	4
Warned and discharged.....	10
Released on probation.....	4
Dealt with by criminal court.....	3

OFFENCES CHARGED.

Theft.....	11
Breaking, entering and theft.....	4
Vagrancy.....	3
Assault.....	3
Setting forest fires.....	4

NEGLECTED CHILDREN.

Total number Neglected children before Court.....	29
Placed in care of Children's Aid Society.....	9
Placed in care of Supt. of Neglected and Delinquent Children.....	5
Placed in foster homes.....	2
Placed in institutions.....	9
Returned to parents.....	12

Juvenile Delinquency (Crime) and the War.—Is Juvenile Delinquency increasing in this Province? This question is frequently asked but the correct answer is so long and requires so many explanations that it is seldom answered correctly. A very superficial examination of the facts will convince one that the answer may be either "yes" or "no" according to one's view point and the standard of comparison.

Of late years the word "delinquency" is more generally used than the word "crime" to denote the unlawful acts of children. When, however, the word "crime" is applied to

children it most generally covers all unlawful acts but has a very different meaning when applied to adults. In the case of adults we generally associate the word "crime" with such unlawful acts as murder, rape, robbery, etc. While such unlawful acts as trespassing, common assault and damage to property are regarded as being "offences." Violation of civic ordinances, custom laws, Boards of Health regulations, etc., are generally regarded as mere minor offences of small consequence, and no particular odium or disgrace is attached to the offender.

During a certain period in Halifax City a large number of automobile drivers were fined for speeding. These men were not regarded as "criminals". On the other hand during the same period a large number of children were before the Juvenile Court for congregating on the side walks, "a violation of a civic ordinance." The impression immediately went abroad that juvenile "delinquency" was increasing, the public press calling particular attention to this form of violation of the law.

So few children commit really serious crimes or unlawful acts that we have grown accustomed to attach the ugly word to all their unlawful acts.

Juvenile Delinquency is a term carelessly used by the average person, who is ignorant of its legal meaning. Comparatively few, clearly distinguish between "delinquency", "crime" and "immorality"; while it is quite common to class "neglected" children (that is children whose "condition" and not their "acts" is to be considered) as "delinquent."

Again in some places and by some people the word "neglected" is used to denote the "acts" as well as the "condition" of children.

There is a growing tendency in the popular mind to class as "delinquent" or "neglected" all children who by reason of their acts or condition require (for the public good and the child's welfare) some degree of control outside of the child's own family. It is perhaps true that "delinquent" children are "neglected," but the statutes draw a very sharp distinction between these terms, and it is well in our consideration that we keep these facts in mind, especially when considering court records.

If however the popular interpretation of the words be used, the answer to our leading question will be quite different from what it will be if a technical meaning is given to the words.

A Juvenile Delinquent is defined by Dominion Statute to be:—"Any child who violates any provision of the CRIMINAL CODE, Chapter 146 of the Revised Statutes, 1906, or of any Dominion or provincial statute, or any by-law or ordinance of any municipality, for which violation punishment by fine or imprisonment may be awarded; or, who is liable by reason of any other act to be committed to an industrial school or juvenile reformatory under the provisions of any Dominion or provincial statute."

Now the number of offences punishable by fine or imprisonment is rapidly increasing, and moreover varies greatly in different provinces, and even among municipalities in the same province.

Coasting on the streets is an offence punishable by fine in the City of Halifax. It is not such an offence in the village of Mabou. Truancy comes under the same head. Formerly the Truancy law applied only to the City of Halifax. It was later, 1917, made to apply to all incorporated cities and towns. And now in addition to these the Act applies to certain rural sections which have seen fit to adopt it. There are numerous towns and large rural districts in other provinces where no compulsory school attendance act is in force.

"Neglected child" is a term not defined in our statutes. Our Act states that any child proven to come within the meaning of many stated conditions *may* be deemed by the court "neglected" and dealt with accordingly. Due regard to the child's physical, mental and moral condition is the supreme consideration. While the child's acts, (as in the case of a child beyond the control of its parents) may be taken into consideration, in many instances the child being under the age of seven years, its acts could not be held as criminal, and the Act specifically directs that children who have violated the Criminal Code must be proceeded against in the usual way. "Neglected" children may therefore be regarded as those whose condition, including of course their environment, warrants the court to order their transfer to more favorable surroundings.

It is only within the last ten years that the Children's Protection Act has been enforced at all, and only within the past five years has it been enforced throughout the whole province. Hence "neglected" children did not count in statistics previous to these dates. But were there no "neglected" children ten or twenty years ago?

When we come to the question of enforcement of the law we reach the most difficult and changeable factor in our problem. The enforcement of the law rests mainly with *local* officials. In some towns in this Province the Truancy Act is not enforced at all. In others, including the City of Halifax, the law is rigidly enforced. The same holds true with regard to town and city ordinances.

On examining this matter of law enforcement we soon discover many and varied perplexing factors which all enter into the main problem of juvenile delinquency. There is for example the personal element of the police and the magistrates. Some police officers will bring all sorts of trivial charges against children before the magistrate. Other officers will settle these matters with the children and the parents concerned. Many a boy has escaped having his name added to the official list of juvenile delinquents by the friendly offices of a good policeman. On the other hand many children, especially boys of twelve to sixteen years of age, are brought before the court on charges of violation of civic ordinances (e. g. standing in groups on the sidewalk) and their names swell the figures of juvenile crimes, when these offences are purely technical and due largely to a lack of knowledge or tact on the part of the police officers.

The same thing is seen in the work of the different juvenile courts. Probation officers differ greatly in their handling of cases. The personal element is also seen in the school teacher in reporting cases of truancy, the family doctor in giving certificates of ill health, in the clergyman in giving credentials of good character, in School Boards and Town Councils in enforcing school discipline or ordinances, and more particularly in the enforcement of laws more directly concerning adults.

In a certain town a new mayor and council are elected. They rigidly and impartially enforce the laws. In a short time complaints against children will fall to almost zero. In time a mayor and council are elected, who "leave the town wide open." The atmosphere is soon charged with lawlessness. Children, being more susceptible to such influences, readily respond by becoming intense and enthusiastic law breakers. The small boy is always the noisiest and most talkative in a street crowd or near a riot.

The personality of the judge or magistrate also enters into our problem. Some of them will regard most lightly many of the offences charged against children, often including charges of theft or of a more serious nature. They often dismiss

such charges with a warning only and the children's names do not count in criminal records. Other magistrates will deal sternly with the most trivial offences and enter up all charges against the youthful offenders, and hence swell the statistics. In a certain district a county court judge invariably committed boys convicted of theft for long terms in the reformatories, the almost invariable sentence being five years. He was succeeded by a judge who took an entirely different view of these matters and who rarely sentences a boy at all and when he does for the minimum term allowed, two years.

There are also some magistrates, more especially among the justices of the peace, who deal with many of the charges against children in the most informal way, often using their personal influence with the parents to keep children out of serious trouble. No records, of course, are kept of such cases, but personal investigation leads me to believe the number of cases thus dealt with must be seriously considered if we are to arrive at a correct answer to our question.

The keeping of the court records and statistics brings up another important factor. A careful investigation will show that these are not absolutely reliable. Many justices of the peace and some magistrates, who hear cases but seldom, do not make returns at all.

Twenty years ago there was scarcely a boy in our reformatories from outside of the City of Halifax. Now there are many more from outside municipalities than from the City, while the number from the City has not materially increased. The casual observer is apt to jump at two very wrong conclusions: first, that the towns and rural districts are producing more juvenile delinquents; second, that Halifax is growing if not better at least no worse. Neither conclusion is warranted by the actual facts. In the first place county municipalities and towns did not have the privilege of sending boys to reformatories until comparatively recent years. Indeed it is only during the last seven or eight years that the custom has become quite common. Before that time the boy was either let go, unless the offence was of a serious nature, or else he was committed to the county gaol or to penitentiary. If one were making a study of the records of the country gaols during this period one might easily be led to the conclusion that juvenile delinquency was on the decrease, as there are certainly fewer children committed to gaols than formerly. In fact it is now very rarely that a child under the age of sixteen years is committed to gaol for more than temporary custody,

until it is transferred to one or other of the reformatories. There has also been prevalent thruout the Province the idea that by committing a boy to gaol or a reformatory institution some great good was thereby accomplished. It is rather difficult to trace the source of this idea. It is certainly not based on fact. I have, however, very frequently been told by a judge or magistrate that the reason he committed such and such a child to a reformatory was that he wished to give the child in question a chance of learning a trade and getting an education. How little our judges and magistrates know of the conditions which prevail in our reformatories? Of late years there has also developed the idea that children, especially boys, would be much better in a reformatory than in our county poor-farms and we have had several committed to our reformatories on very slight, or technical charges, the real reason being that the authorities in charge of these poor farms wish to relieve themselves of the trouble and responsibility of taking care of the boys. In Halifax City the Juvenile Court has successfully endeavored to keep children out of reformatory institutions by placing offenders on probation or by finding suitable private homes. This accounts for the slight, if any, increase of the number committed from the City.

The public conscience demands better treatment and care of children today than at any time in the past. "Neglect" which would once pass unnoticed, now calls for redress. The legal definition of what constitutes neglectful conditions for children has expanded enormously until today matters formerly held to be of no public interest or concern, come within its scope and there must be even further enlargement. Thus certain Court statistics will increase, but that in itself will not prove that "Neglect" is increasing.

Let us now turn to another consideration of the subject. If we ask ourselves what is the "standard" of comparison either between one year's records and another, or between one place and another, we at once discover a new difficulty. Shall we use the "cases before the court," or the "number of complaints made," or the number of cases "convicted," or the number "reported to the police (including probation officers)" or "number sent to institutions," or what is more common, "the general public opinion as expressed by the press "editorials," the pulpit and the peace officers and social workers, "of general lawlessness (and neglect) among children."

We have now reached the point where we can see quite clearly that our question cannot be answered by "yes" or "no" without qualification.

The first thing to be determined is: Shall all unlawful acts be considered "crimes," and shall "acts" be included with "conditions" in the terms "delinquency," "crime" and "neglect"? We must be perfectly clear on these points before we can begin to properly arrange our materials for the answer to our problem.

The second point to be agreed upon is the standard of comparison. If we apply any standard required by court or public statistics we are sure to get different answers according to the class and kind of statistics followed. Thus "court convictions" will give a result different entirely from that if we followed "complaints made" or "number sent to institutions."

Personally I know of no better standard by which we can truly estimate the growth or decline of juvenile delinquency, crime and neglect than that of public opinion as expressed in the press editorials, in the pulpit and by reports of peace officers, including the police, magistrates, social workers, etc.

If then we pay no attention to the legal definition of delinquency and make no distinction between delinquency and crime, but use the popular term "neglected" child to cover all these classes, and using this standard of comparison, I am strongly of the opinion that the answer to our question must be in the affirmative, but I cannot prove the answer correct by columns of statistics.

The answer is based upon personal knowledge gained by a careful reading of the press, conversations and interviews with clergymen of all denominations thruout the Province, and more particularly by personal association with a very large number of judges, magistrates, police officers and social workers who are dealing directly with the problem.

Effects of the War.—What effect has the war upon Juvenile Delinquency and Neglect? This question is being constantly asked, and there arises the same difficulty as in the previous one of giving a definite answer in standard terms and authentic statistics.

The Children's Bureau of the United States Department of Labor, Washington, has issued a report covering available information and material for the following countries:—England, France, Germany, Russia and United States.

This report states:—

"That juvenile delinquency in European countries has increased during the war is indicated by the testimony of social workers, judges concerned with children's cases, and students of criminology. Available statistics of increase are incomplete and unsatisfactory, but such as they are they tell almost everywhere the same story of an increasing number of children brought to court and an increasing seriousness in their offences."

The report quotes Sir Edward Troop, Undersecretary of State of the Home Office, as writing to all clerks and justices throughout England in May 1916 as follows:—

"Sir:—I am directed by the secretary of state to say, for the information of your justices, that he has had under consideration representations respecting the recent increase in the number of offences by children and young persons (under sixteen years of age), and that he finds, from inquiries which have been made of the police of 17 of the largest towns, that comparing the three months, December, 1914 to February, 1915, with the three months December, 1915 to February, 1916, the total number of children and young persons charged with punishable offences has grown from 2,686 to 3,596, and that the increase has been experienced in practically all towns consulted. The increase in the number of juvenile offenders is mainly caused by an increase of nearly 50 per cent in cases of larceny, but there were also more charges of assault, malicious damage, gaming, and offences against the education acts."

With reference to conditions in England, the report further states:—

"In 1917, the British Penal Reform League issued, under title, "A National Minimum for Youth," the recommendations of "a committee appointed to consider a policy with regard to the problems connected with juvenile delinquency." These recommendations include further development of probation, detention homes, and specialized courts for children and young persons up to the age of 21 years. As immediate measures they advise the formation of local councils of juvenile welfare, expert supervision of play centers, compulsory attendance at day continuation schools, and abolition of street trading by children under 18. They discuss also general problems of social and industrial conditions, and especially emphasize the primary importance of such adequate parental care as can not be given by overworked fathers and mothers.

"Certain things have already been done with a view to checking the increase of delinquency; Special joint committees were appointed in 1916 by the justices and educational authorities in various English cities; The Home Office also appointed a committee and suggested ways of checking objectionable films; and in January, 1917, the board of education issued regulations under which grants in aid are payable to local authorities maintaining play centers after school hours and on Saturdays for children of school age, provided the play center meets certain minimum requirements."

The report concludes:—

"Now, more than ever, do the children who are without proper guardianship need individual care and training, and those who have become unruly, need the attention which special courts can give. In so far as the war is allowed to interfere with the work of trained probation officers, psychological experts, and the staffing of institutions for delinquent and for defective children; in so far as it is allowed to hinder the extension of modern methods of care - whether in large cities, small towns, or rural counties—the war is inflicting a positive injury not only on the delinquents themselves but on other children and on the community as a whole."

We mention briefly what we find to be some of the injurious effects of the great war upon the children in this Province.

In many homes *one* parent is the dominating influence. This one is most often the mother. She it is who takes almost all of the responsibility of the children. But there are a few where conditions are reversed and the father is the one who guides and directs the children. In such a home, the loss of the father from going overseas was a grave disaster. The children soon became incorrigible, or what in some cases was worse, they were shamefully neglected. They stayed out late at nights, played truant, used bad language, and generally acted as most children will when left to grow up without proper parental control and care. We are glad to state that the number of such families, where we were obliged to remove the children was not so very large, the percentage of the total would be very small, but the effect of the father's absence, in some measure, was felt in a very considerable number of homes.

To the woman of such a home we can attach no particular blame. She was in many cases physically or mentally incapable of performing the duties required of her. Years of life in a home directed and controlled by her husband left her more helpless than her children to meet the new conditions.

Very different is the home of the children when during the father's absence, the mother "went bad." These cases—alho few in number when compared with the grand total of the women left at home—loom large in the public eye. This is partly because of the unpardonable nature of such offences, and partly because undue publicity has been given to them by press and pulpit.

We wish to briefly record the result of our investigations of such cases as were brought to our attention. The most outstanding fact revealed is this: In no case did we find a mother disgracing her children, dishonoring her husband and the name of wife and mother *who had always lived a good life before*. This fact should be very carefully considered before drawing conclusions from effects of the war.

We also found that in by far the greater number of cases where the mother has been living a dissolute and immoral life while her husband is away, that there had been family quarrels and trouble, caused by sexual matters, before the husband went away. That is, the bad moral conditions were not *caused*, but simply *revealed* by the war.

The third impressive fact found out was that the public pay little heed to immoral conditions unless there be distressing physical conditions present: In other words, the public eye rests mainly upon the case of the extremely poor woman, whose wretched home and uncared for children were plainly seen and offended its sense of the proprieties of decent living.

Other effects of the war may be seen in the removal of a large number of country bred children to the cities and towns; the overcrowding and bad housing conditions in the cities and towns—more especially those at or near where large bodies of men were camped and the industrial centres; the comparatively large amount of cash which fell into the hands of many mothers utterly unused to handling money; the placing of large numbers of children at work on the grounds of financial and economic necessity; the relegating of the children to a lesser degree of care and consideration than in pre-war days, because the whole public and private thought was centered on the war.

The end of the war and the return of the men from the battle fields will in a large measure remove most of its evil effects upon the child life. There is one however, not caused by the war but greatly increased thereby and which the return of large bodies of men from the front will aggravate. It is the exceedingly bad housing conditions of an ever increasing portion of our population. Before the war, conditions were distressing and especially in the City of Halifax, required public control or regulation. During the war and more particularly since the disaster of December 6th, 1917, housing conditions there have been appalling.

We are led to believe that the need for better houses for many of the people is not confined to any particular province, city or country, but it is world wide. Certain it is, that in this Province, not only in our cities and towns, but in rural districts, there are very many people compelled to live in houses unfit for human habitation. This condition of these people unquestionably has a disastrous effect upon the health and morals of the children,—upon juvenile delinquency, and neglect. Hence our reference to the matter in this report.

Release on Probation.—Suspended Sentence.—A great deal of unfavorable comment is heard from the general public regarding the very common practice of releasing persons, more especially juveniles convicted of criminal acts, on what is popularly called a suspended sentence, or, as we say in the

Juvenile Courts, on probation. A good deal of this criticism is well-founded, but there are certain facts in connection with this class which are always over looked by the critic. In the first place the convicting magistrate can only release those convicted for the first time, and in the second place, when the offence is punishable with more than two years imprisonment, the release can only be granted with the consent of the Counsel acting for the Crown.

There is no denying the fact that this very just and proper provision of our laws is sometimes used in such a way as to encourage crime. Not of course intentionally, either on the part of the magistrate or Counsel for the Crown, but because neither of these officials have been correctly informed of the true character of the person convicted and of the circumstances of his life history. The idea back of the suspended sentence is in perfect keeping both with strict justice and tender mercy, and for the good of society and the individual law breaker. But like many other ideas it is not wholly and properly carried out, with the result that the vitally important element has been left out.

The suspended sentence, or release on probation, is a very dangerous proceeding, unless the Court has thoroughly competent probation officers to deal with each case. Our parliaments have adopted the part of the idea which costs the country nothing, but balk at the really essential thing, that of providing the Court with probation officers.

To convict a youth of a serious offence and simply give him a lecture and turn him loose is to encourage crime. We recognize that there are exceptions to this rule, and there are cases where a good straight talk from the Court is sufficient, but these cases are very rare indeed. The average youth cares little for talk. He is no sooner out of the Court room than he boasts of his conduct,—and becomes a hero in the eyes of younger, less daring companions. There is no use to blink at the fact. A great many boys count and plan on the magistrate giving them one chance. Any one who denies this does not know this class of youth. What is the remedy? Are we to advocate repealing the law and take away the discretion from the magistrate? No. Progress does not lie on that road. Rather urge the necessity of having thoroughly competent probation officers who will supply the Court with the necessary information and particularly making it their business to see that the full conditions of release or probation are carried out.

There is another very important matter which the critics of the suspended sentence overlook. What can the Judge do with the convicted youth? For those under sixteen years there is the reformatory, it is true, but results do not warrant the building of very great hopes that the boy will be greatly benefited by his stay there. It is true there is the deterrent effect upon others, but the just judge must also think of the convicted boy. For those over sixteen there is the gaol or the penitentiary. Judges quite rightly hesitate to sentence to either of these, except as a last resort. It is possible that the good of boys in general might be promoted, if all those convicted were punished, but there is no proof of that. If the terror of the criminal law could have stamped out crime it would have done so centuries ago, when hanging was a quite common punishment for even petty thefts.

The deterrent effect of punishment is not in the ratio of its severity but its certainty. Sure conviction, followed by careful supervision—with all that a good probation system entails—will have the desired deterrent effect, and in addition will reclaim many of the transgressors.

Looking at it from any point of view, the only satisfactory solution of the matter is better equipped reformatories for boys, and a special reformatory for boys from 16 to 20 years of age, together with a well trained and competent staff of probation officers.

Deserted Wives and Children.—Desertion of wife and children is becoming alarmingly frequent. Not only is desertion the cause of much suffering, wretchedness and poverty, but it shows how lightly the marriage vows are held. The problem is one of the gravest we are called upon to face. For some years we have been devoting special thought and observation to this matter and will shortly give the public the result of our investigation. For the present it is sufficient to say that the present legislation (Dominion) is glaringly ineffective to prevent this most deplorable social condition. (We are not here arguing the question of responsibility, of either parent, or the moral and economic aspect of the problem).

A wife and her children are deserted by her husband. She will rarely complain until upon the verge of starvation. Under existing conditions if she begins action under the Dominion statutes she must pay the cost of the prosecution. This may be a large sum, especially as most often happens, the man has to be brought from a distance. In almost every case the man is let go, even when convicted, on the **promise** of paying so much per week,—an amount nearly always below that

required to keep the family alive,—and goes away. For a few times perhaps he pays. Then the same thing occurs again. But who is to pay for bringing him back? And even if he is brought back, to put him in gaol for a few months does not help the family. (Tho if the magistrate would give them the full term it certainly would have a deterrent effect). It is common knowledge among this class of men that very little, if anything, can be done to them, and they simply laugh at the whole matter. As they are earning good wages they can afford to hire a lawyer to defend them, while the woman, in many cases, can not. We know of cases where the man is earning as high as sixty dollars per week, and sends his wife and five children, (on an average for three months), less than six dollars per week. In another case the man earns, when not drinking, from six to eight dollars a day and did not send anything to his family for more than three months. He was brought before the Court, and as usual, agreed to pay fourteen dollars per week. He paid ten dollars one week and fourteen dollars and fifty cents the next, and the third, five dollars, then left the City for parts unknown. Surely some better and more effective way of dealing with so vital a matter can be devised.

Important Dominion Legislation,—We print for the more general information of the public, and more especially for those interested in child welfare, a very important amendment to the Criminal Code of Canada. We have had occasion to make use of this new Act and find it a strong support to our Children's Protection Act.

8-9 George V.

Chap. 16.

An Act to Amend the Criminal Code.

His Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate and House of Commons of Canada, enacts as follows:—

1. The Criminal Code is amended by inserting the following section immediately after section two hundred and twenty:—

"220 A. (1) Any person who, in the home of a child, by indulgence in sexual immorality, in habitual drunkenness or in any other form of vice, causes such child to be in danger of becoming immoral, dissolute or criminal, or the morals of such child to be injuriously affected, or renders the home of such child an unfit place for such child to be in, shall be liable, on summary conviction, to a fine not exceeding five hundred dollars, or to imprisonment for a period not exceeding one year or to both fine and imprisonment.

"(2). For the purpose of this section, "child" means a boy or girl apparently or actually under the age of sixteen years.

"(3). It shall not be a valid defence to a prosecution under this section that the child is of too tender years to understand or appreciate the nature of the act complained of or to be immediately affected thereby.

"(4). No prosecution shall be instituted under this section unless it be at the instance of some recognized society or an officer of a Juvenile Court, without the authorization of the Attorney General of the province in which the offence is alleged to have been committed, nor shall any such prosecution be commenced after the expiration of six months from the time of the commission of the alleged offence."

Girls' Reformatories.—We draw attention to the reports of the two reformatories for girls.

The Maritime Home for Girls, at Truro, is strongly to be commended for the attention paid to the medical care of its inmates. We have spoken elsewhere in this report of the very great value we attach to the adequate medical treatment of all neglected and delinquent children. The regulations of the Governor-in-Council regarding the payment of government grants to institutions requires a certain minimum standard of such care. In the future these regulations must be strictly followed and we should like to see them amended in such manner that an institution devoting special attention to this matter should receive a correspondingly larger provincial grant.

The Monastery of the Good Shepherd has done well to establish a domestic science department. This is a very important matter. It is now possible for the girls in this institution to receive the training which they so greatly need. We trust that the department may be still further developed and strengthened and every girl there receive a fair share of its benefits.

CHILDREN'S AID SOCIETIES.—The Children's Aid Societies are doing good work. Some are much more active and have accomplished much greater things than have others. In general, where there is a competent agent, the Society has found plenty of work to do and has done it in a highly creditable manner.

In these Societies there are a number of men and women who have given very freely of their time and money to advance the work of protecting and caring for neglected children. A reading of the reports this year will indicate in a measure the scope of the work undertaken and accomplished by the Societies. The outbreak of influenza thruout the Province prevented the Societies from holding their annual meetings at the regular time and consequently all their reports did not reach this office in time for publication.

The Children's Aid Societies of Kings County, Glace Bay, New Glasgow and Halifax maintain Shelters or Detention Homes of their own. The others depend upon finding private homes as occasion requires or upon the regular existing children's institutions.

No new Societies were organized during the year. We have found that the Societies in small communities are too weak to undertake the successful prosecution of cases arising in their districts, often long distances from the executive office of the Society. A regularly employed agent is, at present, out of the question, and it is unreasonable to suppose that a few men and women who are really interested in such cases have either the time to spare or the knowledge of the procedure to handle the case alone. There are often very unpleasant scenes, and duties requiring experience, tact, and a certain physical and moral force, sometimes known as "muscular Christianity." We have found however that these people can be of great help by supplying information, clothing, and temporary shelter for the benefit of the children. We are therefore depending more on committees and individuals in the smaller centers and thinly settled districts than on organized Societies.

Objects of Children's Aid Societies.

- (a) To protect children from cruelty.
- (b) To protect and care for friendless and destitute children.
- (c) To endeavor to prevent children from becoming incorrigible or criminal.
- (d) To endeavor to prevent children from becoming destitute or dependent on public charity.



- (e) To teach neglectful or cruel parents their duties towards their children.
- (f) To endeavor to provide suitable foster homes for such children as may require them.
- (g) To co-operate with the superintendent of neglected and delinquent children in every way possible for the proper treatment of delinquent, neglected and dependent children.
- (h) To do any act or thing which by any Statute of the Province or regulation made thereunder a Children's Aid Society is empowered to do.

**Fourth Annual Report of the Children's Aid Society
of Truro.**

To E. H. Blois, Esq.
Supt. Neglected and Delinquent Children.

Sir:—I beg to present to you my Fourth Annual Report of the Children's Aid Society of Truro. As we stand on the threshold of a new year of service, may it prove to be one full of success for our Society and the work in general to which this organization devotes itself.

The necessity of the work which is carried on is evident. Children are received from homes where they have hitherto received nothing but abuse and discomfort, are placed in surroundings where this is overcome; and gradually they are prepared to stand on the same level with those of more fortunate surroundings and take their place with them, as good citizens and creditable members of Society.

In fact the duty of attending to cases such as often come under our notice is a patriotic one, in which we are helping the citizenship of our Town and Province of a few years hence to be better, on account of having raised a few of our neglected or delinquent boys and girls to higher morals and nobler ideals.

The last year has been one in which difficulties have arisen, which have not facilitated the progress of our work. The Great War has meant time and work to be given and done unstintingly by those who were left at home, and it was our duty and pleasure thus to do it. Then again sickness and disease have in a measure prevented the progress of our work. But as the war is now gloriously ended and the dread epidemic is gradually on the wane it is our earnest desire that the interest and effort of the town people be directed in a greater measure toward our Society. That it needs but little to arouse the sympathy and interest of our citizens is shown by the fact that when a general canvass was made in the town by the Membership Committee, they met with unlimited success. So that now we have a membership of about two hundred and fifty. Having discussed the necessity of our work and the difficulties under which we have labored, I will now point out the practical results of the efforts put forth by our Society.

One young girl who came under our supervision on account of poor health, was placed in the Victoria General Hospital

in Halifax. Here she improved greatly in health and after a few months, was placed in St. Paul's Home, Halifax, where she is receiving all the benefits the Home affords. Two other little children, a boy and girl of about four and seven years respectively, were taken from an unworthy home and boarded by the Society for about a year. A good home temporarily has been found for the girl, while the boy is still boarded in comfortable quarters. Another child was taken from very poor and inadequate surroundings and is now placed in a very refined and comfortable home.

Two more children were taken by the Superintendent to Halifax.

Three other children to whom our attention was directed, were found to be insufficiently clothed and no effort made on the part of the parent to send them to school. It was found the mother was receiving an allowance from the Patriotic Fund, sufficient to enable her to clothe her children comfortably.

Through the intervention of the Society, the children were properly clothed and the two older ones sent to school.

These are a few of the concrete examples of the year's work done by our Society. Since its organization, about Twenty Five cases have been satisfactorily dealt with and although some may say "It might have been more." we may well answer "but what if it had not been done at all?"

For as the Lover of Little Children hath said "Even as ye have done it unto the least of these my little ones." So in the coming year let us bind our energy to even greater activity that none of these "little ones" may wantonly suffer.

Treasurer's Report.

To	Cash on Hand.....	\$	6.13	
	Res. from Ministerial Association Nov. 1917.....		10.00	
	Collection by the Membership Committee.....		172.79	
	Mr. R. Mc.G. Archibald.....		5.00	
	Amount of Fees paid at Annual Meeting.....		4.50	
1918	Received from Ministerial Association.....		55.15	253.57

Cash Disbursed.

Dec.	Mrs. Walter Bentley for Boarding two children.....	\$	10.00
Mar. 21	Boots for Children.....		4.50
	Mrs. Walter Bentley Board for same children.....		35.00
	C. E. Bentley & Co.....		28.40
Jan. 30	Mrs. Walter Bentley Board for same children.....		54.00
	P. O. Order.....		.15

44 REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF

Mar. 15	B. J. Rogers, Ltd.	2.54	
" 27	Mrs. Walter Bentley.....	23.70	
1917.			
Nov. 28	Telephone to Halifax.....	.35	
Dec. 14	" " "65	
	Agents Expenses to Maitland	2.65	
	" " " Denmark.....	7.75	
Apr. 22	1 Child's suit.....	5.00	
Mar. 15	Kent's Shoe store.....	2.25	
Nov. 30	C. E. Bentley & Co.....	4.25	
	H. W. Yuill.....	1.20	
	B. J. Rogers.....	1.55	
Dec. 2	J. L. McKay.....	3.50	
Dec. 2	Miss Jennie Boyd.....	2.50	
	News Pub. Co.....	1.00	
	J. W. Rogers.....	1.75	
	J. C. B. Olive.....	30.00	\$ 222.69
	Balance on hand.....	\$ 30.88	

The following are the names of Officers:—President J. D. McKay; 1st. Vice-President, Mrs John Stanfield; Sec-Treas. Mrs. R. L. Craig. Executive Committee:—Rev. H. J. Fraser, Rev. W. P. Grant, Rev. Mr. Godfrey, Rev. Mr. Heal, Rev. Mr. Knott, Mrs. A. A. Archibald, Mrs. (Dr.) Hiltz, Mrs. G. O. Fulton, Mr. J. C. B. Olive. Agent, Ensign Johnson, Ass't Agent Job Nelson.

BERTHA K. CRAIG,
Secretary.

Amherst Children's Aid Society.

The regular Annual Meeting of the Children's Aid Society of Amherst was held in the Library room, Maritime Block, on the evening of Dec. 4th., President Jones in the chair.

The minutes of last regular meeting were read and approved. The report of the Nominating Committee was then read which showed approval of the following for the various offices:—J. C. Jones, re-elected for the third time, President; W. J. Power, Vice President; E. J. Lay, Secretary; S. A. Burgess, Assistant Secretary; C. V. Wood, Treasurer; Rev. Fr. Brown, C. V. Wood and A. H. Milberry, Agents.

On the motion of Rev. H. Dibblee, seconded by Rev. P. Walker, the report was received and adopted, the above named persons thus becoming the officers for the year.

The Secretary then read the following report of the year's work.

The Amherst C. A. S. has kept up its work throughout the year just closed with fair results. There have been held

during the year, thirty regular meetings, the visits paid to homes in the interests of the Society numbered 210 and the miles travelled by members in procuring homes and taking wards to them, 600.

Eighteen children have been made wards of the Society during the year. Of these, one is in the Girls' Home in Halifax, one in the Maritime Home for Girls in Truro, homes have been procured for thirteen, of which the Society pays for one, the others are free and four remain in their own homes under watch of the Society.

Three of those wards belonging to the same family were removed from their mother's care, a soldier's wife, who was not considered a proper person to have charge of them. Four of another family lost their mother and their father could not care for them.

Four others of another family, were deserted by both father and mother. Other two, brothers, had to be taken from their mother for wanton neglect, the father being overseas.

Two girls just approaching the age of sixteen were taken over just as their lives threatened to become vicious, while three young boys were rescued from truancy.

The Society has not only provided homes for its wards, but has rendered medical attention where necessary, and, for two weeks, kept one child, who had been badly scalded, in Hospital.

Our Society comprises a membership of 60, but there are only at present about six who are active members and those six are almost invariably found at every meeting. The visits mentioned must be divided among them, while the mileage is to the credit, largely, of two. It is a matter of surprise, as well as of anxiety, when so much work appears in sight, that our working number is so small. We could easily treble our good deeds if we had the assistance. And even with no greater results, the burden should be better adjusted. Think of one member alone, and this is an actual fact, who travelled about 500 miles in this work, wrote 70 letters, besides a number of long distance telephone calls and for a month at a time has taken deserted children to his own home without charge. There is work whose sharing would certainly afford relief.

We still have to report the one great hindrance to our work, a proper place of temporary detention for our wards. Present projects give us the hope that another year may see substantial progress in that direction.

The Treasurer then read his report, which showed for the year's receipts \$1101.70 and the expenditure, \$1024.29. This increased sum was largely owing to the fact that, through various happenings, the C. A. S. had become the trustee of monies in the Patriotic fund.

At the conclusion of this report, Messrs J. S. Smiley and S. A. Burgess were appointed Auditors.

The meeting was then briefly addressed by Revs. Dibblee, Walker and Fr. Brown and Messrs Jones, Wood and Burgess.

E. J. LAY,
Secretary.

Glace Bay Children's Aid Society.

Ernest H. Blois, Esq.,
Supt. Neglected and Delinquent Children.

Sir:—Another year has rolled around and brings us to the fifth milestone in the history of our Society, and once more we are able to report a successful year. Although our membership is not large, the attendance at our monthly meetings have been good, which shows that the interest in our Society is not waning, but rather on the increase. We were honoured a few meetings ago to have Mr. A. B. McGilvary, Town Stipendiary, unite with us. We also expect to have other prominent citizens of the town unite with us, and as the appeals for patriotic purposes will be lessening, we will therefore be able to come more into the prominence of the public as we deserve.

Our greatest drawback is the want of a suitable shelter. Our present one, although rent free, is not conveniently situated nor properly equipped, thus losing to us the government grant we might receive if we had a more suitable Home.

At the close of the year our Agent the Rev. S. W. Schurman, resigned, owing to his removal from town, but this year we are fortunate in securing the services of a very competent lady for Agent in the person of Mrs. J. T. McPherson, who we have every reason to believe will make an ideal Agent.

At the beginning of the year there were 6 children in the Home, admitted during the year 15, three belonging to the Municipality. Of this number 8 were indentured into foster

homes, 1 boy sent to the Industrial Home, Halifax, 1 girl to the Maritime Home for Girls, Truro, 4 were returned to their parents 3 of whom were at the Home during the mothers treatment in the hospital and by whom the board was paid, and seven are at the Home at the present time, 5 of these were taken owing to negligence on the part of the mother, but are being kept by request of the father who is overseas, that he may have them upon his return, the other is a boy belonging to the outside district, but allowed admission into our Home by their request.

There was also another family of 3 children taken in the name of the Society and indentured out without going to the Home.

Three other children were placed direct in the Catholic Home, Sydney, one has since been indentured out.

We had as you know some difficulty with two feeble minded children, one of whom was in our Home for a short time but was with the other one sent to the Monastery at Halifax. Both proved to be imbeciles and were therefore returned to us and we had to give them back to their parents. It is unfortunate that there is not a suitable Home for children of this kind.

This year has also been a successful one in finances, as the enclosed statement will show.

Balance from last year.....		\$ 173.40
Received during the year:—		
Town of Glace Bay, Board and appropriation.....	\$ 572.72	
Canadian Patriotic Fund.....	204.57	
County Wards.....	98.00	
Private ".....	65.00	
Proceeds from Booth at Poultry Show.....	90.50	
St. Paul's Sunday School.....	30.00	
Fees and Dues.....	24.00	
Collection at Open Air Service.....	16.23	
Small Donations.....	6.00	1107.02
	Total,	\$1280.42
Disbursed.		
Matron for board of children and salary.....	\$ 888.62	
Agent's Salary and expenses.....	182.00	
Supplies for Home and Children.....	100.24	
Sending boy to Halifax.....	30.00	
Patriotic Fund paid to Child's mother.....	18.00	
Telephone.....	22.11	
Advertising.....	5.10	
Rent of Home.....	4.00	
Stamps.....	2.66	1252.73
	Balance on hand.....	27.69
		\$1280.42

Besides this cash balance, there is a snug sum owing to us by the town, with only a few outstanding bills.

The officers for the ensuing year are:—President, Rev. A. M. McLeod; Vice-President, Rev. J. J. McNeil P. P.; Secretary-Treasurer, E. C. Gates, re-elected; Agent, Mrs. J. T. McPherson. The Executive and other committees will be elected at our next meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

E. C. GATES,
Secretary.

King's County Children's Aid Society.

Mr. Ernest H. Blois,
Supt. Neglected and Delinquent Children.

Sir:—The Children's Aid Society of King's County met in the Town Hall, Wolfville on Friday evening at 8 o'clock, Nov. 29th.

The Pres. G. W. Miller gave an interesting review of the work of the Society during the year. Among the encouraging things was the financial assistance given by a number of districts of county, also the results of the Committee before the county council, asking for some remuneration to the Agent H. Stairs. They had appreciated the good work done by the Society and granted a salary of \$300 for this year. The Agent, Mr. Stairs gave a detailed account of his work which speaks for itself. The officers for ensuing year were appointed as follows:—Pres. G. W. Miller; Vice Presidents, Dr. Elliot; Kentville, Judge Webster; Canning, R. W. North; Berwick, S. P. Chute; Sec. Treas. C. A. Patriquin; Auditor, B. O. Davison; Agent, H. Stairs.

The Sec. Treas. report is as follows:—

By Balance on hand Nov., 6, 1917.....	\$	82.05
By Contributions from Wolfville.....	129.54	
" " Aylesford.....	56.50	
" " Kentville.....	171.65	
" " Gaspercau.....	9.50	
" " Grand Pre.....	16.00	
" " Upper Canard.....	14.10	
" " Lower Canard.....	13.60	
" " Lakeville.....	5.00	
" " Port Williams.....	22.00	
" " County.....	—	437.89
" " ½ year Salary, Agent.....		150.00
" " Interest on deposit etc.....		3.39
		<hr/>
		\$ 805.96

NEGLECTED AND DELINQUENT CHILDREN 49

To Paid	Costs in Suits.....	\$ 132.63
"	last years bills.....	95.00
"	Agent's expenses, board detention home for children	
	Auto & team hire, etc.....	354.66
	Salary, Agent half year.....	150.00
	Victory Bond.....	50.00
	Balance on hand.....	23.67
		<hr/>
		\$ 805.96
Nov. 29th,	By balance on hand.....	\$ 23.67

C. A. PATRIQUIN,
Secretary-Treasurer.

Agent's Report.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen:—

In making this my sixth Annual Report as Agent of your Society, I would ask you to bear patiently with me, as it is of necessity very much the same as former ones, though I am making it shorter than usual.

One thing that impressed me very forcibly in my visiting throughout the county, is the great need of a Home for feeble minded. This class has been very much neglected, both the young and old.

Our last Annual Meeting was held on November 6th. On the 7th I received word from Kentville that two boys, aged 11 and 13 years, were in jail for stealing. I went before the Magistrate, S. S. Strong, who gave them into our care with instructions to appear before the Judge of the County Court. On the 26th November, Judge Webster held Court and the boys were made over to our Society and were placed in the Industrial School. They remained there until July 25th and were allowed to go home on probation.

On the same day that I took the boys to Halifax I also took little Pearl Brewster (who you will remember was at our Annual Meeting last year) to the Children's Hospital, where she remained until April 8th, she afterwards stayed with Mrs. Sutherland until June 27th, when we took her home and she is doing nicely.

In December a case was reported from Kingsport. I kept in touch with the little boy until July 18th when I went to Court and he was given over to our care.

The next case was a mother and three children. Two of whom are in our care and have good homes.

January 1918. It was brought to my notice that a young girl, whose father and mother were dead, needed looking after. I went to see her and she was legally committed to our Society. She is now in a good home and earning good wages.

February. Mr. Blois asked me to go to Annapolis County and look into a case reported to him. I did so. Later took up a case in Berwick. The boy was made over to our care. In the same month the step-mother of the two children whose father had gone to the war and who had placed the children in homes before going away, came to see if she could get control of his children. After considerable correspondence I came to the conclusion that the children were better off where they were.

March 1st. I attended, with Mr. Calkin, the Women's Institute at Grand Pre and also a meeting at Upper Canard. Rev. Mr. Bone and Mr. R. W. North addressed the latter.

March 2nd. I went to Lakeville and found a little girl three years old very much neglected. Took her to our Detention Home and under Mrs. Sutherland's care she soon picked up. On the 14th, I attended a meeting at Ladies' Institute Port Williams. Dr. Elliott gave the address.

A case was reported from Sheffield's Mills, which Dr. Elliott visited with me, and found the child suffering from rickets. Later on I took the boy to the hospital where he was operated on.

The whole year has been a busy one, visiting and investigating so many cases that if I went into detail you would tire of listening to them. I might just mention one. A father came to me about his boy. The mother being dead and he at work, he could not give him the care that was needed. I helped him place the boy where he has good care and training.

In July I attended court in the case of two children and they were committed to our care, also three cases on the 18th with the same result.

Mr. Blois asked me if I would visit the children again this year, so in September I made the rounds. All were well except one, for whom I am making arrangements to have go to the Children's Hospital to have an operation on his nose and throat.

In September a complaint came to me that a boy had been arrested for stealing. I went to Court and the charge was proved, and the boy placed in our care. On account of the boy's age and the fact that his father was dead, we thought it best to allow him to return to his mother, but in less than a week another charge was brought against him. Went to Court a second time and took him to the Industrial School.

Having been asked by Mr. Blois I went to Bridgetown in the case of a little boy. He was made over to the care of the Superintendent of Neglected and Delinquent Children, and I took him to Cambridge to a good home.

About the last of October I was called to visit a family on the South Mountain. The father was away and there were four children from 11 years to 20 years. The three eldest are feeble minded. I would like the Society to direct me as to what I ought to do in this case.

The Secretary of the Patriotic Fund, Mr. Roy of Kentville, asked me to look after a case at Lockhartville and gave me one hundred and five dollars to spend on her behalf. I visited her and will see that she is provided for.

We have had twelve children committed to our care this year. Two more than last, making a total of forty-one.

You can easily understand that looking after them with all the other cases entails a great deal of work.

	1918	1917.
Have travelled by rail.....	2520 miles	1257 miles
“ “ “ auto.....	770 “	400 “
“ “ “ horse & carriage.	539 “	759 “
Long distance phones.....	111	90
Letters received.....	119	105
Letters dispatched.....	115	96
Visits paid.....	117	100
Salary received from the County Treasurer.....		\$300.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

H. STAIRS,
Agent.

Mrs. Bessie Egan.—Mrs Egan is the agent of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty, which is a recognized Children's Aid Society. Her work is not confined to Halifax City,

but extends to all parts of the Province. Mrs Egan's work is mainly among women and girls, but in most cases this also includes children, thus she is brought into direct contact with many of the problems confronting this department, and her advice and assistance are gratefully acknowledged.

Mrs Egan is a tremendous worker. We have known her to leave Halifax in the morning train for Sydney, returning on that night's train to Halifax, but not in a sleeper, preferring to sit up all night—and be on duty all the following day in Halifax. There are probably very few living persons who have heard more family quarrels discussed, more tales of desertion, more stories of ruined lives than Mrs Egan, and there are fewer still who have so cheerfully given themselves to the performance of what is often a disagreeable and trying duty. Long may she continue to hold the office of agent of the S. P. C.

The Superintendent as a Children's Aid Society

Our work as a Children's Aid Society may be stated in statistics as follows:—

21 children were delivered into our care by the Juvenile Court, Halifax.

6 children from the Juvenile Court at New Glasgow.

49 children from various parts of the Province other than the Juvenile Courts.

Total number committed to the Superintendent, 76 children.

Number placed in foster homes by Superintendent 51.

Number of cases investigated and reported on 150.

The financial statement for this division of our work is found in Appendix B.

These statistics convey but a poor idea of the work undertaken or accomplished.

There are a few people who believe that dealing with individual cases is only a waste of time, energy and money; that our whole resources should be directed towards removing

the causes which produce neglect, delinquency and crime. We are told that we will never rid the world of these unless we remove the causes which produce them. While we believe that there are many things which can be done to reduce neglect and delinquency we do not know of any way of entirely eliminating them in this or the next generation. In the meantime individual cases cry aloud for redress and after all, by dealing with individual cases we are checking the increase of neglect and delinquency. There must not be the slightest doubt on this point. Every case of neglect properly dealt with means less neglect in the next generation.

New Environment—Many of our children placed in foster homes have done remarkably well. It is really astonishing to see the marked improvement physically, mentally and morally in these children. Our visitors' reports have been this year very encouraging indeed. In very few cases have there been any serious complaints. It is true that not all of the children turn out well, but the percentage is remarkably high.

Medical Care.—We wish to again emphasize the importance of adequate medical care of the children. A large number of them suffer from curable physical ills. We are fortunate at the present time of having placed at our disposal the services of Dr. Brison, at the Daughters of the Empire Home for Subnormal Children. We consider it very essential that our children should be examined as to their mentality, and we trust that satisfactory arrangements can be made that an examination may be held for every child in the future. If this be done the number of "misfits" or children placed in foster homes who turn out badly will be reduced to the minimum.

We wish to emphasize what we have stated in several former reports, that there are each year committed to our care a certain number of children who cannot be placed in foster homes on account of their low mentality or because of diseased physical condition or both. For these children the amount fixed by statutes for their maintenance is pitifully inadequate. How far will \$3.50 per week go towards maintaining a child in the advanced stages of tuberculosis, or a child suffering from venereal disease? It is impossible to place such children in ordinary institutions. A private boarding house must be found and the statutory amount for maintenance will not pay their board, much less supply them with clothing and medical attention. In the case of the Children's Aid Societies they must depend upon private charity for such cases. The amounts

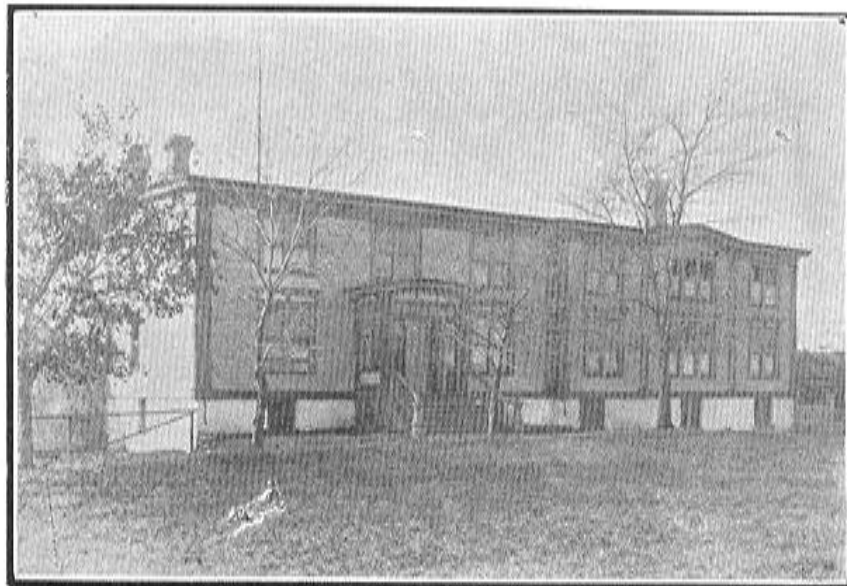
collected and expended by these Societies have been very considerable. In the case of children committed to the Superintendent he has no fund available, and we would urge upon the Legislature the necessity of providing him with an amount to cover such cases.

REFORMATORY INSTITUTIONS.

The statistical tables following, give interesting and valuable information regarding each institution. There are four reformatories: The Halifax Industrial School for Protestant Boys; The Maritime Home for Girls at Truro for Protestant Girls; St. Patrick's Home, Halifax, for Roman Catholic Boys; and the Monastery of the Good Shepherd, Halifax, for Roman Catholic Girls.

Where the Juvenile Delinquents Act of Canada is in force, (Halifax City and County of Pictou) children are committed to reformatory institutions for indefinite terms and may be released, on the recommendation of the Superintendent, by the Judge of the Court.

In all other parts of the Province the children are committed under the Criminal Code and for fixed terms and can only be released by executive clemency of the Governor General. When so released they are generally placed under the care and supervision of the Superintendent.



St. Patrick's Home, Halifax.

St. Patrick's Home.

1. Total number in Institution on Sept. 30th, 1918—105.
2. Number of those in (1) committed by Juvenile Courts.—14.
3. Number of those in (1) committed for Truancy.—24.
4. Number of those in (1) committed for criminal offences.—52.
5. Number in Institution not committed by any legal process.
(*i. e.* by friends or guardians).—19.
6. Number of those in (5) not paid for (*i. e.* kept free).—2.
7. Number of those in (1) sent by the Superintendent of
Neglected and Delinquent Children as *neglected* children
—9.
8. Number of those in (1) sent by Children's Aid Societies
as neglected children.—1.
9. Number of those in (1) sent by the Superintendent of
Neglected and Delinquent Children, with consent of
the Attorney General, as delinquent.—0.
10. Number of those in (2) from City of Halifax.—12.
11. Number of those in (2) from outside City of Halifax.—2.
12. Number of Escapes during year ending Sept. 30th, 1918.—10
13. Number of those in (12) returned.—10.
14. Number transferred to other penal institutions.—0.



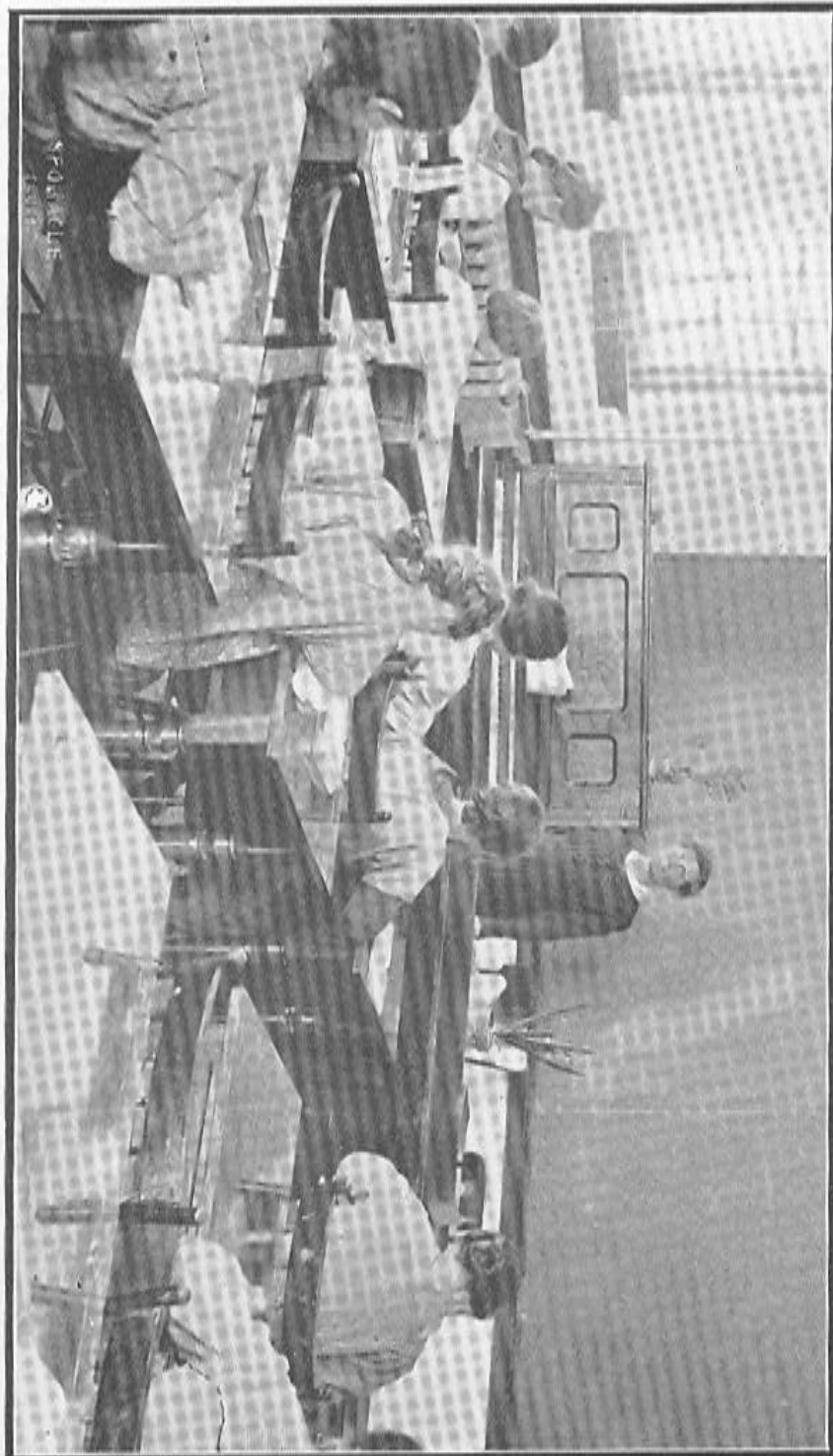
Halifax Industrial School

Halifax Industrial School.

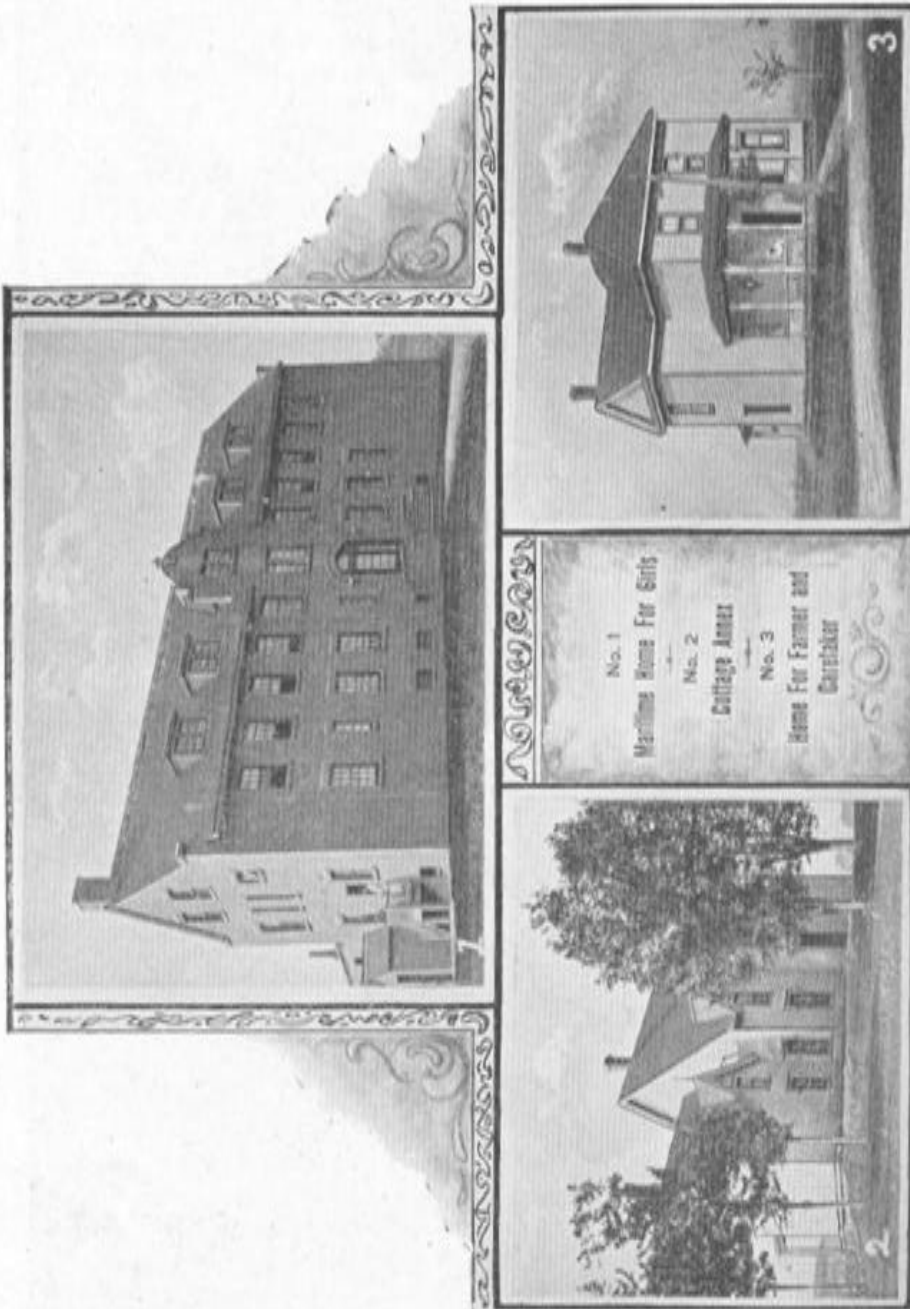
1. Total number in Institution on Sept. 30th, 1918.—91.
2. Number of those in (1) committed by Juvenile Courts.—26.
3. Number of those in (1) committed for Truancy.—13.
4. Number of those in (1) committed for criminal offences.—34.
5. Number in Institution not committed by any legal process. (*i. e.* by friends or guardians).—3
6. Number of those in (5) not paid for (*i. e.* kept free).—Nil.
7. Number of those in (1) sent by the Superintendent of Neglected and Delinquent Children as *neglected* children.—13.
8. Number of those in (1) sent by Children's Aid Societies as neglected children.—2.
9. Number of those in (1) sent by the Superintendent of Neglected and Delinquent Children, with consent of the Attorney General, as delinquent.—0.
10. Number of those in (2) from City of Halifax.—5.
11. Number of those in (2) from outside City of Halifax.—21.
12. Number of Escapes during year ending Sept. 30th, 1918.—15.
13. Number of those in (12) returned.—All.
14. Number transferred to other penal institutions.—7:

Monastery of the Good Shepherd

1. Total number in Institution on Sept. 30th, 1918.—193.
2. Number of those in (1) committed by Juvenile Courts.—0.
3. Number of those in (1) committed for Truancy.—
4. Number of those in (1) committed for criminal offences.—4 adults, 10 children.
5. Number in institution not committed by any legal process. (*i. e.* by friends or guardians).—161.
6. Number of those in (5) not paid for, (*i. e.* kept free).—140.
7. Number of those in (1) sent by the Superintendent of Neglected and Delinquent Children as *neglected* children.—15.
8. Number of those in (1) sent by the Children's Aid Societies as neglected children.—2.
9. Number of those in (1) sent by the Superintendent of Neglected and Delinquent Children, with the consent of the Attorney General, as delinquents.—1.
10. Number of those in (2) from the City of Halifax.—0.
11. Number of those in (2) from outside City of Halifax.—0.
12. Number of Escapes during year ending Sept. 30th, 1918.—1.
13. Number of those in (12) returned.—1.
14. Number transferred to other penal institutions.—0.



Class Room, Maritime Home for Girls.



Maritime Home for Girls.

1. Total number in Institution on Sept. 30th, 1918.—47.
2. Number of those in (1) committed by Juvenile Courts.—11.
3. Number of those in (1) committed for Truancy.—1.
4. Number of those in (1) committed for criminal offences.—13.
5. Number in institution not committed by any legal process (*i. e.* by friends or guardians).—2.
6. Number of those in (5) not paid for, (*i. e.* kept free).—0.
7. Number of those in (1) sent by the Superintendent of Neglected and Delinquent Children as *neglected* children.—9.
8. Number of those in (1) sent by the Children's Aid Societies as neglected children.—7.
9. Number of those in (1) sent by the Superintendent of Neglected and Delinquent Children, with the consent of the Attorney General, as Delinquents.—0.
10. Number of those in (2) from the City of Halifax.—3.
11. Number of those in (2) from outside City of Halifax.—8.
12. Number of Escapes during year ending Sept 30th, 1918.—4.
13. Number of those in (12) returned.—4.
14. Number transferred to other penal institutions.—0.

Monastery of the Good Shepherd.

*To. Mr. Ernest H. Blois,
Supt. Neglected and Delinquent Children,
Halifax, N. S.*

Sir:—The year just passed has witnessed many changes in our Institution, in a material way. We have transformed a hayloft into a spacious and well ventilated school. We have also equipped a small family kitchen, where girls are taught the culinary art, a sewing room where we teach them dress-making and a room where lessons in mattress making are given to them. A large sunny corridor, connecting the main Building with the School, is used with advantage by the children for their Gymnastic Exercises. These departments were just completed when the never to be forgotten explosion occurred. Alas! the work done at the price of so many sacrifices, was ruined in a moment—the heating apparatus alone had cost us \$2700.00.

The repairs of this building and of the others, have cost, \$24,537.60. We received from the Halifax Relief Commission, only \$11,500.00, leaving us with a debt of \$13,037.60, added to the already existing mortgage: \$20,000.00, while the increased

cost of running our Institution this year is: \$17,143.27. If some people have derived enormous benefits from the war, and even from the Halifax disaster, it had a contrary effect with our Institution. Nevertheless, we feel grateful that we did not lose any of our inmates, and that none of them were seriously injured. We may add that it was also a great consolation for us to be able to shelter 78 homeless persons, and to minister to the sick and wounded. You will have an idea of our task from the 6th of December to the 22nd of January when we tell you that besides our ordinary household duties, we served 2871 meals, and that the Sister in charge of our "Dressing Station," did 1649 dressings. We have admired the splendid work of the Red Cross, and we have very much appreciated their assistance in supplying requisites for our emergency Hospital. Praises are also due to the Gen. Jemen on the Food Committee, they were certainly solicitous in our regard.

For the information of those who still ignore the aim of the Religious of the Good Shepherd, we will say that it is:

1. Rehabilitation or Reeducation: Girls or women who, after having lost their honor, wish to amend their ways, and later on take their place in society. When any one of these has the courage to spend the remainder of her life in the exercise of prayer and mortification, she is free to do so by joining the Order of Magdalens, instituted for that purpose under the management of the Religious of the Good Shepherd.
2. Reformation: Wayward girls or juvenile offenders. Women, addicted to drink or to other vices, committed by Courts.
3. Neglected Children.

This work of reeducation and reformation requires a long moral and psychological training, which each Sister receives during the first years of her joining the Order, and she is kept out of the work until she is judged fit to undertake it, by her Superiors. The Religious of the Good Shepherd are not trained for the care of maternity cases, for aged and invalid ladies, nor for the feeble-minded, still, constant demands of that nature are made upon us. We have actually 52 cases of low mentality. If the present conditions continue, and no relief is granted elsewhere, this Institution will be one entirely of defectives. The wayward girl and defective girl require entirely different training and care, and when the two are necessarily intermingled the problem of training either class adequately is not satisfactorily solved.

We are often asked as to the result of our work as seen in the girls who have left the Institution. From the year 1890 to 1895, the percentage of girls who turned out well is, 30% from 1895 to the present, 75%.

When girls leave the Institution, they are supplied with three outfits. If their home is out of the City, we pay their way and give them some money according to their circumstances.

Good substantial food is furnished to our inmates. For breakfast, they have: tea, bread and butter (creamery) porridge, milk, molasses, cheese and hash alternately. On feast days: baked beans or sausages. For dinner: soup, roasted or boiled beef or mutton or fish, potatoes and other vegetables. Dessert, 3 times a week. At every meal, as much bread as they wish. In the afternoon, a cup of tea with bread, molasses or butter.

For supper: boiled rice with prunes or raisins, baked apples, cold meat hash, jam, apple or peach puddings, biscuits alternately.

All the little ones are served with milk instead of tea, the result is that they are remarkably healthy.

When sick, our "Children" as we like to call them, received the same attendance as the Religious. Dr. W. T. Flinn, our devoted physician, comes regularly twice a week and every day, when there are some very ill. The most abject of our Inmates are treated with as much considerateness as if they were the children of the wealthy.

Yours respectfully,

THE RELIGIOUS OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD.

Maritime Home for Girls.

To E. H. Blois, Esq.,

Supt. Neglected and Delinquent Children.

Sir:—The Maritime Home for Girls was opened September 1st., 1914, since which time we have had enrolled 83 girls, 48 of whom are now in the Institution.

Work began in a reconstructed farm house which was capable of accommodating about two dozen girls, later on another house was secured and in these two, work was carried on until the completion of the brick cottage which is the first of a series of buildings we expect to erect.

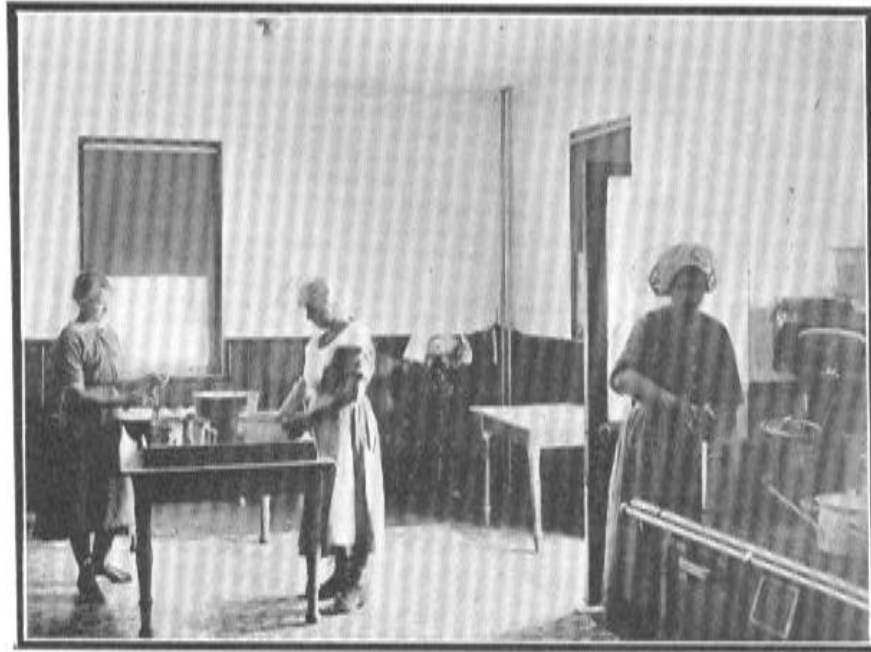
This new building, Dr. Hastings Hart, who is the superintendent of Child Welfare of the Russell Sage Foundation, states, is the most modern of its kind on the continent. It contains a school room which supplies an assembly room sufficiently large to accommodate all the girls in the Home and the proper atmosphere for school and for prayer services is much more easily secured now that the girls do not have to sit in such cramped quarters. Comfortable desks have been provided, each containing a drawer for books, slates, etc., and ample blackboard space for all demonstration purposes. The large kitchen and laundry departments add greatly to the efficiency of the work and are proving particularly valuable in a practical way. The dining-room has seating capacity for thirty-six girls, with ample space for the Officers' table, and the sewing-room is a warm room with two large windows facing the south. The sleeping accommodation is excellent. Besides five private rooms for the Officers, there are for the girls fourteen single rooms, one double room and one large, light and airy dormitory capable of containing nine beds. The eastern end of the third story is fitted up as two excellent hospital wards, capable of accommodating four patients, and in connection there is a good kitchen, nurse's room, bathroom, and stock-room. In cases of contagion, by the mere locking of a hall door this end of the building can be entirely isolated from the remainder of the house. The Officers' sitting-room has been attractively furnished. This is the one room in the busy life of the Home where the Officers may go when they have finished their day's work and be undisturbed. In a work requiring constant educational and disciplinary effort, the officers must be enabled to secure rest and recuperation.

The Home is now receiving girls as fast as they are being committed, but it is not only the capacity of the Home we must consider but the qualified and consecrated women who work with the girls, and endeavour to lift them to a higher plane of living.

In addition to the farmer, whose cottage is on the same premises, we have at present a staff of seven workers, four of whom are licensed school teachers for the Province of Nova Scotia, one a graduate Domestic Science teacher, one a stenographer, and two efficient dressmakers. As we have two separate residences, one being for the smaller and younger children and the other for older girls, this number of officers is required and there has been a fine spirit of co-operation between the officers and girls which has been largely due to the noble and self-sacrificing spirit with which the officers have done their work for the girls.

A number of girls received would come under the classification of feeble minded, and these girls should be placed in another institution with permanent custodial care as they are incapable of responding to the training given in the Home.

Every girl in coming to us, receives a thorough examination by our physician. Any physical defects, needing treatment, are attended to. She is given a quarantine, preferably of two weeks. The idea of having a quarantine for a new girl is two-fold, that she may get used to her surroundings before being placed with the other girls, and that she may spread no contagious disease, which it is possible she may bring with her.



Domestic Science, Maritime Home for Girls.

The training of the girls has one aim—to make them useful independent members of society. As home-making is most essential, their training consists in domestic requirements, kitchenwork, with a knowledge of plain cooking, dining-room and scullery work, house maid's work, laundry and sewing. In the sewing room the girls are taught to darn, mend, and do plain sewing, such as the making of their own dresses. In the house-work, kitchen and laundry departments the aim is to so train a girl as to fit her for the usual conditions of life found in a private home, and we endeavour to see that every

moment of the girl's time is fully occupied either with interesting work or wholesome recreation. Our school has been open six hours of each day and great progress has been made in this department of our work. We have a regular licensed teacher, and our school is under the inspection of Mr. Campbell, Inspector of Schools for the County. In July last two pupils successfully passed the examinations for entrance into high school and at present we have six pupils studying the eighth grade work.

The amusements of the girls are carefully supervised. It has been, often, through their love of amusement that girls have been led astray. Organized games are used as they prevent little groups from gathering and talking over their past experiences. Our Merrytime Club was organized to fill Saturday afternoons, and this is a source of great pride to the girls. It is an educational agency which is enjoyable and intensely interesting, and profitable debates have been held, instructive papers written by the girls, in addition to a number of creditable concerts given.

All girls are trained in out-door work, such as milking, assisting and caring for the crops and in general work about the farm. This we find beneficial in every way as to get in touch with nature through working, thinking and living out-of-doors is a great factor in reclaiming and moulding the girls.

During the past year the girls had entire charge of four acres of land, and as a result they were able to supply us with an abundance of vegetables for the Home as well as a large quantity for the market. At the beginning of the summer each girl was given a little plot of ground as a garden and in these plots they planted seed of their own choosing, some preferring flowers and some vegetable seeds. Apart from the necessary farm work which they did, the caring of these small gardens was a source of great pleasure to them as well as being a means of developing in them the love of the beautiful. In addition to our own farm work, between 20 and 30 girls have during the summer frequently gone to the Agricultural College Farm at Bible Hill to assist with the weeding, hoeing, transplanting, or the harvesting of the crops, and the officials of the College have expressed their full appreciation of the service rendered. Thirty of the girls, having this summer fulfilled the required number of months in farm work, won their "Soldier of the Soil" buttons of which they are very proud. We, at the Home are greatly indebted to Principal Cumming of the Agricultural College for kindly superintending the farm work of our Institution.

As an aid to uplifting the standard of life among the girls, we have adopted the Honour System. Marks are given for each day, and for every misdemeanour marks are deducted from the total—for instance for neglect of work, untidiness, untruthfulness or disobedience. Schedules of work are changed four times a year, each period is counted a term. At the end of the first term, ninety per cent. of the total number of marks entitles a girl to a red badge. For the second term, a blue badge is the reward, and for the third term, an honour pin of blue and white enamel with the letters M. H. G., Maritime Home for Girls. These honours are highly prized, and the difficulty of winning them and keeping them will always make them so. The occasion of awarding the honours is always celebrated in some way. When a girl retains her honour button for one term we try her out on parole. We have placed our girls, as far as possible, in the smaller towns, or in the country, where the social lines are not rigidly drawn, and where they can have more social life, and a greater opportunity for self-development. On a number of occasions girls on parole have returned to the Home for a visit of a few days, or a week or two, and we feel that we owe it to them to provide a "home" where they can return for a little change or pleasure.

The Girls go regularly to church on Sunday morning, but we are dependent for the Friday and Sunday evening services on friends in Truro, who have generously given their time and effort to us in this way.

The maintenance of the Home is at the present time a very difficult problem. At the increased cost of living the amount paid by the Municipality and the Government is not at all sufficient for the upkeep of the Home, and each year there has been a deficiency, which during the past year amounted to more than \$2000.00. As we have no endowment of any sort and have never received any legacies or bequests toward the fund for maintenance, all deficiencies have been met equally by the Social Service Department of the Presbyterian and Methodist churches, which have assumed that responsibility. We feel that the amount paid by the Municipality and the Government should be greatly increased, and that these two Churches should not be called upon to pay for the training and education of the delinquent girls, of all Protestant denominations, over whom the Government assumes control. We practice the strictest economy as will be seen from our accompanying bill of fare for a week, and yet endeavour to provide the girls with sufficient wholesome food to supply the lack of their early years and build up a strong type of womanhood.

As each girl is paroled an additional expense is incurred in providing her with the following clothing:

One woollen dress.
 One good summer dress.
 One dress suitable for afternoon wear.
 Two morning dresses.
 Two white aprons.
 Two dark aprons.
 Two complets outfits of underwear.
 One coat.
 One hat.
 One good pair of boots.
 Two white caps.
 One pair of gloves.

Typical Menu for Week.

Monday.

Breakfast Rolled oats, bread, milk.
 Dinner Stew, (beef or mutton) potatoes, bread, blanc mange.
 Supper Bread and butter, boiled rice, milk and sugar, gingerbread, coffee.

Tuesday.

Breakfast Cornmeal, bread, milk.
 Dinner Macaroni and cheese, potatoes, parsnips, cottage pudding and sauce.
 Supper Bread, peanut butter, cranberry sause, cornbread, milk.

Wednesday.

Breakfast Rolled oats, milk, bread.
 Dinner Vegetable soup, bread, baked apples.
 Supper Bread, peanut butter, pea soup, muffins, coffee.

Thursday.

Breakfast Cornmeal, bread, milk.
 Dinner Stew with vegetables, bread, Indian pudding.
 Tea Bread, peanut butter, baked apples, cookies, cocoa.

Friday.

Breakfast Rolled oats, bread, milk.
 Dinner Boiled cod, potatoes, cabbage, baked pudding and sauce.
 Tea Bread, butter, potato scallop, biscuit, milk.

Saturday.

Breakfast Cornmeal, bread, milk.
 Dinner Vegetable soup, bread, boiled rice, milk and sugar.
 Tea Bread, biscuits, cake, jam, cocoa.

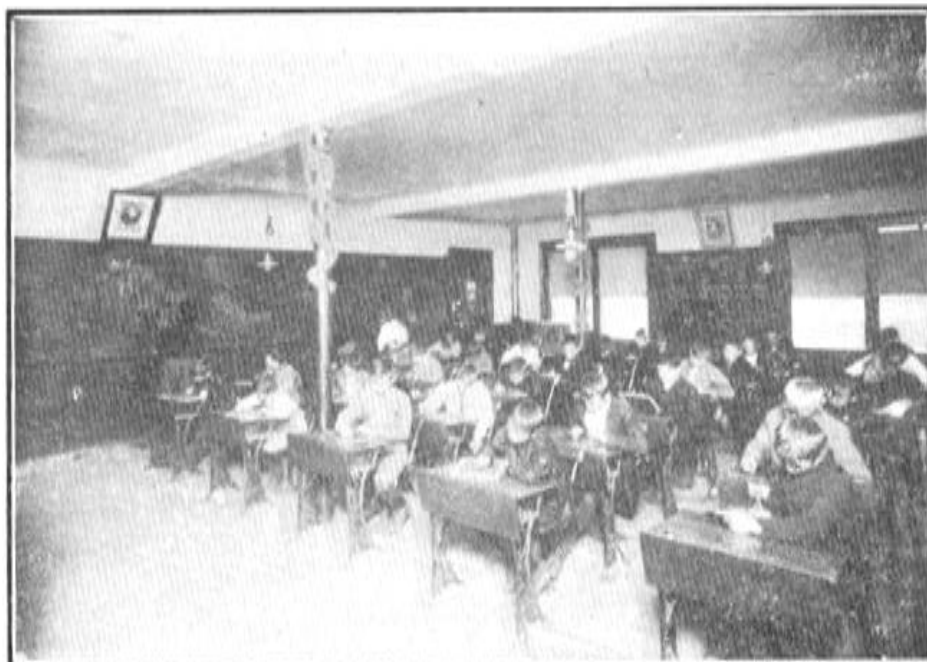
Sunday.

Breakfast Cream of wheat, rolls, jam and coffee.
 Dinner Baked beans, potatoes, peas and apple pie.
 Tea Bread, jam, milk.

JOSEPHINE STROTHARD,
Supt.



On the Farm. St. Patrick's Home.



Class Room, St. Patrick's Home.



Haymaking at St. Patrick's Home.



Haymaking at St. Patrick's Home.

NEGLECTED AND DELINQUENT CHILDREN

69

ST. PATRICK'S HOME FOR BOYS.

Date of Organization—A. D. 1885.

Class of Children—Delinquent, Neglected and Boarders.

Officers.

President or chairman of governing board—His Grace Archbishop McCarthy.

Resident superintendent or manager—Brother director.

Resident officers or teachers—Five brothers.

Property.

No. of acres—47.

No. of buildings—1.

Value of real property—

Maintenance.

Do you receive public funds?—Yes.

Do you receive private funds?—Yes.

Amount of public funds per year—\$13,117.91.

Total cost of maintenance for year—\$24,204.85.

Plan.

Cottage—No.

Capacity—95.

Congregate—

Population.

No. of children present 30th, Sept. 1918—105.

No. of resident officers and assistants—Five Brothers.

No. children admitted during year ending Sept. 30, 1918—80.

No. children discharged during year ending Sept. 30, 1918—73.

No. children placed in foster homes during year ending Sept. 30, 1918—7.

No. children returned to parents or friends during year—66.

Average daily attendance—100.

Grades.

No. of children who are crippled—None.

No. children who are feeble minded—None.

No. children who are orphans—

No. children who are half-orphans—

No. children died during year ending Sept. 30, 1918—None.

No. of children in institution who are illegitimate—2.

No. children attending day school—103.

Plant.

Kind of material of buildings—Wood.

No. of stories high—3.

Are there fire-escapes?—Yes.

Location of fire-escapes—West side.

Average number cubic feet of air in sleeping room for child—470.

Inside or outside toilet rooms?—Both.

Individual or plunge bath tubs?—Former.

Individual or roller towels?—Former.

Are chairs or benches used in dining-room?—Former.

Are there table-cloths?—Yes.

Kind—White linen.

Is there a school garden?—Yes.

Do children have individual gardens?—Yes.

State general crops grown in gardens—Vegetables, legumes, small fruits.

Is there a physician for institution?—Yes. Name—Dr. George H. Murphy.

Is there dental inspection?—Yes. Name of dentist—Halifax Dental College.

Discipline.

Are records of punishment kept?—No.

Is corporal punishment administered?—Yes.

Is solitary confinement used as punishment?—No.

70 REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF

HALIFAX INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL.

Date of Organization—1864.
Class of children—Neglected and Delinquent.

Officers.

President or chairman of governing board—S. M. Brookfield, Esq.
Resident superintendent or manager—W. J. Johns.
Resident officers or teachers—J. Armstrong, G. Hilton, Mrs. Johns.

Property.

No. of acres—26.
No. of buildings—3.
Value of real property—\$50,000.00.

Maintenance.

Do you receive public funds?—Yes.
Do you receive private funds?—Yes.
Amount of public funds per year—\$12,500.00.
Total cost of maintenance for year—\$32,000.00.

Plan.

Cottage— Congregate—Yes.
Capacity—100.



The Flower Garden, Halifax Industrial School.

Population.

No. of children present 30th Sept. 1918.—91.
No. of resident officers and assistants—4.
No. children admitted during year ending Sept. 30, 1918—80.
No. children discharged during year ending Sept. 30, 1918—16.
No. children placed in foster homes during year ending Sept. 30—12.
No. children returned to parents or friends during year—24.
Average daily attendance—

Grades.

No. of children who are crippled—1.
No. children who are feeble-minded—3.

NEGLECTED AND DELINQUENT CHILDREN 71

No. of children who are orphans—9.
No. children who are half-orphans—24.
No. children died during year ending Sept. 30, 1918—2.
No. of children in institution who are illegitimate—
No. children attending day school—89.

Plant.

Kind of material of buildings—Wood.
No. of stories high—3.
Are there fire-escapes?—Yes.
Location of fire-escapes—North, East and West.
Average No. cubic feet of air in sleeping room for child—540.
Inside or outside toilet rooms?—Both.
Individual or plunge bath tubs?—Individual.
Individual or roller towels?—Individual.
Are chairs or benches used in dining-rooms?—Chairs.
Are there table-cloths?—Yes. Kind—White American cloth.
Is there a school garden?—
Do children have individual gardens?—No.
State general crops grown in gardens—Small fruits, roots and cabbages.
Is there a physician for institution?—Yes. Name—A. Morton.
Is there dental inspection?—Yes. Name of dentist—Maritime Dental College

Discipline.

Are records of punishment kept?—Yes.
Is corporal punishment administered?—Yes.
Is solitary confinement used as punishment?—No.

MONASTERY OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD.

Date of Organization—June 11, 1890.
Class of Children—Fallen women, prisoners, neglected and delinquent children.

Officers.

President or chairman of governing board—Sr. M. of Seraphim.
Resident superintendent or manager—Sr. M. of Seraphim

Property.

No. of acres—8.
No. of buildings—4.
Value of real property—about \$140,000.00.

Maintenance.

Do you receive public funds?—Yes.
Do you receive private funds?—Yes.
Amount of public funds per year—\$4662.00 in School salary.
Total cost of maintenance for year Sept., 30, 1917 to Sept 30,—1918 \$60,013.60
does not include repairs of damages caused by explosion.

Plan.

Cottage—No. Congregate—Yes.
Capacity—250.

Population.

No. of children and adults present 30th, Sept. 1918—193.
No. of resident officers and assistants—46.
No. of children admitted during year ending Sept. 30, 1918.—58.
No. of children discharged during year ending Sept. 30, 1918—37 placed—1 sent to
N. S. Hospital.
No. children placed in foster homes during year ending Sept. 30, 1918—4.
No. of children returned to parents or friends during year—33.
Average daily attendance—192.

Grades.

No. of children and adults who are crippled—3.
 No. of children who are feeble minded—60.
 No. of children who are orphans—15.
 No. of children who are half-orphans—36.
 No. of children died during year ending Sept. 30, 1918—9.
 No. of children in institution who are illegitimate—14.
 No. of children attending school—40 Night school—35.

Plant.

Kind of material of buildings—Brick.
 No. of stories high—5. Laundry—2. School—2.
 Are there fire-escapes?—Yes.
 Location of fire-escapes—Inside, (Outside)—Rope ladder.
 Average no. cubic feet of air in sleeping room for child—482.
 Inside or outside toilet rooms—Inside.
 Individual or plunge bath tubs—Individual wash basins—10 bath tubs.
 Individual or roller towels?—Individual.
 Are chairs or benches used in dining-room?—Benches.
 Are there table-cloths—No—Each child has a large napkin resting on table.
 Is there a school garden?—Yes.
 Do children have individual gardens?—No.
 State general crops grown in gardens—Vegetables of all kinds—flowers.
 Is there a physician for institution?—Yes. Name—Dr. P. N. Flynn.
 Is there dental inspection—Yes. Name of dentist—Dr. H. Rice.

Discipline.

Are records of punishment kept?—No.
 Is corporal punishment administered?—No.
 Is solitary confinement used as punishment?—Yes.

MARITIME HOME FOR GIRLS.

Date of Organization—Sept. 1st, 1914.
 Class of children—Delinquent and wayward.

Officers.

President or chairman of governing board—Rev. R. W. Ross, M. A., Halifax, N. S.
 Resident superintendent or manager—Josephine Strothard.

Property.

No. of acres—220.
 No. of buildings—3.
 Value of real property—\$38,000.00.

Maintenance.

Do you receive public funds?—Yes.
 Do you receive private funds?—Yes.
 Amount of public funds per year—\$4,812.90.
 Total cost of maintenance for year—\$8,484.62.

Plan

Cottage—Yes. Congregate—No.
 Capacity—48.

Population.

No. of children present 30th, Sept. 1918—47.
 No. of resident officers and assistants—7.
 No. of children admitted during year ending Sept. 30, 1918—31.

NEGLECTED AND DELINQUENT CHILDREN 73

No. of children discharged during year ending Sept. 30, 1918—6.
No. children placed in foster homes during year ending Sept. 30, 1918—6.
No. children returned to parents or friends during year—
Average daily attendance—35.

Grade.

No. of children who are crippled—
No. of children who are feeble-minded—7.
No. children who are orphans—3.
No. children who are half-orphans—18.
No. of children died during year ending Sept. 30, 1918—
No. of children in institution who are illegitimate—6.
No. children attending day school—47.

Plant.

Kind of material of buildings—Wood, brick and stone.
No. of stories high—3.
Are there fire-escapes?—Yes.
Location of fire-escapes—Outside.
Average no. cubic feet of air in sleeping room for child—402.
Inside or outside toilet rooms?—Inside.
Individual or plunge bath tubs?—Plunge.
Individual or roller towels—Individual.
Are chairs or benches used in dining-room?—Both.
Are there table-cloths?—Yes. Kind—Oilcloth.
Is there a school garden?—Yes.
Do children have individual gardens?—Yes.
State general crops grown in gardens—Vegetables of all kinds and small fruits.
Is there a physician for institution?—Yes. Name—Dr. R. W. Bentley.
Is there dental inspection?—Yes. Name of dentist—Drs. Daniel & Langille.

Discipline.

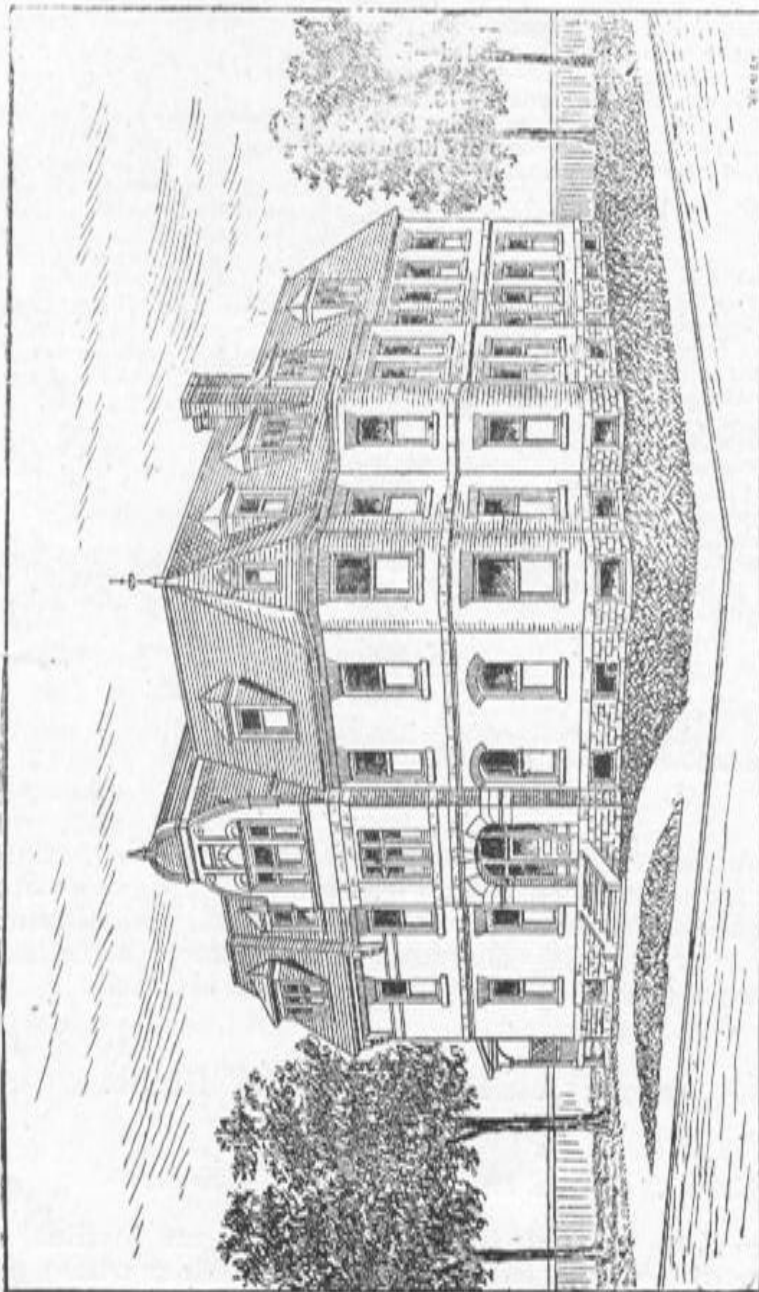
Are records of punishment kept?—Yes.
Is corporal punishment administered?—Yes, rarely.
Is solitary confinement used as punishment?—Yes.

Orphanages and Infants' Homes.—Loving care is a greater factor in the successful management of these institutions than untold wealth. The several Boards and Committees in charge are deeply concerned in the welfare of the children. They are to be congratulated on the success attained.

Report on Halifax Infants' Home.

To E. H. Blois, Esq.,
Supt. Neglected and Delinquent Children.

Sir:—The Halifax Infants' Home is an institution for the care of orphans, half orphans and children whose parents are mentally or physically unfit to care for them. It is also a maternity hospital. While we have some private patients,



Halifax Infants' Home

our main work is with the unmarried mother. We attribute our very low death rate, in part, to the fact that our mothers are obliged to remain to nurse their babies for six months. This not only insures the health of the baby, but also forms a very close bond between the mother and baby, which may mean the salvation of the mother.

The inmates of the Home come from all parts of the Province, and are referred by clergymen, physicians, municipal authorities, private individuals, who are interested, and by personal application. Our charge on admission is \$30.00, which covers the medical and nursing care for mother and baby for six months after the latter's birth. The mother assists in the work of the Home so far as she is physically able to do so, our aim being to give each girl the work she is best fitted for, and will be of most service to her in finding employment on leaving the Home. We also try to place each girl as she is ready to leave the Home in a position where she will be able to have happy normal surroundings and where there will be a personal interest taken in her. Children who are admitted to the Home for one reason or another without their mothers are paid for according to their parents' ability, the highest board being \$3.00 per week.

The staff consists of Superintendent, who is a graduate trained nurse, her assistant, also a graduate nurse, and four nurses, not graduates, who are taking training in maternity and children's work. This past year we have added to our staff a trained social worker, who has specialized in children's work. Her duties are to investigate all applications for admission to the Home, to place in carefully selected and personally investigated homes, children who are eligible for adoption. Our children are now placed on a year's trial before legal adoption takes place, during this year the visitor sees them every few months. A very friendly relationship is thus established between the Home and the foster parents. The visitor also keeps in touch by visiting, less frequently, the children who have been placed out by the Home in the past, more especially where legal adoption has not taken place.

We are growing to feel that adoption should be the exception and not the rule for the illegitimate child. When possible we arrange for the child to return to its own relatives, and we have been very successful in a number of instances in placing the children in this way. One little boy this past summer went to his grandfather, another child went to her aunt, while still others were taken home by their mothers. There are however, always children for whom it is impossible to find relatives,

who can care for them, and yet the mother does not wish to part with them. She is willing and able to pay board for her child. In these cases we are boarding the child in a very carefully selected private boarding home. We have been fortunate in finding some families where there is a real love of children and not an interest in the \$3.00 a week and clothing which we supply. These private homes are giving the child love and individual attention which it is impossible to obtain in the best run institution in the world. These children are visited frequently by the visitor from the Home and the child's mother is always a welcome guest. This foster mother is often a good friend to the child's mother and perhaps can be of real service to her. The children placed out in homes have two new sets of underwear, 2 night gowns and a wrapper, three dresses, three pairs of stockings, shoes, a sweater, hat and coat. These articles are renewed from time to time. Very frequently the boarding mother becomes so interested that she either makes or supplies a part or the whole wardrobe herself.

It might be interesting to close with a short account of the effect the great disaster of December 6th, 1917 had on our Home. We were fortunate in having our children and nurses uninjured save for a few slight scratches. Windows were of course broken, doors blown off their hinges and the building generally shaken. We, however, received very generous compensation from the Halifax Relief Commission for all damages sustained. The Home was prepared to care for some forty additional children, but it was found unnecessary to send us that number. Three unknown babies were admitted and afterwards claimed by relatives. One child, sent in by the Supt. of Neglected Children, was adopted into an excellent home. Mother and two children, who were with us for a time, later went to relatives. Six maternity cases were also admitted, two of whom brought children with them. They have all now been discharged and the Home has assumed its normal aspect.

**Weekly Diet for Children Ranging in Age from 18 Mos. to 5 Years.
Diet from Sept. 1st to May 1st.**

Monday A. M.	Oatmeal Porridge, milk and bread and butter.
Monday Noon.	Rice, milk and bread and butter.
Monday P. M.	Bread and milk pap.
Tuesday A. M.	Cornmeal porridge, milk and bread and butter.
Tuesday Noon.	Scrambled eggs, bread and butter.
Tuesday P. M.	Bread and milk pap.

Wednesday A. M.	Cornflakes, milk and bread and butter.
Wednesday Noon.	Soup, crackers and bread and butter.
Wednesday P. M.	Bread and milk pap.
Thursday A. M.	Oatmeal porridge, milk and bread and butter.
Thursday Noon.	Junket, bread and butter and milk.
Thursday P. M.	Bread and milk pap.
Friday A. M.	Cornmeal porridge, bread and butter, milk.
Friday Noon.	Pouched eggs, bread and butter.
Friday P. M.	Bread and milk pap.
Saturday A. M.	Oatmeal porridge, milk and bread and butter.
Saturday Noon.	Cornstarch, milk and crackers.
Saturday P. M.	Bread and milk pap.
Sunday A. M.	Cornflakes, milk and bread and butter.
Sunday Noon.	Soup, crackers, milk.
Sunday P. M.	Junket, bread and butter and milk.

At 10 A. M. and 3 P. M. warm milk is given and soda crackers.

Porridge is omitted in summer and light cereals substituted.

Respectfully submitted,

E. WOODWARD.

Halifax Detention Home.—This Home is under the control of the Ladies' Auxiliary of the S. P. C., which organization is the Children's Aid Society for the City of Halifax. While the Home is primarily intended as a temporary shelter for children of the City of Halifax, it has been used by the Superintendent of Neglected Children for shelter for a number from outside the City. During the year twenty-eight children were there for various terms from a few days to several months.

The Home is a private house with fairly commodious grounds and the children are well taken care of. A committee of ladies visit the Home frequently and keep the children supplied with clothing and other necessities. A doctor is in attendance when required. The object of the Home is to provide temporary shelter in cases of emergency. The Superintendent of Neglected and Delinquent Children has found this Home a very great assistance in his work and is under obligation to the ladies auxiliary of the S. P. C. for assistance which is rendered to the work of his department.

Bairncroft, Sydney.—An act to incorporate "Bairncroft" was passed by the Legislature during the session of 1918.

The Act states: "The objects of the corporation are to care for, train and educate children who shall be committed to their care, under the laws of Nova Scotia and regulations made thereunder, by any Children's Aid Society or by the Superintendent of Neglected and Delinquent Children, and such other children as the Board of Management shall from time to time determine."

The Committee in charge are to be congratulated on the choice of name.

The newest of the Homes for children is situated at Sydney Forks, near the City of Sydney. There are about forty acres of land and one cottage, having a capacity of sixteen or eighteen children. The situation is ideal. The Home was opened in September 1918, in charge of Miss Bray. The institution was soon full.

Next year there should be an interesting report of the work and progress of this Home.



First Cottage, Bairncroft.

Daughters of the Empire Home, Halifax.

To E. H. Blois, Esq.,

Supt. Neglected and Delinquent Children.

Dear Sir:—The "Daughters of the Empire" Home is situated on the Industrial School Grounds, in Halifax. It was started by the Imperial Order of the Daughters of the Empire, acting upon the advice and with the help of the Halifax Relief Commission and the Department of Neglected and Delinquent Children. The funds for starting and maintaining the Home were sent by the Daughters of the Empire of Canada to the Municipal Chapter, I. O. D. E. of Halifax, at the time of the Halifax Disaster, for the primary purposes of carrying on a Home for unclaimed children. When time proved that there was no necessity for just this type of Home, and proved that of all the children left in varying degrees of physical and mental abnormality, after the Disaster, the sub-normal or feeble-minded were most in need of care, the National I. O. D. E. consented to have their Fund used for the maintenance of a small Home for sub-normal children, as long as the funds should last. Owing to the fact that this Fund was primarily a Disaster Fund, it has been felt that only Halifax children should be admitted to the Home and that those suffering in any way thru the Disaster should have first consideration.

It is the intention of the Daughters of the Empire to carry on this experiment in training sub-normal children, to learn all they may concerning our conditions in this Province, and it is their hope that ultimately their Institution may form the nucleus of a large, well-equipped Provincial Institution. The I. O. D. E. are merely pioneers, merely a starting point, and have no intention of assuming the ultimate solution of this great problem of the sub-normal in the Province. We do hope to maintain, as long as our money lasts, a useful, well-run, carefully planned institution. Our present capacity is very limited, being only 10 children, with staff and we hope to increase it in the near future.

The Home opened to admit feeble-minded girls, from eight to seventeen years of age, on July 24th 1918. Three girls were admitted on that day.

The total number admitted from July 24 to Sept. 30 is ten. For various reasons, three of that number were returned to their homes. Number present, Sept. 30, 1918, seven girls.

The applications for admission for children from outside Halifax numbered five. These children were tested but not admitted.

The children are classified according to mental tests as follows:—

Chron. Age.	Mental Age.
17 yrs.	7 yrs.
13 "	5½ "
13 "	5 "
11 "	6½ "
10 "	6 "
10 "	6 "
10 "	5 "

On the first floor are two large sunny rooms, connected by folding doors, which are for the special use of the children. The first and smaller room contains a large loom, hand looms, black board, study table and other school materials. This is the general class room. The next room is larger and serves as a dining room and with the tables moved back, as a recreation room.

The children are allowed in the kitchen for instruction in housework. The other two rooms on the lower floor are for the use of the staff.

On the second floor are two wards, each with a capacity of five beds, and a toilet and bath, also three set hand basins. The children use individual towels, toilet articles, etc.

School and training classes started September 18th. Classes have been going on so short a time that there is not much improvement noticeable. The children enjoy the school work, lessons being presented in such a manner that their attention is held with little or no desire on their part to learn.

Their education is all on practical lines, tending to make them useful and self-reliant. Our aim is also to keep them happy and contented, making them feel that the Home is a real home to them.

The school work is principally reading, writing and some arithmetic, that will be of practical use, as counting and changing small sums of money.

They cannot be kept longer than twenty or thirty minutes at a time at school work, for they become restless and inattentive. This shows that they need relaxation. Several times during the morning, lessons stop for a few minutes, when the pupils play games, run races or have physical exercises.

The lower grade children do simple kindergarten work, which helps to strengthen and make steady their clumsy fingers. The sense training exercises develop the special senses, for what is learned naturally by normal children, has to be taught to mental defectives.

The higher grade children are being taught to sew, knit, weave, work with reed and raffia and do simple housework.

Each child has some regular daily work assigned to her. For the little ones, it is something very easy, that probably could be much better done by some one else, but if they are to lead a contented and harmless adult life, they must be taught useful occupations while young.

They have playthings to develop the play instinct and to keep their minds active.

The children, like most of the feeble-minded, are very fond of music, so much time is spent in singing both morning and evening.

They are taken to church Sunday mornings and behave in a quiet and orderly manner. In addition to the religious instruction, they receive valuable lessons in decorum by attending these services.

Education in its broadest sense as applied to these children is to develop them mentally, morally and physically. At the most, feeble-minded children can acquire very little education, but if they are well and properly trained, they will learn habits of usefulness and cleanliness that they will never forget.

Submitted by,

DR. ELIZA BRISON,
Supt. I. O. D. E. Home.

M. B. SEXTON,
Mun. Regent, I. O. D. E.

The Social Service Home, Sydney.

Sir:—The Presbyterian Social Service Home, Sydney, is a home for fallen girls where they are cared for during confinement and remain for nine months afterward. The child they take with them if possible. Some go to a situation where people will take a mother and child, in other cases it is thought best for the child to be left in the Home and offered for adoption. Five children have been placed in excellent homes during the last two months.

There are many demands made on our Institution, outside of our regular work and at present we have a small orphanage which complicates matters very much, but the cases seemed so urgent that they could not be refused.

In our work we meet the feeble minded girl and she is a problem that should be faced. The children of such mothers can not be expected to be very intelligent and while these girls, in most cases are excellent workers, good natured and happy, they are quite unable to care for themselves and are a menace to society.

MURIEL McDOUGALL,
Supt.

St. Mary's Home. Sydney.

Ernest H. Blois, Esq.,
Supt. Neglected and Delinquent Children.
Halifax, N. S.

Dear Sir:—Complying with your request to furnish some general information relating to St. Mary's Orphanage regarding its work, etc, etc, I present the following, for your consideration:

The work this Institution is doing, is looking after children, whose parents are unable to look after them, illegitimate children, children with one parent living, or any child that Charity presents for care. We have found that the demands made upon us, are away and beyond what was expected, until to-day we are unable to accommodate all who look for assistance and care. Though our Orphanage has been kept at capacity almost from its inception, we have found that the financial returns^c are very small, and the Institution is almost entirely dependent for its support on the generosity of the Catholic people of Antigonish Diocese.



St. Mary's Home.

A great many children in our care have been placed there by those who were unable to support them, either in the Institution, or out of it, so to-day we find on our hands quite a number of children from whom we derive no revenue. This matter is being attended to, and we hope by the time we are called upon to report again that these conditions will be much bettered, though we always expect to care for those who have no one else to look to for that protection all children need. Of course the attention that must be given to children of the tender years that our Orphanage looks after, calls for special qualifications in those whose duties place the infant in their charge. Our staff is well qualified for those duties, both as nurses to care for their health, and dress makers to look after their clothing. Most of the clothing for the children has been the result of the labor of our assistants, and we furnish this, as well as feed the children, for \$14.00, or \$15.00 per month. We cannot as yet determine any effect the training of the institution has on the children left to our care, the children are too small when they leave us to feel the effects of our work, except in a physical way, and the annexed menu, will give you information sufficient to judge whether their physical condition would be good or bad.



On the Lawn, St. Mary's Home.

The great question, and I may call it problem, is the matter of receiving payment for the board and lodging of some children who have been left in our care. We now are really doing work that relieves some of our Municipalities of their obligations through their Overseers of the Poor, and Poor Commissions. This is a matter that we are now trying to straighten out, and we expect just treatment from the different Municipalities interested.

Menu. St. Mary's Home.**Sunday.**

Breakfast Baked Beans, bread and butter, and milk.
 Dinner Roast Beef, mashed potatoes, turnips, bread and jam and milk.
 Supper Hot ginger cake, bread, sauce and milk.

Monday.

Breakfast Cereal and milk, bread and syrup, and milk.
 Dinner Vegetable soup, meat and potatoes, bread, jelly and milk.
 Supper Fried potatoes, bread and jam and milk.

Tuesday.

Breakfast Porridge and syrup, bread and apple butter, and milk.
 Dinner Soup, beef stew, potatoes, turnips, bread and milk.
 Supper Rice with sugar and milk, bread, butter and milk.

Wednesday.

Breakfast Baked beans, bread and butter and milk.
 Dinner Soup, fish, potatoes, bread and apple butter and milk.
 Supper Hash, bread, baked apples and milk.

Thursday.

Breakfast Cereal with sugar and milk, bread and molasses, and milk.
 Dinner Vegetable soup, meat, potatoes, bread, jelly and milk.
 Supper Baked potatoes, cheese, bread and syrup and milk.

Friday.

Breakfast Porridge and milk, milk and apple butter, and bread.
 Dinner Soup, fish, potatoes, bread and butter and milk.
 Supper Fish chowder, bread and jam and milk.

Saturday.

Breakfast Fried potatoes, bread and butter and milk.
 Dinner Vegetable soup, meat, potatoes, bread and milk.
 Supper Hot biscuits, bread, stewed fruit and milk.

Extra Slice of bread and jam at 10 a. m. and 3 p. m.

I trust this will sufficiently comply with your request for the general information regarding our Orphanage, for which opportunity I thank you.

Sister M. BENJAMINA,
*Superintendent of St. Mary's Home,
 Sydney, N. S.*

Annual Report of St. Joseph's Orphanage, Halifax.

Sir:—The life of the Catholic Orphanage during the past year has been attended by a series of difficulties unprecedented in the history of the Institution. The gravest of these were created by the terrible Disaster of Dec. 6th, when, in the twinkling of an eye, our little ones so comfortably situated, were exposed to conditions of a most threatening character, the consequences of which it appeared almost impossible to

avert. Broken glass on all sides, falling plaster everywhere, and other attendants of the explosion made the Home almost uninhabitable, and the protection of life became at once a serious and difficult problem.

The little ones were huddled together in the reception rooms, in corridors and wherever a safe corner could be found, and there were made as comfortable and happy as possible under the trying conditions which followed the Disaster.



St. Joseph's Orphanage.

The interior of the building was greatly damaged, and in some portions, the structure itself was thrown out of order. The furniture which it had taken a lifetime to acquire was badly injured, and some of it entirely destroyed. The losses and damages were estimated at about \$10,000.00; but the actual cost of the repairs, it is believed, will, when all is settled and restored, exceed that sum. In the loss of furniture the Massachusetts Relief Committee afforded help in the line of furnished cots, etc. The Relief Commission gave \$3,000.00 towards the cost of repairs.

Under the desolating conditions created by the explosion, the Sisters in charge of the Institution were not left without the sympathy and prompt attention of the friends of the Orphans who were soon on the scene planning and directing for the safety of the little ones, and through their kind assistance united to the unrelaxing efforts of the Sisters, day and

night, the fierce elements of the prevailing storm were to a great extent baffled by the blocking of windows and other apertures. After some days of persistent efforts the Home was made sufficiently comfortable to ensure the avoidance of any serious results to the health of the inmates; but for many long months after the Disaster, the work of the Institution always arduous in itself, was increased ten fold owing to the extra labor entailed by repairs, and the inconveniences resulting from so many parts of the building being thrown out of use. But as every trial brings its consolation, the inmates of the Institution enjoyed an inestimable blessing in that the explosion had brought to none within its walls any serious injury, and in the further blessing that throughout the struggle which ensued, no one suffered any ill effects.

Following in the train of the Disaster came another trying time for the Orphanage. The epidemic which prevailed in the City, especially among the children, in some unaccountable way found entrance in the Institution, and many of the little ones were afflicted with it. Still surrounded by many trying inconveniences resulting from the explosion, and the poor chances afforded for isolation, the passing of the epidemic created another battleground for the Sisters in charge, who, after a trying siege, had the happiness to count another victory in the perfect recovery of all the children who had been touched by the disease. During this time the Orphanage had necessarily, and for precautionary reasons, to close its doors to any seeking admission, and several children were obliged as a consequence to find shelter for a time in other homes.

The Catholic Orphanage is for boys as well as for girls. When the parents of a Catholic child die, in many cases the Orphanage is the only hope left for the orphan. Here it finds not only a place of refuge but very often a better home than that of which death has deprived it. Here the child is trained, educated, and as far as possible fitted for the battle of life. But the most difficult—because it is the most inaccessible—part of the work is not that which is exposed to the public eye; it is the unremitting exercise of that watchfulness over the well-being of the children after they have been adopted, and of that influence which must yet follow them a long distance after they have passed out of the Institution. In this perhaps lies the most anxious responsibility of those in charge of the Orphans.

There are in the Catholic Orphanage four classes conducted under the requirements of the School Law, and in addition to the usual branches the girls are taught Domestic Economy

and Dressmaking as far as practicable. On the completion of the School Course, those who have an aptitude for study are promoted to High School—the girls attending St. Patrick's High School in the City, and the boys, wherever free admission can be gained for them in Catholic Colleges. Some of the girls attending St. Patrick's High School qualify for the Provincial Examinations for Teachers, while others take up the Commercial Course, and some have passed successfully the Examinations for Civil Service. Some after the completion of their studies have trained for Nurses and have reflected credit on that profession.

The Institution can justly be proud of the successes achieved by its children, not only in these departments, but in many other walks of life. Some of the boys have reached the Sanctuary, while others have done a noble part in the War just brought to a close. Many of the girls are now successful members of Religious Orders in the Provinces and in the United States. Many, too, are filling a not less important position in life as the heads of families, doing for their own little ones what was done for themselves during their years passed in the Institution; and it is gratifying to find in the once helpless children entrusted to the Orphanage all those qualifications that go to make the dutiful husband and wife and the devoted parents.

The demands made on the Institution are far beyond its power to satisfy in their entirety. These have increased considerably as a result of the explosion and of the Spanish Influenza which in both cases have deprived many helpless children of one or both parents. In nearly every case the needs of the half orphan are as urgent as those of the whole orphan and call for the same consideration. The Institution is now called upon to open its doors still wider, and fit in as many as it can hold without regard to that comfort and convenience which form so desirable a feature of every Institution.

The increased cost of living, together with the increase in numbers adds much to the burden of maintenance which has to be sustained almost entirely through the voluntary contributions of the Catholics of the City, who, from time to time in response to appeals made from the Pulpit, place their offerings for this purpose in the hands of the Most Reverend Archbishop who holds the office of Treasurer and assumes all the financial responsibilities of the Institution.

Besides the actual cost of maintenance, each child on leaving the Orphanage is furnished with a complete outfit, including all necessary toilet articles, etc.

As already stated, the applications for entrance in the Orphanage are daily increasing, while the possibilities for admission are, for the want of accommodation, becoming more and more limited. The great question arising from this situation is: **how are to be supplied the needs of those who are forced to turn to this Institution for the care of children who if not taken in must, in many cases, suffer irremediable consequences?** The answer to this question is now the greatest problem confronting St. Joseph's Orphanage. It appears to us there is but one way out of the difficulty, and that is the building of a separate Orphanage for the boys. Could this project be accomplished, not only would it be possible to accommodate all who have a claim on the Institution, but far better opportunities could be afforded to both boys and girls in the line of vocational training which under present conditions are impossible. The advantages resulting from a systematically arranged Course in Dressmaking, Millinery, Domestic Science, and Home Nursing for the girls, and a Corresponding Course for the boys, need not be pointed out. The realization of this project, however, cannot enter contemplation except through large donations and bequests for the purpose. Perhaps some individuals possessing means and desiring to do good, seeing the great need of a separate establishment for the boys, will come to the rescue and make possible such an enterprise.

The following may prove of interest to those who might have a desire to know how the children in the Catholic Orphanage are fed.

Breakfast—This meal is much the same every day, and consists of Oatmeal with milk and sugar, bread and butter, coffee.

Dinner.

Sunday Roast Meat, vegetables, dessert - gingerbread.
 Monday Boiled Beef-slice, gravy, vegetables, dessert, boiled rice with milk and sugar.
 Tuesday Roast meat and two vegetables, dessert - pumpkin pie, apples, etc. in season.
 Wednesday Barley soup, baked beans, fish, light dessert.
 Thursday Meat stew and two vegetables, dessert - bread pudding.
 Friday Fish, potatoes, dessert - boiled rice with milk and sugar.
 Saturday Meat soup, stewed meat and vegetables, dessert - bread pudding.
 Supper This meal, like the breakfast is much the same every day, and consists of Bread and butter, bread and jam, bread and maple butter, bread and molasses, with occasional additions, tea.

SISTER M. De PAUL,
Superintendent.

Home of the Guardian Angel

To E. H. Blois, Esq.,
Supt. Neglected and Delinquent Children

Sir:—On the morning of the memorable 6th of December, 1917, each one had repaired to their various duties, when suddenly the prattling voices of the little ones were arrested by the sound of the fire alarm.

All ran to the windows to see a huge volume of black smoke looming up above the waters of the harbor. Then followed the indescribable sound and crash, which in the twinkling of an eye filled our City with desolation, and left our Home in a dilapidated condition.



Home of the Guardian Angel.

In the upper nursery an infant, just taken out of its bath, was instantly killed by the large tank falling from the ceiling. The sister in charge escaped a similar fate by the presence of mind of the nurse who pulled her away, both sustaining serious injuries.

The infants in their cots, quite unconscious of their dangerous situation, were uninjured, although glass, window sashes, and plaster were flying on every side.

In nurseries No. 2 and No. 3 the scene was a pitiful one. The terror stricken little ones were running wildly about, with tears and blood streaming down their faces, not knowing what had happened. They were all brought into one room, and first aid was administered, when word was received to vacate the house.

The infants from top flat, and children unable to walk (twenty-nine in number) were carried to the front door, and the Sisters, with the assistance of soldiers and other kind friends, took them to the Common, with the other children following.

There we remained for at least three hours. When told that the danger was over, trucks were provided and other conveniences to take the children and Sisters home.

Here was a new scene of desolation; the children were cold and hungry after their exposure, and the house opened with chimneys down, and night approaching without fire or light, seventy-nine to be fed and sheltered, and besides several other children were brought in and cared for until claimed by their parents or friends.

Kind friends gave all possible assistance in boarding up the windows and doors in the large nursery, and providing food and hot milk, made the children as comfortable as possible for the night.

For two weeks this was the only room habitable, while the kitchen was the living room for the Sisters. However the following day a number of men came and boarded up the windows, also a physician to attend to the wounded inmates.

The following week we were able to have a fire in one furnace.

The temporary repairs by the reconstruction men now commenced, they putting in glass, hinges on the doors, etc, thus making the house more comfortable.

After a long cold winter of hardships and suffering, our permanent repairs began, about the end of April, and are now nearly completed, and we hope that when the bills are presented to the Relief Commission, they will be favorably considered.

SISTER AMBROSINE.

Sister in Charge.

Protestant Orphans' Home, Halifax.

E. H. Blois.,

Supt. Neglected and Delinquent Children.

Dear Sir:—This Home is striving to rise from its ashes, and amid many difficulties continues its work. The terrible disaster of December 6th, wiped this Home out of existence. Of the forty-one children then in the Home fifteen only survived the disaster. A temporary Home was secured in the extreme south end of the City, and in April 1918 the work was again taken up. This house is not suitable either in situation or accommodation and the matron has been handicapped in many ways.

For the refurnishing of this Home many thanks are due the Massachusetts Halifax Relief Committee and the Christian Science Church. The cost of maintenance has greatly increased, wages, food and practically everything has doubled in cost.

It is hoped in the near future a site may be secured. In the replanning of the north end of the City the old situation could not be considered. The Board of Governors hope to build so that this work of caring for boys and girls between three and ten years may be carried on.

M. SCOTT,

Secretary, Protestant Orphans' Home.

St. Paul's Girls' Home.

Ernest H. Blois,

Superintendent Neglected and Delinquent Children.

Dear Sir:—St. Paul's Home for Girls is supported chiefly by the congregation of St. Paul's Church and is under the supervision of a committee composed of members of that Church.

Children are received from any denomination and in the case of a child having a parent who is able to help in their maintenance a small sum is required for board and if they are able to clothe them they do so. Otherwise their clothing is supplied.

The cost of running the Home has increased, one might say four fold during the last few years.

The older children are taught to do the work of the house, and those of school age attend Tower Road School, and their

report cards show that they are quite up to the average child of the same age. They are also taught sewing and knitting and the older girls assist in the mending.

The meals are plain and wholesome and our doctor remarks that our children are wonderfully free from sickness.

At the time of the explosion of last year we had 94 panes of glass broken, and some considerable plaster fell, besides damage to the doors, etc.

We took in six or seven children and one teacher from the Institution for the Deaf, who stayed with us until sent for by their parents. We also had three little girls who were among those rescued from the Protestant Orphanage.



St. Paul's Girls' Home.

During the past year thirty seven children have been in the Home. Fourteen of whom have been sent out, leaving us 23.

From time to time we hear of children who have been placed in foster homes and usually the reports are good. One of our girls is earning \$65.00 per month as typewriter. Another, who was rather a trial to her teachers while here, is now nursing in an institution in one of our neighboring cities and writes with gratitude of help that she received thru her early training. But the majority are living in the country, where they are helpful in the adopted home, and some have married with good homes of their own.

ALMA TULLY,
Matron.

Girls' Home, College Street, Halifax

*To E. H. Blois, Esq.,
Supt. Neglected and Delinquent Children.*

Dear Sir:—The work of this Institution has been carried on quietly but steadily for 27 years. More than 200 girls chiefly in their teens have had the benefit and protection of the "Home". Many of these, though entering almost destitute and equipped mentally and morally at a discount, have become good citizens, forming homes of their own, often founded on the principles learned here. It is encouraging to note that many of the former inmates have called on the Matron, proud to exhibit their well cared for boys and girls.

The Staff consists of Matron and Assistant; voluntary aid being given by a certified first class teacher.

The "Home" can train from 10 to 12 at a time, the doors always being open to receive those who need the training. This includes all branches of housework, such as sweeping, dusting, scrubbing, housecleaning, window-cleaning, setting a table and serving, the conservation of food and plain cooking. The outstanding feature of the training is laundry work of which curtains are a specialty. Those who remain for the three years course become, as a rule, first class laundresses and good maids and they are eagerly sought for. Some girls, being more ambitious, have taken a course in Hospital nursing successfully.

Every hour of the day has its appointed duty, one girl has charge of the kitchen for a month, another the dining room and so on, from 7 a. m. to 7.30. breakfast and devotional exercises, general housework and laundry work until 5 p. m. After supper each evening has its employments, such as mending their own clothes, making underwear, or sewing quilts. As a result of a crochet class several are quite adept at this work. Many a handsome hooked mat has been produced as a result of using a spare hour. On Wednesday evening all attend service at one of the nearby Churches. On Friday evening the teacher takes charge, when they have an opportunity of progressing as far as their ambition takes them.

We know that "All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy," so Saturday afternoon is devoted to recreation. During the summer no healthier, happier crowd of girls can be seen as they wend their way with their picnic baskets to the Park or some other delightful resort near the city.

Sunday is a rest day at the "Home," Breakfast at 8 a. m. devotional exercises and memorizing scripture verses, church attendance, dinner, Sunday School lesson and singing of hymns, (in which they delight), supper and then evening church concludes a day spent in storing up strength for the duties of the coming week.

The remarkable health of the girls is due to the regular hours for sleep, (9 p. m., being the hour for retiring), plenty of plain food, time fully occupied and a happy atmosphere in the "Home". It is certainly a tribute to the management that there has not been one death nor a case of serious illness in the history of the "Home." The food provided consists of porridge and milk for breakfast with plenty of good home made bread at all meals. Baked beans and cold meat on Monday, Tuesday, Salt fish and vegetables; Wednesday, stew; Thursday fresh fish with vegetables; Friday, Cornbeef and vegetables; Saturday, Soup; Sunday, Roast beef and vegetables;. For supper they have a relish such as boiled onions, rice pudding, macaroni, hash or baked apples.

The "Home" is supported chiefly by the laundry work and the making of mats and quilts. A nominal board is paid for each girl sent by the Children's Aid Society. This is supplemented by donations contributed by friends. Almost all the clothing is made over from second hand articles donated, and all who leave the Institution go out comfortably clothed.

As the work is intended to be preventive, no convicted girl is admitted (there being a home provided for such in Truro) so no grant is allowed by the City, but there are two or three feeble minded inmates, one of whom is incorrigible. No Institution in the City would take her, yet not one cent has been contributed for her support. Halifax sorely needs a home for such.

The "Home" is indebted to the late Mrs. C. C. Blackader, the faithful President for several years, for a bequest which provided a gas dryer which has proved very useful. Her successor, Mrs. F. Woodill, gave devoted service until the past year when she left the City. The Treasurer, Miss Oxley, and the Secretary, Mrs. G. Burbridge, have given many years of service. Miss I. M. Creighton has supervised the teaching for an extended period.

After the Explosion, ten refugees were cared for for several weeks. The Relief Committee paid \$3.00 a week for one adult and less than \$2.00 a week for two boys for 13 weeks.

NEGLECTED AND DELINQUENT CHILDREN 95

Of course our work was interrupted. We were considerably inconvenienced by the explosion, but no one received any injury. Nearly all of the windows were broken and some plaster fell, but the Commission made good the damage.

The "Home" is worthy of consideration by those who are interested in the transforming of poor material into good citizens, also by the public generally. The increased cost of living makes any donation doubly acceptable.

This report cannot be fitly closed without paying a tribute to the Matron, Miss McLeod, who for the past twenty seven years has given of her best to the young life whom she has ruled with a firm hand so tempered with love that all who have come in contact with her are conscious of the power which she wields.

Respectfully submitted,

MINNIE F. BURBRIDGE,
Secretary.

HOME OF THE GUARDIAN ANGEL.

Date of Organization—Oct. 20, 1888.

Class of Children—Orphans, half-orphans, children of separated parents and illegitimate.

Officers.

President or chairman of governing board—Archbishop McCarthy D. D., Rev. G. Murphy,

Resident superintendent or manager—Sister Ambrosine.

Property.

No. of acres—One-half.

No. of buildings—

Value of real property—\$7,000.

Maintenance.

Do you receive public funds?—Yes.

Do you receive private funds?—From Halifax Relief Com., for children taken after disaster.

Amount of public funds per year—5,000.00 City Grant, from Mr. Blois, \$694.96.

Total cost of maintenance for year—\$7,564.00.

Plan.

Cottage—

Congregate—Yes.

Capacity—120.

Population.

No. of children present 30th, Sept. 1918—57.

No. of resident officers and assistants—12.

No. children admitted during year ending Sept. 30, 1918—112.

No. children discharged during year ending Sept. 30, 1918—28.

No. of children placed in foster homes during year ending Sept. 30, 1918—17.

No. children returned to parents or friends during year 1918—23.

Average daily attendance—75.

Grades.

No. of children who are crippled—1.
 No. of children who are feeble-minded—None.
 No. children who are orphans—22.
 No. children who are half-orphans—30.
 No. children died during year ending Sept. 30, 1918—49.
 No. of children in institution who are illegitimate—38.
 No. children attending day school—None.

Plant.

Kind of material of building—North end brick, rest wood.
 No. of stories high—3.
 Are there fire-escapes?—Yes.
 Location of fire-escapes—Two on each flat.
 Average no. cubic feet of air in sleeping room for child—125.
 Inside or outside toilet rooms?—Inside.
 Individual or plunge bath tubs?—Plunge baths.
 Individual or roller towels?—Individual.
 Are chairs or benches used in dining-room?—Benches.
 Are there table-cloths?—Yes. Kind—White oilcloth.
 Is there a school garden?—No.
 Do children have individual gardens?—No.
 State general crops grown in gardens—None.
 Is there a physician for institution?—Yes. Name—Dr. G. M. Campbell.
 Is there dental inspection?—No.

Discipline.

Are records of punishment kept?—No.
 Is corporal punishment administered?—No.
 Is solitary confinement used as punishment?—No.

IMPERIAL ORDER OF THE DAUGHTERS OF THE EMPIRE HOME.

Date of Organization—July 24th, 1918.
 Class of children—Feeble-minded.

Officers.

President or chairman of governing board—Mrs F. H. Sexton.
 Resident superintendent or manager—Eliza P. Brison, M. D.

Property.

No. of acres—
 No. of buildings—One.
 Value of real property—This and No. of acres included in Industrial School report.

Maintenance.

Do you receive public funds?—No.
 Do you receive private funds?—Yes.
 Amount of public funds per year—
 Total cost of maintenance for year—Not known.

Plan.

Cottage Yes.
 Congregate—
 Capacity—Ten.

Population.

No. of children present 30th, Sept. 1918—7.
 No. of resident officers and assistants—4.
 No. children admitted during year ending Sept. 30, 1918—10.
 No. children discharged during year ending Sept. 30, 1918—21.
 No. children placed in foster home during year ending Sept. 30, 1918—0.
 No. children returned to parents or friends during year—1.
 Average daily attendance—5.2.

Grades.

No. of children who are crippled—0.
 No. children who are feeble-minded—10.
 No. children who are orphans—0.
 No. children who are half-orphans—2.
 No. children died during year ending Sept. 30, 1918—0.
 No. of children in institution who are illegitimate—0.
 No. children attending day school—7.

Plant.

Kind of material of buildings—Wood.
 No. of stories high—2.
 Are there fire-escapes?—No.
 Location of fire-escapes—
 Average no. cubic feet of air in sleeping room for child—
 Inside or outside toilet rooms?—Inside.
 Individual or plunge bath tubs?—Plunge bath.
 Individual or roller towels?—Individual.
 Are chairs or benches used in dining-room?—Chairs.
 Are there table-cloths?—No. Kind—
 Is there a school garden?—Not yet.
 Do children have individual gardens?—
 State general crops grown in gardens—
 Is there a physician for institution?—Yes. Name Eliza P. Brison M. D.
 Is there dental inspection?—No. Name of dentist—

Discipline.

Are records of punishment kept?—No.
 Is corporal punishment administered?—No.
 Is solitary confinement used as punishment?—No.

ST. PAUL'S HOME FOR GIRLS.

Date of Organization—May 3, 1887.
 Class of children—Orphans, half-orphans and destitute children.

Officers.

President or chairman of governing board—Ven. Archdeacon Armitage.
 Resident superintendent or manager—Miss Tully.

Property.

No. of acres—0.
 No. of buildings—One.
 Value of real property—

Maintenance.

Do you receive public funds?—Yes.
 Do you receive private funds?—Yes.
 Amount of public funds per year—
 Total cost of maintenance for year—About \$5,000.

Plan.

Cottage—
 Capacity—24. Congregate—Yes.

Population.

No. of children present 30th, Sept. 1918—Twenty-three.
 No. of resident officers and assistants—Two.
 No. children admitted during year ending Sept. 30, 1918—Seventeen.
 No. children discharged during year ending Sept. 30, 1918—Thirteen.
 No. children placed in foster homes during year ending Sept. 30, 1918—
 No. children returned to parents or friends during year—Eleven.
 Average daily attendance—

Grades.

No. of children who are crippled—Two.
 No. children who are feeble-minded—None.
 No. children who are orphans—Two.
 No. of children who are half-orphans—Twenty-one.
 No. children died during year ending Sept. 30, 1918—None.
 No. of children in institution who are illegitimate—None.
 No. children attending day school—Twenty.

Plant.

Kind of material of buildings—Wood.
 No. of stories high—Three.
 Are there fire-escapes?—Two.
 Location of fire-escapes—Front and back.
 Average no. cubic feet of air in sleeping room for child—584.
 Inside or outside toilet rooms?—Inside.
 Individual or plunge bath tubs?—Inside.
 Individual or roller towels?—Both.
 Are there chairs or benches used in dining-room?—Both.
 Are there table-cloths?—Yes. Kind—White oil cloth.
 Is there a school garden?—No.
 Do children have individual gardens?—
 State general crops grown in gardens—
 Is there a physician for institution?—Yes. Name—Dr. Bruce Almon.
 Is there dental inspection?—Yes. Name of dentist—Dental College.

Discipline.

Are records of punishment kept?—No.
 Is corporal punishment administered?—Occasionally.
 Is solitary confinement used as punishment?—No.

THE SALVATION ARMY MATERNITY HOSPITAL AND CHILDREN'S HOME.

Date of Organization—1893.
 Class of children—Infants born in Home, half orphans and homeless.

Officers.

President or chairman of governing board—Commissioner Richards of S. Army.
 Resident superintendent or manager—Ellen Bryon, Adjutant.

Property.

No. of acres—
 No. of buildings—Two.
 Value of real property—\$13,694.70.

Maintenance.

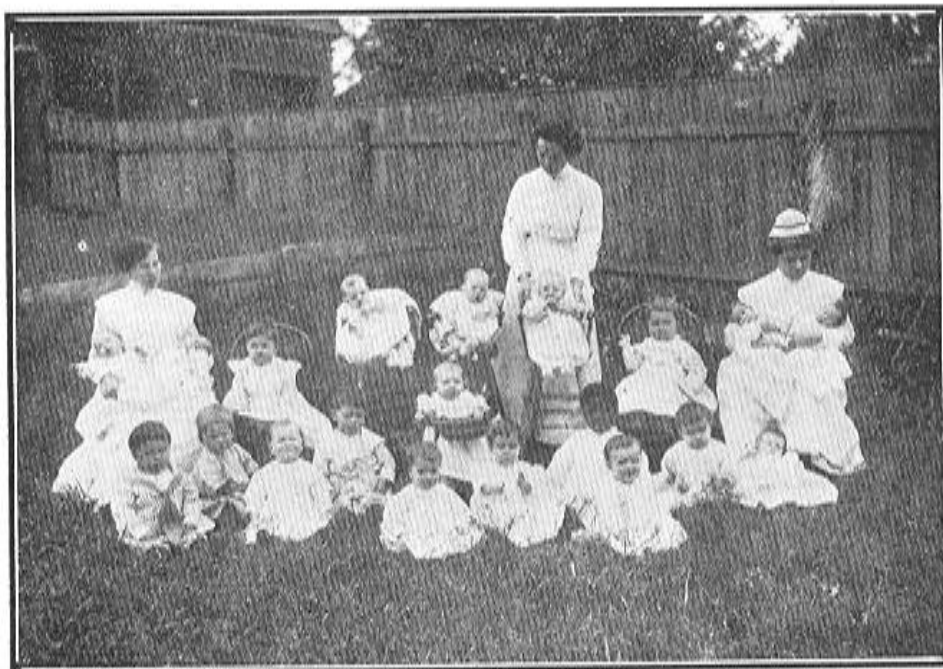
Do you receive public funds?—Yes.
 Do you receive private funds?—Yes.
 Amount of public funds per year—Provincial grant per capita, City grant \$14,000.
 Total cost of maintenance for year—About \$62045-75.

Plan.

Cottage—
 Capacity—
 Congregate—Yes.



The Salvation Army's Children's Home.



Children at Salvation Army Home, Halifax.

Population.

No. of children present 30th, Sept. 1918—21.
 No. of resident officers and assistants—5.
 No. children admitted during year ending Sept. 30, 1918—146.
 No. children discharged during year ending Sept. 30, 1918—160.
 No. children placed in foster homes during year ending Sept. 30, 1918—15.
 No. children returned to parents or friends during year—124.
 Average daily attendance—26.

Grades.

No. of children who are crippled—
 No. children who are feeble-minded—
 No. children who are orphans—
 No. of children who are half-orphans—3.
 No. children died during year ending Sept. 30, 1918—12, 3 still born.
 No. of children in institution who are illegitimate—14.
 No. children attending day school—None.

Plant.

Kind of material of buildings—Wood.
 No. of stories high—3 without basement.
 Are there fire-escapes?—No, to be erected.
 Location of fire-escapes—
 Average no. cubic feet of air in sleeping room for child—
 Inside or outside toilet rooms?—Inside.
 Individual or plunge bath tubs?—both.
 Individual or roller towels?—both.
 Are chairs or benches used in dining-room?—chairs.
 Are there table-cloths?—Yes. Kind—oilcloth.
 Is there a school garden?—No.
 Do children have individual gardens?—No.
 State general crops grown in gardens—
 Is there a physician for institution?—Yes. Name—Dr. P. A. McDonald.
 Is there dental inspection?—No. Name of dentist—

Discipline.

Are records of punishment kept?—No.
 Is corporal punishment administered?—No.
 Is solitary confinement used as punishment?—No.

ST. MARY'S HOME.

Date of Organization—March 1st, 1917.
 Class of children—Orphans, half-orphans, illegitimate and children of separated parents.

Officers.

President or chairman of governing board—Right Rev. James Morrison.
 Resident superintendent or manager—Sister M. Benamina.

Property.

No. of acres—Two.
 No. of buildings—One.
 Value of real property—\$20,000.

Maintenance.

Do you receive public funds?—Yes.
 Do you receive private funds?—Yes.
 Amount of public funds per year—\$1,262.36.
 Total cost of maintenance for year—\$8,000.00.

Plan.

Cottage—
 Capacity—55. Congregate—Yes.

NEGLECTED AND DELINQUENT CHILDREN 101

Population.

No. of children present 30th, Sept. 1918—55.
No. of resident officers and assistants—9.
No. children admitted during year ending Sept. 30, 1918—66.
No. children discharged during year ending Sept. 30, 1918—41.
No. children placed in foster homes during year ending Sept. 30, 1918—21.
No. children returned to parents or friends during year—20.
Average daily attendance—53.

Grades.

No. of children who are crippled—2.
No. children who are feeble-minded—
No. children who are orphans—2.
No. children who are half-orphans—13.
No. children died during year ending Sept. 30, 1918—15.
No. of children in institution who are illegitimate—11.
No. children attending day school—19.

Plant.

Kind of material of buildings—Wood.
No. of stories high—21.
Are there fire-escapes?—Yes.
Location of fire-escapes—Outside through verandah.
Average no. cubic feet of air in sleeping room for child—
Inside or outside toilet rooms?—Inside.
Individual or plunge bath tubs?—Individual.
Individual or roller towels?—Individual.
Are chairs or benches used in dining-room?—Chairs.
Are there table-cloths—Yes. Kind—White oil cloth.
Is there a school garden?—No.
Do children have individual gardens?—No.
State general crops grown in gardens—Vegetables and fruit.
Is there a physician for institution?—Yes. Name—Drs. Lynch and Carter.
Is there dental inspection?—Yes. Name of dentist—Dr. V. F. Cunningham.

Discipline.

Are records of punishment kept?—No.
Is corporal punishment administered?—Occasionally.
Is solitary confinement used as punishment?—No.

SOCIAL SERVICE HOUSE (Presbyterian.)

Date of Organization—May, 1908.
Class of children—Illegitimate born in home.

Officers.

President or chairman of governing board—Rev. John McIntosh, Whitney Pier, N. S.
Resident superintendent or manager—Miss Muriel McDougall.

Property.

No. of acres—2 lots of land.
No. of buildings—1.
Value of real property—\$10,000.

Maintenance.

Do you receive public funds?—Yes.
Do you receive private funds?—Yes.
Amount of public funds per year—
Total cost of maintenance for year—\$2,529.

Plan.

Cottage—Yes. Congregate—
Capacity—15 Adults. 20 children.

Population

No. of children present 30th, Sept. 1918—15.
No. of resident officers and assistants—3.
No. children admitted during year ending Sept. 30, 1918—21.
No. children discharged during year ending Sept. 30, 1918.—16.
No. of children placed in foster home- during year ending Sept. 30, 1918—4.
No. children returned to parents or friends during year—7.
Average daily attendance—

Grades.

No. of children who are crippled—None.
No. of children who are feeble-minded—So far as we can judge, only one.
No. children who are orphans—
No. children who are half-orphans—
No. children died during year ending Sept. 30, 1918—
No. of children in institution who are illegitimate—All except two.
No. children attending day school—

Plant.

Kind of material in building—Wooden.
No. of stories high—2½.
Are there fire-escapes?—No.
Location of fire-escapes.—
Average no. cubic feet of air in sleeping room for child—
Inside or outside toilet rooms?—Inside.
Individual or plunge bath tubs?—Plunge bath tubs.
Individual or roller towels?—Individual.
Are chairs or benches used in dining-room?—Chairs.
Are there table-cloths?—Yes. Kind—Linen.
Is there a school garden?—No.
Do children have individual gardens?—No.
State general crops grown in gardens—Potatoes and other vegetables
Is there a physician for institution?—Yes. Name—Dr. E. M. McDougall
Is there dental inspection?—No. Name of dentist—

Discipline.

Are records of punishment kept?—No.
Is corporal punishment administered?—No.
Is solitary confinement used as punishment?—No.

THE GIRLS' HOME.

Date of Organization—1891.
Class of children—Neglected and those requiring training and discipline.

Officers.

President or chairman of governing board—Mrs Woodill.
Resident superintendent or manager—Miss McLeod.

Property.

No. of acres—
No. of buildings—2.
Value of real property—\$12,000.

NEGLECTED AND DELINQUENT CHILDREN 103

Maintenance.

Do you receive public funds?—Some.
Do you receive private funds?—Some.
Amount of public funds per year—For year ending Sept. 1918, \$641.40.
Total cost of maintenance for year—Differs each year.

Plan.

Cottage—Yes. Congregate—
Capacity—15.

Population.

No. of children present 30th, Sept. 1918—9.
No. of resident officers and assistants—2.
No. children admitted during year ending Sept. 30, 1918—5.
No. children discharged during year ending Sept. 30, 1918—5.
No. children placed in foster homes during year ending Sept. 30, 1918—
No. children returned to parents or friends during year—2.
Average daily attendance—

Grades.

No. of children who are crippled—None.
No. children who are feeble-minded—2.
No. children who are orphans—4.
No. children who are half-orphans—4.
No. children died during year ending Sept. 30, 1918—None.
No. of children in institution who are illegitimate—1.
No. children attending day school—None.

Plant.

Kind of material of buildings—Wood.
No. of stories high—4.
Are there fire-escapes?—No.
Location of fire-escapes—
Average no. cubic feet of air in sleeping room for child—
Inside or outside toilet rooms?—Inside.
Individual or plunge bath tubs?—Plunge.
Individual or roller towels?—Individual.
Are chairs or benches used in dining-room?—Chairs.
Are there table-cloths?—Yes. Kind—Linen.
Is there a school garden?—No.
Do children have individual gardens?—No.
State general crops grown in gardens—
Is there a physician for institution?—Yes. Name—Dr. G. Campbell.
Is there dental inspection?—Yes. Name of dentist—Dental College, Dal.

Discipline.

Are records of punishment kept?—No.
Is corporal punishment administered?—No.
Is solitary confinement used as punishment?—Occasionally.

HALIFAX INFANTS' HOME.

Date of organization—November, 22, 1875.
Class of children—Orphans, half-orphans, illegitimate children and children of physically or mentally unfit parents.

Officers.

President or chairman of governing board—Mrs. A. I. Mader.
Resident superintendent or manager—Miss S. A. Barrington.

Property.

No. of acres—3.
 No. of buildings—1.
 Value of real property—

Maintenance.

Do you receive public funds?—Yes.
 Do you receive private funds?—Yes.
 Amount of public funds per year—\$500. City grant Maintenance of dependant children—\$325.71.
 Total cost of maintenance for year—\$9,523.76.

Plan.

Cottage—
 Capacity—Sixty. Congregate—Yes.

Population.

No. of children present 30th, Sept. 1918—32.
 No. of resident officers and assistants—1 Assistant. 4 under nurses. social service director.
 No. children admitted during year ending Sept. 30, 1918—56—of which 28 were born in Home.
 No. children discharged during year ending Sept. 30, 1918—56.
 No. children placed in foster homes during year ending Sept. 30, 1918— 16 for adoption—3 in private boarding homes.
 No. children returned to parents or friends during year—38. 1 discharged to Hospital—1 to City Home.
 Average daily attendance—40.

Grades.

No. of children who are crippled—2.
 No. children who are feeble minded—1.
 No. children who are orphans—0.
 No. children who are half-orphans—0.
 No. children died during year ending Sept. 30, 1918—11.
 No. of children in institution who are illegitimate—29.
 No. children attending day school—0.

Plant.

Kind of material of buildings—Brick.
 No. of stories high—Three.
 Are there any fire-escapes?—None.
 Location of fire-escapes—None.
 Average number cubic feet of air in sleeping room for child—Room 18 children—6484 ft. 360 ft. for each child.
 Inside or outside toilet rooms?—Inside.
 Individual or plunge bath tubs?—Individual and plunge.
 Individual or roller towels?—Individual.
 Are chairs or benches used in dining-room?—Chairs.
 Are there table-cloths?—Yes. Kind—Linen and oil cloth.
 Is there a school garden?—No.
 Do children have individual gardens?—No.
 State general crops grown in gardens—None.
 Is there a physician for institution?—Yes. Name—Dr. A. I. Mader, Dr. A. G. Nichols, Dr. M. Chisholm, Dr. A. E. Douell.
 Is there dental inspection?—Yes. Name of dentist—Dental clinic and private dentists used, no regular staff.

Discipline.

Are records of punishment kept?—No.
 Is corporal punishment administered?—No.
 Is solitary confinement used as punishment?—No.

PROTESTANT ORPHANAGE, TRURO, N. S.

Date of Organization—August 17, 1910.
 Class of children—Orphans and destitute children.

Officers.

President or chairman of governing board—H. H. Johnson, Truro.
 Resident superintendent or manager—Daniel McVicar.

Property.

No. of acres—6.
 No. of buildings—2.
 Value of real property—\$5,000.

Maintenance.

Do you receive public funds?—No.
 Do you receive private funds?—Yes.
 Amount of public funds per year—None.
 Total cost of maintenance for year—\$1,710.50.

Plan.

Cottage—Yes.
 Capacity—About 14.
 Congregate—Yes.

Population.

No. of children present 30th, Sept. 1918—12.
 No. of resident officers and assistants—3.
 No. children admitted during year ending Sept. 30, 1918—15.
 No. children discharged during year ending Sept. 30, 1918—13.
 No. children placed in foster homes during year ending Sept. 30, 1918.—12.
 No. children returned to parents or friends during year.—1.
 Average daily attendance—



Protestant Orphanage, Truro, N. S.

Grades.

No. of children who are crippled—None.
 No. children who are feeble-minded—None.
 No. children who are orphans—None.
 No. children who are half-orphans—12.
 No. children died during year ending Sept. 30, 1918—None.
 No. of children in institution who are illegitimate—2.
 No. children attending day school—6.

Plant.

Kind of material of buildings—Wood.
 No. of stories high—2.
 Are there fire-escapes?—No.
 Location of fire-escapes—
 Average no. cubic feet of air in sleeping room for child—
 Inside or outside toilet rooms?—Both.
 Individual or plunge bath tubs?—Individual.
 Individual or roller towels?—Roller.
 Are chairs or benches used in dining room?—Chairs.
 Are there table-cloths?—Yes. Kind—Oil cloth.
 Is there a school garden?—No.
 Do children have individual gardens?—No. Children are made to help in garden.
 State general crops grown in gardens.—Hay, oats and vegetables.
 Is there a physician for institution?—Yes. Name—W. R. Dunbar M. D.
 Is there dental inspection?—No. Name of dentist.

Discipline.

Are records of punishment kept?—No.
 Is corporal punishment administered?—Yes.
 Is solitary confinement used as punishment?—No.

SV. JOSEPH'S ORPHANAGE.

Date of Organization—May 1868.
 Class of children—Orphans, half-orphans, illegitimate, children of separated parents.

Officers.

President or chairman of governing board—Most Rev. E. J. McCarthy, D. D.
 Resident superintendent or manager—Sister de Paul.

Property.

No. of acres—3.
 No. of buildings—1.
 Value of real property—

Maintenance.

Do you receive public funds?—Yes.
 Do you receive private funds?—Yes.
 Amount of public funds per year—\$1,769.89.
 Total cost of maintenance for year—\$11,290.23.

Plan.

Cottage—
 Capacity—175. Congregate—Yes.

Population.

No. of children present 30th, Sept. 1918—160.
 No. of resident officers and assistants—17.
 No. children admitted during year ending Sept. 30, 1918—106.
 No. children discharged during year ending Sept. 30, 1918—84.
 No. children placed in foster homes during year ending Sept. 30, 1918—1.
 No. children returned to parents or friends during year—80.
 Average daily attendance—155.

Grades.

No. of children who are crippled—1.
 No. children who are feeble-minded—6.
 No. children who are orphans—17.
 No. children who are half-orphans—71.
 No. children died during year ending Sept, 30, 1918.—2.
 No. of children in institution who are illegitimate—14.
 No. children attending day school—141.

Plant.

Kind of material of buildings—Brick.
 No. of stories high—2.
 Are there fire-escapes?—No.
 Location of fire-escapes—
 Average no. cubic feet of air in sleeping room for child—370.
 Inside or outside toilet rooms?—Inside.
 Individual or plunge bath tubs?—Individual.
 Individual or roller towels?—Individual.
 Are chairs or benches used in dining-room?—Chairs.
 Are there table-cloths?—Yes. Kind—White oil-cloth.
 Is there a school garden?—No.
 Do children have individual gardens?—No.
 State general crops grown in gardens—
 Is there a physician for institution?—Yes. Name—Dr. Finn.
 Is there dental inspection?—Yes. Name of dentist—Dalhousie Uni'ty.

Discipline.

Are records of punishment kept?—No.
 Is corporal punishment administered?—Yes.
 Is solitary confinement used as punishment?—No.

APPENDIX A.

The Superintendent of Neglected and Delinquent Children was chairman of a committee organized for the purpose of looking after the special interests of children who suffered in the Halifax disaster of December 6th, 1917. From the day of the disaster until the first day of May the Superintendent was actively engaged in this special work. There was associated with him the following committee; Judge W. B. Wallace, Mr. Justice Russell, Prof. E. McKay, R. H. Murray, K. C., H. M. Bradford, Prin. S. A. Morton, Philip Ring, Richard Anderson, Mrs. J. E. Wood, Mrs. E. Blackader, Mrs. A. I. Mader; an official representative of each of the Children's Institutions. The staff of the Halifax Academy and of Richmond School, and several other public school teachers were associated with the committee as active workers.

There were also Miss Rathbun of Toronto and Mrs. Parker of Boston, both child-welfare workers of high reputation, assisting the committee.

Miss Mary Fletcher was the indefatigable secretary of the committee.

The members of this committee worked in perfect harmony to the end that the children should receive that care and attention which they particularly required during those trying days. Members of the Committee worked long hours and under tremendous physical and mental strain. Only those who were directly connected with the Committee's headquarters can fully realize the trying conditions under which their work was performed for the first month or so after the disaster.



One of the many children who lost their lives in the great disaster.

On the first of May, 1918, the work had developed into purely routine matters and the staff had been decreased to four or five, when the whole work of the committee was taken over by the Halifax Relief Commission. When the Superintendent of Neglected and Delinquent Children formally gave up the direction of this branch of the relief work, he received the thanks of the Halifax Relief Commission, not only for his services but for those of the committee associated with him.

The following report was prepared by direction of the committee to be presented to the Halifax Relief Commissioners at the period shortly following their assuming control and at the time when the citizens' relief committee was handing over their duties to the Government Commission. The report of course is only complete up to that period, but it indicates the scope of the Committee's activities.

Report of Children's Committee.

The Children's Committee was organized shortly after the disaster of December 6th, for the purpose of assisting those who were endeavoring to deal with the children's problems arising out of the catastrophe.

After effecting an organization, the committee has been dealing with the following matters:

1. Getting urgent temporary repairs made to existing children's institutions.
2. Investigating cases to ascertain if children were in proper custody and being properly cared for.
3. Procuring necessary articles of clothing, etc., for children.
4. Hunting for "missing" children, identifying "unclaimed" children, and restoring children to their parents.
5. Interviewing hundreds of people who were;
 - (a) Hunting for lost children.
 - (b) Wishing to adopt homeless children.
 - (c) Arranging for the care of children.
6. Attending to a large correspondence mostly regarding the adoption of children, for which upwards of a thousand applications were received.
7. Arranging for and supervising the transfer of children from hospitals, shelters, etc., the committee in most cases having sent some one to accompany the children.
8. Arranging for temporary maintenance, permanent care, pensions and compensations or allowances for children, including finding of permanent homes.
9. Locating and referring to the proper agencies a number of wounded children.
10. Getting possession of children unlawfully taken possession of by improper persons.
11. Arranging for the proper guardianship of certain children.

The Committee has come in contact with upwards of 500 families including more than 1500 children. Of these about 200 were injured so as to receive hospital treatment, 70 have lost both parents, 120 have lost their mother and 180 have lost their father. In 111 cases the father is overseas. There are 7 children totally blind, and 48 suffering from eye injury. In the case of 67 children the mother suffered from eye injury. In 13 cases the mother is totally blind. There are 17 children with fathers having eye injury and 3 with fathers totally blind.

These figures, you will understand, deal only with cases known to the Children's Committee, and serve to indicate to some extent the field of our investigation.

The work of the Committee to date has been of a purely temporary nature. The permanent work will consist chiefly of:

1. The supervision of children in homes other than with their parents.
2. The arrangement for maintenance, pensions, compensation, etc.
3. Dealing with the problems of; (a) colored orphans (b) a few feeble minded.
4. The half orphans who may have a step-father, and the half orphans who may have a step-mother.
5. Arranging for proper guardians for certain children.
6. The disobedient and incorrigible boy or girl.

The Government or, if you wish to express it differently, the Relief Commission owes more to the children than to any others. The correct solving of most of the problems arising out of the disaster, affects the children both directly and indirectly. The Children's Committee is vitally interested in everything which affects the children's lives. Hence we are concerned with the questions of health, sanitation, employment, schools, churches, and that old Halifax problem, housing of the people. One thing must be guarded against and that is leaving unchecked the tendency of parents and guardians to put their children at work at too early an age. The Committee feels that the present condition of affairs will be used as an excuse for having children leave school to enter employment, and the unfortunate thing for the child is that in most cases the employment is what may be termed a blind alley leaving the child at a future age without schooling or the means of earning a livelihood.

In conclusion we would point out, it is a comparatively easy thing to dispose of children. Almost anyone would give a child food and clothing, and no matter how poor the food, how ragged the clothing, or how unfit the shelter, the child will soon regard it as a home and respond in character to its environment. Change in family life most wonderfully affects the character and physique of the child. Therefore, it is of great importance to fully realize now before it is too late the tremendous change which the disaster has wrought in the lives of so many Halifax children, and to provide, in so far as human wisdom can, every safeguard, every advantage and every opportunity for the children.

On behalf of the Committee,

E. H. BLOIS,
Chairman.

APPENDIX. (B).

Fiscal Year Ending September 30th, 1918.

Expenditure.		Receipts.	
Office expenses including postage, tel'gs, janitor service, etc.	\$ 248.16	From Municipalities for Expense of Apprehension and Support of Neglected Children:—	\$ 25.00
Travelling expenses of Supt. and Assistants and board for children when travelling, cab and team hire, etc.	914.47	Town of Truro.....	17.00
Railway fares and travelling expenses of children.....	97.42	Municipality of Queens Co.....	600.45
Clothing for children (emergency cases).....	83.63	Municipality of Cape Breton Co.....	16.84
For support of children for temporary shelter:—		Town of PARSBORO.....	112.78
Monastery of the Good Shepherd.....	1980.53	Municipality of Lunenburg.....	348.35
The Halifax Industrial School.....	1760.16	Municipality of Clare.....	196.28
St. Patrick's Home.....	826.09	Town of Stellarton.....	197.85
Halifax Detention Home.....	867.22	Town of Amherst.....	138.51
The Protestant Orphanage, Halifax.....	201.85	Municipality of Annapolis Co.....	135.28
St. Joseph's Orphanage.....	1252.34	Town of Digby.....	1888.74
Home of the Guardian Angel.....	542.68	City of Halifax.....	860.81
The Girls' Home.....	473.25	Municipality of Halifax Co.....	358.49
Halifax Infants' Home.....	496.40	Town of Shelburne.....	22.50
St. Paul's Home for Girls.....	223.13	Municipality of Shelburne Co.....	302.29
The Maritime Home for Girls.....	185.93	Municipality of Guysboro Co.....	238.15
St. Mary's Home.....	150.00	Municipality of Cumberland Co.....	86.43
The Poor House, Truro.....	144.00	Municipality of East Hants.....	117.38
Mrs. Lemee.....	32.00	Municipality of West Hants.....	271.17
Mrs. Dennison.....	48.00	Town of Dartmouth.....	186.97
Mrs. Leader.....	92.00	Town of Windsor.....	45.15
Alice Campbell.....	152.79	Municipality of Richmond Co.....	104.00
Refund to private persons.....	72.30	Municipality of Pictou Co.....	550.23
Doctors' fees, medicine, etc.....	295.07	City of Sydney.....	52.28
Prosecutions under the Act, officers' fees, travelling expenses, etc.....	5.00	Municipality of Chester.....	7.25
Refund to the Municipality of Clare.....	115.00	Municipality of Colchester Co.....	2589.77
To private persons, out of assigned pay, on order.....	35.75	Private persons towards support of children and towards travelling expenses.....	1115.85
Provincial Cashier, Juvenile Court Fines.....	85.00	Provincial Cashier.....	25.75
On deposit in trust in Bank of Montreal for private persons		Juvenile Court Fines.....	143.70
		Dominion Coal Co. Employees' Benefit Society.....	537.00
		Halifax Branch Can. Patriotic Fund.....	45.00
		Sydney Branch Can. Patriotic Fund.....	24.00
		Yarmouth Branch Can. Patriotic Fund.....	128.00
		London Life Insurance Co.....	260.00
		Halifax Relief Commission.....	
			\$11469.25

N. B.—All vouchers are filed with the Provincial Auditor.