

FIFTH BIENNIAL REPORT

OF THE

HOME FOR THE FRIENDLESS

OF THE

STATE OF NEBRASKA,

FOR THE

TWO YEARS ENDING NOVEMBER 30, 1894.

THE HOME IS LOCATED ON CORNER
SOUTH AND 11TH STS.

VISITORS ALWAYS WELCOME AT THE HOME.

LINCOLN, NEB.:
JACOB NORTH & COMPANY.
1894.

LINCOLN, NEB., November 30, 1894.

To the Honorable Board of Public Lands and Buildings:

GENTLEMEN—I herewith submit the sixth biannual report of the Home of the Friendless for the two years ending November 30, 1894.

Very respectfully,

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

By MRS. LUTHER P. LUDDEN,

Clerk of the Board.

OFFICERS OF THE SOCIETY.

President, Mrs. A. M. Davis Lincoln.
Honory President, Mrs. R. C. Manley..... Lincoln.

VICE PRESIDENTS.

Mrs. A. B. Philpott..... Lincoln.
Mrs. C. K. Chubbuck..... Tecumseh.
Mrs. W. A. Waddington..... Beatrice.
Mrs. J. D. Nesbit..... Pawnee City.
Mrs. A. A. Sweet..... Palmyra.
Mrs. A. Denne..... Melroy.
Mrs. H. M. Pendleton..... Nebraska City.
Mrs. E. M. Searle Ogalalla.
Mrs. W. M. Scott..... Brewster.
Mrs. O. C. Bell Red Cloud.
Miss S. Blodgett..... Julian.
Miss A. Pheasant..... Beatrice.
Corresponding and recording secretary, Mrs.
 Caroline A. Jones Lincoln.
Financial Secreatary, Mrs. W. M. Knapp..... Lincoln.
Treasurer, Mrs. E. S. Helmer Valparaiso.



HOME FOR THE FRIENDLESS (CHAPEL), LINCOLN.



HOME FOR THE FRIENDLESS (MAIN BUILDING), LINCOLN.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

President, Mrs. H. A. Babcock	Lincoln.
Clerk, Mrs. L. P. Ludden	Lincoln.
Mrs. L. G. M. Baldwin	Lincoln.
Mrs. S. M. Benedict	Lincoln.
Mrs. J. Z. Briscoe	Bethany Heights.
Mrs. Henry Oliver	Lincoln.
Mrs. C. W. Hoxie	Lincoln.
E. C. Bentley	Lincoln.
Mrs. R. H. Pollock	Beatrice.
Mrs. C. W. Poole	Tecumseh.
Mrs. Fora Gale	Melroy.
Mrs. A. McIntyre	Falmyra.

OFFICERS OF THE HOME.

Superintendent, Mrs. L. Beach Hoel	Lincoln.
Assistant superintendent, Mrs. Astosa S. Hall .	Lincoln.
Physician, W. M. Knapp, M.D.	Lincoln.
Matron, Mrs. Mattie E. Wood	Lincoln.

REPORT.

To the Honorable Board of Public Lands and Buildings.

GENTLEMEN—In accordance with the requirements of law, I herewith submit to you the sixth biennial report of the Board of Directors of the Society of the Home for the Friendless.

The two years closing November 30, 1894, have been very successful ones in the history of the Home. We have been free from accidents, and no calamities have befallen us. Our children have had, as in previous years, to pass through the usual epidemics of childhood diseases, and yet without any serious fatal effects.

The improvements have been very few during this biennium, only such as were absolutely needed to keep and preserve the property, and have been more in the nature of general repairs, keeping the various buildings and all the property in good order.

The Board of Directors have held their meetings regularly from month to month, and have noted with great pleasure the advance made in the Home from time to time. These ladies serve without pay, gladly giving their time in order to help on this needed work in our state. When you consider the utter helplessness of many of our inmates, mere babes from a few days old to a few years of age, the complex character of our work, it is surprising the high degree of efficiency and success attained in the several departments; and yet with every advance of the work come new responsibilities and added duties. The work is never done; at all hours of the day and any hour of the night the wants of the helpless babes must be attended to.

We point with pride to the school connected with this institution. As soon as the "little tots" are old enough they are placed in the kindergarten department, and from this department up to the main school room, and the work done in our school department will compare favorably with work done by any children in any school in the state; and the children go forth from our Home school well enough equipped in matter of education to insure self-support.

The work of the officers and employes has been such that surely must meet with your approval, in the manner in which they have discharged their several duties. In years past the financial management has compared most favorably with that of other state institutions, and this biennium finds us still more economical because of the smallness of the appropriations. The appropriations this year compelled us to still further reduce the salaries of our employes. The Board has greatly regretted to do this. The employes were already underpaid. When you consider the nature of the work of our employes, caring for children, and that they come from all classes and conditions of home life, and every child with an uncurbed temper and disposition of its own, and knowing that that means constant care night and day and every day in the year, one realizes the difficulty attendant upon securing efficient help for the trying and exacting position. But the low appropriation places us only with this alternative, lower the wages or quit receiving so many children. We took the former, for the demands upon the Home for the admitting of children have greatly increased; especially is this true during the past few months. These severe times seem to bring to our doors many who otherwise might be able to care for their own. This increase in attendance means more help, and more expense in maintaining the Home, a general increase of operating expenses. By the closest economy we are caring for them, not in the man-

ner we would like, but in a manner we are compelled to use because of lack of sufficient funds.

We believe that the people of the state are coming to a better understanding of our work. Messages of praise and good cheer come to us from every hand, bidding us God-speed in the noble work of caring for the homeless, unfortunate ones of our state.

Our Home is well officered, our employes are faithful and painstaking. Earnest words of praise are not needed; their work speaks for itself, and yet their hearts are cheered, and their hands strengthened as they find their work endorsed, and their labors approved of, because it is worthy of all the commendation given. I will not individualize, because all are striving to do their duty to make the work of the Home successful. While we have discouraging circumstances, yet we will not uncover them, but content ourselves to look only to the bright side.

NEEDS OF THE HOME.

We need at the Home a new boiler house. I can do no better than quote from the former reports, "The present boiler house is used as a laundry on the first floor, and as a dormitory above." The increased buildings makes this demand for increased boiler capacity more and more imperative. With our large increase in numbers, the present building and boilers are too small. The large family necessitates washing every day, excepting Sunday, and then the large floor space in the several buildings to warm taxes the capacity of the boiler beyond its ability to perform.

We bring the same plea for more land. Our expense could be lessened if we only had the space to increase our vegetable garden, or pasturage for cows.

I am directed by the board of directors to ask for the appropriations of the following amounts by the legislature. This is not inflated in the expectation that the amount will be cut down, but every dollar is needed; and while we expect an increase in numbers, we have not asked for a corresponding increase in appropriation. The board of directors realizes that it must still practice the severe economy that has marked the management of the past.

ESTIMATE FOR APPROPRIATIONS NECESSARY FOR THE PAYMENT OF
THE CURRENT EXPENSES OF THE HOME FOR THE FRIENDLESS,
FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH 31, 1896, AND
MARCH 31, 1897.

For employes' wages, living expenses, live stock and feed, drugs and medicines, fuel and lights, clothing, bedding, furniture, repairs, improvements, stationery, printing, books, telegraph, telephone, postage, water rental, official traveling expenses, transporting children to homes, and all other necessary expenses, thirty thousand (\$30,000.00) dollars.

For new boiler house, necessary equipment and resetting boiler, five thousand (\$5,000.00) dollars.

Estimate for appropriation necessary for the payment of salaries of the officers of the Home for the Friendless for the years ending March 31, 1896, and March 31, 1897.

For salaries of officers, seven thousand seven hundred and sixty, (\$7,760.00) dollars.

The number of inmates received into the institution from its opening to the close of the report, November 30, 1892, was 1,690.

The number received from December 1, 1892, to November 30, 1894, is 539, making a total of 2,229. The additions come from the following counties:

Adams, Antelope, Boone, Buffalo, Burt, Butler, Cass, Clay, Custer, Cherry, Cedar, Chase, Douglas, Dawson, Dodge, Fillmore, Frontier, Franklin, Furnas, Gage, Hall, Hamilton, Harlan, Hitchcock, Jefferson, Johnson, Lancaster, Merrick, Nance, Nemaha, Nuckolls, Otoe, Pawnee, Phelps, Platte, Pierce, Richardson, Rock, Saunders, Saline, Seward, Sioux, Sherman, Thayer, Valley, Webster, York.

Temporarily we admitted four from Kansas, two from Iowa, five from Denver, one from Minnesota. These were sheltered until transportation could be procured for them to return to friends or employment obtained for them here or elsewhere.

The number of children placed in homes for adoption during this biennium closing November 30, 1894, is 111 in the following counties:

Antelope, Blaine, Boyd, Brown, Buffalo, Cass, Clay, Custer, Chase, Cedar, Cherry, Frontier, Furnas, Franklin, Gage, Garfield, Harlan, Hamilton, Holt, Howard, Johnson, Keya Paha, Lancaster, Madison, Nemaha, Nuckolls, Otoe, Polk, Phelps, Red Willow, Saline, Seward, Thomas, Valley, Wayne. Six were placed just over the state line into Kansas and one in Iowa.

In closing this report, on behalf of the Board of Directors and the officers of society and the officers and employes of the Home, I desire to extend thanks, first, to his Excellency Governor Lorenzo Crounse, and second, to the several members of your Board for the courtesies extended and the assistance rendered.

Very respectfully submitted,

MRS. LUTHER P. LUDDEN,

Clerk of the Board.