

SEVENTH BIENNIAL REPORT

OF THE

HOME FOR THE FRIENDLESS

OF THE

STATE OF NEBRASKA,

FOR THE

TWO YEARS ENDING NOVEMBER 30, 1896.

THE HOME IS LOCATED ON CORNER SOUTH AND ELEVENTH STREETS.

VISITORS ALWAYS WELCOME.

LINCOLN, NEB.:
STATE JOURNAL COMPANY, PRINTERS.
1886.

LINCOLN, NEB., November 30, 1896.

To the Honorable Board of Public Lands and Buildings,

GENTLEMEN: In accordance with the constitution of the state of Nebraska, I submit for your consideration the seventh biennial report of the Society of the Home for the Friendless, located at Lincoln, Neb., for the biennium ending November 30, 1896.

Respectfully submitted,

MRS. L. P. LUDDEN,

Clerk of the Board.

REPORT.

The Home for the Friendless is located at the corner of Eleventh and South streets, in the city of Lincoln. The Home is officered and managed in compliance with the special act of the legislature and only in part stands as a state institution. In this respect it differs from all of the other state institutions, that by law report to your honorable board.

OBJECT.

The object of the society is so well known that it is not necessary in this report for me to enlarge. By the terms of the organization, the society of the Home for the Friendless vests the management of the Home in a board of twelve women, whose term of office is two years, six being thus chosen annually at a state convention which is composed of delegates elected by local auxiliaries throughout the state. This board of directors elects the superintendent, assistant superintendent, matron, and physician, also the several employes, all of whom remain under the direct control of the board of directors. The board of directors meet regularly from month to month, every member of which serves without pay, gladly giving her time that she may aid in caring for the needy and the helpless. We trust that the management of the work committed to our hands is such that we can merit your confidence and approval, for we believe that every member of the board has conscientiously and faithfully performed the work committed to her, and that the moneys have been wisely expended and the charities most worthily bestowed. This biennium, closing November 30, 1896, has been a very successful period in the work of the Home. While agencies for the care of dependent children have increased, it has not lessened the work of our institution.

Notwithstanding all this increase in agencies, when we review the two years of labor we find that the work is constantly increasing and that more helpless little ones have come to us than at any other period in our history. Only those most closely associated in the work can have any realization of how great the want exists for the Home and how its needs are growing every day.

BUILDINGS.

The buildings comprise a main building, which is used for the administrative and culinary purposes, and in this building also is located the first nursery and the girls' dormitory. Then the school building, in which the school and chapel are located, together with the second nursery and the boys' dormitory. Also the laundry building, in the basement of which is the boiler. The maternity cottage, the hospital and quarantine cottage, a small greenhouse, and a barn for the cows.

MAINTENANCE.

It has been the aim of the board to carefully guard against any extravagance in administering the affairs of the institution, and the reports of the superintendent and treasurer, together with the annual report of the president and physician, will show how well we have succeeded in this direction. These expenses embrace all the outlay at the Home, running expenses, ordinary repairs, medical attendance, board, clothing, heating, light, and salaries; and as I said in my report two years ago, "when you consider the utter helplessness of many of our inmates, mere babes, from a few days to a few years of age, and the complex character of the work, it is surprising the high degree of efficiency and success attained in the several departments." The work of the employes is never done. At all hours of the day and at any hour of the night these helpless babes must be attended to.

In addition to the children that we care for, I desire to call your attention to the old ladies in the Home. These mothers came to us because in our state we have no suitable state institu-

tion for their maintenance and because, in some cases, their own children, ungrateful and almost unnatural, turn them out in the cold and cheerless world without shelter and the comforts of life. We have tried to care for them and provide a real home until other places could possibly be secured for them, and thus they enjoy the comforts and ease so far as the means at our disposal will allow.

SCHOOL.

During the past year great improvement has been made in our school work. The children have been carefully graded in accordance with the school system of the state of Nebraska, and a regular course of study is now provided, corresponding to that in vogue in the public schools of the city of Lincoln. Considering the fact that the children are not located at the Home permanently, this will be of great advantage to them, as they go out from the Home properly classified and graded. They will thus be enabled to take up school work in any part of the state and stand on an equal footing with the pupils trained in our public schools. In addition to all this the children are specially trained in habits of cleanliness, industry, and temperance. We thus strive to fortify them so that, when thrown upon the world, they may be able to meet the emergencies of life as they come upon them and withstand temptation, because their character will be more firmly fixed upon principles of right doing. The school department has prospered during the past two years and the course of instruction we are now pursuing has proven entirely satisfactory. The kindergarten department is still one of the most interesting in the institution, as the little ones from three to five years of age, following the work outlined for kindergartners, soon become quite adept in their tasks.

NEEDS OF THE HOME.

The maternity cottage should be raised a foot and one-half from the ground, a closet and bath placed therein, and the building then placed in condition so that regular housekeeping could be maintained.*

* Since this was written the cottage has been destroyed by fire, and the need of some building to take its place is imperative.

The water pipes at the Home should be tiled or put in a suitable condition for the performing of the work designed, as they are now badly rusted.

We come again asking for the construction of an oven that we may bake our own bread, verily believing that home-baked bread would be more nutritious and less expensive than buying all the bread for the institution.

We are still in need of a new boiler house and another boiler. No one who has visited the Home but what can realize the needs of a boiler house. At present the boiler is down in the basement of the laundry building, every part of which building we need for the laundry alone. A boiler house is needed also because of the present location of the boiler in the building. Then the need of another boiler should be conceded by all, when you consider that about every two weeks the fires have to be put out that the present boiler may be cleaned, and this entire Home, with its one hundred and forty children and employes, must go without fire until it can be cleaned and put in condition to again start the fire, and we have only one grate in the main building where fire could be made, and no stoves. It hardly seems humane to compel the Home to get along with just one boiler, and if for any reason this boiler should be incapacitated for a day during a severe cold spell, imagine the suffering that must come to the inmates.

An additional bath room and closet should also be placed in the main building.

As elsewhere intimated, we do need more grounds for garden purposes. The expenses of the institution could be greatly lessened if we had suitable grounds for the raising of such vegetables as we need from day to day in the Home. Then it would also furnish a means of employment for the older boys and girls in the summer and give suitable play-grounds for the children.

In the laundry we need a steam washer and steam mangle. This need is imperative when you consider the large amount of clothing it is necessary to wash every day in order to properly care for the children. The facilities that we have for doing this work are not adequate for the institution.

IMPROVEMENTS.

The smallness of the appropriation made at the last legislature demanded of the board still closer economy than ever before in caring for and managing this Home, so that in improvements very little has been done. We desire, however, to thank the members of the Board of Public Lands and Buildings for the repairs and improvements they so kindly made in the kitchen. They are not extensive nor expensive, yet they have proven a very great convenience.

I am instructed by the board of directors to ask for the appropriation of the following moneys by the legislature:

ESTIMATE FOR APPROPRIATION NECESSARY FOR THE PAYMENT OF
THE CURRENT EXPENSES OF THE HOME FOR THE FRIENDLESS
FOR THE TWO YEARS AND FIVE MONTHS ENDING AUGUST
31, 1899.

| | |
|--|-------------|
| Stationery, printing, telephone, telegraph, books, postage, and incidentals, \$2,000..... | \$2,450 00 |
| Living expenses, drugs, and feed for stock, \$10,000, | 12,000 00 |
| Clothing, bedding, and furniture, \$5,000..... | 6,000 00 |
| Repairs and improvements, including new boiler, \$3,000 | 3,600 00 |
| Fuel, lights, and water rentals, \$6,000..... | 7,200 00 |
| New boiler house, necessary equipment, re-setting the old boiler, \$5,000..... | 5,000 00 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$36,250 00 |
| Officers' salaries: | |
| Superintendent, 29 months at \$75 per month..... | \$2,175 00 |
| Assistant superintendent, 29 months at \$50 per month | 1,450 00 |
| Matron, 29 months at \$40 per month..... | 1,160 00 |
| Physician, 29 months at \$50 per month..... | 1,450 00 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$6,235 00 |

Employees' wages:

| | |
|--|-------------|
| One teacher, 29 months at \$22.50 per month..... | \$352 50 |
| One kindergarten teacher, 29 months at \$22.50 per month | 652 50 |
| Governess, 29 months at \$20 per month..... | 580 00 |
| Usher, 29 months at \$15 per month..... | 435 00 |
| Head nurse, first nursery, 29 months at \$20 per month | 580 00 |
| Assistant nurse, first nursery, 29 months at \$13.50 per month..... | 391 50 |
| Second assistant nurse, first nursery, 29 months at \$13.50 per month..... | 391 50 |
| Head nurse, second nursery, 29 months at \$18 per month | 522 00 |
| Dormitory, 29 months at \$15 per month..... | 435 00 |
| Quarantine, 29 months at \$15 per month..... | 435 00 |
| Special, 29 months at \$18 per month..... | 522 00 |
| First cook, 29 months at \$20 per month..... | 580 00 |
| Second cook, 29 months at \$15 per month..... | 435 00 |
| House cleaner, 29 months at \$14 per month..... | 406 00 |
| Laundry, 29 months at \$18 per month..... | 522 00 |
| Ironer, 29 months at \$14 per month..... | 406 00 |
| Mangler, 29 months at \$12.50 per month..... | 362 50 |
| Gardener, 29 months at \$20 per month..... | 580 00 |
| Engineer, 29 months at \$45 per month..... | 1,305 00 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$10,193 50 |
| | <hr/> |
| Total | \$52,678 50 |

The work of the Home speaks for itself, and I believe the people of the state are coming to a better appreciation of what is being done because of the hearty approvals that come to us from every direction, bidding us God speed in this great work of caring for the homeless and unfortunate children in our state.

I desire, on behalf of the board of directors and the officers of the Society of the Home for the Friendless, to extend our

thanks to His Excellency, Governor Silas A. Holcomb, and the several members of your board for the courtesies extended and the assistance rendered from time to time, as we have appealed to you.

Very respectfully submitted,

MRS. L. P. LUDDEN,

Clerk of the Board.

PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL ADDRESS.

The closing of another official year brings us as a society to one more halting place, from the vantage ground of which we can review the past and anticipate the future. We see in this panoramic view as it passes before us two paths: The one, in the fast receding distance, we recognize as that over which we have just passed; the other, rapidly coming into view, we are about to take, not knowing whither it leads. As we glance backward we notice some rough places, relieved here and there by spots of brightness. We see mountains of difficulty rapidly disappearing under the influence of earnest endeavor and united action. There are strewn, too, along this way sad hearts that have been cheered by loving words; manifold sorrows that have been shared by tender friends; burdens made light by willing hands; and countless tears that have been wiped away by sympathy's touch. Our own hearts are glad, as these things are brought to our remembrance, that we have traveled over this path, narrow though it has been. We turn our gaze upon that other path, which is as yet all untried and untrodden, and hesitate ere we take the first step. There is an almost impenetrable veil mercifully placed between us and this unknown future, yet as it is pierced by rays from the light of experience we see before us grave problems which must be solved and important questions which demand an answer. We know not just what may be required of us in this work, as each year it takes on some new phase, which is unavoidable, and brought about by circumstances beyond control.

In the past we have been able, by strict economy, to meet all

of our bills; this year we will be obliged to come before the legislature with a deficiency. There are many reasons for this, but we are glad that it has not been caused by extravagance in any particular, as far as we know.

We have tried to guard every point and to bring the outlay within the income, but, in spite of constant watchfulness, have not been able to do so. There has been a constantly increasing demand for shelter and aid, and while this has been the case our resources in proportion have been much less than formerly. Some of the most important funds of our appropriation were insufficient, owing to the fact that we received less than was asked for.

Many of those who have children whom they have placed in the Home, promising to pay the small sum required for their care, have, for various reasons, been unable to meet this obligation, while some, we fear, have not tried, being only too willing to receive at our hands that aid for their children which they would not exert themselves to provide or pay for. There are children in the institution for whom no board has been paid for many months, some of whom might have been placed in good homes had they been given to us. The question is an important one,—shall we take advantage of the law which considers them abandoned at the end of four months, claim them as our own, and place them in homes for adoption? In some cases this would be for the best good of the children. Some of these little ones, whose mothers have paid what they could in order to still keep their children, owing to sickness or misfortune are helpless and unable to pay, and have been for some time. Shall we take them by law or continue to keep them free of charge? There are others for whom no homes could be found, as they are very undesirable and, no doubt, will always be wards of the state. The question confronts us, shall we refuse to longer care for them, many of them inheriting tendencies to evil, and let them drift into crime, going from bad to worse until they help to swell the number of criminals in our jails and prisons, or is it better to keep them under Christian influence and moral teaching, and strive to train them for sober and honest lives? Sisters, what

is our duty towards those whom God in His infinite goodness and wisdom has permitted to be placed under our protection?

Another question of vast importance, and demanding serious consideration, is that of the continuity of the society upon its present basis. Since appropriations have been made by the state to assist in the maintenance of the institution, the impression has been made, and is gaining strength, not only among the people at large, but also among those who have been our most ardent supporters, that there is no longer any need of auxiliaries, that this is a state institution, and, as such, not in need of other aid. If this were true, and we held the same relation to the state as the asylum, penitentiary, and other strictly state institutions, being controlled by the Board of Public Lands and Buildings, receiving appropriations large enough for our support, our Superintendent appointed by the Governor, our other officers owing their positions to political influence and party power, then auxiliaries would be just as unnecessary and out of place as in the case of these other institutions. As we are organized, our very life depends upon our auxiliaries; if they go down, our foundation crumbles away. They are the great engine which supplies the power by which this work is done. The Home is under the control and management of a board of directors, who are elected annually by the convention. This convention is composed of the officers of the society, the board of directors, and delegates from the auxiliaries. If we have no auxiliaries, we can have no convention, and consequently no officers or board of directors. We feel that those who think that auxiliaries are not needed do not fully understand the situation. These auxiliaries form a chain which binds us to the hearts and sympathies of the people in the various parts of the state; when one auxiliary ceases to act, one link in this chain is broken and the whole weakened. Without them we would lose our identity, not only as a Christian institution, but one founded upon principles of humanity, untrammled by political influence or selfish aims. This has always been emphatically woman's work, for women and children, without any political or sectarian lines of separation.

It is the firm conviction of those who have labored in this work for years that an institution of this kind is greatly needed, and that anything which would tend to take the control out of the hands of woman, who has proven herself so capable of its management, should be avoided and prevented if possible.

There are some places where we feel important changes should be made as soon as practicable in the inner workings of the Home. In the nurseries and hospital there should be trained nurses in charge, who would be equal to meet any emergency which might arise. As there is not a resident physician in the Home, this need is imperative. We are all proud of our school and kindergarten, and are anxious that the grade shall be raised and the system perfected, and we feel that for the honor of the institution our teachers should be equal in fitness for their position to any in our city schools. Our school committee have this in view and are working for the accomplishment of this object. We hope the day may not be far distant when better arrangements and more ample accommodations may be made for the quarantine. It should be so arranged that different apartments could be had for the boys and girls. A manual training school is greatly needed in connection with the Home. The boys should be taught trades and fitted to take their places as wage earners and to fill honorable positions in some sphere of life. The girls, too, should be so taught that they may be self-respecting and self-supporting when they leave the shelter of the Home. Many of these things have been in the hearts and hopes of those who have been intimately connected with the Home. Time necessitates change and progress, and although some of the older workers may not be permitted to witness the fulfillment of their hopes and desires, those who follow may be so privileged.

May this coming year bring about advancement in these and many other lines, and be one of united effort, of harmonious action, and of the accomplishment of more good than any preceding one in the history of the Home.

MRS. A. M. DAVIS,
State President.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT.

To the Honorable Board of Public Lands and Buildings,

GENTLEMEN: I herewith submit my report as superintendent of the Home for the Friendless for so much of the biennium closing November 30, 1896, as has been covered by my incumbency in that office, together with a few statistical tables, which concisely show the work of the institution for the last biennial period, with a few other tables showing some facts since the opening of the Home. These tables are given to epitomize the history of the work done by the Home and we trust the information they furnish will be interesting and valuable.

OUR FAMILY

is composed of three classes:

First.—Children, boys under twelve, and girls under fifteen years of age.

Second.—Adults, who are young women supposed to have met with misfortune, or wanting a temporary home while looking for work.

Third.—Aged women, without home, friends, or any means of support all of whom would have been public charges on the counties from which they came were it not for the institution that has so long had the careful consideration of your Honorable Board and those that have preceded you.

We believe there is no work that should be held more sacred by the citizens of any commonwealth than the care of the dependent, homeless children within its boundaries; and there is no work more important, or which involves greater responsibility, than placing these children in homes and keeping a tender watchcare over them, even after they are legally adopted or indentured.

It would seem that with all the agencies at work for the saving of dependent, neglected, and ill-treated children, that there might come a time when the number forming this class would be so depleted as to no longer require the expense of keeping up an institution of this kind. But statistics show us that notwith-

standing the fact that there are many such agencies now at work in our own state, the number we have been asked to shelter during the last biennial period has been greater than any period in the history of the Home.

Some of the children who come to us are from homes that have once been happy and prosperous. But adversity and death have robbed the family of either father or mother, and the one left finds themselves unable to keep the family together and properly care for and support it. In these cases we say to a heart-broken father or a discouraged mother, we will keep your little ones together for a time, at a nominal consideration, often keeping them the first one or two months free. This gives the parent time and opportunity to look about and in many instances secure lucrative employment, so that the sad necessity of separating the family is removed, the parent finding it not a hard task to pay the small amount charged for the board, the stipulation being \$5 per month for one child, \$7 for two, \$9 for three, or \$10 for four children, with good school privileges, we, in some instances, furnishing a part of the clothing.

It amounts to a deep conviction with us that parents who are too easily relieved of the care and burden of maintaining their families are much more liable to fall into ways of sin and vice. The sacredness of the family relation is not preserved when a father or mother is encouraged to shift the entire responsibility of the care and maintenance of their little ones upon others. For this reason parents are not urged by us to immediately surrender their children until an honest effort is made to support them. We believe this is not only true charity but often a means of saving the parent from a life of selfishness and sin.

You will find by referring to the treasurer's report a fund designated "Society Fund." This is the income from the board of the above class of inmates, the membership fees from the various auxiliaries, and the gifts of moneys from life members of the society, and other friends, and is used to pay the grocery bills and necessary traveling expenses in placing children in homes and visiting the same. For this latter expense of finding homes for the children, no appropriation has ever been made by

the legislature, and for that reason the work of placing children in homes has been greatly crippled. Notwithstanding this disadvantage under which we have labored, 107 have been placed in homes and others sent to friends at the expense of the society in the last twenty-four months. (See Table A.)

THE LIFE

at the Home is made to correspond as nearly as possible to the home life as we find it in our well regulated rural homes. We insist upon personal cleanliness, correct manners and morals, and so far as our conveniences admit, habits of industry are taught. We very much feel the need of an industrial department where our boys and girls may be systematically taught some of the useful arts, such as mechanics for the boys, and sewing and kindred accomplishments for the girls.

OUR SCHOOL

receives a large share of our attention. There are two teachers employed. One has charge of the school above the first year of primary work; the other teacher having charge of the first year primary and the kindergarten.

THE HEALTH

of the family has been remarkably good. While our mortuary report shows quite a number of deaths, the causes, if fully known would prove to the public that it was no fault of the management, the physician in charge, or the nurses. The number of deaths for the biennial period has been thirty-six. (See Table B.) One of this number was an old lady, seventy-four years of age, two were still-born, and one a premature birth. Thirty-three of the thirty-six were babes under one year of age, and were a class of inmates that came to us, in almost every instance, as the offspring of unfortunate girls, who wished to hide their disgrace by sending their little ones—puny, sickly, and diseased—to us to care for, which we have done to the best of our ability. But the little ones, having no constitution to build upon, the poor little sufferers yielded to disease that easily fastened upon their frail bodies.

THE GOVERNMENT

of the Home has been with a view of placing the children upon their manhood and womanhood, appealing to their honor and sense of right. There is some good in all, and we believe that patience, forbearance, and kindness will bring out the good, and in proportion as the good predominates will the evil be brought into subjection.

SEWING DEPARTMENT.

The making and mending of the clothing is done in the Home without outside help. This represents no small amount of work, as will be seen by referring to Table C.

THE LAUNDRY

is furnished with only one steam washer, an extractor, and a wooden mangle. All of the clothing, good, bad, and indifferent, goes through this one washer. We should have another washer and a steam mangle. The number of articles that pass through the processes necessary to put them in a condition to use and wear is about 5,000 per week, and for the 104 weeks would not fall below 520,000 pieces.

CLEANLINESS.

The children are all bathed once a week, and oftener if necessary. The beds receive fresh changes twice a week, and a few much oftener. Every bed is furnished with a good mattress, except where it is necessary for cleanliness to have straw ticks that can frequently be renewed.

THE RELIGIOUS TRAINING

of our children is not neglected. Although in no sense sectarian, religion and morality are taught to be the true basis of character. The truths of the Bible are taught, and the Christ-life is held up as being the ideal life all should follow.

THE DIET

of the children is carefully looked after and consists of a va-

riety of vegetables, with fresh fruits, and milk. (See Table D.) Meals are served at regular hours and the appetites of the children are usually good.

THE LIGHTING

of the building is by electricity, which is furnished by the Lincoln Gas Company at an average cost of about \$40 per month.

THE HEATING

of the main buildings and greenhouse is by steam, furnished by one boiler of forty horse-power, as is also the running of the machinery in the laundry. The heating of our cottages is by stoves. These houses should be heated by steam also, that the danger of fire might be greatly lessened. This cannot be done by the means now at our command. Coal is used in all stoves.

THE MILK

supply is furnished in part by a small herd of six cows, none of them blooded stock. The supply has not been adequate to the demands and we are often obliged to buy in order to furnish the children with milk, which forms an important part of their diet.

ADMISSIONS.

The number admitted since the opening of the Home to November 30, 1894, was 2,229, and came from the following counties: Adams, Antelope, Blaine, Boyd, Boone, Buffalo, Burt, Butler, Brown, Cass, Clay, Custer, Cherry, Cedar, Chase, Douglas, Dawson, Dodge, Fillmore, Frontier, Franklin, Furnas, Gage, Garfield, Hall, Hamilton, Harlan, Hitchcock, Holt, Howard, Jefferson, Johnson, Keya Paha, Lancaster, Merrick, Madison, Nance, Nemaha, Nuckolls, Otoe, Pawnee, Phelps, Platte, Pierce, Richardson, Rock, Red Willow, Saunders, Saline, Seward, Sioux, Sherman, Thayer, Thomas, Valley, Webster, Wayne, York. The number admitted from December 1, 1894, to November 30, 1896, was 622 (see Table E), making a total, 2,851 (see Table E). Of this number nineteen came from eight sister states for temporary shelter. (See Table F.)

The nationalities represented were sixteen in number. (See Table C.)

There have been born in the institution during the last biennial period twenty-four. Many of these cases were not eligible to Milford, as that institution does not admit deserted wives. Others of this number might have gone to that Home, but would not sign a contract to stay one year. Temporary shelter given, to adults 80, children 33. We have received persons over fifteen years of age, 168; children under fifteen and over three years, 312; children less than three years, 142.

DISMISSALS.

We have found work for fifty adults and sixteen of our boys and girls who were too old for adoption or indenture. Returned to friends, adults 43, children 161.

We believe the results obtained from the fostering care given these persons by means of this institution have been that of good citizenship, respectable men and women, instead of criminals. Of the 622 received into the Home in the last biennial period, only six have been sent to institutions for reform. Two of this number, however, were girls who were sent to us for care during a certain period and were returned to those institutions at the expiration of that period.

In conclusion we would say that what has been accomplished through this child-saving agency cannot be told in words, and can never be known until the veil is rent that hides from our view the full development and influence of each life we have touched with the hands of our love and charity, and the "books" are opened which hold the record of the deeds of love and kindness that have been made possible by the establishment and perpetuity of this institution, in behalf of the dependent, helpless, and friendless ones who have crossed the threshold of our Home

Respectfully submitted,

MRS. F. M. WILLIAMS,

Superintendent.

December 1, 1896.

TABLE B.

SHOWING MORTALITY FOR THE LAST BIENNIUM.

| | 1894. | 1895. | 1896. | Total. |
|---|-------|-------|-------|--------|
| Marasmus | 1 | 6 | 3 | 10 |
| Convulsions | | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| Diphtheria | | 1 | | 1 |
| Acute capillary bronchitis | | 1 | | 1 |
| Pneumonia | | 1 | | 1 |
| Hydrocephalus | | 1 | | 1 |
| Incomplete development of the heart | | 1 | | 1 |
| Malnutrition | | 1 | | 1 |
| Meningitis (syphilitic) | | 1 | | 1 |
| Cholera infantum | | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Tubercular meningitis | | 1 | | 1 |
| Catarrh of stomach and bowels | | 1 | | 1 |
| Still-born | | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Congestion of the lungs | | 3 | | 3 |
| Erysipelas and meningitis | | 2 | | 2 |
| La grippe and old age | | 1 | | 1 |
| Premature birth | | 1 | | 1 |
| Hereditary syphilis | | 1 | | 1 |
| Obstruction of the bile duct | | 1 | | 1 |
| Congestion of the brain | | 1 | | 1 |
| Total | | | | 36 |

TABLE C.

SHOWING ARTICLES MADE IN SEWING ROOM DURING THE LAST BIENNIUM.

| | 1894-'95. | 1895-'96. | Total. |
|------------------------------|-----------|-----------|--------|
| Aprons..... | 76 | 141 | 217 |
| Dresses..... | 143 | 106 | 249 |
| Skirts..... | 33 | 55 | 88 |
| Drawers..... | 56 | 61 | 117 |
| Night dresses..... | 155 | 146 | 301 |
| Shirt waists..... | 3 | | 3 |
| Boys' waists..... | 73 | 187 | 260 |
| Diapers..... | 350 | 200 | 550 |
| Sheets..... | 443 | 158 | 601 |
| Woolen vests..... | 20 | 26 | 46 |
| Pillow slips..... | 288 | 152 | 440 |
| Pillow ticks..... | 46 | 9 | 55 |
| Towels..... | 92 | 148 | 240 |
| Bibs..... | 116 | 93 | 209 |
| Napkins..... | 277 | 91 | 368 |
| Table cloths..... | 18 | 9 | 27 |
| Counterpanes..... | 38 | 20 | 58 |
| Dresser scarfs..... | 36 | | 36 |
| Chemise..... | | 4 | 4 |
| Sash curtains..... | | 5 pr. | 5 |
| Neck ties..... | | 58 | 58 |
| Tray cloths..... | | 8 | 8 |
| Doilies..... | | 4 | 4 |
| Underwaists..... | | 130 | 130 |
| Boys' suspenders..... | | 10 | 10 |
| Dusters..... | | 3 | 3 |
| Bands..... | | 42 | 42 |
| Comforts..... | | 50 | 50 |
| Total new garments made..... | | | 4,179 |
| OLD GARMENTS MADE OVER. | | | |
| Aprons..... | | 27 | 27 |
| Dresses..... | | 101 | 101 |
| Skirts..... | | 74 | 74 |
| Comforts..... | | 17 | 17 |
| Hats and bonnets..... | | 37 | 37 |
| Total..... | | | 256 |

TABLE D.—DIETARY.

BREAKFAST.

| Sunday. | Monday. | Tuesday. | Wednesday. | Thursday. | Friday. | Saturday. |
|---|--|---|--|--|---|---|
| Bread. Butter. Fried Mush. Cereal Coffee. Apples. | Oat Meal. Milk—Sugar. Toast. Butter. Eggs. | Rice. Milk. Sugar. Fried Bread. Butter. | Codfish. Milk. Dry Toast. Butter. | Oat Meal or Wheat Mush. Milk. Sugar. French Toast. | Scrambled Eggs. Toast. Butter. Milk. | Oat Meal. Milk. Sugar or Syrup. Milk Toast. |

DINNER.

| | | | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|---|--|--|
| Roast Beef. Potatoes. Tomatoes. Rice Pudding. Bread. | Bean Soup. Baked Potatoes. Cold Slaw. Bread. | Beef Stew. Potatoes. Corn. Bread. | Vegetable Soup. Crackers. Bread. Bread Pudding. | Bacon. Boiled Potatoes. Gravy. Tomatoes. Bread. | Corned Beef. Cabbage. Potatoes. Bread. Butter. | Beefsteak. Potatoes. Onions. Bread. Gravy. |
|--|---|--|--|---|--|--|

SUPPER.

| | | | | | | |
|--|---|---|--|--|---|---|
| Bread. Butter. Milk. Sauce. Gingerbread. | Potatoes or Cold Beans. Bread. Sauce. Milk. | Cracked Wheat. Milk and Sugar. Bread. Sauce. Cookies. | Meat Hash. Hominy. Milk. Bread. | Rice. Milk. Sugar or Syrup. Bread. Sauce. Cookies. | Scalloped Potatoes. Bread. Butter. Sauce. Doughnuts. | Corn Meal Mush. Milk. Bread. Butter. Gingerbread. |
|--|---|---|--|--|---|---|

TABLE E.

SHOWING TOTAL NUMBER RECEIVED SINCE THE OPENING OF THE INSTITUTION.

| 1894. | | 1895. | | 1896. | | PREVIOUSLY. | | TOTALS. | | Whole number. |
|--------|----------|--------|----------|--------|----------|-------------|----------|---------|----------|---------------|
| Males. | Females. | Males. | Females. | Males. | Females. | Males. | Females. | Males. | Females. | |
| 16 | 18 | 129 | 217 | 99 | 143 | 907 | 1,322 | 1,151 | 1,700 | 2,851 |

TABLE F.

NUMBER RECEIVED FROM EACH COUNTY.

| | 1894. | | 1895. | | 1896. | | TOTAL. | | Whole number. |
|---------------------|-------|---------|-------|---------|-------|---------|--------|---------|---------------|
| | Male. | Female. | Male. | Female. | Male. | Female. | Male. | Female. | |
| Adams | | | | | 1 | | 1 | | 1 |
| Antelope | | | 3 | | | | 3 | | 3 |
| Buffalo | | | 3 | 1 | | 1 | 3 | 2 | 5 |
| Box Butte | | | | | 1 | | | 1 | 1 |
| Burt | | | 1 | 1 | | | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Butler | | | | 1 | | 3 | | 4 | 4 |
| Boone | 1 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 5 | 5 | 10 |
| Cedar | | | | 1 | | | | 1 | 1 |
| Clay | | | | | | 1 | | 1 | 1 |
| Custer | | | | 3 | | 1 | | 4 | 4 |
| Cuming | | | | | 1 | | 1 | | 1 |
| Cherry | | | 2 | 1 | | | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| Cheyenne | | | | 1 | | | | 1 | 1 |
| Cass | | | | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 5 |
| Colfax | | | 1 | 1 | | | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Dodge | | | 1 | | | | 1 | | 1 |
| Dawes | | | | | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 4 |
| Douglas | | 9 | 12 | 6 | 8 | 2 | 20 | 17 | 37 |
| Frontier | | | 2 | 1 | | | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| Fillmore | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 3 | 7 | 10 |
| Furnas | | | 1 | | | | 1 | | 1 |
| Franklin | | | | 1 | | 1 | | 2 | 2 |
| Gosper | | | | | | 1 | | 1 | 1 |
| Grant | | | | | | 1 | | 1 | 1 |

TABLE G.

NATIVITY OF CHILDREN.

| | 1894. | | 1895. | | 1896. | | TOTAL. | | Whole number. |
|-------------------------|--------|----------|--------|----------|--------|----------|--------|----------|---------------|
| | Males. | Females. | Males. | Females. | Males. | Females. | Males. | Females. | |
| American (white)..... | 9 | 8 | 106 | 155 | 76 | 120 | 191 | 283 | 474 |
| American (colored)..... | | | 3 | 4 | 2 | 2 | 5 | 6 | 11 |
| Danish..... | | | | 1 | 2 | | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| Irish..... | 2 | 2 | 3 | 8 | 3 | | 6 | 10 | 16 |
| German..... | 2 | 4 | 7 | 15 | 6 | 7 | 15 | 26 | 41 |
| Norwegian..... | | | | 1 | | | | 1 | 1 |
| English..... | 2 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | | 4 | 3 | 7 |
| Bohemian..... | | 1 | 2 | 7 | | 1 | 2 | 9 | 11 |
| Indian..... | | | | 1 | | | | 1 | 1 |
| Russian..... | | | | 1 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 5 | 6 |
| French..... | | | | | | 3 | | 3 | 3 |
| Gypsy..... | | | | | 1 | | 1 | | 1 |
| Mexican..... | | 1 | | 1 | | | | 2 | 2 |
| Scotch Irish..... | | | | | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| Canadian..... | | | | 4 | 1 | | 1 | 4 | 5 |
| Swede..... | 3 | 1 | 7 | 17 | 5 | 4 | 15 | 22 | 37 |
| | | | | | | | | | 622 |

REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT ON REPAIRS.

LINCOLN, NEB., January 3, 1896.

H. C. Russell, Commissioner Public Lands and Buildings,

DEAR SIR: In compliance with your request of December 9, I send you the following statement, made to the best of my ability, with such memoranda and data as I have at my command. I can only give my judgment as to the workmanship of such repairs as have been made since I have been superintendent of the Home, namely, since October 1, 1895.

| | |
|--|--------|
| February 18, 1895, Repairs on washing machine..... | \$7 00 |
| February 18, 1895, Six storm windows..... | 15 00 |
| February 28, 1895, Thawing water pipes and repairing. | 19 45 |
| April 23, 1895, Repairing and painting storeroom..... | 24 00 |
| April 23, 1895, Repairing and painting large room..... | 13 00 |

| | |
|--|----------|
| April 23, 1895, Painting chicken house and lattice..... | \$6 20 |
| April 29, 1895, Repairing wash bowls, two new closet bowls, one steam trap, etc..... | 77 75 |
| April 29, 1895, Repairs on plumbing..... | 15 65 |
| May 13, 1895, Rebuilding outside closets..... | 105 00 |
| May 13, 1895, Plumbing repairs..... | 9 75 |
| May 13, 1895, Plumbing repairs..... | 7 25 |
| June 25, 1895, Repairing water conductors, etc..... | 15 00 |
| June 25, 1895 Making and repairing screens..... | 26 00 |
| June 25, 1895, Repairing roof..... | 19 00 |
| June 25, 1895, Setting, filing saw..... | 50 |
| July 8, 1895, Work done in boiler house..... | 4 20 |
| July 16, 1895, Work done in boiler house..... | 21 72 |
| July 27, 1895, Carpenter and plumbers' work in bath room | 50 00 |
| October, Making new washer (well done)..... | 26 02 |
| November 26, 1895, Paint and paper on white cottage.. | 46 93 |
| November 26, 1895, New floors in white cottage, repair- ing doors, windows, locks, putting on weather strip- ping, and general repairs in all buildings..... | 26 00 |
| November 25, 1895, Plastering white cottage and mend- ing plastering in all buildings..... | 20 00 |
| November, Plumbing in new building repaired..... | 17 10 |
| | \$572 52 |

All work done since October 1, 1895, has been well done and good material used, except the item above for \$17.10, which was poorly done and had to be done over in a short time.

Respectfully submitted,

Mrs. F. M. WILLIAMS,

Superintendent.

January 3, 1896.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

LINCOLN, NEB., December 1, 1896.

To the Honorable Board of Public Lands and Buildings,

GENTLEMEN: I have the honor to herewith submit biennial report of the treasurer of the Home for the Friendless, closing September 30, 1896.

The report covers the following dates: From September 26, 1894, to September 30, 1895, and from October 1, 1895, to September 30, 1896. During the period from September 26, 1894, to August 28, 1895, Mrs. E. S. Helmer was treasurer. The undersigned has been the treasurer since said last date. This report covers all items of receipts and disbursements during the period named.

Yours respectfully,

FLORENCE B. ATKINSON,

Treasurer.

Society fund:

| | | |
|---|---------|-------|
| 1894. | | |
| September 26, To cash on hand..... | \$1,284 | 94 |
| 1895. | | |
| September 30, To receipts for the year... | 1,306 | 85 |
| | | <hr/> |
| Total | \$2,591 | 79 |

Disbursements:

| | | |
|---|---------|-------|
| By paid for groceries, printing, etc., during the year..... | \$2,222 | 01 |
| | | <hr/> |
| | \$2,222 | 01 |
| 1895. | | |
| October 1, To cash on hand..... | \$369 | 78 |

Receipts of state fund:

| | | |
|----------------------------------|---------|-------|
| Officers' salaries for year..... | \$3,150 | 00 |
| Employes' wages for year..... | 4,166 | 31 |
| | | <hr/> |
| | \$7,316 | 31 |

Disbursements:

| | | |
|---------------------------------|---------|-------|
| By paid officers' salaries..... | \$3,150 | 00 |
| By paid employes' wages..... | 4,166 | 31 |
| | | <hr/> |
| | \$7,316 | 31 |

Only salaries of officers for three-fourths of the year included in above amount.

Supplies:

| | | |
|---|-----------------------------|------------|
| Received state warrants for supplies..... | \$9,886 80 | |
| | <u> </u> | \$9,886 80 |

Disbursements:

| | | |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------|
| Fuel and lights..... | \$1,782 94 | |
| Repairs | 131 84 | |
| Stationery, printing, and books..... | 134 35 | |
| Clothing, bedding, and furniture..... | 2,279 64 | |
| Board and clothing..... | 5,558 03 | |
| | <u> </u> | \$9,886,80 |

FLORENCE B. ATKINSON,
Treasurer Home for the Friendless.