

NINTH BIENNIAL REPORT

OF THE

HOME FOR THE FRIENDLESS

LINCOLN, NEBRASKA

FROM NOVEMBER 30, 1900, TO NOVEMBER 30, 1902

1902.
THE FREMONT TRIBUNE
FREMONT, NEB.

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REPORT.

STATE HOME FOR THE FRIENDLESS,
— LINCOLN, NEB., Nov. 30, 1902.

To His Excellency, the Governor, and the Board of Public Lands and Building:

GENTLEMEN:—In accordance with the Compiled Statutes of Nebraska of 1899, page 644, chapter 35, I have the honor to transmit to you herewith the second biennial report of the State Home for the Friendless.

Very respectfully,

MRS. SARAH B. SOHUS.

The Home is situated at the corner of Eleventh and South streets, in the City of Lincoln, Neb. The Home is easily accessible by three different cars leaving Tenth and O streets every ten minutes.

The Home for the Friendless property consists of 2.07 acres of ground. On this there are five buildings and a small greenhouse. The buildings are main and school buildings, laundry, cottage or hospital and barn. The three first-named are brick, the other two frame. The main and school buildings are two stories and basement; the laundry two stories with boiler underneath.

Main Building.—The basement is used for kitchen, storeroom, girls' bath-room, children's dining-room, girls' play-room and boys' wash-room.

First Floor.—Office, parlors, officers', employes and old ladies' dining-rooms, two sleeping rooms, also halls and store-room.

Second Floor.—First nursery and bath-room for same, three sleeping rooms, girls' dormitory and clothes-room.

School Building.—In basement, boys' play-room, one wash-room, kindergarten room, and two rooms, one occupied by engineer and the other by man-of-all-work.

First Floor.—Chapel, schoolroom, matron's rooms, second nursery, boys' dormitory and wash-rooms for same.

Second Floor.—Boys' dormitory and bath-room and four rooms occupied by help.

Laundry Building.—Engines and boiler in basement, 2 boilers, 1 40-horse power and one 35-horse power; engine, 10-horse power; 1 automatic feed pump, 1 coal bin capable of holding one car of steam coal.

First Floor.—Laundry in which is 1 steam washer, 1 steam wringer, 3 steam tubs, 6 stationary tubs, laundry stove, clothes bars and one dry room adjoining.

Second Floor.—Three sleeping rooms for employes.

Cottage of Hospital.—A small building of four rooms and bath. This at present is occupied by two old ladies who require a special attendant; the other half a drug room and a large room for quarantine purposes in case of contagious diseases.

Barn.—This has accommodation for six cows and four horses; also carriage space.

In presenting this second biennial report of the State Home for the Friendless to you it is my desire to state as briefly as possible the condition the buildings were in internally and externally, on assuming my position March 1, 1901.

Before the end of the first week the whole sewerage system blocked and could only be remedied by the use of most forceful measures. Not knowing what else to do, the city engineer was called upon for advice and he kindly came out, brought men and a large hose that was attached to the city hydrant and the obstruction forced from its lodging place and the sewer opened up. Upon opening the man-holes there was found an accumulation of coal buckets, tin cans, coal, broken dishes, old shoes, boards, etc., a large wagon load. Since the cleaning out at that time we have had no further trouble with our sewer.

The roofs on all the buildings leaked, the water conductors, down-spouts and tinning rusted beyond repair; the smoke-stack ready to collapse; the laundry floor sinking over the boilers, one boiler needing re-setting; plaster falling from laundry walls and ceiling; the floors of the entire basement in main building

were in a state of decay, broken and unsafe in many places; the back stairs leading to first floor from basement broken so that they fell in; the wash-room was in a dreadful condition, the plumbing was out of order, all fixtures worn and leaking, and the wood-work rotten. Every room needed paint and calsomine. The first floor in this building was in a fair condition, the wood-work needed varnishing, some papering and painting, doors repaired, etc.

Second Floor.—The first nursery needed everything except the iron beds. In the bath-room for this department the same state of decay, and the plumbing in as bad condition as the wash-room below. The odor was very unpleasant, not to say unhealthy. All wood-work on this floor was in need of varnish or paint. The porch from this department—the little ones' playground in suitable weather—needed a new floor and roof.

Girls' Dormitory.—In one-half of it the paper was hanging in strips from the ceiling.

School Building.—All wood-work needed varnishing; all walls and ceilings either paper or calsomining. In boys' bath-room all the plumbing was out of order, the tubs worn out. The tubs in this department, as well as all others, were the old zinc-lined wooden tubs. The seats in the schoolroom needed repair and black-boards paint. The attic in this building was filled with rubbish of various kinds, old beds and rusted springs, boxes of moth-eaten clothes, and in one corner a large pile of old mattresses and straw beds of every condition.

Hospital or Cottage.—Walls needed paper or calsomine, wood-work varnished and plumbing repaired.

In all but school building the electric wiring was pronounced in a highly dangerous condition. In the barn the wire went through joists without insulators being used.

The vault for the water meter had been walled up with boards and had caved in. The platform for the scales was worn out; the front porch was ready to fall, as were also the steps leading from the back of the main building.

REPAIRS.

Main Building.—Roof thoroughly repaired, new tinning, water conductors and down-spouts, new cement floor in entire basement, new plumbing in boys' wash-room, new enamel iron wash-bowls, wainscoting in kitchen, halls, dining-room, wash-room and play-room. New doors were needed. New ceiling in bread room, canopy over range, large steam kettles taken out.

First Floor.—All wood-work repaired and varnished, papering done, new plumbing in bath-room, new enamel iron bath-tub.

Second Floor.—First nursery, new mattresses for each bed. The mattresses in use were ticks filled with straw. Every bed painted. All wood-work, walls and ceilings painted in nursery, dining-room and bath-room. Linoleum for the floors. New sheets, spreads, blankets, rubber sheets and pads, pillows made over for every bed. In nursery bath-room all old plumbing torn out, new enamel iron tub and bowl put in. A door was cut into bathroom from nursery; heretofore the entrance to same was by going through the hall. The nursery is in good condition at this time and should be the best place in the Home. In hall and in dining-room for this nursery new wainscoting was put in. All wood-work in halls, sleeping-rooms and staircase was varnished and hall papered. Girls' dormitory papered and painted, all beds painted, new mattresses where needed, sheets, pillow cases, blankets and pads furnished every bed and all pillows made over. This department is sadly in need of better bath-room accommodations. As it now is the girls in age from five to twelve have to go two flights of stairs to reach the bath-room in the basement.

School Building.—Roof thoroughly repaired. New down spouts and tinning where needed. In basement in boys' wash-room new cement floor, new enamel iron wash bowl and closet. Kindergarten and men's rooms calsomined.

First Floor.—Chapel and school-room calsomined and varnished. Seats in school-room repaired, sandpapered and varnished, black-boards painted.

Second Nursery.—New ticks made, also pillows made over, each bed new blankets, sheets, pillow cases and pads. Governess room moved to other side of dormitory; this was done for the sake of better light and heat in the room. Two rooms were papered and varnished.

Second Floor.—In boys' dormitory all beds painted, new mattress for each, twenty-eight in number, pillows made over, sheets, pillow cases, blankets, spreads and pads furnished. Walls and ceiling calsomined and wood-work varnished. The other rooms on this floor were papered, calsomined and varnished. In boys' bathroom new enamel iron tubs and closets were put in.

Laundry Building.—An entire new roof. In boiler-house had one boiler reset, floor raised above the boilers, and stringers put in to hold it in place.

First Floor.—Replastered entire room. Moved steam washer from across the room to more convenient place. New floor, new belts and pulleys for machinery.

Second Floor.—The sleeping rooms for employes papered and painted, which made the rooms habitable and pleasant. Chimney rebuilt on this building.

Cottage or Hospital.—Repaired roof, papered, painted and calsomined. New front porch built. New roof and floor on children's porch. New back steps leading from back of building. New smoke-stack. New range in kitchen. Covers for six man-holes connected with the main sewer on South street, and rebuilding two of the man-holes. New pipes for hot and cold water were laid from the boiler house to the school building.

FINANCIAL REPORT.
APPROPRIATIONS OF 1899.

	Maintenance	Officers	Employes	Repairs
Amount in treasury Dec. 1, 1900	\$4,347.11	\$1,034.00	\$1,010.61	.....
Disbursed to April 1, 1901	3,651.68	956.67	1,010.61	.....
Lapsed..	\$ 695.43	\$ 77.33	.....	.....

APPROPRIATIONS OF 1901.

	Maintenance	Officers	Employes	Repairs
Disbursed to Dec. 1, 1901.	\$14,000.00 3,961.62	\$6,500.00 2,093.34	\$7,000 00 2,131.24	\$5,000.00 1,681.37
Balance remaining	\$10,038.38	\$4,406.66	\$4,868.76	\$3,318.63
Disbursed to Dec. 1, 1902.	6,682.33	3,140.00	3,392.89	1,254.85
Balance remaining.....	\$3,356.05	\$1,266.66	\$1,475.87	\$2,063.78

Total disbursements—Maintenance, salaries and wages, first year	\$13,805.16
Total disbursements—Repairs and improvements ...	1,681.37
Total disbursements—Cash fund.....	1,410.45
Total	\$16,896 98
Average number of inmates for first year	79
Cost per capita based on maintenance, salaries and wages	174.74
Cost per capita based on all disbursements.....	213.88
Total disbursements—Maintenance, salaries and wages, second year	\$13,215.22
Total disbursements—Repairs and improvements...	1,254.85
Total disbursements—Cash fund	1,382 05
Total	\$15,852.12
Average number of inmates for second year	73
Cost per capita based on maintenance, salaries and wages	\$ 181.03
Cost per capita based on all disbursements.....	217.16

Of the appropriations of 1899 there was a deficiency in employes' wages of \$183.67. This was paid to the help from the cash fund with the expectation that it would be replaced by an appropriation of the coming legislature.

Our cash fund is derived from board paid by parents who desire to maintain the right to their children, and also from the sale of a few cows, old iron, old lead, cinders, etc.

In this fund there was received first year	\$1,753.04
Disbursed first year	1,410.45
	\$ 342.59
Balance	
Received second year	1,140.58
	\$1,483.17
Disbursed second year	1,382.05
	\$ 101.12
Balance	

MAINTENANCE.

Economy has been practiced in every department. We felt it would be simply impossible to manage in such a way as not to have a deficiency in this appropriation, but with the help of the cash fund we have been able so far to have a surplus instead of a deficiency. Great credit is due our matron, as she has watched with diligent care that not anything was wasted in any department that could be made use of. We have worked on the plan that it is economy to buy good material. Owing to the advanced cost during this period in nearly all the commodities for sustenance, we have had to do very close figuring. This appropriation included the heating, lighting and water expense, which is no small item in an institution of this description.

MATRON'S REPORT.

SEWING DONE AT HOME FOR THE FRIENDLESS FROM DEC. 1, 1900, TO
DEC. 1, 1902.

Table cloths, new.....	16	Sheets	137
Table cloths, made over..	10	Pants, new	7
Piano cover.....	1	Pants, made over	6
Dusting cloths.....	12	Dressing sacks	11
Dish towels	96	Shirt waists.....	5
Large dresses.....	18	Pillow cases	182
Large dresses made over .	2	Bolster cases.....	22
Small dresses	61	Pillow cases made over...	145
Small dresses made over..	14	Holdings	92
Dresser scarfs.....	19	Pillow ticks, new	41
Caps for entertainment ...	13	Pillow ticks made over...	37
Suits for entertainment ...	17	Skirts, new.....	19
Wash cloths	27	Skirts, made over... ..	10
Bibs from old material....	78	Bedspreads	16
Diapers, new.....	217	Large drawers	20
Pads from old material....	75	Large drawers, made over	6
Cushions	7	Sunbonnets	21
Large gowns	12	Small drawers.....	12
Small gowns.....	38	Skirts, new	16
Napkins.....	313	Skirts, made over	10
Roller towels	64	Boys' under-waists.....	52
Short towels	117	Boys' shirt waists.....	16
Bed ticks.....	24	Boys' waists, made over ..	3
Mattresses.....	16	Corset covers	8
Blankets	78	New comforts	6
Neckties	8	New quilts.....	6
Aprons	21	Comforts and quilts repaired	65

FRUIT CANNED FOR THE HOME FROM DEC. 1, 1900, TO DEC. 1, 1902.

Summer of 1901.	Summer of 1902.
Peaches 97 qts.	Peaches 185 qts.
Grapes 65 qts.	Grapes 15 qts.
Blackberries 75 qts.	Black raspberries 17 qts.
Black raspberries 13 qts.	Red raspberries 20 qts.
Plums 30 qts.	Plums 65 qts.
Cherries 3 qts.	Rhubarb 20 qts.
Currants 3 qts.	Strawberries 13 qts.
Total 286 qts.	Pears 75 qts.
Plum butter 40 qts.	Total 510 qts.
Peach butter 20 qts.	Tomatoes 24 qts.
Total 60 qts.	Fruit butter, all kinds . 115 qts.
Jelly, all kinds 30 qts.	Jelly, all kinds 80 qts.
Chop pickle 60 qts.	Total 195 qts.
Sweet tomato pickle . . 25 qts.	Onion pickles 23 qts.
Total 85 qts.	Tomato sweet pickle . . 20 qts.
	Chop pickle 70 qts.
	Bean pickle 58 qts.
	Beet pickle 49 qts.
	Total 220 qts.

Total number quarts of every kind for two years 1,310

VEGETABLES RAISED FOR THE HOME FROM DEC. 1, 1900, TO DEC. 1, 1902.

	First Year.
Lettuce, 271 heads at 1½c	\$ 4.06
Radishes, 158 dozen at 2c	3.16
Cabbage, 50 heads at 5c	2.50
Peas, 6 quarts at 8⅓c	50
Corn, 16 dozen at 15c	2.40
Tomatoes, 2 bushel at 50c	1.00
Beets, 58½ dozen at 10c	5.85
Beans, 21 quarts at 7½c	1.57
Total	\$21.04

Second Year.

Onions,	84 bunches at 10c per dozen	\$.70
Lettuce,	30 bunches at 25c per dozen . . . . .	.62
Radishes,	39 bunches at 10c per dozen . . . . .	.33
Lettuce,	974 heads at 1c	9 74
Radishes,	255 dozen at 2½c	6.37
Onions,	51 dozen at 2½c	1.27
Beans,	246 quarts at 3c	7.38
Peas,	66 quarts at 8⅓c	5.50
Cabbage,	75 heads at 5c	3.75
Tomatoes,	49 dozen at 7½c	3.67
Beets,	20 bushels at 20c	4.00
Corn,	75 dozen at 7½c	5.62
Green tomatoes,	3 bushels at 40c	1.20
		\$50.15
Total		\$71.19

MILK REPORT FROM DEC. 1, 1901, TO DEC. 1, 1902.

From Dec. 1, 1900, to June 1, 1901,	1973 gals. at 12½c.	\$246.50
From June 1, 1901, to Dec. 1, 1901,	1647 gals. at 12½c.	205.87
From Dec. 1, 1901, to June 1, 1902,	847 gals. at 15c. . .	127.05
From Dec. 1, 1901, to June 1, 1902,	480 gals. at 12½c.	61.00
From June 1, 1902, to Dec. 1, 1902,	426 gals. at 12½c.	33.25
Total for two years		\$693.67

Mrs. Wm. Faulkner, Matron.

IMPROVEMENTS NEEDED FOR THE HOME.

I would suggest the buying of the property lying west of the Home and a part of the block where the property now is.

A day nursery for the babies or a cottage built on purpose for them. Babies being kept on second floor cannot get out to be benefited by the sun and air as much as they would be from the ground floor. Having sixteen or eighteen children under three years of age at one time, day and night, in the same room, they cannot thrive as they should. We cannot ventilate to suit all ages. We have hard work to keep these little, frail crea-

tures with everything as it should be, the very poorest class of babies being left here to be given away. I would suggest a cottage for them, such as they have in connection with other institutions of like character.

I would suggest that a home be built for old ladies, who have no one to care for or support them. These old ladies ought to appeal very strongly to us, as it is only circumstances that have made our parents' condition as they are or were.

The cripples ought to have a home here also, and their home ought to be arranged on the ground floor, where they can get plenty of sunshine and going out and in made easy for them. The most cheerful and happy surroundings should be theirs.

In the basement we need larger quarters for our store-room. We cannot buy in quantities as other institutions in the state, simply because we do not have room to store our merchandise. We need also in connection with a larger store-room a large, built-in refrigerator for cold storage purposes.

In the school building I would suggest the putting in of new cement floors in the basement, and placing steam pipes above the floor. Where they are now the heat is wasted; if any pipes are out of repair the floors have to be torn up to get at them. I would suggest the tearing out of the wash room connected with the second nursery and throwing that space into the hall, which would give the hall more light. The hall running north and south I would convert into two bathrooms, one for the little boys, the other for the matron, who has no conveniences whatever on this floor. New outside doors are badly needed here.

In the laundry a new washer and mangle are very much needed, the ironing now being all done by hand, and where there are at times eighty-five children, it means too much hard work for the number employed in that department.

In the cottage new plumbing is needed and bathroom refitted and put in better sanitary condition. The steam pipes here are also under the ground and ought to be above the floors. The cottage needs a new roof. It has been thoroughly repaired but should be replaced by a new one.

A new water connection with the main is also needed, the one we now have being too small, being only $1\frac{1}{4}$ inch. The pressure is not sufficient to throw the water to second floor when we are washing in laundry.

New fences where needed.

REPORT OF INMATES.

	Boys	Girls	Adults	Total
Number present Dec. 1, 1900.....	48	26	9	83
Number received to Dec. 1, 1901				
Boarded	63	45	.....	.....
Relinquished	16	5	.....	.....
Returned from homes	14	5	.....	.....
Temporary shelter.....	5	6	26	.....
	98	61	26	185
Number dismissed to Dec. 1, 1901				
Taken by parent or friends.....	58	43	16	.....
On trial.....	23	9	.....	.....
Other institutions.....	5	7	.....	.....
Left the Home	1	.....	.....	.....
Found work .....	.....	1	10	.....
Died.....	11	4	2	.....
	98	64	28	190
Number received to Dec. 1, 1902				
Boarded	42	25	.....	.....
Relinquished	8	5	.....	.....
Returned from homes	4	2	.....	.....
Temporary shelter.....	7	5	25	.....
	61	37	25	123
Number dismissed to Dec. 1, 1902.....				
Taken by parent or friends	49	32	19	.....
On trial.....	11	9	.....	.....
Other institutions.....	2	1	.....	.....
Found work .....	.....	.....	4	.....
Died.....	2	.....	.....	.....
	64	42	23	129
Number remaining in the Home Dec. 1, 1902....	45	18	9	72

AGES OF CHILDREN WHEN ADMITTED.

	1901		1902	
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
Under one month	7	4	4	.....
Under six months	4	1	1	1
Under one year	4	.....	1	1
Under two years	4	6	4	6
Under three years	4	4	4	5
Under four years	4	1	2	2
Under five years	3	4	5	3
Under six years	7	5	4	3
Under seven years	6	5	6	1
Under eight years	10	8	8	5
Under nine years	11	5	5	3
Under ten years	14	3	4	1
Under eleven years	10	5	6	2
Under twelve years .....	.....	2	3	4
Under thirteen years	4	3	3	1
Under fourteen years	3	2	1	.....
Under fifteen years	3	1	.....	.....
Under sixteen years .....	.....	2	.....	.....
Total	98	61	61	37
Average age	7½ yrs.		7 yrs. 6 yrs.	

TABLE SHOWING COUNTIES FROM WHICH CHILDREN WERE ADMITTED.

COUNTIES	1901				1902			
	Boys	Girls	Adults	Total	Boys	Girls	Adults	Total
Adams.....	3	1	.....	4	2	.....	.....	2
Blaine.....	1	1	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....
Butler.....	2	1	.....	3	.....	1	.....	1
Box Butte.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	1
Cass.....	1	1	.....	2	2	.....	1	3
Clay.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	1	2
Cuming.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	1	.....	2
Custer.....	2	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	.....
Dodge.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	1
Douglas.....	2	2	2	6	.....	1	.....	1
Fillmore.....	2	4	2	8	.....	.....	.....	.....
Gage.....	5	11	.....	16	2	3	.....	5
Hamilton.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	2
Holt.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	1
Jefferson.....	1	1	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	.....
Johnson.....	2	.....	1	3	1	2	.....	3
Knox.....	1	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....
Lancaster.....	45	20	16	81	30	17	15	62
Lincoln.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	1	3
Madison.....	1	.....	.....	1	1	.....	.....	1
Nemaha.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	1
Nuckolls.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	1
Otoe.....	.....	2	2	4	.....	.....	2	2
Pawnee.....	4	1	.....	5	.....	.....	.....	.....
Platte.....	.....	.....	1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....
Saline.....	5	3	1	9	3	1	.....	4
Saunders.....	.....	1	.....	1	3	4	.....	7
Seward.....	6	2	.....	8	3	1	.....	4
Sheridan.....	4	.....	.....	4	.....	.....	.....	.....
Sherman.....	1	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....
Thayer.....	.....	.....	1	1	1	.....	2	3
Valley.....	1	1	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	.....
Webster.....	2	1	.....	3	1	.....	1	2
York.....	1	1	.....	2	1	1	.....	2
Unknown.....	1	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....
New York.....	4	5	.....	9	.....	.....	.....	.....
Kansas.....	1	3	.....	4	.....	.....	.....	.....
Oklahoma.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	2	.....	4
South Dakota.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	1
Illinois.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	2
Total.....	.....	.....	.....	185	.....	.....	.....	123

Total received during two years, 308.

Of the 32 children put out on trial from Dec. 1, 1900, to Dec. 1, 1901, 16 of them were for one cause or another returned to the Home, some of them being replaced two or three times; 9 of them were adopted, 7 the first homes in which they were placed; 3 of them were taken on agreement, 2 with parents' consent; 1 was taken charge of by the New York Aid Society, 1 taken from the home by his uncle, 1 was given up with the mother's consent, and 1 died.

Of the 20 put out during the year beginning Dec. 1, 1901, and closing Dec. 1, 1902, 5 were for various reasons returned, 1 was adopted, 3 taken on agreement, one of these a girl of 14 preferring it; 1 was placed with the consent of the mother, 1 died, and 9 are still in homes awaiting the end of the trial months for action in regard to the future. None of these have been gone from the Home more than three months and two of them have left the past month.

Of the number taken by other institutions, 10 were the New York Aid Society children, and were taken by that society; 1 was from the York county poor farm and was returned to that institution; 3 of the others were Home children who have grown too old for this institution and yet were undesirable to place in families; it had been tried several times unsuccessfully; two of them were sent to the Geneva Industrial school and one to the Kearney Industrial School; 1 was sent to Genoa.

One boy ran away from the Home, but was afterwards found, brought back to the Home, and in a day or two was the boy sent to Kearney.

Of the 9 adults who were here in the Home Dec. 1, 1900, 7 are still with us and one other has since been admitted. The oldest one is 84 years of age, is perfectly helpless and requires a special attendant. Two of the number are able to go about by themselves, but the others are more or less helpless. We make them as comfortable and contented as we can. They are not without friends, but are homeless.

During the two years there were 51 given temporary shelter. They were here to find work, or wanting to stay until friends

could be found, a great many having one or more children with them.

AGREEMENT.

It is hereby agreed between.....Supt. of the Home for the Friendless, of the first part, and....., town....., state....., of the second part, that the said.....shall take one child..... (sex) named.....to keep and treat as their own child until of age, the child to render what assistance is required of him or her in the Home, provided such requirement is not unreasonable. For these services the said child is to receive suitable clothing and education sufficient to fit him or her to care for him or herself.

.....Supt. of the Home for the Friendless, of the first part, affirms that the said child was given into the custody of the Home for the Friendless by....., he or she making out the proper papers giving child to the Home.

.....
.....

TRIAL PAPER.

It is hereby agreed by and between....., Supt. of the Home for the Friendless, of the first part, and....., of the second part, that said....., party of the second part, shall take....., a.....child of the age of.....years, from said Home for the Friendless for the purpose of adopting said child, and if, after four months' trial it shall be satisfactory to both of said parties hereto that said child shall be adopted by said....., party of the second part, then said first party agrees to relinquish to said second party and said second party agrees to adopt said child at once.

.....
.....

ADOPTION BLANK.

I, or we,, being first duly sworn, depose and say that I am a resident of.....county, Nebraska; that I do freely and voluntarily adopt....., achild,years of age, the.....ofand.....as my own.....and bestow upon... ..equal rights, privileges and immunities of children born in lawful wedlock.

.....

PHYSICIAN'S REPORT.

Mrs. Sarah B. Sohus, Superintendent Home for the Friendless:

In comparing the present health of the inmates with that when we assumed our duties, we have reason to feel gratified. New bath rooms and plumbing have made decided improvements in the sanitary conditions, while a marked cleanliness and a careful study of the diet have prevented many of the diseases for which for which a physician is often called.

In beginning the work March 1, 1901, we found fourteen cases of tinea tonsuraus, or ring-worm, and numerous cases of what are commonly called "Institution Sores," and in the first nursery a type of pemphigus. By persistent efforts the former were entirely eradicated, with no return until the last summer, when a boy was admitted with tinæ, spreading to three others.

In the first nursery the crowded condition during the first summer, which was unusually hot, pemphigus and whooping-cough formed a combination which so weakened them that seemingly slight attacks of other diseases proved fatal.

As we consider this in looking back over the first summer, as also the fact that nearly every death was in children less than a year old, that the most of them came into the world under most unfavorable circumstances, weakly and diseased, and when we remember the untiring efforts of the employes who cared for them, we feel that not one death could have been avoided. Since November first, 1901, only four deaths have occurred, two

of them away from the Home, before the children were formally adopted.

In cases of scarlet fever, diphtheria and small-pox, prompt and strict quarantine with thorough disinfection prevented further spread of the diseases.

I wish to acknowledge my appreciation of your hearty co-operation and of the help of the assistants so faithfully and willingly given.

Respectfully,

MAY L. FLANAGAN.

CASES TREATED FROM MARCH 1, 1901, TO NOVEMBER 30, 1902.

	Children	Adults	Total
Bronchial pneumonia	3		3
Diphtheria	3	1	4
Scarlet fever	2		2
Small-pox		1	1
Articular rheumatism	1		1
Chronic rheumatism		1	1
Chronic asthma		1	1
Tonsillitis	12	5	17
Tuberculosis	1		1
Fracture of arm	1	1	2
Poisoning	1		1
Vaccinations	84	23	107
Total			141
Number of visits			662
Number of prescriptions			3,418

CAUSES OF DEATH.

	Children	Adults	Total
Mal-nutrition	5		5
Hereditary syphilis	2		2
Gastro-enteritis	4		4
Whooping cough	1		1
Cholera Infantum	1		1
Spasms	1		1
Spinal meningitis	1		1
Pemphigus	1		1
Ptomaine poisoning	1		1
Endo-carditis	1		1
Deaths previous to March 1, 1901			
Erysipelas	1		1
Heart failure		1	1
Bronchial pneumonia		1	1
Total			22

TEACHERS' REPORT.

Mrs. Sarah B. Sohus, Supt. Home for the Friendless:

Youth is opportunity; at the threshold lie all the possibilities of life. Some one has said, "Youth is a book of beginnings, a story without end, each maid a heroine and each man a friend."

As men are never so sure of anything else in life as they are of the impressions of their youth, we at the Home for the Friendless try to impress the children under our care that now is the time to grow into high purpose; to form resolves that are to be carried out in years to come. Now is their time for forming habits of persistence. We try to teach that beginnings are always easy in any line of life work, but it is only the few who have the persistence to ever get past these beginnings.

Next to beautiful friendships, we teach our children that good books and thoughts gleaned from our best authors and poets are to be prized, and in the course of the past two years we are very proud of the knowledge they have gotten from memorizing some of the most noted poems composed by Longfellow, Whittier, Bryant, Holmes, Lowell, Shakespeare, Emerson, Riley, Ingelow and Field. The children have also been much interested in knowing something about the lives of each.

One day each week for opening exercises we discuss the current events of the day. The first Friday in each month we have rhetoricals. The second and fourth Fridays they write to friends. The children are taught patriotism to the extent that when a little fellow gets up to recite a history lesson as far back as the war of 1812 he always tells what *we* did, and how *our* flag was hoisted, etc., etc.

The common school branches are taught, the school being graded as well as is possible to do, considering the fact that there is a constant change going on all the time. We have the second, third, fourth and fifth grades, and one boy is doing eighth grade work.

We have a small library connected with the school where pupils procure books each Monday at the close of school. We try to have dumb-bell exercises once a day.

The number enrolled from Dec. 1, 1900, to Nov. 30, 1901, was 78, and from Dec. 1, 1901, to Nov. 30, 1902, was 86. Average daily attendance first year, 39; second year, 36. Number of days taught each year, 193, the school closing two days at Thanksgiving and five at Christmas.

The above is a report for the year beginning Dec. 1, 1900, and ending Nov. 30, 1901, and the year beginning Dec. 1, 1901, and ending Nov. 30, 1902.

Very respectfully,

Laura M. Cooper.

KINDERGARTEN.

Our teacher in this department was trained in the Wesleyan University and has been with us almost a year. In this department are to be found the little ones from four to eight years of age, or until they are able to read well, as this is only for primary work. The average number is about twenty. Specimens of their work are placed on the walls of their schoolroom and attract much attention. They are trained to sing little kindergarten songs and delight to entertain visitors and receive words of praise in return.

The purposes of this home, so far as I understand and the rules allow, are as follows: First, to furnish a home for orphans and other destitute children of the State of Nebraska. Second, to provide for their physical needs. Third, to surround them with wholesome moral influences. Fourth, to give them the advantage of a common school education as far as possible.

It is difficult for those living with the work in a state institution to say which is the most important part of it, and what has been best accomplished. On taking charge of the Home these lines along which improvement seemed possible presented themselves. The home surroundings of the children who come to us make them particularly susceptible to improved physical comfort. They need good moral training and must be started in intellectual development. Our efforts along these lines have been rewarded with encouraging results. We first began with giving them good wholesome food, thus building up the physical

nature. We instructed and encouraged them in personal neatness, thus giving them some self-respect. Their morals we endeavored to raise to a higher standard, showing them the great benefit to themselves and to all those around them. The school work has developed them to a wonderful degree, giving them a love for the beautiful in poetry and prose, getting them interested in the selections of the authors they liked the best.

The time has come when it is necessary to make some arrangements for the supervision of those placed in homes. In all cases where we place a child the right is reserved to have the child returned to the home if it is deemed best during the time it is out on trial. In most cases we have no means of knowing the surroundings and treatment of children except from report and correspondence. No argument is needed to show how unreliable both may be. Especially is this true for distant parts of the state where all parties concerned are strangers to us. Some person is needed who is connected with the home and acquainted with the character and needs of the children to give his or her whole time to the work, not only to look after the interests of those already placed in homes, but to find suitable homes for others.

Believing that kindly methods and appeals to reason ought to do more than corporal punishment, we use that only as a last resort, and very little has been done. We have very little trouble in governing our children.

The life of the Home is made to correspond as nearly as possible to the home life as we find it in most ordinary homes. We insist upon personal cleanliness, correct morals and manners, and so far as our conveniences admit, habits of industry are taught.

SUNDAY PRIVILEGES.

Every Sunday morning from ten to eleven we have Sunday school in our chapel, using the same lessons as are used in the city churches. In the afternoon we have Christian Endeavor from three to four. It is conducted by members of the Christian Endeavor societies of the different churches in the city, and a great good is being done. Our children in that way receive

benefit of coming in contact with others than those in the Home, the change in that way being beneficial. I do not doubt that those coming to us from these different societies also receive a benefit. Quite often our older children, accompanied by teacher or governess, attend a near-by church in the evening.

We feel confident that any children going away from our Home, no matter where, will always remember the teachings they have had while with us.

We have endeavored at all times to employ such help as would benefit the Home, not only in the line of work they were hired to perform, but in the help that would be given in the upbuilding of the children. We have felt that our work was not only with the children, but with all who were in the Home.

We have nineteen employes, whose positions are as follows:

Man of all work.

First cook.

Second cook.

First laundress.

Second laundress.

Third laundress.

Boys' governess.

Girls' governess.

Second nursery governess.

Bookkeeper and usher.

Housekeeper.

Kindergarten teacher.

Head nurse.

First assistant first nursery.

Second assistant first nursery.

Hospital nurse.

Officers' dining room girl.

Employes' dining room girl.

Relief.

Number of letters written during the bienn'um 1,103

Number of visitors at Home 3,882

RULES FOR ADMISSION OF CHILDREN INTO THE HOME.

1. Children, in order to become inmates of the Home, must belong to one of the following classes: 1st surrendered to the Home and thus become its ward. 2d. Orphans or half-orphans. All applications under these two classes shall be investigated by the advisory board and superintendent, and none shall be admitted without such investigation shows destitution enough to require the shelter of this Home.

2. In case of ability of persons having control of such children, said persons shall pay to Home for care, and board a sum not to exceed \$2.00 per month. A smaller sum may be charged, according to circumstances, at the discretion of the superintendent and visiting and advisory board. Parents or guardians wishing to place children temporarily in the Home must sign an agreement that if no compensation is paid for six consecutive months the children will be considered wards of the state and may be placed in homes for adoption.

3. No children will be admitted whose parents or guardians reside in states other than that of Nebraska. Applications must be accompanied by written statements from reliable persons stating that conditions are as applicant sets forth.

4. Boys under thirteen and girls under fourteen years of age may be received in accordance with sections 1 and 2, of rule 1, and any rule governing admission to said Home.

5. Any person desiring to take a child from the Home for adoption or to bring up to maturity, must communicate in person or by writing to the superintendent, giving a full statement of the circumstances in which the child will be placed if transferred to his or her care, what position in the family such child will hold, what labor will be required, what advantages for education will be given, what will be the religious privileges and training. Also assurance of temperate habits. These facts must be accompanied with good and satisfactory recommendations or the request can receive no attention.

DUTIES OF OFFICERS

SUPERINTENDENT.—The superintendent shall reside at the Home and have general supervision and control of both the internal and external management, subject to rules and regulations provided for by advisory board and Board of Public Lands and Buildings. She shall have the power to engage and discharge the employes, except those provided for in chapter 37 of Session Laws of 1897. She shall keep a record of names of all inmates, with the date of their admission and dismissal. This shall contain as far as possible the name, age, nativity, where from, when received, when dismissed, how disposed of, and in case of death state cause, which last should be certificate of the Home physician. She shall make a written report of all actions in connection with inmates and employes from promulgation of these rules to visiting and advisory board. In no case shall the superintendent and matron be absent from the Home at the same time.

MATRON.—The matron shall reside at the Home and have general supervision of the domestic arrangement of the institution, sewing and dining-rooms, table linen, kitchen and laundry, and have charge of all stores. She shall see that the institution be in perfect order, all work be done in a proper manner, and be responsible for the conduct of the help in her department. In the absence of the superintendent she shall assume the duties of that office.

PHYSICIAN.—The physician shall have general supervision of the health of the inmates. She shall make daily visits to the Home and oftener if necessary, and shall attend all inmates during sickness. Shall have provided for her a room furnished with hospital and medical supplies, and a bed when obliged to remain at the Home. Shall make out all requisitions for medical department, and in her absence the superintendent shall see that nurses comply with physician's instructions. She shall keep a record of all patients attended, and report each month through superintendent to visiting and advisory board. She shall thoroughly examine all children before being taken into

the Home, and use all precautions to prevent contagious diseases. No nurses for either well or sick shall be employed at the Home, who are under twenty years of age.

We wish to express our sincere thanks to the Governor and to the Board of Public Lands and Buildings for the deep interest you have always taken in the management of the Home, the giving of advice and hearty cooperation in assisting us in our efforts to build up this Home.

To the ladies' advisory board we are indebted for the faithful manner in which they have always responded to the calls for advice, help and encouragement given. They have faithfully endeavored to help us carry out the rules for this institution.

We wish to express our thanks to all those who have contributed to our Sunday school, papers and cards, and to those who have sent magazines, books, toys and candy, thereby showing their interest in the children in this Home.

We extend a cordial invitation to the tax-payers of the state and all interested in the charitable work of the state to visit us and see the workings of the institution.

Respectfully submitted,

MRS. SARAH B. SOHUS,

Superintendent.