

NINTH BIENNIAL REPORT

OF THE

# Nebraska Industrial Home

AT

MILFORD, NEBRASKA

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For the Two Years Ending November 30, 1906

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TO THE

**GOVERNOR**

HON. JOHN H. MICKEY

To His Excellency, Governor J. H. Mickey, and the Honorable  
Board of Public Lands and Buildings.

I hereby comply with the statutes, and submit for your consideration the ninth biennial report of the Nebraska Industrial Home, embracing the progress and work accomplished, also suggesting our needs; all of which I hope can meet with your approval.

Respectfully submitted,  
MRS. A. J. ALBRIGHT.

### ADVISORY BOARD.

Mrs. J. C. F. McKesson, President .....	Lincoln
Mrs. Callen Thompson, Secretary .....	Lincoln
Mrs. C. S. Carscadden .....	York
Mrs. Dr. Towne .....	Omaha
Mrs. Thomas Graham .....	Seward

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### OFFICERS OF THE INSTITUTION.

Mrs. A. J. Albright .....	Superintendent.
W. K. Loughridge .....	Physician
Mrs. M. M. Campbell .....	Matron

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### EMPLOYEES.

Miss Julia C. Ingham .....	Secretary and Teacher
Miss Bertha Heald .....	Sewing Teacher
Miss Leila Cowles .....	Nurse
John C. Campbell .....	Engineer
Mark McLain .....	Farmer

## REPORT.

The Nebraska Industrial Home was founded eighteen years ago, and is subserving the purpose of its object, viz: protecting and caring for the unfortunate and homeless girls of the state, who seek its shelter and retreat. More than six hundred girls have found shelter in this home, and have been lifted up to a higher plain of living, by this broad practical sympathy, which has inspired hope in many a disheartened, weary, sin-sick soul, and reclaimed the wanderer back to the fold.

We aim by precept and example to cultivate and improve the spiritual, mental, and moral natures of all who come to this place of refuge. The seed sowing is not in vain, for a large per cent go out with a higher idea of life, which leads them into lives of respectability and self-support.

Our noble state of Nebraska can well afford to maintain this institution for our fallen women, thereby arresting crime and increased suffering. We are positive that this place of refuge has saved many a girl from suicide, and we are just as positive that crime has been lessened by the establishment of this home. If we would lay aside the spiritual, moral and physical elevation which these girls receive within this domain, and look only at the financial problem, surely the maintenance of this home would solve one of the important questions in political economy.

If these innocent babes were allowed to grow up amidst the same environments as their parents, thereby increasing various crimes, more money would be spent to support them as criminals or imbeciles in our jails and penitentiaries, feeble minded institutions and asylums, than is spent in the support of this home; which improves these conditions and elevates both mother and child. A girl is committed here for a year and in many cases both mother and child go out and become useful citizens; can you ask more? We do not admit a second term. The home is open only for first offense.

Our inmates have been blessed with general good health. There are at present no acute cases, and no fatalities from epidemics. We have had two deaths (adults) and a number of fatalities

among the infants. sore throats, neuralgia, and a few cases of tonsilitis, in early spring and fall, have been the prevailing troubles.

We have transferred two cases to the insane asylum, and two to the feeble minded institute.

#### DISCIPLINE.

The underlying principle of our government and discipline is the law of love and kindness, for we believe that we gain a more willing obedience by this method. We seek first to control by such measures, and only in a few cases have we been compelled to resort to even the semblance of severity. Strict obedience is foreign to some, but prompt compliance with rules must be expected, and our system of marking is usually sufficient as a controlling power, for by patient and tactful persistence even our worst cases are among our faithful and trusted number.

#### INDUSTRIAL DEPARTMENT.

##### DOMESTIC.

The work in this department is carried on as systematically and completely as is practicable under existing conditions. Theoretical knowledge is not sought after. Practical result is our object. This department offers advantages that will fit a girl for responsible positions in our best homes. Our domestic training comprises five weeks in each department; laundry, plain and pastry cooking, dining-room, hospital, nursery, sewing-room, and general management.

We cannot fill the many applications for good trained domestics. Many who are employed in good families are a credit to the institution.

##### EDUCATIONAL.

We have a well organized school which all are required to attend. We aim to be practicable in this department; teaching reading, spelling, geography, history, literature, physiology and penmanship. We encourage thoroughness as far as possible in so short a time, hours being from two to four-thirty. We cannot attain great proficiency yet the mental discipline and the review work is of great service to the inmates. We have some girls who

have the ambition to become teachers; special attention is given them for their required work. The largest enrollment is forty-three; largest attendance in one day thirty-four; average attendance is ten for the first year, twenty-four for the second year, or an average of seventeen for the two years.

We attach great importance to the Christian education. Sunday school is held regularly each week; short chapel services are held every evening which all are required to attend.

We are greatly indebted to Mr. Morgan and Mr. Brox, who alternate in tendering gratuitous services for the Sunday evening worship. These meetings are helpful, and encouraging, and some of our girls are striving to live true Christian lives.

#### SEWING ROOM.

The sewing department is one of the important industries of the home. The needs of the institution in this line are met by the untiring and efficient efforts of a competent teacher. All necessary sewing for the home is done by the inmates. On entering some of the girls are incapable of keeping up their own wardrobe, but have learned to do all kinds of plain sewing, which is of incalculable value to them as they go out into the world. Several have gone out capable of following this line as a means of support. All are required to put in all possible spare time in the sewing room when not engaged in other duties.

#### REPAIRS AND IMPROVEMENTS.

It has been our aim to keep up all needed repairs as far as possible within the appropriation, but absolute necessity demanded a deficiency. Our engine house repairs were imperative, conditions being condemned by the inspector. The appropriation was not sufficient to cover the absolute needs; hence a deficiency was created to put in one new boiler, reset and repair the best one in use. One old boiler was used for a receiver to utilize the condensed steam, enabling us to economize in fuel. A hot water system connected with both buildings has been put in; a new well dug and another pump secured. A new dynamo has been purchased.

The conditions of the entire heating plant were such that the lives of the inmates were threatened. To meet this danger the

engine house machinery was overhauled. The walls and roof have been repaired so that we now feel comfortable and safe. We have also purchased a new set of grates for one of the boilers.

The laundry has been supplied with a new steam washer, a second-hand engine and wringer, a new stove in the ironing room and other minor repairs.

The water tank has been braced with heavy supports. The barn has had a new roof. The porches have been strengthened with some new posts, and roof leaks have been looked after. Other carpenter work has been done, such as floor patching, cutting doors, etc.

The parlor, chapel and south wing nurseries have been papered and painted. Both walls and wood work of the sewing room, hospital and one upper hall have been painted, and some patch work, and other minor repairs have been made.

Considerable expense is incurred in keeping up the plumbing. We have expended most carefully for the good of the inmates with substantial and lasting repairs as far as our limited means permitted us to go.

A team of good horses has been purchased, also a nice driving horse. A new single buggy was a necessity, and the double carriage has been repaired and painted.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS.

Our buildings are now fifteen and eighteen years old and naturally there is a constant demand for repairs to preserve the institution property. We have carefully gone over the needs and would recommend the following. The brick work on both buildings needs pointing up and painting. The four porches will soon go down and must be partially rebuilt. Some inside carpenter work is necessary; floors patched, etc. Plastering is needing attention, also papering and painting is needed to preserve the general appearance.

The plumbing system is old, and needs a general remodeling to put it in sanitary condition.

The laundry room must have new ceiling, new floor, and coat of paint. We need a new smoke stack for boiler house, and a new water tank or iron stand pipe is imperative. Other general repairs are needed, such as a front side walk, and we

would ask that we be allowed a cement walk. We would also respectfully request that an area-way be built to connect the two buildings to prevent exposure in passing from one building to the other.

Most of the furnishings of the home are well used, or worn out, and will need replacing. From the fact that our number is more than double what it was at the time the last appropriation was made, and insufficient to supply the running expenses of subsistence, I would therefore request that a larger amount be apportioned for the maintenance of the home so that it may be kept up to the standard of a state institution.

We should expend several hundred dollars in fruit trees, small fruits and alfalfa seed, that these home products may in the end lessen the cost of maintenance.

Since all merchandise has advanced, and cost of living is increased, and some of the employes are working from twelve to fourteen hours a day, I would therefore respectfully request that the salaries and wages of the officers and employes be raised.

#### IN CONCLUSION.

I wish to thank His Excellency, Governor Mickey, for his wise counsel and interest in the welfare of the institution and its unfortunate wards; the Board of Public Lands and Buildings for their encouragement, courtesy and assistance, and the kind efficient aid of the advisory board.

We are grateful to the local pastors who freely "break to us the Bread of Life", and for all the courtesies extended to us by the business men of Milford.

Our station agent is deserving of mention, always courteous, accommodating and ready to show us kind favors.

The advanced condition, and success of the institution is largely due to the efficient and faithful efforts of my co-workers, who have managed their departments with tact, commendable energy and ability.

The present salary of each officer is as follows:—

Superintendent .....	\$800.00
Physician .....	700.00
Matron .....	500.00

#### EMPLOYES.

Secretary and Teacher .....	\$500.00
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Sewing Teacher .....	300.00
Nurse .....	300.00
Engineer .....	720.00
Farmer .....	400.00

## TABULATED STATEMENT.

Number adults in home Dec. 1, 1904 .....	18
Number admitted from Dec. 1, 1904 to Dec. 1, 1906 .....	76
Number American parentage .....	52
Number foreign parentage .....	42
Number parents dead .....	31
Number fathers, only, living .....	17
Number mothers, only, living .....	16
Number returned to friends .....	31
Number married .....	16
Number transferred to other institutions .....	6
Number placed in homes to work .....	14
Number adults cared for each year .....	47
Number died .....	2
Number adults in home Dec. 1, 1906 .....	40
Number children in home Dec. 1, 1904 .....	9
Number children in home Dec. 1, 1906 .....	25
Number born Dec. 1904 to Dec. 1906 .....	55
Number transferred to Home for Friendless .....	6
Number died .....	14
Number taken by mothers .....	19
Number adopted .....	6
Number cared for each year .....	68
Number of children and adults in home Dec. 1, 1906 .....	67
Total number of adults and children cared for each year.....	79
Average daily attendance of adults and children .....	48

## WORK DONE IN INDUSTRIAL ROOMS.

Dresses, adults .....	173
Waists, adults .....	50
Gowns, adults .....	112
Skirts, adults .....	108
Drawers, pair .....	62
Corset covers .....	64
Aprons .....	160

Infants' dresses .....	284
Infants' gowns .....	150
Infants' skirts .....	100
Infants' shirts .....	150
Infants' bands .....	80
Infants' pinning blankets .....	100
Diapers .....	720
Protectors .....	200
Infants' coats .....	30
Infants' hoods .....	35
Infants' quilts .....	52
Crib pads .....	30
Sheets .....	75
Pillow slips .....	236
Hospital pads .....	36
Hospital bands .....	50
Towels .....	126
Table cloths .....	15
Napkins .....	48
Curtains, pair .....	30
Sun-bonnets .....	15
Carpets made .....	4
Number garments repaired .....	2125
Various other articles .....	326
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Total .....	8322

## TIME TABLE.

	A.M.
Rising bell .....	5:30
Breakfast .....	6:30
At work in all departments .....	7:30
Dinner .....	12:00
	P.M.
At work in all departments .....	1:00
School .....	2:00
Recreation .....	5:15
Supper .....	5:30
Chapel .....	7:30
Retiring .....	9:00

## FARM PRODUCTS.

Hay, tons .....	32 .....	\$186.00
Corn, field .....	225 bu. ....	67.50
Corn, sweet .....	60 bu. ....	24.00
Potatoes .....	600 bu. ....	450.00
Potatoes, sweet .....	6 bu. ....	6.00
Turnips .....	45 bu. ....	22.50
Carrots .....	3 bu. ....	.75
Beets .....	6 bu. ....	3.00
Cucumbers .....	7 bu. ....	35.00
Tomatoes .....	65 bu. ....	39.00
Onions .....	7 bu. ....	13.00
Radishes .....	280 bu. ....	17.90
Lettuce .....	320 bunches .....	16.00
Pie plant .....	15 bu. ....	15.00
Beans .....	35 bu. ....	65.00
Peas .....	10 bu. ....	16.00
Cabbage .....	264 heads .....	13.20
Squash .....	5 dozen .....	6.00
Melons .....	5 dozen .....	6.00
Apples .....	125 bu. ....	52.00
Cherries .....	75 quarts .....	7.50
Strawberries .....	300 quarts .....	30.00
Gooseberries .....	15 quarts .....	.75
Milk .....	4900 gallons .....	735.00
Butter .....	18 pounds .....	2.70
Eggs .....	270 dozen .....	36.90
Chickens, killed .....	159 .....	42.20
Turkeys .....	6 .....	6.00
Pork .....	862 pounds .....	69.00
Lard .....	60 pounds .....	6.00
Hog pasture .....	.....	17.00
Cow pasture .....	.....	89.50
Total value .....	.....	\$2,096.40

## SUMMARY OF INVENTORY, DEC. 1, 1906.

Land .....	\$2,400.00
North wing .....	12,000.00
South wing .....	12,000.00
Cottage .....	350.00

Barn .....	600.00
Laundry .....	1,000.00
Engine house and machinery .....	6,677.00
Horses, cows, hogs and poultry .....	797.00
Vehicles, harness and robes .....	265.00
Farm and repair tools .....	100.00
Furniture, both buildings .....	1,100.00
Clothing and dry goods .....	500.00
Provisions .....	100.00
Fuel .....	100.00
Miscellaneous .....	100.00
<b>Total</b> .....	<b>\$38,089.00</b>

## STATISTICAL REPORT.

## POPULATION.

From Dec. 1, 1904 to Dec. 1, 1905.	Male.	Female.	Total.
Number of inmates present at beginning of fiscal year .....	6	21	27
Number received during the year .....	13	41	54
Number discharged or died during the year.....	7	32	39
Number at end of the fiscal year .....	6	36	42
Daily average attendance during the year .....	9	27	36
Average number of officers and employes during the year .....	5	3	8

## EXPENDITURES.

## Current Expenses:—

Salaries and wages .....	\$4,280.59
Clothing .....	858.46
Subsistence .....	4,480.95
Ordinary repairs .....	894.70
Office, domestic and outdoor expenses .....	1,834.88
<b>Total</b> .....	<b>\$12,349.58</b>
Deficiency, fuel and light .....	\$1,204.10

## POPULATION.

From Dec. 1, 1905 to Dec. 1, 1906.	Male.	Female.	Total.
Number of inmates present at beginning of			

fiscal year .....	13	29	42
Number received during the year .....	16	68	89
Number discharged or died during the year ...	5	59	64
Number at end of the fiscal year .....	13	46	67
Daily average attendance during the year ....	13	41	54
Average number of officers and employes during the year .....	5	3	8

## EXPENDITURES.

## Current expenses—

Salaries and wages .....	\$4,196.61
Clothing .....	792.29
Subsistence .....	4,817.23
Ordinary repairs .....	437.33
Office, domestic and outdoor expenses .....	1,004.74
 Total .....	 \$11,248.20
Total for 1905 .....	\$12,349.58
Total for biennium .....	\$23,597.78
Deficiency, engine house repairs .....	\$4,377.10
Deficiency, maintenance .....	876.23

## AVERAGE PER CAPITA COST OF MAINTENANCE.

For semiannual period, Dec. 1, 1904, to May 31, 1905.....	\$162.14
For semiannual period, June 1, 1905, to Nov. 30, 1905.....	139.30
For semiannual period, Dec. 1, 1905, to May 31, 1906.....	94.84
For semiannual period, June 1, 1906, to Nov. 30, 1906.....	77.64
 Total per capita cost for biennium .....	 \$473.92

## AVERAGE PER CAPITA COST OF IMPROVEMENTS AND EXTRA-ORDINARY EXPENDITURES.

For semiannual period, Dec. 1, 1904, to May 31, 1905.....	\$ 14.70
For semiannual period, June 1, 1905, to Nov. 30, 1905.....	22.79
For semiannual period, Dec. 1, 1905, to May 31, 1906.....	9.75
For semiannual period, June 1, 1906, to Nov. 30, 1906.....	3.54
 Total per capita cost for biennium .....	 \$ 50.76
Grand total .....	\$544.68

## AVERAGE WEEKLY PER CAPITA COST OF BOARD AND CLOTHING.

For semiannual period Dec. 1, 1904, to May 31, 1905 .....	\$1.87
Average daily attendance .....	35
For semiannual period, June 1, 1905, to Nov. 30, 1905 .....	2.17
Average daily attendance .....	38
For semiannual period, Dec. 1, 1905, to May 31, 1906 .....	1.12
Average daily attendance .....	57
For semiannual period, June 1, 1906, to Nov. 30, 1906 .....	.98
Average daily attendance .....	64
Total average per week for biennium .....	\$1.53
Average daily attendance for biennium .....	48

## CASH FUND.

Cash on hand Dec. 1, 1904 .....	\$ 292.74
Cash receipts from Dec. 1, 1904, to Dec. 1, 1906 .....	858.90
Cash expended from Dec. 1, 1904, to Dec. 1, 1906 .....	941.06
Balance on hand Dec. 1, 1906 .....	210.58

## APPROPRIATIONS AND DISBURSEMENTS.

Officers' salary .....	\$4,000.00	\$ 3,333.32
Employes' wages .....	4,800.00	3,700.21
Burial and amusement .....	200.00	135.70
Drugs, paint and oil .....	300.00	227.07
Feed for stock .....	600.00	467.01
Official expense .....	350.00	285.98
Stationery, postage and telephone .....	300.00	207.63
Repairs .....	1,500.00	1,221.57
Water supply .....	250.00	105.99
Fuel and light .....	3,500.00	2,804.88
Maintenance .....	5,000.00	4,984.39
Live stock and farm .....	400.00	400.00
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	\$21,200.00	\$17,873.75
Balance .....		\$ 3,326.25

## ESTIMATE OF APPROPRIATION.

Superintendent's salary .....	\$ 2,000.00
Physician's salary .....	1,600.00

Matron's salary .....	1,200.00
Secretary and teacher .....	1,200.00
Sewing teacher .....	1,000.00
Nurse .....	1,000.00
Engineer .....	1,800.00
Farmer .....	1,000.00
Clothing .....	3,000.00
Subsistence .....	11,000.00
Ordinary repairs .....	12,000.00
Office, domestic and out-door expenses .....	12,000.00
Total .....	<hr/> \$48,800.00