

GOOD WORK ACCOMPLISHED BY THE PROTESTANT ORPHANS' HOME IN SPITE OF HANDICAPS

Children at Saint John is doing splendid work is shown by the annual report of the secretary, H. Usher Miller. This report is in part as follows:

Saint John, N.B.,
May 15th., 1933
To the Protestant People of N.B.,
Ladies and Gentlemen:

The past year has had on an average 229 Children in Residence every day against 238 for the previous year. At all times Your Home has been able to promptly care for every normal, healthy, worthy destitute child between one month and 14 years old. Of course many applications for admission and placing out could not be approved for many different reasons.

On May 1, 1933 Your Home had 239 children in Residence. On April 30, 1933 Your Home had 238 children in residence divided as follows:

69 Babies under 4 years with a capacity for at 175 Britain Street,
74 girls between 4 and 14 years old with a capacity for 80 at Magawagonish Road.

95 Boys between 4 and 14 years old, with a capacity for 102 at Manawagonish Road.
Total Capacity 252.

Of these 238 children in Your Home's care, 104 are for placing out as follows:

9 Girls between 4 and 14 years old
24 Girls between 1 month and 4 yrs.
32 Boys between 1 month and 4 yrs.
39 Boys between 4 and 14 years.

104 Total.

Nominal Boarders

These 104 Children that are Your Home's wards for placing out have not a relative or guardian who pays anything toward their maintenance. The other 134 are all nominal boarders, each one having a relative, a guardian, the Federal Department of Pensions, the Provincial Workmen's Compensation Board, or some other small source of income available to pay an amount for each, varying from \$1.00 per month per child upwards to

\$18.75. An average per month per child for these 134 Children of \$3.75.

Some Statistics

These 238 Children are now in Your Home's care for the following reasons:

Babies of Unmarried Mothers ..	84
Deserted by their Fathers	40
Mothers Deceased	32
Fathers Deceased	25
Deserted by both Parents	17
Mothers Deceased and Fathers Deserted	11
Parents Separated	8
Both Parents Deceased	8
Mothers are Invalids	4
Fathers are Invalids	3
Deserted by their Mothers	3
Father Deceased and Mother Deserted	1
Father Deceased and Mother in Provincial Asylum	1
Mother in Provincial Asylum ..	1

These children are now in Your Home's care from the following counties:

Saint John County	87
Westmorland County	24
Kings County	22
Queens County	18
Restigouche County	15
Northumberland County	14
York County	14
Charlotte County	9
Carleton County	7
Albert County	6
Madawaska County	6
Sunbury County	6
Kent County	5
Gloucester County	3
Victoria County	2

From the foregoing you can see the province-wide scope of your Home's work; and that every county is represented.

The 238 Children in your Home's care belong to the following denominations:

Baptists	104
Anglicans	71

United Church of Canada	50
Presbyterians	10

During the year 115 children were admitted:

Girls 4 to 14 years	28
Boys 4 to 14 years	40
Babies under 4 years	47

Of these 115 children admitted; 50 entered as wards for placing out; 65 entered as nominal boarders.

These 115 children were admitted for the following reasons:

Babies of Unmarried Mothers ..	35
Mothers Deceased	20
Deserted by their Fathers	14
Deserted by their Mothers	13
Fathers Deceased	8
Parents Separated	8
Mothers are Invalids	4
Deserted by both Parents	3
Transferred Britain Street to Manawagonish Road	10

Every child admitted was dealt with on its own merits. The policy being that all should pay as they are able. None handicapped because they could pay little or nothing. Your Home helped 344 different Little Ones on the road to good citizenship during the year.

The 115 children admitted during the year came from the following Counties:

Saint John County	43
Queens County	10
Charlotte County	10
Kings County	7
Restigouche County	7
Northumberland County	6
Sunbury County	5
York County	5
Westmorland County	4
Carleton County	3
Albert County	2
Gloucester County	1
Kent County	1
Victoria County	1

During the Year 116 Children were removed as follows:

Girls 4 to 14 years	33
Babies under 4 years	40

Boys 4 to 14 years	43
Total	116

Of these 116 children removed, 69 were nominal boarders and were taken again into the care of relatives and guardians, whose circumstances had so changed that the same was possible. Thirty-five children, mostly the Babies of Unmarried Mothers, are to their own great advantage enriching the lives of their new-found parents. Ten were each taken on their fourth birthday or a few days thereafter from the Babies' Division on Britain Street to the Older Children's Home on Manawagonish Road. Two baby girls died, one eleven months old of Status Lymphaticus, the other three years and nine months old of Nephritis.

The following is a comparison with the previous year:

	1932	1933
Admitted	115	115
Removed	114	116
Died	3	2
In Residence	239	238
For Placing Out	95	104
Placed Out	36	35
Helped	335	344

Your Board of Directors met 14 times with an average attendance of 19 members.

Your Standing Committee consisting of 9 members met 13 times with an average attendance of 7 members. This is the real busy part of the work. This Committee admits or places out every child.

I desire to thank both Superintendents and their staffs for their support and co-operation. Also to thank every member of the Standing Committee for very much assistance at all times. I can't resist thanking the President, the Chairman of the Property Up-keep Committee and our Honorary Solicitor in addition, for much extra assistance and advice gladly given me at all times. The sympathetic support of all the others at all times was greatly appreciated.

Individual Freedom

The Children in the Home today enjoy as much individual freedom of thought and action as is possible; and much more than many persons think is possible (and also more than some think is advisable). Having a conglomerate building for the older children, same is being made as near homelike as possible and it is hoped to still further increase the home-likeness of same. Very few of the Children have abused the freedom given them; when they have abused same, privileges have been denied them. Many have responded nobly and today we have a large number of Girls and Boys that are a credit to themselves and us anywhere. In fact occasionally we regret the unavoidable return of children to the homes of relatives where conditions are not as good as those they are leaving. We rejoice that the children often raise the standards of the homes to which they go; but we are sorry when the children's higher standards learned in the Home are lowered.

The Day Nursery

Although the scope and magnitude of the work during the last half of our year done by both the Family Welfare Bureau and the local Children's Aid Society has been greatly reduced, the work of the Day Nursery has continued as in the past and the work of the Municipal Relief Bureau has increased, and particularly the direct relief given by the latter has reduced the present enrollment of children from Saint John County. We have eleven less Saint John County children now in residence than a year ago. Again most of the Unmarried Mothers and Others are coming directly to us and not indirectly as during the immediately preceding years.

Thanks Extended

I thank the hundreds of persons and organizations who have sent in meats, vegetables, clothing, cooking, toys, books, etc. etc., thus saving us many dollars. Particularly I thank one and all for the generous Christmas provided. I thank all of those who have made cash contributions.

I thank all the Clergymen of Fairville for their splendid work on behalf of the children at all times. Also their Sunday School Teachers. I thank the four Church Corporations of Fairville for accommodating every Sunday morning the older children among their worshippers; and every Sunday afternoon the same children among their Sunday School Scholars. Ten of the Older Baptist Girls were recently baptized. Two Girls and Four Boys of the older Church of England children were recently confirmed. One older girl is expecting soon to enter into

full membership in the United Church of Canada. Each child attends his or her own denomination.

I thank all those Clergymen and Physicians and others throughout the Province who have always so kindly, willingly and promptly answered my letters of inquiry with their good advice, without which we could do but little correctly. I thank all those Clergymen who placed the affairs of the home before their people and that had taken in their Churches an offering.

I thank T. S. Simms & Company, Ltd., who gave us all brushes and brooms used everywhere.

I thank the Newspapers throughout the whole Province for much space given to the Home's efforts and needs.

I thank the young ladies who so splendidly have assisted with the office work.

I thank the New Brunswick Power Company for their kindness in transporting on innumerable occasions many of the older children free of charge in their Street Cars.

Churches Thanked
I thank all those Churches and Organizations and Individuals who have entertained and instructed all or part of the children, either at their own rooms, or by coming out to the School auditorium to do so. Also those Organizations who have called upon the children and given or sent to them treats of various kinds.

I thank the Independent Order of Foresters for their Annual Summer Picnic; the Proprietor of the Gaiety Theatre for his generosity in showing the Children many suitable pictures; the Excelsior Club of St. Andrews Church for their Annual Winter Treat.

I thank Mr. Arthur Nesbitt of Montreal for his interest in the Children's general and spiritual welfare. Also the Bible Society for continuing to keep every child old enough to read supplied with his or her own Bible.

I thank all persons and organizations who have by plays or parties or other means raised both large and small sums to help with the maintenance.

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