

REPORT OF TAG DAY FOR CRIPPLED CHILDREN

Facts About Institution Receiving Support From Womens Club of DuPage County.

The committee of DuPage County club women in charge of the tag day, October 29th, for the "Country Home for Convalescent Children," or the "Crippled Children's Home," as it was formerly known, met November 8th in Room 620 at 127 North Dearborn street, for the purpose of submitting reports and transacting necessary business. Mrs. Frank Johnson, Chairman, presided. Those present were Mrs. R. N. Givler, Naperville; Mrs. Malcolm Doig, Glen Ellyn; Mrs. Arthur Watts, Lombard; Mrs. C. R. Newhouse, Elmhurst; Mrs. Wm. Fessler, West Chicago; Mrs. M. H. Prince, Downers Grove. At a previous meeting Mrs. Newhouse had been elected Treasurer and Mrs. Prince, Secretary. Mrs. Wm. J. Chalmers, of Chicago, President of the Board of Trustees, was also present at this meeting.

Reports from the towns participating follow, showing disbursements and balances:

Receipts	
Naperville	\$282.56
Glen Ellyn	179.50
Lombard	119.09
Wheaton	316.00
Elmhurst	280.28
West Chicago	112.20
Wayne	10.32
Downers Grove	130.00
Expenses	
Printing tags	\$ 21.00
Stringing tags	16.80
Balance	1372.76

\$1409.96 \$1409.95

The amount required to endow a bed in perpetuity is \$7,000. The large balance of \$1372.75 after all bills were paid made it possible to consider endowing the bed in perpetuity instead of paying \$400 annually as first planned. The matter was referred to Mrs. Chalmers who suggested that \$1,000 be paid this year and the remainder in yearly installments. The tablet inscribed "From DuPage County Womens Clubs" will be placed over the bed, and DuPage County children who are eligible can be entered there on examination made by DuPage County physicians confirmed by their own specialists. This plan was approved by the committee and so ordered.

The Committee feels deeply grateful for the response which the appeal received, and also to those who weathered the storm that rainy Saturday and tagged. Many thanks are

also due the McLaughlin Manor House Coffee firm which generously donated the boxes.

Any one who may have thought "why another tag day?" on that memorable 29th of October, would have their question convincingly answered if they had been with the group of club women and taggers who visited the Home November 5th. Eighty three little cripples on crutches and in casts, all more or less disabled, is a pathetic sight; but these same children housed in a beautiful home with 96 acres of land for breathing space, the best milk, eggs and fruit for daily diet; experts both to care for their bodies and to train their minds and hands—these same children, forgetful of their infirmities, become an inspiring sight.

For the benefit of those who have not visited the Home some facts about it may be pertinent at this time. The property is located at Prince Crossing, a station on the Aurora, Elgin & Chicago Electric Railroad in the southern part of Wayne Township. It is the only establishment of its kind in the middle west. Massachusetts, New York, Nebraska and Minnesota carry on this work under State control but this institution is supported wholly by individual gifts. The express purpose is the care, cure and education of helpless and crippled children and is absolutely free to the inmates. The best orthopedic physicians and surgeons give their services cheerfully without charge; it is affiliated with Rush Medical College. The farm is well stocked and produces all the milk, eggs, poultry and farm products required. It is managed intelligently and the whole plant is run economically. The Home is free from debt and it has no paid solicitors either on salary or commission.

The children are given a public school education and manual work including sewing, cooking, basketry, cobbling, typewriting, and shop work.

Until recently it has been a home exclusively for the tuberculous cripple almost exclusively but not long since Mrs. Chalmers went east with a group of representatives from the staff of physicians and nurses. They interviewed and took counsel of Dr. Robert Lovett, eminent Infantile Paralysis Specialist; they visited clinics in Boston, New York and Philadelphia. The result has been that the Home is now entering 10% Infantile Paralysis cases and some very successful treatments are already reported.

Children are taken from four to fourteen years of age. They live in the fresh air day and night, they play like other children, even those on crutches, and certain days the seats in the school room are moved back and they dance. They are radiantly happy, and surprisingly un-mindful of their infirmities. They are intensely interested in the things they are doing. Their skill with their hands is remarkable and the toys

which are made entirely by themselves bear favorable comparison with the best on the market. On December 6th at the Drake Hotel the products of their patient endeavor will be sold—there will be dolls of all sizes in gorgeous and plain apparel according to their station in life—there will be wonderful doll beds with all the deftly appointed trappings—there will be doll houses and furniture galore—toys of wood which the boys make, animal toys—toys of every description. 40% of the proceeds of this sale goes to the children for their bank accounts. During the war the children did nothing but war work for two years and each became a member of the Wheaton Red Cross.

Although large initial gifts have made this childrens paradise possible yet there is a great need of smaller gifts and endowments to maintain the high standard of excellence set. Mrs. Wm. J. Chalmers obtained the property and money which originally made this home possible; Richard W. Sears gave the farm; J. Ogden Armour gave the Isolation Hospital; the

Nurse Training Fund is the gift of Mrs. C. H. McCormick; the Contagious Hospital is the gift of Mr. James A. Patten, the stable gift of Mr. Chas. G. Gates; the Laura A. Shedd School is the gift of Mr. John G. Shedd; the Manual Training and Domestic Science School is the gift of Mr. R. T. Crane, Jr. Many other large gifts have been received for definite pieces of work. The beds which are endowed in perpetuity and the annual pledges furnish greatly needed additional funds for maintenance.

It is encouraging to report many of the cases are discharged each year CURED, who have also been trained in the manual arts to fill self-respecting, self supporting places in the world.

A visitor is impressed with the fine (Continued on page 7)

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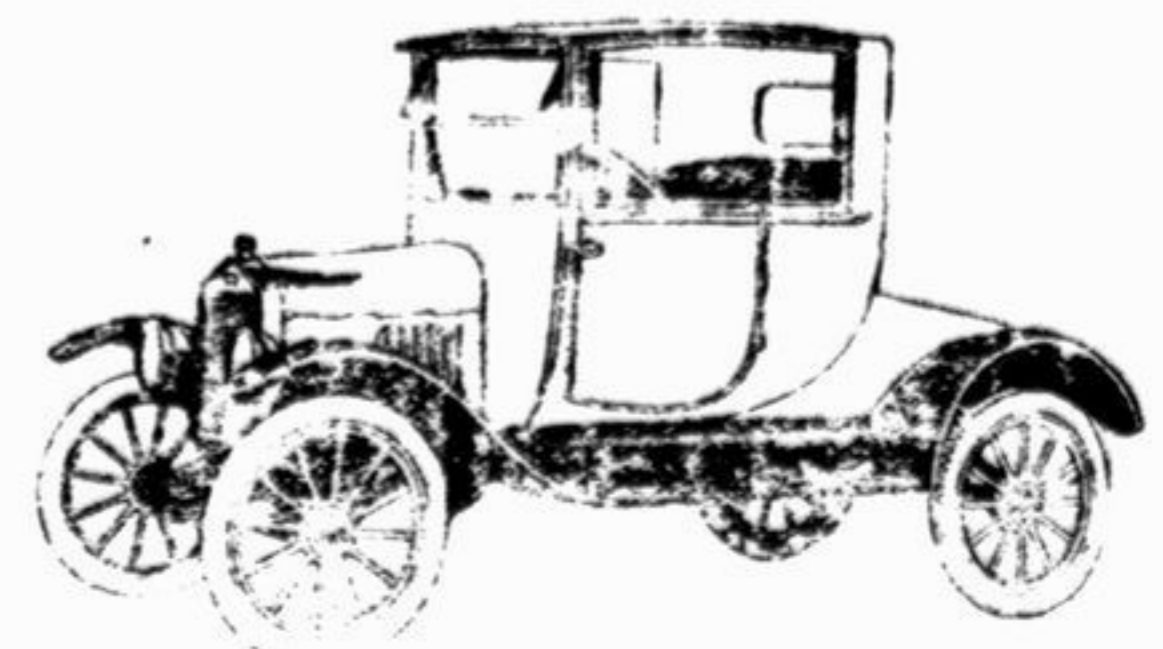
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