

REPORTS VAST GROWTH OF SCHOOL FOR BLIND

Secretary of Hadley Correspondence School Cites Amazing Facts to Trustees

Amazing development in the past year of the Hadley Correspondence School for the Blind, 584 Lincoln avenue, founded and conducted by William A. Hadley, 913 Oak street, is indicated in the following report of the school's progress and scope of activity, presented to the board of trustees of the institution recently by Alfred Allen, secretary. Mr. Allen's report, which is of extreme interest to many Winnetkans who by their generous support have made possible the establishment and continuance of the school, cites some astonishing facts regarding the spread of educational work among the blind. The report follows:

Since making my last report, under date of May 27, 1925, there has been a considerable growth in the work of the school, as well as in the enrollment.

It may be well to go back to our last meeting. In accordance with your directions, I attended the Biennial meeting of the American Association of Workers for the Blind held at Hudson, Ohio, June 22-27, 1925. At a most successful convention I presented a report of the work of the school during the preceding two years. The report was well received, and considerable interest was manifested in the growth and development of the school. The association, through its president, congratulated the school upon the good work which had been done.

Receive Federal Aid

At this meeting I had some conversation with Mr. E. E. Bramlette, secretary of The American Printing House for the Blind. This institution receives annually from the Federal Government \$50,000 to pay for books printed and distributed among those institutions having provision for the education of blind children of school age. I mentioned that it seemed that we should receive a part of this appropriation, and later, when I visited the American Printing House at Louisville, arrangements were completed whereby we were granted an appropriation to meet the cost of providing the necessary books for those children of school age enrolled on our books. At that time there were about 50 students fitting this requirement, and when the appropriation was worked out it was found that we were to receive \$480 worth of textbooks. These texts have since been received in complete amount. This appropriation of books will continue annually, and the amount drawn will depend upon the number of children of school age enrolled, the length of enrollment, etc. As nearly as can be approximated, \$9 will be paid for texts for every student coming under this enrollment.

I received courteous treatment at Louisville and was shown through the whole plant, the most complete in America producing books for the blind.

While their methods of printing differ greatly from ours, and while they bind their books in a different way, the embossing is done very much as we do ours. I have learned of one or two improvements which we have since adopted and found to be very satisfactory.

Growth Called "Alarming"

During the summer, because of the absence of Mr. Hadley and because of the rather alarming growth in the work of the school, additional irregular help was secured, and while this is being continued periodically, from necessity, it has been less since Mr. Hadley's return to the school.

Since early in the year it has not

been possible to give time to the embossing of books.

Through arrangement with the New York Life Insurance company, whose wish it is that we should get out a course in Life Insurance instruction, I have been working in the evenings on the preparation of a text-book, at the expense of the New York Life Insurance company, who will pay for the work in full, and who have promised to make payment of \$700 for this work.

My last report mentioned the addition of a course in Business Law. Since that time 40 students have begun their work, under the guidance of a Chicago attorney, and their work has been excellent in quality.

Fifty names are enrolled and waiting for the course in Life Insurance.

It would be true to state that the past 11 months' activity has exceeded that of any other period in the history of the school, and that the enrollment has increased in this time to almost twice its size at the beginning of the period. This can be better appreciated by the accompanying table of figures in connection with the enrollment.

Respectfully submitted,
(signed) Alfred Allen, secretary.

Enrollment Figures

Enrollment - January 1, 1925, 336; New enrollments, 1925, 423; Pupils removed from enrollment (completed work), 54; Pupils discontinued, 107; Total removals, 161; Net gain, 262; Present enrollment, 598.

During the year, 751 courses have been enrolled for by the new students. At present the 598 students are enrolled to take 935 courses. The enrollment represents every state, the Philippine Islands, Canada, China, India and Australia. Inquiries have been received recently from New Zealand, England and Mexico.

The following figures will show the growth in the activity of the students.

Lessons received monthly, 1924—October, 191; November, 243; December, 155. 1925—January, 206; February, 283; March, 303; April, 300; May, 296; June, 341; July, 444; August, 556; September, 560; October, 500. Total, 1925, 3,789.

Enrollment by courses—Short story appreciation, 118; Short story writing, 13; English grammar, 106; Composition and rhetoric, 39; Reading revised Braille, 78; Bible instruction, 69; Business correspondence, 66; Psychology, 67; Salesmanship, 65; Business law, 38; Braille musical notation, 37; American literature, 42; Typewriting, 56; French, 32; American history, 23; Arithmetic, 21; Civic government, 21; Latin, 17; Algebra, 6; General Science, 14; English Literature, 7. Total, 935.

Bulgarian Girl Delights Club With Her Life Story

A most interesting program was held last Sunday at the Winnetka Sunday Evening club, when Miss Penka Kassabova of Bulgaria told some of her experiences in coming to this country. Miss Kassabova is at present a student at Chicago Kindergarten college. She spoke of peasant life and student life in her native country, of some of their native customs, and of the necessary readjustments to be made in coming to this country. She was dressed in a very attractive Bulgarian peasant costume, and sang several of her native folk songs.

Miss Kassabova's talk was the second in the series on immigration. Next Sunday William Byron of the sociology department of Northwestern university will speak on the national aspects of the immigration question. Supper will be served in the Camp Fire room, Community House, at 6:30 o'clock.

PLAN CORNELL CONCERT

John Dole, Richard Matriessen and John McIlvaine are alumni living in Winnetka who are on the committee completing plans for the Cornell University Musical club to give its Chicago performance Tuesday, December 29, at Orchestra hall. Many Social affairs will be given for the men during their brief visit.

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