

DAY NURSERY REPORT.

OCTOBER, 24, 1914.

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A little over a year ago while the Social Service commission were studying the problem of helping ~~the~~ in some practical way, the Mothers of the community, through Mothers Pensions and a Day Nursery, three ladies belonging to this city interested in the same social problems, attended the National American Convention at Seattle which discussed these and various other problems along similar lines. Before returning home the Day Nurseries were visited and a knowledge of the work secured. This report was laid before the joint committee formed for this work, of representatives from the Social Service Commission, The Local Council of Women, The Friendly Help Society and the Childrens Aid with the result that a small sub committee was formed who with the Chairman waited on the City Council in regard to opening a Day Nursery in Victoria. The members of the Council realizing the importance of the work, co-operated with the committee by promising them \$100 a month for the work.

The Committee after considerable search secured the present premises which seemed the most suitable regarding situation, size and rental. Within three weeks the Nursery was furnished and opened. The first and only difficulty which has been found in the work is one which still continues, it is that of securing work for mothers. Women are constantly calling at the Nursery who are willing and anxious to work but no one is in need of their services. There are however quite a number of mothers who have regular work and who leave their smaller children at the Nursery while the larger ones go to school, during their absence from home. Many of these women are continually expressing their gratitude for the existence of the Nursery. During the first weeks after the opening of the home we found that a number of children were coming from South Saanich district and we then talked of and asked the co-operation of the Saanich council in the work and they responded

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generously as will be seen by the Treasurer's statement. Later in the year our committee were approached by the Childrens Aid Society who asked whether it would be possible for us to take charge of the girls placed under their care as their home was full, no arrangements having been made for girls. Feeling the importance of doing all the work possible with the initial expense necessary by the establishment of a Day nursery, it was unanimously decided to assist the Childrens Aid Society in their work, and during the last three months we have had six children under their care in our Home. The necessity of such a nursery has been shown over and over again but perhaps on no occasion more than a few weeks ago when a baby of six months was found in a bar room of a Johnson street hotel under the care of a drunken father who did not know the babys name nor where its home was. The little one was sent to the Nursery at ten O'clock at night. Three weeks ago three little girls, sisters, all under eight years were brought to the home after dark to be cared for.

It is just possible that this nursery in the near future may become a training school for the girls in the Childrens Aid home. The work has found many warm supporters and sympathisers and the Committee have greatly appreciated the donations of all kinds which have been contributed. The present premises are central, convenient and have so far been adequate for the work, we realize however that if the work continues to grow we shall of necessity be compelled to have larger accomodation in the near future. This will entail a little more expense but until such is justifiable it will not be undertaken. During the year ¹⁹²¹ children have been looked after in the Nursery. Of these ¹⁶³ belonged to Saanich. With a very slight addition to the cost of maintenance twice as many children could be cared for during the day time if work could be secured for the mothers. The Committee wish to express their appreciation to the organizations which have so kindly helped in furnishing the Nursery, as well as individuals who have in any way contributed to its support. The following is a report of the Treasurer.

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RECEIPTS:

Victoria City-----	\$1150.00
Saanich Municipality-----	140.00
Esquimalt Municipality-----	50.00
Madrigal Concert-----	41.85
Camocun Chapter I.O.D.E.-----	100.00
B.C. Benevolent Society-----	75.00
Childrens Aid Society (Raised by School children)	268.75
Individual donations-----	152.00
Childrens Aid Society (Board)-----	59.50
Mothers Contributions-----	98.10
Birthday Party-----	77.00

	\$2212.20
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DISBURSEMENTS:

Repairing house-----	83.65
Furnishing-----	597.67
Rental-----	325.00
Nurses salary-----	407.00
Assistants-----	156.60
Water-----	16.30
Electric Light-----	31.45
Laundry-----	51.80
Druggist (including equipment)-----	30.80
Fuel-----	53.25
Milk-----	72.65
Meat and groceries-----	258.18
Petty cash for sundries (Eggs and Vegetables)	104.05
Telephone-----	13.60
CASH ON HAND-----	10.20

	\$2212.20
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Maria Grant
Society Treasurer

March 3rd, 1915.

Mrs. Maria W. Grant,
344 Linden Avenue,
Victoria, B. C.

Dear Madam,

Your letter of February 18th was placed before the Works Committee of the Council at their meeting on February 23rd and was again considered at the Council meeting held yesterday when a donation of \$25.00 to the Victoria Day Nursery was made for the year 1915.

Yours truly,

C. H. G.

August 26th, 1915.

Dr. G. L. Milne,
Immigration Branch,
Dallas Road,
Victoria, B. C.

1445

Dear Sir:

With reference to our correspondence in March and April of this year. Mrs. Florence Stagnell and her two children are still being supported by charity in this Municipality and she has been persuaded to return to England where her people have agreed to support her.

I believe that the necessary authority was granted for her transportation by sea, by your Department and I shall be obliged if you can have this renewed, when this Municipality will arrange to pay the fare by rail.

Thanking you, I am,

Yours truly,

C. H. C.