

Charleston
Orphan House

Founded 1790

Annual Report

OF THE

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

FOR THE YEAR

1916

CHARLESTON ORPHAN HOUSE

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS.

GEO. W. WILLIAMS, CHAIRMAN.

SAM'L G. STONEY, VICE-CHAIRMAN.

S. E. WELCH, VICE-CHAIRMAN PRO TEM.

DR. B. A. MUCKENFUSS, ROBT. C. LEBBY,
V. C. DIBBLE, D. B. HENDERSON,
F. Q. O'NEILL, R. H. DURYEA,
I. W. HIRSCH, A. B. MURRAY,
PAUL W. SANDERS.

OFFICERS.

Principal and Superintendent.

MISS MARY L. LEQUEUX.

Teachers.

Mrs. Amelia L. Reilly, Miss O. A. Eiserhardt,
Miss Ellen King, Miss Mary E. Hamlin,
Miss Mary McNeill, Miss Alice Smith,
Miss Barnwell R. Williams.

Organist and Instructor of Music.

Miss Ella I. Hyams.

Engineer and Assistant to Superintendent.

ASHLEY L. BARTON.

Matrons.

Mrs. B. C. Harris, Mrs. R. H. Bulwinkle,
Miss M. Murrill, Miss E. Escoffier,
Mrs. Louise Scott.

Sewing Department.

Miss Dora Sweatman.

Kindergarten.

Mrs. M. L. McCue, Miss E. L. McCallman,
Miss Loula B. Ham.

Physician to the Institution.

DR. T. GRANGE SIMONS.

Secretary and Treasurer of the Board.

ST. JOHN P. KINLOCH.

STANDING COMMITTEES.

COMMITTEE ON IMPROVEMENTS AND
DISCIPLINE.

GEO. W. WILLIAMS, EX-OFFICIO CHAIRMAN.

SAM'L G. STONEY, EX-OFFICIO VICE-CHAIRMAN.

B. A. Muckenfuss, F. Q. O'Neill,
D. B. Henderson, I. W. Hirsch,
Robt. C. Leby, S. E. Welch,
A. B. Murray,

COMMITTEE ON SHOOLS.

S. E. Welch, Chairman. V. C. Dibble,
B. A. Muckenfuss, A. B. Murray,
S. G. Stoney.

COMMITTEE ON REPAIRS.

S. G. Stoney, Chairman, D. B. Henderson,
I. W. Hirsch, Paul W. Sanders.

COMMITTEE ON RETRENCHMENT AND
REFORM.

F. Q. O'Neill, Chairman, Robt. C. Leby,
R. H. Duryea, D. B. Henderson.

COMMITTEE ON PURVEYANCE.

D. B. Henderson, Chairman, B. A. Muckenfuss,
R. H. Duryea, Paul W. Sanders.

COMMITTEE ON ACCOUNTS.

I. W. Hirsch, Chairman, S. G. Stoney,
Robt. C. Leby, S. E. Welch.

COMMITTEE ON CHAPEL AND ANNIVERSARY.

B. A. Muckenfuss, Chairman, F. Q. O'Neill,
S. E. Welch, V. C. Dibble.

BINDING-OUT COMMITTEE.

Robt. C. Leby, Chairman, I. W. Hirsch,
V. C. Dibble, A. B. Murray.

COMMITTEE ON LIBRARY.

A. B. Murray, Chairman, R. H. Duryea,
V. C. Dibble, F. Q. O'Neill.

CHARLESTON ORPHAN HOUSE.

Charleston, S. C., Jan. 1, 1917.

To the Mayor and Aldermen of the City of Charleston:

Gentlemen: I have the honor to present herewith the statement of Receipts and Expenditures of the Charleston Orphan House for the year 1916; statement of the transactions of the Trustees of the Orphan House Funds and Estate; statement of the Receipts and Expenditures of the Private Fund of the Commissioners; also the reports of the various Standing Committees for the fiscal year ending December 31, 1916, together with my report as Chairman.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

GEO. W. WILLIAMS,

Chairman of the Board of Commissioners of the Charleston Orphan House.

Statement of the Receipts and Expenditures of the Charleston Orphan House for the year ending December 31st, 1916.

RECEIPTS.

To amount received from interest on Public Fund	\$10,843.48
To amount received from interest on W. Jefferson Bennett Memorial Fund	2,000.00
To amount received from Commissioners Trust Fund	6,797.77
To amount received from Estate of Dr. R. L. Brodie	1,785.00
To amount received from City Council	12,410.84
	<hr/>
	\$33,837.09

EXPENDITURES.

By amount expended as per monthly returns to	
City Council	\$24,554.32
By House Physician's Salary	700.00
By amount expended from Commissioners Trust	
Fund	8,582.77
	<hr/>
	\$33,837.09

ST. JOHN P. KINLOCH,
Treasurer B. C. C. O. H.

Cash transactions of the Trustees of the Orphan House
Funds and Estate, January 1, 1916, to December 31, 1916.

RECEIPTS.

To Balance from last Annual Statement:

Trustees	\$ 36.63
W. J. Bennett Memorial Fund ..	8,865.85
	<hr/>
	\$ 8,902.48

Trustees' Interest Account:

12 mos. interest on \$200,500 City	
4 per cent. Bonds	8,060.00
Interest on \$38,176.20 4½ State	
Stock redeemed	1,176.19
Interest on deposits	1,607.29
	<hr/>
	10,843.48

W. J. Bennett Memorial Fund:

12 mos. interest on \$98,000 4 per	
cent. City Bonds	3,920.00
12 mos. interest on \$11,000 5 per	
cent. City of Columbia Bonds.....	550.00
12 mos. interest on \$10,000 City 4	
per cent. Sewerage Bonds	400.00
Interest on deposits	568.56
	<hr/>
	5,438.56

Trustees' Stock Account:

\$38,176.20 4½ per cent State Stock redeemed	38,176.20
	<u>\$ 63,360.72</u>

EXPENDITURES.

By Trustees' Interest Account:

Current expenses of Charleston Orphan House	\$ 10,843.48
---	--------------

W. J. Bennett Memorial Fund:

Current expenses of Charleston Orphan House	2,000.00
---	----------

Balance: Trustees	38,212.83
-------------------------	-----------

Balance W. J. Bennett Memorial Fund	12,304.41	50,517.24
	<u>\$ 63,360.72</u>	

ASSETS.

Trustees:

Cash	\$ 38,212.83
4 per cent. City of Charleston Bonds	201,500.00
	<u>239,712.83</u>

W. J. Bennett Memorial Fund:

4 per cent. City of Charleston Bonds	98,000.00
4 per cent. City of Charleston Sewerage Bonds	10,000.00
5 per cent. City of Columbia Bonds	11,000.00
Cash	12,304.41
	<u>\$131,304.41</u>

Respectfully submitted,

J. O. LEA,

City Treasurer and Trustee.

Examined and found correct,

GEO W. WILLIAMS,

Chairman Commissioners Charleston Orphan House and Trustee Orphan House Funds and Estate.

W. J. BENNETT MEMORIAL FUND.

1916 Cash in Bank	\$ 12,304.41
1913 Bonds purchased	2,500.00
1912 Bonds purchased	1,500.00
1911 Bonds purchased	5,400.00
1909 Bonds purchased	1,000.00
1908 Bonds purchased	2,300.00
1907 Bonds purchased	2,200.00
1906 Bonds purchased	2,100.00
1905 Bonds purchased	2,000.00
	<hr/>
	\$ 31,304.41
Original donation	100,000.00
	<hr/>
	\$131,304.41

Cash in bank drawing 4 15/16 per cent, on daily balances.

List of Stocks, Bonds and other Securities belonging to the Private Fund of the Commissioners of the Charleston Orphan House exhibited to us by St. John P. Kinloch, Treasurer, and deposited by us in lock box at the Germania Savings Bank, this 13th day of October, 1916.

38 City of Charleston 4% bonds, each..\$1,000	\$38,000.00
64 City of Charleston 4% bonds, each.. 500	32,000.00
3 City of Charleston 4½% b'nds, each 500	1,500.00
2 City of Columbia 4½% bonds, each 1,000	2,000.00
4 City of Florence 4½% bonds, each.. 1,000	4,000.00
1 Certificate for 20 shares Magnolia, Cemetery Stock, par	2,000.00
1 Certificate for 7 shares Bank of Charleston, N. B. A., Stock, par	700.00
1 Certificate for 5 shares Walker, Evans & Cogswell Stock, par	500.00
1 Deed for Six Lots in Magnolia Cemetery.	

Property of the Dr. William H. Huger	
Scholarship Fund—	
5 City of Charleston 4% Bonds, each \$1,000..	5,000.00
Accrued interest on deposit in Savings Department, Carolina Savings Bank, December 31, 1916	534.96

I. W. HIRSCH, *Chairman.*
 SAM'L G. STONEY,
 ROBT. C. LEBBY,
 S. E. WELCH,
Finance Committee.
 GEO. W. WILLIAMS,
Chairman.

Abstract of the Receipts and Expenditures of the Private Fund of the Commissioners of the Charleston Orphan House for the year ending December 31st, 1916.

DR.

To Balance from last account	\$ 163.88
“ Interest on Securities	3,455.55
“ State of South Carolina Bonds matured	4,500.00
“ Income from Estate of Dr. R. L. Brodie	1,785.00
	<hr/>
	\$9,904.43

CR.

By paid Salaries of Officers and Employees	\$2,404.59
“ “ Balance on Bath-house and equipment....	551.33
“ “ Tornado and Fire Insurance Premiums....	298.29
“ “ Bank box rent and City Directory.....	18.00
“ “ City Florence Bonds and interest.....	4,221.64

" "	Donations to Officers and Inmates.....	175.00
" "	'Expenses of Annual Picnic	153.04
" "	Glasses for children	11.00
" "	Funeral notices and floral tributes.....	35.15
" "	Erecting Memorial Tablets	72.72
" "	Sunday School books, School prizes, etc..	119.35
" "	Care lot in Magnolia Cemetery	30.00
" "	Hospital charges and nurse for child.....	46.42
" "	Advanced education of Junior Teachers..	382.26
" "	Expenses of High School boy	61.98
" "	Postal cards, stamps, etc.....	2.00
		<hr/>
		\$8,582.77
	Balance in Bank	1,321.66
		<hr/>
		\$9,904.43

Examined and found correct:

I. W. HIRSCH, *Chairman.*

SAM'L G. STONEY,

ROBT. C. LEBBY,

S. E. WELCH,

Committee on Accounts.

GEO. W. WILLIAMS,

Chairman.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON SCHOOL FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1916.

The 126th Anniversary of the Charleston Orphan House was celebrated by exercises in the school room on the afternoon of October 19th, 1916, in the presence of the Board of Commissioners, Mayor Hyde and a number of visitors. The Chairman of the Board, Mr. George W. Williams, presided at the exercises.

An excellent program was very creditably carried out. Special mention should be made of the commendable progress of the children in the Sight Singing course, established in the School two years ago. The purity of tone, and the two and three part singing demonstrated the care with which they had been trained in this part of the work.

ORDER OF EXERCISES.

- Welcome Song by the School.
 Prayer by Rev. Melton Clark, D. D.
 Recitation of the 24th Psalm by the School.
 Song, "My Country," School.
 Recitations on "Patriotism and Loyalty."
 Song "The Star Spangled Banner," by the School.
 (Twenty girls illustrating by appropriate attitudes.)
 Instrumental Solo, "Valse Excentrique."
 "Etude."
 Presentation of the "Bennett Medal."
 Presentation of "Fidelity" Prizes.
 Songs, "Bye Low."
 "Sleigh Ride."
 Presentation of the "Cart Medal" for Mathematics.
 Presentation of Prizes for Industrial Department.
 Shepherd Song, School.
 Presentation of Premiums.
 Presentation of the "Carrington-Thomas Medal."
 Anniversary Anthem, School.
 Benediction by Commissioner, Rev. V. C. Dibble.

The "Bennett Medal" for Scholarship, Attendance and Conduct was presented to Bartow Harris by His Honor, Mayor T. T. Hyde.

The "Williams" Prizes for Industry and Fidelity were

presented to Isabelle H. Legare and George R. Rivers by the Chairman.

The "Cart Medal" for proficiency in Mathematics was presented to Rutilla S. LaCoste by Commissioner I. W. Hirsch.

The "Carrington-Thomas Prizes" for General Helpfulness were presented to Katie Voigt and Gatewood Smith, and the Prize for the Industrial Department to Blackwell Webb by Commissioner I. W. Hirsch.

Jennie Oplan, who played the Instrumental Solos, was specially commended for proficiency in Music.

Presentation of Premiums by Chairman George W. Williams:

FIRST CLASS.

Katie Voigt.

FIRST DIVISION, SECOND CLASS.

Bernie Messel.

SECOND DIVISION, SECOND CLASS.

Helen Mazyck and Bessie Proctor.

THIRD CLASS.

Dorothy Heins, Belle Legare, Bettie Wise.

FOURTH CLASS.

Helen Blitch, Richard Sonnichsen.

FIFTH CLASS.

Charlie Blitch, Theo. Benke, Jno. Price, Dora Sonnichsen.

SIXTH CLASS.

Myrtle Heisenbottle, Helen Breuer, Hagood Johnson,
Cecil Martin, Lucius Elsey.

SEVENTH CLASS.

Jennings Byrd, Eliza Sonnichsen, Morris Addison,
Jennie Jones.

KINDERGARTEN TABLE NO. 1.

Fred Webber, Margaret Messel, Aurelia Connollee.

KINDERGARTEN—TABLE NO. 2.

Ruth Byrd, Leroy Heissenbottle, Lois Ballentine.

REPORT OF SCHOOL ATTENDANCE.

Highest number of Scholars on register during the year :

Boys, 141; Girls, 128. Total, 269.

The average attendance at School during the year :

Boys, 135; Girls, 123. Total, 258.

Admitted during the year :

Boys, 23; Girls, 31. Total, 54.

Discharged during the year :

Boys, 24; Girls, 30. Total, 54.

The usual course of studies was pursued during the year—the First Class continuing until the Summer vacation to receive special training in Mathematics and Bookkeeping by two of the teachers of the High School.

Lucia Hutchinson, who is attending Lander College, is doing well and quite in earnest in her work.

Of the number admitted during the year, fifty-two entered the Kindergarten or the lowest Primary Grade.

BOYS INDUSTRIAL DEPARTMENT.

794 Pairs Shoes repaired; 198 Mattresses made; 96 Pillows made; 6 Doors repaired; 244 Window Glass put in; 47 Sash Cords adjusted; 4 New Doors hung; 8 Glasses placed in Doors; 2 Old Doors replaced; 4 Screen Doors put in; 2 Mitre Boxes made; new Steam Pipes put in Commissioners' Room; Counter Shaft put up for New Pump; 12 Dining Room Windows Screened; 9 Bedsteads repaired and painted; 4 New Tables made and 5 repaired; 26 Chairs repaired and caned; 2 Life Savers recovered and 4 Boxes made; 7 New Locks put on doors.

Windows in the Lodge repaired and many smaller matters were carefully attended to, thus saving a considerable amount in the expenses of the Institution.

In the Industrial Department for the Girls, the following report shows the value of the training and the efficiency manifested:

17 Boys Uniforms; 61 Rompers; 284 Summer Dresses; 495 Aprons; 170 Pairs Garters; 55 Pairs Trousers; 672 Shirt Waists; 223 Fall and Winter Dresses; 780 Boys' and Girls' Underwear; 58 Doilies and Table Cloths Hemmed; 1,395 Sheets, Towels, Pillow Cases and Bed Ticks Hemmed; 481 Suits and Dresses altered and repaired; 120 Collars made and fitted.

This was in addition to general Seamstress, Tailoring and Dressmaking work. The greater part of the darning and mending for the boys and the marking of every article of clothing were also done in this Department. Here the children are taught from one-half to an hour and a half each day, the older girls giving the time they can spare from school and other duties. The Laundry work has been done by three washers with the aid of the girls.

This year's washing amounted to 709,347 pieces.

As an Easter Gift, Mr. Andrew B. Murray presented the School with a set of the "Handy Volume" issue of the Encyclopedia Britannica (29 Volumes), with a handsome stand, which is greatly appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,

S. E. WELCH, *Chairman.*

A. B. MURRAY,

VIRGIL C. DIBBLE,

SAM'L G. STONEY,

B. A. MUCKENFUSS.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON IMPROVEMENTS AND DISCIPLINE.

The Committee on Improvements and Discipline is pleased to report many improvements made during the past year, which have contributed much to the comfort and welfare of the wards and other inmates of the House.

The excellent discipline which for many years has been so conspicuous in the management of affairs, and has given the Charleston Orphan House its high reputation as second to no similar institution anywhere, is still fully maintained. Respect for law and those in authority is general and habitual. This not only finds expression in prompt obedience and good order, but adds greatly to the happiness of the wards, and is preparing them to properly meet the responsibilities and discharge the obligations of citizenship, and of manhood and womanhood, when they leave the home

of their childhood, to take their place and do their work in the world without.

GEO. W. WILLIAMS,

Chairman.

S. E. WELCH,

B. A. MUCKENFUSS,

S. G. STONEY,

F. Q. O'NEILL,

I. W. HIRSCH,

D. B. HENDERSON,

A. B. MURRAY,

ROBT. C. LEBBY.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON RETRENCHMENT AND REFORM.

Your Committee makes no recommendation, as they find Economy practiced in all departments and a disposition on the part of the management to retrench wherever possible.

We are unable, after investigation, to note or suggest any necessity for reform.

Respectfully submitted,

F. Q. O'NEILL, *Chairman.*

ROBT. C. LEBBY,

D. B. HENDERSON,

R. H. DURYEY.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON REPAIRS.

In addition to the usual amount of repair work necessary on a large plant of this size, there were several items of additional repair work resulting from the storm of July

15th, 1916. Owing to the substantial character of the building the damage by the storm was not as severe as might have been expected from the height and great exposure of the main building, cupola, etc. All of the repairs have been made of a most substantial and satisfactory manner.

Details of the work:—

The front portico scraped and painted.

Slate roof of main building thoroughly overhauled and repaired.

Wood work and metal work on the center cupola repaired thoroughly and overhauled.

Bath room in fifth story painted.

Ceiling and pool in bath house painted.

Two large sashes removed and put in class room windows.

Eight dormitories and entries calcimined.

School room floor and floor of passage and main hall painted.

New concrete foot bath built in No. 8 lavatory.

City sewerage connections on west side of premises made with street system.

Fences and drains on premises all overhauled and repaired.

Furnaces to boiler rebricked, clayed and repaired.

All steam and water pipes repaired.

Forty-seven window glasses and twenty-three sash cords put in main building.

New storm doors and partitions erected at No. 4 stairway in main building.

All plaster to ceiling and woodwork throughout the house repaired.

All of this work has been done thoroughly and satisfactorily under the efficient management of our assistant

Supintendent and Engineer, Mr. Barton. The valuable and very satisfactory work done by Mr. Hudson and the boys in the workshop is fully reported under the School Committee's report. Many of the boys have assisted materially in the repair work during the year, and we commend highly this method of instructing and employing our boys continuously, when not conflicting with their school duties, and especially during the summer months.

Your Committee would suggest that every effort be made to paint the walls on Calhoun Street and St. Philip and Vander Horst Streets during the summer, and we also ask that every effort be made to have the City Council repair the sidewalks on St. Philip from Calhoun to Vander Horst, and on Vander Horst from St. Philip to King Street, as these sidewalks are in a wretched condition. We would also suggest that immediate steps be taken to repair the damage to all the trees on the place, and to plant out additional trees as suggested in detail after consulting with Mr. LaFar Bissell, in charge of the City Trees.

A substantial gravel cement driveway has been laid in front of the main building.

Respectfully submitted,

SAM'L G. STONEY,

Chairman.

D. B. HENDERSON,

I. W. HIRSCH,

PAUL W. SANDERS,

Committee on Repairs.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON PURVEYANCE.

The Committee on Purveyance begs to submit their report of the purchases and expenses for the year 1916.

Groceries, Soap, etc.....	\$3,400.87
Bread	2,254.42
Meat	1,010.37
Dry Goods, Shoes, etc.....	2,497.39
Milk	1,176.80
Repairs	2,017.11
Salaries	8,230.25
Petty Cash	1,500.00
Insurance	40.00
Fuel	1,452.85
Forage	83.46
Books, Printing, etc.....	188.02
Lights	184.23
Drugs	152.31
Miscellaneous	366.24
	<hr/>
	\$24,554.32
Salary of House Physician, paid by City Treasurer	700.00
	<hr/>
	\$25,254.32

The Garden furnished the following under very unfavorable circumstances: (The boys assisted the Gardener.)

299	Bunches of Turnips.
166	Bunches of Beets.
417	Bunches of Carrots.
6½	Barrels of Carrots.
265	Dozen of Tomatoes.
71	Dozen ears of New Corn.
1,680	Bunches of Radishes.

- 18½ Baskets of Beans.
 2½ Bushels of Red Peppers.
 60 Dozen of Onions.
 16 Dozen of Squashes.
 29½ Pecks of Okra.
 2,000 Pounds of Forage for Donkey.

Respectfully submitted,
 D. B. HENDERSON, *Chairman.*
 ROBT. H. DURYEA,
 B. A. MUCKENFUSS,
 PAUL W. SANDERS.

REPORT OF BINDING OUT COMMITTEE.

The Binding Out Committee respectfully submits the following report of admissions to and discharges from the Orphan House during the year ending December 31, 1916.

Boys admitted	23
Girls admitted	23
	<hr/>
Total	46
Boys discharged	26
Girls discharged	35
	<hr/>
Total	61

Six of the boys discharged, and eight of the girls, had secured good positions before leaving the Home, and so far have made a fine record. One girl is taking a business course. Two of the girls, when they attained their majority, remained in the Home, one taking charge of a dormitory and the other assisting in the Sewing and Housekeeping Departments.

The other children who were withdrawn were given to relatives and are now, with few exceptions, attending school.

R. C. LEBBY, *Chairman*.
I. W. HIRSCH,
A. B. MURRAY,
VIRGIL C. DIBBLE.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON LIBRARY.

The Committee on Library begs to report that there are now in the Library 5,245 volumes and 450 pamphlets and magazines.

Since last report there have been donated to the Library 34 books and 25 magazines ("National Geographic.")

The children draw books from the Library regularly throughout the year, but in the summer vacation devote more time to reading, under the supervision of the Librarian—the assistant teachers and older girls assisting by reading suitable books to the younger children.

3,500 books have been drawn during the year.

Respectfully submitted,

A. B. MURRAY, *Chairman*.
VIRGIL C. DIBBLE,
R. H. DURYEA,
F. Q. O'NEILL.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON CHAPEL AND ANNIVERSARY

The Sabbath afternoon services have known no interruption throughout the year. Three visiting Ministers have

officiated: The Rev. Robert C. Hilson and Rev. J. R. Graham, Missionaries from China, and Rev. W. E. Abrams, of Wytheville, Va., the latter was one of our former boys. The music has been, as usual, a very attractive feature of the services, and the children have maintained their reputation for close attention and good conduct. The Committee again returns thanks to those of the resident Clergy and Y. M. C. A. who have so readily responded to the demands made upon them.

Respectfully submitted,

B. A. MUCKENFUSS, *Chairman*.....

S. E. WELCH,

V. C. DIBBLE,

F. Q. O'NEILL.

REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN.

On March 31st, Mr. Francis J. Pelzer, the 17th Chairman of the Board of Commissioners, passed away. The Board adopted appropriate resolutions as a tribute of respect to his memory, a copy of which will be found following this report. Mr. Paul W. Sanders was elected a Commissioner to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Mr. Pelzer.

As succeeding Chairman of the Board, it becomes my duty to transmit to you the foregoing financial statements and the Reports of the Standing Committees of the Board of Commissioners of the Charleston Orphan House for the year 1916, and in doing so, it gives me pleasure to state that the members of the Board have, as individuals and as a Board, performed every duty as it has been presented, thereby maintaining the high standard of efficiency which has always characterized the work of the Commissioners of the Charleston Orphan House.

On January 1, 1916, there were in the House:

Boys, 144; Girls, 139. Total, 283.

Admissions during the year:

Boys, 23; Girls, 23. Total, 46.

Withdrawals during the year:

Boys, 26; Girls, 35. Total, 61.

Highest number on Register during the year:

Boys, 143; Girls, 139. Total, 282.

On December 31, 1916, there were in the House:

Boys, 141; Girls, 127. Total, 268.

Again we are grateful to report that we have had no deaths in the Home during the past year.

The systematically ordered life of children well housed and nourished, comfortably clothed, reasonably equipped, with plenty of pure fresh air by night as well as by day and an abundance of health-giving exercises, in addition to the watchful care of our Physician, Dr. T. Grange Simons, who has been devoted in his attentions to those who have needed his care, have, to a great extent, aided us in maintaining this most excellent record of health, which will bear comparison with the best regulated homes in any community.

The Board begs to record its appreciation of the continued kindness of Doctors B. A. Muckenfuss and Charles W. Kollock, who have cheerfully rendered service from time to time during the year in their professional lines, whenever called upon to do so.

I am pleased to record a most successful year in the Sunday School under the supervision of Mr. C. O. Getty, of the Staff of the Y. M. C. A., who, as Superintendent, has taken a most active interest in furthering this branch of the work.

Besides our resident teachers he has been ably assisted

by Messrs. Fred S. Muller, Milton B. Kennedy, K. C. Byrd and Aleck Dick. The undenominational Bible Study Course seems best fitted for our purposes and the singing interspersed with piano and violin adds much to the interest taken by the children in the exercises.

In music, I am pleased to record a most satisfactory year. The sight singing course, so successfully taught last year, has been productive of great results in Ear training, Vocal training, Sight reading, Written work, Interpretations of songs and Two and Three part singing. The methods used are "Primary Melodies," "First Reader," and "Individual Sight Singing" Exercises by Bowen.

The children are as enthusiastic over their music as is their instructor, Miss Ella I. Hyams, to whom we owe much for her painstaking interest in cultivating and furthering the love of music among them.

While paying the closest attention to the needs of the child from every standpoint, we have, at the same time, always kept before us as a policy, the determination to add from time to time improvements which would tend to increase the comfort, efficiency and safety in the House and on the grounds..

To attain this end I am glad to mention some of the betterments which have been added to the plant during the last few years; the most important of these may be briefly mentioned as follows: The rebuilding of vital portions of the sanitary system; cementing of basement floor; the construction of substantial fire escapes; the installation of fire alarm boxes connected with the general system of the city and electric lights on each floor of the House.

The distribution of fire extinguishers and fire hydrants throughout the building; the installation of a new system of steam heating, which has caused the removal of stoves from the House; the introduction of a private telephone

exchange, which permits intercommunication between all parts of the House; the creation of an industrial department in which the boys are taught many of the useful arts, such as shoemaking, blacksmithing, wood turning, bench tool work, drilling, painting, carpentering, mattress and chair making, plumbing, tinning and the like.

The erection of a modern brick and cement kitchen, fully equipped, where the older girls may have the advantages of domestic training; this branch of the work for girls in addition to sewing, teaching and caring for the younger children, enables them by actual practice to fit themselves for any position they may be called upon to occupy in after life.

The transformation of the upper portion of the large Assembly Hall into several well-lighted and ventilated school rooms, without in the least degree, impairing the usefulness or the architectural lines of the Assembly Hall.

The overhauling and the rebuilding of the Children's dining rooms, which have been practically made over.

The planting in the grounds in front of the House, of a well selected equipment of modern playground apparatus from the best factories in the country.

The erection of a spacious Brick and Cement Bath House, equipped with every modern appliance, where the children may, after their shower baths, enjoy a dip in a spacious pool in which every child is taught to swim, the boys by Mr. Fred S. Muller and the girls by Mrs. Alex. H. Pregnall, assisted by her sister, Miss Lewis. To these unselfish teachers we are indebted for their kindly interest in this phase of the work.

Other improvements which the Board have in view will be undertaken from time to time with the purpose of making the Orphan House in its accomplishments rank second to none in caring for those entrusted to it.

With a view of making the lives of the children as near homelike as it is possible and as far from the institutional as it is generally understood, amusements have been provided for them throughout the year suitable to the season; besides this from time to time men and women who have become prominent in some field of endeavor in the world, when visiting Charleston, have addressed them. The policy of having them see and hear substantial people who are doing things in the world is a good one. So much interest is manifested by the children in this feature of their lives that I am sure there will be no change in this long established custom which we found, and which we will continue and leave to our successors to carry on.

During the summer months several of our younger teachers were sent to Winthrop College, where they obtained and enjoyed the advantages of the training which is given at its summer school for teachers.

One of the older girls, Lucia Hutchinson, entered Lander College in September, where we expect her to make a record which will be creditable to herself as well as to the Orphan House.

Under our established system any orphan boy or girl may obtain the benefit of a college course provided they fit themselves for it.

Some of the pleasant experiences of a year are the visits from time to time by former pupils, men and women who as children were brought up in the Home, who return as the opportunity is presented to pay their respects to those in control, and to enjoy the reminiscences of the past.

Of course we are gratified by the large number who have gone from our care, and, true to their training, have made a success of their life work.

Among the many who returned to their old Home, and there were more visitors than usual in 1916, was the Rev.

W. E. Abrams, now a prominent preacher living in Wytheville, Va. During his stay in Charleston he occupied the pulpit in the Chapel on one Sunday.

I will not close this report without once more expressing our appreciation of the devoted zeal and efficiency of the Executive officers of the Home.

To the Principal, Miss Mary L. LeQueux, the Board is especially grateful; she has brought to the work ripe experience of many years, and with rare tact and energy has kept the momentum of this great charity keyed to its proper limit, and no one knows better than the Chairman of the incessant and exacting tasks which face her in each day and night of the 365 of the year, and I am sure that every member of the Board is glad to join me in this opportunity to show his full appreciation of the results of her work, which cannot be overestimated, and to express the esteem in which she is held by each of us on account of her personal worth.

And to our faithful Engineer and Assistant to the Superintendent, Mr. Ashley L. Barton, for nearly 40 years in continuous service in the Orphan House, we make full acknowledgment while we may during his life, with the hope that he may long be spared to this City and Home, for he brings to his work the experience of a life time and an interest which cannot be measured; a peculiar interest, which in the present day is so often lacking in Homes of this character. With Mr. Barton his varied tasks at the Orphan House come to him as life itself. The Board, ever mindful of his faithfulness, is glad to make a permanent record of it.

In a Home like this, in which a large corps of assistants with diversified and overlapping duties is necessary, it is not possible to do more than to express our appreciation of the loyal support which each one has given in the various

departments in order that the Orphan House may continue to maintain its place in the fore front which over 126 years of the best service entitles it.

Finally, in closing this report, as we look back and survey the work of the last twelve months, I can but feel, considering the amount of patience, good common sense and tact which are necessary to successfully guide a Home of this size, that we have added one year more of faithful and successful work to those which have gone before, and with full appreciation of the honor conferred upon me by City Council and by the Board of Commissioners, and with the pledge to use my best efforts at all times in caring for the interests of the Orphan House,

I beg to remain, respectfully,

GEO. W. WILLIAMS,

Chairman of the Board of Commissioners of the Charleston Orphan House.

TRIBUTE OF RESPECT

In Memoriam

FRANCIS J. PELZER

Mr. Francis J. Pelzer, the seventeenth in order of Chairman of the Commissioners of the Charleston Orphan House, since its organization, one hundred and twenty-six years ago, finished his course and "fell asleep" at his home in the City, Friday afternoon, March 31, 1916, nine days before the completion of the ninetieth year of his age. Sunday, April 2, his mortal remains were solemnly laid away in the burying ground of Bethel Methodist Church. "Earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust."

His connection with the Orphan House began January 8, 1878, when he was first elected Commissioner by the City Council. His regularly recurring election during nine successive municipal administrations, embracing a period of nearly forty years, makes evident his high standing in the community and the estimate put upon his faithfulness and efficiency in the conduct and discharge of an important public trust. Dr. Benjamin A. Muckenfuss, still an active and conspicuously useful member of the Board, was elected on the same day and now has the distinction of holding the longest term of service in the history of the Institution. "Serus ad coelum redeat."

Mr. Pelzer was elected Vice Chairman of the Board, January 11, 1894. He became Chairman, January 8, 1903, succeeding Mr. George W. Williams, at his death, whose son, bearing the same name, has by the unanimous voice of the Board, been called to the position of Chairman, and now worthily occupies it.

As a Commissioner of the Orphan House, in intimate association with its officers and the young people under its sheltering care, Mr. Pelzer showed himself possessed of those qualities of mind and heart, which won their respect and confidence. All looked upon him as an earnest friend, deeply interested in them, and ever ready to contribute, by word and deed, to their comfort and welfare. The additional responsibilities and duties brought to him by his promotion to the position of Chairman of the Board, he met and discharged conscientiously and wisely.

In the other relations, varied and manifold, of his active life, notably those commonly regarded as business relations, Mr. Pelzer stood conspicuously prominent, as an eminently successful man. Observant and always thoughtful, he reached right conclusions, which became with him settled principles, and he had the "courage of his convictions." He did not drift along with the current, but his will and force of character dominated mere circumstances. Many material and financial enterprises, from which the entire community has profited, were originated by him, or he assisted earnestly in their development. He attained results desired not by chance, or what is called "good fortune;" they were the effects, of which his own intelligent and persistent energy was the cause.

Mr. Pelzer never forgot, or laid aside the religious obligations to which, in boyhood he committed himself. Remembering his Creator in the days of his youth, to fear God and keep His commandments was the rule of his after life. A member of the church, he was devoted to its interests, contributing by personal work and by liberal gifts to its prosperity and welfare.

For several years the physical and mental infirmities, which accompany old age, made him an invalid and inactive. His sufferings and disabilities he endured patiently and with Christian resignation, until, at last, "The weary wheels of life stood still." When they ceased to move, he quietly passed into the "Great beyond," exchanging the things of this world, which are but temporal, for the great verities of the other world, which are eternal.

"He rests from his labors, and his works do follow him."

Be it resolved, That in the death of Mr. Francis J. Pelzer, the Commissioners of the Charleston Orphan House have lost an associate, who, for nearly forty years, assisted faithfully in the management of an important trust, and a Chairman, conscientious and constant in the discharge of the duties of his office.

Resolved, That the example of thrift, industry and integrity which his life presents, is one worthy of imitation by the children of the Orphan House in whose welfare he was deeply interested.

Resolved, That a blank page in the Minute Book of the Board be suitably inscribed to his memory.

Resolved, That a copy of this tribute be sent by the Secretary to the widow and family of the deceased, with the assurance of the sympathy of the Commissioners in their bereavement.

Extract from Minutes of Meeting of Board of Commissioners, held May 4, 1916.

ST. JOHN P. KINLOCH, Secretary.

