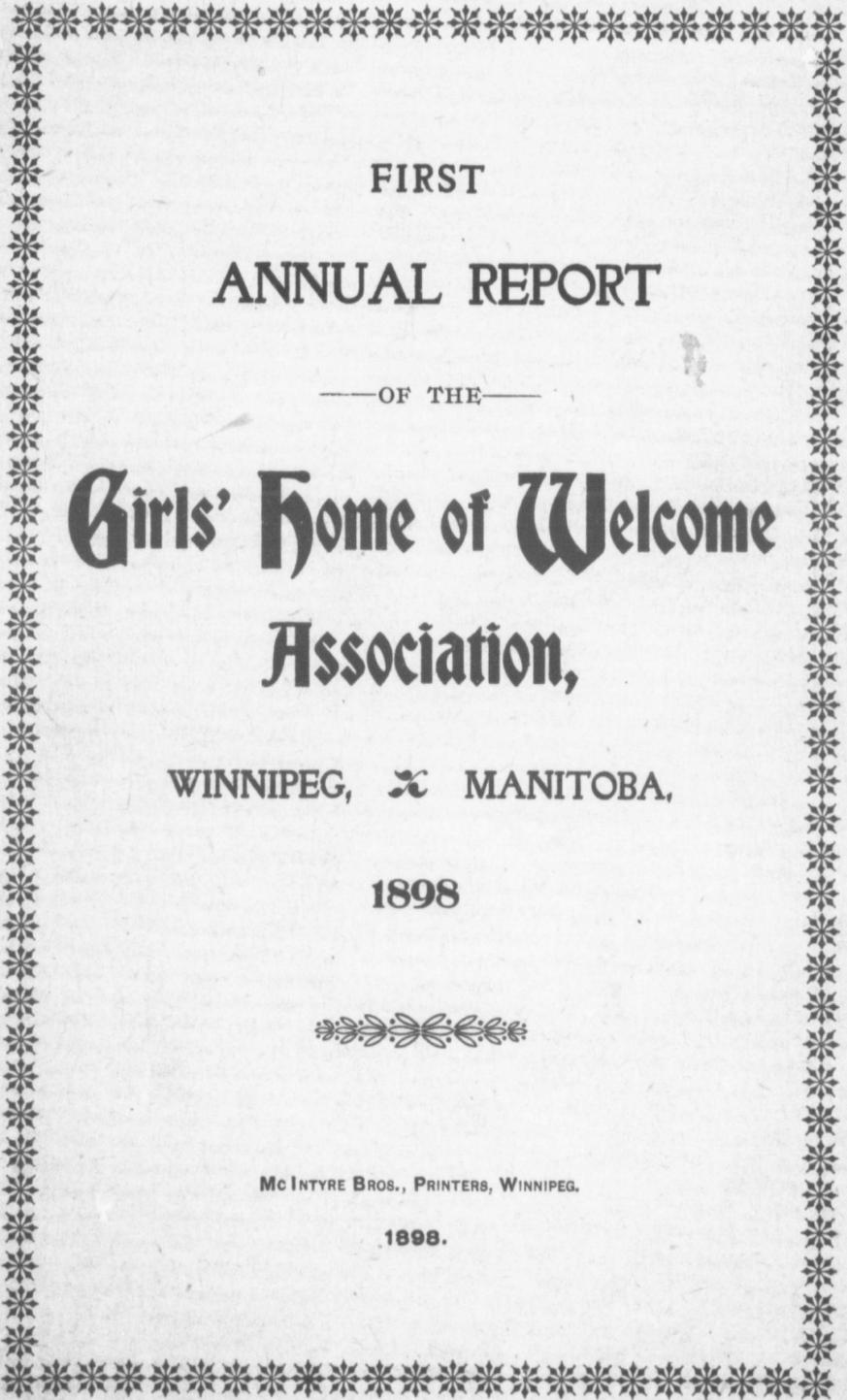


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FIRST  
ANNUAL REPORT  
— OF THE —  
**Girls' Home of Welcome  
Association,**  
WINNIPEG, & MANITOBA,  
1898



McINTYRE BROS., PRINTERS, WINNIPEG.

1898.

Canadian  
paraphrased

GIRLS HOME OF WELCOME ASS.  
WINNIPEG, MANITOBA.  
Annual report...

## Board of Management for 1897.

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

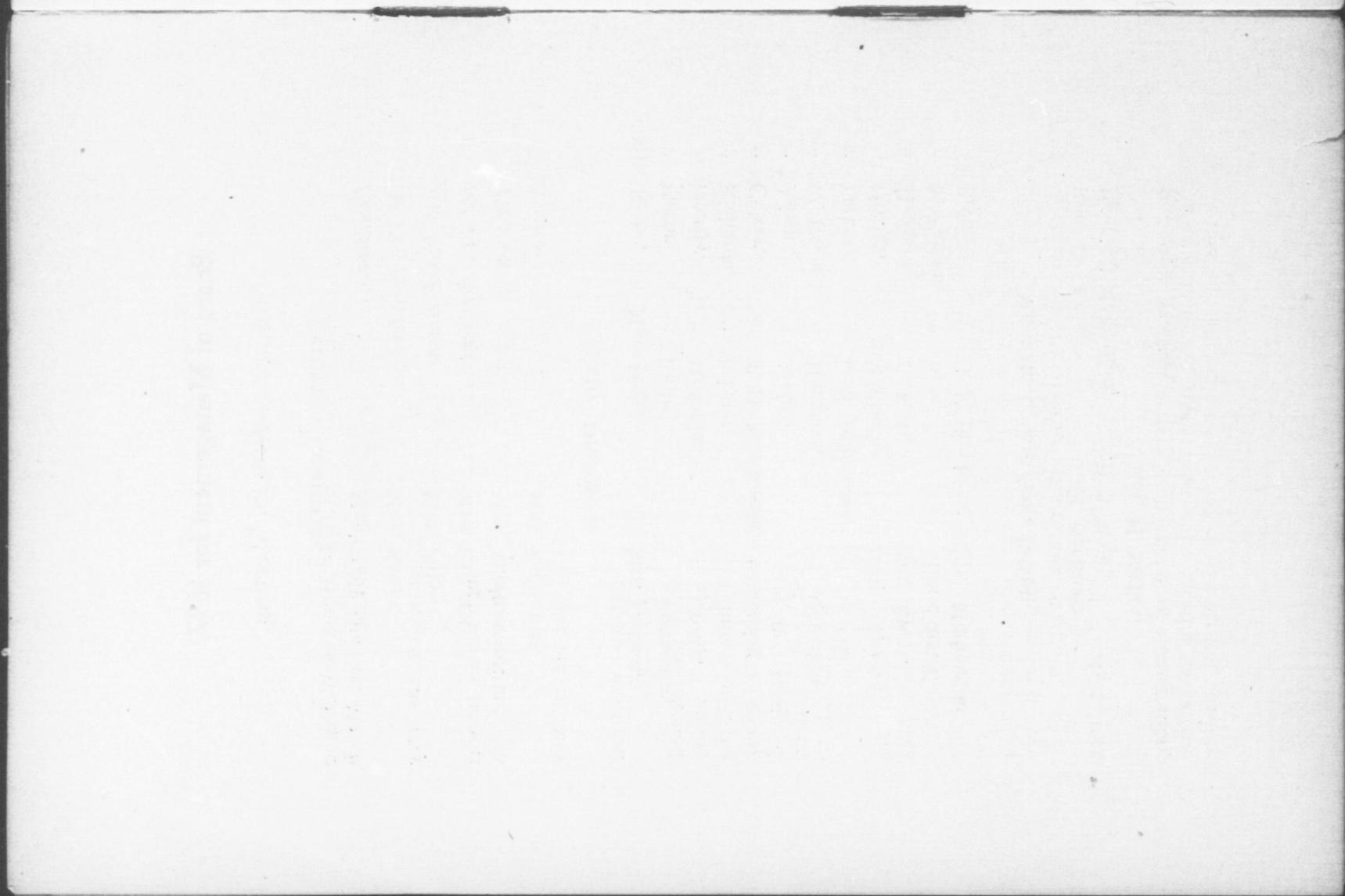
*President*.....MRS. PARKER.  
*1st Vice-President* .....MRS. KIRBY.  
*2nd Vice-President*.....MRS. ADAMS.  
*3rd Vice-President* .....MRS. CULVER.  
*Treasurer* .....MRS. MATHEWSON.  
*Secretary*.....MRS. RICHARDS.

### LADY DIRECTORS.

Mrs. Kirby,	Mrs. Hogg,	Mrs. J. Galt,
" Patton,	" Leslie,	" Borradaile,
" Drewry,	" McKellar,	" Crotty,
" Richards,	" Inkster,	" Bull,
" Culver,	" T. M. Macdonald,	" Gilroy,
" Adams,	" Aikins,	" J. W. Harris,
" W. Clark,	" Hargrave,	" Congdon,
" Parker,	" D. S. Johnstone,	" G. Galt,
" Huxley,	" MacBeth,	Lady Taylor,
" Haggart,	" T. Ross,	Mrs. Ewart,
" McFarlane,	" Bole,	Miss Forster,
" Bryce,	" G. F. Stephens,	Mrs. Mathewson.

### MEMBERS OF ADVISORY BOARD.

Rev. Dr. King,	J. H. Ashdown,
Principal McDermid,	R. J. Whitla,
T. Gilroy,	Rev. H. Pedley.
Rev. Chas. Gordon.	



## Minutes of Annual Meeting.

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The first annual meeting of the Girls' Home of Welcome was held in the Council Chamber of the City Hall on March 31st, 1898, at 3 p.m.

The attendance of both ladies and gentlemen was very good, and the meeting was most enthusiastic.

The Rev. Dr. King regretted that through illness he was unable to occupy the chair, but a very able substitute was found in Mr. J. H. Ashdown.

Archdeacon Fortin opened the meeting with prayer, and was followed by the Secretary's report.

The Treasurer's report came next in order, and was most satisfactory, proving that the Home was on a firm basis.

Miss Fowler followed with her report, which was listened to with intense interest and she was warmly applauded as she finished, showing that the people thoroughly appreciated the effort she was making to befriend the immigrant girl coming to this country. A hearty vote of thanks was then tendered Miss Fowler by the Rev. H. Pedley, seconded by Mrs. Culver, expressing the desire of the meeting to show their gratitude to her in coming here and starting a home.

The Secretary of the Advisory Board reported that the satisfactory condition of the Society and the excellent results attained during the first year justifies the belief that there is a still larger field for work of this kind. The members of the Advisory Committee have no hesitancy in approving of the project to give permanence to the Home by the erection of a building, at the same time pledging their sympathy and support in continuing the laudable work of this institution.

Mr. McDermid moved, seconded by Mr. T. Ryan, that this report be adopted.—Carried.

Moved by Mr. McCreary, Commissioner of Immigration, "that after hearing the report read, this meeting is of the opinion that it is advisable to proceed at the earliest possible

moment with the erection of a building to become the permanent home of the organization."

This motion was seconded by Rev. F. Baker.—Carried.

Moved by Mr. T. Ryan, seconded by Rev. Jos. Hogg, that the Board of Directors be re-elected.—Carried.

The following ladies were then chosen by the Board to form the Executive, and the following gentlemen to be on the Advisory Board :

#### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

President .....	Mrs. Parker.
1st Vice-President .....	Mrs. Adams.
2nd Vice-President .....	Mrs. Kirby.
3rd Vice-President .....	Mrs. Culver.
Secretary .....	Mrs. Richards.
Treasurer .....	Mrs. Crotty.

#### ADVISORY BOARD.

Rev. Dr. King, Messrs. J. H. Ashdown, McDermid, T. Ryan, Alex. MacDonald, Rev. H. Pedley, W. F. McCreary.

A vote of thanks was given to the chairman.



## Report of the Board of Management.

---

A year has passed since we held our first regular meeting in connection with the Girls' Home of Welcome.

You all know the object of the Home was primarily to establish a home for girls engaged in domestic service, or otherwise earning their livelihood, who immigrated to this country. But secondly, the Directors hope to widen their sphere of labour and make it a training school for domestics as well.

Of course the great obstacle in our way has been the difficulty in procuring suitable girls ; but as we become better known, we shall without doubt receive more encouragement in that line. The Home is conducted on a Christian basis, and is entirely non-sectarian. The membership of the Association consists of all those paying \$1.00 and upwards annually.

The government of the Association is in the hands of a Board of Directors and an Executive Committee.

The Board of Directors consists of 36 ladies, elected annually by members of the Association at its annual meeting, and is representative as far as possible of the various religious denominations of the community.

An Advisory Board of 7 gentlemen is elected by the Board of Directors at its first quarterly meeting to assist the ladies as may be necessary.

The formation of this Home owes its birth entirely to the great kindness of Miss Fowler, who, in addition to giving her valuable services, contributed \$500.00 for three years.

This first year's work has proved that this Home justifies its existence in providing a Home for girls, coming as strangers to the city. The supply has been far from adequate, but while the demand for servants continues so great in

Europe, it is hardly likely that we shall ever get them out here in the numbers required. We tried to bring out girls through Mr. Swanson, Swedish emigration agent, but were unable to work through him, as we did not feel ourselves in a position to stand security for the whole of the passage money as he desired.

As regards immigrants sent out directly to the care of this Association, it is hoped there will be a much larger influx this year than last. At the same time we cannot shut our eyes to the facts that the reduced fares on the railway and high wages are great inducements to the girls to go west.

This Home works in harmony with the Home of the National Emigration Society of Montreal, and from their last annual report we quote the following extract :

“ During the past year the Girls’ Home of Welcome, 272 Assiniboine Avenue, Winnipeg, has been established through the generosity of an English lady, for the purpose of providing safe and comfortable lodgings for young women passing through Winnipeg, as well as for those seeking employment in the city.

“ The committee have had great pleasure in meeting Miss Fowler, superintendent of the Home of Welcome, and hope that good results may come from their association with her in that part of their work, which concerns female emigration to the North-West.

“ The want of proper protection for girls in the newly settled parts of the country has long been felt by the Society, and they therefore look forward with the greatest satisfaction to Miss Fowler’s valuable co-operation with them. The Girls’ Home of Welcome is non-sectarian, and is worked on the same plan as the Women’s Protection Society of Montreal.”

Owing to the generosity of the H.B.Co., through Commissioner Chipman, giving us the house on Assiniboine Street free of rent, it made it possible to commence on a wider scale than could otherwise have been attempted. This house is

especially well adapted for the work, as it possesses ample room, without having that air of an institution so chilling to the heart of a stranger.

The Home can accommodate anywhere from 14 to 20 girls at a time. The rooms are all neatly furnished. Each immigrant girl seeking the protection of the Home is given board and lodging free of charge for 24 hours.

One change of office has unavoidably occurred during the year, that of Treasurer. The Board regretted that Mrs. Mathewson found it necessary to resign that position. A very able successor, however, has been found in Mrs. Crotty, who was unanimously elected by the Board in September.

There have been sixteen executive and five Board meetings held, showing that the past year has not been an idle one. In accordance with the Constitution, two ladies elected from the Board have visited the Home monthly and reported to the Executive at their monthly meetings.

Mrs. Wells, the first matron, went to Toronto for a holiday in August, and deciding not to return, was succeeded by Mrs. Crosse, the present matron. Both have given great satisfaction by their thrifty and wise management of the Home.

Unfortunately it was found necessary to leave the Home on Assiniboine Street for the winter months, as it was thought it would be more economical to heat a smaller house. Consequently a house on Carleton Street was rented for \$25 per month, which answered the needs of the Home for the time being. With the return of spring, the Home has removed back again to its old quarters on Assiniboine Street, and will be in readiness for the first arrival of immigrants, who are expected in a few weeks.

Circulars have been sent out respecting the Home, to Sweden, Scotland and England, and communication has also been held with the National Council of Women of Sweden. Leaflets have been printed and circulated through the provinces and stations, also notices put in all the papers throughout the country.

The Board acknowledges with gratitude a grant of \$500 from the Provincial Government, without which it would have been impossible to commence the work of the Home on so large a scale.

The hope is strongly entertained by the Board that before its next annual meeting this Home will be placed on a permanent basis, both on account of the growing need for such an institution in the city of Winnipeg, and also that Miss Fowler, before leaving the work may have some tangible result of her generous effort.

It was hoped by those in charge of the scheme that about the Home as a centre, other institutions would grow up, having as their object the intellectual, moral and social good of all the girls in the city earning their own living, as for instance: A school of Domestic Science, and classes for the instruction in other departments of knowledge. But it was felt that this further work should grow up naturally about the Home, and that the beginning should be made in a small way. Now that a young Women's Christian Association has been formed in the city, part of this work will probably be taken up by them.

The Advisory Board waited on the Hon. Mr. Sifton with a petition to reduce the inland rates, and also to further immigration by letting them have assistance from his agents in England and Scotland, and if possible to give the Association a travelling matron. He gave them great encouragement, and promised them assistance if possible.

The Home could have any number of girls if their passage could be prepaid, but with the exception of three or four cases the Board have always declined, feeling it was too much risk, as they knew nothing of the girls.

The Board desire to give thanks to the following ladies, for useful and valuable gifts to the Home. They are Mesdames Ewart, Galt, Kirkland, Douglas, Dwight and Miss Bain.

Also to the press of the city, and to Mr. Walsh for use of telephone; to Water Works Co., per Mr. Bissett; to Royal

Crown Soap Co., per Mr. Bull, for a generous supply of soap ; to Street Railway, per Mr. Somerset, for \$5 worth of tickets ; to Dr. Popham, for attendance in necessitous cases ; to Capt. Adams, for large stove ; to Mr. Douglas, for a bus on Sunday to bring immigrants from station, and to F. D. Robinson for half ton of coal.

The thanks of the ladies are also due to the hearty cooperation of the gentlemen on the Advisory Board who have always proved themselves ready to assist them with their advice and counsel.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

H. E. RICHARDS,

Secretary.



## Report of the Superintendent.

---

I should like to place the few remarks I shall make to-day under two heads :

1. Remarks applying to the general work of emigration in this country.

2. Remarks connected with the interior management of the Home.

1. Remarks connected with general work of emigration.

When first I came proposing to help start a Home here, it was not because Winnipeg had any special claim on my interest over and above any other city of Canada. Winnipeg was to me simply a city needing a reception home for immigrant girls similar to the Home of the National Emigration Society of Montreal, and I fixed to spend my money here, rather than in Regina, Calgary, Vancouver or Victoria, because it seemed to me these places ought to be provided with Girls' Homes in their order along the railway line. During the last winter, however, a Home similar to ours has been established at Vancouver, so that the National Immigration Society can now boast of three homes, one at either extremity, and one in the centre of the Dominion.

The secretary of the Home at Vancouver, Mrs. McKinnon, has been actively corresponding with England, and we cannot shut our eyes to the fact that the mild climate and reduced rates on the railway are now offering many inducements to girls to go west. Moreover the people of British Columbia are willing to employ lady helps, and those above all are the class of people who benefit themselves by coming out here. The trained domestic servant does not benefit herself in any way. The untrained rough girl does better herself, and if she be steady and honest one has no compunction in urging her to come. Such girls, however, exist in much greater numbers on the continent of Europe than in England and Scotland.

We place great hopes on the fact that the government have for the first time appointed a lady, Mrs. Livingstone, to go as their agent to the North of Scotland and bring out girls for the Manitoba farms. The government are going to advance the passages as loans.

The complaint is general that I have not been able to supply all applicants with servants. This complaint I feel very unreasonable, for I have never overstated or exaggerated the number of girls I expected to receive. Fifty or sixty per annum represents about the number of English speaking girls coming to Winnipeg from Europe. Some persons have even seemed to think that I make it my mission to supply all applicants with servants. Such an idea is far from my thoughts. The scarcity of domestic servants, and the unwillingness of all girls to enter service is one of the great features of the times, and this scarcity will continue till some social movement is introduced tending to make domestic service popular.

The demand for girls on the farms alone is very great. During the past year I have had to write 150 letters to farmers stating that I could not supply them with help. I do not often send girls on to farms, but considering to what an extent we are supported by the Provincial Government, I do try in a very small way to meet the demand which is continually coming to me from places outside of Winnipeg. Many of the girls that come out have borrowed loans equal to the whole of their passages from the circulating funds of English Emigration Societies. Such loans I have to collect, and when returned they are used in sending more girls out. It is unfair to speak positively from the experience of one year's work, but I have placed two girls owing large amounts on farms, and in both cases have got the money back without any difficulty whatever. It is much harder to get money out of girls placed in the city. This collecting of loans is a great trouble, but I feel it very important as it inspires the public at home with confidence in our methods and system.

I have had 170 inmates in the Home. Subjoined is a classified list. There is always a great rush for the girls on arrival, but I cannot remember more than one instance in which

a girl settled in the situation to which she first went. They never grow contented or happy for two or three months. As a rule, with two or three exceptions, I have had no reason to complain of the character of the girls sent out. Half the girls were sent out by the Hon. Mrs. Joyce, and her girls on the whole have been very satisfactory, though some have been rather inefficient. I have also received five little girls of about twelve from England. These little girls are under Government control until they attain their seventeenth birthday, and I send reports about them to the Minister of the Interior. They give me a good deal of trouble, but in the end I have always succeeded in finding good homes for them. The little orphan children who come up to me from Ontario, I am in no way responsible for, except during the night that they are with me.

This Home has not been much used by city girls, but girls coming in here from the country use it to a large extent. After all, the Home is primarily intended for strangers coming to the city, and its main objects would be much better served if we were in a building of our own close to the depot.

#### CLASSIFIED LIST OF INMATES.

Adult girls from Europe .....	55
Girls from Ontario .....	15
Girls coming into Winnipeg from country parts of Manitoba .....	36
Children from Ontario .....	7
Little Girls from England.....	5
Girls from the city.....	9
Pure Transients .....	43
Grand total.....	170

#### 2. I now speak of the internal arrangement of the Home.

In this context I must speak of the kindness I have received from the President and from my matrons. It is a well known fact that Mrs. Parker is a very busy woman, but for all that I have always found her ever ready to give me advice and assistance whenever I have gone to her in any

difficulty. Give me busy women to deal with—they alone attend to business promptly. My matrons have been most obliging in attending to the registry office when I have been out. No outsider can estimate to the full the multitudinous duties which have devolved on these women and I have often been lost in admiration at the patience and clearheadedness they have shown in meeting all requirements. In a house such as ours, which never shuts down and where girls are coming Sundays and week days alike, the strain is very great. I think we should have more assistance in the coming year. Many people in speaking of the Home seem to forget the fact that we are not exactly a charity, that the girls who come to us pay their board after the first 24 hours and that they could get board elsewhere at almost the same rate. Our charge of \$2.50 per week could be made to cover all expenses, except that of advertising, if we had a much larger number of inmates.

I see from the March number of the *Arena* that a great many Y. W. C. A. boarding houses in the States are self-supporting but they always have 25 to 40 regular inmates. My present aim is to cover housekeeping expenses and salaries out of fees. I do not aim at covering rent, fuel, advertising, etc.

During the emigration season we meet the train from the East—that in itself is a great work. Then there is the registry office, this gives us a great deal of trouble and we should always be able to place our immigrants without running a regular registry office.

We are exceedingly glad to be back in our old quarters on Assiniboine Avenue. They are far more suited to our needs than our small winter house.

On the whole I feel satisfied with the year's work. I was very touched by one servant girl in the city who for the last 8 months has contributed one dollar monthly to the Home.

I conclude by hoping that those who read this report will see their way to making some contribution towards our Building Fund.

O. L. FOWLER,  
Superintendent.

## Treasurer's Report.

From April 20th, 1897, to March 31st, 1898.

### RECEIPTS.

Provincial Government.....	\$500 00
Miss Fowler .....	500 00
Donations .....	207 17
Members' Fees .....	227 50
Boarders' Fees .....	510 80
Registry Office .....	78 45
Refund Passage Money.....	50 00
	\$2073 92

### DISBURSEMENTS.

Furniture .....	\$569 81
Wages .....	204 05
Housekeeping .....	383 74
Plumbing .....	45 96
Fuel .....	83 50
Moving Furniture and Telephone .....	17 35
Insurance .....	17 50
Stationery, Printing and Advertising .....	63 70
Rent .....	139 50
Advance of Passage Money and Commission.....	53 00
Woman's Council .....	2 00
Medical attendance for Matron .....	10 00
Deposit Credit Building Fund .....	400 00
Bank Balance.....	71 25
Water Rates .....	12 56
	\$2073 92

### BUILDING FUND ACCOUNT.

By Cheque from General Account .....	\$400 00
" Mrs. Fox .....	15 00
	\$415 00
To Balance Savings Bank Account .....	415 00
	\$415 00

Examined and found correct.

D. W. McDERMID.

C. J. CROTTY,  
Hon. Treas.

### Donations and Fees.

Gov't Grant . . . . .	\$500 00	Mr. J. L. Wells . . . . .	5 00
Miss Fowler . . . . .	500 00	Lady Taylor . . . . .	5 00
Prince Rupert's L'ge. . . . .	32 70	Mr. Parker . . . . .	5 00
Mr. J. H. Ashdown . . . . .	25 00	" J. H. Brock . . . . .	5 00
G. F. & J. Galt . . . . .	25 00	" Anderson . . . . .	5 00
Mr. M. Bull . . . . .	25 00	" Cameron . . . . .	5 00
Rev. Dr. King . . . . .	10 00	Rev. H. Pedley . . . . .	3 00
Hon. H. J. McDonald . . . . .	10 00	Per Dr. King . . . . .	2 00
Mr. G. R. Crowe . . . . .	10 00	Per Mr. Crotty . . . . .	1 00
" Jas. Redmond . . . . .	10 00	Sale picture donated . . . . .	1 50
" D. W. Bole . . . . .	10 00	Mr. Thos. Gilroy . . . . .	1 00
Mulcck & Robarts . . . . .	9 97	Rev. H. T. Leslie . . . . .	1 00

### Members' Fees, \$1.00 Each.

Mrs. Kirby, Mrs. Borradaile, Lady Taylor, Mrs. Culver, Mrs. Kirkland, Mrs. J. Galt, Mrs. F. H. Matthewson, Mrs. Richards, Mrs. H. Swinford, Mrs. Coombs, Mrs. Patton, Mrs. Godfrey Parker, Mrs. Thos. Gill, Mrs. Joseph Hogg, Mrs. John Hogg, Mrs. H. S. Crotty, Mrs. Bradshaw, Mrs. Hugh McKellar, Mrs. A. Atkinson, Mrs. M. Bull, Mrs. C. B. Pitblado, Mrs. D. W. McDermid, Mrs. Thos. Gilroy, Dr. Bryce, Rev. C. W. Gordon, Dr. Clark, Mr. —————, Mr. G. F. Stephens, Mrs. Duff, Mrs. McIntyre, Mrs. Hargrave, Mrs. McBride, Mrs. Dr. Jamieson, Mrs. H. McBain, Mrs. Howdon, Mrs. Reaman, Mrs. J. H. Fairchild, Mrs. H. E. Sharpe, Mrs. Blackhall, Mrs. Johnston, Mrs. D. S. Johnston, Mrs. Walker, Mrs. Dalton, Mrs. Hilton, Mr. W. A. McIntyre, Mrs. Dr. Hutton, Mr. A. W. Lawe, Mr. Beck, Mrs. Richardson, Mrs. Mitchell, Miss Millidge, Mrs. T. P. Brown, Rev. F. Hole, Mrs. G.F.R. Harris, Mrs. Agur, Mrs. Perdue, Mrs. Thos. Anderson, Mrs. G. Galt, Mrs. Howell, Mrs. Rowan, Mrs. Cornell, Mrs. Higginson, Mrs. Fortin, Mrs. Buley, Mrs. E. G. Bagshaw, Mrs. Richardson, Mrs. Bertram, Mrs. John Campbell, Mrs. Jackson, Mrs. R. Glass, Mrs. Wm. Harvey, Mrs. Metcalf, Mrs. J. Huxley, Mrs. Lightcap, Miss Foster, Lady Schultz,

Mrs. Adams, Mrs. Woodman, Mrs. J. Edmunds, Mrs. MacLaren, Mrs. Caldwell, Mrs. Popham, Mrs. D. K. Elliot, Mrs. J. B. Somerset, Mrs. R. Wyatt, Mrs. J. Robinson, Mrs. Sparling, Mrs. J. H. Chambers, Mrs. I. M. Ross, Mrs. G. J. Clint, Mrs. S. Aikins, Miss Morgan, Miss Norquay, Mrs. Dwight, Mrs. Leadley, Mrs. A. Leadley, Mrs. Campbell, Mrs. C. Peter, Mrs. A. Haggart, Miss DesBrisay, Mrs. A. Congdon, Mrs. W. Roberts, Mrs. T. Ross, Mrs. M. Clint, Mrs. Ewart, Mrs. Thompson, Rev. Canon Matheson, Prof. Kendrick, Mrs. E. L. Drewry, Mrs. A. Code, J. Machray, Mrs. E. McDonald, Mesdames Sheriff Inkster, Carsley, J. W. Harris, McFarlane, Mesdames Wilson, Judge Killam, Nichols, Lennon, Anderson, W. H. Thompson, Stewart Tupper, W. M. Fisher, Phillips, Brydges, Soames, W. Tupper, L. Peters, F. V. Baker, J. G. Moore, Dr. Codd, Beeston, Mr. J. D. Morton, D. B. Hanna, Dr. Montgomery, Dr. Gray, G. R. Crowe, C. M. Copeland, A. D. Mackay, R. J. Buchanan, I. Pitblado, J. B. Mitchell, R. C. Brown, W. G. Scott, T. A. Bell, C. N. Mitchell, W. M. Brydon, Messrs. Smith, Bain, Syme, Furner, Misses Baldwin, Menzies, Stevenson, Laidlaw, Mesdames Lambert, Archibald, J. Hart, Powis, Ball, Johnston, Wm Jackson, Curle, Griffin, Leslie, Steele, McKinnon, McArthur, Baird, McBeth, Chisholm, Drummond, Craig, Miss Halliday, Messrs. Mouat, McLean, McKenzie, A. McDonald, Kerr, Watt, J. W. McDonald, J. Thomson, Miss Thomson, Mr. McLeod, Miss McLeod, Messrs. J. M. McDonald, Mather, R. H. Bryce, McL. Holiday, Bathgate, Hespeler, Ben Gordon, Whyte, Crawford, Clark, Belch, Strathy, Fred Holland, H. P. Forrest, J. H. Oldfield, H. Leslie, Miss Stuart, Messrs. F. A. Fairchild, W. Robinson, G. V. Hastings.

Miss Chambers 50c., Mrs. Lowe 50c., Mrs. Leighton 50c., Mrs. Bell (collected) \$9, Mrs. McKellar \$2, Miss Willis \$2, Miss Jessie Bedson \$6.

