

INI/110.1/1899-1900

C.1

COLORADO STATE PUBLICATIONS LIBRARY  
GENERAL COLLECTION local  
RECORDS SECTION



3 1799 00012 6342

PROPERTY OF THE LIBRARY  
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO

THIRD BIENNIAL REPORT  
OF THE  
BOARD OF CONTROL  
OF  
THE  
COLORADO STATE HOME  
FOR DEPENDENT AND NEGLECTED  
CHILDREN

3233 Bert Street, Denver, Colorado

FROM DECEMBER 1, 1898  
TO . . DECEMBER 1, 1900



Denver, Colorado  
The Smith-Brooks Printing Co., State Printers  
1900

DOCUMENTS

5-H75C

1:900

PROPERTY OF THE LIBRARY  
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO



THIRD BIENNIAL REPORT  
OF THE  
BOARD OF CONTROL  
OF  
THE  
COLORADO STATE HOME  
FOR DEPENDENT AND NEGLECTED  
CHILDREN

3233 Bert Street, Denver, Colorado

FROM DECEMBER 1, 1898  
TO . . DECEMBER 1, 1900



Denver, Colorado  
The Smith-Brooks Printing Co., State Printers  
1900

## LOCATION.

---

3233 BERT STREET, DENVER, COLORADO.  
Telephone 1048.

---

The Home is situated at the corner of West Thirty-second avenue and Bert street, North Denver. Take a Goss street car, get off at West Thirty-second avenue and walk one block west.

---

## FACTS

### CONCERNING THE STATE HOME FOR DEPENDENT AND NEGLECTED CHILDREN.

---

This is the only state institution for the care of the dependent, neglected and maltreated children of Colorado.

It is supported by state appropriations.

No church collections are solicited.

No county or individual contributions received.

The members of the board of control serve without compensation.

"The said board are hereby made the legal guardians of the persons and estates of all children admitted to said Home pursuant to law; which guardianship shall continue during the minority of such children, except in the cases where, under this act, the guardianship may be canceled by resolution adopted by said board." (From section 5 of chapter 26, Session Laws, 1895.)

The state agent receives no commission on children received or those placed in private homes.

Parents are not encouraged to part with their children.

It is not the aim to make institutional children.

There is a number of desirable children now in the Home to be placed in good families upon adoption or indenture.

The state does not pay the court and other expenses for adoption or indenture papers.

The children are all committed by the county courts of the various counties of the state.

The county pays the court costs and the expense of transportation for the children to the Home.

The state pays all expense for sustenance, clothing and education.

For placing a child no remuneration is required of the counties or individuals who are charitably disposed.

According to chapter 26, Session Laws of 1895, all children free from chronic or contagious disease, who are dependent upon the public for support, and all those who are neglected, maltreated, or in evil environments, are eligible; and it is unlawful to do other than commit all such to the State Home.

Before contributing to the support of private societies and institutions, ascertain how many of their children may be classed as above.

Inasmuch as the state has undertaken the care of all dependent and neglected children, is it not the duty of all loyal citizens to give the institution their moral support?

The proper care of the children of the present generation insures vacant cells in the penitentiary in the future.



BOARD OF CONTROL.

---

LOUISA ARKINS.

TYSON S. DINES.

LUCY M. HUGHES.

SARAH L. CURTIS, *President.*

DORA E. REYNOLDS, *Secretary.*

H. W. COWAN, *Superintendent.*



LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL .

---

Office of the State Home for  
Dependent and Neglected Children,

December 1, 1900.

TO HIS EXCELLENCY,

CHARLES S. THOMAS,

GOVERNOR OF COLORADO.

Sir—We have the honor to transmit to you the third biennial report of the superintendent of the State Home for Dependent and Neglected Children, covering the two fiscal years ending respectively November 30, 1899, and November 30, 1900.

SARAH L. CURTIS,

President.

THE THIRD BIENNIAL REPORT  
OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF THE  
COLORADO STATE HOME FOR DEPENDENT  
AND NEGLECTED CHILDREN  
TO  
THE BOARD OF CONTROL.

I take pleasure in submitting to you a report of the operations of the Home during the biennial period ending November 30, 1900.

Much as has been done for the children in the present location of the Home, it is very little compared to the good that could be done were the surroundings such as we desire. Idle boys are bad boys. Give a boy congenial work, and plenty of it, and he will eventually develop into a good citizen. Idleness breeds crime, and the salvation of the present generation insures vacant cells in the penitentiary in the future; therefore, our only safety lies in keeping our boys and girls employed. This must be done during their temporary stay in the Home as well as after they are placed in private families.

The young, taken from evil environments, and placed in the Home, where habits of honesty, cleanliness and right living are taught, and where great care is taken in the employment of suitable attendants, so that every influence is for good, are soon greatly changed in looks and manners. The hopeless, vicious look changes to one of hopeful contentment. In a short time the majority of the children who come to us have so improved as to be desirable for private homes. The certainty of securing a good home in a private family just as soon as they are ready for it arouses a boy's or girl's ambition and causes them to put forth their best efforts to overcome their bad habits and make themselves worthy of confidence.

## HEALTH.

During the biennial period we have had epidemics of mumps, measles and diphtheria; besides one case of appendicitis, one of marasmus, two of cholera infantum, and two of organic heart trouble. The fatalities from the above diseases number nine.

The surgeon of our staff successfully removed a bone tumor from the arm of one of the older girls. Three broken arms, due to carelessness on turning pole and swing, and an injured eye, complete the list of sickness and accident. Artesian water is used for all purposes, and the health of the children is benefited thereby.

Our medical staff has served us faithfully and well without remuneration.

## VISITING STAFF.

E. R. Axtell, M. D., serving January, February, March.

Laura L. Liebhardt, M. D., serving April, May, June.

H. B. Whitney, M. D., serving July, August, September.

T. E. Taylor, M. D., serving October, November, December.

Upon the death of Dr. Axtell, in January, 1900, Dr. H. W. Rover was appointed to fill the vacancy.

## CONSULTING STAFF.

E. C. Rivers, M. D., ophthalmology.

W. C. Bane, M. D., laryngology.

C. A. Powers, M. D., general surgery.

H. T. Pershing, M. D., neurology.

G. B. Packard, M. D., orthopedic surgery.

Henry Sewall, M. D., sanitation.

## SCHOOL.

On January 2, 1899, a school was established in the Home. This was made necessary on account of the quarantine law compelling every child to remain away from public school when a case of contagious disease occurred in the Home. This deprived the children of the education due them, as 50 per cent. of the time each year was spent in quarantine.

Through the courtesy of the superintendent of district No. 17, school furniture and books were loaned us. The school opened with forty pupils and one teacher. In a short time the room became so crowded that a second room was prepared and the school divided and another teacher employed. Because of former irregular school attendance many of the children need careful, personal supervision. A mastery of any work undertaken is desired, rather than an attempt to cover a certain course in a given time. Pupils have been advanced whenever prepared for new work. We have endeavored to follow as closely as possible the state course of study, in order that our children may be transferred to any school in the state with the least possible embarrassment.

We regret very much our utter lack of facilities for giving these boys and girls industrial training which will be of service to them after they leave the institution.

#### RELIGIOUS TRAINING.

The religious training is Christianity, pure and simple—no denominationalism. Sabbath school, in which the international lessons are used, is held in the school room every Sabbath at 9:15 a. m. The teachers are faithful workers from the various churches in the vicinity. Immediately after the Sabbath school the children are permitted to attend services in one of these churches. In the afternoon services are held in the school room, and a pastor or Christian business man of the city gives a short address. The remainder of the day is spent in walking, reading and singing. In the evening the older boys and girls are often permitted to go unattended to the church of their choice. Each night and morning prayers are offered and at the table grace is said in concert.

#### SEWING DEPARTMENT.

In the sewing department during the past year an account has been kept of all articles made both by the seamstress and the girls. The constant placing out of children who are given one complete change of clothing, and the reception of new ones who usually bring nothing with them fit to wear, necessarily makes the work in sewing heavier than it would be otherwise. A list is here given of the number of articles made by the seamstress: Calico dresses, 65; wool and dimity dresses, 50; aprons, 23; night dresses, 85; boys'

shirts, 110; boys' waists, 20; pillow cases, 8½ dozens, and sheets, 12 dozens. Two days in each week are spent in repairing and mending, in which the girls assist.

Great progress has been made in sewing, although the results are not as apparent as they would be were the members of the classes permanent. Some are placed in private homes just as they have begun to do nice work, and their places taken by others who can scarcely thread a needle. The girls almost without exception are fond of sewing, especially on the machine, and have made a number of articles of clothing for themselves and the younger children. The following is a summary of their work: Wool dresses, 4; calico dresses, 22; aprons, 24; night dresses, 36; boys' shirts, 5; girls' skirts, 12; bloomers, 10 pairs; hemstitching—dresser scarfs, 4; com-mode scarfs, 6; handkerchiefs, 11.

The girls are making rapid progress with hand sewing, and their models are kept in books ordered for the purpose. They are divided into two classes, according to their ages, and each sews for an hour in the evening after school, twice a week. One evening in each week is devoted to darning. Some of the older girls have taken up embroidery and are doing well.

#### STATE AGENCY.

One of the most important branches of our work is the frequent visits made to the children in private homes by the superintendent or state agent. The children are encouraged, the family life is better known, and better treatment is insured through these visits. Too much time and money can scarcely be spent in this line. It gives us an opportunity to keep in direct touch with the children, and when occasion requires we can remove the child from a home which has proven unsatisfactory.

The state agency work and expense increase each year in proportion to the number of applications received and the number of children placed in private homes. In addition to the visiting of children, the homes of a large number of applicants have been visited with the view of making personal investigation and observation as to the environments, habits and character. This is a safeguard against indiscriminate placing of children, and before the board of control is asked to act upon an application, the visit is made and reported upon.

Special effort has been made to call upon the county judges and commissioners, county visitors and the ministers, for the purpose of making known to each of them our work.

## QUOTATIONS.

The following are quotations from some of the letters we receive:

"Our baby is a baby no longer; he is all boy, and a *boy* in every sense of the word. He is a hard child to manage, but so bright and lovable. He is the pride of our hearts, and I think we love him as nearly as possible as one of our own."

"She is a good girl; I find her truthful and honest and easy of controlling."

"He isn't a baby any more, but a genuine boy. He whistles and spits alternately, and we think it quite amusing, indeed. He is so bright, and he can hardly become reconciled to staying away from school."

"She is very observing; nothing whatever seems to escape her eye. Ours is certainly a comfort to us. There is only one thing that would take her from us and that is death."

"We are attached to him just as though he were our own child."

"She is the finest, prettiest and smartest two-year-old child I ever saw, and every one is of the same opinion."

These are a few of the many encouraging statements in letters we have received during the last two years; but we cannot expect the whole number to be so pleasing. A very few of the nature of the following are received:

"Some boys coaxed him to run away, and he did not come back until Monday night; his greatest fault is in being too easily led, but he will do better in the future."

"He is now going to school, but says he does not like it as he has to keep so still, but he likes his teacher."

"She is getting much better than she used to be, and we are beginning to think we shall be able to get along now, but it has been a hard job for Mrs. ——."

"Very recently he has been quite stubborn and insists upon having his own way, is inclined to be untruthful, and there is a general complaint at school of children losing their lead pencils and I find —— has stored away a dozen and a half."

## NO SOLICITING.

As the Home is supported by appropriations made by the state legislature, we receive money from no other source and do not ask for church collections, individual or county contributions.

The appropriations are paid from the state treasury into which a portion of the taxes of the good people of Colorado is paid. We have no agents soliciting funds. Many individuals have given of their means to private homes and societies under the impression that it was to help support the State Home. Ministers over the state say they are constantly annoyed by private solicitors asking for the use of their pulpits at the hour of morning or evening service, that they may present the cause of some private children's home or society and ask for aid. This is an imposition, and contributors should first ascertain if their cause has not already been provided for by the state.

According to chapter 26, Session Laws of 1895, all children, free from chronic or contagious disease, who are dependent upon the public for support, and all those who are neglected, maltreated, or in evil environments, are eligible; and it is unlawful to do other than commit all such to the State Home. Therefore the payment of \$25.00 to \$50.00 by county commissioners for each child taken off their hands by individuals and societies is illegal. This "child traffic" in which an unfortunate girl is asked to pay \$25.00 to be permanently relieved of the custody of her illegitimate offspring is wholly unnecessary.

The societies engaged in this traffic are increasing and this means that those employed in it are gaining a livelihood thereby and it is becoming easier for parents, by the payment of a stipulated sum of money, to be wholly released from all custody of their children. The illegitimate child is readily taken, the guilty parents are freed from punishment because, without court proceedings, the private societies will take the child and thus put a premium on immorality. If it were not for these private children's homes and societies many of the children which have passed through their hands would to-day be in the custody of their own parents.

We do not encourage the separation of families. A child suffers an irreparable loss in being separated from a loving parent. The expenditure of money and the best of care does

not suffice. The natural craving for father and mother is always present. The father who has so lost his manhood as to desert his family of little children or the mother who forgets her little ones, in her love for strong drink or bad company, thus throwing the care of these tender little lives upon the public, should be, and are, brought into court and before judge and witnesses made to state good and sufficient reasons why they should not support their offspring. This is a wise provision of the law and the judge is often able to detect an effort on the part of the parent to shirk the responsibility and throw the care of their children upon the state. When this is the case the parent receives a just reprimand and is compelled to care for his own children. No child is committed to the State Home until the parent is found, if possible, and the case has been thoroughly investigated by the county court.

#### IMPROVEMENTS.

The library, consisting of a few choice books, has been purchased. The Youths' Companion and other periodicals have been subscribed for. This expense has already been compensated for by the genuine interest and pleasure manifested by the boys in the books and papers. The girls show less inclination to read, but we hope this taste will be cultivated to a greater extent during the coming year. We are sadly in need of a room for library purposes where those who so desire may read and study, undisturbed.

The outside improvements have added much to the comfort and pleasure of the children. The girls have a neat playhouse, 14x14 feet, and the boys' playhouse has been repaired and re-painted. The new poultry house and pen, containing three and one-half dozen chickens and a number of pigeons, have awakened a new interest among the boys.

Every summer plants and flower seeds have been purchased and all the available ground, which is little, utilized.

#### NECESSITIES.

This Home has been established since March, 1896. A remodeled church building was rented for temporary quarters and the Home opened with less than twenty children. Five years have passed and we are still in the same building, with an average daily attendance of eighty. We wish to especially emphasize the importance of teaching the boys



and girls habits of industry. For various reasons it is difficult to find good private homes for some of the older ones; these should have employment other than house work; this we can not, in our present quarters, give them. A hundred acres of land would give us the opportunity of teaching them farming, gardening, fruit cultivation, stock and poultry raising. They would thereby gain a knowledge of these industries which would enable them to become self-supporting in after life. The products of the farm would greatly reduce our living expenses. We can not have a garden, so all of our vegetables must be purchased daily at the market price, also the supply of eggs and poultry. Our milk bill is now \$78.00 per month; this expense could be saved by keeping our own cows. We have no ground except a small lawn. The children play on adjoining lots belonging to another property owner who has demanded a rental of \$260 per year for their use. We are paying \$80.00 per month for the building and \$30.00 per month for additional rooms. This expense will necessarily increase with the growing needs of the institution. We expend annually for rent, vegetables, milk, eggs and poultry an amount equal to 5 per cent. of the estimated cost of land and buildings. Having sixty boys, we need two cottages in order to make a proper division, separating the larger from the smaller. Another cottage is greatly needed for the girls; they have no playroom, no lockers, and have an inadequate bath and toilet room.

Eighty-three of the children are of school age. Since the establishment of our school, in 1899, the number so increased that one room was not sufficient; we were obliged to divide the school, and, for want of a better place, took the only playroom and fitted it with movable chairs and benches. These rooms are entirely too small and are in the basement, where both light and ventilation are very poor.

The size of our detention room is 8x15 feet, and when a case of contagious disease occurs we find it almost impossible to prevent it from sweeping through the whole household. A hospital building is imperative. We are compelled to have all the laundry work done in one small room, 10x11 feet, in the basement; this is not only inconvenient, but unsanitary. We need a separate building for this department, with modern steam appliances, both for washing and drying clothes. The dining room and kitchen are wholly insufficient. The bath and toilet rooms are inadequate. We have no playrooms or reading rooms and no storage room for supplies.

The furnace does not supply heat enough for the whole building, which necessitates the use of a number of oil and coal stoves, causing our fire risk to be more hazardous.

To place our institution upon a proper living basis and bring it up to standard, it is necessary to have land for farm and garden purposes and buildings sufficient in number and size to accommodate the needs of the dependent children. An approximate estimate is here given:

Land .....	\$10,000.00
Two boys' cottages.....	20,000.00
One girls' cottage.....	10,000.00
School house .....	5,000.00
Hospital .....	5,000.00
Boiler house and laundry.....	5,000.00
Steam heating apparatus.....	3,000.00
Electric light.....	2,000.00
Superintendent's cottage and administration building.....	5,000.00
 Total .....	 \$65,000.00
Maintenance .....	35,000.00

DISBURSEMENTS FOR THE BIENNIAL PERIOD.

	1890.	1900.	Total.
Light .....	\$ 129.65	\$ 141.35	\$ 271.00
Fuel .....	496.00	222.76	718.76
Rent .....	668.00	1,010.07	1,678.07
Salaries .....	3,339.64	4,047.39	7,387.03
Clothing .....	1,847.08	2,482.34	4,329.42
Provisions .....	3,482.12	2,903.76	6,385.88
Furniture and household furnishings.....	1,905.36	1,324.78	3,230.14
Repairs and improvements.....	802.57	497.21	1,299.78
State agency.....	192.85	405.92	598.77
Water .....	201.42	93.60	295.02
Telephone .....	130.00	120.00	250.00
Stationery and printing.....	105.25	112.81	218.06
Drugs and instruments.....	251.44	327.67	579.11
Undertaker .....	20.00	47.00	67.00
Laundry .....	233.03	35.97	269.00
Insurance .....	42.40	7.50	49.90
Ice .....	49.18	76.90	126.08

	1899.	1900.	Total.
Incidentals .....	505.26	554.82	1,060.08
Drayage .....	10.45	14.15	24.60
School supplies .....	158.32	386.32	544.64
Postage .....	24.45	47.44	71.89
Advertising .....		64.56	64.56
Library .....	155.70	75.68	231.38
Total .....	\$14,750.17	\$15,000.00	\$29,750.17

Our appropriations for the period were \$30,000.00 for maintenance and \$30,000.00 for land and buildings. None of the latter was available.

The following table will show the work of the two years respectively:

	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Total enrollment of 1899.....	19	15	34
Total enrollment of 1900.....	30	24	54
Enrollment under 6 years of age, 1899.....	2	2	4
Enrollment under 6 years of age, 1900.....	2	7	9
Enrollment under 6 months of age, 1899.....	0	3	3
Enrollment under 6 months of age, 1900.....	5	2	7
Number adopted, 1899.....	5	6	11
Number adopted, 1900.....	5	5	10
Number indentured, 1899.....	4	5	9
Number indentured, 1900.....	10	10	20
Number of children now on trial.....	6	11	17
Returned to parents, 1899.....	0	1	1
Returned to parents, 1900.....	1	0	1
Returned to counties, 1899.....	0	1	1
Returned to counties, 1900.....	1	0	1
Ran away from private homes, 1899.....	1	0	1
Ran away from private homes, 1900.....	2	0	2
Ran away from institution, 1899.....	5	0	5
Ran away from institution, 1900.....	1	0	1
Died in institution, 1899.....	0	1	1
Died in institution, 1900.....	0	2	2
Died in other institution, 1899.....	1	0	1
Died in other institution, 1900.....	1	2	3
Died in private homes, 1899.....	0	1	1
Died in private homes, 1900.....	1	0	1

	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Present November 30, 1899.....	47	26	73
Present November 30, 1900.....	62	28	90
Average age those received in 1899.....	10 yrs.	7 yrs.	8½ yrs.
Average age those received in 1900.....	7½ yrs.	8 yrs.	7¾ yrs.
Average age those in home November 30, 1899.....	10 yrs.	10 yrs.	10 yrs.
Average age those in home November 30, 1900.....	10 yrs.	10¼ yrs.	10-13 yrs.
Average daily attendance, 1899.....	43	24	67
Average daily attendance, 1900.....	52	28	80
Average age those adopted, 1899.....	1½ yrs.	4 yrs.	2¾ yrs.
Average age those adopted, 1900.....	11 yrs.	5 yrs.	8 yrs.
Average age those indentured, 1899.....	12 yrs.	11 yrs.	11½ yrs.
Average age those indentured, 1900.....	12½ yrs.	12½ yrs.	12½ yrs.

Combined statistics for the two fiscal years are as follows:

	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Total number enrolled.....	49	39	88
Number enrolled under six years of age.....	4	9	13
Number enrolled under six months of age.....	5	5	10
Total nursery enrollment.....	9	14	23
Number adopted .....	10	11	21
Number indentured .....	14	15	29
Number now on trial.....	6	11	17
Number returned to parents.....	1	1	2
Number returned to counties.....	1	1	2
Number ran away from institution.....	6	0	6
Number ran away from private homes.....	3	0	3
Number who died .....	3	6	9
Average age those received .....	8¾ yrs.	7½ yrs.	8 yrs.
Average age those present November 30, 1900.....	10 yrs.	10¼ yrs.	10-13 yrs.
Average daily attendance .....	48	26	74
Average age those adopted.....	6½ yrs.	4½ yrs.	5½ yrs.
Average age those indentured.....	12¼ yrs.	11¾ yrs.	12 yrs.

The following tabulated statement will show the number of children received from and placed in the various counties:

COUNTIES.	RECEIVED.				PLACED.			
	1899.		1900.		1899.		1900.	
	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.
Arapahoe .....	11	10	15	13	2	6	2	..
Boulder .....	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	1
Conejos .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Eagle .....	1	1	..	..	1	1	..	..
El Paso.....	..	..	2	..	..	..	1	2
Elbert .....	..	..	..	..	2	..	3	..
Fremont .....	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..
Gunnison .....	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1
Garfield .....	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	1
Jefferson .....	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1
Kit Carson.....	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..
La Plata.....	2	1	..	1	1	..	..	..
Larimer .....	..	..	2	..	..	..	2	..
Las Animas.....	..	..	1	3	..	..	..	1
Lake .....	4	2	1	..	..	..	..	..
Morgan .....	..	..	..	..	..	1	2	1
Montrose .....	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
Mineral .....	..	..	..	3	..	..	..	..
Otero .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
Pueblo .....	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	1
Pitkin .....	..	..	2	2	..	..	..	..
Rio Grande.....	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..
San Miguel.....	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
Teller .....	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	1
Weid .....	..	..	1	..	1	..	2	2
Yuma .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Total .....	19	15	30	24	9	11	15	15



## INVITATION.

We greatly desire to make many new friends for the institution during the coming years. We have put forth every effort to this end in the past with good results, but there are many citizens of the state who do not know of our Home, its plans, methods of work, and its needs. We extend a cordial invitation to the citizens of the state to visit the Home any day of the week except Sunday, to see what Colorado is doing for her dependent children. Visitors will receive a hearty welcome and be shown over the building and allowed the privilege of asking as many questions as they please. We especially desire visits from all state, county and municipal officers, ministers, priests, and teachers. Come and see what is being done; tell others of it, and give us moral support.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

I thank the members of the board of control for their kindly personal interest, helpful suggestions, and unanimous support.

We gratefully acknowledge the courteous attention and kindness of our medical staff.

We appreciate the kindness of the ministers, Sabbath school teachers and Christian workers who have shown their interest in the children by their faithful work.

We would not forget the business firms, societies, and individuals who have, by various gifts and invitations, added greatly to the happiness of the children.

We wish to thank the humane societies, all state, county and city officials for their kindly interest and assistance.

Respectfully submitted,

H. W. COWAN,  
Superintendent.

APPENDIX.



## APPENDIX.

### TO THE PUBLIC.

There are homes of various descriptions in Colorado, founded and maintained for the purpose of taking and caring for the children of parents who must labor for their daily bread and are not able to keep them under their care while performing their duties. There are those who are orphans who have friends or relatives willing and financially able to support them in some good charitable institution; there are children whose parents have so completely lost control of them that they seek the aid of some children's home to discipline them before too late. The State Home for Dependent and Neglected Children has another field of labor, that of giving a temporary home to those who are dependent upon the public for support, those who are maltreated, and those who are in environments of vice. All such are eligible and under the state law should be committed by the county court of the county in which they are living. Very often parents or relatives come to us with their children, expecting to place them in the institution and pay their board, and occasionally a parent or relative asks the privilege of placing a boy with us on account of having lost control of the child.

This is by no means a prison, reformatory or boarding school, but a home, and in every way possible we endeavor to have our children realize the fact. In a short time many of them become desirable for private homes, into which we place them on adoption or indenture.

#### HOW TO HAVE CHILDREN COMMITTED.

It is the duty of the county commissioners to petition the county judge of their county to give an order of admission for any child under sixteen years of age who is adjudged dependent on the public for support, or who is neglected or maltreated, or whose environments are such as to warrant

the state assuming guardianship of said child, and is sound in mind and body. The citizens of a certain portion of a county may know of cases which are wholly unknown to the commissioners; it is their duty to inform these officials, to see that the children are brought before them that an investigation may be made. After the case is presented to the board of county commissioners, at least two of their number should sign the petition to the county judge, who will hear the case pursuant to citation. If the judge commits the child to the Home, it must be examined by the county physician, who shall certify in writing under oath that the child examined by him is of sound mind and has no chronic or contagious disease, and has not been exposed to any contagious disease within fifteen days previous to such examination. A certified copy of this certificate, with a certified copy of the order for admission, *must* accompany the child when brought to the Home.

Parents, guardians or relatives who are giving up their children should fully understand that as soon as they are committed to the State Home for Dependent Children, they forfeit all rights over, or to, the custody or service, or earnings of each child, and that they are released from all parental duty. Friends of the parents should see that this portion of the law is explained. In all communities the humane officers will gladly help in rescuing a child from drunken parents and environments of vice.

#### TO APPLICANTS.

We do not wish our children placed out to be raised in idleness, but we want them placed in good homes where they will receive a mother's love and a father's tender care, and be taught habits of industry and self-reliance. Many people have a desire to secure a child to do the work of a man or a woman, and thereby save the expense of paying a servant a salary, and the board has to continually contend with just such applicants. When you have decided to take a child, visit the Home, if possible, that you may select for yourself, the child you wish, but do not expect to take it with you. You will be furnished an application blank, which must be properly filled out, signed by husband and wife. The signatures and addresses of two taxpayers, other than relatives, are also necessary as references. After securing the necessary signatures, return the application to the home, and as

soon thereafter as possible the superintendent will visit your home and make such investigations as are necessary to satisfy the management of your capability for raising and educating a child. The personal investigation has proven to be the only safe way of deciding the fitness of a home for a child, and even with this precaution there are mistakes made. The destiny of the child depends upon the home selected for it, and the members of the board of control keenly feel the responsibility devolving upon them and take the greatest care in making their selections.

At the first meeting of the board after the visit by the superintendent, the application is presented for their consideration, and they approve or disapprove as they see fit. It is their intention to send a child into a home that is mutually suitable, considering intelligence, disposition, modes of living, environments, personal habits, appearance, and all conditions which tend to affect the future of a child. Upon the approval of the board the superintendent takes the child to your home at the expense of the state. It is allowed to remain sixty days on trial, during which, or at the expiration of which time, if not satisfactory, you may return it to the home at your expense, and another may be given a trial. When satisfied with the child it is necessary, at your own expense, to secure adoption or indenture papers and furnish us with a certified copy of the same. The blanks for each will be furnished by the superintendent. A copy of these contracts may be found in this appendix.

If the applicant can not visit the home a child will be very carefully selected by the board and superintendent, who will give such information regarding its history and that of its parents as they may possess. These selections have been, with a few exceptions, perfectly satisfactory. After knowing the character of the family home and having the thorough acquaintance of our children, the management is well qualified to fit the child to the home and the home to the child. We earnestly request a notice of any removals or changes in address of foster parents. The object in establishing this home was to care for and educate the children whose parents could not or would not, and in so doing, make good citizens for the state of Colorado, and under her laws only are we permitted to make adoptions. For these reasons we are compelled to disapprove applications received from neighboring states.

## TO THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS.

We hope every county commissioner, incumbent or elect, may receive a copy of this report, and that he may become so familiar with its contents as to be deeply interested in the children who should be placed here, and in assisting us in securing good family homes for those already in the home. Read chapter 26 of the Session Laws of 1895, and especially sections 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15 and 16; also parts first, second and third of section 7. From this it is very evident that you have a prominent part to perform in looking after the welfare of the children who are neglected, maltreated, and in environments of vice, as well as those who are dependent on the public for support.

The dependent ones are by no means the dangerous ones, but the greatest danger is in those who are surrounded by vice of every description and those who are so abused as to become firm in the belief that every man is his enemy, and therefore always on the defensive. As long as these children are permitted to remain in such circumstances, crime of the lowest degree will be propagated from year to year. It is therefore due to this commonwealth that all officers and citizens who in any manner have to do with child saving, be diligent in the performance of their duties, and by so doing advance the greatest remedy for crime. No fee is charged by the state for any child committed. The only expense to the county is that of transportation and court costs.

The children must be brought to us accompanied by a certified copy of the order of admission and the county physician's certificate. The county sending is then fully released from all care and expense unless the child should have to be returned to the county for reasons stated in parts first, second and third of section 7, chapter 26, Session Laws of 1895.

## TO THE COUNTY VISITORS.

No doubt there are those of your number who are not aware that in section 15, chapter 26, of the Session Laws of 1895, there is a provision made whereby you may be asked to visit a child which has been placed in your county by the management of the home. You may think this is asking a great deal, and in some cases it is, but you are not asked to make a visit to relieve some one else of his duty or for the

purpose of relieving the superintendent. The visit is for the good of the child, and it was certainly in the mind of the legislature to use every means practicable in securing information regarding the treatment of our children during the life of the indenture contract. Residents of the county can have a better opportunity of gaining the acquaintance and learning the reputation of the foster parents than those who reside in other parts of the state.

You can also greatly assist the county commissioners and humane society by bringing before them children who are dependent, neglected, maltreated or in evil environments, and who should be committed to our care. We will greatly appreciate any effort you may make to bring this home to the notice of any one desiring a child, and thus putting us in touch with them by a visit or correspondence. It is our aim to place all of our desirable children in the best homes in Colorado.

APPLICATION FOR A CHILD FROM THE STATE  
HOME FOR DEPENDENT AND NEGLECTED  
CHILDREN.

.....Colo.....189..

To the Superintendent:

I hereby make application to have one of the children of said school indentured to me pursuant to law.

I am a resident of.....in the county of..... (if in the country, give township and section; if in the city, give street and number). My postoffice address is.....and my nearest railroad station is.....on the.....R. R. I own the following real estate.....

I am.....years of age, in.....health, and my nationality is..... My wife is.....years of age, in.....health, and her nationality is..... The names and ages of my children living at home are..... The other members of my household are..... The district school, which is maintained.....months each year and which could be attended.....months in the year by a child living in my family, is.....miles from my residence.

I am.....a member of.....church. My wife is.....a member of.....church. We are.....attendants of.....church.

I desire a....., about.....years of age;.....nationality preferred. .... (Give name of child, if one has been selected, or a further description of such a child as you would like.)

My object in taking a child is.....

My wife unites with me in making this application.

.....  
(Sign here.)

COLORADO STATE HOME FOR DEPENDENT AND NEGLECTED CHILDREN.

Application for.....  
(Name of child.)

By.....  
(Name of applicant.)

Date....., 189..

To the Superintendent:

After a careful investigation, I certify that the within named applicant is a resident of the place named, where he has a good home, and that he is a proper person to have the care and education of a child. I further certify that he is a person of good moral character. That he is temperate, that he does not sell intoxicating liquors to be used as a beverage, and that I believe he will properly provide for and educate said child, and will otherwise faithfully execute the indenture contract required. These statements apply fully to both husband and wife.

Dated....., 189..

.....  
.....

### INDENTURE.

THIS INDENTURE, made this..... day  
of.....A. D. 189.., by and between the State  
Home for Dependent and Neglected Children, of the State of  
Colorado, party of the first part, and.....  
of....., county of.....  
and state of.....

WITNESSETH: That, whereas, the party of the first  
part is the legally appointed guardian of.....  
under the provisions of an act of the general assembly of the  
state of Colorado, entitled "An act in relation to the establish-  
ment of a State Home for Dependent and Neglected Children;  
and making an appropriation therefor;"

NOW, THEREFORE, the party of the first part, for and  
in consideration of the covenants and agreements of the party  
of the second part, contracts and agrees that said.....  
.....is of the age to wit..... years;  
that.....shall remain with the party of the second part  
until.....attains the age of.....years, and  
that.....will learn the occupation of.....

PROVIDED, HOWEVER, That said party of the first  
part may cancel this agreement whenever it deems the inter-  
ests of said child require it.

And the party of the second part hereby covenants and  
agrees on.....part that.....will educate said child in the  
public school where.....reside..at least six months in  
each year; that.....will teach.....some useful occupa-  
tion; that.....kindly and properly treat said child as a  
member of.....family; and that.....will pay on the ter-  
mination of this contract, to said party of the first part, for  
the use and benefit of said child \$....., or, that he will pay to  
said party of the first part, for the use and benefit of said  
child \$.....per month, beginning with.....sixteenth year;  
provided,.....is not kept in school after that age.

PROVIDED, HOWEVER, That said second party re-  
serves the right to cancel this agreement at any time within  
sixty days from the date of this contract, upon returning said  
child to said Home, free of expense to said Home.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties aforesaid have hereunto set their hands and seals, the day and year first above written.

STATE HOME FOR DEPENDENT AND NEGLECTED CHILDREN,

By.....  
President.

Attest:.....

Secretary.

..... (Seal.)

APPROVED this.....day of..... A. D. 189..

.....  
County Judge.

PETITION FOR ADOPTION.

State of Colorado, County of.....ss.

In the ..... Court ..... Term, A. D. 189..

To the Hon....., Judge of said court:

Your petitioners, .....

.....of.....in said county, would respectfully show unto your honor: That they are residents of said county and inhabitants of this state, and are desirous of adopting a child so as to render it capable of inheriting their estate. That the name of said child is.....,that it was of the age of.....years on the.....day of.....last, and is a.....child. And further, that your petitioners desire the name of said child changed to that of..... Your petitioners would further show unto your honor that the said child became an inmate of The State Home for Dependent and Neglected Children, on, to-wit, the.....day of....., 189.., by virtue of an order of the County Court of..... County, the said Board of Control of which consents to its adoption by said parties, which consent is annexed hereto, and that it would, therefore, be to the interest of said child to become the adopted child of your petitioners, and that said petitioners are willing and able to maintain and educate said child properly as their own child.

Your petitioners would, therefore, pray this honorable court to make an order declaring said child to be the adopted child of your petitioners, and capable of inheriting their estate, and that the name of said child be changed to that of....., as provided by the act of the general assembly of the state of Colorado, approved March 31, 1895.

State of Colorado, County of Arapahoe, ss.

.....the above named petitioners, being duly sworn, depose and say that the facts contained in the above petition, by.....subscribed, are true according

to the best of.....knowledge, information and belief.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this..... day of..... A. D. 189..

AFFIDAVIT FOR ADOPTION OF CHILD.

State of Colorado, ..... County, ss.

.....of lawful age, being duly sworn, upon her oath says: That she is Superintendent of The State Home for Dependent and Neglected Children, a corporation organized and existing under and by virtue of the laws of the state of Colorado.

That....., a..... child of the age of about.....years, was committed to said Home by order of the Judge of the County Court of.....county. (If the foregoing clause does not apply, state the facts as they exist.)

Subscribed and sworn to before me this..... day of.....189..

CONSENT TO ADOPTION OF CHILD.

The Board of Control of The State Home for Dependent and Neglected Children, a corporation organized and existing under and by virtue of the laws of the state of Colorado, of whose temporary home and asylum a minor..... child of the age of about.....years and under fourteen years, is an inmate, does hereby consent to the adoption of said child by.....and his wife.....in manner and form as provided by the laws of the state of Colorado.

Dated at Denver, Colorado, this.....day of....., 189..

THE BOARD OF CONTROL,

By..... President or Superintendent.

CONSENT OF CHILD, BEING OVER FOURTEEN YEARS OF AGE, TO ADOPTION.

I,....., being now an inmate of the State Home for Dependent and Neglected Children, and being at this date over fourteen years of age, do hereby consent to being adopted by..... of the county of..... Colorado, as their child as provided by the laws of Colorado relating to the adoption of children.

CONSENT OF THE COUNTY AGENT OF BOARD OF CHARITIES AND CORRECTIONS OR BOARD OF COUNTY VISITORS.

Consent is hereby given as required by section 8, of chapter 26, of the Laws of Colorado, being an act in relation to the establishment of a State Home for Dependent and Neglected Children, for the adoption of said child in accordance with the laws of Colorado and according to the prayer of the foregoing petition.

..... Agent of Board of Charities and Corrections for..... County, Colorado.

By..... President of said Board.



DECREE.

STATE OF COLORADO, COUNTY OF . . . . ., SS.

In re the petition of . . . . . and . . . . . for the adoption of the minor child . . . . .

This cause coming on to be heard this . . . . . day of . . . . . A. D. 189 . . . . , upon the petition of . . . . . and . . . . . duly verified, for the adoption of the minor child heretofore known as . . . . . the said petitioners . . . . . and . . . . . appearing in their own proper persons and by . . . . . their attorneys, and the court having read said petition and having examined upon their oaths the said . . . . . and . . . . . and the court being fully satisfied from the testimony submitted herein of the ability of the petitioners to properly rear, educate, support and maintain said child, and it appearing to the court upon the examination of . . . . . the said wife, that she, of her own free will and accord, desires the adoption of said child; and the court being further satisfied of the fitness and propriety of such adoption, and of the willingness and wish of said petitioners and each of them to adopt said child as their own; and it further appearing to the court that said child had become an inmate of The State Home for Dependent and Neglected Children, an organization existing under the law of the state of Colorado, on the, to-wit. . . . . day of . . . . ., 18. . . . , by being committed to said Home by an order of the judge of the county court of . . . . . county, and it further appearing to the court that consent in writing hath heretofore been given by . . . . . president of said society, to the petitioners herein, for the adoption of said child, and the court being now fully advised in the premises.

It is hereby ordered, adjudged and decreed, that the said minor child, heretofore known as ..... shall be from this date, to all legal intents and purposes, the child and legal heir of the petitioners, ..... and ..... and that the name of said child is hereby changed, altered and declared to be ..... and said child shall be, and is hereby entitled to all the rights and privileges and subject to all legal obligation in respect to said petitioners as if to them born in lawful wedlock.

.....  
 Judge of the County Court.

**RECEIVED**

MAY 02 1997

**STATE PUBLICATIONS**  
Colorado State Library