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General Correspondence Files. 1924-437

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TRI-STATE ZINC AND LEAD ORE PRODUCERS' ASSOCIATION

BUREAU OF MINES
WASHINGTON, D.C.

Report of Welfare Department.
Year ending September 30, 1930.
Richard Jenkins, Welfare Director.

1930 NOV - 8 - AM 9:27

Welfare.

Organized welfare work was started in the Tr-State mining district in December, 1914, and the records show a steady increase in service rendered up to the present time. The nature of this work and volume of service rendered is clearly shown in the nurses' report, which follows:

(Nurses' report on separate sheet)

This welfare work was started under the guidance of Dr. A.J. Lanza of the U.S. Public Health Service, and Dr. Sayers who later succeeded Dr. Lanza in the Government service, has always given it his hearty support and today is untiring in his efforts to provide and maintain facilities for the further improvement of health conditions in the mines and in the homes of our workmen.

From the beginning we have had the cooperation of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company. This affiliation had been beneficial to both organizations, as the territory covered by our nurses in their welfare work brought them into direct contact with the people who purchase industrial insurance. For nurse service to these policyholders we at first received fifty cents per visit, later we were paid seventy-five cents and for the last three years we have been paid one dollar per visit, except for Post-natal cases where the service to the infant is only twenty-five cents. This branch of our work had increased steadily each year, from 240 visits in 1915 with a revenue

of \$120.00 to 3632 visits in 1929 for which we received \$3,227.75. Rendering this service to the insurance company is in no way detrimental to our welfare duties, rather it is a great aid, as it enables our nurses to contact worthy cases not covered by insurance that hesitate to ask for assistance.

January 1st, 1930, the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company made this a restricted district, which means that their agents are restricted to the sale of ordinary policies, eliminating the industrial which is a class of policy including nurse service. The effect of this ruling will be a considerable diminution of the needs of nurse service by this company and, consequently, a curtailment in our support from this source.

Nurse service was furnished to the Picher District schools for two years ending in June of the present year. This service was appreciated by all concerned and especially by the Parent-Teacher association, which is very active in all things pertaining to the schools of the District. For the first school term of this service we were paid \$50.00 per month and for the second year \$75.00 per month. At the beginning of the present school term we were advised that owing to lack of funds this service would have to be discontinued. Our observation of the effect of efficient nurse service in public schools is convincing that there is no other channel which affords an equal opportunity to administer in as thorough a manner to the physically deficient child, and it is to be regretted that the children of this community are to be deprived of this service for the time being. However with the exception of physical examination in the school room our nurses will administer to the children's needs in their homes and at the schools on call of the teachers or parents.

TRACHOMA

During the last four years we have been sending trachoma cases to the Government Institute at Rolla, Missouri. For the last two years negotiations have been carried on with the State and Federal Governments for an institution for treatment of this disease to be located in Ottawa County or at some point in the state easily accessible to our mining district. Dr. C. W. Beeson, State Health Commissioner of Oklahoma, had informed us that he had recently attended a conference in Washington at which it was decided not to establish any additional stationary units for this service but, instead, to have a number of mobile units available to move into any locality on request of State Authorities, temporary hospital facilities to be provided by the State. Dr. Beeson will make a request for this service and ask for additional appropriations to cover the expense, and on his suggestion we have enlisted the aid of our representatives in the State Legislature to heartily support the doctor in his efforts for additional funds.

Following a request made last year, Dr. Paul D. Mossman, Surgeon in Charge of the Rolla, Missouri Trachoma Institute, made a trachoma Survey of the Picher District last March. The opportunity for free examination was announced to the public through the newspapers and printed notices were posted throughout the District. The response was very gratifying as 204 persons came to the Clinic for examination. Dr. Mossman's report of his findings fully justified our action and resulted in enlisting in the cause the hearty support of the State health officials of Oklahoma.

CHARITY

The condition of our industry in regard to unemployment as the winter months approached last year suggested the need of preparing for an unusually large number of calls for assistance. At our suggestion J.H. Klinefelter, Mayor of Picher, accompanied our representative

to Miami to learn from the County Commissioners to what extent they would be able to assist in providing the necessities for the unemployed during the winter. We were informed they had no funds in their charge available for such purpose, the County Charity Fund having been exhausted for some time. On receipt of this information our Directors decided to assume the responsibility, and outlined plans for financing, purchasing, and distributing food, clothing and fuel to residents of the District who were found to be in urgent need.

Business firms and individuals throughout the Tri-State District liberally contributed money, clothing, fuel and food which, added to funds from the Treasury of this organization, made possible the handling of a most serious condition in a satisfactory and creditable manner.

Coal mining companies in our neighboring fields of Oklahoma, Kansas and Missouri, cooperating with the railroads, furnished 400 tons of coal which was delivered to the homes gratis by volunteer labor under the direction of Mayor Klinefelter on orders from our nurses.

Food was furnished to 762 families in quantities of one week's supply, the demands ranging from one to fifteen servings. Five-hundred thirty-two school children were furnished shoes on request of teachers. Hot soup, heavy in meat and vegetables, was delivered to Mineral Heights School at noon each day and meat and vegetables furnished for soup at the Twin Schools during the most severe cold weather ever experienced in this section of the country.

Just what lies ahead of us the coming winter we do not know, but we hope that conditions of last winter will not be duplicated.

During the year this Department handles a great many miscellaneous cases of assisting people out of difficulties, of varieties too numerous to mention in this report.

...WELFARE NURSES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDING OCTOBER 1, 1930....

Homes visited.	1127
Follow up visits.	4962
Clothing furnished	440
Drugs furnished.	73
Typhoid vaccine given	168
Small-pox vaccine given	434
Diphtheria Toxin Anti-Toxin given	332
School children examined	1268
Tonsillectomies.	18
Anaesthetics Given.	34
Patients sent to Veteran Hospital	2
Patients sent to Rolla, Missouri to Trachoma Hospital.	2
Patients taken to Mercy Hospital at Kansas City Missouri.	7
Patients taken to Oklahoma University Hosp. at Oklahoma City Okla.	3
Trachoma survey clinic held by Dr. Mossman, 204 patients examined 64 positive cases found.	
Twelve destitute families, representing 52 persons, were sent to relatives.	
Investigated and delivered in vitations to 500 children for Goodfellows Christmas dinner.	

Ruth S. Hulsmann R.A.
Nurse in Charge.