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SAINT JOSEPH HOME OF THE DIVINE CHILD,
AN INSTITUTION FOR THE CARE OF
DEPENDENT BOYS, HAMMOND,
INDIANA.

By

Richard J. Podgorski

A Thesis Submitted in Partial Fulfillment
of the Requirements for the Degree of
Master of Social Work

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INTRODUCTION

St. Joseph Home of the Divine Child, (Carmelite Home for Boys) Hammond, Indiana - a Catholic Institution for the care of dependent boys, has been lincensed by the Indiana Board of State Charities since 1915. Since no permanent objective historical or descriptive treatise has been written about this community of young boys, it is the purpose of the present study to give as comprehensive a picture of the Carmelite Home as possible with the material available. The writer will present the historical and developmental picture of the Carmelite Home and also an analysis of the case histories of the children who were in the Institution during the first six months of 1949. The functions, policies and physical set-up of the Carmelite Home will be considered in the body of the thesis.

The gathering of data was done by:

- 1) A review of literature in the field of child welfare, with emphasis on institutional care of children, which provided the writer with sufficient facts to evaluate the work done at the Carmelite Home.
- 2) A review of the case records of the boys at the Carmelite Home from January 1, 1949 to June 1, 1949.
- 3) A study of Indiana Laws relating to institutions for children.

- 4) Interviews with the Mother Superior and others at the Carmelite Home.
- 5) Direct observation of life at the Carmelite Home.

The first chapter presents the history and administration of the Carmelite Home. The second chapter offers the physical plant and the program. The third chapter - the study group - is an analysis of the total population of the institution. The fourth chapter is a comparison of the Carmelite Home with accepted standards for child caring institutions, which is followed by a summary.

CHAPTER I

HISTORY AND ADMINISTRATION OF THE CARMELITE HOME FOR BOYS

The Catholic Church has always assumed responsibility for the problems of its members, from infancy to old age. To do so, the Church erected, sometimes at great sacrifice, its own institutions to protect the spiritual birthright of its people.¹ There is no doubt that those who gave of themselves and of their wealth, were ever mindful of the words of Christ, as long as you did it to one of these, My least Brethren, you did it to me.² Accordingly, the care of children outside of their own homes has occupied an important place in Catholic Welfare in the United States and possibly a larger place than has any other type of Catholic social action. The Carmelite Home for Boys, which is the only Catholic Home for the care of dependent boys in Lake County, Indiana, fits into this type of social service.

The first chapter of the present study will give the early history of the Carmelite Home for boys. A short history of the Calumet Region and of Hammond, Indiana will also be included,

¹ John O'Grady, Catholic Charities in the United States, National Conference of Catholic Charities., Washington D.C., 1930, pp. 89-90.

² Matthew 25, 40.

because a thorough and realistic knowledge of an institution requires an understanding of the setting or community in which it is located. The first indications of the work of the Catholic Church with dependent children in Indiana, and the first institution for dependent children will be included in the body of this chapter. The Carmelite Home for boys, its founders, purpose, and the boys cared for since its foundation, and the reaction of the Hammond community to the Carmelite Home will conclude the chapter.

Lying in the extreme northwestern county of Indiana, and embracing the cities of Gary, Hammond, East Chicago and Whiting, the Calumet Region fringes the southwestern curve of Lake Michigan for a distance of sixteen miles. From west to east, tracing the crescent of the lake line, is a continuous array of factories and mills, miles of tall smokestacks, lifting cranes, silver oil tanks, heavy black gas tanks in their bright steel frames, an endless march of gray mills along the flat sands, never ending piles of coal and bright brown ore. Eastward and northward lies a range of sand hills and dunes, one of the most interesting natural phenomenon in North America.³ Radiating outward from the crescent east and south, are the little towns of Hobart and Merrillville and the suburbs of

³ Federal Writers Project, Calumet Region Historical Guide, Gary, Garman Printing Company, 1939, p. 3.

Hammond, until the land assumes the character of rural Indiana, with truck gardens and farms.

In 1905 the total population of this area was 19,000. More than half of the region was a wilderness of swamps, swale and sand dunes, uninhabited and uninviting. Within twenty miles of Chicago, great tracts were as wild as they had been when they were trod by the Indian. In 1949, with a population of more than 300,000, the Calumet Region has become one of the greatest industrial centers of the world.⁴ Nowhere else in America is there such a concentration of diversified industrial operations. Dominated by the heavy industries, the manufacture of steel, railroad equipment, chemicals and the refining of oil, the region possesses 221 companies which manufacture 1,217 different products. Represented in this group are several plants, a steel works, a rail mill, a cement plant and a generating unit, which top the list of their own category as the world's largest.⁵ Of the four large cities in the Calumet Region, Hammond is the oldest. It is eighteen miles southeast of the Chicago Loop and is on nine marked highways, including Federal Route 41 and Indianapolis Boulevard, the main thoroughfare into Chicago from the southeast, over which

⁴ John F. Noll, Diocese of Fort Wayne, Volume II, 1941, Huntington Indiana, p. 338.

⁵ Federal Writers Project, Calumet Region Historical Guide, Gary, Garman Printing Company, 1939, p. 4

25,000 vehicles pass daily.⁶

A summary of the history of Hammond is necessary to visualize the setting in which the Carmelite Home for boys was established and developed:

Hammond a settlement known as Hohmanville, dates back to 1851. Seventeen years later the first industrial venture in the Calumet Region was established, when George, H. Hammond, wholesale butcher from Detroit began operation of a meat packing business just across the river from Hohmanville. Hammond in association with others had shipped fish in a specially patented "Ice Box" from Lake Superior to Detroit. It had occurred to him that if this could be done with fish, it could be done with fresh meat.

Previously, cattle had been transported at great expense to the place of consumption. After proposing the idea to Detroit Associates, among whom was Marcus M. Towle, later prominent figure in the city's development, Hammond had approached the inventors of the "Ice Box", who agreed to apply their methods of refrigeration to a railway boxcar. The Michigan Car Company had made the necessary alterations and the experimental car filled with dressed beef and sent to Boston, had proved a complete success. Hammond and his associates at first selected Chicago, but residents objected to a slaughterhouse and later difficulties arose with the ice-supply company. The site for the new slaughterhouse across the river from Hohman's, on the Illinois-Indiana boundary, had been selected.

In October 1868, the first carload of refrigerated beef was shipped through Gibson Station. Soon loading platforms were in operation at the packing plant and the station of State Line was opened. Hohmanville the original name was lost.

⁶ Encyclopaedia Britannica, "Hammond", 14th Edition New York, 1929, p. 134

Housing of the workers in the plant entailed construction, and their feeding and entertainment necessitated the erection of small business establishments. A settlement sprang up at State Line.

In April of the year 1873, Towle had obtained a Post-Office for the new town, selecting the name of Hammond in honor of his associate.

In 1875, Towle filed a plat of the original town of Hammond with the county clerk at Crown Point, but it was not until eight years later that the town was incorporated. In 1884, it advanced to the rank of city, its area about six square miles and its population numbering 5,000.

In 1907 fire damaged the slaughterhouse to the extent of \$500,000. George H. Hammond had died in 1886 and his widow and the surviving partners had sold their interests. The English syndicate which had bought it decided not to rebuild on the Hammond site, instead building a plant in Chicago Stockyards district. As a result hundreds of workers and their families moved west and scores of shop keepers closed their doors.

Little was recorded concerning the early work of the Catholic Church with dependent Children in Indiana. Only two references could be found, the first of which was a reference to two orphan girls, who were accepted at St. Clare's Academy about 1828. The only other mention of institutional care for dependent children was the founding of St. Joseph Orphan Asylum for Indian Children, located on the present site of the University of Notre Dame. Unfortunately, the scarcity of nuns

⁷ Federal Writers Project, Calumet Region Historical Guide, Gary, Garman Printing Company. 1939, p. 201

and the lack of funds forced its founder, Father Theodora Bodin, to close the doors of the orphanage in 1835.⁸

The first recorded attempt to organize a home for dependent children took place after the Civil War. The war, which spent itself at the cost of much life and wealth, left after it the orphan. Many of the children were Catholic and even though the State of Indiana made public provisions for their support, the Catholic Church had to protect their religious affiliation. It was Bishop Luers who initiated this work in the spring of 1865, when he purchased a tract of land in the suburbs of Fort Wayne, as the site for a child caring institution.

Following this action, the Bishop issued a pastoral letter addressed to the Clergy and faithful and dated August 15, 1866.⁹ This letter contained the following statement:

The number of orphans in our diocese has of late increased to such an extent that the erection of an Asylum for them has become an imperative necessity. It is a holy duty, incumbent upon us all, to take care of the spiritual and bodily wants of those who have no longer father and mother to do it for them, and who like strangers, now wander over God's wide earth imploring our pity, mercy and love

On this all important matter I consulted with the Clergy, who unanimously agreed to accept the favorable offer of the Spit-

⁸ Diocesan Centennial, Diocese of Indianapolis, 1934, p. 34

⁹ John F. Noll, The Diocese of Fort Wayne, Volume II, 1941, p.81

ler farm containing 933 acres at Renssellaer Jasper County, Indiana for \$18,000.

Who among the immigrants, has not more or less experienced the feelings of the orphan? When the storm raged in the ocean, and the end seemed nigh, far away from home, from father, mother, brother, sister, kindred and friends, in inexpressible longing after home, weighed down and anxious heart, and a sense of loneliness and abandonment stole over the whole being

Friends, have you forgotten that journey? With the grace of God, you safely reached your destination, America Here you felt alone, discouraged, forsaken, in short an orphan - until you met a true friend who took interest in you and by counsel and deed came to your aid

In the fall of 1865, Pope Pius IX had proclaimed a solemn Jubilee for the gaining of indulgences, under the condition that an alms be given for some work of charity. Therefore, in 1866, the Bishop of Fort Wayne designated the children's institution as this special charity. In addition to the financial aid that was thus secured, the institution, known as St. Vincent's Villa was also a beneficiary of a \$10,000. life insurance policy which the Bishop had and which was paid to the institution following his death.¹⁰ The institution grew, many buildings were erected, and in 1949 located in Fort Wayne, Indiana was known as St. Vincent Villa.¹¹ Twenty-four Sisters of the

¹⁰ Bishop H. Alerding, The Diocese of Fort Wayne 1857-1907, Archer Printing Company, Fort Wayne, 1907, p. 478

¹¹ The Official Catholic Directory, P.J.Kennedy Co., 1949, p.437

order of the Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ are in charge of the institution, which has a population of 215.

Chronologically, the next institution to be erected in the Diocese of Fort Wayne was the St. Joseph Home for Girls in East Chicago, Indiana in July 1913.¹² Staffed by the Carmelite Sisters of the Divine Heart of Jesus, the institution cared for many dependent girls. In 1949, nine Carmelite Sisters were in charge of the institution which had a population of 60 girls.¹³

The third and last institution to be erected in the Diocese of Fort Wayne was the St. Joseph Home of the Divine Child, commonly known as the Carmelite Home for Boys. Bishop H.J. Alerding saw the work that the Carmelite Sisters had performed in East Chicago and invited them to establish a home for dependent boys in Lake County, Hammond, Indiana in September of 1915. The following letter was issued by the Bishop to the priests of the Fort Wayne Diocese at that time.¹⁴

Most heartily do I recommend these Venerable Carmelite Sisters to the Reverend Pastors and the people of my diocese. I recommend the Carmelite Sisters especially to the people of northern Lake County where these zealous Sisters have chosen

¹² Historical Sketch of the Activities in America, compiled by a Carmelite Sister D.C.J., 1930, p.23

¹³ Official Catholic Directory, 1949, P.J.Kennedy, N.Y., p.437

¹⁴ Greetings from the Carmel of the Divine Heart, (Private) 1935, p.14

a site for their missionary-activity. They should be supported and encouraged by every possible means in their noble enterprise.

The success of these Sisters goes far beyond expectation. Luke-warm and fallen away Catholics have been brought back to the Church. Poor and exposed children have met with a kind reception from them. God Alone could count the innumerable good works of these Sisters. Their Life of penance as faithful Daughters of St. Theresa, their prayers, their severe mortification in the service of God and His Church are indeed a great blessing for the entire Diocese of Fort Wayne.

In September 1915, supported by the citizens of Hammond, the Carmelite Sisters began their work with dependent boys. A modest two story frame farm house was purchased at 4007 Sheffield Avenue, Lake County, Hammond, Indiana and the work in Hammond expanded rapidly. During the first year the institution cared for 41 boys. It was licensed in 1915 by the Indiana Board of State Charities and the original license read as follows:¹⁵

This is to certify that Carmelite Sisters of the Divine Heart of Jesus are hereby granted the license to conduct and maintain a boarding home for children, in the premises known as no. 51 Sheffield Avenue, Hammond, Indiana, Lake County.

¹⁵ License Number 198, December 6, 1915, Indiana Board of State Charities.

This license shall be in force for the period of one year from and after the 6th. day of December 1915.

In witness whereof, we have hereunto set our hands and affixed the seal of the State of Indiana, this 6th. day of December 1915.

Amos W. Butler
Sec'y.

The work of the institution was in line with the work carried on by the Order as a whole and was described in a pamphlet issued by the Sisters, as follows:¹⁶

Domestic education of the poor forsaken children in their earliest years (one year old and upwards) for a slight tuition. In cases of dire necessity, they shall be received free of charge, tenderly cared for and educated until they have attained that age where girls can support themselves. The boys having reached their twelfth or fourteenth year shall be entrusted to good Catholic families, where they can learn some useful trade or given to some institute under the direction of priests or brothers.

The establishment of homes where little children and school children of the working classes can be cared for during the day or school holidays; where older girls may be taught in every kind of hand and house-work, and where evening hours

¹⁶ Greetings from the Carmel of the Divine Heart, (Priv) 1935, p. 10

may be reserved for the factory girls.

Certain qualified Sisters shall make it a point to visit Catholic families, to urge them to go to Church, or receive the Sacraments. At the same time they should not fail to render material help to the poor and sick as far as possible.

The following table shows the age range of the boys in 1915, when 41 boys were under the care of the Carmelite Home.¹⁷

TABLE I

NUMBER AND AGES OF THE BOYS AT THE
CARMELITE HOME IN 1915.

Age	Frequency
Total	41
1 - 3 years	15
4 - 6 years	14
7 - 9 years	9
10-12 years	2
13-15 years	1

¹⁷

Record Book, Carmelite Home for Boys, 1915

This table shows that boys of all ages were accepted during the first year of the operation of the Carmelite Home. The largest number were between one and three years of age. The interesting thing is that approximately two-thirds of the population were infants and pre-school children, which means that the institution was actually of the nursery and nursery school type.

Little information about the activities of the Carmelite Home between the years 1915 and 1938 could be obtained, because records were either inadequate or non-existent. The only records kept in book form gave the child's name, date of admission, date of discharge and also the dates of Baptism and First Holy Communion and Confirmation. Often the names of persons to whom the child was released were not given. Such statements as "the child went to parent, relative or foster home" were used.

The following table shows the numbers of boys in the Carmelite Home during five-year periods, from 1915 to 1949:

TABLE II

18

BOYS IN THE CARMELITE HOME IN FIVE
YEAR PERIODS FROM 1915 to 1949.

Five Year Periods	Number
Total	2846
1915 - 1919	342
1920 - 1924	392
1925 - 1929	436
1930 - 1934	450
1935 - 1939	405
1940 - 1944	406
1945 - 1949	415

The table indicates that the Carmelite Home cared for 342 boys from 1915 to 1919. Voluntary contributions from parents, relatives and friends and from people in the vicinity of the Carmelite Home supported the institution. In the years 1920 to 1924, 392 boys were cared for. In the years of financial prosperity 1925 to 1929 the Carmelite Home enrolled 436 boys.

¹⁸ Record Books, Carmelite Home for Boys, 1915 to 1949.

In the depression years from 1930 to 1934, 450 boys were in the Carmelite Home. In the years of 1935 to 1939, the total population was 405 boys. In the years of World War II, 1940 to 1944, 406 boys were cared for. From 1945 to 1949, 415 boys were in the Carmelite Home. The total yearly population of the Carmelite Home from 1915 to 1949 is included in Appendix^F.

In compliance with the request of the State Department of Public Welfare, a card system was established in 1939, which comprised a complete file of all the children placed in every institution in Indiana. The card for each child included the following information: the child's name, date of birth, place of birth, names of parents and siblings, the date of admission. Each month, a card for every newly admitted boy was sent to the State Department with a list of names of boys released.

In 1949, the Carmelite Home accepted boys referred to it only by the Lake County Department of Public Welfare and the Catholic Charities and Social Service of the Fort Wayne Diocese. Since the institution was situated in the Fort Wayne diocese, it was under the supervision of the Catholic Bishop of Fort Wayne.

The administrative staff of the Carmelite Home in 1949,

consisted of the Mother Superior, who was the superintendent of the Carmelite Home, and nine Carmelite Sisters who assisted her. There was no formal board of directors, but on important matters four professional men active in the local community were consulted. The Mother Superior, appointed by the Mother Provincial, was considered by these men to be an exceptional executive and they showed interest and enthusiasm in working with her. The Mother Superior met the children upon admission, interviewed visiting parents, and discussed with them the general development of the boys. Together with the Assistant Sister, she kept the records and did the clerical work.

Five Sisters were placed in charge of each of the dormitories and assumed responsibility for the boys under their care. It was their duty to awaken the boys, to accompany them to the Chapel and to meals, to mend their clothes and to see that they received medical care when necessary. The five Sisters also supervised recreation, prepared the boys for school, and directed the cleaning of the dormitories. Each Sister had the additional task of "mothering" the boys and, in so far as possible, meeting the emotional needs of the children in her group.

Two Sisters cared for the children in the nursery. The ages of these children ranged from two to five years. These Sisters were experienced in the care of pre-school children

and recognized among other needs, the need for affection. The Sisters were with the boys during the entire day, either on the playground, in the nursery or dining rooms or in the playroom. Their private rooms adjoined the dormitory so that they were able to help the children during the night, if there was occasion for doing so. The two Sisters who carried this responsibility in 1949 had had considerable experience with young children. They themselves were young and were in good health both mentally and physically. They had a great deal of vitality and energy and were able to oversee many different children occupied in many different places. This trait enabled them to guide the boys, to give them the necessary feeling of freedom and at the same time to develop in them respect for authority. In addition, the Sisters cared for the children in their groups who might be ill or hurt and assumed responsibility for taking the boys to a hospital or clinic when medical care was necessary.

Of the nine Sisters on the staff of the Carmelite Home, one Sister supervised the kitchen and the planning of all meals. Several priests, from the faculty of the Catholic High School in Hammond gave their services to the Carmelite Home. The celebrated Mass every day, gave spiritual direction and had considerable contact with the boys.

In addition to the Sisters and priests, the staff included

a director of music, a lay woman who had training in group singing and choral work. She carried responsibility for planning and executing much of the more formalized kind of entertainment, that made up the recreational program, especially during the holiday seasons. The boys of all ages responded enthusiastically to her direction. One maintenance man, who assumed responsibility for the garden, kept the institution in good order.

The Carmelite Home was financed through an allocation from the Hammond Community Chest, of which it has been a member since 1938, and from fees collected from public agencies for the care of children admitted through those agencies. In addition for several years, including 1949 the Carmelite Home received \$500.00 from the Whiting Community Chest.

The financial statement from the files of the institution for 1948 showed that the Carmelite Home operated on a budget of slightly over \$26,000.00 for that year. This represented a per capita cost of \$400.00. The breakdown on income and expenditure for that year was as follows:

CARMELITE HOME FOR BOYS
BUDGET FOR THE YEAR 1948.

Income

From Operations	\$ 4,995.00
Donations	1,000.00
Public Agencies	8,600.00
Whiting Community Chest	500.00
Hammond Community Chest	11,355.00
	<hr/>
	\$ 26,450.00

Expenditures

Wages and Salaries	\$ 4,000.00
Communication and Transportation	1,000.00
Fixed Charges	1,800.00
Office Supplies	150.00
Institutional Supplies	18,000.00
Repairs and Renewals	1,500.00
	<hr/>
	\$ 26,450.00

The financial statement for the year 1948 revealed that \$ 4,995.00 was given to the Carmelite Home by parents, relatives and friends of the boys who were able to pay for their support. Voluntary contributions by interested persons totalled \$1,000.00. Social agencies, which included the Lake County Bureau of Public Welfare and the Catholic Charities and Social Service (Hammond), contributed \$ 8,600.00. The Whiting Community Chest gave \$ 500.00 and the Hammond Community Chest contributed \$ 11,355.00.

The data relative to income and expenditure give some indication of how the Carmelite Home was operating in 1948. These data emphasize the changes that have taken place since 1915, when the Carmelite Home was dependent on voluntary contributions and donations, and 1948, when the institution received planned financial support from the established fund raising organizations in the community.

This first chapter presented facts concerning the activities of the Catholic Church in formulating a program for dependent children in Indiana, and especially the Carmelite Home for Boys in Lake County, Hammond, Indiana. It concluded with the numbers served and the administration and financing of the institution. The following chapter will present the physical plant and the program of the Carmelite Home for Boys.

CHAPTER II

THE PHYSICAL PLANT AND THE PROGRAM

In any institutional program it is important that the physical plant and equipment be laid out in relation to the needs of the child. In its location, care should be taken to place the institution within easy reach of the educational and recreational resources of a community, making possible close cooperation with these resources in carrying out a program of development and therapy.¹ A description of the grounds of the Carmelite Home will give an idea of the location and arrangement of its plant. This first section includes a description of the buildings and the facilities available to the children from recreational and educational standpoints.

The Physical Plant

The Carmelite Home for boys is located in the city of Hammond, in Lake County Indiana, between two main streets, Sheffield and Hohman Avenues, and occupies one half of a city block, with open fields surrounding it. This arrangement is ideal for the recreational needs of the boys and also provides sunlight to the entire building at some time during each day. The area

¹ Orlo L. Crissey, The Child in the Institution, Child Welfare League of America, 1937, p. 6

is served by the city bus lines, which places the Carmelite Home in easy reach of schools, libraries, city parks, hospitals, theaters and the shopping centers. This accessibility makes it possible for parents, friends and relatives to reach the institution without much difficulty. The South Shore Electric Line is within walking distance of the Carmelite Home, giving opportunity for easy communication with the large cities in the area.

The Carmelite Home has grown from a modest two story frame farm house in 1915 to a two building institution joined together by a tunnel. The new building, constructed of common brick, was completed in 1929. In 1949 the original old building contained the parlor, the visitors' room, a sun porch, the Sisters' community room and refectory on the first floor, while the second floor housed the Chapel and private rooms for the Sisters. In the basement there was a hot water heating plant and the laundry.

The parlor, which was designed for use by the visitors, was a large room, furnished only with a table in the center and many straight-backed, uncushioned chairs arranged in lines against the walls. The floor was covered with a green linoleum. In addition to the parlor, there was the visitors' room, with white painted ceiling and walls. The furnishings consisted of a table and many straight-backed, uncushioned chairs, and an

upright piano and many potted plants along the windows. The floors were covered with linoleum. The screened sun porch was visible from this room and was used mainly by the Sisters for reading and recreational purposes. The other rooms on the main floor of the old building included the Sisters' community room, the private dining room and kitchen. The rooms were well lighted and bright in color.

The second floor contained the Chapel and the living quarters for the Sisters. The Chapel had a seating capacity of about one hundred. The Sisters occupied an adjoining room viewed the Chapel through small openings in the wall. There were several large statues on the sides of the Altar, and the interior, with its harmony in design and color, blended serenity with dignity.

The new building erected in 1929 was known as the Childrens' building. On the ground floor were the heating plant, wash rooms, kitchen, storage rooms, dish-washing room, and two dining rooms for the boys. The first floor contained a dormitory, washrooms, the nursery room and two study rooms. On the second floor were the infirmary, the dormitories and the dressing rooms, with storage cabinets and wash rooms.

With the exception of a small section where the heating plant was located, the ground floor of this new building provided sufficient space for the Childrens' Dining rooms and for an adjoining kitchen and wash room. Extreme cleanliness and

highly polished floors were marked features throughout the Carmelite Home. The walls were painted in light tints and draperies were used in every room, but rugs were used only in the washrooms.

There were two dining rooms for the boys, each with a home-like atmosphere. Ordinarily five children were seated at each table. The tables and chairs were built to accomodate the younger boys in one dining room, and the chairs were made of heavy wire frames. An attractive set of dishes was on display in a china closet and a Crucifix and numerous pictures hung in every room. The spotlessly clean kitchen was modernly equipped with a large gas stove, and a large oven. The sink had a drainboard at both ends and a large table near the wall was adequate to use for the preparation of food. The Carmelite Home maintained its own storage rooms in which preserved vegetables and fruits were stored. The laundry room was large, with ample space for the drying of clothes. Irons, ironing boards, a large washing machine and several tubs constituted adequate equipment.

The dormitories for the boys were on the first and second floors. They were large airy rooms containing beds arranged in straight rows. The bedding consisted of two white sheets, pillow cases, blankets and colored spreads of different design in each dormitory. Beds were placed sufficiently far appart to

provide space for each child and there was a chair between each bed. The floors were varnished and the bottom half of the walls were covered with dark oak wood. The children in the dormitories were divided into age groups. Two small rooms were used by boys from two to five years of age. One large room was used by boys six to nine years of age, while the last two big dormitories were for boys from ten to fifteen years of age. Each child had a bed suited to his own size. The beds were provided with a set of hooks on the back to hold the clothing during sleeping hours. For the little children, the beds were made up in the style of half cribs. The bedspreads and curtains were varied in color.

Between the dormitories there was a private room for the Sister in charge, with a sliding panel in each door, which permitted the Sister to watch the children. This was especially advantageous in the case of sickness, or in the event that the child needed special care. The bathing and sanitary facilities of the building were excellent. Washrooms were modernly equipped and each child had his own towel, wash cloth, tooth brush and holder and a drinking glass. The compartments were equipped with tubs and showers and toilets. These washrooms were conveniently located adjoining the dormitories and the playground.

The nursery room was a large and well lighted room containing a work table where the children could draw, paint and paste pictures. This room was equipped with a variety of games and toys. There were four sets of round tables and three sets of square tables suited to the size of the boys, with chairs to match. There were, in the far end of the room, a piano, a radio, a television set, a germicidal lamp and a canary cage. The nursery was equipped with toys and materials suited to the age and development of the boys. This equipment included such items as an electric train, panda dolls, airplanes, rocking chairs, automobiles, block sets, wagons, games and many potted flowers. A tubular fire escape was in the center wall, which had an opening to the playground.

All of the chairs and tables were light in weight, were comfortable and were of the style that could be easily carried from one place to another in the room. The tables, although small, were wide enough to allow the children plenty of space to work opposite each other. This tended to encourage conversation, appreciation and criticism of the work of the others. Many products produced by the older boys, such as scrap books, airplanes and wood-carvings provided interesting decorations.

Social Policies

The place of every child is within its own family circle

where it can develop normally. Cooper points out three policies which every institution caring for dependent children must observe. First, the admission of a child to an institution should be resorted to only when there is no other way of taking care of him, or when his problems are such that institutional placement is advised. Second, the residence of the child within the institution should last only so long as parental inability persists. Third, the relation of the child to his own home and parents is obligatory as soon as the home is able to care for him reasonably well.² This statement of policies offers a basis for a description of the policies on which the Carmelite Home operates.

The Carmelite Home served dependent boys from Lake County, Indiana. In 1949 only one boy referred from the central office of the Associated Catholic Charities of the Fort Wayne Diocese was admitted. This boy was from Fort Wayne, Allen County, Indiana. Up to the time of the present study, only mentally normal children had been referred to the Carmelite Home by the two referring agencies. Retarded children could be accepted for a trial period, but as a rule the two referring agencies did not request the admission of children with serious

² John M. Cooper, Children's Institutions, Dolphin Press, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, 1931, p.482

problems, either intellectual or otherwise. The ages of the children ranged from two years to fifteen years.

As of 1949, the Carmelite Home had no social worker on its staff and therefore was dependent on the case summaries³ submitted by either of the two referring agencies. The final responsibility for accepting or rejecting applications rested with the Mother Superior, who determined from the information in these summaries whether or not a boy should be admitted. The Carmelite Home released the boys to parents or relatives after investigations were made by the case workers in the referral agencies. Homeless boys might either remain as long as they desired, or could be released to work homes, if they so desired. With the exception of two boys, who were in their first year in high school in 1949, none had ever remained in the Carmelite Home beyond the completion of his grammar school education.

As a rule, the Carmelite Home did not consider itself to be responsible for the follow-up of a boy who had been transferred to another institution or agency. In the cases of boys who went directly to their own homes, the Mother Superior explained to parents that she was willing to help whenever they might seek her service. Both parents and boys were encouraged

³ Appendix H

to write to the staff members. Many of them corresponded regularly and made return visits to the Carmelite Home.

Records

According to a government handbook published on the subject of record keeping for institutions, the major purposes in keeping records was to collect such information concerning the child in the institution as was necessary (1) to give prompt and effective care to that child, (2) to safeguard and protect parent and child from separation, (3) to serve as a guide in planning the future care of the child. The secondary purpose was to collect information to meet requests for facts and figures.⁴ At the Carmelite Home each boy's file included: an admission sheet and a physician's report. The forms used for these were composed by the staff members of the Carmelite Home and were used, from 1915 to 1948 for every boy.⁵ In cases of referral by the Lake County Department of Public Welfare, the family record face sheet and medical record sheet were used by the Carmelite Home, with the appended case history. A card, requested by the State Department of Public Welfare, issued in 1938, was used for every boy from

⁴ United States Department of Labor, Handbook for the Use of Boards of Directors, Superintendents and Staffs of Institutions for Dependent Children, U.S. Gov. Printing Office, 1936, p. 108

⁵ Appendix A

the time that the state department requested such information.⁷ The information included on this D.P.W. 333 Card⁸ was the child's name, date of birth, place of birth, the names of parents and siblings, and the date of admission to the institution. In cases where the boy was a Catholic, the Baptismal Certificate, Record of First Holy Communion and Confirmation were also included. In August 1948, a new admission information form, issued by the Lake County Bureau of Public Welfare was introduced.⁹ This card included information about the child, the family, siblings, relatives and future plans. This new form was adopted by the Carmelite Home and the use of the older forms was discontinued.

Program and Schedule

The program for the nursery group and the older boys was different. The nursery cared for boys ranging from two years to five years of age, or until they entered the first grade. The small number of boys, twelve in 1949, made it possible for the Sisters in charge to know and care for them on an individual basis. The nursery schedule planned to conform to the childrens' needs was as follows:

⁸ Department of Public Welfare

⁹ Appendix D

Nursery Schedule

<u>Time</u>	<u>Routine</u>
7:15	Rise
7:45	Prayers
8:00	Chapel - Mass
9:00	Breakfast
10:00	Recreation
12:00	Dinner
1:00 - 3:00	Resting Period
4:00	Recreation
5:00	Supper
6:00	Story, Bath, Prayers
7:00	Retire

The schedule followed at the time of the present study was flexible and was changed when special occasions arose. Among other things, it encouraged regular sleeping habits. The children retired at seven o'clock in the evening and rarely had any difficulty in sleeping throughout the night, in spite of the long afternoon sleeping period. The small children ate in their own dining room, at tables accommodated to their size. They were supervised by the Sisters in charge and were taught to eat slowly and properly. These same Sisters gave much of their time to the preparation of well balanced diets, together with the Sister in charge of the kitchen. Usually a story hour preceded each meal.

Recreation for the nursery children consisted of both free and supervised play. During the free play, the boys might

choose whatever toys and articles they wished. They played with the electric train, the block sets, with color pictures or the various other small play articles. The nursery room provided a variety of equipment and the nursery playground provided equipment suited for exercises in the open air. The Sister in charge cultivated many potted plants in the nursery room and taught the children to care for these. Before leaving the nursery the boys were toilet trained and were taught to dress themselves and to say their prayers.

The older boys, or the school group, comprised the largest group in the Carmelite Home. Since these boys were in school their schedule for the day took into consideration school hours. In 1949 twenty-five boys attended St. Casimer Parochial School. This school was within walking distance of the Carmelite Home and had an enrollment of 684 pupils.¹⁰ The school was staffed by nineteen Sisters of St. Francis Seraph of Perpetual Adoration. Fifteen boys attended St. Joseph School located in the downtown section of Hammond, and staffed by thirteen Sisters of Providence, with an enrollment of 550 pupils.¹¹ In 1949, one boy attended the public school in Hammond. The boys in most cases associated freely with the boys of the three other schools and in so doing came into contact daily with boys who

¹⁰ Official Catholic Directory, P. J. Kennedy, New York, 1949, p. 333

¹¹ ibid. p. 333

led normal lives within their own family dircles.

The daily schedule for the older boys in 1949 and effective during the school and vacation periods was as follows:

Daily Schedule for the Older
Boys of the Carmelite Home.

<u>Time</u>	<u>Routing</u>
6:15	Rise
6:45	Prayers
7:00	Chapel - Mass
7:30	Breakfast
8:00 - 11:45	School
12:00	Dinner
1:00 - 3:00	School
3:30 - 4:30	Recreation
4:30	Supper
5:30 - 6:30	Recreation
6:30 - 8:00	Study Period
8:00	Prayers, Wash, Retire

This schedule applied to all boys attending school. During the vacation months, recreation was substituted for the hours otherwise spent in school. The children received ten hours of sleep, which was adequate and beneficial for their physical health and their mental and emotional well being. Furfey in his book "Social Problems of Childhood"¹² stated that it was preferable to have six or eight boys to a room, rather than to have a large dormitory, and that older children should be

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Paul H. Furfey, Social Problems of Childhood, McMillan Co., 1929, p. 265 et seq.

provided with separate rooms. However, in 1949, the Carmelite Home provided for the distribution of the children throughout five dormitories, with approximately sixteen beds in each room. There was a separate room for the Sister in Charge.

The boys had their meals at regular hours. The food supplied appeared to be adequate in quantity and was substantial and varied according to the needs of the boys. A detailed schedule of the food for a period of one week is included in Appendix 13. The Best evidence of the adequacy of these menus was the well fed and well nourished appearances of the children, who seemed to be happy and well contented. Meals were carefully planned and prepared and were regularly served with the dietary needs of the growing boys in mind. To balance the diet vegetables and fruits were served daily. This was not difficult in the institution, since the Carmelite Home had its own truck garden and could store surplus food in the cellars for the winter months. Menus were planned by a Sister who had some training in dietetics and were prepared on a weekly basis.

According to Cooper, religion is the mainspring of character and moral achievement,¹⁴ and the work of a Catholic institution is to save souls. Such an institution cannot justify

¹³ Appendix E

¹⁴ John M. Cooper, Childrens' Institutions, Dolphin Press, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, 1931, p.1

its existence unless it gives the boys religious training. At the Carmelite Home the boys had the opportunity to attend daily Mass; confessions were heard every Saturday and on the first Fridays of every month, as well as on vigils of feast days. Instructions were given to the boys during the Sunday Mass.

First Holy Communion and Confirmation were administered annually in the parishes in which the boys attended school. Instructions were given, preparatory to the reception of the Sacraments, by the priests of the respective parishes. Children were encouraged to make private visits to the Blessed Sacrament and to recite private morning and evening prayers, in addition to those prayers said in common. They also were requested to make the Stations of the Cross during Lent, and to recite a short novena prayer during the months of May and October, and to say grace before and after meals. Thus the Carmelite Home attempted to make the religious life of its boys comparable to the religious life of a boy in his own home.

Parties and social gatherings played an important part in the lives of the boys at the Carmelite Home. A Santa Claus, with gifts of fruit and toys and candy, always appeared at the Christmas season. During the Easter season, a party was also held with gifts for everyone and a variety of games. Birthdays were celebrated each month, and the children whose

birthday occurred during the month, sat at a special table, decorated for the occasion. Each child usually received a gift from the Sisters and the Ladies of the Carmelite Guild. A special meal, with lighted birthday cake on the table, was served, and was followed by dramatics, singing or some other entertainment. The older boys were also permitted to attend movies in small groups. In addition, provisions were made for the boys who showed musical talent. This training gave many boys a sense of achievement as well as an interest that sometimes proved to be lasting.

In every institution it is important to have both free and supervised play. The boys at the Carmelite Home were divided into age groups, with the Sister in charge during the time of recreation. Group games were played by the children from the nursery class to the eighth grade. Basketball, baseball and roller skating added to their recreational activities. The boys also enjoyed competitive games among their own groups, as well as with schoolmates in the schools which they attended. The older boys showed enthusiasm for making scrapbooks, airplanes and toys. In addition, they were free to make trips to the parks and farms, accompanied by staff members. During the summer months, swimming and playground activities, together with picnics, formed the main features of their amusement. The older boys belonged to various Boy Scout Troops and to school

societies. For the boys less athletically inclined, the library afforded a means for purposeful leisure time activity. Varied books of an interesting nature, as well as those which were instructive, were provided for the boys.

In this chapter a picture of the Carmelite Home has been given and the way in which the institution attempts to meet the needs of the children has been described. Boys in the Carmelite Home eventually will be returned to society and the Carmelite Home tries to prepare them for this return.

CHAPTER III

THE STUDY GROUP

The study group consisted of fifty-six boys representing forty-four families who were in the Carmelite Home from January 1, 1949 to June 1, 1949. This number represented the total population of the institution during that period and the study was begun by reviewing this group of cases. A schedule was prepared on which individual items, relative to each child were recorded uniformly and this schedule was used throughout the study on all the cases. The statistical tabulation was composed entirely from the schedule. The rest of the information was obtained by reading and analysing the case records, and by interviews with the staff of the Carmelite Home and with the teachers at the various schools which the children attended.

This chapter presents factual data on the total population of the Carmelite Home and covers such items as age, residence, reasons for admission, legal status, religion, school and health of the child and the marital status of his parents. In addition, information that seemed important such as the child's appearance, his attitude toward schoolmates, and his ability in school work was included.

The pre-admission investigation which was imperative in the interest of the child, the home and the institution,¹ was made by the case workers in the various agencies through which the children were admitted, or, in the case of private applications, by the Mother Superior. In general, the information which the Carmelite Home had about the boy at the time of admission included a summary report from the agency through which he was admitted. This report contained the personal family history, birth certificate, Baptism, First Holy Communion and Confirmation Records, if the boy was Catholic, as well as medical reports and any other pertinent information that might be of a help.

The total number of boys included in the study were residents of the State of Indiana. Table III indicates the cities and towns from which the boys came at the time of referral.

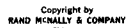
¹ John M. Cooper, Childrens' Institutions, Dolphin Press, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, 1931, p. 507

TABLE III

INDIANA CITIES AND TOWNS OF BOYS ACCEPTED AT THE CARMELITE HOME FROM JANUARY 1, 1949 to JUNE 1, 1949.

Indiana Cities and Towns	Number
Total	56
East Chicago	17
Hammond	16
Gary	8
Indiana Harbor	7
Whiting	2
Lowell	1
Fort Wayne	1
Hessville	1
Crown Point	1
Shelby	1
Hobart	1

Table III indicates that seventeen boys, or thirty percent of the population came from East Chicago and sixteen, or 28.5% came from Hammond. Fifteen boys came from Indiana Harbor and Gary, seven from the former and eight from the latter. Each of these towns is located within a few miles of Hammond. The remaining eight boys were born in towns farther distant from Hammond. This means that approximately 90% of the boys came from Hammond or its immediate environs. The exact distribution is shown on Figure A.



In addition to information regarding birthplace, the study included data on the age of the boys at the time of their admission to the Carmelite Home. The study showed that 85.7% of the boys were between the ages of two and eleven years at the time of admission. The distribution in numbers, was almost equally divided between the pre-school children, those between two and five years, and the very early school years of five to eight years. Only six of the children were over eleven years of age, and only one of these was of high school age. There was only one infant under two years. These data indicate that the institution cared for young children ranging from infancy and pre-school through the years of early childhood.

The ages of the boys at the Carmelite Home at the time of the present study are indicated in the following table:

TABLE IV

DISTRIBUTION OF THE FIFTY-SIX BOYS AT THE
CARMELITE HOME ACCORDING TO THEIR AGES
IN 1949.

Ages of Boys in 1949	Number
Total	56
Under Two Years	0
2 - 5	5
5 - 8	11
8 - 11	17
11 - 14	16
14 - 17	7

Table IV shows that fifty-eight percent of the boys in 1949 were between the ages of eight and fourteen years. Twenty-eight percent represented those from two to eight years, while seven boys were from fourteen to sixteen years of age.

These data on age are interesting when taken in connection with the sources through which children are placed in the institution. Placements are made through three possible channels: the Lake County Bureau of Public Welfare, the Catholic Charities

and Social Service and through direct application of parents to the Mother Superior. Thirty-five of the fifty-six children were placed through the Lake county Bureau of Public Welfare. Nineteen cases were referrals from the Catholic Charities and Social Service. In the remaining two cases, the referrals for placement were made directly to the Carmelite Home by the parents. In one case, a reconciliation between mother and father was thought possible, while in the second, the parents requested supervised English lessons for a child. The size of the families from which these children came was also interesting.

Table V shows the distribution according to the number of children in the families.

TABLE V

DISTRIBUTION OF BOYS ACCORDING TO THE
NUMBER OF CHILDREN IN THE FAMILIES.

NUMBER OF SIBLINGS		NUMBER OF BOYS
Total		56
None		14
1	- 3	19
3	- 5	16
5	- 7	5
7	- 9	2

Table V shows that only seven children, or twelve and one half percent came from families having seven or more children; that twice that number, or twenty percent, are only children, and that approximately sixty-three percent, or thirty-five children, came from families having between two and five children - families that would be designated as "average".

There were various reasons why the requests for placements of the fifty-six boys were made. Table VI shows the distribution according to the reasons for placement.

TABLE VI

DISTRIBUTION OF THE FIFTY-SIX BOYS ACCORDING TO THE REASON FOR PLACEMENT IN THE CARMELITE HOME FOR BOYS

Reason for Placement	Number of Boys
Total	56
Death	22
Separation or Divorce	19
Illness	8
Unmarried Mothers	4
Incarceration	2
Need for Special Training	1

According to Table VI death of one or both parents accounted for the placement of twenty-two, or 39% of the children. In thirteen out of the twenty-two cases the mother was dead, and in eight cases the father was dead. There was only one child out of the fifty-six who had lost both parents by death. The parents of nineteen, or 33% of the children were separated or divorced. In ten cases the parents were separated and in nine cases they were divorced. In eight cases, illness of the parents brought about the need for placement. In the remaining seven cases, one child was brought to the Carmelite Home for special training; the fathers of two boys were in jail and four children were children of unmarried mothers.

Although fifty-six boys were included in the study, they represented forty-four families. The following table shows the marital status of the parents at the time of the admission of the children to the Carmelite Home.

TABLE VII

MARITAL STATUS OF PARENTS OF THE BOYS AT
THE CARMELITE HOME AT THE TIME OF ADMIS-
SION.

Marital Status	Number
Total	44
Both Parents Dead	1
Unmarried Mothers	4
Married	7
Separated	9
Divorced	9
Widowed	14

Table VII shows that fourteen parents were widowed. This represented thirty percent of the entire group of forty-four families, while only in one case both parents were dead. The study also revealed that eighteen families, or forty percent, were divorced or separated. In seven families the parents were married but nearly all cases were long histories of domestic discord. The records also showed that four boys were listed as children of unmarried mothers.

In connection with the questions of family composition and

marital status, it was interesting to review the financial status of the families from which the boys came.

TABLE VIII

DISTRIBUTION OF BOYS AT THE CARMELITE HOME ACCORDING TO THE FINANCIAL STATUS OF THE PARENTS AT TIME OF ADMISSION.

Financial Status	Number of Families
Total	44
Independent	10
Marginal	27
Dependent	6
Unknown	1

Table VIII shows that in twenty-seven families, or sixty percent of the total, the financial status was marginal. In most instances the employment of the breadwinner was listed as that of laborer. Ten families, or twenty-two percent of that number were financially independent. The employment of the breadwinner in these financially independent families was that of skilled workers, foremen or owners of small businesses. Thirteen percent, or six families out of the forty-four, were

dependent on relief agencies or on support from Churches. The financial status of one family was not listed.

The home conditions of the families were divided into adequate and poor, as those classifications are used by the Gluecks in their book, "One Thousand Juvenile Delinquents". These authors describe an adequate home as a clean home, with sufficient furniture, light, ventilation and sleeping space.² In this study, the home conditions of thirteen families were considered on this basis to be adequate. A poor home, as described by the same authors, was one with insufficient sleeping space, lack of furniture and ventilation.³ The home conditions of thirty-one families were considered to be poor on the basis of this definition.

The medical reports on the fifty-six children showed that forty-boys were in "good" health, while sixteen boys were described as being in "fair" or "poor" health. In this latter grouping, two boys were listed as having arrested tuberculosis, several lacked sufficient weight, and others easily contracted coughs and colds and needed periodic medical care.

In appearance, twenty-one boys were listed as being "neat" and thirty-one were described as being "average" in appearance,

² Sheldon Glueck and Eleanor Glueck, One Thousand Juvenile Delinquents, Cambridge, Harvard University Press, 1934, p. 71

³ ibid. p.71

by both the personell of the Carmelite Home and the teachers in the respective schools. Four boys were listed as being "Untidy", and thriteen as having undesirable personality traits. These thirteen were described as being untruthful, defiant, obstinate and disagreeable. Forty-three children were described as having "favorable" personalities. They were friendly, truthful, cooperative, cheerful and pleasant.

The chief recreational interests of the fifty-six boys were athletics, reading and handwork. Thirty-four boys were athletically inclined; twenty-two showed no interest in baseball, basketball or swimming. About one half of the total number belonged to the Boy Scout Troops and to various school clubs. Forty-eight out of the fifty six boys were Roman Catholics; there were seven Protestants and one boy attended the Greek Orthodox Church.

The following table shows the distribution of the forty-three boys according to their grade in school from January 1, 1949 to June 1, 1949.

TABLE IX

DISTRIBUTION OF THE FORTY THREE BOYS ACCORDING
TO GRADE PLACEMENT FROM January 1,
1949 to June 1, 1949.

Grade in School	Number
Total	43
Grades 1 - 3	12
Grades 3 - 5	8
Grades 5 - 7	13
Grade 7 to First Year High School	8
First Year High School	2

Table IX shows that thirteen boys, or twenty-nine percent of those in school were in the fifth and sixth grades. Twelve boys, or twenty-seven percent were in the first and second grades. Eight boys, or eighteen percent, attended the seventh and eighth grades and a similar number were in the third and fourth grades.

An arbitrary classification was devised to indicate the attitude of the children toward school work. This was based on material found in the records and in interviews with the teachers. The categories described the children as (a) industrious

(b) willing but slow, (c) lazy. Nineteen boys were described as "industrious" and eleven boys as "willing but slow". The remaining thirteen were classified as "lazy". In their attitude toward school companions, the majority was described as generous and congenial, while five boys were classified as selfish and quarrellsome.

In summarizing this chapter, it may be noted that the study group consisted of fifty-six boys, ranging in age from two to fifteen years and representing forty-four families. All of the children were residents of the State of Indiana, and all but one were born in the vicinity of Hammond, the location of the Carmelite Home.

Thirty-five cases were referrals from the Lake County Bureau of Public Welfare and nineteen cases were referrals from the Catholic Charities and Social Service. In two cases the parents made direct request to the Carmelite Home. In twenty-two cases, representing fourteen families, the Carmelite Home cared for boys because one parent was dead and the living parent was unable to make plans for the child. In one case, both parents were dead. In nineteen cases, representing eighteen families, the parents were either separated or divorced. In eleven cases, representing seven families, the parents were married, but in each case there was a long history of domestic

discord. Four boys were children of unmarried mothers.

The financial status of sixty percent of the families was marginal. The home conditions of thirteen families were considered to be adequate, while the homes of thirty-one were considered to be poor.

Taken as a group, the boys were in good physical health. Forty-three boys attended schools outside of the Carmelite Home, the largest group going to St. Casimer Parochial School, which was in the vicinity of the Carmelite Home. The school records of the boys and statements from the teachers indicated the greater number were industrious in school and were generous and congenial toward their companions. These fifty-six boys were in the Carmelite Home during the first six months of 1949.

CHAPTER IV

STANDARDS IN CHILD CARING INSTITUTIONS

The Catholic Church in its teachings has always upheld the principle that the family is the basic unit of society. In like manner in 1919 the White House Conference on Child Care and Protection, held under the auspices of the United States Children's Bureau, enunciated the principle that:

The fundamental rights of childhood are normal home life, opportunity for education, recreation, vocational preparation for life, the normal religious and physical development in harmony with American Ideals, and the educational and spiritual agencies by which these rights of the child are normally safe-guarded.¹

Thus governmental sanction was given to the established fact that the home is essential to a child's well being.

However, when failure in family life occurs, substitute care for children, whether institutional or in foster homes, must be provided. Under some circumstances the institution then becomes the best solution to a child's problem. In such cases the institution endeavors to help the child, during this period of dependency, by giving him adequate care and training. It is for this reason that governmental agencies and the Child

¹ Minimum Standards for Child Welfare, adopted by the Washington and Regional Conferences on Child Welfare, 1919, U.S. Children's Bureau Publication No. 62, Washington, p. 11

Welfare League of America have set up certain standards as goals for agencies and institutions engaged in child care. These standards embrace a statement of policies and procedures that can be used by such agencies in planning and carrying out their work with children.

This chapter offers a comparison of the Carmelite Home with certain accepted standards for child caring institutions, including policies, administration, plant and equipment and meeting the needs of children.

The standards of the State of Indiana, published in 1939,¹ were used, in conjunction with the standards formulated in 1932 by the Child Welfare League of America.² The standards of the United States Children's Bureau, published in 1936,³ and the standards for Children's Institutions for the State of Illinois adopted in 1946⁴ were also taken as criteria. The discussion is divided into three sections:

1. Section on policies including admission, intake, administration.
2. Section on plant and equipment including the grounds and various utilities.
3. Section on individual needs - physical, mental and religious.

¹ The Child Welfare Service Program, Children's Division, Department of Public Welfare, State of Indiana, 1939.

² Standards for Institutions Caring for Dependent Children, New York, N.Y. Child Welfare League of America, 1932.

³ Children's Bureau Publication no. 170, United States Dept. of Labor, Handbook for the Use of Boards of Directors, Superintendents and Staffs of Institutions for Dependent Children, 1936.

⁴ Outline of Standards for Children's Institutions, State of Ill.

Policies

According to the Child Welfare League of America:

The first responsibility of every child-caring organization is the prevention of family breakdown, and the conservation of wholesome family life for children. Without a foundation of family service which is good and adequate family relief in the community, it is impossible to establish an adequate system of child care.⁵

The Catholic Charities and Social Service of Hammond, a branch office of the Catholic Charities Office of the Fort Wayne Diocese, and the Lake County Department of Public Welfare offer family service and relief to the children in the Carmelite Home, including adequate social investigations before the boys are placed in the institution. The investigations cover the possibility of the use of the Aid to Dependent Children Program.

The formulation of standards also includes a statement to the effect that,

the admission policy (of an institution) should be determined by three main factors: the need of the group to be served, the resources of the community, the type of work to be undertaken.⁶

The Mother Superior of the Carmelite Home determines the

⁵ Standards for Institutions Caring for Dependent Children, Child Welfare League of America, New York, 1932, p. 5

⁶ United States Department of Labor, Handbook for the Use of Boards of Directors, Superintendents and Staffs of Institutions for Dependent Children, U.S. Gov. Printing Office, 1936

admissions, following investigations by the Lake County Department of Public Welfare and the Catholic Charities and Social Service of Hammond. The Carmelite Home Admits dependent boys from two to fourteen years of age, of any race or creed. Negro boys and mentally retarded and problem children can be accepted but, up to 1949, no children in these groupings had been referred to the Carmelite Home by the two agencies.

In regard to intake policy, the U.S. Children's Bureau made the following recommendation:

The intake policy should cover the following points: Designation of the person or group responsible for passing upon the admissions. Type of investigation required. Person or agency responsible for investigation. Restrictions upon admissions. Form of transfer of custody or control required. Length of time during which the children received will remain in the institution.

The intake policy is defined by the director of Catholic Charities of the Fort Wayne Diocese, but the actual acceptance of a child is decided upon by the Mother Superior. An investigation is made concerning all possibilities that might keep the child in his own home or with relatives. The investigation also includes such points as physical and mental examinations, background and personality of the boy, and reasons for placement. The Carmelite Home is never appointed legal guardian of the child. The boy is kept only as long as it is

⁷ Ibid. p. 37

necessary and effort is made to return the boy to his own home or to the home of a relative.

Recommended standards also included a statement to the effect that:

If children are placed in institutions and have relatives who are able to pay in full or in part for the children's care, these relatives should be compelled to pay. A contract to support should be signed by the person responsible.⁸

Parents and relatives of the boys admitted to the Carmelite Home are requested to pay the amount of one dollar a day for the boy's care, but are not asked to sign a contract and payment is not mandatory.

According to the U.S. Children's Bureau standards,

Private organizations whose purpose is to care for dependent children should meet with the approval of the state supervisory board, such as the Department of Public Welfare or Board of Charities and Corrections.⁹

The Carmelite Home was approved in 1915 by the Indiana Board of State Charities. In 1936 the institution was approved by the State Department of Public Welfare. At that time the Welfare Act of Indiana required that the State Department of Public Welfare must administer and supervise all public

⁸ Ibidem p. 43

⁹ Ibidem p. 9

child caring agencies, institutions or boarding homes.

The Child Welfare League recommends that:

A private institution not conducted by such organized groups as religious or fraternal organizations, should have a governing board broadly representative of the community served by the institution. This board and the executive shall be jointly responsible for the general plans and policies of the organization.¹⁰

The Carmelite Home has been from the time of its founding, under the jurisdiction of the Bishop of the Fort Wayne Diocese. It is affiliated with the Diocesan Charities, and is under the direct supervision and administration of the Carmelite Sisters. The Carmelite Home has no formal governing board, but four professional men in the local community are consulted on plans and policies of major importance.

In regard to the personell of child caring institutions the U.S. Children's Bureau recommends:

That the selection of persons of adequate training and desirable personality be placed in immediate charge of children is the most important single factor in providing for their character development.¹¹

The personell of the Carmelite Home are appointed by the Mother General of the Carmelite Order.

¹⁰ Standards for Institutions Caring for Dependent Children, Child Welfare League of America, New York, 1932, p. 10

¹¹ U.S. Department of Labor, Handbook for the Use of Boards of Directors and Staffs of Institutions, U.S.Gov. Printing Office, 1936, p. 12

From a consideration of admission, intake and personell the formulation of standards proceeds to a consideration of working conditions within the institution. The U.S. Children's Bureau recommends:

That among desirable working conditions for the supervisors there must be freedom from fatigue of too long hours, sufficient relief from the monotony of the institutional care, sufficient diversity of experience both inside the home and in the general community life, so as to maintain mental, social and physical flexibility and bupyancy and health.¹²

The members of the staff of the Carmelite Home have time for personal recreation and there is sufficient diversity in their work to avoid monotony. The fact that the children of school age are sent to the parochial or public schools during the school year makes it possible for the staff members who are responsible for their care to have sufficient time to pursue other interests.

The U.S. Children's Bureau sets the following standard conderming record keeping in child caring institutions:

The record keeping and clerical work of an institution are very important, and only people who are qualified to do the work in the best way should be employed.¹³

The Mother Superior, aided by a Sister who is designated as

¹² Ibid. p. 13

¹³ Ibid. p. 14

the procurator, take care of all record keeping and clerical work in the Carmelite Home.

The final recommendation in this first section, as stated by the U.S. Children's Bureau, concerns the employees and suggests that:

Household and farm workers should be persons of desirable character as well as expert in their line of work.¹⁴

The one household employee of the Carmelite Home, who takes care of the garden during the summer months, in addition to janitor work, is an elderly man of good character.

Plant and Equipment

In the second section of this chapter, the U.S. Children's Bureau recommendations regarding the physical set-up of an institution are considered. These include the recommendation that:

The location which meets the requirements for the average institution is one in the suburbs of a city or town, where sufficient land can be obtained accessible to schools, churches and other community activities, and close enough to connect with water and sewage systems.¹⁵

The Carmelite Home is located on the fringe of the "loop" in Hammond. The bus transportation is good and makes it possible for parents and relatives to make frequent visits to the child-

¹⁴ Ibid. p. 14

¹⁵ Ibid. p. 16

ren at the Carmelite Home. The institution is within walking distance from churches and recreational facilities and has the Hammond water and sewer facilities.

The Department of Public Welfare of the State of Illinois, in its list of minimum standards recommends:

That the building should be used exclusively for the program of child care, and equipped for proper care of children.¹⁶

The Carmelite Home, consisting of two buildings, is used exclusively for child care. The equipment on every floor is designed and used for the care of the age groups represented by the children. The Sisters are engaged in the work of child care to the exclusion of any other occupation.

The Department of Public Welfare of the State of Illinois further recommends, as a minimum requirement for child caring institutions, that:

There should be play equipment and material for a constructive recreation program, particularly for days when children need to be inside. There should be play space for children both indoors and outdoors.¹⁷

The large outdoor playground is enclosed by a fence and has ample space for baseball, football, basketball or roller

¹⁶ Outline of Standards for Children's Institutions, State of Illinois, Department of Public Welfare, Div. of Child Welfare, 1946, p. 7

¹⁷ Ibid. p. 7

skating. There is a garden plot with shade trees and shrubbery. The indoor recreational facilities are limited to handcraft and the library. The boys however, may always use the facilities of the nearby public park or parochial school on rainy days.

The U.S. Children's Bureau recommends the following fire protection for any institution:

In considering protection from fire hazards the following are matters of grave concern: the location of heating plants, the number, kind and location of fire escapes on the building higher than two stories, sufficient water pressure, electric wiring should be regularly inspected by the city fire departments. Doors should open outward and all outside doors should be equipped with automatic fire locks; fire drills should be practiced once every two weeks.¹⁸

The Bureau likewise recommends that:

Ventilation is necessary to preserve the right temperature, 65 to 70 degrees, the proper amount of humidity and the desirable movement of air.¹⁹

The Carmelite Home has two heating systems located in the basements of the buildings. The older building has a hot water heating system, while the new building has a steam heating plant. The institution is equipped with a tubular fire escape which protects the youngest boys, leading from their dor-

¹⁸ United States Department of Labor, Handbook for the Use of Boards of Directors, Superintendents of Institutions, p.20

¹⁹ Ibid. p. 23

mitory and playroom into the spacious playground. There are sufficient fire extinguishers in the building, which is inspected by the Hammond Fire Department. Fire drills are practiced twice each month.

There is proper temperature and humidity in the Carmelite Home at all times. All rooms have windows in the wall opposite the door, and this insures cross currents of air. All rooms are provided with the maximum amount of natural light, since the buildings are located in the center of the grounds.

Another minimum requirement set down by the Department of Public Welfare of the State of Illinois requires:

That all parts of the building and equipment in each institution be kept clean and sanitary in condition.²⁰

The Kitchen, dining rooms, toilets and laundry at the Carmelite Home are cleaned every day. The grounds are well kept and always clean. In this same connection, the U.S. Children's Bureau recommends that:

Flush toilets should be supplied in the various buildings, which should be accessible to dormitories, playrooms and playgrounds; lavatory facilities should

²⁰ Outline of Standards for Children's Institutions, State of Illinois, Department of Public Welfare, Division of Child Welfare, 1946, p. 7

include one bowl with hot and cold running water for each four children and in a separate room from bath, toilet and dressing rooms; one tub or shower to six or eight children,²¹ each in a separate compartment.

Flush toilets are located on every floor of the buildings and are easily accessible to the playgrounds and dormitories. The Carmelite Home provides a sufficient number of wash bowls, showers and tubs for the boys.

The Public Welfare Department of the State of Illinois also includes the following two minimum requirements:

A bed for each child with level springs and mattress. A pillow, two sheets, and sufficient covering for comfort. Linens should be changed at least once a week.

Toilet articles such as wash cloth, toothbrush, comb and other articles should be provided for each child. Each clearly marked for the individual child. Space for drying towels and wash cloths quickly. Towels and wash cloths changed at least twice a week.²²

The Carmelite Home provides comfortable beds for every child and these are suited to the individual size. The linens are

²¹ United States Department of Labor, Handbook for the Use of Boards of Directors, Superintendents and Staffs of Institutions for Dependent Children, U.S. Gov. Printing Office, 1936, pp. 21 - 22

²² Outline of Standards for Children's Institutions, State of Illinois, 1946, p. 7

changed every week; towels and cloths are changed twice a week and every boy has necessary toilet articles and individual space in which to keep them.

The U.S. Children's Bureau makes the following recommendation concerning playrooms:

Playrooms should be comfortable and attractive. They must never be in the basement. They should be sunny and well ventilated.²³

The playrooms at the Carmelite Home are sufficiently large to accomodate the boys at the various age levels. They are furnished with appropriate furniture, pianos, radios and book cases. They have a homelike atmosphere and the boys are free to display their work on the walls or suspended from the ceilings of the rooms.

Services to Children

In connection with the individual needs of children, the U.S. Children's Bureau formulated the following minimum requirement for institutions:

A thorough physical examination of each child should be made by a competent physician before the child is admitted or immediately thereafter.

²³ United States Department of Labor, Handbook for the Use of Boards of Directors, Superintendents and Staffs of Institutions for Dependent Children, U.S. Gov. Printing Office, 1936, p. 30

Height and weight should be recorded at regular intervals and all medical records should be kept in the institution.²⁴

Statements from licensed physicians are requested by the Carmelite Home before the boys are admitted. Children with contagious diseases are never referred. Infirmary facilities, medical records, height and weight charts are available at all times.

The U.S. Children's Bureau also recommends that the following health habits be followed:

- a) A daily bath; two warm baths, tub or shower each week should be the minimum.
- b) Wash the hands and face on rising and retiring.
- c) Wash the hands and brush the hair before each meal.
- d) Wash hands after going to the bathroom.
- e) Clean the finger nails daily and trim weekly.²⁵

This type of program is followed at the Carmelite Home. Two warm baths are given each boy every week; hands are washed on rising and retiring and before meals. There is an inspection of finger nails each week.

Concerning dormitories and dining rooms the Department of Public Welfare of the State of Indiana makes the following

²⁴ Ibid. p. 46-47

²⁵ Ibid. p. 49-50

recommendation:

Dormitories shall be provided for the younger children with an adjoining room for the attendant. There shall be rooms for the sick, properly isolated from the other departments. If a school is maintained by the institution, a separate building shall be provided.

The dining room shall be equipped with tables designed to accomodate not more than eight children each, chairs with backs, white table cloths, napkins and suitable tableware. The kitchen equipment shall consist of a range, zinc covered work table, running water and necessary cooking utensils.²⁶

The dormitories are on the first and second floors, with an adjoining private room for the Sister in charge. The boys are divided into age groups, and each child has a bed suited to his size. The beds are provided with a set of hooks on the back to hold the clothing during sleeping hours. A room known as the infirmary is located in the corner of the building. A school is not maintained at the Carmelite Home.

There are two dining rooms for the boys. Five boys are seated at each table, and tables and chairs are built in size convenient for the boys. Each boy has his own tableware and napkins. The kitchen has modern equipment, including all nec-

²⁶ The Child Welfare Service Program, Department of Public Welfare, Children's Division, State of Indiana, 1939, p. 16

cesary utensils.

The Department of Public Welfare of the State of Indiana also recommends that "the laundry be located in a separate building or room".²⁷ The laundry room is large, with ample space for drying clothes. It is located near the boiler room and is equipped with adequate facilities.

The U.S. Children's Bureau makes the following recommendation concerning the eating habits of children in institutions:

Meals should be served at regular hours. Eating between meals or shortly before a meal should be discouraged. A start should be made in training the children in good habits just as soon as they enter the institution.²⁸

The meals are served at regular hours: breakfast at 7:30 for the older boys and at 9:00 for the young ones. Dinner at 12:00 noon for all and Supper is served at 4:30 for the older boys and at 5:00 for the young ones. Eating immediately before meals is discouraged and the children are taught the values of certain foods, especially foods which they perhaps dislike.

In order to meet the mental needs of children in an institution, the U.S. Children's Bureau made the following reco-

²⁷ Ibid. p. 16

²⁸ U.S. Department of Labor, Handbook for the Use of Boards of Directors, Superintendents and Staffs of Institutions for Dependent Children, U.S. Printing Office, 1936, p. 49

mentation:

Children must learn to obey,
yet they must also learn to
control and direct themsel-
ves and to be independent.²⁹

The staff of the Carmelite Home is satisfied with the response that they get from the children in regard to obedience. It is essential that the children learn self-direction and self-control. Since the routine of any institution offers very little in the way of independence to any child, it is necessary that this question be given particular attention.

The Children's Bureau also made the recommendation that:

The mental and emotional well being
of the child may be developed by
seeing that the child is emotionally
stable.³⁰

Many of the children are taken from their own homes and are placed in the Carmelite Home because of bad home conditions, including sickness or divorce of the parents. Staff members study the history of each child and at times request psychological tests in the hope of being more helpful to the child and of doing the things that will contribute to his emotional stability.

The Children's Bureau further recommends that:

²⁹ Ibid. p. 67

³⁰ Ibid. p. 64

A regard for property rights may be taught to very young children, and that a manifestation of interest in each child's personal projects helps to maintain the right spirit.³¹

Every boy at the Carmelite Home has a compartment for his personal belongings. Without permission of the owner, this privacy is seldom violated. A birthday celebration for each child, Christmas Day, Easter and St. Valentine's Day are important events at the institution. They are celebrated with parties at which gifts are distributed.

The U.S. Children's Bureau also states that:

Individual work is more important in the institution's school than in the public school.³²

The older boys at the Carmelite Home belong to the Boy Scout Troops and to various parish organizations. At the Carmelite Home itself, the boys have facilities for completing the various projects which they start in the clubs and organizations to which they belong.

The U.S. Children's Bureau makes the following statement concerning moral freedom:

The children should have as much moral freedom as they can stand, or as much as they will not seriously abuse. If their

³¹ Ibid. p. 67

³² Ibid. p. 89

environment is so restricted that they can never make wrong choices, there is little opportunity for development of self-control and moral decision.³³

The Bureau also recommends that:

Instructions in accordance with the faith of the parents should be provided for all children. It should be definitive and positive.³⁴

The religious training the boys receive in the parochial schools and at the Carmelite Home gives them a fundamental knowledge of the truths of the Catholic religion. The boys must adhere to the rules of the institution at all times. The majority of the boys are Catholic and their spiritual needs are cared for by diocesan priests from the Noll Catholic High School in Hammond. The boys of other religions attend services in their own churches.

Concerning recreation, the Children's Bureau recommends that:

The recreation leader should be responsible for the general planning of the recreation program.³⁵

A recreational leader as such is not employed by the Carmelite Home. Recreational activities are under the direction of a

³³ Ibid. p. 80
³⁴ Ibid. p. 79
³⁵ Ibid. p. 100

Sister and a lay person. During the school year the facilities of the parishes are used, under the direction of a parish priest. During the vacation period, the public park facilities are used under the direction of the recreational leaders employed by the park system.

Concerning the length of stay of children in an institution the U.S. Children's Bureau makes the following suggestion:

The stay of children in institutions for dependents should be as brief as possible. The condition of all children in such institutions should be carefully studied at frequent intervals in order to determine whether they should be restored to their homes, placed in foster homes or transferred to institutions better suited to their needs.³⁶

The staff of the Carmelite Home reviews each child's situation at frequent intervals in order to determine whether or not it is possible to place him in his own home or with relatives, if it is thought that the child will benefit by such a change. The social workers of both referring agencies join with the staff of the institution in this evaluation. The boys usually remain in the Carmelite Home until they have completed their school education at the grade level. In cases where children

³⁶ Ibid. p. 102

cannot return to their homes, the social worker guides the boys in the selection of a school or in obtaining suitable employment.

The Department of Public Welfare of the State of Indiana considers the following to be a minimum requirement for every institution:

Each licensed institution shall be open to inspection at all times by representatives of the Board of State Charities and such representatives shall be given all reasonable information concerning the institution and its operations.

This same agency adds that:

Each institution shall keep a permanent Record Book, the form to be approved by the Board of State Charities. It shall contain a record of each child received, including the full name, date of birth, date of admission, as much of its family history as can be obtained, the authority committing the child to the institution, the date of discharge and the name and address of the person taking the child. Each institution shall maintain in addition a file with a plainly labeled separate envelope or folder for each child, in which shall be kept the commitment, the physician's certificate and all other papers concerning the child.³⁷

The Carmelite Home is open for inspection at all times. In addition to the representatives of the State Board of Chari-

³⁷ The Child Welfare Service Program, Children's Division, Department of Public Welfare, State of Indiana, 1939, p. 17

ties, who made inspections in 1915, the Carmelite Home, in 1949, was inspected by the members of the Division of Children, of the Indiana Department of Public Welfare, and by members of the various Community Chests that contribute to its support. The Mother Superior readily gives information about the institution and its operations. The Carmelite Home keeps all records in accordance with the recommendation of the State Department of Public Welfare of Indiana.

In this chapter, the Carmelite Home for boys was compared with accepted standards for children's institutions. The comparison was generally favorably, but, due to limited financial resources, the Carmelite Home does have negative aspects. These include, chiefly, the lack of a full time social worker, a recreational leader and certain physical improvements which would be advantageous both to the staff and to the boys.

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

Since no permanent objective historical or descriptive treatise has ever been written about the Carmelite Home for boys, this study was undertaken to present as comprehensive a picture as was possible of this institution. The writer presented the historical and developmental picture of the Carmelite Home and also made an analysis of the case histories of the children who were in the institution during the first six months of 1949.

In the course of the study, it was pointed out that the work of the Catholic Church with dependent children in Indiana was started in 1828 and continued, with the establishment of other institutions, to the time of the erection of the Carmelite Home for boys in 1915. In the first year, forty-one boys were admitted and without interruption to 1949, 2846 boys were served.

The institution, which was financed in part by the Hammond Community Chest, was planned with the needs of the children in mind. In location, it was within easy reach of educational, recreational and transportation facilities, which enabled the staff, children, parents and friends to communicate easily.

A review of the social policies of the Carmelite Home indicated that the institution was resorted to only when there was parental inability to care for a child, and the child was returned to his own home when the parents were able to care for him. The staff of the institution depended on case summaries which were submitted to the Carmelite Home by the Agencies. With this information the staff admitted and guided the child during his stay in the Carmelite Home. As a rule, no boy remained in the institution after the completion of his grade school education. After that time a new plan was arranged for him by the interested agency, and the Carmelite Home did not consider itself responsible for the after-care.

The children were afforded means for wholesome recreational outlets every season of the year. No director of athletics was employed by the institution, but nearby supervised park and church facilities were used.

The entire population of the Carmelite Home, at the time of this study consisted of fifty-six boys, representing forty-four families. The boys, all residents of the State of Indiana, with fifty-eight percent of the total group coming from East Chicago and Hammond, ranged in age from two to fifteen years. Thirty-five boys were referred from the Lake County Bureau of Public Welfare, while nineteen boys were

referred by the Catholic Charities and Social Service. Two boys were direct applications to the Mother Superior.

In twenty-two cases, representing fourteen families, the Carmelite Home cared for boys because one parent was dead and the living parent was unable to make plans for the child. In nineteen cases, representing eighteen families, the parents were separated or divorced. In eleven cases, representing seven families the parents were married, but each case was a long history of domestic discord. The study also revealed that four unmarried mothers obtained placement for their four children.

In the course of the study it was learned that the financial status of sixty percent of the families was marginal. The home conditions of thirty-one families were considered poor, while thirteen families provided adequate homes.

Taken as a group, the boys were found to be in good physical health. Forty-two boys attended Catholic parochial schools in the vicinity of the institution, while one boy attended the public school. The teachers described the greater number of boys as industrious in their school work and as congenial toward their companions.

In this study, the Carmelite Home was compared with accepted standards for children's institutions. The compari-

son was generally favorable, but due to limited financial resources the institution had limitations. These included chiefly the lack of a full time social worker and a recreational leader on the staff of the Carmelite Home. The thirty-four year old building, originally designed as a farm house, could be modernized, which would be advantageous both to the staff and to the children.

The writer is of the opinion that the Carmelite Home would profit by having a social worker on its staff. Criticism is not levelled at the work performed by the interested agencies. The writer merely wants to indicate that an institution which has cared for 2846 children should have a specialized member on its staff who would be a valuable link between the institution and the home of the child. The investigations before placement would be more thorough and efforts to rehabilitate the families would become more intensified. Perhaps as a result the child's stay in the institution would be shortened and the child would avail himself of the opportunity of expressing himself freely to a professional person. The result would be more individualized attention for each child.

It is hoped that this study has suggested other possible studies. One such study would be the analysis of the adjustment of this group of boys to the community after some time

has elapsed. Such a study would indicate, to some extent, the effectiveness of the program of the Carmelite Home on the individual child.

In general, the study of the Carmelite Home indicated a real attempt on the part of the staff to meet the problem of the dependent boy. This institution has made a definite contribution to the State of Indiana, and has added to the historical picture of Catholic institutional development in the United States.

FOR ADMISSION INTO ST. JOSEPH'S HOME

Name of Child _____ Religion _____

Date of Birth _____ Place _____ Nationality _____

Date of Baptism _____ Place _____ Church _____

Has lived at _____ Attended School at _____

Was at other Children's Home or Institution _____

Father _____ Address _____

Nationality _____ Occupation _____

Mother _____ Address _____

Nationality _____ Occupation _____

Other Members of Family and their age _____

Mother Deceased _____ Date _____ Place _____ Cause _____

Father Deceased _____ Date _____ Place _____ Cause _____

Member of Parish _____ Place _____ How long? _____

Guardian _____ Appointed by _____

Address _____

Supported by _____ Rate per month _____

Address _____

By whom employed---Father _____ Mother _____

Freeholder or tenant _____ Weekly Income _____

Names of near relatives _____

Date of Admission _____

Remarks:

PHYSICIAN'S REPORT

I, _____ a physician
do hereby certify, that on the _____ day of _____ 19____, I
personally examined the said _____ age _____, and that the
answers to the following questions are true to the best of my know-
ledge, information and belief, to-wit:

Has the child proper vision? _____

Is child of sound intellect? _____

Has the child the free use of his limbs? _____

Is child free from cutaneous disease? _____

Is child subject to epilepsy? _____

Is child ruptured? _____

Has child any bladder or kidney trouble? _____

Is child afflicted with incontinence of urine? _____

Does child require special care? _____

Has child undergone a surgical operation? _____ What? _____ When? _____

Is heart action normal? _____

Has child enlarged tonsils? _____ Adenoids? _____ Thyroid Glands? _____

Has child tuberculosis of any kind? _____

Is there history of tuberculosis in the family? _____

Has child any chronic or contagious disease? _____

Has child been exposed to any infectious or contagious disease within
the last fifteen (15) days? _____

When was child last vaccinated? _____

Dated _____ Indiana, this _____ day of _____ A.D. 19____

M.D.

Physician

[illegible]

CHILD'S MEDICAL RECORD

Child's Name SURNAME FIRST NAME Case Number TYPE CODE Date of Birth Sex

FAMILY HISTORY

Name	Birth Date	Birth Place	If Dead, Give Date and Cause of Death	Physical and Mental Defects

CHILD'S PHYSICAL HISTORY

Birth: Term	Weight	Previous Illnesses (with age)
Delivery	Condition	Measles
		Mumps
Infant Feeding:		Chicken Pox
Breast fed	No. of Mos.	Scarlet Fever
Mixed	Artificial (kind)	Diphtheria
		Whooping Cough
Development: (Striking facts as to progress or retardation)		Tonsillitis
		Rheumatism
First teeth (age)	Walked alone (age)	Chorea
Talked in sentences (age)		Pneumonia
Accidents:		Other
Enuresis-Diurnal	Nocturnal	
Appetite		
Sleep—Quiet	Restless	
Bowels—Regular	Laxatives	
Frequent Colds	Cough	Schick Test
Nervous Habits		Toxin-Antitoxin or Toxoid
Immunizations:		Vaccination

ained by

Date _____

TESTS AND INOCULATIONS

[illegible]

CORRECTION OF DEFECTS; GENERAL PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

[illegible]

Prescribed by State Department of Public Welfare

DPW Form 333

CHILDREN'S HOME ADMISSION CARD

Full Name of Children's Home		Date of Admission		Case Number		Type of Case	check
Child's Surname	Given Name	Date of Birth	Sex	Race	Religion	D.P.W. Ward	
		Month-Day-Year	M__F__			D.P.W. Service	
Date of Wardship		Court or Agency Given Wardship				Destitute Child	
						Court Ward	
						Court Committed	
						Private Agency	
						Private Family	
Agency, Court, or Person Who Placed or Committed Child		Relationship to Child		Date of Change*			
Address							

NAME OF CHILD'S PARENTS		NAME OF CHILD'S STEP-PARENTS	
Father	Living ___ Dead ___	Step-Father	
Mother (Maiden)	Living ___ Dead ___	Step-Mother	

DISCHARGES AND RE-ADMISSIONS				
Date Discharged	To Whom Discharged	Address	Relationship to Child	Date Re-admitted

* Enter only when reporting change in type of case while child is in Children's Home

APPENDIX C

APPENDIX D

Do not Write in this
space_____
Date Action Taken_____
Accepted_____
Rejected_____

ADMISSION INFORMATION
for

(Children's Home or Child Caring Institution)

Case Number_____

Date_____

Name of Person or Agency making
Referral:_____

Child

Name_____Religion_____Sex_____Race_____

Birthdate_____Birthplace_____

Name of Person with whom
child last lived_____Relationship_____

Address_____

Child referred for care as: 1. D.P.W Ward
(Circle Number) 2. D.P.W Service Case
3. Destitute Child
4. Court Ward
5. Court Committment
6. Placement by Private Agency
7. Placement by family or
guardian

Court or agency given wardship_____

Date of wardship_____

Agency, court, or person who is placing or committing
child_____

Address_____Relationship to child_____

Terms of court order_____

Person to call in emergency_____Phone_____

Name of last attending physician or clinic attended_____

School attended_____

Who is responsible for school tuition_____

Child's Family

Father

Name_____Birthplace_____

Birthdate_____Marital Status_____

Address_____

Place of employment _____
Kind of work _____ Earnings _____
If deceased, give _____
Date Place Cause
If remarried, name of stepmother _____
Address of stepmother _____

Mother
Name _____ Maiden Name _____
Birthdate _____ Birthplace _____ Marital
Address _____ Status _____
Place of employment _____
Kind of work _____ Earnings _____
If deceased, give _____
Date _____ Place _____ Cause _____
If re-married, name of stepfather _____
Address _____

<u>Siblings</u>				
Name	Age	Address	Relationship	

Other relatives and individuals interested in child:		
Name	Address	Relationship

(Not to be filled in by person or agency making referral) -

Plans for child:

Describe the financial agreement with agencies or individuals responsible for child_____

Describe plans for contacts with parents, relatives and friends

Tell why child needs care away from own home and something of his personality and behavior, which would be of help to children's home staff in understanding the child. (Attach additional sheets if needed).

Include also a school report for the child and a report of health history and medical examination.

Mail to _____ Children's Home
Address _____

This information is CONFIDENTIAL and is to be kept in locked File.

APPENDIX E
Menu
First Week of Lent
1949

<u>Sunday</u>	<u>Breakfast</u>	<u>Lunch</u>	<u>Dinner</u>
	Pineapple Juice Cornflakes - Milk Bread - Butter Cocoa	Turkey Mashed Potatoes Peas - Carrots Bread-Milk	Cold Meat Cuts Bread-Butter Milk - Cake Ice Cream
<u>Monday</u>	Stewed Prunes Oatmeal-Milk Bread-Butter Cocoa	Cream Cheese Grape Marmalade Sandwich Cake- Milk	Lamb - Milk Potatoes - Bread Spinach - Butter Vanila Ambrosia
<u>Tuesday</u>	Orange Juice Puffed Wheat Milk-Bread- Butter -Cocoa	Peanut-butter Maionaise Sand- wiches - Milk Apple - Cookies	Turkey Stew Potatoes-Beans Muffins-Coffee Milk
<u>Wednesday</u>	Tomatoe Juice Oatmeal - Milk Bread-Butter Cocoa	Eggs -Sandwiches Lettuce Sweet Buns Milk	Pea Soup -Pie Rice with Fish Mixed Salad Milk - Bread
<u>Thursday</u>	Cream of Wheat Prune Juice Milk Butter Bread - Cocoa	Cottage Cheese Sandwiches Celery-Cup Cakes Milk - Orange	Potatoes - Milk Sauerkraut-Jello Frankfurts-Bread Raspberries
<u>Friday</u>	Apple Juice Puffed Rice-Milk Bread-Butter Hot Cross Buns Cocoa	Peanut Butter Sandwiches Doughnuts Milk Peaches	Salmon Patties Macaroni Tomatoes Bread-Pudding Milk-Butter
<u>Saturday</u>	Appricots Oatmeal -Milk Bread-Butter Coffee-Milk	Scrambled Eggs Sandwich Sliced Tomatoes Milk	Smoked Fish Vegetable Stew Bread-Milk Pancakes-Syrup

APPENDIX F

BOYS IN THE CARMELITE HOME FROM 1915 to 1949.

<u>Year</u>	<u>Number of Children</u>
Total	2846
1915	41
1916	75
1917	68
1918	85
1919	73
1920	68
1921	84
1922	87
1923	88
1924	65
1925	89
1926	75
1927	91
1928	97
1929	84
1930	87
1931	93
1932	89
1933	86
1934	95
1935	87
1936	74
1937	90
1938	82
1939	72
1940	67
1941	83
1942	78
1943	80
1944	98
1945	90
1946	92
1947	97
1948	80
1949	56

I Identifying Information about the Child

Address _____ Date of Birth _____
Date of Admission _____ Date of Discharge _____
Age at Admission _____ Reason for Admission _____
Legal Status _____ Religion _____
Admitting Agency _____ Grade in School _____
School Placement Following Admission _____
Previous Placement Outside of Home _____
Number of Children and Position of Child in Family 1 2 3 4 5 6 7
Health _____ I.Q. _____

II Family Background

Marital Status of Parents W S M S D

Occupation of Breadwinner _____

Financial Status _____

Other Social Agencies _____

Home Conditions _____

Specific Problems of Parents _____

III The Child in the InstitutionSchool

1. Attitude Toward Sister: a) Friendly b) Truthful c) Cooperative d) Defiant e) Untruthful f) Obstinate
2. Attitude Toward Companions: a) Congenial b) Peaceable c) Generous d) Withdrawn e) Quarrelsome f) Selfish
3. Attitude Toward School Work: a) Industrious b) Willing but slow c) Willing and capable d) Lazy

Institution

4. Appearance: a) Neat b) Average c) Untidy
5. Health: a) Strong b) Delicate c) Robust d) Weak e) Ailing
6. Play Habits: a) Plays with friends b) Does not c) Disturbs
7. Reacts Best To: a) Praise b) Reasoning c) Blame d) Fear e) Punishment
8. Leadership: a) Efficient b) Submissive c) Follower d) Seldom active e) Tendency to domineer.

APPENDIX H
CASE SUMMARY
No.1

90

Johnnie age eight, and Buddy age nine, were referred for placement 8-16-44, following the granting of guardianship to the - - Agency, by the Juvenile Court. The court investigation revealed that the boys were seriously neglected. Since the death of the boy's mother in 1942, the two boys were supervised by two older step-sisters and intermittently by their maternal grandmother. The step-sisters were found to be delinquent by the Juvenile Court and have been placed in a correctional institution.

In addition to the boys referred to the Carmelite Home, there were three other children in the family group. The two younger members of the family were to be cared for by their grandmother. A sister Ruth, was to be placed in the Carmelite Home for Girls.

The father of the children, who was Mexican born, was an emotionally disturbed individual and appeared to be quite retarded. It would appear from the Juvenile court record, which was quite lengthy, that the father had never provided adequate supervision for the children since their mothers death. It was apparent that he was sincerely interested in the children, and his inability to provide suitable care stemmed from innate incapacities rather than disinterest. The father was previously married and divorced from his first wife.

Johnnie, was of very small stature, but was in good health. He attended a public school and said that he must repeat first grade this year because of bad marks. He was considerably more disturbed about leaving his grandmothers house than were the other children, but looked forward to the athletic activities at the Carmelite Home.

Buddy, regarded by the grandmother as more retarded than the other children, only recently learned to speak English, since Spanish was always spoken at home. His development in walking and other activities was considerably slower than that of the other children. It was evident that Buddy had very little supervision and training in play habits. The physician's examination indicated that Buddy was free from any infectious or contagious diseases.

The children were baptized in the Catholic Church. The father employed as a steel worker earned approximately \$160.00 monthly.

The two boys were wards of - - Agency. Wardship was requested for financial reasons and in order to provide the boys with supervision in the event that the father failed in the future. The boys were to be paid for through the wardship fund and the father agreed to contribute.

APPENDIX H
CASE SUMMARY
No.2

91

Request for Verne's placement was made by his mother on 11-17-48. The mother and son lived in three different homes of friends for short periods of time due to the separation from her husband in April of 1948.

Verne's parent's, were married in Leeds, England on 2-1-45, during the time that the husband was in the United States Army stationed in England. The record indicated that there was a great deal of marital difficulty before the separation occurred. After the war, the couple returned to the United States and lived with the parents of her husband. Two brothers, their wives and families also lived in this home, and it appeared that much dissension resulted because many persons lived within this limited space.

After the separation, the husband was unemployed, lived with friends. The husband told his wife repeatedly to obtain a divorce and to return to England with the child. The wife refused, hoping a reconciliation would follow.

There was little support for the child within the family set-up, and the mother refused a foster home placement. The father however, hoped to secure a permanent home for the child. The father was very definite in his statements that there would be no reconciliation. In interviews, he always praised his wife for taking good care of the child.

Verne was a husky, red-haired, blue-eyed child, who appeared extremely active. He had no childhood diseases according to his mother, and always enjoyed good health. All routine shots and vaccinations were procured in England prior to the child's coming to this country to qualify for the immigration health standards.

The child had very little training. His speech was extremely limited for a child of his age. In his relationships with other children, he played in a rough and ready fashion. The worker thought that the mother was not too seriously concerned about the child and the child's aggressiveness and hyperactivity was due to an unsettled home situation in which there was no feeling of security or affection.

Because of the unsettled and unstable life which the boy led in various homes, the mother agreed that a more routine situation offering a great deal more of security for the child would be of greater advantage to him. The child was placed in the Carmelite Home for boys.

APPENDIX H
CASE SUMMARY
No.3

92

Eugene was referred for placement at the request of his mother who was unable to provide adequate supervision. The mental Hygiene Clinic in which the boy was examined, recommended placement in an institutional setting. Further clinic visits were not recommended.

The mother described as a highly unstable and emotional person, who showed lack of understanding and ability in the handling of the boy, visited the agency three times during the past year. She was particularly in need of understanding of the relationship that existed between her handling of the child and the problem he presented.

The boy was questioned by the police after he was found loitering on the streets during school hours. This problem according to the mother centered around his failure "to mind her", to attend school regularly and to refrain from stealing and staying out late nights, and to appreciate the many efforts she was making to provide for his care.

The mother came to the agency three times and demanded immediate placement after a crisis arose such as loitering during school hours or stealing.

Eugene, was a husky, ten year old boy, who had an outgoing disposition. He appeared to have made an adjustment to the frequent situations and possibly felt that he could hold his own quite well. The situations, which were brought about by Eugene, were probably the result of a feeling of insecurity and were an attention getting device.

The boy's social adjustment according to the Principal of the school, which he attended, could be described as "quite good". He was well liked by the teacher and the children, and presented no disciplinary problems in the classroom. He was enrolled in the fifth grade and his school work was considered to be acceptable. His interests were typical of a boy of his own age. He enjoyed participation in group activities such as baseball, football and liked comic books and movies.

The mother said that she and her husband were separated before Eugene's birth. However, this fact was not verified and the interested agencies as well as the school had considerable question about the mother's marital status. Various points in the history indicated that she might never have been married to the boy's father.

The mother employed as a waitress, was advised by her physician to seek other employment because the work and late hours probably contributed to her nervousness and instability.

THE HAMMOND TIMES

July 27, 1945

Introducing Sister Clotilde
Carmelite House is Haven for Boys.

For Sister Clotilde is mistress of Carmelite House that truly great institution at 4007 Sheffield Avenue, Hammond, and Carmelite House is one of those rare places one might call a restorer of faith in human nature.

But let's get this straight. Carmelite House, contrary to widespread opinion is not an "orphanage" in the ordinary sense of the term. To be sure, many orphans are cared for here, but it's more than that. It is a home for any unfortunate boy, regardless of religious denomination, who has been assigned to the Carmelite Sisterhood.

The Hammond Carmelite Home at present has forty-nine boys within its walls. The average is from fifty-two to fifty-five. Their ages range from two to fourteen years.

Here the little fellows live, eat, sleep, work and receive religious instructions under the guidance of Sister Clotilde, and seven other nuns of the order. They don't go to school here. The little Catholics are sent to the city's parochial schools while members of other denominations attend municipal schools.

While inspecting the block-long building housing this little army of charges, it is best to imagine yourself a small boy of low degree taken from home - well maybe it's best not to describe some of the "homes", - many of these youngsters inhabit before being taken over by the juvenile authorities and assigned here. Some of them are too filthy, too evil or too poverty cursed to be realistically pictured in a newspaper.

Here cleanliness hardly ranks next to Godliness. Rather should the two be portrayed as going hand in hand. For if a speck of dirt or dust existed in any of the many dormitories and kitchen and playrooms viewed yesterday, the four pair of keen eyes failed to detect it. (Carl Huebner, Jerome Hartnett, L. J. Murphy).

Perfect arrangement, indicative of a similar order and discipline likewise characterize the set-up at Carmelite House. The boys are assigned to dormitories in groups ranked according to age. The older boys (who by the way serve as monitors to the younger folk) have sleeping quarters and a playroom to themselves. In another part of the large building are rooms for the "middle-aged" folk - the fellows from six to nine. In still another place are the ones even younger, while the very wee tots sleep in cribs under the direct care of the Sisters.

Another pleasing aspect of the institution is the large garden, supervised by a male gardener. Here are grown all the fresh fruit and vegetables a half a hundred young tum-mies can hold.

In spotless kitchens the Sisters labor mightily to provide well cooked meals for their charges.

Carmelite House depends for its existence in part on public funds distributed through the Hammond Community Chest and a brief visit with Sister Clotilde indicates the immeasurable good wrought by every dollar allotted the institution.

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The Carmelite Home





Playroom

