

UNITED CHARITIES ANNUAL MEETING

Reports of Officers and Election of New Officers Occupy Time of Meeting Last Night.

REPORT OF SECRETARY

General Secretary's Report Gives Account of All Work Done by the Organization This Year.

The annual meeting of the United Charities was held at the Y. W. C. A. auditorium last evening with not a large number present. The business taken up was the election of officers to replace those whose terms have expired and the reading of annual reports of the secretary, treasurer and general secretary. Some time was given to the discussion of ways and means to obtain \$400 more, needed by the organization to complete the \$1,000 necessary to carry on the work.

The election of officers resulted in the re-election of Rev. John C. Sage, Miss Dorothy Younker and F. E. Erdman, respectively president, secretary and treasurer. Vice president elected were Mr. Albert Kiefer, Mrs. W. J. Roberts, Miss Lucretia Huiskamp and Mr. Leonard Matless.

West Keokuk Dependents. That West Keokuk is a section of the city comparatively free from that class of people which receives charity was shown by a plat of the city upon which tactics were placed to represent the number and location of families who have received aid of one kind or another from this organization. This plat was explained by General Secretary Glasscock who took Carroll street as the boundary line of the western section of the city. Most of the cases attended by the secretary were located east of Fifth street and between that street and the river. There were, however, many other cases in all sections of the city.

Ministers of the city may be asked to preach on the United Charities on some Sunday in the near future. This idea was advanced as a manner in which more people could be informed of the work of the organization and more interested in it.

A vote of thanks to the newspapers was extended for the publicity that has been given the organization during the past year. It was also voted that the secretary should write F. J. Bruno, speaker at the November 9 mass meeting of the organization at Elks hall, and express to him the thanks of the United Charities for his work.

The report of the secretary, Miss Younker, gave a short review of the organization of the United Charities and reviewed the work done during the past year in general way. The report showed the board of directors have held eleven meetings, recounted the employment of the general secretary and made mention of the very successful mass meeting held at Elks hall when F. J. Bruno, of Minneapolis, and others spoke.

Report of the Treasurer.

The report of the treasurer is given below:

Receipts—	
From Dodge's theatre	\$ 181.40
From loan Good Fellows Ass'n	15.00
From city of Keokuk	320.00
From Humane society	137.00
From donations and subscriptions	444.20
Total	\$1,097.60
Disbursements—	
Secretary's salary	\$ 850.00
Secretary's expenses	35.00
General expenses	173.55
Total	\$1,058.55
Balance on hand	\$ 39.05

The secretary has due him as salary November 15, \$50 and \$10 as expenses.

F. E. ERDMAN, Treasurer.

General Secretary's Report. First annual report of the general secretary of the United Charities: In accordance with plans developed by this board, the office of the organization was opened on Feb. 16, 1914, and the following week devoted to preparing the office for the work which was to follow, so in reality nine months ago yesterday your general secretary took up his active work among the needy families of your community. It has been his endeavor to master, so far as possible each problem as it presented itself. He has studied the situation and tried to lay a foundation which would admit of future growth and enlargements according to the needs of the city. Keokuk is primarily endeavoring to become a commercial center and should one day be rewarded for her efforts. A live and growing city is one in which there are many problems to be met and one in which the problem of adequately dealing with the needy is often left until the last

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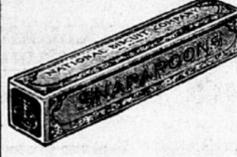
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to be solved. Poverty, that is that poverty which seeks to remain comfortable in its present surroundings, is most easy to cultivate. It is a simple matter to aid the poor so that they may continue living in the same environment as that which made them poor and it is a far from simple matter to help them up and out of those conditions, to put them where they can be a producing element instead of a drain on the community. I hope I am justified in saying that we may be counted among those agencies successful to at least a limited degree in this endeavor.

The cold figures of a report of this nature read those not initiated in the work to criticize it as being hard hearted. That is due to the fact that in our endeavor to aid the needy and dependent we find it as much a part of our work to protect them from the prying eyes of the curious as it is to provide bread and butter. We believe that material aid is necessary but that it should be a part of some definite plan and should not be given simply as the easiest way of solving the family's problems. We have tried, wherever possible, to secure relief through business firms or private individuals rather than from the public treasury for so doing we hope to bring in the warm, personal touch of friendship. To the uninitiated, the comparison of relief given and the number of families coming to us for assistance would make it seem that perhaps we were not doing our full duty, but to him who knows the needy and their surroundings and the influences brought to bear upon them, they indicate that the family in which no direct aid is given often receives more care and attention for a greater effort is being made to readjust that family to the normal life of the community. I hope that the following statistical facts of the nine months work will be interpreted along the line indicated.

PIMPLY? WELL, DON'T BE!

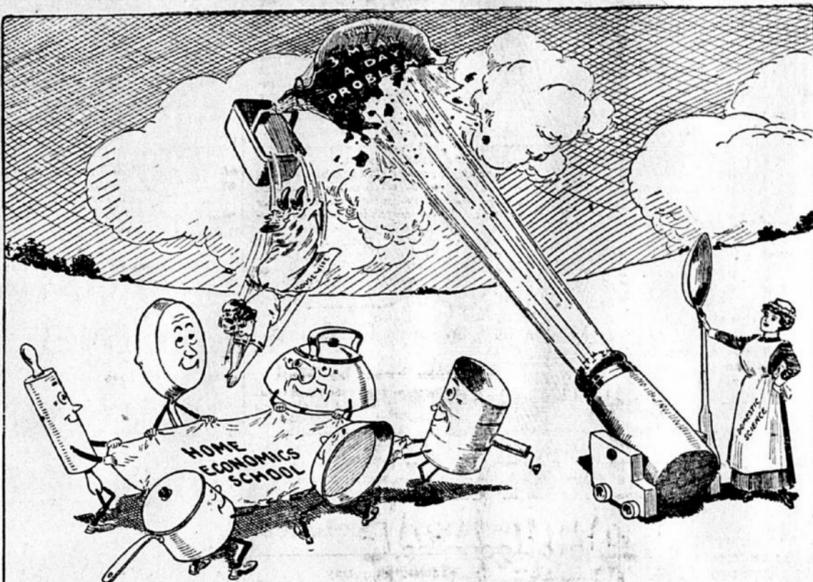
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BETTER COOKING MAKES BETTER HOMES

Theory Advanced by Miss Peet Who Will Conduct Gate City Home Economics School Here

SCHOOL WILL OPEN IN MASONIC TEMPLE NOVEMBER 30TH



The better cooking has its influence in promoting a better type of home life, so has its effect on the welfare of the entire community, will be exemplified by Florence M. Peet, the Better Homes Better Homes lecturer, who has been secured by The Gate City, to conduct a series of six domestic science lectures and cookery lessons here the week of November 30.

Miss Peet is an enthusiast on the matter of scientific housekeeping and home making, and believes that the most efficient methods should be brought into use in this important field of industry. She believes too, that the work of the home should be accomplished by trained workers, and feels that the domestic science training which is being given to young women of the present generation, is sure to make for better homes in the near future. Miss Peet believes that young women should not only learn ordinary cooking and housekeeping, but that they should take up this matter as they do other sciences and arts and professions, and study it from its very fundamental principles. Girls who are interested in domestic science, and their teachers, as well as experienced and seasoned housekeepers will have an opportunity of studying the principles upon which the art of good home making is based, as The Gate City Home Economics school, which will be conducted in the Masonic temple (banquet room) next week. Entrance will be on the Seventh street side. This is the dinner giving season,

and Miss Peet will have many suggestions to make in regard to planning menus, cooking delicious dishes and serving them. She will emphasize the matter of attractive garnishing, and give advice as to proper table appointments. She will take up the matter of buying foods and give particular attention to practical economy. She holds that the housewife as purchaser and consumer has it in her power to combat the present exorbitant food costs. The home, its management and allied subjects will all have attention in Miss Peet's comprehensive lecture and cookery course. She will give a talk each afternoon at 2:30 on matters pertaining to successful housekeeping and home making and good home cooking. She will tell how to make delicious, and at the same time economical cakes, and she will make doughnuts of a kind for which Miss Peet is famous. She will make pies and tarts of various sorts that will delight the palates of the women who attend her classes, for all of the dishes prepared in Miss Peet's interesting cookery lessons will be served to her audience.

There is no doubt that such a course as Miss Peet promises in her work here next week will increase home efficiency and inspire Keokuk women who are already famously good cooks and fine housekeepers to even better work along these very important lines. Miss Peet will strive to show the women who attend her classes in the Masonic temple next week how to lower the cost of living and at the same time raise its standards. She believes that the art of real home making is the great

est and most important art there is, and feels that no woman can give too much intelligent thought to the making of a home and caring for her family. She especially emphasizes the importance of right foods properly prepared. She does not recommend any sort of freak diet, nor introduce any new kinds of foods. Miss Peet's idea of proper feeding is good, substantial, old-fashioned foods, properly cooked. She believes, too, in a varied diet, and will show how to prepare many of the everyday foods in new and interesting ways.

Her course here is sure to be interesting to every class of housekeeper and cook in Keokuk and all women are cordially invited to attend. The course is to be a school in fact and not in name only, and will present the very best plans and methods to use in the housekeeping world today. Miss Peet's course is a thoroughly practical one in which only really, workable ideas and methods are discussed. She is a very famous lecturer and a successful cookery teacher and is thoroughly informed as to all the newest and best methods in housekeeping and cooking. She presents only such ideas as will be of real value to actual housekeepers in their everyday housework. Her lectures are entertaining and instructive in the extreme, and are told in a manner easily followed and understood by every woman who attends. She will be in Keokuk in time to open the school on Monday next at 2:30, and every woman is invited to attend, and lend her hearty support and co-operation in making this the most successful school Miss Peet has held in Iowa this season.

cate that the family in which no direct aid is given often receives more care and attention for a greater effort is being made to readjust that family to the normal life of the community. I hope that the following statistical facts of the nine months work will be interpreted along the line indicated.

183 families, of whom but 12 1/2 were colored, or a total of 597 individuals, of whom 333 were 14 years of age and over and 264 were under that age, came under our care from the following sources: The needy applied in their own behalf 190 times, while private individuals reported 93; school teachers and officials, 46; business firms, 19; relatives, 15; church officials and workers, 13; police officers, 28; physicians, 14; city and county officials, 6; Keokuk Industrial association, 5; Y. W. C. A., 4; Y. M. C. A., 2; out of town sources, 4; Visiting Nurse association, 2; and all other sources, 3. In order that a working knowledge might be gained, 1,052 visits were made to or in behalf of those families and that those interested might know of the effort being put forth, reports were made in 328 instances. The telephone was used 1,118 times. Of the 183 families, 76 were normal, that is consisted of man and wife; 32 were widows; 20 deserted or separated; 10 widowers and only 7 divorced. There were 16 transient single men; 3 resident men and 4 single women applying for help. Fourteen children, living with other than their parents, required our attention, and in seven instances the social state of the applicant was not known. The following figures should indicate something of the relief secured and the effort put forth to rehabilitate these families. Relief was secured from applicant's relatives eleven times; Good Fellows, 13 times; Community Fund, once; church officials and workers, 19 times; Golden Book fund, 13 times; county, 5 times; Y. W.

C. A. meals and lodgings, 27 times; business firms, 22 times, and private individuals, 32 times. All other sources, 3 times. Second hand clothing was secured for 11 individuals and new bedding for six. New clothing was secured for 7 individuals. Temporary employment was secured for 30 and two good positions that should have been permanent. Transportation was secured for 8 families, a total of 15 individuals. Institutional care was provided temporarily for 9 people and permanently for 8 others. One girl was found a home with a private family. Nine families were referred to other organizations on which they had a greater claim. In four instances the visiting nurse was asked to call, while physicians and medicine was secured for 27 individuals. Six were placed in hospitals and legal aid secured for six more. Three who were earning a dishonest living by begging were brought to the attention of the public.

It is almost, if not quite, impossible to distinguish between the work of the United Charities and that of the Humane society, except we make the distinction that all families in which there are abused children shall be charged to the Humane society and, of course, all work done by the general secretary in preventing the suffering of animals, is legitimately theirs. If it were not that these two organizations were combined, it is likely there would be considerable overlapping, for what some in this community might consider humane work, others would feel belonged to the United Charities. There were twenty-seven families in which no relief was needed, but in which considerable effort was required to prevent abuse or cruelty to children. In what might be termed the animal work, there were seventeen owners warned to give their horses and cattle more kindly treatment, one

owner was prosecuted and seven horses and one dog were put out of their misery. The figures with regard to relief are not likely to be very accurate because of the fact that many times a family is referred to some church or other organization for assistance and we make note of having obtained relief from that organization, but cannot show the number of times help has been given nor the period of time covered by such. In one instance we record relief from the Golden Book fund once. That does not show that the relief covered a period of better than two months. Possibly it would have been better had each individual order been recorded as coming from the proper source. The study of the marital conditions is always illuminating. For instance, of 183 families, 76 were normal, 32 widows and 20 deserted or separated. There were only

(Continued on page 7.)

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