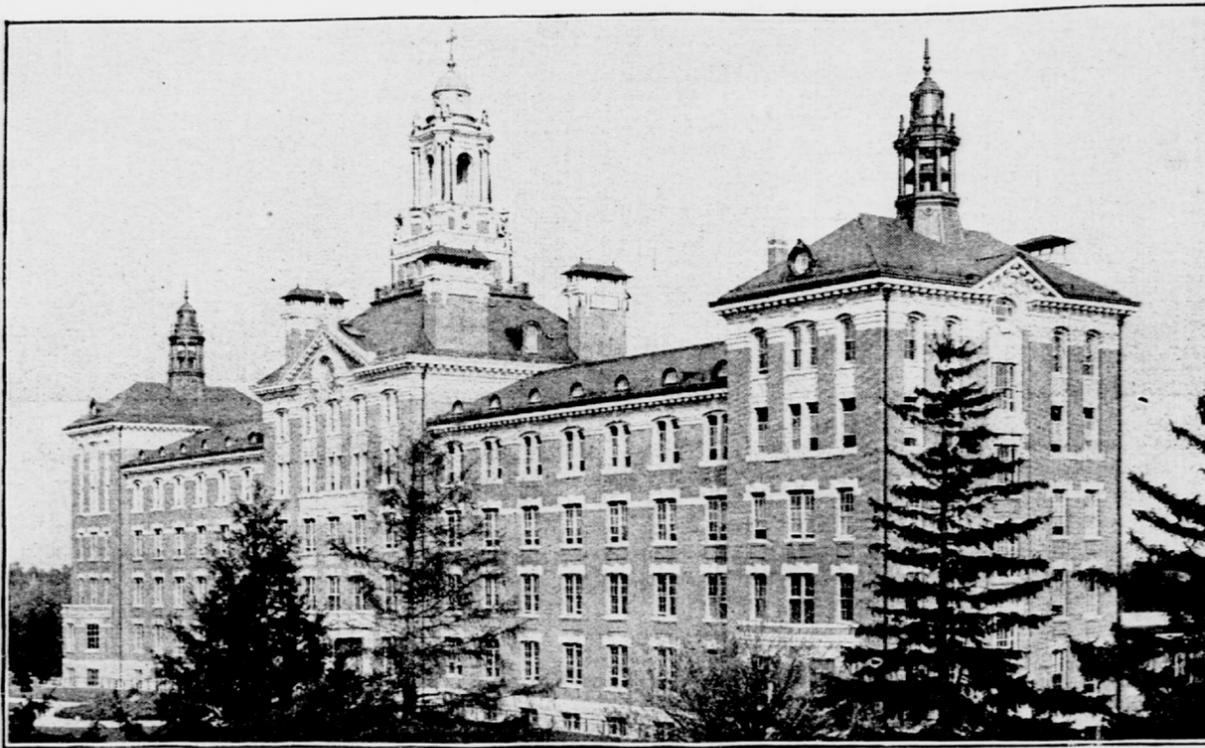


ONE THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED POOR BOYS AND GIRLS WILL FIND A COMFORTABLE,



EXTERIOR OF THE NEW CATHOLIC ORPHAN ASYLUM AT KINGSBRIDGE.



MAIN S

FOR ORPHAN CHILDREN.

NEW ROMAN CATHOLIC ASYLUM ON UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS, TO WHICH THE INSTITUTION HAS REMOVED FROM MADISON-AVE.

The new Roman Catholic Orphan Asylum, on University Heights, at Sedgwick-ave. and Kingsbridge Road, is rapidly nearing completion. The grounds, covering an area of about thirty acres, overlook the Hudson, and from the buildings which have been erected on the hill one can see in all directions a beautiful panorama. Ground was broken for the boys' building in 1899 and for the girls' building a year later. The boys' building requires only the finishing touches, and is already occupied by the wards of the institution.

The girls' department is still incomplete, and until it becomes habitable the little girls will remain at the House of Nazareth, Spuyten Duyvil, where they were taken when the asylum in Madison-ave. was turned over to the purchasers of the property. The building which was abandoned for the new home had accommodations for about five hundred children, while the new and beautiful structures are large enough for 750 boys and as many girls, and the forty Sisters who care for them. The old Bailey property, where the present asylum stands, is situated next to the Webb Home for Disabled Sailors. The old homestead has been allowed to stand where it was when the property was purchased, and is used by some of the resident officers of the institution. When a friend of the institution said recently that the asylum was a long distance from the city, one of the old members of the board said that in Archbishop Hughes's time a proposition was seriously considered of buying "a farm near the Madison-ave. asylum." The institution was considered

far away from the business and residence part of town at that time, and what was the "farmland" is now extremely valuable property. The new asylum is also far away from the city proper, but farms in that vicinity, the managers of the institution say, will some day be like those in Madison-ave. years ago.

The act incorporating the Roman Catholic Orphan Asylum was passed April 13, 1852, and, according to the charter, its object is to support, maintain and educate orphan and half orphan children. By virtue of his office the Roman Catholic Archbishop or Ordinary of the Diocese of New-York shall be one of the board of managers; the twenty-four other members of the board hold their places by appointment. The first board consisted of Archbishop Hughes, John Loughlin, Peter A. Hargous, Hugh Sweeney, Felix Ingoldsby, Owen McCabe, Charles M. Connolly, Hugh Kelly, Frederic E. Gibert, Peter McLoughlin, James Matthews, James Kelly, John McMenomy, Terence Donnelly, Robert Hogan, Francis Mann, Bartholomew O'Connor, Andrew Carrigan, M. J. O'Donnell, Louis Blinse, James Kerrigan, Dines Carollin, James Olwell, William McArthur and T. James Slover. Under the laws governing the institution each member of the board pays \$3 a year into the treasury of the asylum, and that is the only direct income. But the fact that a group of buildings was erected at a cost of nearly \$500,000, and that about one thousand orphans are supported, shows that the Easter and Christmas contributions which are taken up in the various Roman Catholic churches for its support are of no small proportions. The board of managers is self-supporting, all vacancies by death or resignation being filled by the remaining members.

The boys' department, which has already been removed to the new building, is under the supervision of Sister Mary Martha, a woman of rare ability, under whose management the little orphans forget their lot and learn to

love the place. The dining rooms, dormitories, work and play rooms are light, well ventilated and cheerful, and in the daily routine play and work are so nicely blended that the little fellows drift into habits of order, obedience and discipline without knowing it, and at the same time lay the foundation for religious activity, which usually lasts through life.

In the girls' department Sister Clotilde is the head. She has been connected with the institution for many years, and has been a mother to hundreds of girls, who but for her would never have known a kindness nor a sympathetic friend. In the old asylum the same good results were attained in the girls' as in the boys' department, and in the new building the arrangements for the accommodation, care and comfort of the little girls who are soon to be transferred there are all that a careful study of the wants of the little unfortunates can suggest.

In speaking of the asylum an interested citizen said:

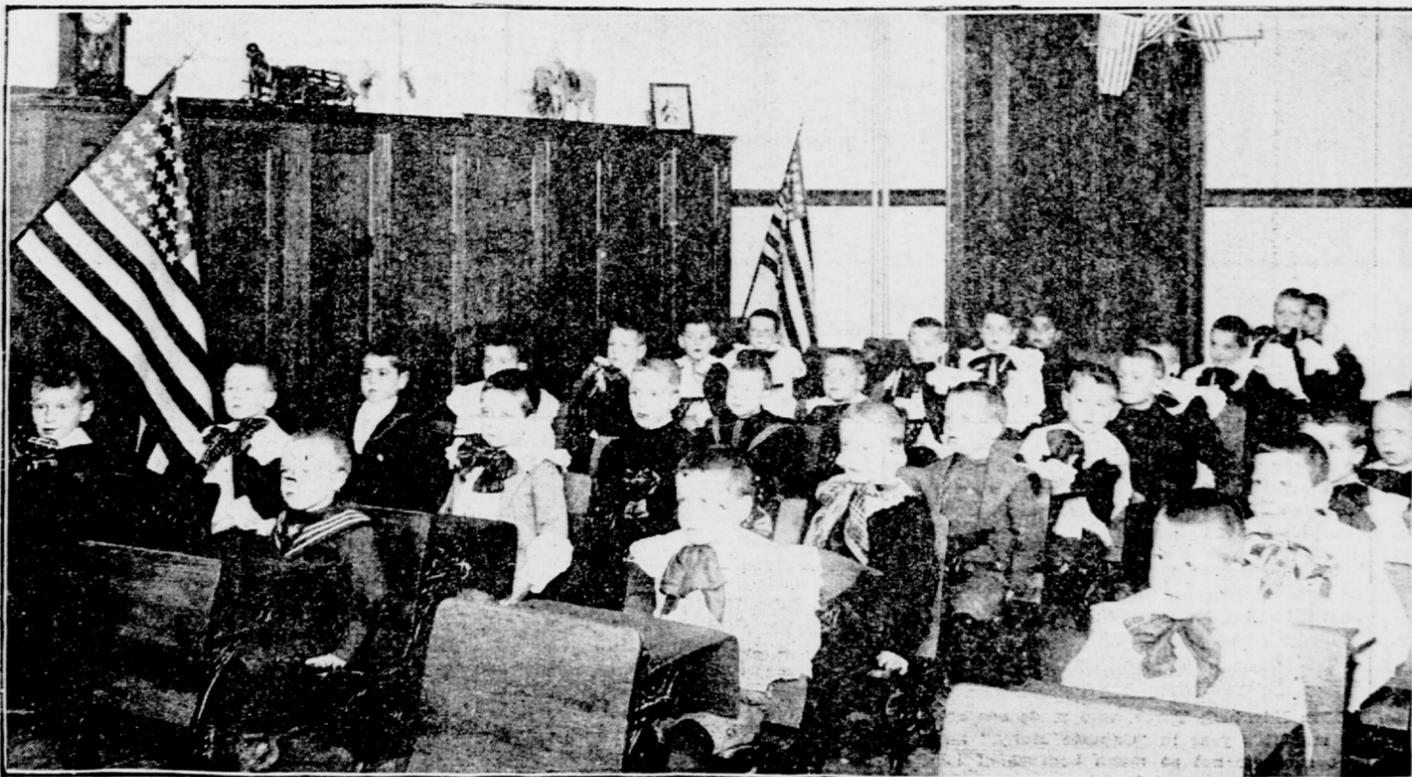
The child deprived of the love of parents is an object of pity, and no substitute in the way of friend or protector can take the place. A home in which harmony prevails, 'be it ever so humble,' is the child's earthly heaven. But if children must be deprived of these and find a haven among strangers an institution like the Roman Catholic Orphan Asylum is the ideal place. There the physical wants are provided for, the spirit of childhood kept alive, and not stifled by the institution atmosphere; and, above all, the spiritual being of the child is not neglected. The body is taken care of, and when the boy or girl goes out into the world he or she is equipped for service to the church as well as for the battle which confronts them in the material world.

The plans for the new asylum were made by Schickel & Ditmars, who were instructed by Archbishop Corrigan to build "a modern, commodious and well appointed home." Mr. Schickel, in describing the place, said:

The main buildings have each a frontage of 382 feet and a depth of 65 feet. In the rear of



CORRIDOR



CLASS OF SMALL BOYS AT THE ORPHAN ASYLUM.



ONE OF THE