

TELLS CURRAN COMMISSION HOW UNITED CHARITIES PROSECUTES THOSE IT DOES NOT LIKE

Mrs. Evangeline Barron, of the Bethel Home for Convalescent Women and children, today told the Curran commission a few stories of how the United Charities persecutes those whom it does not like.

Mrs. Barron herself is a victim of the United Charities. Because that "charity trust" refused to endorse the Bethel Home, Mrs. Barron has been forced to close it down.

Furthermore, Mrs. Barron's little boy died a victim to the carelessness of the United Charities chief ally, the Juvenile Court.

A boy had been suffering from diphtheria. He was said to have recovered by the Juvenile Court, and by the Juvenile Court placed in Mrs. Barron's care.

The boy recovered, but her own son caught diphtheria from him and died in six days.

Mrs. Barron was unable to explain why the United Charities refused to endorse the Bethel Home, save by saying that she understood the United Charities did not think enough "system" was used in its management.

But she did tell how one official of the U. C. called on her and told her she was too good a solicitor of money to waste her time with the Bethel Home, out of which she was getting nothing, and that she should give the home up and go to work for the U. C.

Mrs. Barron also told how the United Charities had sent the little son of Mrs. Kasch to the Home for the Friendless, how the boy caught diphtheria there, and was put in the isolation ward and died.

She testified that conditions in this ward in the Home for the Friendless are almost beyond belief. Children, she said, are sent there one after another, and the management of the home doesn't seem to care whether they live or die. The ward never is disinfected.

Mrs. Barron also told the pitiful story of Mrs. May McCash.

Mrs. McCash was a stenographer. She now is 50 years old. Five years ago, at a critical period in her life, she was unable to work. When her small savings were exhausted, she applied to the United Charities for help.

The United Charities hustled the woman out to the Detention Home, and there had her adjudged insane, and sent to Kankakee Asylum, where she was held for five years.

At the end of the five years, Mrs. McCash was released as cured, and is now suing the county for false imprisonment.

Another pitiful story was that of a woman whose name Mrs. Barron did not give.

Some years ago, this woman's husband tried to cut his throat, and was found insane and sent to Kankakee.

The woman was left alone in the world with three children. But she had a wonderful voice and a number of society women became interested in her.

These society women subscribed enough money to send the woman to Europe that her voice might be cultivated, and the woman was sent to New York as for a preliminary course of study.

While the woman and her children were there, the United Charities went to the society women who were investing their money in the prospects of the woman's voice and told them that they had looked up the woman's record and that they advised that she be dropped.

The woman, as a consequence, was left stranded in New York with her three children.

She applied to the United Charities there for a ticket to Chicago. The New York branch said they would have to communicate with Chicago,