

4937

Dorchester Relief Society



—1914—

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Dorchester Relief Society

FOUNDED 1879. INCORPORATED 1904.

For the Year Ending September 30, 1914.

UNDERHILL PRESS
DORCHESTER
1914

1913 - 1914

THIRTY-THIRD ANNUAL REPORT

OF

THE DORCHESTER RELIEF SOCIETY

Incorporated November 8, 1904

The time has come for the officers and various committees of the Dorchester Relief Society to give an account of themselves and the work intrusted to them.

This has been a year of increased calls upon our treasury and the work of our faithful agent, as each succeeding year must be while the Dorchester District continues to become the home of the less fortunate of our city.

We constantly hear of families who are living in the most unsanitary part of the city proper, being advised and assisted to move into this ward where fresher air and better environment exist, and where it is thought if need occurs they will be well cared for. This we all must admit is an excellent reputation to possess, but if only a very small proportion of our citizens, (as now is true) feel this responsibility, it is most difficult for the few individuals and existing charities, which are anxious to live up to this reputation to do so.

The usual means of collecting funds by appeals sent to churches, clubs, organizations and individuals has been pursued during the year. Dorchester Flower Day has been the only new method employed, and this Society shared the proceeds and work, in this popular means of reaching the pockets of those who had not contributed before, and who chanced to be met by the enthusiastic distributors of carnation pinks. The result of this effort was most gratifying, as it brought the knowledge of the good work of the District Nurse and Dispensary and the general work of this Society to many who had not before known of it. The financial result was most encouraging and enabled us to continue with more confidence than during the months previous, when the Dispensary was threatened with being closed.

When the Dorchester Relief Society was again generously asked by the Dorchester House Flower Day Committee to share the work

and proceeds a second time, a unanimous vote was passed to accept the opportunity.

The attention of this Society is first directed to the care of elderly persons who find themselves without the means of living, and where the alms house of the city is the only alternative. Every effort is made by our agent to procure aid for these old persons from the sources which are available, such as pensions, and from the relatives, if there are any, who ought to feel the responsibility of supporting or partially providing for them. Frequently money is placed in the hands of the Agent by such persons whose duties have been made plain and she is requested to use it for those who have apparently passed from their memories. If such opportunities to secure relief from other sources do not occur the necessary aid is given by the Society as generously as the funds will permit.

The lack of money, we regret to say, is constantly preventing us from providing as many comforts as such elderly persons may deserve. The removal of those afflicted with illness of various kinds to suitable hospitals, camps, homes, and other institutions is frequently accomplished. The death of one of our beneficiaries of several years standing, calls to mind an elderly woman whose early life was passed in Denmark where her father was Physician to the Court. After coming to this country members of her family died and she was left alone with very little money which gradually diminished and finally all resources were exhausted. When the attention of this Society was called to her she was in a pitiful state of mind and body. Our agent soon made herself a valued friend, and also supplied the much needed aid. Last August the Danish woman died, and she was respectably buried in a Dorchester cemetery.

Every year many demands are made for warm clothing and blankets to make comfortable persons suffering from tuberculosis and who must live an outdoor life at Rutland or Mattapan. This sort of clothing is rarely contributed, so it is purchased at considerable expense to this Society, but we feel this sort of relief to be very important. A dozen persons were supplied with new blankets and warm clothing this year. Eggs and milk in large quantities, for long periods of time, are sent to the homes where young children are underfed and threatened with disease, and where patients are threatened with tuberculosis by this means we believe the disease is arrested. At Thanksgiving one hundred thirty-three families were sent vegetables, groceries and fruit through the generous contributions of eight of our public schools and two

churches. One church alone sent a sufficient quantity of Harvest offerings to enable the Agent to remember thirty families. At Easter we were again supplied with four baskets of provisions for distribution. All these gifts were timely and received with gratitude. The Nathaniel Hall Society of the First Parish has continued its helpfulness of many years and it has made manifest its interest in the work of the Dispensary the past year by donating a filing cabinet, which much facilitates the keeping of cards, which are used by the physicians and nurses. This piece of furniture is much appreciated and the warm thanks of the Society are sent to the young people of the First Parish.

Opportunities are presented each year to this Society which might extend the work; some would be gladly attempted, but our treasury does not warrant any extension. However when we were asked to become participants in the plan for Dorchester Civic Center and found this was within reach, as no money was expected, we most cordially elected a committee of one to represent us. The Dorchester Relief Society took charge of one afternoon with success, and its co-operation was appreciated.

The Instructive District Nursing Association continues to supply Dorchester with several nurses when the number of patients require it, but the Relief Society pays only the one thousand dollars for the services of one nurse.

Fees are collected in small sums from ten to fifty cents, when the patient is able to pay, otherwise nothing is asked. It is found that many families of small incomes much needing the services of a nurse and who would not accept charity are willing to avail themselves of this blessing when allowed to pay a small fee, therefore this method is much approved.

The Dispensary has been very effectively conducted the past year, and with the Agent's careful oversight of those applying for free medical aid, which is understood in the neighborhood, rarely is it found necessary to reject a case which should pay a physician's fee. The thanks of this Society is gratefully extended to the physicians who have given their time to the clinics.

The Dorchester Relief Society has co-operated with the Dorchester Conference of Associated Charities and supplied aid to as many families as suggested by that conference as our treasury would afford.

Let us not overlook the needs of those near us who have been deprived of the means of support by the calling home of fathers and brothers to join the European armies, nor those we always have with

us who need our financial help. While our sympathies are aroused and our purse strings loosened to render material aid to the sufferers in this terrible war, we must forcibly bear in mind the additional distress at home that this Society will be called upon to relieve.

We earnestly appeal for new contributors and larger donations from our faithful friends of many years. We do this with confidence, when we remember that in times of ordinary prosperity, as in the past year, 120 families or 600 persons have been the recipients of aid from the Dorchester Relief Society.

We thank most gratefully the individuals, churches, schools, clubs and organizations for the donations of all kinds, which have been received, and urge their future continuance, and assure them a conscientious use will be made of money, clothing, bedding, and provisions. Also articles to replenish the closet which furnishes the District Nurse with the necessities of the sick room are much needed.

A card directed to Dorchester Relief Society, 204 Adams Street, informing Miss H. Eugenia Bruce, Agent, of your desire to make donations, will be promptly attended to, and a messenger sent to collect the articles.

S. FRANK KING NASH, *Clerk.*

OFFICERS FOR 1914-1915.

President.

EDWIN T. HORNE,
11 Tileston Place, Dorchester.

Vice-President.

EDWARD B. WILDER.

Secretary.

Mrs. S. FRANK KING NASH,
7 Colchester Street, Brookline.

Treasurer.

CLARENCE B. HUMPHREYS,
201 Devonshire Street, Boston.

Assistant-Treasurer.

Miss CHARLOTTE E. CALDWELL,
45 Alban Street, Dorchester.

Auditor.

AUGUSTUS NICKERSON.

Counsel.

CHARLES L. CARR, ESQ.

Agent.

Miss H. EUGENIA BRUCE,
204 Adams Street, Dorchester.

Trustees of Permanent Funds.

GEORGE G. BRADFORD. *Term expires 1915.*
50 State Street, Boston.

EDWARD B. WILDER. *Term expires 1916.*

STEPHEN H. WHIDDEN. *Term expires 1917.*
24 Milk Street, Boston.

Executive Committee.

Mrs. CHARLES L. BRIGHAM.
Miss CAROLINE S. CALLENDER.
Mrs. AGNES G. CRAIG.
Mrs. HENRY CURTIS.
Dr. CHARLES J. DOUGLAS.
Mrs. JAMES GOOKIN.
Mrs. F. C. HEMEON.
Mrs. EDWIN T. HORNE.
FREDERICK G. MAY, Jr.
ROBERT H. MAGWOOD.
Mrs. ARTHUR H. MERRITT.
FRANK K. NASH.
Mrs. AUGUSTUS S. NYE.

Miss LOUISE Q. PIERCE.
LABAN PRATT.
CLIFFORD W. REED.
N. WINTHROP ROBINSON.
Mrs. T. E. RUGGLES.
EVERETT H. SHARP.
Mrs. CHARLES STONE.
Mrs. J. EDWIN SWAN.
Dr. HENRY C. TOWLE.
WILLIAM Q. WALES.
Mrs. NELLIE WARE.
Mrs. ROYAL WHITON.
And the OFFICERS EX-OFFICIO.

For Members of Finance Committee.

GEORGE G. BRADFORD.
FRANK K. NASH.

STEPHEN H. WHIDDEN.
EDWARD B. WILDER.

Treasurer's Report for the Year Ending September 30, 1914.

RECEIPTS.

Balance on hand Nurse Account	\$ 15.63
Contributions Nurse Account	710.30
" Associated Charities	39.00
" Contributions Dispensary Account	237.50
" Contributions D. R. S. Account	1396.09
Collected by Agent	460.74
Flower Day Nurse Account	605.00
" Dispensary Account	165.93
Special Annuity	200.00
Income from Permanent Funds	125.00
Interest on Bank Deposits	8.99
	<u>\$3964.18</u>

EXPENDITURES.

Balance due Treasurer Dispensary Account	15.63
D. R. S. Account Aid:	
Groceries, Milk, etc.	\$586.08
Medicine, Nursing, etc.	22.23
Shoes, Clothing, etc.	73.08
Fuel, Stoves, etc.	63.09
Pensions, Loans, Carfares, etc.	363.65
Board, Rent, etc.	124.49
Miscellaneous	9.10
	1241.72
D. R. S. Account—Current Expenses	
Agent—Salary	400.00
Rent and Care of Rooms	135.16
Janitor	22.00
Postage, Printing, Stationery, etc.	126.14
Telephone, Carfares, Express, etc.	63.39
	746.69
Dispensary Account:	
Agent—Salary	100.00
Rent	100.00
Supplies and Care of Rooms	184.83
	384.83
Instructive District Nursing Association	1325.60
Agent's balance including Templeman Annuity	129.53
Associated Charities—Contribution remitted	39.00
Balance on hand September 30, 1914:	
Nurse Account	5.33
Dispensary Account	62.80
D. R. S. Account	13.05
	81.18
	<u>\$3964.18</u>

Respectfully submitted,

CLARENCE B. HUMPHREYS, *Treasurer.*

Report of Trustees of Permanent Funds

DORCHESTER RELIEF SOCIETY.

For the Year Ending September 30, 1914.

PERMANENT FUNDS.

Life Members and Donations	\$125.00	
Surplus	71.68	
Income	298.32	
Mrs. Caroline B. Allen Fund	1000.00	
Anonymous Fund	1000.00	
Richard C. Humphreys Memorial Fund	4410.90	
Richard C. Humphreys Fund	1000.00	
Mary Ann Humphreys Fund	1279.75	
Martha A. Foster Fund	1000.00	
Martha Clapp Fund	100.00	\$10285.65

INVESTMENTS.

United Electric Securities Bond	\$1000.00	
Central Vermont Railway Co. Bond	1200.00	
Franklin Savings Bank	9.25	
Dorchester Savings Bank	221.08	
No. Pacific and Great Northern Bond	2865.00	
American Telephone and Telegraph Co. Bond	2692.50	
Bay State Street Railway Bond	1000.00	
Old Colony Street Railway Bond	860.00	
Cash % Principal \$139.50		
Income 298.32	437.82	\$10285.65

During the year we received legacy from Mrs. Caroline B. Allen, \$1000, January 3, 1914.

Fifty cents income from Franklin Savings Bank, August 1, 1914, not having been withdrawn has been transferred to the Principal. This has been entered on our pass book. Accrued Interest at Dorchester Savings Bank amounts to \$8.72, the same as previous year. Pass book has not been presented to bank for this entry and the amount is not considered in above Trial Balance.

Our bonds and certificates, all registered in name of our three Trustees, are kept in my personal box in Boston Safe Deposit Vaults.

Respectfully,

STEPHEN H. WHIDDEN, *For the Trustees.*

DISPENSARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES.

Medical Committee.

DR. SAMUEL CROWELL, Chairman.

DR. HENRY C. TOWLE,

DR. O. H. ROGERS,

DR. F. W. SLEEPER, Secretary.

Representatives of the Dorchester Relief Society.

EDWIN T. HORNE.

N. WINTHROP ROBINSON.

Representatives of Dorchester Conference of Associated Charities.

MRS. MCHENRY ROBINSON.

Staff of 1915.

DR. W. C. EMERY.

DR. EDWARD J. BREARTON.

DR. J. T. KENDRICKEN.

DR. F. S. PARSONS.

REPORT OF THE DORCHESTER FREE DISPENSARY.

Reviewing this period of twelve months, it is apparent that the Dispensary is a distinct necessity in Dorchester and as an adjunct to the Dorchester Relief Society is ably fulfilling its duty in furnishing medical care to the poor and needy sick of the district. It is impossible in this brief epitome to adequately convey any idea of the amount of work performed by Miss Bruce and the doctors and nurses, all of whom labored zealously for the welfare of the patients.

Miss Bruce has continued her valuable work of investigating all cases applying for treatment, and as only seventeen were refused treatment (not being suitable for medical charity), it clearly proves the necessity of a free medical clinic.

There has been one change on the medical staff, Dr. Sheppard having resigned and Dr. F. S. Parsons appointed in his place.

Total number of patients treated, 1100.

Operations performed, 21, (mostly adenoids and tonsils).

Vaccinations and surgical dressings, 370.

Patients furnished with free prescriptions, 47.

One hundred fifty-two clinics were held and owing to the unavoidable absence of the doctor on service seven were dismissed.

Largest clinic: September—184 patients treated.

It has been necessary in several cases to refer patients to the larger hospitals, as they were too ill for Dispensary treatment.

The general results of the Dispensary treatments show complete recoveries in acute cases and marked benefit in chronic or incurable cases.

All operations were successful.

The short talks given by the doctors on personal hygiene, diet, care of infants, etc., were unquestionably of value.

The addition of a dentist to the staff would help materially, as many of the patients, especially children, required dental care.

The Dispensary has been especially fortunate in having the services of three nurses—Mrs. Garden, Miss Gillis and Miss Hart, to whom much credit must be given for the present success of the Dorchester Free Dispensary.

For the Staff,

E. J. BREARTON, M. D.

REPORT OF THE DISTRICT NURSE.

It is gratifying to look over the year's record and find that we have made a slight gain over the previous year in the number of patients cared for; namely 804 patients as against 736 patients during 1913.

The population of Dorchester is about 125,000 and the 804 patients show how small a proportion we are reaching. We believe that many do not know about the work of the visiting nurse; they object to the charity nurse in which they are perfectly justified, but with our splendid fee system it becomes possible for them to have the services of a visiting nurse, and in doing so they are not receiving medical charity.

It is most stimulating and encouraging to learn from some of our families that the visiting nurse has been a great factor in improving the conditions in their homes.

We extend our thanks to the physicians who have given us their

patients to care for and hope they will continue to do the same in the coming year; also to the churches who have supplied us with clothing which has made many a patient comfortable and happy; and to all others who have assisted in the work.

For these 804 patients, three nurses are required and through the efforts of the Dorchester Relief Society the salary of one nurse is met; not infrequently a fourth nurse is on duty. Total number of visits from November 1, 1913 to November 1, 1914 were 6390 as against 5869 visits from November 1, 1912 to November 1, 1913.

Number of patients on hand November 1, 1914 were 54 and number on hand November 1, 1913 were 42.

IRENE C. GARDEN, *Dorchester District Nurse.*

**ANNUAL SUBSCRIBERS AND DONORS FOR DORCHESTER
RELIEF SOCIETY.**

Adams, Mrs. Ivers W.	Horne, Edwin T.
A friend	Humphreys, Miss Anna
Arakelyan, Jacob J.	Humphreys, James H.
Baldwin, Mrs. C. H.	Kimball, Mrs. Charles W.
Babcock, Mrs. J. B., Jr.	King, Theodore W. (In memory)
Bellamy, Mrs. Wm.	Lanning, Mrs. Edward
Benevolent Committee, First Parish	Lewis, Edwin J., Jr.
Bolles, Mrs. H. Eugene	May, Fred. G. Jr.
Bradford, George G.	May, John P.
Bradford, Miss Mary G.	McNeil, Neil
Brigham, Mrs. C. L.	Miller, E. L.
Brigham, Mrs. F. E.	Morss, Daniel D.
Briggs, Miss Harriet A.	Myrick, Miss Alice T.
Brotherhood Fund, First M. E. Church	Nash, Frank K.
Caldwell, Miss C. E.	Nash, Mrs. Frank K.
Caldwell, Miss E. M.	Nightingale, Mrs. Crawford
Callender, Miss C. S.	Norris, Ziba A.
Callender, Mrs. Henry (In memory of)	Nye, Mrs. A. S.
Campbell, Miss E. L.	Oakman, Henry P.
Capen, Edward N.	Parish Aid and Missionary Society of St. Mary's Church
Carr, Miss Louise L.	Perry, Arthur D.
Christ Church Alliance	Peters, Dr. E. D.
Churchill, Mr. and Mrs. J. R.	Pettee, Benjamin
Clark, Mrs. A. C.	Pierce, J. Homer
Collins, Mrs. Charles H.	Pierce, Miss Louisa Q.
Copeland, William A.	Pope, Mrs. Alexander
Crowell, Mrs. Samuel	Pearce, Miss L. L.
Cushing, Miss Susan T.	Pratt, Laban
Cutter, Frank W.	Reed, Mrs. George M.
Cutter, Mrs. Frank W.	Richardson, Charles O.
Cutter, W. H.	Ripley, Mrs. Clara May
C. E. Society, Central Church	Rogers, Mrs. E. E.
Denton, Miss Susan E.	Sayward, William H.
Dorchester Woman's Club	Sayward, Perceval
Douglas, Dr. Charles J.	Second Church
Downes, Mrs. F. O.	Shepard, Miss Emily B.
Dunham, Mrs. C. P.	Shumway, Mrs. Mary T.
Eastman, E. F.	Smith, Mrs. Helen M.
Eastman, George A.	Snow, Mrs. F. B.
Eddy, Miss Lydia H.	Spalding, Lyman
Farwell, Mrs. Edward S.	Stearns, Frederic P.
Forbes, Rev. and Mrs. Roger S.	Stevens, Mrs. Edwin A.
Foster, Mrs. C. D.	Strickland, Capt. Peter
Gleason, Reuben	Swan, Arthur R.
Gordon, James D.	Swan, Mrs. J. Edwin
Girls' Friendly, All Saints Church	Swan, Mrs. Robert T.
Hall, Henry	Teachers' Harbor View School
Hall, Henry L.	Thursday Morning Fortnightly Club
Hanson, Mrs. A. S.	Tilden, Miss Cora A.
Hearsey, Miss Sarah E.	Torrey, Elbridge
Hinckley, Ralph G.	Townsend, Miss S. Cornelia
Howe, Mrs. J. S. (In memory of Mr. Wm. Tarell Andrews)	Turner, Mrs. William H.

Thanksgiving Collections:

Second Church
Village Church
St. Mary's Church
Wales, William Q.
Walker, Frederick L.
Whidden, Stephen H.

Whitcomb, Mrs. E. E.
Wilder, Edward B.
Willard, Mrs. L. P.
Ware, Mrs. Wm. M.
Woman's Guild, St. Ann's Church
Woman's Benevolent Society, Harvard
Church

DISTRICT NURSE.

Abbott, Mrs. W. Herbert
Adams, Mrs. Ivers W.
A friend
Alden, Miss Priscilla (In memory)
Allbright Circle
Baldwin, Mrs. C. H.
Benevolent Committee First Parish
Briggs, Miss H. A.
Burditt, Mrs. Charles A.
Caldwell, Miss E. M.
Callender, Mrs. Henry (In memory)
Campbell, Miss E. L.
Copeland, Mrs. William A.
Current Topics Club
Denton, Miss S. E.
Dorchester Daughters of Maine
Dorchester Woman's Club
Dorchester Woman's Club
Proceeds of Entertainment
Downes, Mrs. Frederick O.
Eddy, Miss Lydia H.
Forbes, Rev. and Mrs. Roger S.
Hall, Henry L.
Hall, Miss Mary L.
Hanson, Mrs. A. S.
Hearsey, Miss S. E.
Humphreys, Miss Anna

Humphreys, James H.
"I. H. E."
King, T. W. (In memory)
Lemon, Mrs. Emily F.
Nash, Mrs. Frank K.
North, Mrs. F. O.
Peters, Dr. E. D.
Pierce, J. Homer
Pilgrim Woman's Club
Ripley, Mrs. Clara May
Rosemont Girls
Savin Hill Sewing Circle
Sayward, William H.
Sayward, Mrs. William H.
Shepard, Miss Emily B.
Silsbee, Mrs. G. D.
Snow, Mrs. F. B.
Stearns, Frederic P.
Stearns, Mrs. Kate Dexter
Stearns, Miss M. L.
Sunshine Club
Swan, Arthur R.
Swan, Mrs. Robert T.
Turner, Mrs. William H.
Whitcomb, Mrs. E. E.
Woman's Book Review Club
Woman's Guild, St. Mark's Church

DISPENSARY.

Anonymous
Baldwin, Mrs. C. H.
Current Topics Club
Dorchester Woman's Club
Eddy, Mrs. Isaac H.
Forbes, Rev. and Mrs. Roger S.
Humphreys, Miss Anna
Kimball, Mrs. Charles W.
King, T. W. (In memory of)
Nash, Mrs. F. K.
North, Mrs. F. O.

Pierce, J. Homer
Ripley, Mrs. Clara May
Robinson, Miss Isabelle H.
Sayward, Mrs. William H.
Snow, Mrs. F. B.
Sunshine Club
Swan, Arthur R.
Swan, Mrs. Robert T.
Tilden, Miss Cora A.
Turner, Mrs. William H.

**CONTRIBUTORS OF SPECIAL ARTICLES.
FOR DORCHESTER RELIEF SOCIETY.**

Benevolent Committee, First Parish, Dorchester	Home Mission Society, Harvard Street Church
The Misses Caldwell	The Misses Lanning
Mrs. Z. P. Critchinson	Mrs. H. E. Oakes
E. P. Channing Branch Alliance, Third Religious Society	Mrs. Prescott and Sister Miss Julia E. Rice
Miss Emma Clapp	Schools (eight)
Dorchester Woman's Club	Mrs. Henry C. Towle
First Parish in Dorchester, Harvest Offering	The Helpers
Friends (two)	Miss C. E. Weymouth
Nathaniel Hall Society, First Parish Dorchester	Young People's Society, Stoughton Street Church.
Mrs. Pinckney Holbrook	Mrs. Frank L. Young

FOR DISPENSARY.

Mrs. Edward Chapin	Miss Sarah E. Hearsey
Mrs. C. J. Douglass	Miss Lanning
Mrs. Foster	Miss M. Murray
Nathaniel Hall Society	Mrs. Frank K. Nash
Harvard Street Church	Mrs. J. T. Tracey

FOR DISTRICT NURSE.

Benevolent Committee, First Parish, Dorchester
Mrs. Charles L. Brigham
E. P. Channing Alliance, Third Religious Society

DORCHESTER RELIEF SOCIETY.

PURPOSE:

- To provide relief and, if possible, employment for the worthy poor of
Dorchester, and to help them to become self-supporting.
- To make it possible for the Associated Charities:—
- To protect the community from beggars and impostors, and
- To prevent the increase of pauperism.

ADDRESS:

204 Adams Street, Fields Corner.

HOURS:

10 to 11 A.M. daily.

FORM OF BEQUEST.

*I hereby give and bequeath to the Trustees of the Permanent Funds
of the Dorchester Relief Society \$.....*

