THIRD BIENNIAL REPORT

OF THE

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

OF THE

Iowa Industrial Home for Blind

TO THE

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF IOWA,

For the Biennial Period Ending June 30, 1897.

DES MOINES: F. R. CONAWAY, STATE PHINTES. 1807.

LIST OF OFFICERS.

	TRUSTEES,	
	sident	
J. B. ELLIOTT, Two	BHILL	Knoxville
ROBERT COLBERT, 8	Secretary	Cromwell
MISS LORANA MATT	TCE	Vinton
H. H. STHWELL		Waukun
M. J. KELLY		
	RESIDENT OFFICERS.	
CAM, CULBERTSON,	Superintendent	Knoxyllla
	TSON, Matron	
	uan Shops	
	AUDITING COMMITTEE	
J. H. Nichola.	J. B. Elliott.	ROBERT COLBERT.
	FINANCE COMMITTEE.	
H. H. STILWELL	MISS LORANA MATTICE.	ROBERT COLBERT.
BUILD	ING AND SUPPLIES COMP	MITTEE.
J. B. ELLIOTT.	H. H. STILWELL. MI	SS LOBANA MATTER

TRUSTEES' REPORT.

KNOXVILLE, IOWA, August 19, 1897.

To Hon. F. M. Drake, Governor of lowa:

In presenting herewith for your consideration this, the third biennial report of the board of trustees, treasurer, and superintendent of the Industrial Home for the Blind, it is with a degree of satisfaction that we are able to note and record marked improvement, not only in the management and general conduct of the institution, but in the quality and quantity of the commodities manufactured. It is but natural to expect that the board should have been able to profit by experience and observation gained through continuous service by a majority at least of the present board since the opening of the Home, and such has been the case, though the fact that the manufactured product of the institution now finds a more ready and satisfactory market in competition with the best factories of the west is due more largely to the efficient management of the shops and the increased skill of the inmates who have striven to excel, who, with the exception of those more recently admitted, are now able to turn out more satisfactory work than formerly.

It is gratifying to note in this connection that the standard of excellence of the manufactured product has steadily improved and that the finished work of the shops now ranks with that of the best factories of the state. It is also noteworthy that the product of our factory is finding favor even beyond the confines of the state, many substantial orders from neighboring states having been recently filled.

At a meeting of the board of trustees held in June, 1896, Mr. and Mrs. Cam. Culbertson, of Knoxville, were elected respectively superintendent and matron of the home, succeeding Mr. and Mrs. M. C. Gebhardt, and assumed charge July 1,

1896. At the regular meeting of the board in May of the present year, they were unanimously re-elected, and we feel in this connection to say of them that their services have been very satisfactory, and that to their zealous efforts in behalf of the institution, its inmates and employes, is largely due the harmonious feeling prevailing, and that to their economica management, aided by the present efficient shop foreman, Mr. J. E. Harmes, is due the producing of a largely increased out put without materially adding to the expense.

The records of the superintendent's office show that for the first biennial period ending June 30, 1893, the shops turned out 6,449 dozen brooms; for the second biennial period ending June 30, 1895, there were manufactured 8,411 dozen brooms; and for the third biennial period ending June 30, of the present year, the output aggregated 12,105 dozen brooms and a corresponding increase in the other commodities manufactured.

If the amendment of the law governing this institution (which the board understands to have been passed at the recent extra session of the legislature and which we understand provides for the admission of all the indigent blind of the state regardless of physical or mental condition) is to become operative, then immediate steps must be taken to provide for the reception and accommodation of such as choose to come.

Under the rules and regulations adopted by the board of trustees, which are incorporated as a part of this report, applicants have been admitted only after a thorough examination into their physical and mental condition and upon the certificate of a physician that they were reasonably able-bodied and of sound mind. In thus approving the applications of those who would be more likely to be self-sustaining, the capacity of the institution is now taxed to its utmost, not only in the dormitories, but in the workshops as well, and even though inmates in the future were admitted under present restrictions it is imperative that liberal appropriations be made for enlarging the capacity of the shops and sleeping apartments of the inmates.

To properly provide for this, the present shops should be converted into sleeping apartments and a roomy and commodious workshop and factory be built, separated, but near the main building; and we urge upon the legislature the urgent necessity of the appropriation asked for in this item. Your

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES. especial attention is called to that portion of the superintendent's report relating to this matter.

In basing our needs for the proper maintenance of the institution for the next biennial period, it has been with the intention of asking of the legislature only that which we deem absolutely necessary, and that which will enable us to take advantage of favorable markets and opportunities in purchasing supplies for the home and shops. If the institution in its present capacity of an industrial home for the adult blind is to be changed. admitting all the blind of the state without any restriction, the appropriations asked for will be found to be totally inadequate to maintain it.

After carefully considering the needs of the Home in its present condition, we ask that for the next biennial period there be appropriated by the legislature the following items and amounts:

For manufacturing fund 4.00	10
For contingent fund	
F r building brick work shop. 10,00 For lighting the home 89	

We hope that, as was done with the appropriation of the last general assembly, provision will be made for drawing, when needed, all of the appropriation for the manufacturing fund.

In concluding this report, permit us to say of this institution, now in its infancy and one of the few similar institutions in the United States, that it has in our judgment a bright future; and that as the years go by, profiting by the experience of the past, fostered by the generous and progressive people of this great state through their legislature, and under the wise guidance of future boards of trustees, it shall yet attain to greater usefulness and be, in an increased measure, the one bright spot that this unfortunate class shall be, as they now are, proud and thankful to call home.

On behalf of the board of trustees, ROBERT COLBERT. J. H. NICHOLS. Secretary. President.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT.

KNOXVILLE, IOWA, June 30, 1897.

To the Honorable Board of Trustees of the Industrial Home for the Blind:

Gentlemen—In accordance with the rules and regulations governing the Home requiring the superintendent to make a report of the condition and affairs of the institution, I herewith respectfully submit to you my report for the biennial period ending June 30, 1897.

The last year of the period just ended is the first year in which the affairs of the home have been under the supervision and management of your present superintendent.

The monthly statements of receipts and expenditures, articles manufactured and sold, etc., have been carefully gleaned from the books, vouchers, and files of the office, and, together with the recommendations herein contained, are presented for your consideration.

During the past year the health of the inmates has been very good. There have been some slight alinents, such as would readily yield to ordinary treatment, but there has been no serious case of sickness among the inmates. Yet with a sad and sorrowing heart I must record one death at the Home, that of little Bunnie Culbertson, the bright, loving and lovable eleven-year-old daughter of your superintendent and matron. She was taken with membraneous croup and died suddenly January 26, 1897. She came into the Home as a ray of sunshine to the blind, and her death cast a deep gloom over the entire household. I cannot refrain from here expressing the deep and lasting sense of gratitude of myself and wife to all the inmates, for their many tokens of love and sympathy bestowed upon us and ours in that dark hour of our sore bereavement.

1897.7

The general conduct of the inmates the past year has been good. There have been slight infractions of the rules, it is true, but nothing calling for special discipline has occurred among them. They are entitled to commendation for good behavior and industry. They all seem to realize that at no other place in all this broad land can they do so well for themselves as here. They comprehend the fact that the object of the home is to assist the blind to help themselves That while here they have all the comforts and conveniences of a pleasant home and workshop combined. Here they are given employment at which they may acquire self-supporting skill and while thus engaged in cheerful labor forget their deprivation and the darkness that envelops them. All assignments of duty and allotments of work are made upon a basis of adaptation. Each works at that for which he is specially fitted, and is paid what he earns:

Under the supervision and instruction of our efficient foreman, Mr. J. E. Harmes, the workmanship in the shop has steadily improved, and our product is received with much more favor than formerly, as is evidenced by the increased output and sales, and from the further fact that few brooms are returned, refused, as compared to former years. You will notice the remarkable whisk trade growth during the last period.

The hammock and net industry has not increased in the same ratio as that of the brooms and whisks. Some bead work is still done by the girls, but articles made are slow sale and the returns for the labor unprofitable. The blind girls also do house work and assist in the kitchen and laundry, for which service they receive, besides board and keeping, regular monthly wages.

We furnish the inmates with hammock and net twine at cost price, and allow them a fair compensation for the finished article when turned in to the state. Many hammocks and nets, however, are sold by the inmates to outside parties, the proceeds of which sales are not returned to the office. A considerable amount is thus realized by them that does not appear in their net earnings herein given.

During the year the buildings have all been thoroughly renovated, the walls of the main building and dormitories being cleaned, pointed and frescoed, and considerable work has been done in beautifying the grounds. A new chicken house has been built, and a commodious hay barn is being erected. Other minor improvements have been made,

We have about fifteen acres in corn, ten acres in meadow, ten acres in pasture, six acres in potatoes, and three acres in garden; also, eleven hogs, five milch cows, three calves, two horses, about 300 chickens and a few turkeys.

We put up last year about fifteen tons of hay, cribbed 1,000 bushels of corn, and killed and consumed twelve hogs averaging 450 pounds each, from which we rendered lard sufficient for all our needs for a year.

Number of inmates enrolled at beginning of period	64 23
Whole number admitted since opening of the home	91
Number present during the period Number absent with leave Number absent without leave	89 4 1
Number in attendancs at present	34
Less number married living outside	6
Total	47
	17 10
Total	47

You will note that there have been twenty-three admissions during the biennial period. There are now on file a number of applications awaiting action by your board.

Your attention has been called to the fact that the mens' ward or east wing is filled to its full capacity, there being three occupants of each room; and, also, that the shop space is so crowded that there is not room for another machine.

If the prime object for the establishment of the home is kept in view, namely, "To instruct the adult blind of the state, who may be admitted, in some suitable trade or avocation in order to enable them to earn their own support or contribute thereto," applicants for admission will be compelled to wait until there is a vacancy, or until more ample accomodations are provided.

If the amendment passed at the extra session of the legislature for the admission of indigent blind of the state is to become effective, the imperative necessity for enlarged accomodations are apparent and provision for the same should be made.

Average number of persons supported at the home for the period	52
Total cost of maintaining same	# 14,221.10
Cost of maintenance per month	592.58
Cost of maintaining each inmate per month	11.39

1897.1

Based upon the average number of persons maintained at the Home for the period, the average cost of maintenance per month for each inmate, excluding the edible products of the farm, you will note, is \$11.39. Deducting amount paid for improvements and house furnishings, the actual cost of maintenance per month for the period, for each inmate, is \$10.17.

EX-ENSES OF THE BOME, EXCLUDING ALL EXPENDITURES CONNECTED WITH THE OPERATION OF THE FACTORY, FOR THE PERIOD ENDING JUNE 30, 1897.

sulary and wages, officers an	l employes	\$ 6,585.3 3,876.3
improvements		673.4
House furnishings	***************************************	832.2
Miscellaneous	**** **** *****************************	9,283.7

The above includes the items for building and improvements, furniture, salaries, wages (medical attendance), washing and miscellaneous expense, in fact, every expense for the maintenance of the Home, separate from the operations of the factory.

Of the thirty-seven persons whose names have been dropped from our rolls, two died at the Home, three were taken to hospital for insane, three were discharged and six married and left the home, while most of the others have gone out from the Home by permission and are now making efforts to maintain themselves at the trades followed here, or in some other honorable way to provide for themselves.

The Home is subject to the same conditions that determine the success or failure of any manufacturing establishment, and one of the most important is the judicious purchase of material. We now use about twelve tons of broom corn per month and we ought to be able when the market is favorable to purchase and store a sufficient quantity to last six months or a year. It is unsafe to store large quantities of broom corn in the basement under the shop.

There has been a marked decrease in the price of manufactured product, but we have been compelled to follow the prices down; and while we have sold more brooms, etc., during this period than the last, the aggregate amount realized from the sales has not increased in the same ratio.

RECOMMENDATIONS.

I would respectfully recommend that you ask of the next legislature a sufficient appropriation to convert the present factory building into a dormitory and to furnish the means for the erection of a new factory and store room disconnected from the other buildings.

The factory building should be equipped with a small engine, shafting and power seeder. The hand seeder now used does very unsatisfactory and imperfect work. It can be operated only by our strongest men and even then at a disadvantage.

As the number of inmates increases the necessity for making provision for the proper care of our sick is apparent. In case of contagious or lingering disease, the sick should be provided with a suitable room or infirmary where they could be under the exclusive charge of physician and nurse. Prudence would require this to be secluded and separate from others.

Fire escapes should be placed on both wings of the main building connecting with each floor of the wings. Every safeguard should be used and precaution taken to prevent the possible horrors of a fire in a building occupied by the blind.

In this connection I would suggest and recommend that the coal oil lamps now used for lighting the building be replaced with electric lights as soon as you have the means to make the change. Aside from the disagreeable features of heat, smoke, odor and blackened walls arising from the use of coal oil lamps, the property of the state and the lives of the inmates are continually endangered therefrom.

We will need some furniture and carpet for use in the main building and some new bedsteads and bedding for the dormitories.

The contract by which the city supplied the home with free water expired at the beginning of last year, and we are now paying for the water we use at the minimum water rate of 15 cents per 1,000 gallons. This item will amount to about \$100 per annum.

In conclusion I desire to express my sincere thanks to the members of the board for friendly counsel and generous support extended to myself and wife in the performance of our duty as superintendent and matron of the Home, in this the initial year of our service.

> CAM. CULBERTSON, Superintendent.

1897.]

LIST OF INMATES ENROLLED DURING THE PERIOD ENDING JUNE 30, 1887.

14

NEWARKS	Married. Seadmitted. Seb 14, 1984, Iasans; returned to Scott Co. Left the bonse July 1, 1986. Absent without leave. Returned to Scott county. Left the bonse August 18, 1993.
NATIVITY.	in distant. In distant. Now York Now York Now York Now York Now Jersey Oremany
COUNTY.	Heioux Heioux Heioux Hardina H
ADMITTED.	September 28. 1967 July 18, 1962 April 11, 1962 January 1, 1963 January 1, 1964
Age.	· 教育教育的秘密的文字主题就由立整点的教育的容易力而自己的理學的主意與某個性主题表
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FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

Total warrants issued on salary and subsistence fund	# 12,336 78
Total warrants issued on manufacturing fund	23,401.83
Total warrants issued on contingent fund	2,578 22
Total warrants issued on machinery fund	
Total warrants issued on farm and grounds	124 40
Total	

RECORD OF ARTICLES SOLD AND AMOUNT OF SALES FOR THE BIENNIAL PERIOD ENDING JUNE 30, 1897.

MONTH.	umber dozen brooms.	umber dozen whisks	umber ham- m.cks - sin-	nmber nets-	mount of sales.	Discounts and freigh's.
1885— July August August October October November December 6	516 1-6 481 1-2 467 1-2 787 1-6 477 335	8 15 17 1-2 36 27 26 1-2	3	1	\$ 1,121,89 3,18\ 65 968.78 1,596.04 939.28	# 34,63 89,44 28,63 38,43 26,46
Timing January February March April May June June June June June June June June	346 1-2 307 1-2 309 1-2 412 1-4 205 369 1-2	55 1-9 56 1-9 56 1-9 84 2-3 504 63 3-4 171	55 41 85 16	11100	698,31 694,49 657,44 744,59 973,59 704,53 971,07	46.78 69.55 31.11 31.81 48.90 41.65 16.17
Total for year ending June 30, 1806 1806 July August September. October November Dec-meer	5,104 1-8 536 1-2 403 1-4 741 3-4 903 1-4 719 547 1-2	768 5-13 2(4 293 2-3 315 3-4 158 1-2 205 319 3-4	156 21 1	14	# 11,171.00 943,48 685.00 1.185.20 1.010.49 1,111.94 941.61	# 496.85 47.96 16 16 35 36 32 14 26.84 195.11
January February March April May June	598 1-3 412 544 1-2 597 2-3 797 905	263 1-2 369 1-2 512 1-9 351 2-3 361 667	6 14 63 15		1,060 30 TST 48 975 34 942 93 1,155,86 1,404.76	61,99 89,76 72,49 89,06 80,86
Total for year ending June 30, 1897	7,481 3-4	8,942 1-2 4.711	120	14	\$ 12,034.68 \$ 23,005.68	\$ 665.65 \$1.181.00

SUMMARY OF ARTICLES MANUFACTURED AND SOLD DURING THE BIENNIAL PERIOD.

Brooms		1-0	
Whisks			dozen.
Single hammocks			dozen.
Single nets	132		dozen.
SOLD.			
Brooms		1-4	dozen.
Whisks	4,711		dozen.
Single hammocks	278		dozen.
Single nets	100		dozen.
Total amount of sales	******		603,205.6
Less discount and freight		a.	1,181.9
			-
Net sales			800,003.7

GOODS MANUFACTURED SINCE HOME OPENED, JANUARY 1,

400				
DATE.	Number dozen brooms.	Number dozen whisks.	Number ham- mocks—sin- gle.	Number nets- single.
January 1, 1882, to June 30, 1893	8,449 8,41155 12,10556	182% 416 4,841%	42 746 263	75 259 132
Total made	26,980	6,470%	1,071	330

SUMMARY.

AMOUNT OF SALES FOR BIENNIAL PERIOD ENDING JUNE 10, 1807.

Brooms, dozen Whisks, dozen Hammocks, stegle Nets, single	4,711 278
Total amount of sales	23 205.68 1,181.97
Not sales	20,239 14

MANUFACTURED STOCK ON HAND JUNE 30, 1897.

13 dozen No. 1 brooms at #2 50	12.50
26 dozen No. 3 brooms at #2	52 00
19 dozen Little Gem brooms at #2	38.00
90 dozen No. 4 brooms at \$1.50	139,50
34 dozen Racket brooms at \$1	31.00
4% dozen No. 7 brooms at \$2.50.	11.25
5 dozen No. 8 brooms at \$2.75	13,75
2 dozen No. 9 brooms at \$3.,	6 00
14 dozen Litste Gems (old stock) at \$1.75. 2 dozen No. 9 brooms (old stock) at \$2.40	24.50
	4.80
Total	356.30

18

WHISKS AND TOYS.	
5% dozen No. 10 toys at 75 cents	4.87%
23% dozen No. 11 whisks at 40 cents	9.40
12% dozen No. 12 whisks at 50 cents	6.25
6% dozen No. 13 whisks at 65 cents	4.22%
5 dozen No. 14 whisks at 70 cents	3.50
6 dozen No. 15 whisks at 75 cents	4.50
16 dozen No. 16 whisks at EL	16.00
Total	48,75
HAMMOCKS AND NETS.	
28 8-foot hammocks at 80 cents	22.40
1 9-foot hammock at 90 cents	.90
72 10-foot hammocks at \$1	72.00
2 11-foot hammocks at \$1.19.	2.20
If 12-foot hammocks at \$1.25	21.25
4 19-foot hammocks at \$1.35.	5.40
15 14-foot hammocks at \$1.50.	18.00
	-
Total	142.15
17 single nets (white) at 75 cents	12.75
2 single nets (colored) at \$1	2 00
Total	14.75
Total manufactured stock on hand	581.95
INVENTORY OF UNMANUFACTURED STOCK AND MATERIAL ON HAND	JUNE
30, 1807.	
5,675 pounds broom corn at 3 cents	170 25
5,714 pounds broom corn at 114 cents	132 85
716 pounds broom corn at 414 cents (dwarf)	82.22
2,700 pounds broom corn, Beem	54,00
2,360 pounds broom corn, medium	59.60
\$2,200 broom handles at \$9.75	313.95
1,500 broom handles, barn, at \$11	16.50
1,200 broom handles, toy, at 88	9.60
450 broom handles, painted, at \$16.	7.20
42 pounds whisk twine, sewing, 42% cents	17.85
32 pounds whisk twine, bunching, at 14 cents	7.13
10 pounds broom twine, sawing, pink, at 13 cents.	29.70
72 pounds broom twine, sewing, green, at 26 cents.	18.72
900 pounds wire at \$1.75.	33.75
6 pounds staples at 8 cents	45
37 pounds wire broom nails at 8 cents	2.56
13 yards velvet at 34 cents.	2.88
300 pounds brimstone at 3% cents	5.00
3 gross broom braces	-12
48 gross tin locks, Dalsy, at 40 cents	15.20
T gross tin locks with rings at 55 cents	3.85
125 pounds paper broom sacks at \$25 per thousand	26.95
500 paper broom bags at 500	10,00
19 (5) scrapers and (14) pounders at 75 cents	14.25
36 (II) broad knives and (19) narrow knives at 40 and 50 cents	18 10
24 needles, 12 brooms, 12 whisks, at 50 cents	12.00
Ill pairs handouffs at 35 cents	4.20
25 pairs cuff frons at 19 cents	2.50
% box broom corn dye	.70
2,000 brush handles, ebony, at \$5 per thousand	8.76
1,000 brush rods at \$7	7.00
18 gross brush caps, plush, at 30 centa	3.60

283 stretchers at 8 cents

FINANCIAL STATEMENT. 1897.]

SUMMARY OF FACTORY ACCOUNT FOR THE BIENNIAL PERIOD ENDING JUNE 30, 1897.

14000	DEBIT.			
1895.	Balance on hand	1,561.45		
June 30.	Bills receivable	4,800.56		
		1,575.05		
	Manufactured stock on hand	5022.48		
	Unmanufactured stock on hand			
	Received from state treasurer	4,625.00		
	Collections from sales	20,230.14		
	Total\$	RS. 819. 69		
	ADMINISTRATION OF THE PARTY OF	. HOUSE COM.		
	CHEDIT.			
1897.	the standard property and		21	1000000
June 30.	Manufactured stock on hand			561.95
	Unmanufactured stock on hand			1,061.71
	Billis receivable			5,131.93
	Paid inmates' earnings	*********		0,316.93
	Paid for material for period			11,469.94
	Paid for foreman and salesmen			5,035.78
	Paid freights and all other expenses			1,467.15
	Halance on hand			3,595,78
			-	-
	Total	******	8	14,644.19
Walana				624 50
Daiance.			-	

REPORT OF TREASURER.

For biennial period ending June 20, 1897. SALABY AND SUBSISTENCE FUND.

	ALLE RESTRICTION OF THE PARTY O		
July 1, 1800	5. By overdraft By total amount warrants paid	. 1	8,515.37 11,730.16
July 1, 188	Total	. 8	
	Total		14.743.53
	MANUFACTURING FUND.		14,243.50
Total Comme			
3 mly 1, 1mg	To balance on hand		1,564.46 4,625.00 70.399.14
July 1, 1897	Total receipts		
	Total		
			25,425 60
	CONTINGENT FUND.		
July 1, 1895.	To balance on hand		10.85
	To amount received from state treasurer		2,750 00
July 1, 1897.	Total receipts		2,760.65
	By balance on hand		2,760.65
	MACHINERY FUND.		
July 1, 1866,	To balance on hand		400.35 125.00
July 1, 1897.	Total	5	634.35
	Total		624 25
***	FARM AND GROUND FUND.		
July 1, 1886.	To amount received from state treasurer.		365.14 350.00
July 1, 1807.	Total		515.14
	Total		515.14