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60th Lib.  
Bulletin 5  
What our Community is doing  
for its Boys and Girls!



... The ...  
Hyde Park Center

1912  
under auspices of

The Hyde Park  
Juvenile Protective League

5435 Lake Avenue

Chicago

## Officers of the League and Executive Committee for 1913

James R. Angell.....	President
Shailer Mathews	
Charles A. Marsh .....	Vice-Presidents
Frank B. Tarbell	
Mrs. Carl D. Buck .....	Secretary
Mrs. Frank H. Montgomery.....	Cor. Secretary
5548 Woodlawn Avenue	
John F. Hetherington .....	Treasurer
Arthur J. Mason.....	Chairman Finance Committee
Mrs. Lyman A. Walton .....	
-----Chairman Management Committee	
Mrs. Charles S. Eaton.....	
-----Chairman Visiting Committee	
Mrs. W. D. MacClintock .....	
-----Chairman Membership Committee	

## Chairmen of Sub-Committees of Management Committee

Boys' Work.....	Dr. T. G. Allen
Girls' Work.....	Mrs. A. V. Powell
Woman's Work.....	Miss S. B. Tunnicliff
Library.....	Mrs. F. J. Miller
Voluntary Librarian.....	Miss Margaret Miller
Delegates to Juvenile Protective Association—	
Mrs. A. V. Powell, Mrs. L. A. Walton, James R. Angell.	

## Directors

Girls' Work.....	Miss Zelma Davidson
Boys' Work.....	Charles R. Webster

## Statement

The Center is operated by the Executive Committee of the Hyde Park Juvenile Protective League, an incorporated organization, which seeks to promote the physical and moral welfare of the boys and girls of the community. The Executive Committee has appointed a Committee of Management to supervise the Center. This Committee holds regular meetings for the consideration of all matters affecting the Center, and reports its actions in full at the regular monthly meetings of the Executive Committee.



## The Work for Boys

A few facts briefly stated:

1. The Center is the most desirable social meeting place for the boys of the Lake Avenue section.

2. The right kind of recreation and amusement is provided. Recognition is given to the natural desire for play and competition.

3. A small pool table and other table games are in use almost all of the time on "Boys' Nights."

4. Physical activities at the Center are confined to group work—wrestling, tumbling, handball, etc.

5. Gymnastic Classes are held two nights each week in the Hyde Park High School gymnasium. 47 boys are enrolled under expert leadership.

6. Basketball and other recreational features of the strenuous kind are introduced.

7. The Lakeside Football Club and the Lakeside Juniors met and trained at the Center. Both teams played throughout the season and made good records.

8. Manual Training classes, under the direction of Mr. D. B. Stewart, are held regularly with 32 enrolled. Smaller groups meet for instruction in basketry, hammock-making, and "first aid."

9. A debating club has been organized, a stamp club is popular, and educational games are quite a feature. The Saturday Night Social Club has interesting meetings.

10. We seek to make the Center generally helpful and attractive to the boys. A Sunday Evening Club has been formed among the older boys, the purpose of which is the development of "clean speech, clean habits, and clean athletics."

11. Boys' days at the Center are Monday, Wednesday and Friday afternoon and evening, Saturday and Sunday evenings. A typical group (some of the Lakeside Juniors) is shown below:—





## Vocational Work

In April, 1912, Miss Anne Davis of the Bureau of Employment Supervision, began holding an office hour once a week at the Center. Since that time 41 children have applied for work. In each case the house has been visited, usually several times, and often the school as well, in an effort to secure suitable work, with good prospects, for the applicants, or to persuade them to stay in school longer. A tabulated report follows:

Applicants .....	41
Placed in positions .....	12
Returned to public or vocational school ..	11
Found their own work .....	12
Waiting for position .....	1
Found to be unplaceable .....	5

Most of those who found their own work were over 16 and had already had several jobs. Miss Davis tries to confine her work to children from 14 to 16.

## The Library

The Hyde Park Center Library contains 1200 books, of which 500 volumes are juvenile fiction, 225 school and reference books, 150 books for very small children, 300 adult fiction, and 20 miscellaneous. The books have been classified and catalogued, and sensational and other useless books, 800 in all, weeded out. A system of fines is followed to secure prompt return of books and good care of them, also for effect of responsibility on the child. The average circulation is 40 books a week. We are always grateful for donations of books, but we especially need money, so that the books can be chosen to meet our particular needs.

Part of the library work has been a Story Hour on Friday afternoons with an average attendance of 25 or 30 children. A regular teacher conducts this work. There are four assistants in the library.



"PALS"

## Girls' Work

The girls' work is built about two main ideas,—wholesome recreation and efficient home-making. Four cooking classes, ten in each class, and three sewing groups, with an enrollment of 28, under competent volunteer teachers, have made much progress since early Fall. Each lesson is a practical problem suited to the needs of the home from which the child comes. There are also two groups in gymnastic dancing and physical culture, several clubs with various purposes, directed play for smaller children, and dramatic work.

Our entire Christmas Eve Entertainment was given by the Junior Dancing Class and the Dramatic Club. It was a fine performance. Another play, combined with an exhibition from all the classes, will be given in the Spring.

Over 35 volunteer workers assist in the girls' work each week. They come from the University of Chicago, the Parson's School of Physical Expression; and other sources. For their generous assistance we are most grateful, as the success of the work depends largely on their efficiency and regularity.

Girls' days at the Center are Tuesday and Thursday afternoons and evenings and all day Saturday. Girls' are also admitted to the Friday Story Hour and the Sunday afternoon meetings. The average attendance on Girls' Days is about 100. Boys 6 years and under are admitted on Girls' days.



CHARLIE, JOE and JOHN



## The Playground



We were given the use of the playground at the old location, 57th St. and Lake Ave., again for the summer of 1912, by the Illinois Central, which owns the property. It was open to girls mornings and afternoons under Miss Davidson and to boys every evening under Mr. West. Although popular with the children, this playground is far from adequate, nor is it centrally located for our work.

## Womans' Club

This Club, which was formed by Miss Davidson this Fall, consists of a group of neighborhood women who meet the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month. The club aims to be helpful wherever possible and chiefly in spreading the true object and meaning of the Social Center in the neighborhood in which we are located. The meetings are held at various homes or at the Center, where the club women mingle with the children in their activities, helping and making suggestions and receiving new ideas. They make comforters to order, the proceeds to go into the Center treasury or charitable work. Their co-operation is invaluable to the Directors.

(See Visiting Committee Report)

## Sunday Afternoons

From 2:30 to 5 have been our assembly occasions, when all boys and girls, large and small, are admitted for music, games and quiet group work. Pop-corn is usually served. The helpers are volunteers from the Young People's Societies from the Hyde Park Churches. From 75 to 100 children attend each Sunday.

## Visiting Committee

Twenty-four families have received special attention. Various causes had brought about conditions which were proving harmful to children: drunkenness on the part of a parent, unemployment, bad housing and poverty due to the desertion of the father. Employment has been found, medical assistance given and the sanitary conditions in homes improved. The children in most of these families enjoy the opportunities of instruction and recreation of the Center. 173 families were visited in the interest of the Woman's Club last Winter and Spring, when the Visiting Committee had charge of the Club. A fine program was provided for the seven meetings of the Club by the Womans' Club Department of the Visiting Committee.

## Financial Statement

Report of Treasurer of the Hyde Park Center for the year ending Dec. 31, 1912:

### RECEIPTS

On hand Dec. 31st, 1911.....	\$ 515.29
Received from Subscriptions.....	2072.06
“ “ Membership Dues.....	447.00
“ “ Ill. C. R. R. Co. for improvements on its building.....	307.81
Special Subscription for Gym work.....	100.00
Fees from Manual Training boys.....	16.00
Boys' Membership dues .....	5.40
Rebate from Gas Co.....	5.57
Total Receipts.....	<u>\$3,469.13</u>

### DISBURSEMENTS

Salaries of Directors and Janitor at Center.....	\$1548.97
Salaries of Teachers at Gymnasium.....	91.00
Rent of Stores 5435-37 Lake Avenue .....	650.00
Rent of High School Gymnasium.....	165.00
Printing.....	67.35
Fuel .....	86.90
Rent of Piano.....	61.00
On account of Library.....	30.75
For Gas, Electricity, Telephone, Supplies for Manual Training, Postage and Miscellaneous items.....	406.45
Total Disbursements .....	<u>\$3,107.42</u>
Balance on hand.....	361.71
	<u>\$3,469.13</u>

D. A. PEIRCE,  
Treasurer.





THE Hyde Park Center is an institution entirely supported by voluntary subscriptions. It co-operates with the Juvenile Protective Association, the Public Schools, the United Charities, the Vocational Bureau, the Legal Aid Society, the Y. M. C. A., and other welfare agencies in the city. While non-sectarian a majority of the members of the committees and volunteer workers come from the various churches in Hyde Park. The Committees and Directors invite all interested in social service to assist in meeting the unique needs of this community. All money contributions should be sent to Mrs. F. H. Montgomery, 5548 Woodlawn Avenue. Make checks payable to J. F. Hetherington, Treasurer.