

Oakdale in the Newspapers

Lapeer Republican Clarion
August 1, 1901

Flint Daily Journal
May 22, 1903

WORK AT THE HOME.

Storage and Cold Storage Buildings Now in Process of Erection.

The old boiler house at the Home is now being rebuilt into a storage house, 38x62 feet in size with two stories and a basement. The first floor will be used for the storage of heavy stock while the second floor will be fitted up as a tailor and shoe shop. It is intended to make the shoes of inmates and also to put in machines for knitting and embroidery work.

The foundations of the new cold storage building, authorized by the last legislature, are now going in. This building will be 20x35 feet in size with a height of 33 feet. It will require about a month to complete it.

Material is now being drawn for the new farmhouse and dairy. Bids for lumber are now being received.

The new custodial cottage is practically ready for occupancy. Foundations are in for the new duplicate engine and dynamo in the power house and stokers and new boilers are now on the way by which the capacity of the heating plant will be doubled.

The inmates of the Home are now taking their summer outing at Davis lake where a camp has been opened. All the inmates except the helpless are allowed to spend at least a day there and the older ones pass a day and a night there. The Home boat on the lake adds much to the children's pleasure.

THE LAPEER INSTITUTION.

There was considerable debate in the state house of representatives, Tuesday, relative to the appropriation of \$250,000 for the Home for the Feeble Minded at Lapeer. This is indeed a large appropriation, but the excuse was offered that hundreds of applicants are awaiting outside for admission.

Without passing upon the advisability of making such a large appropriation, the fact remains that it is starting to observe the tremendous increase in the number of feeble minded children in the state. Representative Rogers suggests that they be put out of their misery. Discussing this the Kalamazoo Telegraph says that this of course cannot be seriously considered. But the state can turn its attention to the causes of so many feeble minded children. It can take steps to prevent marriage and parturition by diseased and incompetent people. It can compel a physical and mental examination and, if necessary, incarcerate those persons whose well known condition makes them a menace to society. It is a terrible crime for such people to bring diseased and feeble minded children into the world. The state is paying the penalty. The feeble minded children appear to be increasing. Stop the source and there will be no need of spending hundreds of thousands of dollars every year enlarging the Lapeer institution to accommodate the unfortunate children whose existence is a misery. They are the innocent victims.

Oakdale in the Newspapers

Flint Daily Journal

July 6, 1903

STRANGE VISITOR!

WM. MARSHALL FOUND HIM IN
HIS CELLAR.

Proved to Be an Escaped Inmate of
the Home For Feeble-Minded
at Lapeer.

Wm. Marshall, the Belsay man who has had so much trouble this year with tramps, unknowns, incognitos, etc., had another experience yesterday that he can appropriately class with his other unique experiences. Saturday night his wife went down cellar at the house for some purpose and was frightened to see a strange man standing there. She called her husband, and Mr. Marshall, suspicious and almost desperate from so many affairs of the kind this year, immediately covered the man with a shotgun and later tied his hands behind his back.

Marshall escorted the man to the depot and in the meantime had telegraphed here for an officer. Deputy Sheriff Pettis made the trip to Belsay and the unknown was brought here and placed in jail. He was searched and questioned closely, but his talk was so unintelligible that nothing could be learned from him as to who he was or where he came from. Finally the sheriff noticed that the man's clothes were marked as though he belonged to some institution, and it was then discovered that the man was an inmate of the Home for the Feeble-Minded at Lapeer. The institution was called by phone and an attendant was sent on here to take the stranger back. He had escaped when the inmates were taken out into the fields to work Saturday. When he was searched at the jail he had on his person \$1.00 and an old gold watch.

Flint Daily Journal

July 3, 1903

The Free Methodist Sunday school went to Lapeer Wednesday to visit the Home of the Feeble Minded. Sixty-six in all that went took dinner in the grove near the home from baskets and a very good and interesting day was spent.

Flint Daily Journal

February 15, 1904

Lapeer—The Administration building at the Michigan Home for the Feeble Minded is now complete and Superintendent and Mrs. N. A. Paltglase have begun moving in. It is a handsome structure and cost \$20,000. There are now 480 inmates at the institution and 86 employees.

Flint Daily Journal

March 12, 1904

HAS STRANGE DESIRES

Harry Williams Runs Away to Home
for the Feeble Minded at
Lapeer.

Harry Williams, a youngster well-known about the city, ran away from home yesterday and took a train for Lapeer, where he went to the Home for the Feeble Minded and asked to be taken in. The authorities of the institution questioned the boy and learned where he lived, and later telephoned to Chief of Police Wells. County Agent Turner was consulted and the lad may be taken to the State Industrial school at Lansing.

Young Williams went to County Agent Turner some time ago and asked to be sent to Lansing, where he could enter the Industrial School.

Oakdale in the Newspapers

Flint Daily Journal
May 5, 1904

The remains of a daughter of John Dolan, of Burton township, will arrive in the city from Lapeer tomorrow morning for burial from St. Michael's church at 10 o'clock. The deceased was an attendant at the Home for the Feeble-Minded and Epileptic and was 18 years of age.

The Lapeer County Clarion
September 16, 1904

Flint Daily Journal
October 6, 1904

Poor Commissioner Hood and Superintendent of the Poor Isaac N. Walker went to Lapeer today, where they will confer with the authorities of the Home for the Feeble Minded relative to securing permission to send a Flint child two and a half years old to that institution.

Flint Daily Journal
May 27, 1905

EVANS-JOLLY WEDDING

Well-Known Lapeer Man Marries Detroit Trained Nurse.

Detroit, Mich., May 27.—A quiet wedding was celebrated Thursday at the home of Miss Louise Munger, 167 Theodore street, when Miss Ida Jolly was married to Harry S. Evans, secretary of the Home for the Feeble Minded, Lapeer, Mich. The bride is a graduate nurse of Grace hospital. The ceremony was performed by Rev. J. D. MacDonald, pastor of Highland Park Presbyterian church. Mr. and Mrs. Evans will live in Lapeer.

1904 An Accident at the Home.

A serious accident occurred at the Michigan Home yesterday morning, and A. A. Dame of Attica, and Wm. Johnson and Wm. Henderson were all seriously injured. The men were at work on a scaffolding, when something gave way, and they were precipitated to the ground 40 feet below. Dr. F. A. Tinker was sent for, and found the three men in serious condition, Mr. Dame having sustained two broken ribs, Mr. Johnson a jammed shoulder, and Mr. Henderson's injuries being such as to cause the report to be circulated in town that he had been killed. Just how badly he is hurt, has not yet been determined, but it is feared that his injuries are internal and of fatal nature. Those who saw the accident, say it is something short of a miracle that the men did not meet with instant death.

Oakdale in the Newspapers

Flint Daily Journal
August 23, 1905

CHARGE OF CRUELTY

IS VIGOROUSLY DENIED BY SUPT.
POLGASS.

Declares that Koster Children Were
Well Treated at Home for
Feeble-Minded.

Lapeer, Mich., August 22. — Poor Commissioner J. J. Dykema, of Grand Rapids, has reported to Representative Ellis, chairman of the legislative committee for the State Home for the Feeble Minded, at Lapeer, a case of alleged cruelty to inmates of the institution. Dr. W. A. Polgass, superintendent, of the institution, denies that anything of the kind has occurred. The charges were made by the mother of Albert Koster and Frances Koster, inmates.

"There is not a word of truth in the charges," said the doctor. "The so-called cut on the boy's head was nothing but a trifling abrasion of the skin and might have been caused by rubbing against the bed clothes. The blood lodges in certain parts of the body after death and discolors them, and that is what they probably meant by saying that he was bruised all over.

"The trouble with the Koster children is that they were large, heavy and perfectly helpless. Although only children they weighed about 200 pounds each. They could not do a thing for themselves, and I told the mother it would be better for them if she took them home where they would get more care than we could give them. They also complained of being homesick. But before she was ready to take the children away the boy died. I can say that the children received the best of treatment while here and that the sores which are made so much of were on their bodies when they were brought here."

Another case, that has become known, of a similar nature, is that of the daughter of Harry Savage, a musician at the Lyceum theater in Detroit. Savage came here about two weeks ago in response to complaints that his little daughter had been ill-treated. As a result the attendant in charge of the little girl was discharged.

Flint Daily Journal
August 26, 1905

BODY WILL BE EXHUMED

Examination to Be Made of Wounds
on Koster Boy.

Grand Rapids, Mich., August 26. — The body of Albert Koster, who died at the Lapeer home for the feeble minded, after four weeks' stay, is to be exhumed and a thorough examination made. There was a big bruise the size of a half dollar on the boy's forehead when he was brought back dead for burial and the family want to know how this came on him. They are not satisfied with Dr. Polgass's explanation that the lad must have got it thrashing about in bed. Coroner Hilliker has ordered that the remains be dug up. Dr. Polgass will be given an opportunity to be present. The date of exhumation has not been set, but it will probably be early next week.

Flint Daily Journal
September 30, 1905

Joseph Creque, of Flushing, died last Wednesday night at the Home for the Feeble Minded at Lapeer, where he was taken for treatment about a year ago. He was about 50 years of age and unmarried, and leaves a mother and a brother at Flushing. The remains were taken to that village yesterday for burial.

Flint Daily Journal
June 6, 1906

SARANAC — Miss Bessie Park, nurse at the home for the epileptic and feeble-minded at Lapeer, is dead and her body was brought here for burial.

Flint Daily Journal
August 8, 1906

Society Event at Lapeer.

Lapeer, Mich., Aug. 8. — A society wedding was solemnized at the Michigan Home for the Feeble Minded yesterday afternoon by Rev. C. L. Arnold, of Detroit. The contracting parties were Don B. Polgass, son of Dr. W. A. Polgass, and Miss Ann Fletcher, of New York, late of Paris.

Flint Daily Journal
August 15, 1906

INTO LIME LIGHT!

DR. NINA OLIVER, OF LAPEER,
HAS BEEN DRAGGED.

FORMER HUSBAND INSANE

MADE MURDEROUS ASSAULT ON
FIANCE AT AKRON, O.

Tried to Murder Both Dr. McIntyre
and Former Wife—Is Now
in Jail.

Lapeer, Mich., Aug. 15.—Dr. Nina Oliver, assistant physician to Superintendent W. A. Polglase, of the Michigan Home for the Feeble Minded and Epileptics in this city, has been unwittingly dragged into the lime-light at Akron, Ohio, through the fury of a jealous husband, from whom she was divorced several years ago.

Dr. Oliver left the Home Wednesday for a two weeks' vacation, and accompanied by her fiancée, Assistant District Attorney C. S. McIntyre, of Kalamazoo, went to Akron, O., where she owns a fine home and where her children, a daughter and son, reside with the grandmother Oliver.

Last Sunday morning her former husband, Dr. Thomas Oliver, it is alleged, stole into the home and in a demoniacal rage attacked, it is said, Mr. McIntyre, with a butcher knife. The latter, in trying to avoid the weapon, suffered a crushed thumb, says he was also severely bitten by the infuriated man, who had, it is claimed, previously threatened to kill both him and Dr. Nina, the mother of his children.

Dr. Oliver's attempted murderous assault is exceedingly regretted by the Home people, among whom the lady physician has many friends. Mr. McIntyre, who has relatives here, has been a frequent visitor to this city, and is a young lawyer of great promise. He is about 30 years of age.

Over-indulgence in strong drink, it is alleged, has caused the downfall of Dr. Thomas Oliver, from a successful practitioner to an ordinary laborer. Being unable to furnish \$700 bail, he is now in jail.

Flint Daily Journal
August 16, 1906

IS HELD FOR TRIAL

DR. OLIVER CHARGED WITH AS-
SAULTING MCINTYRE.

Row Over a Lapeer Woman Ends
With Criminal Charges Against
Her Former Husband.

Akron, O., August 15.—Charged with assaulting Assistant Prosecutor C. S. McIntyre, of Kalamazoo, with intent to kill, Dr. Thomas H. Oliver, who has charge of the Pittsburg Steamship company's hospital at Crescent Mine, near Two Harbors, Minn., and for many years a resident of Detroit, was bound over to the grand jury this evening and in default of \$500 bond remanded to jail. The preliminary hearing, which occupied the entire day, brought out many sensations.

McIntyre testified that last Thursday he met Dr. Nina Oliver, assistant physician of the Michigan Hospital for Feeble Minded and Epileptics, at Lapeer, by appointment in Detroit, that they went to Cleveland that night and came to Akron Friday afternoon, where they went to the home of Mrs. Barbara Oliver, mother of Thomas Oliver, where the two children, Nina and Thomas Oliver, are living. At about 2 o'clock Sunday morning, McIntyre said he was awakened by Oliver creating a disturbance, and was assaulted by him.

Asked why he went to his mother's home at midnight, Oliver said it was not until about that time that he discovered the presence of McIntyre, and that when he found the Kalamazoo man was engaged to marry his former wife, he decided to leave and pay a short visit to his mother.

Mrs. Oliver testified that when she brought McIntyre to Akron, she did not know her former husband was here.

Some time Oliver was employed as house surgeon at the Kalamazoo Sanatorium. For a time he was a physician at the Huron State hospital in Cleveland. For an extended period he was with the Selway hospital at Detroit. He practiced medicine in Detroit for seven years. His references bear the names of prominent men, including Senator Henry Smith, of Adrian; Dr. Hal C. Wyman, and Dr. H. O. Walker, of Detroit.

Oakdale in the Newspapers

Flint Daily Journal, October 4, 1906

One of the freshmen at Ann Arbor was found carrying a gun, the result of "class rivalry." To anyone over 21 the antics of the 'rah 'rah boys at the State university seem pathetic. If they happened at the Lapeer Home for the Feeble Minded things would not appear so strange.

Flint Daily Journal, January 24, 1907

BATTLE CREEK—Riley Weller, a weak-minded country boy and son of a well-to-do farmer, is on trial, charged with attempting to wreck a Michigan Central train. He does not deny the charge and said he wanted some excitement. It is likely that he will be sent to the Feeble Minded home at Lapeer.

CAUGHT IN FLINT

FOUR GIRLS ESCAPED FROM THE
MICHIGAN HOME.

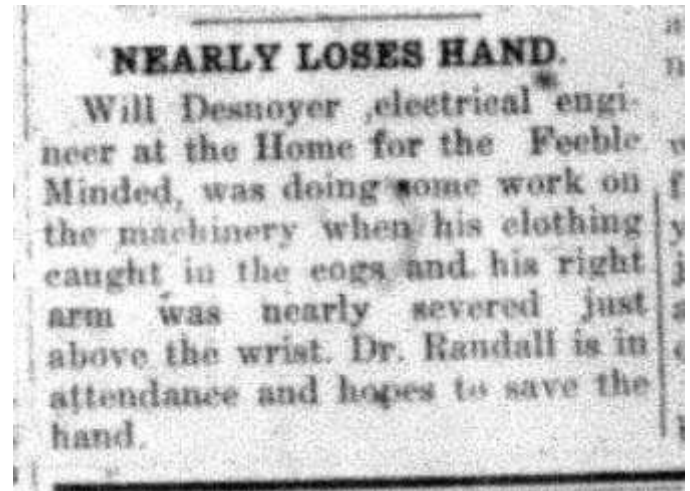
Two of Them Brought Back Today,
But the Other Two Are Not Yet
Located.

Lapeer, Mich., May 1.—Four girls from the Michigan Home for the Feeble Minded made good their escape from the institution last night, and although the alarm was quickly given and the people in the surrounding country were notified by 'phone to be on the lookout, it was not until this afternoon that any of them were located in Flint. Two were brought back on the afternoon train to Lapeer by an attendant, who had driven the entire distance to Flint, the other two, however, not yet being located. The two girls who have not yet been found were fortunate in catching a ride from Davison with William Lang, who happened to be driving to that city this morning. When asked their names, it is said that the girls refused to state, telling, however, that they were going out into the country to spend a short time with an aunt. From their appearance, Mr. Lang said that he did not mistrust that they were from the Lapeer institution, as both seemed ordinarily bright. They told Mr. Lang that they had spent the night at Davison, but that their money had given out and that they had decided that rather than wait to hear from their relatives they would walk the remainder of the distance.

It is believed that the two have not yet been found were in Flint to catch a Pere Marquette train northward, but it is thought by the officers that the girls are still in Flint, as neither is known to have had the price for transportation.

Lapeer County Clarion

February 14, 1907



Oakdale in the Newspapers

Flint Daily Journal, May 2, 1907

The two runaway girls who escaped from the Home for the Feeble Minded and Epileptic at Lapeer, were found yesterday afternoon on Second street, and were taken into custody by Assistant Chief Cole. The girls were sent to Lapeer on an evening train.

Flint Daily Journal, May 22, 1907

FRED D. JOHNSON VERY ILL

Steward of the Michigan Home Has Nervous Prostration.

Lapeer, Mich., May 22.—Fred Johnson, steward at the Michigan Feeble Minded Home, is seriously ill

Flint Daily Journal, June 6, 1907

ILL BUT FIVE WEEKS

FRED D. JOHNSON DIED LAST NIGHT AT LAPEER.

Was Steward at Michigan Home for 13 Years—Fifty-four at Time of Death.

(Special to The Daily Journal.)

Lapeer, Mich., June 6.—Fred D. Johnson, for the past thirteen years steward at the Home for the Feeble Minded near this city, died at his home at 10:30 last evening after an illness of five weeks with nervous prostration.

Mr. Johnson was 54 years old and came from Mt. Upton, N. Y., to this city when a small boy. He received his education in the Lapeer high schools and after his graduation spent some time in Chicago. Later he returned and was employed by one of the older firms of this city, Gregory & Co., dry goods merchants.

During the year 1876 he married Miss Mary E. Rood, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Horace Rood, of this city. There are no children.

The funeral will be held Saturday afternoon at 2 p. m., from the house, Rev. S. G. Livingston, pastor of the Presbyterian church, officiating.

Flint Daily Journal

February 26, 1907

COMES TO LAPEER

Dr. Harley A. Haynes Takes Position in the Home.

Lapeer, Mich., July 26.—Dr. Harley A. Haynes, for the past five years house physician of the Michigan reformatory at Ionia, has resigned his position to come to Lapeer, where he has accepted a place as assistant physician at the Home for the Feeble Minded, under Dr. Chamberlain.

The vacancy caused at the Ionia reformatory has been filled by the appointment of Dr. Wiley E. Woodbury, house physician of Grace hospital, Detroit.

Flint Daily Journal

August 7, 1907

ROY BENTLEY MARRIED

Happy Event at East Chicago, Ind., Today.

Lapeer, Mich., Aug. 7.—At East Chicago, Ind., today, occurred the wedding of Henry Roy Bentley, of this city, and Miss Alice Grace, formerly of Detroit, but who for some time past, like Mr. Bentley, has been a cottage superintendent at the Home for the Feeble Minded and Epileptic in this city. Mr. Bentley and Miss Grace were thrown together by the nature of their duties. Friendship ripened into love, with the happy function of today as a result. After a wedding trip which will be spent with friends in Indiana and Michigan, Mr. and Mrs. Bentley will return to Lapeer, where Mr. Bentley will resume his duties at the Home.

Miss Rose Parrish, a step-sister of the bride, acted as bridesmaid, and Fred J. Bentley, a brother of the groom, also of this city, as best man. Misses Mollvain and McLean, supervisors at the Home, were among the guests in attendance. The ceremony was performed at the residence of the bride's father.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Bentley have many friends in this city, who heartily congratulate.

Flint Daily Journal
November 1, 1907

NEEDS MORE ROOM

HOME FOR FEEBLE MINDED AT
LAPEER.

MANY ARE ON WAITING LIST

OVER EIGHT HUNDRED PATIENTS
NOW BEING CARED FOR.

Interesting Facts Concerning One of
Important Institutions of State
of Michigan.

(From a Staff Correspondent.)
Lapeer, Mich., Nov. 1.—"Buildings, more new buildings," was the answer made by Dr. G. L. Chamberlain, at the head of the Michigan Home for the Feeble Minded, when questioned as to the present needs of the state institution located here. Although 805 patients are being cared for, the majority of them children, there are on the waiting list of applications more than half a thousand more.

Michigan was the seventeenth state in the union to provide a home for the feeble minded, the first patient being received here in August, 1888. The state's initial appropriation was \$50,000, the city of Lapeer furnishing the site by purchasing 160 acres. To this has been added 200 acres bought by the state itself.

In round numbers the cost of maintaining the Home last year was about \$110,000. There are between 130 and 125 salaried people employed at the institution, the monthly payroll amounting to about \$3,800.

Supplies Purchased in Quantities.

Whenever feasible purchases for maintenance of the Home are made in large lots. The meat comes from Chicago and is bought on contract. Crackers are bought in barrel lots—coffee by the thousand pounds, and the same course is followed out in all departments, even to the purchase of candy and peanuts, which are given to the boys and girls once each week. An instance of the amount of food that is needed each day is shown in the fact that two barrels of flour are used daily in the bakery, where one salaried employe has the assistance of several boys from the Home. Five thousand tons of coal were used last year in furnishing heat, light and power for the buildings and in pumping water.

Of the 805 patients at the Home now 423 are males, 382 are females. On the waiting list are 297 males and 212 females, a total of 509, the applications averaging about seventeen and a half per month.

Any defect that the state's wards at the Home are not susceptible to teaching is eliminated by a visit to the place. In the school there are now 226 students. Some of these can, of course, advance but little, but in one particular instance a teacher believes that a girl student now at the Home could master all the studies of a high school, yet she comes under those patients classed as simple minded. Another patient, a boy, also shows quite remarkable brightness and ability to learn, but is afflicted with epilepsy. The school is divided into but three grades, kindergarten, primary and grammar.

Two Classes of Patients.

The fact that two classes of patients are at the state institution, those of feeble minds and those subject to epileptic attacks, has brought up the question of the state's probable course during the coming year. In some places these cases are placed apart and separate institutions provided for each.

"Other states are following that method at present," states Dr. Chamberlain, and I believe it is a question of but a few years, less than ten I would think, that Michigan will have to do likewise. It is seldom that the child afflicted with epilepsy gets well. Occasionally there are instances in which the trouble seems to leave all of a sudden, but they are not common, only about ten per cent. One boy that we have here has not had an attack since last February. He was here once before and after a time was allowed to go home, but after reaching there and falling back into the habits he had formed before coming here, such as smoking, perhaps, and keeping late hours, he became again subject to the attacks and was returned to the Home. However, such cases are rare.

"We strive to teach those of feeble minds wherever we find the slightest opportunity. And when one of those children does show a spark of intelligence along any certain line it is quickly fanned to a flame and the child itself is delighted beyond measure and works harder than the normal boy or girl would.

Manual Training is Given.

One of the new features at the Home is the manual training department, where some of the boys have shown considerable ability with tools. In this work they take an intense interest and pride.

As far as possible the children are allowed to participate in social enjoyments. At Christmas time they give little entertainments, also at the end of the school year. Halloween was observed last night by the children, who gave to the physicians, attendants and others, unique invitations of their own making. Athletics are not participated in to any great extent, although occasionally, in the summer time, baseball teams made up of employes and some of the older boys at the Home meet on the diamond.

When new charges are to be taken

into the home the preference is always given to children if possible, in the hopes of improving them mentally and forcing them to reach the highest stage of development they are capable of. It is believed there are 5,000 children in the state who should be in the Home. Statistics in this and other states show that two out of every thousand children are of the same class as those now being taken care of here by the state.

Good wholesome food and plenty of it is provided for the children and everything possible for their comfort and welfare is done. Among the more than 800 inmates but thirteen were in the hospital yesterday, practically all of them there because of some minor ailment.

Per Capita Cost of Maintenance.

It is contended by the friends of the Home and by those who have made a study of the subject, that the state can care for the feeble minded and epileptic and get better results by having them placed in the institution located here than by sending them to county houses. On an average each child here costs the state \$350 annually.

With a good site and a splendid group of brick and stone buildings the Michigan Home presents a fine appearance. Everything is neat and clean, giving evidence of the best of care and attention. Visitors who were taken through the institution yesterday by Harry Evans, steward, were shown every courtesy and furnished freely with information as to the methods of Michigan in dealing with unfortunate children.

BRADNER.

Flint Daily Journal
October 21, 1907

MADE HERSELF AT HOME

Feeble-Minded Girl From Lapeer Invades Farm House.

"There is a strange woman in my house and I do not know how she made her way in, or what she is doing here," telephoned Dell Adams, who lives about six miles east of this city, on the Lapeer road, to the jail at 2 o'clock this morning. Deputy Sheriff Galney drove out to the farm and found Stella Kitchen, an inmate of the Home for Feeble-Minded at Lapeer, who, lightly clad, had been wandering along the road and had evidently gone into the house to get warm.

The girl was brought to the jail by the officer and the home notified this morning, Mrs. Scott coming after the unfortunate about 9 o'clock.

"She strayed away from the institution about 6:30 o'clock last night and we could find no trace of her. She probably started out on the Lapeer road and kept on going until she became cold and went into the house to get warm. We have found no trace of the two boys who ran away from the home a week ago," said Mrs. Scott.

Oakdale in the Newspapers

Flint Daily Journal
December 24, 1907

HAPPY DAY IN STORE

FOR CHILDREN AT MICHIGAN
HOME IN LAPEER.

Santa Claus Will Make the Rounds of
the Cottages and Leave Gifts
for All.

Lapeer, Mich., Dec. 24.—The Michigan Home for the Feeble Minded and Epileptic at Lapeer is in gala attire for the annual Christmas festivities which will be held there on Christmas day, when over eight hundred unfortunate children will be made happy. It has been the custom to celebrate Christmas for the children since the founding of the institution twelve years ago, and every year there are about fifty or more new children to provide for, so it keeps the teachers and attendants busy weeks ahead planning for Christmas. Each of the eight cottages will have a tree tomorrow and every child will receive a present, consisting of some article of clothing and a package of candy and nuts. Santa Claus will be present to distribute the gifts and a happy day is in prospect for the inmates of the institution.

On Monday, Dec. 30th, a Christmas cantata, "The Wail's Christmas," will be given by the children in the Home chapel and several guests will be present from Lapeer to witness the performance. The children do remarkably well and with the assistance of the attendants they present some pretty little plays.

Flint Daily Journal
January 2, 1908

Cantata at Michigan Home.

The Christmas cantata, "The Wail's Christmas," was given Monday evening by the inmates and attendants of the Michigan Home for Feeble Minded and Epileptics, here, and quite a number of Lapeer guests were present to witness the performance. The children all did well and the play was pronounced one of the most successful ever given at that institution.

Flint Daily Journal
January 9 1908

Dancing Party at Michigan Home.

Nearly one hundred couples from Lapeer enjoyed a dancing party at the Michigan Home for Feeble Minded and Epileptic at Lapeer on Wednesday evening and the affair was pronounced by all a success. Dancing commenced at eight o'clock in assembly hall which was tastefully decorated in Christmas colors and a large red bell suspended from the center of the ceiling. Refreshments were served in the employe's dining room at about twelve o'clock. Mente's orchestra of Flint, furnished music for the occasion. Among the guests were Dr. Gilbert and daughter, of Bay City, and Hon. J. Murphy, of the home board.

Flint Daily Journal
January 23, 1908

Dancing Party at Home.

The employes of the State Home for Feeble Minded and Epileptic, entertained a few friends at a dancing party last evening in Assembly hall.

Flint Daily Journal
February 26, 1908

PARTY AT THE HOME

Assembly Hall the Scene of Enjoyable
Social Function.

Lapeer, Mich., Feb. 28.—A very enjoyable dancing party was given last evening at the Michigan Home for the Feeble Minded and Epileptic, at Lapeer, and a large crowd of Lapeer people were present. The affair was held in assembly hall, and music was furnished by Mente's orchestra from Flint. Light refreshments were served in the employe's dining room which was artistically decorated for the occasion.

Every Wednesday evening from 7 until 9 o'clock the attendants dance in assembly hall with the inmates, but after that the teachers and attendants have their dance.

Oakdale in the Newspapers

Flint Daily Journal, April 22, 1908

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Walker are guests of Mr. and Mrs. James W. Baurich, of East Fourth avenue, on their way back to Mayville after having spent four years as attendants at the Michigan Home for the Feeble Minded at Lapeer.

Flint Daily Journal, April 24, 1908

LED MERRY CHASE

MAN IN A HURRY WAS ON "THE ROAD TO QUINCY."

Oregon Township Farmers Were Puzzled But Stranger Proved to Be Inmate of "the Home."

Lapeer, Mich., April 24.—A man apparently in a great hurry caused considerable excitement in Oregon township yesterday morning when he ran past the farm houses with great speed and did not seem to hear when anyone called to him. When asked where he was going he said, "Quincy; my father is there," but when questioned concerning where he came from he refused to answer and again hurried on his way. He was stopped by a gentleman driving who offered to give him a lift and he then said his name was Ralph Moore and wanted to know if he could get to Quincy if he hurried on. His unintelligible answers aroused suspicion and the authorities at the Feeble Minded Home were notified and they found that an inmate was missing. Immediately three men were sent after him but he had gotten a pretty good headway and for ten miles he gave them a hot chase over fields and through woods. When they caught him and told him that he must go back, he flatly refused, but soon became reconciled to the idea though he says the next time that he gets a chance he will run away and not stop until he gets to Quincy.

Flint Daily Journal, April 23, 1908

Dancing Party at Home.

A dancing party was held last evening at the Michigan Home and a large party of Lapeer people were present.

Flint Daily Journal, August 22, 1908

Marries a Chicago Girl.

Dr. George L. Chamberlain, superintendent of the Michigan Home for Feeble Minded and Epileptic at Lapeer, was married on Wednesday to Miss Lillian Danaher, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Cornelius Danaher, of Chicago, and they will be at home after September 1st at the Michigan Home. Dr. Chamberlain has been superintendent of the institution for the past two years and has many friends who congratulate. Mrs. Chamberlain is a highly accomplished young lady and will be heartily welcomed in Lapeer.

Flint Daily Journal, August 29, 1908

Andrew Switzer, who lives on a farm a short distance out East Kearsley street, reported to the officers this morning that he had last night given food and shelter to a young man about 22 years of age who commenced to act strangely this morning. Deputy Sheriff Rainey went to the farm and found the man to be John Baxter, who had escaped from the Home for Feeble Minded at Lapeer yesterday morning. He was brought to the jail and the officials of the home notified, who stated that an attendant would come after him today.

Flint Daily Journal, October 1, 1908

SEWERS FROM LAPEER HOME

Said to Empty Into a Branch of the Flint River.

"I do not wish to needlessly alarm the citizens of Flint, but the sewers from the Feeble Minded Home at Lapeer, where there is now a severe epidemic of typhoid fever, empty in the South Flint river, which the North Flint near Columbusville, the two making the Flint river which flows through this city," said a Flint physician to the Daily Journal today. "This means, very probably, that a portion, if not a large amount of infected matter finds its way into the stream and is then pumped about this city. The warning so often given should be sounded again, 'Do not use city water for drinking or culinary purposes until it is first boiled.'"

"I did not know that there was such a connection between the South Flint and the river here and that such a condition existed, but if there is such a connection it is quite probable that the river intake pipe is infected," said City Health Officer Dr. J. W. Orr when the matter was brought to his attention. "That may be where a portion of our cases of typhoid fever have come from. At all events it is dangerous to use the city water as it comes from the pipes."

Oakdale in the Newspapers

Flint Daily Journal, October 21, 1908

Gets Contract to Pitch Ball.

Mark Hilliker, of Lapeer, well known in baseball circles, has received contract with the Quincy, Ill., baseball team to pitch next year in a league at a salary of \$80.00 a month. Mr. Hilliker is the son of Mr. and Mrs. George Hilliker, of Moiamora, and has been employed as attendant at the Michigan Home of late.

Flint Daily Journal, November 10, 1908

Give Play at Home.

Arrangements are being made to give the play "Freezing a Mother-in-Law" at the Michigan Home some day this week for the inmates. Coppens' orchestra will furnish music for the play and dance following.

Flint Daily Journal, February 4, 1909

A large party of Lapeer people attended the dancing party last evening at the Michigan Home.

Flint Daily Journal, March 2, 1909

LAPEER HOME ON NEW BASIS

(From The Journal's Lansing Bureau.)

Lansing, Mich., March 2.—Representative L. C. Cranton, of Lapeer, introduced a bill in the house today providing for a change in the system of management of the Michigan Home for the Feeble Minded and Epileptic at Lapeer. The bill would give the institution a board of control which would meet with the state board of auditors once each year and fix the per diem for the expenses of the institution. The bill places the institution on the same plane as the state asylums. TINKHAM.

Flint Daily Journal, March 6, 1909

Harry E. Williams has been taken to the Home for the Feeble Minded and Epileptic at Lapeer by Isaac N. Walker, one of the superintendents of the poor. The boy will remain there for some time for treatment.

TUTTLECALLSHALT

POINTS TO EXTRAVAGANCE OF STATE INSTITUTIONS.

Says State Could Save \$250,000 in One
Year if Business-like Plan
Was Adopted.

Lansing, Mich., April 30.—Senator Tuttle sounded the keynote of true reform in the senate yesterday afternoon when he attacked the system under which the state institutions are now operated. The discussion was brought up by the consideration of a bill to place the home for feeble-minded and epileptics at Lapeer under the same system as the other asylums and prisons.

For some reason when that institution was established a provision was placed in the act requiring it to apply for an appropriation for maintenance as well as improvements. The other institutions are exempt, expending what they please and turning in bills.

"This bill should not be permitted to pass," declared Senator Tuttle. "Instead, the system under which our state institutions are permitted to spend money ad libitum should be abolished. The system is wrong, and it has resulted in the grossest extravagance being practiced. The officials in control deny themselves nothing, knowing that the state will have to foot the bill.

"The trouble is that our state institutions have become private corporations and resent any interference with their methods. I say to you, with full knowledge of the facts, that the state can save \$250,000 the first year that the system is abolished. What a farce it is to have the state board of auditors passing on accounts when the money has practically been spent. The institutions don't ask for money; they simply run up the bills, and it is high time to call a halt."

Some of the other senators have been studying the proposition, the truth of which is well known.

The present system of depending on separate boards of control has become a farce. The first thing that the head of a state institution does is to cultivate the members of the board. Then he begins to get men on the board who are friendly to him. They trust him implicitly. The result is that they visit the institution once a month, have a fine spread and spend an hour endorsing accounts which the head of the institution tells them are all right, but about which they have very little real knowledge.

Flint Daily Journal
April 30, 1909

Oakdale in the Newspapers

Flint Daily Journal
August 2, 1909

PUT IN NEW POND

WORK STARTED ON ONE AT THE
MICHIGAN HOME.

Inmates Who Can Do So Are Helping
on the Job—Done by Septem-
ber 1.

Lapeer, Mich., Aug. 2.—A large artificial pond is being built on the grounds appropriated by the state to the Michigan Home for the Feeble Minded and Epileptic, just west of Lapeer, and will add a great deal to the beauty of the place. The grounds surrounding the home are very well arranged and are kept in a fine condition. The pond will be near the administration building and on the west side of the main driveway. The inmates are very anxious to have the pond completed and those who are able are helping in its construction. It will probably be completed the first of September.

Flint Daily Journal
August 25, 1909

TAKEN BACK—George Bargelin, who in Justice Torrey's court yesterday admitted he had run away from the home for the feeble minded in Lapeer, was taken back to that institution last night, an officer coming here after the youth. Bargelin did not want to return to his former home, but there was no help for him. He claims to have a sister living in this county, but says he has not heard from her for years.

Flint Daily Journal
August 26, 1909

SIX SENT TO LAPEER HOME

Port Huron Probate Court Disposes
of Feeble-Minded Persons.

Port Huron, Mich., Aug. 26.—Six feeble-minded persons were before Judge of Probate Graham yesterday. He ordered that all be admitted to the state home for feeble-minded at Lapeer. A recent act of the legislature placed the disposal of these cases in the probate court.

The six patients are William Quant, twenty-five years old, who has been living at the poorhouse for many years; Elmer Crawford, forty-six years old, an inmate of the poorhouse since last winter; Mary Conroy, twenty-three years old, of Kimball township; Andrew Conroy, twenty-one years old, a brother of Mary; William McCall, twelve years old, a resident of the northern part of the county, and Thomas Stewart, twenty-six years old, of Lakeport.