Quarantine Restrictions Removed
The Michigan Home for Feeble-minded and Epileptics, which has been in quarantine since the smallpox scare here, has been released and the employees may leave the buildings. The home was in quarantine for two weeks and no one employed in the buildings was allowed to leave on account of the several smallpox cases in Lapeer.

Lapeer County Press
March 24, 1910

The new stone piers at the Michigan Home gates look handsome.
Lapeer County Press  
June 22, 1910

**Band at the Home**

There has been a ladies cornet band organized at the Mich. Home and Mr. J. England has been engaged as leader. There are a number of ladies connected with the Home who have already been connected with a band before coming to Lapeer and the next musical enterprise will be a go from the start. Seventeen musical instruments have been purchased and practice will begin at once. It will make life cheerful at the Home with but very little expense. It is said that music of this kind is beneficial in assisting a cure in some forms of disease prevalent in institutions of this kind. Hurrah! let the good work go on.

Flint Daily Journal  
July 12, 1910

**RESIDENT OF PORT HURON**

Antone Mark Passes Away the Home for Feeble Minded.

Lapeer, Mich., July 12.—The funeral of Antone Mark, for the past eleven years an inmate of the Michigan Home for Feeble Minded, was held on Monday at 8:30 o'clock from the Lapeer Catholic Church, Rev. Fr. P. Dunigan officiating. Burial was made in the Catholic Cemetery. Mr. Marks was at one time a well known resident of Port Huron, where he resided nearly all his life. After a severe illness his mind became affected and it was found necessary to place him in the institution here.

Flint Daily Journal  
August 4, 1910

**1000 FEEBLE MINDS**

Lapeer Institution is Filled with Patients.

Many Throughout the State are Now Waiting to Enter—How the Sick Are Cured For.

Lapeer, Mich., Aug. 4.—The Michigan Home for Feeble Minded at Lapeer now has an enrolment of 1,000 inmates most of whom are incurable and a large number are still waiting for admittance in different parts of the state. The institution is growing very rapidly and it has been necessary to make various improvements in order to accommodate the new pupils.

The bakery is a two story building of white brick and the interior impresses one immediately by its air of neatness and cleanliness. The upper story contains the store room and it is here the bread is mixed by a large machine, a barrel of flour being used at a mixing. It is then placed in large vats where it is left over night. In the morning the dough is sent down a shaft to the bakery below, where the baker in white suit and white caps divides and makes it off in loaves on a large hardwood table. In a few moments, it is then ready for the oven which is so long, that large hooks are necessary to bring the bread out when baked. The institution is noted for its fine bread.
Oakdale in the Newspapers

Flint Daily Journal
September 21, 1910

ESCAPED FROM Lapeer
Benjamin Post Persistent in Efforts to Get Work.

An escaped inmate of the Home for the Feeble Minded at Lapeer, with a mania for work was picked up by Sheriff Parkhurst this morning at the farm of Charles Thorn in Flint township, seven miles from the city. The young man, who gave his name as Benjamin Post and his age as 20 years, applied at the farm for work and was not satisfied until he had obtained a place. Thorn telephoned to the sheriff, who recognized from the description that it was a man for whom the authorities at Lapeer were searching. Post applied to the sheriff for a job when he was taken in charge.

Lapeer County Press
October 19, 1910

Mich Home
May Get Two New Cottages From the Next Legislature

The state board of corrections and charities has before it plans and estimates for two new cottages for the home for the feeble-minded at Lapeer, the law requiring the board to pass upon the estimates before they are presented to the legislature. Secretary Murray says there are in the infirmaries of the state a sufficient number of inmates who should be sent to the home to fill the new cottages, if the legislature provides for them.

Flint Daily Journal
November 3, 1910

Adjacent Towns Are Nervous.
Lansing, Mich., Nov. 3.—Dr. F. W. Shumway, secretary of the state board of health, has received requests from the authorities at Bad Axe, Flushing and Lapeer to establish a quarantine against Saginaw, owing to the smallpox epidemic there. Relative to these requests Dr. Shumway said last night that present conditions do not warrant such stringent action, and that he believed that with the more than usual precautions being taken by the Saginaw officials, they had the situation well enough in hand to prevent a spread of the disease outside of that city.

Flint Daily Journal
October 17, 1910

ROAM IN STREETS
No Home for Feeble-Minded Children.

Crowded Condition of Lapeer Institution Is Reflected by Conditions in Detroit.

Detroit, Mich., Oct. 17.—Henry De Harte, a feeble-minded lad of 14, is on the hands of the police and what disposition to make of him is a puzzle. Twice this week the boy was found wandering the streets at night. Saturday night he appeared at a dwelling at 46 Hackenstoke avenue and was taken to the Suttten avenue station. Henry is an orphan and lived with his sister at 68 Frontenac avenue. He said she put him out and he had no place to go.

Henry's case discloses an unfortunate state of affairs in the home of the feeble-minded at Lapeer. The boy was committed there by the probate court, but there is no room for him in the institution. It being crowded, Lieut. Breault, of the juvenile division, says he is informed that there are 200 weak-minded boys and girls in different parts of the state on the waiting list.

The police pick up regularly two girls, one of whom is Tracey Pankowick, living on Twenty-eighth street, both feeble-minded. They were also committed to the asylum, but they can't be taken in, so the police simply return the girls to their people, only to find them wandering the streets a few nights later.

When the De Harte boy was found earlier in the week, Truant Officer Steinhebel took him home. His sister did not want him, he reported to his superior, but she was induced to give him shelter.

"We can't send these children to the industrial school because they are weak-minded," said Lieut. Breault, "and I don't know what we are going to do with them."

It is said the asylum authorities have asked Wayne county to take care of its own feeble-minded on account of the crowded conditions in the institution.

"There is a crying need for another institution such as the one at Lapeer," said Supt. Dolan, of the poor commission. "It is a common thing for turn boys and girls, men and women, into there because there is no room for them. I believe the waiting list is more than 300. If I have no objection against the asylum. It is well managed and all that, but the trouble is that the place has outgrown the population of the state and the proportionate increase in feeble-minded people.

"We have several cases that the police know nothing about."
Lapeer County Clarion  
November 9, 1910

“NOTICE  
To the Citizens of the City of Lapeer”
At a meeting of the city board of health, held Nov. 7, 1910, it was resolved that in order to prevent an outbreak of smallpox, such as is being experienced by some of our neighboring cities, that each and every citizen be recommended to be immediately vaccinated, and that any desiring free vaccination may receive same by presenting themselves to the health officer of this city, Dr. J.V. Frazier.”

“Miss Emma Bophine, an inmate of the Mich. Home is dead of smallpox and the nurse who cared for her during her illness. Miss Bertha Mosher, has contracted the dread disease and is very ill as the direct result of sacrificing her health to nurse the girl. Miss Bophine came from Saginaw a few weeks ago and brought the disease with her. There are no other cases.”

Flint Daily Journal  
November 11, 1910

FLINT BLUES TO GO TO LAPEER TONIGHT ON SMALLPOX DUTY

(Lansing, Mich., Nov. 11.—Dr. F. W. Shumway, secretary of the state board of health, stated this noon that Governor Warner had agreed upon the representations of Mayor Johnson and Health Officer Frazier of Lapeer, to order the Flint company of the national guard to Lapeer tonight to serve as a quarantine guard at the state home for the feeble-minded. There are 17 cases of smallpox among the inmates and attendants at the institution, and four deaths have occurred.

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**Oakdale in the Newspapers**

**Flint Daily Journal**  
November 14, 1910

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**Lapeer County Clarion**  
November 16, 1910

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Oakdale in the Newspapers

Soldiers Maintaining Quarantine at State Home for Feeble Minded at Lapeer Fear They May Have to Spend Christmas in Camp

By C. M. Frentner

In the history of this city the residents are view

of the soldiers' camp at Oakdale. Scores of civilians from the town and the surrounding country are daily making visits to Camp Frentner, on the western outskirts of the city, where all members of Company A, Third regiment, M. N. G., are encamped, a short distance away from the town.

This unexpected coming of soldiers life to Oakdale is being treated as a joke by the citizens, however. Major J. V. Frentner, of the medical department of the Michigan national guard, who is also local health officer, declared that the soldiers will remain at Oakdale, and that there is absolutely no danger of any transmission of the disease to the civilian world from the institution.

Major Frentner thought it would be a wise move to ask that the troops be held in rigid quarantine at the home, some of the residents of the city being in the habit of moving about in a rigid quarantine at the home, some of the residents of the city being in the habit of moving about in the woods.

The boys who are in camp are preparing for a long siege, and are even making arrangements for spending Christmas in the woods, and it will be January 1 before an order is received to break camp, and it may be longer. The authorities say that the state will continue the guard for a year, if it is necessary.

By C. M. Frentner

"I reckon it's a long siege, and we ain't what the other texts are the mess texts and officers quarters.

The camp is now lighted by electricity and the tents are heated by stoves. There is a telephone in the officers' quarters. Plenty of magazines and books are taken from the library in the barracks, and the men are off duty they send their time reading. That's a good many of the men are of a mechanical turn of mind is shown by the class of literature they select. Books on popular mechanics are in great demand at all times in preference to the lighter forms of reading.

Turkey for Holidays.

"Though the men will have to spend their Thanksgiving and probably Christmas in camp, they will not go without their share of the good things which private citizens enjoy, for Capt. Wilson says that regular turkeys will be obtained on these days and that turkey will be served to the men.

3 KITTENS TIED TOGETHER

Curt's Officers' Needs All Point Same Way.

Midsport, N. Y., November 18.

Figure, the large cat owned by James Allens, gave birth a few days ago to three kittens, which were all patterned along the length of their sides to one another; their heads are all faced one way, and almost in a line, and they are perfect in body, head and legs, all three being able to stand at the same time.

They are very active and bright and are the sort that they are bound or attached to each other by a fine strip of hair from head to tail, and a half inch along their sides, they would not even dream of leaving their nest. They are perfect in body, head and legs, all three being able to stand at the same time.

Two other kittens complete the litter. The white kitten in the center of the trio, and seems to be the largest and most active of the little ones.

Rough Riding Usual.

A pint of beer has been granted to John, the cat's owner, on a dough raising contest which employs the last two cents in the collection of an upper vest.

Journal Times Being Results.

~ 6 ~
ARMS BOTHER THEM

Flint Boys in Camp Hospital near Lapeer.

Vaccination Diabolus Several Members of Union Blues for Quarantine Duty—Plint Substitutes.

Capt. Guy M. Wilson, who is in command of the Flint Union Blues detailed for quarantine duty at the Michigan home for the feeble-minded near Lapeer, is spending the day in the city. He expects to return to Lapeer tonight.

"Conditions at the home are not quite as satisfactory as they were a few days ago," said Capt. Wilson this forenoon. "Up to yesterday there had been no new cases for four days. Yesterday, however, four new cases developed, and there were two deaths among the inmates of the institution. All of the patients who have just come down with the disease were vaccinated, in common with all of the other inmates of the home, a few days ago, and for this reason it is hoped that their cases will not be of a serious type. There is not a single case of the malady in Lapeer, and the citizens are now well pleased that the soldiers were called out to maintain a quarantine to protect the city from invasion by the disease.

"The quarantine by the state troops will be maintained for thirty days after the last case at the home has either recovered or died. Some of the members of the Flint company are beginning to be affected by the vaccination which they underwent before they left home, and six or eight of them are now disabled for duty. We have a comfortable and well-equipped hospital in camp, and the boys on the sick list are being given the best of attention by a corps of two good physicians. The condition of none of them is serious, but it will be several days before they are able to return to duty, and in the meantime I am calling on other members of the company who remained in Plint to take their places temporarily."

"It is possible that the Flint company will be relieved from quarantine duty by some other company of the Michigan national guard in a short time, but we yet no definite arrangements have been made in that direction."

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MORE WARM CLOTHES

State Sends Additional Supply to Lapeer.

Soldiers on Guard at Home for Feeble Minded to Have Changes of Raiment.

(By Associated Press to The Journal.)

Lansing, Mich., Nov. 23—Colonel W. C. Rogers, assistant quartermaster general, is shipping today an additional supply of overcoats, blankets and shoes to the national guardsmen on duty at the state home for the Feeble Minded at Lapeer, where there is a serious epidemic of smallpox. It is proposed to equip each man with two pairs of shoes, in order that he may have dry footwear when he comes in from a tour of guard duty out in the rain or snow 24 hours.

Colonel J. N. Cox was in Lapeer the first of the week and he says that not a case of smallpox has developed in the city of Lapeer, so rigidly has the quarantine been maintained at the state institution.
PUTTING THE CITIZEN SOLDIERY TO GOOD USE IN TIME OF PEACE.

[From the Grand Rapids Herald.]

"Every cloud has a silver lining. It seems the height of imprudence to discuss the possibility of such a thing an even indirect advantage in the smallpox epidemic which has been troubling eastern Michigan; and yet we are impressed with a conclusion in connection therewith which is worthy of comment. It deals with the dependability of the Michigan National Guard and the extent to which we unconsciously rely upon our citizen soldiers.

"When the smallpox threatened havoc and panic at the Home for the Feeble Minded at Ileper, Captain Wilson of Company A, Third Infantry, Michigan National Guard was ordered to the scene of trouble to throw a picket line around the stricken institution as protection against the escape of the infected, feeble-minded inmates of this institution—a protection which the safety of the people of the state of Michigan absolutely demanded.

"It was an absolutely novel use of the military. It was as serious a use fully as dangerous an open warfare as could be imagined. Certainly it was as important a use as exigency could possibly demand.

"The Flint company responded to a man. Within twenty-four hours the boys were bivouacked, encamped, and on guard. Did you ever stop to think what a serious responsibility faced these volunteer troops in little and apparently harmless situation?

"Here was some thousand feeble-minded inmates of a state institution with a dread disease. Here was the absolute necessity that they should be kept in confinement and quarantine. Here was a band of sixty or seventy men entrusted with the final responsibility of keeping these inmates within their bounds.

"What would have happened had panic come and had this great group of feeble-minded people attempted to break quarantine and escape into an uncontaminated world which would have thereby become contaminated? Mere physical strength could not have saved the day and would have invited personal infection. One soldier could have physically stopped one inmate. What of the other nine hundred? Should guns be fired? Should bayonets be used?"

"Just think for a moment of the responsibility put upon that captain and those members of a volunteer company of our state militia!"

"And here's the point.

"For such dangerous and vitally important service as this at Ileper, the people of Michigan have constantly at their service a trained body of trained men who obey the orders they receive. When we need such help, we need it badly; and when we need it, the governor has but to say the word and the word is law.

"Isn't the presence of such a trained troop a social and governmental necessity? Isn't the existence of a body of men who will go where duty calls them—and do the things which private citizenship would hesitate to do—a fundamental asset for the commonwealth?

"Don't they go where private citizenship would hesitate to go? Would you have taken Captain Wilson's place in command of the guard at Ileper?

"Since this is the situation; since the perpetuation of this citizen constabulary is so vitally essential, it behooves the people of Michigan to promote the interests of the Michigan National Guard at every legitimate turn of the road.

"It behooves the people of Michigan to proceed with a wide measure of liberality in the completion of a system of armories throughout the commonwealth so that these companies upon which we so urgently depend in time of trouble, may be properly housed in time of calm.

"The Michigan National Guard has never yet been called and found wanting. As long ago as the Spanish-American war, it was on the job. In the recent strike disturbance at Durand the last and genius with which the troops handled themselves served more than any one individual thing to bring order out of chaos and peace out of hostility. The Lapier exhibit is of the same stripe.

"Michigan cannot too greatly dignify her National Guard. It is a great institution. It should be fostered and respected as it is depended upon when trouble comes."
Oakdale in the Newspapers

Lapeer County Press
December 7, 1910

FRAZIER’S REPORT

On Sanitary Conditions at the Home

Major Frazier of the medical department of the state troops has transmitted to Col. Cox, adjutant general, his report on sanitary conditions at the Home for the Feeble Minded. The report, addressed to Capt. Gay M. Wilson, commanding the camp of the militia, reads as follows: “In compliance with your verbal order transmitted to us Saturday, Nov. 26, I proceeded on the morning of said day to make a careful and detailed investigation of the sanitary conditions existing in the grounds of the Michigan Home. I found the conditions of the most unsatisfactory and unsafe nature, which conditions must be existing for a great length of time.” The report then states that the most serious of the conditions are the piling full of the incinerators with garbage and refuse and leaving them in the woods and the large pile of landages, dressings and absorbent cotton which had been used in the hospital and were the accumulation of weeks. A play house was found to be in an unsanitary condition and was ordered turned out. When Dr. Chamberlain’s attention was called to the state of affairs he took prompt action and had all the refuse burned. The report then goes on to say: “While these violations of the rules of sanitation were of the most serious nature, I do not believe that they would have been allowed to continue unless the staff of the home for the Feeble Minded had been working beyond their capacity during the recent epidemic. They immediately and cheerfully rectified the conditions. It is safe to say that if your inspection had not brought these to light the health of your entire command and of the institution would have been endangered. ‘I have observed the interior sanitation of the home hospital from time to time and the same was satisfactory. I would recommend that stoves be placed in the woods to watch as far as they are able at a safe distance the disposer of garbage and report any further unsanitary condition.”

(Signed) JOHN V. FRAZIER
Major and Surgeon

Flint Daily Journal
December 9, 1910

MORE ROOM NEEDED

POORMASTERS SPEAK IN BEHALF OF LAPEER HOME.

Advocate New Buildings and Accommodations for Physically Defective Children.

Lansing, Mich., Dec. 9.—Realizing that the present accommodations at the Lapeer home for the feeble-minded are inadequate to care for the number of children in the state who need the care and attention that can be provided only at an institution of that nature, the legislative committee of the state association of superintendents of the Poor advocate that the legislature be requested to investigate conditions and grant an appropriation for enlarging the home.

Practically every county poor superintendent in the state agrees with Auditor-General Fuller that the buildings at Lapeer should be enlarged, and Mr. Fuller, who has taken a personal interest in the matter, will use his influence with the legislators to secure an appropriation.

The legislative committee also advocates that the lawmakers take action to provide for the care of physically deformed children who cannot be accepted at the Lapeer home. It is pointed out that there are many unfortunate children in the state that the various counties are unable to care for and that the state will be asked to take action along this line. An effort will be made to have the present state law changed so that the reports may be filed with the state board of corrections and charities instead of with the secretary of state.

The following officers were re-elected: President, Andrew J. Colvin, Bellevue; vice president, V. W. Bolling, Grand Rapids; secretary and treasurer, W. A. Prater, Paw Paw.

The next meeting will be held at Ann Arbor and before the next meeting the legislative committee will incorporate the association under the laws of this state.

In an address on the Kalamazoo road system and trunk question, W. H. Bennet, superintendent of poor of Kalamazoo county, told the association that a comparison of the sheriff’s book for the months of November, December, January, February and March, the first five months that the Kalamazoo county tried the system of working from the public highways, shows there was a decrease in the number of vagrants of over 2,300. The jail committee’s last report showed ten vagrants for that period. The police report for the month of November, 1910, shows but one arrest for vagrancy. This has usually been one of the heaviest months of the year for “gentlemen of the road.”
The Nurse's Views

Their Experiences in Michigan With Smallpox Cases.

Miss Ophra Whiting of Detroit, was one of the trained nurses who volunteered her services to care for smallpox patients in Michigan. In telling her experiences she said:

The conditions were deplorable when we first came here but now the disease is well under control. Eight nurses were here and there were 18 cases when we arrived. During all the time they were cut off from the outside world completely except for the long distance telephone. Mail could be delivered to them but none could be sent out. Thinking of their relatives and friends outside the institution, the nurses, in their spare time, would write letters on black boards and then erase them. This was not nearly so satisfying as really writing to our friends, but it was surprising to know how much consolation we got out of this. The telephone, also, must have brought considerable consolation as one of the nurses had a bill of $7.50 and another paid more than $8.00. They treated us fine. They were not always doing things for us. Thanksgiving gave us all a big dinner. The Home furnishing fires, big turkeys, and as for oranges, etc., we had them all the time. We turned the school into a detention hospital, keeping the suspects and convalescents there. In this building the nurses also had their rooms. To prevent the nurses from carrying the disease outside of the Home, here is what they went through:

First the room was fumigated all night with formaldehyde and salt crystals and a basin of bi-chloride of mercury outside the door. The next morning in borrowed kimono's, they went to the bath room, where they took an ordinary soap and water bath, then they took a bath in dilute carbolic acid. A basin of bi-chloride of mercury followed and those in charge wrapped the nurses up in sheets dampened with bi-chloride of mercury. Their hair was thoroughly washed and scrubbed with the mercury solution, followed by lather of green soap and alcohol. Then the nurses returned to their rooms, first stepping into the basin of bi-chloride of mercury at the door. Miss Whiting speaks very highly of the work of Dr. Clark Evans, of the University of Michigan, who has been on duty at the Home practically eight or nine weeks. The one of the nurses who volunteered is from Denby, O. C., but happened to be visiting in Detroit, one from Kansas City, one from New York city, two from Bay City, another from Detroit.
SOLDIERS BREAK CAMP AT LAPEER

FLINT GUARDIANS WILL BE HOME THIS AFTERNOON.

PONTIAC BOYS ALSO LEAVE

QUARANTINE RAISED AT 10 O'CLOCK THIS MORNING.

Preparations Made for Leave Taking With Mixed Emotions—Social Notes of Lapeer.

Lapeer, Mich., December 23.—Camp Frazer is breaking up today, and at 4:16 this afternoon two companies of happy guardsmen will leave Lapeer for home. The quarantines at the Michigan Home for the Feeble Minded and Epileptic was raised at 10 o'clock this morning, following verbal orders from the adjutant general and written orders from Secretary F. W. Shumway, of the state board of health. The soldiers immediately began to prepare for their departure, the men happy in the realization that they would spend Christmas with their families. The members of the Flint company will reach home at 4:37 o'clock. The Pontiac company will go by the same train to Durand, where they will transfer to a Pontiac train.

Four men, a corporal and a cook, will remain at the camp as a guard and next week, Captain Guy Wilson, of the Flint company, will return to supervise the razing of the tents, which promises to be a difficult task as they are frozen solid to the ground.

Men Get Their Pay.

Yesterday afternoon, Lieutenant Irving, of Flint, returned from Lansing with the pay checks for the men, the second that they received, and all of them now are supplied with Christmas money. Following the announcement that the quarantine would be raised, a present of 490 cigars was received by the soldiers with the compliments of Elwin W. Alwood, of Flint.

When it was first announced that the quarantine would be lifted in time for the soldiers to spend Christmas at home the men went wild with enthusiasm. They sang, and yelled, and congratulated one another and soon the telephone and telegraph wires were carrying many happy messages in which Christmas plans were made. By the time preparations for departure began, the men were no less enthusiastic. They have enjoyed life at the camp, notwithstanding its rigor. Many new friendships have sprung up among the men and with the people of Lapeer and the leave taking is not without its regrets. Some pleasant associations end with the dissolution of Camp Frazer but the weeks of guard duty will be a pleasant recollection to most of the members of the two companies.

Lieut. Irving Gets Betsy.

Along with one of the soldiers will go Betsy, a pet cat that has done her share to make camp duty pleasant for the men. Just before the quarantine a number of the men attended a feathery party. A stranny little feline appeared and, purring beside one of the soldiers, succeeded in arousing his sympathy. His luck had not been the best and he took her up. Immediately he began to win, turkeys, geese, ducks and chickens coming to him so fast that he was overwhelmed. Others took the kitten and they also won. Pussy became a favorite and was taken to the camp. The boys named her Betsy and when they were preparing to break camp all of them wanted her. They drew lots and Betsy was secured by Lieut. Irving; Betsy is no longer little and scrappy. She has every appearance of prosperity now and Lieut. Irving had to promise that he would take the best of care of her before his various companions would part with their pet.

The raising of the quarantine at the institution will permit many of the patients to spend the holidays with friends and relatives. There are still some convalescent patients in the hospital, and this department will remain isolated until the last has recovered.
Oakdale in the Newspapers

Lapeer County Press  
December 28, 1910

No Danger.
The following is a copy of a letter to C. H. Phillips, Pres. of the Michigan Knights of the Grip, regarding the health conditions in Lapeer. Dear Sir: On investigation by the state board of health and local health board, the smallpox conditions in Lapeer are found to be that up to date there have been four cases of a hemorrhage type in the city proper, two of which have died, while two are now convalescent. With the precautions taken by the city health officer there is no anticipation of any further spread of the disease. The quarantine at the Mich. Home was raised before Xmas and it is expected there will be no smallpox in the Home or in the city itself with the exception of the convalescent cases. (Signed) F. W. Shumway M. D. Sec. State Board of Health; John V. Frazier M. D. Health officer city of Lapeer.

Flint Daily Journal  
January 9, 1911

ONE CASE IN HOME

SMALL POX NEARLY STAMPED OUT AT INSTITUTION.

Not a Case in the Town of Lapeer, and None in the County—Visitors Last Week.

Lapeer, Mich., Jan. 9.—Conditions at the Michigan Home for Feeble Minded and Epileptics continue to improve and there is now but one case of smallpox in the detention hospital, that of Michael Slue, an inmate, who was the last to be stricken with the disease. He is very ill but slight chance for recovery.

It is thought the disease is checked at the institution and no other outbreaks are looked for as the vaccination has been general and the greatest precaution taken to prevent another epidemic.

The town of Lapeer is entirely free from the disease and all those who were under quarantine have been released. With the exception of the one case at the Michigan Home there is no case of smallpox in the county. Health Officer John V. Frazier, who took strenuous measures to prevent an epidemic in Lapeer, is being highly complimented for the manner in which the disease has been checked and the members of the state board of health are pleased with the management of conditions in Lapeer.
Oakdale in the Newspapers

Flint Daily Journal
January 16, 1911

LAPEER IS EXCITED

INMATE OF MICHIGAN HOME GETS
LOOSE INTO TOWN.

Citizens Are Stirred Up, But the Man
Was Only Playing Soldier, and
Had Fun.

Lapeer, Mich., Jan. 16.—The south-
eastern section of the city was thrown
in a tumult of excitement Saturday
when the news was circulated about
that an inmate of the Michigan Home
for Feeble Minded here was at large
in that portion of the city and could
not be located. Front doors were bolt-
ed and children were called from the
and for several hours alarmed citizens
streets until the man could be found.
peered from windows with anxious
faces to see if they might learn how
matters stood. The Michigan Home is
still under quarantine for smallpox;
though it will probably be raised some
that week.

Early that morning a man was seen
running down Saginaw street wearing
the blue suit of the institution. As he
passed the mill of Elgin Turnbull, one
of the employees recognized him as an
inmate called out and asked what had
happened to his hat. He stopped, how-
ever, only a second to say he had lost
it in a runaway. Mr. Turnbull with
several others started after him with
a team, but in the vicinity of Emerson
Suttee’s home all trace of him was lost.
Every possible place of concealment
was searched and the party was about
to give up when he ran from the Sut-
tees’ barn towards an open field, the
three after him. Suddenly he turned
on his pursuers and pulling a large ear
of corn from his pocket screamed,
“Halt or I’ll shoot.” It seems the man
had been an admirer of the guards
during the encampment at the institu-
tion and his one ambition since has
been to be soldier. He was finally
convinced by Mr. Turnbull to go back
in the mill, where he was promised
employment. The Home officials were
notified and in a short time he was
hurried back to the Home.

During the shift of attendants Sat-
aturday morning Drusie escaped from a
window in Cottage B and crawled down
to the fire escape. He has on several
occasions attempted to run away be-
fore but has been caught before getting
very far.

Flint Daily Journal
January 18, 1911

PAY FOR SOLDIERS

CAPT. WILSON GOES TO LANSING
FOR FINAL INSTALLMENT.

Over Two Thousand Dollars Will Be
Appointed Among Men Who
Served at Lapeer.

Capt. Guy M. Wilson, of Co. A,
Third regiment, M. N. G., has gone to
Lansing today to draw the remainder
of the pay for the soldiers who were
on duty as quarantine guards at the
Michigan Home for the Feeble Minded
at Lapeer during November and De-
ember when the institution was clos-
ed because of an epidemic of small-
pox. The men will be paid at the
F. U. B. armory tonight.

The payroll, which amounts to
something over $2,000, is for the lat-
ter part of December. The most of
the men will receive pay for 13 days’
services, but 10 men and three offi-
cers, who were detailed to stay and
remove the tents and were later kept
on duty when a new case developed in
the home, will receive pay for 18 days.

In addition to the money to pay the
local members of the National Guard,
Capt. Wilson will bring with him the
pay for the detachment of men from
Co. E, of Pontiac, who were ordered
to Lapeer after the local troops were
sent there. Capt. Wilson will take
the pay for the Pontiac men to that
city tomorrow.
HONORS FOR DEAD

MEMORIAL SERVICE HELD AT HOME NEAR LAPEER

The Speakers and the Program

Child's Finger Nearly Cut Off—People Who are Visiting.

Lapeer, Mich., March 7.—An impressive memorial service was held Sunday afternoon in the chapel at the Michigan Home for Feeble Minded and Epileptic by Rev. S. O. Livingston, pastor of the Presbyterian church. Rev. N. C. Karr, pastor of the Methodist Episcopal church and Rev. Reed of Toronto in memory of the 14 inmates and three employees who lost their lives during the smallpox epidemic that occurred last fall at the institution.

The service, conducted by the Music Committee, included several hymns and Rev. Karr and Rev. Reed read passages from the Scriptures. Rev. Livingston delivered the memorial address, speaking in a beautiful manner of the lives destroyed. At the close of the service Miss Myrtle Demby sang "Farewell Lapeer," accompanied by Miss Louise Loomis. Miss Loomis, who is the supervisor of the sewing department, and Mrs. Bertha Loomis, who is the supervisor of the janitorial department, expressed their appreciation of the services rendered by the Michigan Home.

IN HONOR OF DEAD

MEMORIAL SERVICE AT MICHIGAN HOME SUNDAY.

In Memory of Those Who Died at Lapeer During Smallpox Epidemic.

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Michigan Home Employees Mary Miss Emma F. Chere and Elton J. Winger are quietly married this afternoon in Lapeer, and after a short trip will be at home on the Robert Walker farm near Runners' creek. Mr. Walker has held a responsible position at the Michigan Home for the past eleven years and Miss Chere was also employed at the institution. Both young people are well known in Lapeer.

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Bravery Medals for Guardsmen

THOSE WHO SERVED IN LAPEER EPIDEMIC REWARDED.

PRESENTATIONS LAST NIGHT

UNION BLUES CELEBRATE THE EVENT WITH A BANQUET.

State Officers of National Guard Attd. and Extent Felicitations—Efficiency and Service Awards.

Reminiscences of cold, stormy days and long, dreary nights spent on the guard line when the wind and glittering snow beat against their faces as they kept up their ceaseless vigil to protect the outside world from the dread smallpox which infected the Michigan Home for Feeble Minded and Epileptic last November and December and the more cheerful moments when they were relieved from duty and rested within their whirly tents were told in story and song at a banquet of the members of Company A, Third Regiment, Michigan National Guard, in the Flint Union Benevolent Society armory last night.

It was the proudest night in the history of the local military company, for not only were the recipients of the citations from their officers and the invited guests, but the service performed for the state of Michigan in maintaining the guard around the smallpox infected institution was substantially rewarded by the distribution of bronze medals commemorating the long service at Lapeer. Each medal, suspended from a pin on which is inscribed "Michigan National Guard," bears the coat of arms of the nation and the inscription, "For Bravery Lapeer Epidemic, 1911." They were made at the order of Governor Osborn and designed by Maj. J. V. Frasier, of the medical department of the Michigan National Guard and also health officer of the city of Lapeer. There were also several medals for long service, rifle team work and individual marksmanship distributed to the members of the company. These medals were awarded recently and it was decided to present them on the occasion of the celebration.

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Oakdale in the Newspapers

Flint Daily Journal
April 11, 1911

BUDGET TO BE BIG

Promises to Exceed That of Two Years Ago.

A appropriation bills are fairly liberal.

Home for Feeble-Minded at Lapeer
Allowed $50,000 for Two New Cottages

[From The Journal's Lansing Bureau.]
Lansing, Mich., April 11.—Appropriation bills reported out by the ways and means committee run to an amount which indicates the total budget will be above that of two years ago. Members of the committee assert, however, that it will cover every expense of state government and not cripple the state by forcing a deficit at the close of next year.

One state institution has been granted an appropriation for new buildings by this committee, and the house has passed the bill. Under the bills as passed the U. of M. was allowed $200,000 for a new heating and power plant; the agricultural college $250,000 for a new auditorium and library; the Kalamazoo normal $80,000 for a new science hall and $10,000 for equipping it; the Lapeer Home for the Feeble-Minded, $59,000 for two new cottages; the Pontiac asylum $80,000 for a new cottage and other improvements, and the Newberry asylum $50,000 for a similar purpose. In addition the agricultural college was authorized to expend $50,000 out of the mill tax appropriation to complete the library and auditorium.

Getting these appropriations through required considerable maneuvering upon the part of their friends, all of whom combined their interests. It is expected that the two cottages at the Lapeer home will increase the capacity about 170, and the cottages at Pontiac and Newberry will increase the capacity of those institutions about 100 each.

Twenty Appropriation Bills.

Twenty appropriation bills in all were passed. One was Representative Loveland's appropriation of $5,000 to reconstruct a portion of the Fort Gratiot turnpike in St. Clair county which year after year has been cut away by the river.

The state highway department was granted $250,000 a year for good roadmaking.

There was $175,000 appropriation for the Soldiers' Home.

There was $1,000 appropriated for the Elamahah Lake, this being the first year the upper peninsula has secured a slice of thismelon.

Another appropriation, $1,500 annually to provide for inspections of bees.

The Central Normal at Mt. Pleasant was granted $80,000 with $11,000 for special purposes.

The College of Mines was allowed $13,000 and $85,000 respectively for the two years.

The home for the feeble-minded was granted $81,000, including the amount for the two new cottages.

The appropriation for the board of geological survey was allowed $6,000 for the two years work in making the topographical map and the biological survey.

The general budget bill amounting to $2,085,000 for 1912 and $2,050,000 for 1913.

For the attorney general's department the sum of $12,000 was allowed.

The Eastern Michigan asylum was allowed $70,000.

Alpaca Given Hope.

Alpaca was allowed the entering wedge for securing a normal school, a bill being passed which appropriates $1 for taking over from the city a site of 25 acres. Originally the bill carried an appropriation for erecting the buildings, but this portion was cut out.

When the bill came up appropriating $35,000 a year for the erection of armories for the state militia, Representative Frickler, of Ionia, attracted attention to himself by voting against the bill. Members immediately called attention to the fact that Ionia was the first city in the state to secure a public building at state expense, and it was added that two years ago the Ionia representative worked industriously throughout the session to secure an additional appropriation of $2,500 to complete the building, which had been erected at a cost exceeding the appropriation. Representative Frickler was not a member at that time but his colleagues remarked that they were not pleased to see the Ionia man assume that so long as his county had secured a plum it was time to close the door against other communities.
Oakdale in the Newspapers

Flint Daily Journal
April 29, 1911

SLASHED WITH RAZOR

INSANE MAN AT MICHIGAN HOME CUTS BARBER.

Caught Unawares, the Man Has Narrow Escape--Jugular Vein Just Missed.

Lapeer, Mich., April 28.---William Perkins, an attendant in Cottage G. at the Home for the Feeble Minded, was seriously injured yesterday afternoon by Grover Henderson, an inmate 25 years old, who slashed Perkins with a razor while temporarily insane. Perkins was shaving some of the inmates when Henderson grabbed the blade and ran the knife across Perkins' cheek with a downward cut, nearly severing the jugular vein. Perkins weighs 200 pounds and is an athlete, but the cutting was done so quickly that he was caught unawares. He was immediately removed to the hospital where 20 stitches were taken.

Flint Daily Journal
July 6, 1911

MEIGS TO SUCCEED WEIDMAN

Gov. Osborn Makes Change on Board of Trustees of Lapeer Home.

(From the Journal's Lansing Bureau.)

Lansing, Mich., July 6.---Another of the recess appointments of ex-Gov. Warner has been supplanted by Governor Osborn, announcement being made at the executive office today that A. E. Meigs, of Detroit, has been appointed a member of the board of control of the Home for the Feeble Minded, at Lapeer, to succeed J. B. Weidman, of Mount Pleasant, for the term ending January 31, 1915. This is the second board member Governor Osborn has displaced. There are rumors that the legality of the charges are to be tested in court, but no definite move in that direction has been made here.

Flint Daily Journal
July 13, 1911

REDUCE DAILY RATE

LAPER HOME TO BE CONDUCTED MORE CHEAPLY.

Maintenance of Inmates to be Reduced From Forty-Eight to Forty-Six Cents a Day.

(From the Journal's Lansing Bureau.)

Lansing, Mich., July 13.---At a session of the board of control of the Laper Home for the Feeble Minded and the board of state auditors with Governor Osborn this noon, the governor announced his determination to reduce the daily rate of maintenance of the inmates from 48 cents a day to 46 cents. The board in joint session had agreed upon the higher price, but the governor presented figures he had gathered to show that the cost of living is lower, and insisted that the institution ought to be properly maintained at the rate of 46 cents which was in effect in 1909, declaring food prices are lower now than they were then.

"I want the institution properly maintained," he declared, "but I believe it can be done better on 46 cents than it could last year on 48 cents. I know something about the previous management of the institution which saddens me it can be done. I am willing to take the responsibility of this cut and believe it should be made."

VANDERCOOK.
Oakdale in the Newspapers

Flint Daily Journal
March 31, 1911

O’DELL BILL IS KILLED
Provided For Pro-Creation of Idiots and Criminals.
(From The Journal’s Lansing Bureau.)

Lansing, Mich., March 31.—The Arthur O’Dell bill to prevent the pro-
creation of Idiots and criminals was killed by the Senate last night in ex-
cecutive session. The bill had passed the house. In considering it the
senators decided the bill was wrong in principle and numerous amendments
were made until finally it only applied to the Lapeer Home for the Feeble-
minded. Senator Conley objected to this condition of the measure and it
was tabled.

Cuocioso to death. “The story that
I have ever been the head of the
Camorra is a legend,” he said. “I
was neither its head nor its tail.”

He admitted that in youth he was
arrogant and quarrelsome and even
committed some excesses “but,” he
asked, “what youth of my class in
Naples has not been arrogant, quarrel-
some and guilty of boisterous excesses?”

As the questioning proceeded Er-
ricone showed signs of irritation, fin-
ally trembling with excitement. As
the threats of the president and crown
prosecutor went home Erricone’s face
hardened with anger until he looked
like a savage animal about to spring
upon its prey. Suddenly he abandoned
all attempts at composure and gave
free rein to his feelings in a peroration
that was truly eloquent.

Flint Daily Journal
October 16, 1911

For the third time, William Fletcher
was picked up this morning and
held for the Lapeer Home of the Feeble-
minded, of which he is an in-
nate. Fletcher was taken in charge
by Under Sheriff Green. He has left
the home a number of times and has
been captured by the sheriff’s officers
here three times. The authorities at
the Home were informed and they will
send a man for Fletcher today.

Flint Daily Journal
December 4, 1911

COUNTRY FACES CRISIS

Ann Arbor, Mich., December 4.—
Declaring that sterilization of all per-
sons affected may be the only solution
of the crisis which the country is fac-
ing in its increasing number of feeble-
minded children, Dr. A. Holmes, of the
psychological clinic of the University
of Pennsylvania, testified before the
educational department of the uni-
versity and teachers of this city Sat-
day afternoon.

From one to three per cent of the
population at the present time is more
or less mentally incapable, declared
Dr. Holmes. In Michigan alone it is
estimated that there are from 6,000 to
8,000 inanables, while the one insti-
tution for this class of unfortunate at
Lapeer can accommodate only about
700. About 50 per cent of the cases
are due to heredity. If one parent is
incompetent, the child will also be
mentally incapable; if both are, the
rule is almost invariably a feeble-
minded child that will be a burden on
the state. Alcoholism, he declared, is
a most frequent cause of feeble-minded
children.

Flint Daily Journal
December 16, 1911

SUPT. HAS RESIGNED

LEAVES HEAD OF MICHIGAN
HOME FOR EPILEPTICS.

Dr. G. L. Chamberlain Was Medical
Director for Five Years—Dr.
Haynes Succeeds.

Lapeer, Mich., Dec. 18.—Dr. G. L.
Chamberlain, medical superintendent
of the Michigan Home for the Feeble-
minded and Epileptic, has tendered
his resignation to take effect in Feb-
ruary. He will remove to California
to engage in business. He will leave
the institution with the highest regard
of every member of the Board, who
regret the loss of his efficient and
valuable service. Dr. H. A. Haynes,
assistant surgeon, Dr. A. Haynes,
assistant medical superintendent, by
action of the Board, becomes acting
medical superintendent, in place of
Dr. Chamberlain.

Dr. Chamberlain and Dr. Haynes
have served together here for five
years. Previous to that time Dr.
Chamberlain had been 10 years at the
Newberry asylum and Dr. Haynes
four years as physician at the State
asylum for criminal insane at Ionia.
Oakdale in the Newspapers

Flint Daily Journal
February 28, 1912

TAKEN BACK TO LAPEER

John McConnell Escaped From Institution for Feeble Minded.

After roaming the country since last May, when he escaped from the Michigan Home for Feeble Minded and Epileptic at Lapeer, John McConnell was found on the street here Tuesday afternoon by Ross Groover, a former attendant at the institution. Groover turned McConnell over to the police who notified the Home officials. An attendant came from Lapeer Tuesday evening and took McConnell back to the institution. A brother of McConnell, who was also an inmate of the institution, escaped at the same time but has not been captured. The attendant who came for the one who was captured yesterday could not tell where the McConnell family lives.

Flint Daily Journal
June 24, 1912

Miss Mabel Sugars left this morning for Ludington to spend a few days with her mother. Miss Sugars will have charge of the primary work at the Home for Feeble-Minded and Epileptic.

Flint Daily Journal
July 6, 1912

Pacey-Swain.

Announcement has been made in Lapeer of the marriage of Miss Valley Swain of Flint and Claire Pacey of Detroit which took place on Wednesday at 3 o'clock at the home of the bride's brother, Clare Swain in Flint. The affair was a complete surprise to the many friends of the young couple in Lapeer.

Miss Swain was a teacher at the Home for Feeble-Minded and Epileptic at Lapeer, while Mr. Pacey was bookkeeper for the institution. Miss Swain has resided in Flint. After a short honeymoon at St. Clair Flats Mi, and Mrs. Pacey will return to Lapeer where they will reside.

Montague Observer
June 27, 1912

Many Epileptics Now at Large.

Secretary of State Frederick C. Martinlade declares that the overcrowded conditions which prevail at the home for the feeble-minded and epileptics at Lapeer, and the Michigan school for the blind at Lansing should receive serious consideration, and he intends to use his influence at the next regular session of the legislature to secure reasonable appropriations that will remedy the present existing difficulties.

"At present the capacity of the Lapeer home is limited to 930, while there are 5,346 feeble-minded and epileptic men, women and children at large in Michigan," said Secretary Martinlade. "However, I am informed by a member of the board of control of the Lapeer institution that 1,021 persons are now being cared for, which shows the overcrowded condition of the home.

"Something must be done to relieve this condition. It is the duty of the state to care for these unfortunate and money expended in this direction would be not only a just, but a merciful investment. In Wayne county alone, I understand there are 1,665 feeble-minded and epileptic persons, while the waiting list of patients committed to the Lapeer home by probate judges in various counties of the state now numbers 200. Monuments and statues erected in memory of great statesmen are all right in that place, but I consider that it is the first duty of the state to provide for those who are dependent upon the charity of others.

"The Michigan School for the Blind is doing a great work, and should not be handicapped for lack of reasonable funds. The capacity of that school is limited to 150, and there are several hundred blind children in the state that are waiting for a chance to receive an education at that institution. I believe in reasonable economy, but there is such a thing as false economy and I do not consider that the expenditure of sufficient funds to care for the epileptic and blind persons of the state is money thrown away."
PUTS BAN ON MEAT

GOVERNOR CONDEMNS ITS USE
AT LAPEER HOME

RATE FIXED AT 46 1-2 CENTS

THIS IS HALF CENT HIGHER
THAN LAST YEAR.

Dr. Haynes Admits That Experiments Have Proved Meat Diet Not Best for Inmates.

Lansing, Mich., July 8.—At a
meeting of the state board of auditors, the board of control for the
Michigan Home for the Feeble Minded and Epileptic at Lapeer, and Gov.
Osborn, held in the executive office
Saturday afternoon, the rate per capita for maintenance of the institution
at Lapeer was fixed at 46 1-2 cents for the ensuing year, which rate is
one and one-half cents per capita
than allowed by the board of auditors and the board of control of the
institution at a meeting held a week
ago, at which the governor was not present.

A year ago the rate was fixed at
46 cents per capita; only after Gov.
Osborn had waged a fight to get the
rate reduced. The board of control
this year asked for 48 cents, and the
state board of auditors allowed such
a rate, but it first had to have the
approval of the governor. Saturday
Gov. Osborn showed beyond a doubt
that he was prepared with figures to
back his claims that the rate should
not be raised, and he only gave in
with the understanding that the one-
half cent raise would go toward raising the salaries of the attendants at the institution.

Has Studied the Question.

“T have made an exhaustive study
of state institutions of Michigan as
well as other states,” said the
 gover-

or. “And while I am here to be
convinced, yet I want to tell you
something about my findings.”

The governor told how the soldiers’
homes at Grand Rapids, with as many
patients as are at Lapeer, and with
the same expense of maintaining
the institution, were getting along on 44
cents per capita, and that they were
doing lots of repairs at the same
time.

“I am not disposed to criticize the
Lapeer board, for you have all been
doing good work,” said the governor,
“yet I am still of the opinion that the
Lapeer institution ought to get
along at 46 cents.”

It was brought out that the board
is giving yearly contracts in advance
for the meat supply. This the governor
did not think a good idea, as prices were apt to be lower.

Meat Not Suitable Food.

“Paris, London and expert doctors
in this country have told me that
meat should not be fed patients such
as you have at Lapeer, and I would
like to see you work along this line.
Personally, after obtaining the
information, I am convinced beyond a
doubt that you should feed no meat
of the institution except to the em-
ployees,” said the governor.

Dr. Haynes of the institution agreed
that recent experiments along this
line had proved the governor’s state-
ment to be true, and no doubt the
indicated method will be used at La-
peer. Pennsylvania, according to the
governor, cut down 7 cents per capita
by this means, and the patients in
their institution for the feeble mind-
ed were enjoying better health.

Fire Protection for State Institution was
another matter brought up, and it was found that in
case of a fire the water pressure
from the city water works plant
would be entirely inadequate.
Oakdale in the Newspapers

GOV. OSBORN AT LAPEER

Flint Daily Journal
September 26, 1912

Spend Afternoon Inspecting Buildings of Michigan Home.
(Special to The Daily Journal.)

Lapeer, Mich., Sept. 26—Governor Chase S. Osborn spent Wednesday afternoon inspecting the Michigan Home for the Epileptic and Feeble Minded, coming here from Flint by automobile. The governor visited all of the buildings and expressed himself as pleased with conditions as he found them.

Governor Osborn was accompanied by State Dairy and Food Commissioner Davis and Tom May, the Detroit cartoonist.

ESCAPED FROM LAPEER

Flint Daily Journal
October 17, 1912

Harry Cadwell and Levy Dorland Caught by Officers Here.

Harry Cadwell and Levy Benjamin Dorland, inmates of the Michigan Home for Feeble Minded at Lapeer who escaped from that institution last night were captured at midnight at the Grand Trunk railroad crossing on Fifteenth street by Patrolman Clyde Lanier. The patrol wagon was called and the men were taken to the county jail. They were taken back to the Lapeer institution this morning. The men walked all of the 20 miles from Lapeer on the railroad tracks in the driving rainstorm and were soaked to the skin when they were caught.

Thomas Satterlee, an inmate of the Home for Feeble Minded and Epileptic at Lapeer, who escaped from that institution last night, was taken into custody by Patrolman Charles Kohlmotz of the local police department in the south end of the city. Satterlee walked 20 miles along the Grand Trunk tracks from Lapeer and went to the signal tower of the railroad at the Saginaw street crossing early this morning to rest. The tower tender notified the police. Satterlee was taken back to Lapeer on the first train by Police Sergeant A. J. Sulf.

Flint Daily Journal
November 1, 1912

November 21, 1912
PROBLEM MUST BE SOLVED, SAYS HEALTH OFFICE

Dr. Dixon Aroused by Result of Investigation.

Lapeer Home Visited

Evil of Indiscriminate Marriages Shown.

Doctor a Convert to 'Gleaner' Bill Requiring Physicians' Certificate With Marriage License.

Lansing, Michigan, Dec. 2.—Dr. R. L. Dixon, secretary of the State Board of Health, declared in an interview yesterday that since the investigation of the families of 38 inmates of the Lapeer Home for the Feeble Minded, conducted by his department, he is more strongly than ever in favor of the 'Gleaner,' and that he will use every effort to get the bill passed at the coming session of the Legislature.

The 'Gleaner,' presented by Henry C. Gleaner, representative from Barry County, at the last regular session of the Legislature, provides that one of the requirements for qualification for marriage shall be a 'clean bill of health,' physically and mentally. This bill also provides that no marriage license shall be granted to any applicant without a certificate from a legally qualified physician to the effect that the parties to the marriage contract are sound in mind and body.

Advocated by Physicians.

Physicians all over the country are advocating such a bill, contending that this measure is but a protective one for the perpetuation of a healthy and physically sound American race. Such a provision is one of sagacity, and Dr. Dixon declared, after citing parts of the reports illustrated by photographs of the Lapeer home inmates, that he was not only satisfied at the data gathered, but he hoped the report might be discussed by some public means to mature persons.

"It is a salutary condition of affairs," said Dr. Dixon, "and the best part of it is that these things cannot be so discussed and reported on account the delicacy and propriety of the thing. Mature persons are ignorant of many facts contained in the reports of the investigation, and the real dangers of marriage between incompetent persons, mentally and physically, can only come through some sort of public education."

The recent investigations made by the State Board of Health have shown that the subject of feeble-mindedness is of vastly more importance than has been thought even to the members of the board, and the partial report was sufficient to cause considerable alarm. It divulged the fact that the American people are not as careful of laws that govern healthy propagation as they are in the breeding of cattle.

Record of Thirty-Eight Families.

"Who would not be in favor of the 'Gleaner' Bill?" asked Dr. Dixon, "after hearing the facts in this carefully conducted investigation. Here is a record of the families of 38 inmates of the Lapeer home. These families and inmates have been carefully studied. What do we find? First, just from a parnautical point of view as a matter that affects taxes, we find that these 38 inmates were taken by the state at an expense of $80,000. But this is a small item compared with the moral cost for there are 112 feeble-minded persons belonging to these 38 families, who are running at large, unrestrained to any extent by marriage law's qualifications, and propagating their kind without restraint."

"This is a record for only 38 of the inmates. What must it be in the 1000 in the home? What for several thousand at large? There are many families where a single marriage, which should have been forbidden, has produced a dozen social and civic parasites in the way of feeble-minded individuals."

"This problem can just as well be worked out in this state as anywhere else. The methods of handling the proposition have not worked out well in any state; it is true. But the fact remains that this problem must be solved sooner or later as a protection to society. It is an absolute fact that the drop of feeble-minded persons is increasing at double the rate of increase of normal individuals."

Offers Hope of Solution.

"The 'Gleaner' Bill is a step toward the solution and in its general principle should be supported. The bill provides also for a penalty for marrying disqualified persons or issuing licenses to the same. It also provides for a penalty in the case of fraudulent bills of health which is a good thing in its way."

"But the solution will not be complete with merely a strict marriage law. Those people will propagate a thousand marriage laws unless other segregated or rendered sexually sterile. Sterilization laws have been passed in some states, but have not been used systematically enough to give dependable data."

"I sincerely hope," concluded Dr. Dixon, "that the 'Gleaner' Bill will receive undivided support at this session. It ought to be passed for it is a step toward the great problem that we, of this country, must solve, and solve at once, else, too, we must, like the feeble-minded families we have investigated, will become a nation of mental and physical incompetents."

Vandercook.

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Flint Daily Journal
December 2, 1912
Oakdale in the Newspapers

Flint Daily Journal
January 14, 1913

FEEBLE MINDS AT LARGE IN STATE

REPORT OF THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH.

ONLY 800 IN DURANCE

BOARD SAYS MORE THAN 9,000 SHOULD BE DETAINED.

Sterilization and Segregation Are Remedies Advocated After Special Investigation.

Lansing, Mich., Jan. 14.—It is estimated that there are more than 9,000 feeble-minded in the state of Michigan, only 800 of whom are being cared for, according to the latest report on public health issued by the state department of health at Lansing.

The booklet has been prepared by Adelaide McKean, special investigator in education for the department, and included a close examination of 26 families representing 38 patients in the home for Feeble Minded and Epileptic at Lapeer.

It contains a plea for more funds with which to carry on the work of investigation and segregation of the feeble-minded, urging also a law to permit sterilization in extreme cases. To quote:

“Although feeble-mindedness is an underlying cause of so many of the so-called ‘ills of society,’ there seems to be only an awakening realization that we must do something to prevent its increase, and under the menace of waywardness or prostitution among many of our girls and women, criminally and vice among many of our school children, it is holding unchallenged sway.

Methods of Prevention.

“Methods of prevention. First, segregation, in which there has been little authentic experimentation, although it is localized in an institution and, second, sterilization. We have only a beginning made in applying this method.

“Never has it been so easy for the unit of a species to survive as at the present time. Formerly the struggle for existence extinguished the weak, but today every charitable measure we support makes it more easy for the physically and mentally subnormal not only to exist but to procreate. Although society must always take care of its weak, it is certainly time that we recognize the value of eugenics, the science which proclaims that every individual has the right to be well born. It is the most profoundly preventive measure we can conceive to combat the degeneration and decay of our race.

“Segregative must come through selective breeding.

A Typical Case.

“There is the case of a woman who was married at 17 to a negro. In a year a child was born, who later was found to be a nubiohant and became an alcoholic. Soon after his birth, his mother was committed to Kansas for a year. At 18, she gave birth to a second child unclassified. She was sent again for a year; released, only to have three more feeble-minded children, one of whom is in a county house, and the other two are at Lapeer, one died in infancy.

“She went to Kansas and died there. She had a brother insane, three sisters mentally unbalanced, and both parents were insane. Surely sterilization, if it was to be released, at this time, should have been instituted to solve this problem. We have only to look at our parents and progeny to measure our heritage.

“The information has been gathered in the process of looking up 26 families representing, to various extents, the family histories of 38 patients at the home for Feeble Minded and Epileptic. These were chosen at random, 14 of which represent Lapeer county families. Upon completing the histories of these families, five of these Lapeer families were found to be connected by marriage. From this data the total number found to be unalike were 570, total defectives 434.

Flint Daily Journal
March 20, 1913

Estimate of the Cost.

“Roughly, the total cost of maintenance for various members of these 26 families in different state institutions, has been over $35,000. That is exclusive of the cost of the upkeep of the buildings, or of charitable or state aid given in the homes. While they represent 38 patients who are being taken care of in the home for Feeble Minded, and 21 feeble-minded members of the family at large. This one patient’s maintenance has cost $1,000, while only a part of the cost to the county and to the state, of the rest of her family has exceeded $12,000. This is exclusive of maintaining the courts, jails and penal institutions which are filled and are being filled by members of their strain. To say nothing of the price society is paying for the 22 prostitutes who are her kin. Three generations of her relatives were in the county house and all feeble-minded.

“Because we see the cost of our failure to segregate an individual who lived four generations ago, we should apply the lesson today, and prevent society of tomorrow from paying for twice the number of defectives.”

SENATE APPROVES ODELL STERILIZATION MEASURE

(Flint Journal Lansing Bureau)

Lansing, Mich., March 20.—With a cloud of doubt as to whether the Senate will pass the Odell sterilization bill yesterday afternoon. In the form approved by the House the bill applies only to mentally defectives and requires a notice of 30 days to relatives of defectives and a decision by court before it is applicable. The Senate has rejected the vote of the House, which provided for increasing the salaries of bank examiners to $2,500; the Odell bill allowing the counties of Kent and Wayne to pay county agents a salary of $1,800 annually, and the Fisgibbon bill authorizing the organization of companies to insure automobiles.
Flint Daily Journal
March 21, 1913

GOVERNOR READY TO SIGN ODELL STERILIZATION BILL

Lansing, Mich., March 21.—The somewhat celebrated Odell bill, providing for the sterilization of the mentally deficient, which has attracted almost as much attention as the Gannett eugenics measure, has passed the House and Senate and is ready to be submitted to Gov. Merrill. The governor announced today that he has read the bill through and is prepared to sign it the moment it is ready.

The Senate’s amendments to the measure were of little importance as affecting the bill. Representative Odell said the Senate had improved the proposal in the few amendments it attached and made it broader in its application. The only material change provided for the adjournment of the proposal to sterilize in any case where the relative or guardian may see fit to enter objection. The amendments in the Senate were agreed to Lawrence, Mass., March 21.—Age is

Flint Daily Journal
April 19, 1913

HOUSE PASSES BILL TO RELIEVE LAPEER INSTITUTION

Lansing, Mich., April 19.—The bill providing for the establishment of an epileptic colony which has in mind the segregation of the feeble minded and the epileptics and will make room for some 300 more epileptics at Lapeer, was passed by the House and is ready for the governor’s signature. With the bill is a provision for a commission to investigate proposed sites for the epileptic colony. The passage of this bill probably will cut off $80,000 asked for for new cottages at Lapeer.

Flint Daily Journal
April 26, 1913

SPEAKERS FOR CONVENTION.

Lapeer, Mich., April 26.—Several good speakers have been secured so far for the convention of the American association for study of the feeble minded to be held here June 9, 10 and 11. Among those listed are Governor Ferris, Prof. Barry of the University of Michigan; Dr. Vaughn of Lansing and Miss Adela McKinnon of Chicago. Mrs. H. Owen of Detroit, Miss Florence Vincent and Mrs. G. R. Buck will furnish music for the occasion.

Flint Daily Journal
May 6, 1913

NAME OF LAPEER HOME IS CHANGED

INSTITUTION WILL BE KNOWN AS LAPEER HOME AND TRAINING SCHOOL

(From a Journal Correspondent.)

Lapeer, Mich., May 6.—Among the enactments passed by the last Legislature were several pertaining to the Michigan Home for Feeble Minded and Epileptic. One of the first and most important was an act passed changing the name of the institution to the Michigan Home and Training School. The home also was appropriated $116,000 to carry out improvements for the next two years. Of this amount $64,000 will be used this year in making some additions and long needed improvements to the institution. The appropriation was only $4,000 short of what was asked for at first despite the fact that many in the Legislature were in favor of segregation which would lessen the need of more funds at the Lapiep home.

Among the new changes to be made are a new 225,000 hospital, a new office, an industrial building for keeping inmates engaged, new cottages and an electric light, a new laundry, pneumatic carrier system and several additions to the home stores. Two more cottages will also be added during the next two years. A law was also passed which affects the status of inmates entered into the institution before 1906. Those who have hereto-fore have been subject to back and call of their parents, with those who have since been entered into the home are now taken regularly before the probate Judge and committed. Another law makes it a colony for anyone to adopt from or marry an inmate of the institution.
Oakdale in the Newspapers

Flint Daily Journal
June 7, 1913

SPECIALISTS WILL GATHER AT LAPEER

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR
STUDY OF FeeBLE-MINDED
MEETS NEXT WEEK.

(From a Journal Correspondent.)
Lapeer, Mich., June 7. — The program
for the annual meeting of the American
Association for the Study of Feeble-Minded
here on Monday, Tuesday
and Wednesday of next week has
been arranged as follows:

Monday—Business session, 8 o'clock; proposals for membership; ap-
pointment of committees; “State Pro-
vision for Feeble-Minded,” Dr. J. M.
Murdoch, Floss, Ind.; “The Cottage
Plan for Care of Feeble-Minded,” Dr.
G. B. Bliss, Fort Wayne, Ind.; discus-
sion. Evening session, 8 o'clock; “In-
fantile Cerebral Palsy in a Report of
118 Cases,” (with lantern slides) Dr.
H. G. Harst, Lincoln, Ill.

Tuesday—Opening session, 8 o'clock; inspection of schools; “Some Special
Types of Mental Defectives,” Dr. Wil-
liam Healy, Chicago; “Feeble Inhibi-
tion,” Dr. C. H. Davenport, Cold
Springs, N. Y.; “Classification of
Feeble-Minded,” Dr. A. G. Rogers,
Firthill, Minn. Afternoon session, 8
o'clock; vocal solo, Mrs. G. R. Buck;
accompanied, Miss Florence Vincent;
“Insect Battering,” Dr. V. C. Vaughan,
University of Michigan; “Feeble-Min-
ded in One Michigan County,” Miss
Adela McMillan, University of Michi-
yan; “Stimulation,” Mrs. Edger Van
Wagoner, New York, discussion. E-
vening entertainment by pupils, “A
Trip to Fairyland.”

Wednesday—“Report of Scientific
Observation of Feeble-Minded,” Dr. A. W. Peterson, Vineland,
N. J.; “Relation of Spasmophilia to
Epiloay,” J. L. Bridegwater, Univer-
sity of Minnesota; “Diagnosis of Mental
Defects,” Dr. W. B. Fernald, Waverly,
Mass. Afternoon session, 8 o'clock;
vocal solo, Mrs. M. G. Owen; accom-
panied, Miss Florence Vincent; ad-
dress, Hon. Woodbridge N. Ferris,
governor of Michigan. Evening ses-
tion, 8 o'clock; “Degree of Mental
Deficiency of Children as Expressed
by Relation of Age to Mental Age,” Prof.
S. C. Berry, University of Michigan;
“Hinat-Simon Symposium Tests of 1906
and 1911—Application,” Dr. F. Kuhl-
mann, Firthill, Minn.; reports of com-
mittees; treasurer’s report; mis-
cellaneous business. The entire 300
persons who will attend the meeting
will be cared for at the Home and Lape-
er citizens will aid in entertaining them.

37TH CONVENTION
OF SPECIALISTS
AT LAPEER HOME

THREE HUNDRED SCIENTISTS IN
ANNUAL GATHERING AT
STATE SCHOOL

(From a Journal Correspondent.)
Lapeer, Mich., June 10. — The thirty-
seventh annual session of the Ameri-
can Association for the Study of Fee-
ble-Minded was opened here Monday
afternoon with nearly 300 physicians
and brain specialists present from all
parts of the United States. The visitors
are being entertained at the Home and
a number of entertainments have been
prepared for them. The Home band
and two excellent singers, Mrs. G. R.
Buck and Mrs. M. G. Owen, furnish
music for the visitors.

A play, “A Trip to Fairyland,” will
be given Tuesday evening entirely by
pupils of the Home and one of the
most picturesque spectacles ever given
by mentally deficient persons will be
witnessed. The pupils have been prac-
ticing many months for the occasion
and gorgeous costumes have been pro-
duced. The music which is in itself
wonderful is under the direction of
Miss Charlotte Harrington who has pro-
duced amazing results with the unfor-
nutates.

Hon. Woodbridge N. Ferris will ad-
dress the assembly on Wednesday af-
ternoon and Lapeer people have been
invited to hear him.

The program for Monday was suc-
cessfully carried out. Dr. J. M. Mur-
dock of Floss, Ind., spoke on “State
Provision for the Feeble-Minded.” Dr.
George R. Bliss, Fort Wayne, Ind.,
spoke on “The Cottage Plan in the
Care of Feeble-Minded.”

In the evening Dr. H. G. Harst of
Lincoln, Ill., lectured on “Infantile
Cerebral Palsy in a Report of 118
Cases,” accompanied by lantern slides.
LAPEER CITIZENS HOSTS AT BANQUET TO SPECIALISTS

GOV. FERRIS WILL ADDRESS CONVENTION AT STATE HOME TODAY.

(From a Journal Correspondent)
Lapeer, Mich., June 11.—A banquet was tendered the visiting physicians of the American Association for the study of the feeble-minded at the Masonic temple here Tuesday night by 40 Lapeer men. The banquet was served by the women of the Eastern Star in the banquet hall of the temple. Bacon's five-piece orchestra furnished the music.

Except for a few brief remarks, no speeches were made as the physicians were to be entertained at the Home at 8 o'clock and no time could be spared. The visitors were taken back to the Home in autos where the play "Trip to Fairyland" was given by the pupils.

Today closes the convention which is the thirty-seventh annual meeting of the association. The next meeting place will probably be decided upon some time during the day.

Gov. Woodbridge N. Ferris will be the principal speaker today.

The visiting specialists were delighted with the play, "A Trip to Fairyland," which they declared without exception the best performance of the nature they had ever witnessed. The cast was made up entirely of pupils of the Home and the play was staged under the direction of Miss Charlotte Harring, teacher of music. Miss Harring was highly complimented by the physicians on the successful manner in which her pupils were trained.

MICHIGAN HOME CHANGES PLANS

POSTPONE BUILDING OF EIGHT ADDITIONAL COTTAGES UNTIL NEXT YEAR.

(From a Journal Correspondent)
Lapeer, Mich., July 14.—The Michigan Home for Feeble-Minded and Epileptic, just west of here, will not make the extra addition of eight more cottages as was at first announced, but will await the results of the new segregation movement. By a recent act of the Legislature the epileptic inmates will be taken from the Lapeer Home and settled on large farms, the locations of which is still undecided. Mentalists claim the association of the epileptic with the feeble-minded is an unwise arrangement and that the latter in no way elevate the other class.

There are in Michigan 800 applicants for admission to the Home and by the segregation more feeble-minded persons can be admitted to Lapeer by the vacating of the epileptic.

Next year it is planned to enlarge the Home considerably, although this year a new store building, a carpenter shop and a larger hospital will be added.
SENTENCED TO DEATH IN LIFE AMONG THE FEEBLE-MINDED

BESSIE LEWIS IS FREE AFTER SEVEN YEARS

Sent, as a Punishment, to Live Among Imbeciles and Epileptics at Lapere.

HER GIRLHOOD IS WASTED

But the Rescued Young Woman is Now Safe with Her Family Here.

After seven years amid the horrors of a state institution for imbeciles and epileptics, where she had been condemned for all time, Bessie Lewis has been returned to her mother in this city and is a free girl for the first time since she was thirteen.

A few years ago, when the mother believed there was no hope of her daughter's recovery, Bessie Lewis was committed to the industrial school at Adrian, Michigan.

Two years later, without a hearing or a due process of the law, the girl was placed in the hands of the Michigan authorities and committed to the Lapere institution for the feeble-minded.

The news of Bessie's release from Lapere was received with joy by her family and friends, and the young woman herself is overjoyed at her freedom.

She has been employed in a downtown department store and is looking forward to a winter of study in the public school system.

Bessie Lewis is now a free girl, living among normal people and enjoying the freedom she was denied for so many years.

Circumstances Are Different

Unquestionably there is some justification for the actions of the authorities in the case of Bessie Lewis, but it is a case that should serve as a wake-up call to the community and to the authorities.

The young woman's release from Lapere is a reminder that we must always strive to treat everyone with dignity and respect, and that we must be cautious in our use of institutions and their effects on individuals.

Conclusion

Bessie Lewis's release from Lapere is a triumph of justice and a reminder of the importance of treating everyone with dignity and respect.

Continued on Eighth Page
Oakdale in the Newspapers

The Evening Press (Grand Rapids)
August 21, 1913 (continued)

BESSIE LEWIS FREE AFTER SEVEN YEARS

From First Page

Bessie Lewis has been a free woman for seven years.

She was given her schooling except in music. She taught music in the basic schools and says she was put off with the explanations she needed a cracked school and the instruction boasted of no such element before.

And so she spent her days in labor, most of the seven dividing her time between the steam boiler of the plant, and the care of the 360 infantile children in a factory. The hours were long and the periods of recreation few for more than ten years, and this girl came out at the age of twenty years with the educational equipment of an average child at the age of ten.

Fates Conspire Against Child

A young widow went home to her mother's house seven years ago, and after two years of marriage, her husband, who was of weak physique, died. She was left alone with her children. The girl was between twelve and fifteen years old.

Mrs. Stoner was able to work and support her family, and eventually she married another who had children. Eventually, she moved to a new city where they lived and were well off.

She took the two children under her patronage, and the mother's condition became more critical. She lost control of the children. When the baby died, Mrs. Stoner was shocked and in a state of grief.

And about as often she evolved new methods of teaching her teachers and supervisors. Unquestionably, she was a woman of great determination and perseverance.

One day in March, 1906, when she had been less than two years at Adrian, she was told that she was scheduled for transfer to the home for the feeble-minded. The girl took this information as she went through the motions without serious consideration; but on the morning of July 8, without having been examined or questioned, she was told to pack her things. Before night she had taken her place among the inmates in the Michigan home for the feeble-minded.

A page from the manuscript. The Press asked the girl to write describing life in the home for the feeble-minded. Bessie's spelling is spotty, but there is no evidence of weakness in the form formation of the words.

STARTS ON CAREER AT ADRIAN

Thus was Bessie L. Lewis started on her career at Adrian. Deserted and little better than an invalid.

Mrs. Stoner consented to the adoption of her new baby by a Grand Traver
county family and then she went away. At the same time Bessie's quick mis
chief was getting her into difficulty with the administrative officers at Adrian. Repeatedly she was punished for childish infractions of the rules. And about as often she evolved new methods of teaching her teachers and supervisors. Unquestionably, she was a woman of great determination and perseverance.

And one day in March, 1906, when she had been less than two years at Adrian, she was told that she was scheduled for transfer to the home for the feeble-minded. The girl took this information as she went through the motions without serious consideration; but on the morning of July 8, without having been examined or questioned, she was told to pack her things. Before night she had taken her place among the inmates in the Michigan home for the feeble-minded.

FAMILY HISTORY REPORTED INCORRECTLY

Mrs. Susie M. Sickles, superintendent at Adrian, filled in the remainder of the application. Her report stated that the girl had no father; that her mother was a vagrant, that the child was wayward and unmanageable. In answering the form question, "Has she been peculiar from birth?" there appears the following: "Think she must have been."
oakdale in the newspapers

the evening press (grand rapids)

august 21, 1913 (continued)

begins fight for girl's liberty.

immediately after her success in obtaining the girl's release, limited as she was to finances, she could not afford to employ attorneys. the two or three who did write letters chartered her at the rate of $10 a letter and received only the information that the girl was not fit to be liberated and permitted to shift for herself. the family was not posted as to the mother's rights, but they persisted, appealing every means of their command to gain the girl's release. dr. w. a. poole was superintendent when mrs. hilliker began the effort to gain her daughter's release. then came dr. chamberlain and finally dr. h. a. haynes, who is in charge today and who granted bessie a brief leave of absence that proved for her ultimate release.

there is nothing in the record of the home to bear out the assumption that the girl was deficient mentally except the mental test under which she gained a showing of 112 in 1916. this is a little better than the normal child of eleven years, but it should be understood that the girl had enjoyed no educational facilities for practically all her life. she was left the country school at the fourth grade at the age of eleven years. there had been no help for three years. but bessie was working steadily in the laundry, scrubbing the dormitory floor, and helping to dress and care for the feeble-minded children in one of the local institutions. where the patients were housed. there was a very real affection between herself and several of the brightest girls. they were to be claimed by the hospital, and their care was to help this helpless girl to a life that might have become invaluable.

friends of the family recently became interested and went to lapere to consult with dr. haynes. on this occasion a test of bessie's capacity was obtained to compel the girl's release. but dr. haynes voluntarily granted her a short vacation and when she reached grand rapids, mrs. simon le roy and j. h. hilliker were called in and asked to make a careful mental examination.

both agreed that the girl was normal and each became deeply interested in the case. the evening press was interested in the afternoon and in the meantime. the evening press obtained a statement from the girl's mother and asked to look over the case. in every detail of this story was substantiated by facts in the case, a corresponding story could have been written. dr. hilliker and a representative of the press went first to durand and later to lapere.

insisted girl was feeble-minded.

the superintendent at durand was eager at the time of their call, but her assistant at lapere was more reserved. she remembered bessie lewy, she said, and stated that the girl had been sent to lapere because she was not fit for the care of the hospital. she commented that the girl might have been sent to lapere in order to be with the hospital. mrs. johnson, the superintendent, was assistant at the time the lewis child was an inmate of the hospital and when mrs. sickles was assistant. dr. haynes at lapere did not consider give bessie the same treatment. he said the only reason that she had not been given her liberty lay in the history under which she had been committed. the doctor explained that had he felt he must treat bessie.
Oakdale in the Newspapers

The Evening Press (Grand Rapids)
August 27, 1913

GOVERNOR TO PROBE BESSIE LEWIS CASE

The Press Expose of Girl’s Unjust Commitment to Lapeer Stirs Ferris.

HE WILL HEAR HER STORY

(Live Henry H. Tinkham.)
Lansing, Aug. 27.—Bessie L. Lewis of Grand Rapids, who was forced to spend her girlhood among the imbeciles and epileptics in the Lapeer Institution in punishment for mischievous conduct at the Adrian Industrial School for Girls, will be asked to repeat her story given exclusively in The Grand Rapids Press for the benefit of Governor Woodbridge N. Ferris.

The governor arrived at Lansing Tuesday evening in company with Judge Albert Murphy of Detroit who was his representative in the investigation of the strike situation in the copper country and will be busy for a day or two straightening out this issue. After that he promises to go into the Lewis case.

Governor Amazed at Article.

“Simply was amazed that any such condition could exist in Michigan,” said the governor. “The article in The Press seemed literally beyond comprehension. I have been through the Lapeer Institution for Epileptics and Feeble-Minded and I can imagine no greater horror than a sentence to live among the unfortunate there. It seems to me the mere fact that the Grand Rapids girl endured the test without loss of reason would be the best possible proof that she was not eligible for commitment to Lapeer in the beginning.

“I am informed that the law has been so amended that such an injustice could not occur again. But this will not interfere with my investigation. I am endeavoring to educate myself in all the details of Michigan’s governmental and institutional affairs and I want to be sure that there is no chance for a repetition of the horror of this girl’s experience.

“I expect to call on Miss Lewis for an interview and I shall ask her to go over the entire story with me. I want to see her and talk to her and question her, not only on her commitment, but as to her life in the institution. It is hard even now to believe that such a thing could occur in this enlightened era.

Will Sift Case to the Bottom.

“After I have talked with the girl and am in possession of the details of the case I expect to go into the institutional end of the proposition. It is probable that now, with the law changed and a complete change of administrations in both institutions involved, that there can be no improvement wrought through an investigation by this office, but I want to satisfy myself; I am personally interested in going to the bottom of this most remarkable case.”

Flint Daily Journal
August 29, 1913

FERRIS TO INVESTIGATE CASE OF BESSIE LEWIS

Lansing, Mich., Aug. 28.—Bessie L. Lewis, the Grand Rapids girl who spent seven years among the imbeciles and epileptics at the state institution at Lapeer after being an inmate of the Industrial School for Girls at Adrian, will be asked to tell her story to Gov. Ferris. The governor has promised to look into the case.

“After I have talked with the girl and am in possession of the details of the case I expect to go into the institutional end of the proposition,” said Mr. Ferris. "It is probable that now, with the law changed and a complete change of administrations in both institutions involved, that there can be no improvement wrought through an investigation by this office, but I want to satisfy myself; I am personally interested in going to the bottom of this most remarkable case.”

Flint Daily Journal
September 17, 1913

MUST BE COMMITTED BY PROBATE COURT

Now Law Governing Feeble-Minded at Lapeer Home.

Under the new law providing for commitments in the case of feeble-minded persons who are sent to the home at Lapeer, 14 will have to be made in the probate court. The new law provides that each person in the home must be committed through the probate court. In the past relatives, supervisors or superintendents of the poor had the right to send any feeble-minded person to the home without a hearing or any court procedure. The result was that there was no record of the cases.

There are now 14 inmates of the home who were sent from Genesee county and under the new law these must all be committed if they are to remain in the home. Nine of the patients have already committed since the law went into effect and the others will be committed within a few days.
Oakdale in the Newspapers

The Day (Grand Rapids), September 19, 1913

Flint Daily Journal
November 7, 1913

Flint Daily Journal
September 12, 1913

Flint Daily Journal, November 20, 1913

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~ 30 ~
Oakdale in the Newspapers

Flint Daily Journal
January 13, 1914

PRAGICAL MUGENICS.
The Race Betterment conference at Battle Creek laid emphasis upon one practical point which may well command the attention of the people of Michigan. A sound paper was presented, urging the necessity that the feeble-minded be kept from parenthood. The speaker considered sterilisation not altogether practicable because of sentiment against it. But it was declared that segregation is both practicable and necessary, particularly as applied to feeble-minded women.

Much of the recent talk about eugenics shoots over the heads of practical people and probably may not be applied for yours. But here is a practical suggestion which is well known properly to receive immediate application. It requires no argument to show that children ought not to come into the world under the handicap of feeble-minded parents. The theory of heredity, which has been undermined with reference to many other matters, seems to hold in this case. Even if heredity did not insure feeble-minded children, it would still be certain that no child could properly be reared by feeble-minded parents.

The state of Michigan has not done its full duty by the feeble-minded. The institution at Haping has not since its establishment been large enough to accommodate even a fair proportion of those who ought to have been cared for there. Consequently county homes and private families have been called upon to give the attention for which they had neither experience nor adequate facilities.

It is possible that Michigan may not have found the best way of managing an institution for the feeble-minded. Perhaps a colonization plan, such as was hinted at but not fully explained in the press dispatches, would permit quicker and more economical development of adequate facilities. But it is clear that the state ought to take hold of this problem with determination and ought to provide means for the complete segregation of the feeble-minded.

Flint Daily Journal
February 12, 1914

TEACHERS’ SUMMER SCHOOL AT LAPEER

DETAILS COMPLETED FOR SIX WEEKS COURSE STARTING IN JULY.

Detroit, Mich., Feb. 12.—Details for the plan for the summer school course in the teaching of defective children that is to be established in connection with the Lapeer home for the feeble-minded have been completed.

The school of instruction is to be open to experienced teachers only, and applicants will be required to have a certificate of recommendation from the superintendent of schools in the city where they have been teaching. The tuition fee for instruction, room and board will be $60 covering a period of six weeks.

The Lapeer home will form the laboratory for the work, and instruction will be given in the various forms of studies taught, as well as in the psychology of defective children, tests for mental efficiency and other subjects needed for a thorough understanding of the work.

The proposed summer school which will open early in July, was conceived by Dr. H. A. Haynes of the Lapeer home, and Dr. E. Berry of the department of education of the University of Michigan.

The teachers trained in the school will be employed in the defective schools of various cities. The board of supervisors of the new school is composed of Dr. Haynes, Dr. Berry, Prof. Fred L. Keener, state superintendent of public instruction; Frank Cody, assistant superintendent of Detroit schools, and the head of the work among the defective children here, and C. C. Peck of Port Huron, member of the board of the Lapapper home.
SUBNORMAL CHILDREN

The Study of the Backward Child Is to Be Taken Up.

A summer school for teachers of defective children has been announced to be held at Lapeer, beginning July 6. A school of this kind has never before been attempted in the state. The board of supervisors of the new school is composed of Dr. H. A. Haynes of the Lapeer Home, Dr. C. S. Berry of the Department of Education, U. of M., State Superintendent E. L. Keeler, Frank Cody, Assistant Superintendent, of the Detroit Schools at the head of the work among the defective children of that city, and C. C. Peck of Port Huron, member of the Board of the Lapeer Home. According to the estimate of Miss Adele McKinzie, who has been conducting a survey, there are not less than 8,000 feeble-minded persons in the state. Some of these are enrolled in the public schools. Aside from this class are the thousands of higher mentality but who are not fitted to work side by side with normal children. The disadvantage to the brighter child resulting from classification with those of lower mentality must be considered also.

The school of instruction is to be open to experienced teachers only and applicants will be required to have a certificate of recommendation from their local superintendent of schools. The Lapeer Home will form the laboratory for the work and instruction will be given in the various forms of studies taught as well as in the psychology of defective children, tests for mental efficiency and other subjects needed for a thorough understanding of the work. The teachers trained in the school will be employed in the schools for defectives in various cities.

Lapeer Home Inmate

Swallows Needle Point, Works Way to Surface

(From a Journal Correspondent.)

Lapeer, Mich., April 9.—For several days recently Marie MacDonald, 18 years old, an inmate at the Lapeer home for the feeble minded, complained of a pricking in her throat.

When she was taken to a physician yesterday what looked like a small pimple was discovered just above her chest. The physician attempted to treat this and found it was caused by the point of a small needle which was forcing its way to the surface.

The needle had evidently been swallowed some time ago although the girl denied all knowledge of it.

April, 9, 1914
the Michigan Home will be taken to Wabasmega, in the near future, the institution will in no way be affected here. It was rumored here lately that the Lapeer Home had reached the extent of its growth and that from now on no more cottages will be added. This report was unfounded for already plans are being made to build two new cottages at the Home and several other structures will also be added to the little city. There are at present over 800 applicants for admission to the Lapeer Home in the state. After the 300 hundred epileptics have been segregated by transfer to the new home, 300 of these applicants will have berths in the Lapeer institution and over 600 hundred will still remain to be provided for.

Even at the rate of two new cottages per year for five years the state's feeble-minded would not all be cared for. There is little foundation for any belief that the Lapeer Home will be materially affected by the building of the new home.
SUMMER SCHOOL
AT LAPEER HOME
TO OPEN TODAY

PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHERS WILL
STUDY MENTALITY OF DE-
FECTIVES.

Lapeer, Mich., July 7.—The first
school of its kind in America for the
instruction of public school teachers
in the matter of raising public school
pupils on a basis of mental efficiency
was ready to open at the Lapeer state
home for the feeble minded today.

Classes will continue for six weeks
and the students, many of whom are
already here, will be taught the most
scientific methods, including the use
of the Binet tests, for determining
and classifying the relative mentality
of pupils in public schools. The work
is expected to be especially valuable
in grading pupils and in leading to a
more distinctly individual develop-
ment than is possible with the present
school methods. This is said to be
the first instance in which a public
institution like the Lapeer home has
co-operated with the educational au-
thorities in endeavoring to solve the
problem of dealing with backward
children.

Governor Ferris and Superintendent
Chadsey of Detroit are among a
large number of lecturers who will
speak here during the summer ses-
session, which will be in charge of Dr.
H. A. Haynes, medical superintendent
of the home.

Flint Daily Journal
July 18, 1914
Flint Daily Journal
July 30, 1914

DR. SADLER SEES GWEAT PERIL IN FEEBLE MINDED

ADVOCATES SEX STERILIZATION AT EUGENICS CONFERENCE.

Bay View, Mich., July 30.—Before the eugenics conference yesterday, Dr. William S. Sadler, dean of the Chicago post-graduate medical school, advocated sex sterilization. He said in part: "Feeble-mindedness is the greatest danger that threatens the American people. It is spreading faster than insanity. Its influence is more insidious than alcoholism. Because the feeble-minded breed rapidly, this weak and deficient stock increases ten times as fast as normal healthy stock. In every union between a strong-minded and a weak or feeble-minded individual, 75 percent of the children will be affected with feeble minds.

"When people are born with a feeble mind, they contract alcoholism, dope habits, become lazy and shiftless, turn into violent and lawless habits. But they do not stop breeding. Therefore, I advocate a national law to establish boards of examiners whose duty it shall be to pass on every defective child in the public schools.

"Where the case is hopelessly feeble-minded, let it be sex sterilized. Then it can live its span of years out, according to natural habits, and society will not have to bear the awful burden of its descendants.

"Every sterilized individual should be registered.

"The surgical operation of sterilization is painless, and prevents reproduction of the species. It does not curtail individual liberty. It saves the state, and is the only cure for many evils which now beset our society."

Flint Daily Journal, August 20, 1914

Two boys from the home of feeble-minded at Lapeer, William Carson, 15, and Harold Davis, 14, were found this morning sleeping in a box car by Deputy Sheriff Chesnut. They are being held for the authorities of the home. The boys left Lapeer Monday and since that time have been sleeping in cars and getting their meals wherever they could, often going without anything to eat.

Flint Daily Journal, September 14, 1914

CRAMTON PROBES BOYS' SCHOOL AT CAPITAL

Finds Operating Expenses Exceed Those at Lapeer Home.

(From The Journal's Washington Bureau)
Washington, Sept. 14—Congressman Louis C. Crampton, as a member of the House committee on expenditures in the Department of Justice, is taking a deep interest in the proposed investigation of the National Training School for Boys in Washington. This is an institution corresponding to the Industrial School at Lansing, to which minor offenders in the District of Columbia or against the federal laws are sentenced.

Mr. Crampton has been making a comparison of the cost of operating this institution as compared with the cost of operating the home for the feeble-minded at his home in Lapeer, Michigan. The fact that the cost per inmate of operating the latter institution was 63 cents a day as against 65 cents in the National Training School for Boys was what excited Mr. Crampton's curiosity. The investigation will be thorough and will probe into the cost of operation as well as the methods of reformation employed in the institution.
Oakdale in the Newspapers

Flint Daily Journal, September 11, 1914

[Image]

Flint Daily Journal
January 9, 1915

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EUGENIC RECOMMENDATIONS

More effective control over foreign immigration by state and federal authorities as it is contributes many insane and mentally defective.

Maintain a more centralized control and supervision over all institutions having custody and treatment of insane, mentally defective and epileptics.

Appointment of field worker by each institution caring for insane and mentally defective, and continuance of systematic supervision over those who have been discharged from these institutions.

Wider publicity of dangers from venereal diseases which result in insanity, epilepsy and nervous degeneracy.

Education of the public to an appreciation of the dangers of intoxicating drinks because of the known influence which alcohol has in the production of insanity and physical degeneracy.

That no child should be admitted to any state institution caring for juvenile dependents without a mental examination by a person regularly employed for this purpose.

State institutions should furnish state board of health with necessary statistical information concerning mentally defective in their custody.

That the names of all insane, defective, mentally defective, dependent and epileptic patients in state and private institutions be filed confidentially with the state board of health.

That a law should be passed requiring county clerks to ascertain from state board of health whether applicants for marriage license are insane, mentally defective, or defective.
STATE ASKED TO SEGREGATE DEFECTIVES

Commission Appointed to Investigate Conditions in State Makes Report.

MARRIAGE LAWS ARE LAX

Permitting Feeble-Minded to Marry is Piling Up Expense for Future.

(From The Journal's Lansing Bureau)

LANSING, Mich., Jan. 9.—Although it is not likely that the 43rd legislature will be asked to pass an "incapacitated" marriage law, such a provision was offered by Rep. Glaser, two years ago. It is apparent that an effort will be made to restrict the marriage of those who are considered unfit to bear children.

At the last session of the legislature a bill was passed creating a commission to investigate the extent of feeblemindedness, epilepsy, insanity and other conditions of mental defectiveness in Michigan, and the report of that commission, which will be filed in the near future and the statistics gathered by this commission are so startling that it is improbable that the legislature will be asked to advocate any radical remedial legislation along these lines before this session has completed its deliberations.

State Institutions Visited.

In determining the extent of feeblemindedness and the factors relating to it, Dr. Albert M. Barrett of the University of Michigan and his assistants visited the Lapager home, industrial school for boys, industrial school for girls, and county institutions. Dr. Harry W. Crane of Ann Arbor, was in charge of the field work, and he was assisted by Miss Adele E. McKee, Miss Sara McKay, Miss Pauline Hank and Dr. Charles Whiting, recognized experts in this line of endeavor. For the last 15 months this corps of experts has been making the state for information and the report is the most complete ever prepared upon the subject due to this state.

According to the findings of the commission there were 7,763 inmates in the state institutions for the insane on June 30, 1914. Since 1905 the state has appropriated for their maintenance in public institutions and for special purposes the sum of $12,327,339. In 1905 the per capita cost for the maintenance of the insane was 57.14 cents, while in 1914 the cost had increased to 45.21 per capita.

Oakdale in the Newspapers

Flint Daily Journal, January 9, 1915

STATE ASKED TO SEGREGATE DEFECTIVES

(Continued from Page Three.)

Range term of residence at public expense, for each of the individuals of normal mentality in the county insirmarys was only 3.2 years, at a total cost for each individual of $653. The average term of residence for each feeble-minded individual was 8.3 years, at a total cost for each individual of $1,419.

The 710 feeble-minded individuals now resident in our county insirmarys have cost the public for maintenance in these insirmarys over $1,000,000. One of the feeble-minded individuals who is now a resident in a county insirmary of the state has, together with other members of the family, sold the house in which they lived to pay for the public maintenance over $1,000,000.

The state and counties are themselves very largely responsible for this immense burden. Of these 710 feeble-minded individuals nearly half were born in the state of Michigan. Moreover, of those who were born in the state, 69 per cent were born in the county which is now supporting them. This means that the state—evidently the county—is very largely breeding its own feeble-minded class.

Permitted to Marry.

"This breeding is taking place by allowing those of defective mentality to marry and have offspring. In some instances, the county officials are even instrumental in bringing about such marriages. Cases of this short sightedness were found by this commission. In one case, the county officials allowed the marriage of a feeble-minded woman who only had the mentality of a child of seven and who was already given birth to an illegitimate child. This woman had been a county charge for three years."

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years and the county officials in order to escape a further cost of supporting her allowed her to be married from the county insane asylum by a man of questionable mentality. They were too short-sighted to see that in a few years the county would have to support the feeble-minded offspring which will doubtless result from this union.

"The number of feeble-minded is also increased by the unmarried feeble-minded woman of child-bearing age, when she is not properly segregated. Over 30 per cent of the feeble-minded in the county institutions have given birth to illegitimate children. Consequently, so long as the state does not provide for their effective and permanent segregation, they will go on giving the state feeble-minded children, which the state in turn will have to support.

Lapeer Home Overtaxed.

"There were 137 women of child-bearing age in the county institutions. Most of these women are not effectively segregated, and many of them are only temporarily in the custody of the county. There were on June 30, 1913, fifty women of child-bearing age on the waiting list of the Lapeer Home and Training School. Until all these cases are permanently segregated, the state is menaced by them.

"Moreover there are continually being discharged from the Adrian Industrial Home for girls, those of child-bearing age, who go on and on in the same institutions who were examined by the investigators of this commission. 131 of 34 per cent were feeble-minded. These girls cannot be detained in the institution after they are 21. They go forth potential mothers of feeble-minded children. How many more millions of dollars are being spent on the training of the remnant of the feeble-minded women who are not under permanent custodial care are going to cost the people of Michigan cannot be estimated. But if we do not want to pay millions tomorrow, we must pay thousands today in order that this class may be placed in institutions where they will no longer be able to reproduce after their own kind.

"The feeble-minded girl at the industrial home at Adrian also complicates the problem of the reformation and training of the normal delinquent girls in the institution. This statement may be made concerning the feeble-minded boy at the Lansing Industrial School. One hundred and seventy-one, or 21 per cent of the 800 boys examined at this institution were feeble-minded. The feeble-minded delinquent cannot be reformed. Placed in a reformatory institution he simply clings to the machinery of the reformation. He should otherwise be taken care of."

Special Institution Needed.

"In view of the fact that the laws prohibiting the marriages of defectives are not enforced; that the sterilization act is infrequently used; that the expense of segregation may be decreased by its application to one sex; that feeble-minded women play a more definite and tangible part in the problem of defectiveness than does the feeble-minded man; that there are at least 137 feeble-minded women of child-bearing age in county institutions who are neither effectively nor permanently segregated; that there are at least 131 feeble-minded girls at the Adrian school who are neither subjects for the reformatory treatment nor desirable as mothers after their discharge; that the capacity of the Lapeer home is already overstated, the commission recommends that adequate state provision be made either in the establishment of a special institution or by increasing the capacity of the Lapeer Home and Training School for the custody of feeble-minded women of child-bearing age, the restriction of immigration, better control of alien unions, and discharge from these institutions and wider publicity of the dangers of venereal diseases are advocated by the commission."

More Stringent Marriage Laws.

"More stringent marriage laws to prevent the union of mentally incompetents are also advocated, and like new domestic relations act, the eugenic commission would require that the names of all insane persons, mentally incompetents and those suffering from epilepsy or venereal diseases be posted at the office of the state board of health and that marriage licenses be denied to this class."

"In all probability legislation along these lines will be instituted soon, and while there is bound to be tremendous opposition to the proposed measures, it is believed that the report of the eugenic commission which is signed by Dr. Albert M. Barrett, Dr. John L. Burkard, Fred L. Keeler and M. T. Murray, will have a great bearing on the bill."
Oakdale in the Newspapers

Flint Daily Journal
February 26, 1915

Pomona and Goodrich Organizations Meet at Goodrich.

A program of unusual interest was given by Genesee county Pomona Orange and Goodrich Orange yesterday afternoon and evening, at the town hall in Goodrich. J. F. Riehan gave an address on "Our Boys and Girls," which aroused a great deal of enthusiasm by showing the effect of heredity upon the human family and the duty of thoughtfully choosing one's mate, and the future should have a better race. He cited his experience in school work and statistics from the Lapeer home for feeble minded. He denounced the fact that children were obliged to sit cramped up in unhealthy school rooms through so many of their tender years.

D. D. Aiken caused a high tide of enthusiasm to sweep over the audience by his clear and forcible portrayal of their duty in a general effort to keep Genesee county in the dry column; answering the claim of the wets that the license money reduces the taxes. The debate following this speech indicated that all the members were in favor of having Genesee county dry.

Mrs. E. J. Croyt of Lansing gave a patriotic address in the afternoon and told of the historic places she visited in the south this winter. In the evening Mr. Hooper gave an interesting talk on the horse and his care. Mrs. Phoebe Morrise narrated her trip in California.

Flint Daily Journal
March 10, 1915

Dr. Haynes, superintendent of the Michigan Home and Training School at Lapeer, reported to the Flint police this morning that John Cooley, aged 31, an inmate of the institution, had run away and was headed toward Flint.

Flint Daily Journal
April 5, 1915

Flint Daily Journal
March 10, 1915

HIS HEAD CAUGHT BETWEEN BARS OF BED, PATIENT CHOKES

Joseph Thiry Dies at Lapeer Home During Epileptic Convulsion.

(From a Journal Correspondent)

Lapeer, Mich., April 5.—Joseph Thiry, an inmate of the Michigan Home, was strangled to death Saturday as the result of having caught his head between two rails in the end of his bed during an epileptic convulsion. The accident was of a peculiar nature and was not discovered by the attendant in charge until too late to save the unfortunate man's life. Thiry was one of the epileptics confined to bed on account of sickness.

The attendant in charge was not at fault for the accident, nor was any of the home officials, it was of such a nature that no one could be held responsible for Thiry's death. At the first sign of any trouble in the dormitory where the accident occurred the attendant responded in the usual manner by bringing an inmate out of a niche. It was then that he discovered Thiry dead, his head wedged between the rails at the head of the bed.

The coroner's inquest held immediately afterward reported: The death of Joseph Thiry, aged 36, of Lapeer, was due to suffocation following an epileptic convulsion.

Flint Daily Journal
April 16, 1915

Edward German, an inmate of the Lapeer Home who escaped from there several days ago and for whom a search had since been conducted, was picked up by Patrolman George Wright at the Grand Trunk station yesterday afternoon. German said that while the officers had been searching for him, he had spent one night at the Genesee County jail and was released the next morning. Officers of the Home were notified of his capture.
MEDICAL STUDENTS ATTEND CLINIC AT TRAINING SCHOOL

Hear Lectures on Causes of Feeblemindedness at Lapeer Home.

(From a Journal Correspondent.)

Lapeer, Mich., April 15.—About 30 seniors of the Detroit College of Medicine under the direction of Dr. H. E. Ives, of Detroit, arrived here this morning for a medical clinic at the Michigan Home and Training School. The young men came in a special car and are to be the guests of Dr. H. A. Haines and his assistants at the home. They will remain all day and return this evening.

The seniors of the college annually make a trip to some state institution where they are given a clinic by the physicians in charge. Here an interesting and educational program will be given for the benefit of the students as follows: “Care and Treatment of the Feeble Minded,” Dr. W. A. Haines; “Causes, Pathological Condition,” Dr. Byron E. Biggs; “Types and Classifications,” Dr. J. H. Douglas; “The Rinnt Test,” Miss Mabel Sugars; “Morian,” Dr. M. E. Wilson.

Dr. Haines in his address will impart the knowledge he has gained of how best to care for the mentally deficient. He is an authority on the subject and can be expected to carry the subject well.

Dr. Biggs will speak on the causes of feeblemindedness and the relation of their physical condition to the mental. He is occupied most of the time here with the care of the health of the inmates, and has carefully studied the relation of the bodies and mentality of feeble minded persons.

Dr. Douglas’s talk will have to do with the classification of inmates as to their mental capacity. Miss Sugars’ test for mental deficiency will also be very interesting as well as instructive. Dr. Wilson’s talk on the moron is to be one of the most important. This class of feeble minded is the brightest type and most often found among apparently normal persons. The relation of this class to sociological conditions is one of the greatest problems of today in the study of mentally deficient persons.

FIRST SUPERINTENDENT OF LAPEER HOME

Dr. William A. Polglase Dies in New York City.

(From the Daily Journal)

Lapeer, Mich., May 11.—Word has been received here of the death in New York City of Dr. William A. Polglase, who was the first superintendent of the Michigan Home and Training School. Dr. Polglase came here from Detroit when the institution was first opened and had only two buildings. He guided the institution through the period of its greatest growth, remaining at its head for 19 years. He removed to Detroit following his resignation from the superintendency of the home and practiced medicine there for several years. He went to New York City to live about five or six years ago.

Dr. Polglase leaves his wife and two children, Dean Polglase, who is a civil engineer in New York, and a married daughter, who was Miss Mignon Polglase.

LARGE TRACT IS ADDED TO FARM AT MICHIGAN HOME

Authorities Expect to Raise Large Portion of Food Supply.

(From a Journal Correspondent.)

Lapeer, Mich., July 1.—The Michigan Home farm and grounds now consists of one tract of 770 acres. Several important real estate deals have recently resulted in a large addition to the home. Lands were purchased last week of Andrew Yager adjoining the home grounds on the south which consisted of 572.5 acres. This amount of land will enable the authorities of the home to raise a large portion of the food consumed and there are plenty of hands to do the work. The new hospital and cottage are now nearing completion and will soon be ready for use.
Flint Daily Journal, August 7, 1915

(From a Journal Correspondent.)

Lapeer, Mich., Aug. 7.—An explosion of unknown cause about 8 o'clock last evening unroofed the laundry building at the Michigan Home and Training School and resulted in a fire which completely destroyed the laundry with a loss estimated at $15,000 to $20,000. All of the contents are a total loss, including clothing for 1,800 inmates and several hundred employees and machinery that will be hard to duplicate. The position it has put the institution in is a difficult one to reckon with as there is no laundry in Lapeer that could begin to handle the amount of work that is daily done at the Home.

The fire last night broke out all over the building at once just following a dull explosion that was heard clear down to Lapeer. Employees, who were near at the time, say that the entire structure was wrapped in flames in an instant after they heard the crash and the volunteer fire department which was on the scene within three minutes could only keep the flames from spreading to the other buildings of which the laundry was one of a group. The building was situated within a rod of the boiler house and three lines of hose under pressure, the like of which was never exercised in Lapeer before, were powerless to cope with the blaze. The department did commendable work in saving the other nearby buildings. The laundry was the only building at the Home that did not have underground tunnel connection. If it had been connected this way, the tunnel might have added to the seriousness of the fire.

Before the embers of the old building were cold, Dr. H. A. Halnes, superintendent of the Home, had a squad of men at work salvaging what machinery was of any value and a temporary laundry will be in operation within a few days.
Oakdale in the Newspapers

Flint Daily Journal, November 18, 1915

**HOG CHOLERA AT MICHIL HOME.**

*Lapeer, Mich., Nov. 18.—The County Sanitary Live Stock commission reported today that hog cholera at the Michigan Home had been checked by the use of the serum obtained from the Michigan Agricultural college at Lansing and that all the hogs vaccinated had lived. They used it on the Vauxhall farm Tuesday and it is expected it will prove as beneficent as in the home farm cases.*

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Flint Daily Journal, November 30, 1915

**LEONARD-CIFF.**

*Lapeer, Mich., Nov. 30.—David Leonard and Miss Mary, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Cliff, were united in marriage at the Presbyterian manse by Rev. S. F. Livingston on Thanksgiving Day. The bride is a graduate of the Lapeer High school, also Lapeer County Normal, and had been teaching near Postoria this year. She resigned her school work to become a bride. Mr. Leonard is chauffeur at the Michigan Home and Training school. They were attended by Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Smith. Mrs. Smith is a sister of Mr. Leonard. Mr. and Mrs. Leonard spent several days in Detroit and will make their home in the suite of rooms occupied by Mr. Leonard at the Home.*

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Flint Daily Journal
November 30, 1915

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Oakdale in the Newspapers

Flint Daily Journal
December 28, 1915

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT.

Lapeer, Mich., Dec. 23.—The Christmas pageant, “Bethlehem” which was presented at the M. E. church, portrayed in a beautiful way the story of the Christ Child. An immense scene showing the city of Bethlehem formed the background of the stage and fully 75 people participated in the pageant. The music was especially good and many complimentary remarks were heard about the orchestra. The crowds taxed the capacity of the church and the league room was thrown open and soon filled. People lined the walls and many were forced to go home. It is the first time a pageant of this sort has ever been attempted by a Sunday school and those who had the work in charge and participated have every reason to be proud of their success. Monday evening the pageant was repeated for the benefit of the inmates of the [Michigan Home]. Those who took part were conveyed to the home and treated to a 5 o’clock dinner.

Flint Daily Journal
January 24, 1916

The marriage of Milton McMullen and Miss Anna Gibson of Manistique which took place in February, 1915, has just been announced. Mr. and Mrs. McMullen are employed at the [Michigan Home] and Training School.

Flint Daily Journal
February 3, 1916

SMALL BLAZE AT THE MICHIGAN HOME, LAPER

(Letters to The Daily Journal)
Lapeer, Mich., Feb. 3.—A small fire in the bakery of the Michigan Home and Training School this morning caused about $200 damage before it was extinguished by employees of the home. It is thought it has been started by spontaneous combustion.

Flint Daily Journal, February 17, 1916

MASONIC ENTERTAINMENT.

Lapeer, Mich., Feb. 17.—The following program has been arranged for the Masonic entertainment to be given Monday evening, February 17: College Minstrels, by boys from the [Michigan Home] and Training school under the supervision of Claude McQuinn; musical number, “We Will Have to Mortgage the Farm,” mixed quartet: solo, Marie McKellar; verse, “Getting Ready,” Nicholas Neverslip, a modern husband, Neil Snyder; Matilda Neverslip’s wife; Belle Gilles; Pat Dolan, an Irish lad, Fee Larry: Miss Spyall, a gamin; Bernece Hanks; Biddy Crogan, a domestick; Alice Yorker. A Tableaux, Part I., with musical accompaniment, “A Dream of Fair Woman.” Helen of Troy, Ethel Bennett; Iphigonia, Violah Toylan; Cleopatra, Lena Tinker; Jephtha’s Daughter, Myrtle Price; Rosamund, Jessie Irwin; Queen Eleanor, Lella Snyder; Sir Thomas Moore’s Daughter, Jane Cary; Joan of Arc, Valley Paney; Queen Minot, Josephine Gilles; reader, Mabel Kinsfet, Part II., “Nearer My God to Thee,” Marie McKellar; “Three Graces,” Marie McKellar, Myrtle Price and Ethel Bennett: “Mother,” Myrtle Price.

Flint Daily Journal, June 14, 1916

Daniel Burke and Miss Blanche Heckman were married yesterday by Rev. C. E. Brown. Mr. Burke is a farmer living in Oregon township and Miss Heckman has been an employee of the [Michigan Home] and Training School. They will make their home on the farm.

Flint Daily Journal, June 27, 1916

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Boost Lapeer School Per Capita Rate

(By The Journal's Lansing Bureau)

Lansing, Mich., June 37.—The board of state auditors has fixed the rate of maintenance for the Lapeer Home & Training school at 51 cents per capita per day. This is an increase of two cents over last year, but the state auditors and the members of the board of control were of the opinion that the increased cost of building materials and foodstuffs necessitated an increase. The per capita rate of the Epileptio Farm Colony at Wahjemega was set at $1.05 per capita. HAYES.
In the case of Albert Tyler charged with a statutory offense against an inmate of the Michigan Home, Tyler was bound over to the circuit court for trial with bail fixed at $1,000.

NEW HOSPITAL IS OPENED AT MICHIGAN HOME

Lapeer Institution Boasts Last Word in Hospital Construction.

IS ENTIRELY FIREPROOF

Tubercular Patients Have Third Floor of $45,000 Building.

(From a Lapeer Correspondent.)

Lapeer, Mich., July 24—The new hospital at the Michigan Home and Training School has been formally opened and reflects much credit upon the officials of the institution. The building is 60×130 feet, consisting of three floors, and full height basement. The cost of construction, including furnishing, was $45,000.

The general plan of the hospital consists of large wards on either end of connecting corridors, with private rooms on either side of the corridors. The hospital is entirely fireproof, being built of reinforced concrete throughout, including the floors, stairs, walls and roof.

Large Kitchen in Basement.

Through the courtesy of Dr. Haynes a personal inspection of the hospital was permitted. In the basement there is a commodious kitchen with steam cooking apparatus together with a large hotel range, electrically equipped. Off the kitchen are located cold storage, food supply rooms, and scullery for preparing of vegetables. On the south side of the basement is a large dining room and play room for convalescents. The basement also contains the laboratory of the research department, dental room, X-ray room, engine room for operation of elevators, also the machinery governing the heating and ventilating system. Communication from the basement to the other parts of the hospital is by means of dumb waiters and an electrical automatic passenger elevator.

Employees' quarters on each of the three floors are arranged in suites, consisting of bed rooms with connecting baths and sitting rooms. There are sixteen employees in the building including the principal. Some higher grade patients are used here as in all departments of the institution in assisting the nurses and attendants in caring for patients.

Complete Lighting System.

The building is beautifully lighted with a system of semi-indirect electric lights. The hospital is heated by indirect steam distributed to the various wards and private rooms through separate air flues by a fan system. The corridors and rooms are also furnished with adequate fuel air outlets. The heating and ventilating is so arranged that the air may be changed in the entire building every two minutes. The fan may also be used in summer to cool the building by operating it with no steam turned on. In connection with the heating and ventilating, the temperature is entirely controlled by thermostats, so that each individual room may be carried at a different temperature, ranging anywhere from 50 to 70 de-
Oakdale in the Newspapers

Flint Daily Journal
August 3, 1916

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Teachers of Defectives in Annual Session

Summer Conference Conducted at Laper Home and Training School.

Dr. C. S. Berry in Charge

Teachers Trained to Recognize Needs of Backward Children.

(From a Journal Correspondent)

Laper, Mich., Aug. 3.—The third annual session of the Laper Training School for teachers of backward and mentally defective children is in session here under the supervision of Charles Scott Berry, Ph.D., who is consulting psychologist for the Michigan Home and Training school and as associate professor of education at the University of Michigan. Dr. Berry's home is in Ann Arbor and he has been a member of the university faculty for the last eight years. Dr. H. A. Haynes, medical superintendent and Dr. Byron R. Biggs, assistant medical superintendent of the Michigan Home and Training School, have been long associated with Dr. Berry in every way, delivering lectures each day along the lines of work this training demands.

Morally Deficient Children.

"All of the larger cities now employ special class teachers, teachers of exceptional children, auxiliary class teachers or teachers of the backward children," says Dr. Berry. "Few people realize that, measured by school standards, 5 per cent of the children from the first to ninth grades are mentally deficient. This is the present tabulation of the general survey and keep in mind this survey was made from normal children. Do not assume these children are idiots, imbeciles or morons. They are simply of low mentality, often due to ill health, poor eyesight, environment, etc. The teachers in attendance at the Laper Training School are adequately trained to recognize the needs of these backward children and give them the needed training and instruction. "Only persons of intelligence and successful teaching experience should undertake the training and instruction of backward and defective children and for that reason the entrance requirements of the course are placed high. A knowledge of chair-caning, basketry, handwork and speech defects are requisite of the teacher who intends to become a special teacher."

Training Course.

The course includes five weeks training at the Ypsilanti State Normal college where the opportunity of studying normal children is afforded and one week training at the Michigan Home and Training school at Laper. In order that the students may have the opportunity of observing and studying large numbers of defectives of all types, as well as becoming acquainted with the institutional methods of training, instructing and caring for the feebleminded.

Those in attendance are Misses J. F. Shay, special class teacher of the Grand Rapids schools; Misses Griffin, trained nurse of the special classes, Detroit; Misses Swaggerty, trained teacher of the Michigan
Oakdale in the Newspapers

Flint Daily Journal, August 8, 1916

Just two are languishing in the county jail these torrid days, being, Eugene Croft, charged with stabbing the Indian, Peter Chatfield, and Albert Tyler, charged with improper relations with an inmate of the Michigan Home and Training School.

Flint Daily Journal, August 16, 1916

450 State Wards Who Really Belong in Lapeer Home


(By Associated Press to The Journal)

Lansing, Mich., Aug. 16.—Governor Ferris was informed this morning at a conference in the executive office, which was attended by heads of the various state institutions, that in the Industrial School for Boys at Lansing, Industrial Home for Girls at Adrian, and the state public school at Coldwater, there are approximately 450 inmates who are defective mentally and properly belong in the Lapeer Home and Training School. Officials of the Lapeer Home informed the governor that the institution is already overcrowded, and that there are 275 now on the waiting list.

Supt. Frost of the Industrial School, declared that 100 of his 500 boys should be committed to Lapeer, while Superintendent Johnson of the Adrian school said 100 of her 400 girls properly belonged at Lapeer. Supt. Montgomery of the state public school at Coldwater, says he has between five and 10 children in his institution who should be transferred to Lapeer.

The school for the blind and the Michigan School for the Deaf at Flint have no mentally defectives, according to Superintendents Holmes and Wright, while the employment institution for the blind at Saginaw has a few who should be transferred.

(Turn to Page 2, Column 2)
Oakdale in the Newspapers

Flint Daily Journal, August 16, 1916

450 STATE WARDS BELONG IN LAPEER HOME

(Continued from page one.)
to the epileptic farm colony at Wah- lomaga, according to the superintendent.
Governor Ferris called the conference in the hope of obtaining informa-
tion that will enable him to recommend changes in the laws governing these institutions at the next session of the legislature. Mem-
bers of the boards of control believed that greater care should be exercised by the probate judges in committing children to Adrian and Lansing when they properly belong at Lapeer.


THREE INFANTILE PARALYSIS CASES IN LAPEER COUNTY

New Case Near Lum and Another at Michigan Home.

(From a Journal Correspondent.)
Lapeer, Mich., Aug. 25.—Another case of infantile paralysis has de-
veloped near Lum, in the family of Mrs. John Rooney. The victim is her three-year-old son, Robert Dr. Haynes, superintendent of the Michigan Home and Training School reports one case, that of an in-
nate child who had visited her mother in Detroit. The case de-
veloped about five days after the child was brought back to the institution. Dr. Haynes wishes to state that there is just the one case and it is being carefully watched. The entire floor of the hospital where the case is confined is in quarantine and every precaution for the pre-
vention of the disease is being taken. The local health authorities are maintaining a strict quarantine in all cases.

Flint Daily Journal, September 9. 1916

School opened at the Michigan Home and Training School this week. Several new teachers are on hand this year. Miss Edith Miller of Rome, N. Y., has been engaged as gymnasium instructor. Miss Katherine Ferguson of Dopepe, Wis., is supervisor of music. Mrs. Eliz-
abeth Gillman of Glenwood, Ia., is industrial teacher and Miss Lillian DesJardins of Lapeer is primary teacher. Miss Mildred Jackson of Vassar is in charge of the kinder-
garten and Miss Z. Pauline Butts of Vassar, psychology instructor. The principal, Mrs. Lyons, remains this year, also Miss June Collins of Howard City, Miss Anna Towner of Ypsilanti, Miss Marie Mege, Miss Ruth Bohne, Miss Inez Cramer, Claude McQuinn and Jay England.

Flint Daily Journal
September 19, 1916

MOTHER OF ALBERT ROSSE SOUGHT HERE

The police were requested by the officials of the Lapeer home this morning to try and locate in Flint Mrs. Ella Hume, mother of Albert Rosse, who died at the institution. Mrs. Hume is supposed to be visiting Mrs. Mary Honewell here, but the police have been unable to learn where Mrs. Honewell lives. Notice was given the police that Rosse's body would be held but 24 hours before being turned over to the uni-
versity of Michigan.
Oakdale in the Newspapers

Tri-City Times
September 21, 1916

POOR HOUSE BURNED AND
A HARD WINTER AHEAD

Fire broke out in the southeast corner of the roof of the Lapeer County Poor House, northwest of Lapeer, Friday afternoon, and the four story brick building was entirely consumed, together with much of the contents and also the brick laundry and milk house on the south side. A high wind prevailed from the west and prevented the destruction of the barns and outbuildings. The inmates, thirty in number, being six women and twenty-four men, mostly helpless, made their escape and were taken to the Mich. Home for temporary quarters. Dr. Haynes kindly volunteering the apartment to the homeless ones. Supt. Joe Lewis was at Fairview on business at the time, leaving all the responsibility for Mrs. Lewis, and she managed it well. The loss was about $25,000 and is insured. Nothing is left but the stately silent walls to tell the tale.
Flint Daily Journal, September 27, 1916

**Elba Man Choice of Democrats for Lieut. Governor**

John S. Smith Takes Place of General Kirk on Ticket.

Lapeer, Mich., Sept. 27.—Through the appointment at Detroit last week by the Democratic state central committee of John S. Smith of Elba as the Democratic nominee for the office of lieutenant governor, Lapeer gained another distinction as the political center of the county. Smith's appointment gives Elba still more reason to feel elated, on account of the fact that former Governor John T. Kilch came from that village and up until last spring, when he moved to Lapeer, had always made his home there. Besides the former governor and the newly appointed nominee for lieutenant governor, Lapeer boasts the present speaker of the state house of representatives, Charles W. Smith, Congressman Louis C. Cramton and several well known political men.

John Smith is at present a merchant and produce dealer of Elba. For many years he has been recognized as the most prominent Democrat in Lapeer county and has always voiced the sentiment of the Lapeer delegation to the state conventions. As a member of the board of control of the Michigan Home and Training school here he has been one of the most ardent advocates of the many recent improvements and developments of the institution.

Mr. Smith was born in Hadley about 84 years ago and spent most of his younger days in that village. When a young man he taught school in Dryden, coming to Lapeer about 16 years ago to become affiliated with George Churchill in a local grain elevator. He later moved to Elba and has been actively engaged in the produce business there for several years. Mr. Smith's family consists of his wife and three children, Howard, Harold and Blanche Smith.
COURT OFFICER IS HELD FOR ABUSING FEEBLE MINDED GIRL

(Special to The Daily Journal)
Lapeer, Mich., Oct. 25.—Tony Taro, said to be an officer in a Detroit court, is held at the county jail here on a serious statutory charge as the result of alleged abuse of a mentally defective girl he was taking from Detroit to the Michigan Home and Training School here. Taro came to Lapeer from Detroit Monday night with the girl, officers say, and took her to a local hotel where she was kept all night, and then took her to the Michigan Home. Dr. Byron E. Mudge, assistant medical superintendent there, during the customary examination given new inmates, discovered conditions that led to his making complaint against Taro, who was immediately locked up.

GETTYSBURG SPEECH IN LIEU OF PRAYER

(By The Journal's Lansing Bureau)
Lansing, Mich., Feb. 14.—In the absence of a preacher to open the House with religious exercises Tuesday afternoon, Clerk Charles S. Pierce read Lincoln's Gettysburg speech. It made a great hit with the members and they applauded long and vigorously. Some of the members propose a revision of the rules whereby the speeches of Lincoln be substituted for the devotional exercises, as some of the preachers have been inclined to pray at considerable length before the House has been able to get down to business.

On third, reading Rep. Ivory's bill making it possible to admit a child of any age to the Lapser Institution was passed unanimously and given immediate effect. Therefore no child under the age of six years has been received at the Lapser Home and Training School.

Rep. Frank Smith's amendment to the constitution giving the state power to acquire the Detroit, Grand Haven & Milwaukee railroad, passed the House in committee of the whole without a dissenting vote.

The Michigan Home and Training school has completed the excavating and the foundation walls for the colony buildings number three. This colony when completed will house and care for 60 adult males. Gov. Sleeper has approved the rate of maintenance as fixed by the joint board namely, 65 cents a patient a day. This is an increase of 16 cents a day over 1917. The increase is occasioned by the increase in the cost of food stuffs and material.
Oakdale in the Newspapers

Flint Daily Journal
July 16, 1917

The teaching corps at the Michigan Home and Training School will include an extra primary teacher this year. Miss Adele Granger, who has taught sense teaching for several years, has resigned and her place has not been filled. Claude McQuinn, manual training teacher, has also resigned. The new teachers for next year will include Miss Mae Ford of New York, who will teach primary. Miss Mary Gagerby of Vassar will teach industrial and primary work. Miss Helen Malhar of Milwaukee, will be the physical instructor and Miss Mildred Wibilson of Norwood, Mass., will teach craft work.

Flint Daily Journal
August 28, 1917

Pearl Smith, a boy inmate of the Michigan Home and Training School at Lapeer, who escaped some time ago, was found on the street here this morning by Detective Arthur Ciladden. He is being held for the home authorities.

Flint Daily Journal
September 8, 1917

TWO GIRLS ESCAPE FROM LAPEER HOME

Bupt. Haines of the Michigan Home and Training School today requested the police to search here for Agnes Darga, 18, and Sarah Platt, 25, who escaped from the institution yesterday. Dr. Haines says two women driving an Oakland automobile came to the home and asked to be allowed to take the girls for a walk through the grounds. An hour later when the girls did not return attendants became suspicious and found the women had driven them away in their machines. The women are described as being about 24 or 25 years old and both stout.

Flint Daily Journal
September 9, 1912

DOCTOR MISSING AT LAPEER HOME

(Special to The Daily Journal)
Lapeer, Mich., Sept. 12.—Sarah is being made today for Dr. J. H. Douglas, 64 years old, a member of the medical staff of the Michigan Home and Training school, who has been missing since Monday night. Dr. Douglas has been in poor health for some time and recently submitted to an operation, and others of the home fear he may have ended his life. He is a graduate of the Detroit College of Medicine, and is married. His mother resides in Pittsburgh.
Dr. J. H. Douglas of the Michigan Home who mysteriously disappeared several nights ago, returned Saturday. It is thought that ill health caused him to become depressant and that his mind was temporarily unbalanced.

Auto thieves were at work again Friday night when a car belonging to D. P. Sullivan was stolen together with robes and coats from other cars.

Several cottages at the Michigan Home have been quarantined as a result of several cases of diphtheria which have broken out there. Thus far the disease has been confined to one attendant and several inmates. All attendants and teachers have been vaccinated.

Mrs. Margaret Schlee, who was arrested on a charge of abducting an inmate of the Michigan Home and Training School here, had her examination yesterday and was bound over to the circuit court for trial December 8. She is at present out on $500 bond.

From the Home for the Feebleminded at Lapeer comes the announcement to the Woman’s Committee, Michigan Division, Council of National Defense, that a class of 50 at that institution is engaged in knitting for the Red Cross. They are students in the training school of the institution.

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Lapeer, Mich., Jan. 17.—With the exception of the fuel question, conditions here have returned to normal and the city is recovering from the effects of the storm. Trains are running on both railroads and all roads are opened up. The only coal in the city consists of that recently taken from the churches and the schools. Coal was also confiscated from several families now spending the winter in the south. All business houses open at 9 o’clock and close at 4.

Fire last night partially destroyed the garage at the Michigan Home and Training school. The fire originated in an automobile belonging to Irving Stew, on which the exhaust had become overheated, igniting the floor boards. About 10 or 12 cars are stored in the garage, the upper part of which is occupied by the coachman, David Leonard, and family. All cars excepting Stew’s were removed unharmed. The amount of damage is at present undetermined.

The fire department was called last night to a house belonging to George Dent on Howard street. The blaze was extinguished before any great damage was done.
Oakdale in the Newspapers

County Press?, January 30, 1918

FOR RENT—Three rooms, with
bath, toilet, electric light, etc. 80
Park street, or FRED ABBEY, at

Flint Daily Journal
February 13, 1918

MICHIGAN HOME HALF-HEATED
Lapeer, Mich., Feb. 13. — On ac-
count of the extra cold weather re-
cently experienced, the supply of
coal at the Michigan Home which
had been thought sufficient to last
until the first of May, has been rap-
idly depleted and the condition there
is rapidly becoming serious, since it
is practically impossible to secure
coal in sufficient quantities. At pre-
sent only about half of the institution
is being heated and wood cut by the
inmates is being used to as large an
extent as possible.

Flint Daily Journal
February 23, 1918

Officers of the Michigan Home
and Training School at Lapeer reported
to the police today that three young
boys ran away from the institution
last night. No descriptions of the
missing boys were furnished.

County Press?, March 13, 1918

SPLENDID CONCERTS
Aided by R. A. Hungerford as
French horn soloist, and Majer Ken-
neth Henderson in a number of read-

gings, the Mich. Home band gave two
very enjoyable concerts Monday and
Tuesday evenings, which were plan-
ed to show the development reach-
ed in the organization. The events
were well attended by citizens as
well as by employees of the institu-
tion. The band, which is composed
of about 20 members, all inmates of
the institution, under the direc-
tion of J. J. England with the co-
operation of Dr. Haynes, has reached
a high degree of perfection and now
ranks among the best bands of the
country for this class of institutions.

Flint Daily Journal
March 29, 1918

COURT KNOCKS OUT
STERILIZING LAW

Lansing, Mich., March 29. — The
law passed by the legislature in 1913
authorizing the sterilization of men-
tally defective maintained wholly
or in part at public expense in the
public institutions of the state, was
declared unconstitutional by the su-
preme court Thursday.
The case was brought to the su-
preme court from Lapeer county,
where the circuit judge had sustain-
ed the order of the probate judge in
refusing to entertain jurisdiction on
the petition of Dr. H. A. Haynes,
supervisor of the Michigan Home
and Training School, for a
hearing to determine the sanity of
one of the inmates whom Dr.
Haynes considered a fit subject for
an operation.
Oakdale in the Newspapers

County Press?, April 4, 1918

Flint Daily Journal
April 10, 1918

Flint Daily Journal
April 11, 1918

Flint Daily Journal
June 17, 1918

County Press?, May 19, 1918

County Press?, April 17, 1918
Oakdale in the Newspapers

June 26, 1918

Lapeer County Press
June 26, 1918

The Mich. Home have purchased of Harvey Tryon, local representative, a new Republic Truck, for use on the farm. It will do the work of many horses.

Lapeer County Press
July 10, 1918

Flint Daily Journal
July 25, 1918

SEEKING RUNAWAYS FROM LAPEER SCHOOL

Police were requested by the authorities of the Michigan Home and Training School at Lapeer on Thursday to watch for the appearance of three boys who ran away from the institution Wednesday night and were last seen headed in the direction of Flint. Two of the boys are 16 and small for their ages and the third is 18. None of their names was given.

July 31, 1918

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Oakdale in the Newspapers

Flint Daily Journal
July 31, 1918

WEDNESDAY, JULY 31, 1918.

MICHIGAN NEWS

4,080 PUPILS UNFITTED FOR SCHOOL WORK


LAPEER HOME CROWDED

Of 25,218 in Rural Schools 7,384 Are Found Below Their Grade.

(By The Journal's Lansing Bureau)

Lansing, Mich., July 31.—The superintendent of public instruction, Fred L. Keeler, makes the statement in his annual report that there are at least 7,384 children in the rural schools who are feeble minded and should be educated by other means. During the past year, a careful survey has been made to ascertain the extent of feebleness among children in the rural schools and the number reported was astonishing to Superintendent Keeler.

It is well to emphasize the Lapeer Home and Training School or build a similar institution somewhere else, there is little chance that these children will be properly cared for by persons skilled in the handling of the feeble minded.

The Lapeer home is now filled to capacity, and it is probable throughout the state are slow to commit more children to that institution on that account.

More Than 7,000 Below Grade.

According to Superintendent Keeler, a careful study of the pupils enrolled in the rural schools of nine counties reveals the following facts: out of a total enrollment of 25,213 there are 7,384 who are below their grade in school. Of these, 4,313 are below grade one year, 1,926 are below grade two years, 764 are below grade three years, and 231 are below grade four years.

Causes for this retardation are enumerated as follows: late entrance, 811; illness, 435; frequent change of schools, 871; irregular attendance, 1,508; defective sight or hearing, 281; physical defects, 263; inability to speak English, 121; other causes, 241; feeblemindedness, 186.

892,787 Children of School Age.

The school census for the year ending June 30, 1917, shows that there were 892,787 children of school age, an increase of 24,217 over the previous year. Ninety percent of this increase comes from eight counties named in the order of growth: Wayne, Genesee, Oakland, Ingham, St. Clair, Muskegon, Jackson and Kent.

The net expenditure for public schools last year was $27,549,886.84, an increase of $3,180,116.76 over the previous 12 months. The total salaries paid teachers in the public schools was $15,877,995.68, an increase of $1,135,135.61. The estimated cost of maintaining the parochial schools was $6,000,000.

Aiding Patriotism.

During the past year the public schools have promoted war activities along four lines—junior red cross, Liberty loan and war savings stamp campaigns, education for fuel and food conservation, and moulding public opinion to patriotism.

Teachers' examinations in his
Oakdale in the Newspapers

August 7, 1918

Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Pacey and baby Patricia left for Royal Oak Monday where they will make their home. Mr. Pacey has been the bookkeeper at the Michigan Home and Training school for several years and he and his wife have many friends here who regret to have them leave.

Michigan Home

Teachers' week at the Home with a goodly number here.

Miss MacLavere entertained her sister and niece over Sunday.

Miss Mac and Mrs. Blanch Schook spent a day at Oxford with Mrs. Schook's people.

Mrs. Lillian Gray with Mrs. May McPensy visited Mrs. G. C. Cole, Mrs. Gray's mother, on Sunday.

Charles Stone, former employee, is home on a furlough from Texas to see his new 10 lb. boy. Herbert Laver is the new soldier's name.

Mrs. Helen McGregor at Flint, called by phone.

Mrs. Crosby and her sister, Miss Scott, spent the day away from the Home on Friday.

Mrs. Sarah Scott of cottage A goes on her vacation this week and will visit friends at Vassar, Millington and Detroit while away.

Quite a number of changes in the different cottages last week with new supervisors: Mr. and Mrs. Walker at D-cottage; Mr. and Mrs. Perry Miller at K and other various changes.

Company at the main building over Sunday.

August 19, 1918

Fred McKillen of Imlay works on one of the new Colony buildings at the Mich. Home. He moves his family here. Two Colony buildings to accommodate 75 each will be erected this summer and possibly a dairy barn.

August 21, 1918

F. L. Morris has recovered from diphtheria and is out of the hospital at Michigan Home.

Frank McHenry sold 100 bushels potatoes to the Mich. Home at $1.25 per bu.

Flint Daily Journal

October 10, 1918

By order of the medical superintendent, Michigan Home, and Training school was closed today to all visitors. This action was taken to prevent an epidemic of Spanish influenza.

October 30, 1918

WANTED—Carpenters, bricklayers and plasterers. — MICHIGAN HOME AND TRAINING SCHOOL, Lapeer. 10-30-1918

Mrs. Elmer Newton has resigned her position as saleslady with the Michigan Stores and gone to the Michigan Home to assist in the store.
Oakdale in the Newspapers

Flint Daily Journal
November 20, 1918

WOULD PLACE ALL SHERIFFS ON SALARY

State Board Reports Plan Working Satisfactorily in 24 Counties.

OTHER CHANGES URGED

Board of Corrections and Charities Files Biennial Report.

Relief Urged for Lapeer Home.

Recommendation is made that the capacity of the Michigan Farm Colony for Epileptics at Wh tiny, may be increased as to relieve conditions at the Michigan Home and Training School, the state hospitals and the county institutions. The board believes the law relating to commitments to the Farm Colony be amended so as to apply to all classes of epileptics, and not merely those designated in the present act as "insane."

"The need for additional quarters at the Michigan Home and Training School at Lapeer is apparent to any one who has given the situation serious thought," said Secretary Murray. "In our judgment it is imperative that the home be extended as rapidly as possible, and we urge that special consideration be given the sub ject."

It is suggested that farm lands owned by state institutions where the employment of outside farm labor is required, be sold, as it is claimed these farms are operated at a loss and with no direct benefit to the residents of the institutions. The board refers to the farms owned by the State Public School at Coldwater, the School for the Deaf at Flint, and the School for the Blind at Lansing.

Flint Daily Journal
January 30, 1919

GIRL ATTENDANT AT LAPEER HOME IS DEAD

(From a Journal Correspondent.)
Lapeer, Mich., Jan. 30.—Miss Electa M. Threhouse, aged 28 years, died of pneumonia following influenza, at the Michigan Home and Training school Wednesday. The young woman was a valued attendant at the institution and had many friends. The body was taken to Vassar for burial. Her parents and sisters and brothers were at her bedside when she died.

Flint Daily Journal
March 11, 1919

Dr. J. H. Parker has taken a position at the Michigan Home and Training School, to fill a vacancy of some duration caused by the resignation of Dr. Douglas. Dr. Parker is a graduate of a medical college at Louisville, Ky., and spent a year in a Philadelphia hospital after his graduation. He came here from Fulton, Mo., where he was in hospital work. He has a wife and two children, aged three and five.
Oakdale in the Newspapers

March 19, 1919

*NEW CEMENT PAVEMENT FOR MICH. HOME ROAD*

Citizens to vote in April on proposition of bonding for $40,000 for greatest improvement ever for this city.

The City Council last night passed a resolution to submit the proposition to the voters at the April election of bonding the city for $40,000 for the construction of a concrete highway from "the Michigan Home to the west end of Nepessing street pavement and connecting on the east end, extending to the city limits on the east-town line.

The road to the Home has been almost impassable of late. Every year it has been necessary to repair almost the entire stretch with gravel and sand, amounting to nearly the cost of a concrete pavement. This road concerns every person in Lapeer inasmuch as it will directly connect the great institution with the city.

3-19-19

*Frank Rutherford is getting along nicely as herdsman at the Mich. Home.*

March 26, 1919

*News Of Cement Road To Home Received With Joy*

The news of the paved way connecting the Michigan Home to the Nepessing street pavement was met with as great enthusiasm at the institution Tuesday night as it created in the city.

For years this road has been repaired after a fashion and as much money has been spent in gravel and repairing to completely build the concrete way. At the end every season has seen the same condition prevail, in some instances making the trip to Lapeer almost impossible.

Indications point that this road will win when the votes are counted at April's election. 3-26-19

*WANTED at Michigan Home and Training School ATTENDANTS Both Men and Women Have a few vacancies for married couples. Make Application to H. A. Haines Medical Superintendent.*

Flint Daily Journal

April 1, 1919

*At the election to be held on April 7, the proposition of paving the road from Lapeer to the Michigan will be voted upon. The outlook is very encouraging, as practically everyone is in favor of paving the road. There is a great amount of traffic on it, but during certain seasons of the year it is practically impassable.*

April 2, 1919

*MISSING SIX WEEKS; FIND BODY IN RIVER*

EDWARD FERRIT WAS AN INMATE OF THE MICHIGAN HOME.

The body of Edward Ferrit, 18 years old, inmate of the Mich. Home was found in the river below the Home farm, Thursday by employes of the institution. He had been missing about six weeks. His parents, in Detroit, were notified and the body sent to that city for burial.
ADA STATESMAN
HOLDS UP FUNDS
FOR LAPEER HOME

Senator M’Naughton Tries
to Force Action on Farmers’ Scheme.

(Letter Associated Press to The Journal)
Lansing, Mich., April 18.—Determined
To force the House committees on constitutional amendment to report out his amendment
authorizing the submission of a constitutional amendment providing for the expenditure of $8,000,000
by the state to construct and operate a system of terminal warehouses, Senator Thos. McNaughton, of Ada, Kent-
county, says he will hold up the appropriation for the maintenance and operation of the Lapeer home and
training school until the House committee acts.

Senator McNaughton is the author of the terminal warehouse resolution which was put through the
Senate by trading votes in favor of the amendment to permit the increase of salaries of justices of the
supreme court during their tenure of office. It has been held up in the House committee on constitutional
amendments because Rep. Wm. Ivory, of Lapeer-county, chairman of the constitutional amendment
committee, says a majority of the farmers in the House oppose the proposition.

Rep. Ivory, coming from Lapeer-county, introduced the appropriation bill for the Lapeer home and
training school, which cares for several hundred of the state’s feeble-minded and epileptic. The bill carries
an appropriation of approximately $1,000,000 to run the Lapeer institution during the next two years.

This bill passed the House without dissenting vote and Senator McNaughton had it referred to the
state affairs committee in the Senate, of which he is a member. He says he will hold it there until
Ivory reports out his warehouse resolution in the House. "I consider my amendment just as important as
Ivory’s bill," said McNaughton.

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Oakdale in the Newspapers

County Press?, April 23, 1919

BICGARD PARTY AT
THE MICHIGAN HOME

The Tuesday Club will give a
card party at Mrs. H. A. Hayne's on
Wednesday afternoon, April 30th.
A fee of fifty cents will be charged
the proceeds to be used for Armeni-
ian Relief Work. Everyone is in-
vited. Arrange your own tables if
you choose; play any game you like.
If you don't play cards bring your
knitting.

OAKDALE, April 23.

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MICH HOME APPROPRIATION BEING HELD UP

FIGHT AT CAPITOL IMPERIALS
MUCH NEEDED BILL FOR INSTITUTION

Inasmuch as four of the seven
members of the Senate committee
on state affairs have stated posi-
tively that they do not favor an adjourn-
ment without passing the appropri-
atation bill for the maintenance and
support of the Lapeer Home and
Training School which cares for se-
veral hundred epileptic and feeble-
-minded children, it is claimed by
Senator leaders that Senator Herb-
ner, Baker of Cheboygan, and Senator
Thomas McNaughton of Kent, will
not succeed in their plan to with-
hold support from this state institu-
tion until the House committee on
constitutional amendments reports
out McNaughton's terminal ware-
house amendment.

Senator William Blyden of Bay Co.
is chairman of the Senate committee
on state affairs to which McNaught-
on presented Baker's suggestion had the
Lapeer appropriation bill referred.
Chairman Blyden would not state
positively that the appropriation
would be permanently held up in
the event the House Committee did
not act on the warehouse resolution.

Club women in various part of
the state, who have taken an interest
in the Lapeer institution are be-
inging to show some anxiety, and
unless the Senate acts early next
week, it is claimed there will be a
delection of women there from De-
troit in an effort to get the com-
mitee to act.

In the meantime the House com-
mittee on constitutional amend-
ments is sitting tight and shows no
consideration for the appropriation
of $5,000,000 for the construction
and adoption of terminal ware-
houses.

Rep. William Ivory of Lapeer is
chairman of the committee.

"I have canvassed the House and
find 47 members against the amend-
ment," declared Mr. Ivory. "It re-
quires 47 votes to pass the amend-
ment through the House. With the
sentiment against it, I do not favor
reporting it out."

However Senator Seely claims
that the sentiment of the House is
in favor of the amendment and in-
sists that the House committee
should put it up to a vote of the
representatives.
LAPEER TO SEE BIGGEST BUILDING BOOM IN HISTORY OF CITY THIS SUMMER. MANY HOMES PLANNED

$800,000 WORTH OF IMPROVEMENTS AT MICHIGAN HOME, CYCLONE BUILDING AND NEW MISSION—HEADS LIST OF BUILDING ACTIVITIES HERE THIS YEAR.

With $100,000 worth of building at the Michigan Home, the new Cyclone Insurance building, a new city mission, many new houses and a possible expansion of the Tractor-Truck Company, Lapeer faces a building boom of greater size than any other city in Michigan.

The Michigan Home expansion will consist of some five or six buildings which is not expected to commence immediately but work on the Cyclone Insurance building will start at once. Likewise the new city mission will consist of a branch of the Commercial Club is now progressing rapidly, according to Secretary E. T. DeJardins, and planning to build as soon as possible. No definite plans have yet been made in this respect but it is expected the organization will erect several modern homes, selling them to reliable persons on contract. It is believed that thirty of the new homes will come near answering the housing problem which is rapidly becoming greater in the city.

Work on the new city mission to be erected upon it's present site will commence at once.

May 14, 1919

Another new building for Lapeer is in prospect. It is the erection of a new mission on the site of the old one. Now standing on the corner of Court and Howard streets near the Grand Trunk Junction. W. J. Goddard, keeper of the Fourth Ward grocery store has been soliciting subscriptions for a fund with which to build the new structure and has raised quite a large amount. Many good citizens have donated some every little, some large amounts and some small amounts. All are thankfully received. It is a laudable project and every citizen should be willing to assist. It would be fine if a ten dollar bill could be invested in the site.

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Oakdale in the Newspapers

June 4, 1919

Michigan Home Honors It's Dead

While the band was playing Friday and the soldiers were marching to honor the veterans of "61," another impressive ceremony was being held in Lapeer, at the cemetery of homeless children who have passed away at the Michigan Home. There weren't many mourners, to be sure. But upon each of the 220 graves, a quiet little cemetery placed aside from the institution, a bright red geranium was placed and a simple word of prayer was offered.

You and I haven't thought of these unfortunate children before. But the attendants and teachers of the Michigan Home, who has seen the children struggle along, had grown to know them and bear with them. Did think about it. And every year at this time, the same ceremony is repeated and these unfortunates who have struggled through life handicapped in their fight to learn and live are remembered.

Alfred Sidebotham is working at the store at the Michigan Home.

June 18, 1919

Mich. Home Inmate Drowns in Swimming

Boys Stroll to Young's Lake
One lad drowns

Some boys who are inmates of the Michigan Home stole away and strayed over to Young's Lake, about a mile distant for a swim. They took a boat from the shore and drifted out into the lake. One of them dove into the water to swim to shore for the cars to the boat. He did not come to the surface and the lad was drowned in sight of the other boys. The body was recovered and given proper burial.

July 2, 1919

Michigan Home Will Celebrate

Children of the Michigan Home are not to be without their celebration July 4th.

While there will be no fireworks display the children will participate in athletic sports and other entertainment.

The program of sports contains; 50 yard dash, 100 yard dash, potato race, sack race, three legged race, tug of war and ball games.

Throughout the day there will be music and song services.
Oakdale in the Newspapers

July 9, 1919

The most significant event in Lapeer’s history occurred in 1895. That was the year the present Lapeer State Home and Training School was opened, just west of the city of Lapeer.

The Home is now a city of 5,000—1,060 employees and an average of 4,000 mentally retarded patients, three quarters of them fated to spend the rest of their lives there.

The State Home, with an annual payroll of nearly $5,000,000, is the single most important factor next to agriculture in the county’s stability.

MORE THAN 90 per cent of the Home’s employees live and shop in the county. It means as much to Lapeer’s economy as the entire mill industry—and the income is dependable, good times or bad.

The Home is the biggest of five in Michigan. Until recent years it was the largest institution for the mentally retarded in the world.

“The Home is our biggest employer. If it closed, it would be the worst thing we could have,” says Mayor Rowden.

“It’s been a blessing to us.”

July 30, 1919

ALTHOUGH county leaders appreciate the value of the Home to them, there was a time when relations weren’t so good.

Old files tell of the winter of the “Small-Pox Rebellion” back in 1910-11.

It seems there was an outbreak of small-pox. There were deaths both in town and at the institution. But citizens believed the Home was the source of the trouble.

National Guard troops were posted around the fence for months to keep employees from leaving and spreading the infection.

THE APPEARANCE of the Home is changing. Until recent years, staff members say, mental institutions were the “forgotten stepchildren” of Michigan.

Now the situation is getting better. The Legislature has voted millions for new facilities.

The role of the Home is different now, too. No longer simply a place to keep unfortunate youngsters, the accent is on education and training—as much a the inmates’ crippled minds can take.

Flint Daily Journal
August 21, 1919

Michigan Home Boys Have Camp

Saturday and Sunday, Davis Lake resembled a small soldier camp when about 100 boys from Colonies 2 and 3 of the Michigan Home pitched army tents and camped the two days. The boys are all farm hands and enjoyed the swimming, fishing and other sports during their vacation.

7-30-19

September 24, 1919

FOR RENT—Plano in good condition for nine months. Call MICH. HOME, Phone 172.

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Oakdale in the Newspapers

Flint Daily Journal
September 8, 1919

SIX NEW TEACHERS IN LAPEER SCHOOL

(From a Journal Correspondent)
Lapeer, Mich., Sept. 8.—The school of the Michigan Home and Training School opened today in the new building. The corps of teachers under Principal (Miss) Nelson is as follows:

Miss Marguerite Clement, orchestra; Miss Ruby Olson, sewing; Miss Virginia Brandes, primary grade; Miss Catherine Wanniger, grade work; Miss Helen Rinderer, grade work; Miss Eva Thompson, French; Miss Hazel Hanahan, physical training; Miss Marie Dowd, basketry; Mrs. Frances Painé, lace work; Mrs. Mary Leonard, grade work; Miss Grace Clark, rug weaving; Miss Shirley Thwaites, broom and brush making; Miss Dorothy Cummings, kindergarten; Mary Dowd, vocal.

There are six new teachers in the list: Miss Marguerite Clement of Marinette, Wis., Miss Ruby Olson of Novina, Ill., Miss Virginia Brandes of Mattoon, Ill., Miss Catherine Wanniger of Alma, Mich., Miss Helen Rinderer of Chicago, and Miss Grace Clark of Massachusetts.

Only one native species of wild goose breeds well in captivity. That is the Canada goose, which, under suitable conditions, can be bred as easily as the ordinary farmyard variety.

The spider crab dabbles itself in seaweed in the hope of catching the notice of its congeners. Wherever sung, it scrubs off its seaweed and replaces it with pieces of sponge.

Flint Daily Journal
October 23, 1919

SWAIN-BOSTICK.

(From a Journal Correspondent)
Lapeer, Mich., Oct. 22.—Miss Menta Bostick, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Bostick of Turriillav, was quietly united in marriage to Earl Swain Tuesday. The ceremony was performed by Rev. Mr. Bryan of the M. E. church. Mrs. Swain has been bookkeeper and stenographer at the Bostick Store Co. Mr. Swain is employed at the Michigan Home and Training School. The happy couple left on a wedding trip to Chicago and Great Lakes, Ill.

November 19, 1919

--- Genezsee street to Mich. Home is being repaired for winter travel. Joe Shiniske's folks have moved to Detroit and live at 58 Kinman St.
Mrs. Carrie E. Jones of Foywine City is visiting her sister, Mrs. F. Philo.

1,000 MENTAL DEFECTS

This Number roam state and should be cared for, reports show.

Flint Daily Journal
October 23, 1919

NEW HOSPITAL FOR DEMENTED SLEEPER PLAN

Governor believes Lapeer large enough now, with 2,000 patients.

1,000 NERD CARE

Reports gathered from probate judges in the various counties indicate that about 1,000 epileptics and other mentally ill persons have not been sent to a state institution because there is no room for them at Lapeer and other state hospitals.

Governor Sleeper received a letter a few days ago from a probate judge calling his attention to a father and mother and two children, all hopelessly feeble-minded, who could not be confined in the county jail owing to inadequate accommodations. They cannot be sent to Lapeer which is filled to capacity.

It is apparent from the investigation which is being made by the governor that he desires to ask the legislature to solve this problem and, as much as he will have retired from the executive office before the next regular session, he must either bring it up at a special session or leave it to his successor.
Great Need of More Room For Feeble Minded
Children of Michigan Being Discussed In Capitol.

Would Gov. Sleeper see to it that a larger number of these institutions be built. He plans to do the work himself without waiting for legislation. It is recognized that the state is in an emergency and needs the services of the Legislature and the various counties.

November 12, 1919