POVERTY AND RELIEF AMONG NEGROES OF ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI

AS INDICATED BY THE

WORK OF THE PHILANTHROPIC AGENCIES OF THE CITY.

by

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PREFACE.

During the winter of 1917-1918 the MISSOURI SCHOOL OF SOCIAL ECONOMY made an investigation of the Negro Migrant in St. Louis, taking especial interest in the housing, educational, recreational and the occupational features surrounding those families which had come to St. Louis during the two years previous to the investigation. A house to house canvas was made of about five hundred such families and the data secured are now in process of compilation.

In the spring of 1918 the ST. LOUIS CENTRAL COUNCIL OF SOCIAL AGENCIES undertook a similar survey covering the entire city rather than five hundred representative families. At the date of this writing the results of this investigation have not been made known.

In both movements the colored womans' unit of the Council of National Defense gave helpful information and even actual service in filling out schedules.

It seemed fitting that, along with these studies that were to reveal the unwholesome surroundings and the inadequate provisions for our colored population, there should go a study of the poverty among the negroes of St. Louis as observed by the philanthropic agencies of this city.

TOPIC I.

INTRODUCTION.

SECTION 1. SCOPE.

This monograph is an attempt to present the poverty situation as found among negroes of St. Louis by the philanthropic agencies of the city; to give an idea of the work done by these agencies to relieve this poverty; and to point out a working plan for the more effective continuance of their labors in the future.

Only such poverty will be dealt with as has come to the notice of the private philanthropic agencies of St. Louis.

This discussion will deal only with those philanthropic agencies which are supported wholly by private contributions and which have for their object the amelioration of suffering caused by poverty.

The "colored" philanthropic agencies of St. Louis are:

1. The Colored Old Folks Home.
2. The Colored Orphan's Home.
3. The Colored Catholic Orphan's Home.
4. Bailey Institute.

The "white" philanthropic agencies dealing with negroes are:

1. The Society for the Prevention of Tuberculosis.
2. The Visiting Nurse Association.
3. The St. Vincent de Paul Society.
4. The St. Louis Provident Association.

SECTION 2. METHOD.

The following facts concerning these agencies were gathered

thru visits to the institutions and their headquarters, thru consultations with members of the staffs, and of the Boards of Directors whenever possible. A study was also made of all the available printed reports of the institutions considered. Inasmuch as the St. Louis Provident Association deals with more poverty-stricken negroes than any other private agency in St. Louis, the author, in September, 1917, entered that institution as a case worker and continued in this capacity for seven months. The territory in which the major part of this work was done was that which in the previous history of the Association has always afforded more poor families than any other district in the city, namely, from Lafayette Avenue on the south to Olive Street on the north and from Twenty-first Street on the east to Grand Avenue on the west. During April, 1918, the information concerning fifty of the most typical families thus reached was gathered and Topic IV of this discussion incorporates the information thus obtained.

SECTION 3. REASONS FOR THE STUDY.

Considering the facts that (a) from the South we receive estimates of a loss thru emigration of from 250,000¹ to 400,000 negroes of late;² (b) that the negro population of St. Louis in 1914 was the fourth in size of any city north of the Ohio and Potomac Rivers³ and

1. World's Work. 34:134

2. Baker, World's Work. 34:315.

3. Crossland, Industrial Conditions, Page 9.

(c) that this city is engaged in the manufacture of brick and lead products, in iron and steel production and in meat packing, all of which industries are open to negro labor - considering all these facts it is not surprising to learn that our negro population has increased some 25,000 during the past eight years. The present estimate of negro population is based upon previous school registration lists, the increase in the Metropolitan Insurance Company's negro policy holders and upon the statements of several leading negro politicians. This estimate is 72,000. Heretofore 8,444 has been the largest absolute increase for any ten year period⁴ and 7% the largest proportionate increase, while even the eight year period, 1910-1918 shows an absolute increase of 28,000 and a percentage increase of 63%, or more than twice that of any ten year period in the city's history.

Notwithstanding these thousands of newcomers, the city has made no effort to enlarge accommodations or to look to their adjustment here.

The result is that the negroes are charged outrageous rentals, they become victims of money sharks, they are unnecessarily exposed to disease and are subject to every temptation and opportunity to live immorally. Our failure to act cannot be prolonged indefinitely without causing an upheaval. As Helen Pendleton of the Newark, N. J. Charities has said, "The North must meet the problem with constructive, not merely evasive methods. We cannot afford to allow these thousands of negro families to fester and stew in our city swamps without endangering the

4. Census of 1910 - population - p 1091

whole city politic. Thru our neglect of them these negroes will, all too soon, become inefficient laborers, expensive criminals, charity charges, distributors of infectious diseases and veritable moral plagues. We are bound, in the interest of self-defense, to see that these conditions are changed.

Philanthropic agencies are expending large sums of money each year to alleviate the sufferings of the victims of these conditions. In so far as the work of these agencies serves to lay bare the present poverty situation in St. Louis among the negroes and to get at and remove the conditions causing the poverty and suffering, these agencies, at least, are doing their share in improving the negro conditions which threaten the whole body politic.

TOPIC II.

THE "COLORED" PHILANTHROPIC AGENCIES OF ST. LOUIS.

SECTION 1.

THE COLORED OLD FOLKS HOME was organized and incorporated in 1899. Its object is to provide a home for aged and indigent colored persons of the country, especially of St. Louis.¹ Its founders were the members of the Wednesday Afternoon Circle or Club, which organization had, prior to this time, directed its efforts toward helping the Colored Orphan's Home,² but, because of a misunderstanding had severed its connection there and was looking for a new field into which it might direct its work. With \$250.00, raised by a Benefit, it made the first payment on the property at 9837 Eugene Street. This is a fifteen room frame residence on a country lane south of Carondelet in St. Louis County and is situated on a lot of about 200 feet frontage. In 1913 the club was given a thousand dollars by the Busch estate, which money it used to clear the debt on this property which is, at the present time, exempt from taxation.

The expenses of the Home are met by the fees charged the inmates at their entrance, by the proceeds of special benefits, by tag days, by voluntary contributions and occasionally by solicited contributions. In the report of the Home for 1917 the income was stated as \$600.00 while the expenditures were given as \$1800.75. The deficit of \$1200.75 has

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1. Mrs. James, Sec'y. of C.O.F.H., 1918.
 2. See below.

since been met so the institution now owes nothing altho it has no surplus in its treasury.

No territorial, age or religious limitations are placed upon admissions to the Home. Any one in a position to pay an entrance fee of \$200.00 is eligible to become an inmate of this institution. Until 1918 this fee was \$150.00 but owing to the increased cost of living the additional charge is made. Any man or woman paying this sum and passing the physical and mental examination given upon entrance may consider this his or her home for life. The Ladies club retains the right, however, in objectionable cases, to dismiss inmates, refunding, in such case, all of the entrance fee that has not been consumed in room rent and board, during the stay, at the rate of \$5.00 per week. To the knowledge of the present secretary who has been a member of the club since 1898 this method of settling upheavals has been resorted to only once.

The inmates may come and go as they please so long as their whereabouts are known to the club.

At present there are seven inmates, five of whom are women and two men. Three of these are away visiting relatives. Of the remaining four, one is a charity inmate. She has been known to the Wednesday afternoon Sewing Circle (or Club) for years and when her destitute circumstances became known, the club voted to give her a permanent home without charge. Since December, when the Matron of this Old Folks Home died, she has been attempting to serve the Home by assuming its household duties. In that she is practically blind and subject to fainting spells, the other two women in the Home help with the work to

a considerable extent. They all feel that the situation should receive immediate attention and another Matron be provided. The officers do not feel, however, that they can afford this expense at present on account of their depleted funds.

The only annual reports of this institution, in printed form, are those appearing in the "Argos" and the "Clarion", two newspapers printed by the negroes, and even these printed reports are very meagre.

From this discussion some of the shortcomings of the Colored Old Folk's Home are obvious. An inspection of the building reveals crying needs which include new plumbing and heating apparatus, general repairs and better equipment, none of which can be considered, however, unless adequate contributions are forthcoming.

This institution represents the only provision to meet the demands of those colored old people of our city who wish a home at a small expense. Because of its undesirable features and because of its cost the alternative forced upon practically all colored old people who have no relatives or friends who might give them a home, is to live on their small earnings until these are gone and then betake themselves to the almshouse and thus become public charges. (see appendix A)

SECTION 2. THE ST. LOUIS COLORED ORPHAN'S HOME was founded and incorporated in 1888 as a nonsectarian institution for the purpose of providing a home for orphans or half orphans, girls and boys, of this city. When the parent can afford to pay for the child, a charge of \$2.00 a week is made. (when this sum cannot be afforded, special arrangement is made in the individual case for a smaller sum.) At present there

are 38 children in the Home ranging in age from 2 to 14 years. Of this number 13 are orphans and 8 are half orphans, and the remaining 17 are uncertain as to the degree of orphanage.

Twenty-two of the children are charity cases. Altho the rules of the Home set 35 as the maximum number to be housed at any time, the demands for accommodation this past winter have been so pressing that a few more have been admitted in this emergency. Twenty-six children attend a near-by Public School.

The affairs of the Home are administered by a Board made up of Officers, Standing Committees, Executive Committee and an Advisory Board. A Matron, a nurse, a cook and a man helper are employed regularly for the management within the Home.

The present location is 4316 Natural Bridge Road, an old 11 room, frame house, well-placed on a goodly sized lot. The house is sadly in need of paint and many repairs are necessary, and although there are between 1500 and 2000 contributors, the contributions are small and the Institution is in debt.

SECTION 3. THE COLORED CATHOLIC ORPHAN'S HOME, or ST. FRANCES

ORPHAN ASYLUM, as it is sometimes called, is located at present in Normandy, St. Louis County. It was established in 1887 by the Oblate Sisters of Providence. Its purpose is to feed¹, shelter, clothe and educate colored orphans, neglected and abandoned young girls, irrespective of religious creed, and to instill in them habits of economy, thrift and industry.

The property consists of three buildings, the Asylum proper,

1. Souvenir, St. F.O.A. page 34.

the infirmary and the school building. All of these are of brick, and the total capacity is 115. The debt at present is \$10,000.00, most of which was incurred when two wings were added, several years ago, to the main building.

This Home is supported chiefly from payments for the care of half-orphans; a share of the Annual collection for Indian and Colored Missions; from the proceeds of an Annual Bazaar at the Orphanage, and from donations.¹

The orphans come from all parts of the country. The institution has cared for a total of about 800 children since its establishment.

During the past year 119 children were enrolled, 105 of these were cared for without any remuneration. At the beginning of the year there were 85 children in the Home and at the end there were 80.² Altho the capacity is far above this number the cost of living is so high at present that the sisters cannot care for any more unless they happened to be paying orphans.³

Any child over two years of age may be admitted. There is no upper age limit, the thought of the Sisters being to keep the girls until they are old enough to care for themselves or until they can be adopted by some suitable family.

All the children, "by reason of order",⁴ are required to at-

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1. Mother Superior, 4-28-18.
 2. Souvenir St.F.O.A. - page 37
 3. Mother Superior 4-28-1918
 4. Souvenir, St. F.O.A. - page 15, \$3.00 per week is the charge.

tend the religious services of the institution. On week days regular school is conducted by the sisters. Domestic duties are required of each child of reasonable ages. After the age of 14 is reached some of the orphans are placed out in domestic service in which case the sisters visit each girl once a month until they feel that the girl is old enough to care for herself.

Besides looking forward to other improvements the Sisters hope, in the near future, to establish a School of Vocational Training in St. Louis. They desire this because it is a crying need for the training of the colored girls of the city and also because it could serve as a social centre for negro girls who work in the city and have no real home there.

Among the material needs of the Home itself a laundry and a new heating plant stand uppermost.

These two Orphan's Homes with their accommodation for 118 or 120 children do not meet the needs of our city's 72,000 colored population.

The Board of Childrens' Guardians, a Municipal department, also handles a few cases of neglected colored children.

In 1915-1916 these cases numbered only 19.

Judging from this sum total of provisions for neglected and dependent colored children in St. Louis it is not surprising to see that about 18% of the work of the Juvenile Court is colored!

With our colored children neglected in this manner we can scarcely hope that they will in a few years assume their responsibility of upright citizenship.

SECTION 4. THE BAILEY SANITARIUM was established in January 1915 by Dr. Bailey (colored) to take the place of the Provident Hospital (which was about to close) until either some other hospital took up the work with negroes or a negro hospital might be established by the philanthropic agencies of the city. Dr. Bailey's original idea was to care especially for the maternity cases of the city, both charity and pay patients, but, because of the continued demand for hospital accommodations in other cases, he has now enlarged his work to include all non-contagious diseases.

In July, 1917, the sanitarium moved to its present location, 3429 Lawton Avenue, where there are 14 beds for patients and 4 resident nurses in training. The annual report for the year ending September, 1917 and submitted to and accepted by the Saturday and Sunday Hospital Association, showed the following facts:

Total patients.....	176
Total number of days treatment given.....	2577
Average days stay by individual.....	14.6
 Total pay patients.....	253
Total days treatment to pay patients.....	2155
Average days stay by individual patients...	14.1

~~1. Annual Report 1915.~~

Total Charity (free) patients.....23
 Total days service to free patients.....422
 Average days stay by free patients..... 18.3
 The usual cost is \$1.50 per day or \$10.00 per week.
 The annual expense is estimated at \$2.51 per patient.

The ST. LOUIS CENTRAL COUNCIL OF SOCIAL AGENCIES has never recognized either this Sanitarium nor did it recognize the Provident Hospital which it succeeded; the one because of its lack of adequate means to institute efficient Social Service methods, the other because of its lack of facilities in building.

In the Spring of 1918 the Provident Hospital Board became members of the PEOPLES' HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION (having both white and colored members) on May first, 1918. It was voted by this Association to buy what is now Bailey Sanitarium and use it as a nucleus for a large, well-equipped colored Hospital for the entire city.

It is hoped that, by being better equipped and thus giving better accommodations, a clinic may soon be opened and the Sanitarium may thus come into better repute and meet the demands of the sick among the colored people.

Outside of Barnes Hospital¹ the Bailey Sanitarium is the only Hospital in the city where colored patients may obtain private accommodations. The only other recourse to colored people needing Hospital care and attention is the City Hospital which carries with it the taint

1 - see appendix A.

of poverty, and a certain amount of hurried and therefore inadequate attention.

TOPIC III.

THE WORK OF WHITE PHILANTHROPIC AGENCIES OF ST. LOUIS.

There are four philanthropic agencies in St. Louis which deal with poverty among negroes, viz:

- 1.- St. Louis Society for the Prevention of Tuberculosis.
- 2.- Visiting Nurse Association.
- 3.- St. Vincent de Paul Society.
- 4.- St. Louis Provident Association.

SECTION 1. THE ST. LOUIS SOCIETY FOR THE RELIEF AND PREVENTION OF

TUBERCULOSIS. was organized in 1906 and has done a great deal of relief work among colored families. By close cooperation with the Municipal Nurses who are, at present, concentrating their efforts on Baby Welfare and Tuberculosis; by use of the city registry of tuberculosis cases and by consultation of the death records, this society is well informed of the tuberculosis situation in the city.

In as much as the proper treatment of Tuberculosis calls for special diet and many of the families in which the disease is found cannot afford such diet, the Society furnishes this particular sort of relief in certain cases. The following method is used in determining those cases:- When the Society learns, thru the Municipal Nurses, or through any other source, that a certain case of tuberculosis would be improved were milk and eggs supplied but that the individual or family in question state their inability to provide them, the Society asks the Provident Association to look into the resources of the individual or family and to judge

whether or not the budget as given by the family will warrant the daily purchase of special diet. After the Provident Association has completed its investigation it sends back notice of its findings to the Tuberculosis Society and recommends that special diet be given or withheld as the case may be. The Tuberculosis Society then acts upon these recommendations. In May 1918 the Tuberculosis Society instituted the plan of employing its own Social Service Workers who will, hereafter, do this investigation which has been previously asked of the Provident Association.

The kind of relief given by the Tuberculosis Society being only special diet of milk and eggs, it will be necessary still for the Provident Association to cooperate in the matter of material aid even tho they are now relieved of the task of investigating the cases.

This method of handling tuberculosis cases applies to colored and white families alike.

The Secretary of the Society for the Relief and Prevention of Tuberculosis estimates that there must be between three and four times as many negro cases of this disease in St. Louis, in proportion to the population, as white cases. Unfortunately, no account is kept by either agency as to the number of colored families where, because of poverty, relief has been recommended by the Provident Association and given by the Tuberculosis Society. During March and April of 1918 a monthly account was kept by the Provident Association of the number of families referred to it by this cooperating agency. Altho no count is recorded of those cases referred back to the Tuberculosis Society with favorable

report and the recommendation for diet, it may be estimated that the average number of families to which relief is given by the Tuberculosis Society is between 50, and 60 each month. What part of this consists of colored families is not known.

SECTION 2. THE VISITING NURSE ASSOCIATION, is a private philanthropic agency which has grown out of the Provident Association. It was organized in 1911. Prior to this time the Provident Association conducted a Visiting Nurse Department. The Visiting Nurse Association does extensive work among colored poor families. Thru an arrangement with the Metropolitan Insurance Company it now gives its services to all families, white or colored, who are insured in that Company when any members are sick and unable to pay for a physician or nurse. A nominal fee of 50 cents per visit is paid to the nurses by the Company.

Besides colored families reached in this way many are referred by physicians and some from personal appeal. However the Visiting Nurses estimate roughly that the Metropolitan cases comprise 3/4 of their entire work.

No statistics are available to ascertain the amount of work done among colored families by the Visiting Nurse Association during the past year, but different members of the Association have said that to their knowledge their work among negro sick constituted a larger part of the entire volume recently than ever before.

SECTION 3. THE ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY was organized in 1845 and incorporated in 1868. Its object is "to visit the poor in their homes, supply material wants and aid them to become self supporting; also to visit and give aid and comfort to inmates of institutions and to per-

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form other duties as the occasion arises."

In order to carry out its work, the Society appoints a committee in each church to be responsible for all the poor of its parish.

There is one colored Catholic church in St. Louis. The relief given by its St. Vincent de Paul committee or "conference", as it is called, is all that the colored people receive thru the catholic society. The following table illustrates the exact extent of this work:-

TABLE SHOWING VOLUME OF WORK OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY.

What proportion is Colored,¹ by year periods in numbers and percents.

Year.	Total Families Helped	Colored Families Helped	Total Relief Given	Relief to Colored Families.	% of Colored Families to Total Helped.	% of Total Relief given to Colored Families.
1913-14	1782	100	36265.15	1581.00	.055	.043
1914-15	4078	150	53566.44	1353.00	.037	.025
1915-16	1943	175	31759.25	428.50	.090	.013

1. Compiled from Annual Reports.

It is evident from this table that the proportion of colored work is slight compared to the total and the relief given to the colored poor is less per family than that for the white.

SECTION 4. THE ST. LOUIS PROVIDENT ASSOCIATION comes in contact with more actual poverty among negroes than any other agency in the city. It is an organisation which was formed in 1860 for the purpose of "giving

relief and care in their own homes to those who deserve it without distinction of race, creed or color." ¹ The City of St. Louis contributed to the support of the Provident Association for something over twenty years after its establishment but in the early eighties it permanently withdrew this support because the practice was leading to indiscriminate giving and to accusations of political favoritism. Since then the Provident Association has been a purely private philanthropic agency.

All of the investigation done by this organization into the affairs of needy families, and all of the subsequent planning for their rehabilitation, is carried on according to the most approved present-day methods of charity organization societies. Effort is made toward constructive results in colored families just as strenuous as in white families.

At present this Association has arbitrarily divided the city into eight districts. Over each district is a secretary who, along with her staff of workers, must take care of all the families applications in her section of the city. Four of these districts have their headquarters at the Central Office, 2221 Locust St. The remaining four, which deal with outlying parts of the city, have their offices located within their own territories. Over these secretaries is a Supervisor of case work; and she in turn is advised and directed (as is the Financial Secretary and the other heads of work.) by a General Manager who by the ad-

1. Annual Report 1915-16 - p 1.

vise of the Board of Directors directs the entire work of the organization.

To facilitate the relief work done among the poor, the Provident Association conducts an Employment Bureau; a woodyard; (where men temporarily without employment may work at a fixed scale of wages and the wood handled here is then sold to the public.) a Mens' Lodge; two Womens' Lodges (colored and white); a Grocery Store; a Clothing Department and a Laundry.

Another branch of the Provident Associations activities lies in its colored settlement at 2143 Randolph Street. In the spring of 1918 the Association took over the management of this "Mound City Settlement" at the request of its Board of Directors who had established it in 1915 but who now saw the need of more financial backing if their project were to continue and prosper. Its purpose has been "to do social service work among colored people thru a day nursery; to conduct classes in sewing and cooking for girls, and to form classes in vocational training for boys." ¹

The former Board of Directors now remains active as a Committee of Management and over it is an Advisory Board composed of both negro and white men, the white members being also members of the Provident Association Board. Heretofore the St. Louis division of the National Urban League has been inactive because of lack of funds. After due consideration the Advisory Board of the Mound City Settlement has consented to pay the salary of a colored executive for this Urban League, who will systematically investigate negro committees with a view to improving social conditions. His first piece of work will deal with the employment

1. *Charities Directory of St. Louis*, 1917, p. 18.

situation. With these combined efforts it is hoped that a real colored social centre will be developed out of Mound City Settlement. The policy of the Provident Association will be to leave the actual working out of the problem to the negro initiative and act chiefly as an advisory body only. This cooperative arrangement is one of the most promising and significant steps ever taken in St. Louis toward the solution of the race problem.

Another significant step of this philanthropic agency has been the adoption of the policy to employ a few colored workers to help in the handling of colored poor families, the theory being that they could get at the heart of the problems in colored families and understand causes perhaps better than white workers who were perforce less familiar with negro psychology. Two such workers have been regularly employed by the Provident Association since November, 1917. They are under rather close supervision and direction of the secretaries of their districts, but are allowed to use their own judgment as far as possible. Both are mature married women. One has given up a position of over twice the salary to do this social work because of her earnest desire to help her people. At present these colored women are receiving fifty dollars a month-- less than the white workers, because they are said to lack background and training to a greater degree than any of the white ones - but they have before them, as the General Manager has stated, "all possible chance of advancement that any social worker may enjoy."

The latest progressive step taken by the Provident Association in recognition of the negro situation has been the opening of a Training

Class for negro women. This class is at present conducted by the Supervisor of Case Work and is for the purpose of giving to those negro women who intend to enter the field of social service, an understanding of the work such service involves. Two hours weekly are spent by this group in discussing the principles, the theory behind the principles, and the practical problems arising in family case work.

Before entering upon a detailed account of the work done among a particular group of negroes, during a particular seven-month period, a general idea of the work of past years in this field may be obtained from the following table.

Table showing the number of families relieved by the Provident Association by years and Nativity, and their relation to the total population of St. Louis; the proportion of these that were colored, the proportion that were American white, the relation between the Provident Association Negro cases and the total negro population; the relation between white Provident Association cases and the total White population; the relation between negro and white population in St. Louis and the Absolute Increase of St. Louis Negro population, - all by Year Periods.

1 FAMILIES RELIEVED BY PROVIDENT ASSO.				Total pop- ulation of St. Louis 2	Percent Negro Prov- ident cases to Total Negro Pop- ulation of St. Louis.	Total Negro Popula- tion of St. Louis.	Percent Negro Pop- ulation is to total Population of St. Louis.	Percent Absolute Increase in St. Louis Negro Population.	Percent Total Provident Cases to Total St. Louis Population.
Year.	Total.	Amer. Ne- gro.	Perc't American Negro to total Cases.						
4				5		6			
1897-98	3148	447	14.2	550544		33786	6.1		.7
1898-99	2646	430	16.3						
1899-1908	1975	261	13.2						
1900-01	1697	212	12.5	575238	.6	35516	6.2	32.9	.3
1901-02	2091	472	22.5						
1902-03	1941	435	22.4						
1903-04	1618	284	17.5						
1904-05	1777	330	18.5						
1905-06	1706	298	16.9						
1906-07	1709	309	18.1						
1907-08	2339	365	15.6						
1908-09	2026	423	20.8						
1909-10*									
1910-11	1919	355	18.5	687029	.8	43960	6.4	23.8	.3
1911-12	5146	1044	20.3						
1912-13	3363	418	23.7						
1913-14	4847	738	15.0			50000 ³	7.0 ³		
1914-15	10443	2736	26.2						
1915-16	4473	753	17.1						
1916-17	3667	652	17.7	765345	1.0	72000	8.1	63.7	1.9

1. Annual Reports 1897 - date.
2. U.S. Census 1910. Population. p. 1118.
3. Crossland. Industrial Conditions. p.

4. The Fiscal Year of this Association ends in November.
5. Estimated from 1890 census report of Total Population as 451,770
6. Estimated from 1890 census report of negro population as 26,865
7. These figures not yet printed; given by special permission.

* Unavailable.

From this table it will be seen that the per cent of Provident Association colored cases has in the past ten years averaged about 20% of the total. Negro families lately arrived from the South appeal for charity in greater numbers than do those of long residence here. This is due to the difficulty of readjustment to our climate and to our industrial and economic conditions during the transitional years. Therefore a great increase in negro applications would be expected, however the organization's improved methods of weeding out frauds has greatly decreased the number of applications, both white and colored. These two items evidently have about balanced each other.

The percent of negro applicants in comparison to the negro population is less than that of the white applicants as compared to the total population. Moreover the relations by years have not been uniform, the percent of white applicants having increased six times in eight years, while that of negro applicants shows only twice the increase.

Altho the absolute increase of negro population in St. Louis in the past eight years more than doubled, the number of negro applicants has only increased by about 2.3.

TOPIC IV.

FACTS REVEALED BY THE WORK AMONG THE NEGROES AT THE PROVIDENT ASSOCIATION; AND THEIR SIGNIFICANCE.

SECTION 1. CAUSES OF APPLICATION.

Among the facts revealed by a close analysis of the fifty most typical colored families which made application to the Provident Association for aid during the winter of 1917-1918, will be considered first, the causes of these applications. The following table illustrates what these causes were according to the judgement of the applicants:

Table 2 Showing the Causes of Fifty Negro Applications to the Provident Association, As Stated by the Applicants.

<u>CAUSES</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>CASES, PER CENT</u>
Lack of Groceries	17	34
Lack of Clothing	13	26
Lack of Coal	7	14
Sickness	6	12
Unemployment	4	8
Desertion	2	4
Transportation	1	2

In practically all cases, the causes as stated by the applicant and those found by the Association, were quite unlike, it being in rare cases that the problem in the family was as simple as would appear from the applicant's first statement.

These rare cases are of two sorts: first those occurring just after heavy snow storms which temporarily prevented the families from picking up stray bits of coal around the numerous railroad tracks in the district.¹ In these rare instances the families were self-supporting and healthy and really only needed fuel to tide them over until the snow melted and they could again see the lumps of coal and gather them up along the tracks; and the second sort, those cases where sickness was very apparent either from its very nature or because it was accompanied by actual suffering and the family had not saved up anything for such an emergency although it was at other times entirely self-supporting. Even if every case coming to the Provident Association because of sickness or because of lack of coal were of this easily solved sort they would together compose but 26% of the total.

In the remaining cases the causes of the condition which forced the family to ask for assistance were found to be more complex and in the most part totally different from the ones named by the negroes upon their application for help. It is not to be inferred that white poor families always know how to diagnose their situation accurately; but the divergence of causes for aid as named by the applicant and those found by the Provident Association investigators is strikingly greater among negro families than among white.

1. This is a practice allowed by the watchman so long as it is not abused by dealers in coal who might sell what they gather up in this way.

The causes of these applications according to the discerning judgement of a social service worker were exceedingly complex. Taking the first "cause as stated by applicant" in Table 2 for instance: in eleven cases the combination of sickness and bad housing was found to underlie this cause, "need of groceries". Both these underlying causes were so serious that the need for groceries would continue until these causes were removed. In four cases poor management, unemployment and intemperance were in the same manner responsible for the need of groceries. In the remaining two, illegitimacy and desertion appeared together and were unmistakeably the true cause of need. In like manner throughout the table it could be seen that each cause as stated by the applicants was only a superficial one and only one of the results of more deep-seated causes.

This failure to know his ailments may be attributed to ignorance and lack of education. Many times the negro mothers have said to the author: "Law, chile, he's not sick - he eats hearty", though her boy may be suffering from a disease that in time will as surely stunt his efficiency as scarlet fever would have stunted his appetite had that been his ailment. This may too be due to the fact that negroes as a class have been so long accustomed to "get along on a little" that not until they suffer actual hunger and cold do they consider themselves in a condition of poverty worthy of outside aid. "To get along on a little", however, does not necessarily mean to live economically. One has only to discuss the matter of budgets with a negro family or try

to have family accounts kept through a week with regular budget sheets to learn that "getting along on a little" means buying canned sardines (or something equally extravagant in relation to its nutritive value) and all the other good things to eat when money is on hand only to go without everything later on for several meals in succession to make up for this extravagance. It may mean going without sufficient clothing in order to get luxuries to eat. It may mean living in damp, filthy hovels to escape high rents. All this "getting along on a little" is bound in time to tell on the negroes' efficiency and in turn on the welfare of the entire community. If they are so ignorant as not to know how to care for themselves, would it not be economy for us to take time to teach them the needs of a normal life? If they do not know that philanthropic agencies could guide them in their expenditures and in their physical and moral needs before they have been so long poverty stricken as to have only thread-bare resources in body, earning ability and moral stamina left, would it not be a saving to teach them while they are richer in resources? Were this done and colored applicants could come for help in gaining knowledge of normal life, the table of causes as stated by the applicant would take on a different aspect and social service workers would find their problems of diagnosis and planning more successful.

SECTION 2. BUDGETS.

a. INCOMES: The incomes of charity seeking negroes are ~~il-~~usive quantities. The following table illustrates what these incomes should be weekly were they regular:

Table 3. Showing Wages of fifty Provident Association Cases by Numbers and Percent.

<u>Wages per week</u>	<u>Number receiving them.</u>	<u>Percent of Total.</u>
None	6	12
1- 1.99	12	6
2- 2.99	1	2
3- 3.99	1	2
4- 4.99	3	6
5- 5.99	1	2
6- 6.99	0	0
7- 7.99	1	2
8- 8.99	0	0
9- 9.99	4	8
10- 10.99	3	6
11- 11.99	0	0
12- 12.99	2	4
13- 13.99	3	6
14- 14.99	2	4
15- 15.99	0	0
16- 16.99	1	2
17- 17.99	0	0
18- 18.99	1	2
25	2	4
39	1	2
Not recorded	15	30

These figures apparently confirm the statements of representatives of many southern industries who deplore the loss of negro workers through migration and of many migrants themselves, namely, that the hope of high wages of the north was the chief motive in leaving the south. The median weekly wage of the 35 families reporting wages according to this table is \$9.00 to \$9.99, hardly an adequate income even if it were steady. Many occupations open to negroes, however, are seasonal and the colored workman is laid off for many weeks each year. In 19 cases

his income represents the combined earnings of two or more members of his family. The three extremely high incomes of this table belong respectively to two families where the husbands, though prosperous business men, had suddenly been thrown into jail and so their families needed temporary help. The third family was one in which poor management alone was accountable for the appeal to charity. The figures in these tables are probably too high for three reasons:

1. Though two or more members of a family may be wage earners it seldom happens that more than one works at a time and because wages are recorded by the Association as "wage earning ability" therefore the figures are a bit misleading.

2. The wages earned during the period when the case is brought to the Provident Association may be those of only the best season of the year, and not at all representative.

3. Three incomes among the fifty swell the average figure out of proportion.

Nevertheless if 3.98 persons is considered the average size of these families and even though \$13.00 per week their income, each individual would only have something over \$3.00 per week upon which to live. According to the budget basis for food alone which has been scientifically worked out for the Provident Association, \$2.50 per week per individual adult is required for proper nourishment and \$2.00 per week per child. Suppose a family to consist of mother, father and three children, as a large percentage of these families do, then the adults would require \$5.00

worth of nourishment and the children together \$6.00 worth. After paying for this food the family would have but \$2.00 to cover carfare, clothing, fuel, rent and recreation for the entire week. Taking into account that the real income of the negro poor families is even less than \$13.00 per week it is not surprising that they seek charity. In connection with this consideration of incomes a list of the various occupations yielding these incomes may be of interest.

Table 4 Showing Occupations of Chief Wage Earners by Numbers and Percents.

<u>OCCUPATIONS</u>	<u>NO.</u>	<u>PERCENT.</u>
Laundress	12	45
Laborer	9	13
Porter and Janitor	5	7.3
Packer	5	7.3
Railroad	4	6
1 None	3	4.3
Teamster	2	3
Street Cleaner	2	3
Saloon Man	1	3
Iron Worker	2	1.4
Plasterer	1	1.4
Auto.Repairer	1	1.4
Nut Picker	1	1.4
Plumber	1	1.4
Preacher.	1	1.4

1. Too old or crippled.

In over 45% of the negro families one member or another does laundry work. In 19 cases out of the 31 the income from this work was considered necessary to supplement of the male wage-earner. This method evidently is the universal solution of the problem of inadequate and irregular wages of negro men.

The chief support of 14 families came from laundry work. In nine of these the male wage-earner had either deserted or died. In the remaining 5 the income of the laundress exceeded that of her husband.

b. EXPENDITURES.

1. FOOD. It has been practically impossible to gather a sufficient number of well-kept family budgets from which to draw significant conclusions concerning the expenditures of these negro families. Printed sheets with columns headed by names of articles bought, amount and prices were distributed among house-wives of more than fifty homes. Several of these women diligently kept their accounts for a few weeks but many either forgot or grew careless so only a dozen or so were returned. These contained so many mistakes, some doubtless due to carelessness, but many due to ignorance and misinterpretation, that they have proven useless.

From general observation, however, it has been clearly seen that their expenditures run along the same lines: food and insurance are the two items that all the negroes seem to consider essential above all else. Food cannot be denied its importance 'tis true, but its valuation in negroes' estimation was ~~not easily~~ *naively* expressed not long ago when one colored applicant upheld her extravagance, even after a severe scolding and a glowing account of a white family's economy, by saying "Pshaw, Missy, dey's white folks; we niggers laks to eat right." No matter what the sacrifice they must have their food.

2. INSURANCE. As to insurance, if need be, they will curtail church contributions and car rides that come by way of recreation, they

will even move to a cheaper dwelling sometimes in order to escape paying back rent, or will go without underwear in the winter and keep their home only so warm as is possible with picked-up coal rather than give up their insurance. During the past winter there have been three deaths in the fifty colored families upon which this analysis is based. In each case all the insurance collected barely covered funeral expenses. In two of the cases the undertaker accompanied the bereaved to the insurance company's office, ascertained the total due the bereaved and made out his bill accordingly for the full amount - all this before the funeral had even been planned. No amount of reasoning can persuade the negroes of the folly of providing an elaborate coffin, many carriages, costly flowers and flowing mourning for the occasion when this outlay leaves no provision for food and warmth for the deceased's children. Oftentimes before the winter passes the charity society must provide the necessities which should have been secured with the insurance money. Of the fifty families, seventy four per cent stated that there were insurance policies carried by at least one of its members. It is generally known that applicants for aid often withhold this information. They evidently know that many workers consider insurance a saving and therefore a good thing to encourage, but these same workers maintain that when necessities must come from charity that this saving is unwise and should not be encouraged. It may therefore be assumed that more than seventy-four percent of the negroes applying to the Provident Association for material relief carry some sort of insurance. The policies included in this seventy four percent call for weekly payments of from ten cents to \$3.63 per family.

3. RECREATION. Very little definite or elucidating information concerning the recreation of negro poor families could be obtained. There are no negro playgrounds operating at present in the district under consideration. The two negro schools in the territory do not, as far as could be learned, conduct any recreational activities out of school hours. There are about three moving picture shows to which the negroes have access, but only two of the fifty families professed any familiarity with the location of these. The veracity of these statements may be questioned for the same reasons of bias that applied to the statements concerning insurance. As far as could be learned there is one licensed dance-hall in this district. None of the children availed themselves of the recreational facilities of Mound City Settlement which is located in the heart of the district, except those seven placed in the Day Nursery by the Provident Association so that their mothers might work. The churches in this district give occasional entertainments in which a few of the negro families mentioned take an active part. All the women stated that after their heavy day's laundry work recreation had no lure for them.

Practically the only part the item of recreation plays in their budgets is that afforded by the saloon and pool room frequented by the men of the family. In the 6% of cases where intemperance existed extravagant spending in saloons and pool rooms was one of the charges brought against husbands by the wives who applied for help. It is likely that the same charge could be made in the 38% of cases where intemperance was suspected, but not definitely ascertained.

4. RENTS. Facts revealed by this investigation concerning rents, show a need of further and more extensive inquiries. The following tables illustrate what even the poorest are required to pay:

5. Table Showing Rooming Facilities of Fifty Provident Association Families by Numbers and Percents.

<u>ROOMS PER FAMILY.</u>	<u>FAMILIES NUMBER</u>	<u>PERCENT</u>
All rooms	50	100
1 "	15	30
2 "	19	38
3 "	15	30
4 "	1	2

6. Table Showing the Composition of Fifty Provident Association Families in Numbers and Percents.

<u>MEMBERS PER FAMILY.</u>	<u>FAMILIES WITH STATED NUMBER OF MEMBERS.</u>	<u>PERCENT OF EACH</u>
1	7	14
2	10	20
3	7	14
4	7	14
5	10	20
6	4	8
7	2	4
8	0	0
9	0	0
10	1	2
11	0	0
12	1	2
13	1	2

7. Table Showing Rents Paid By Fifty Provident Association Families By Numbers and Percents.

(see next page)

7. Table Showing Rents Paid By Fifty Provident Association Families By
Numbers and Percents.

<u>MONTHLY RENT</u> <u>PAID.</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>PERCENT.</u>
Free	2	4
Paid in Service	6	12
Free to \$. 99	0	0
\$1.00 " 1.99	1	2
2.00 " 2.99	2	4
3.00 " 3.99	1	2
4.00 " 4.99	8	16
5.00 " 5.99	2	4
6.00 " 6.99	5	10
7.00 " 7.99	2	4
8.00 " 8.99	5	10
9.00 " 9.99	6	12
10.00 " 10.99	8	16
11.00 " 11.99	2	4

From these tables it will be seen that one half of the families pay from \$6.00 to \$6.99 per month for the cheapest negro quarters. However, in spite of their need of relief, one fifth must pay \$10.00 or more by reason of their larger families which could not be herded in one or two rooms. (In this connection it will be noted that 30% of the families live in one room and 38% in two rooms.)

Together with these facts must be considered the number of individuals in these families, 89% of which contain from one to five members each. The average size of the families is 3.98 persons and the total number of rooms occupied is 102, or 2.4 rooms per family. The average number of persons per room, then, would be 1.95. In general over 1.5 persons per room is considered undesirable crowding. When we consider that these rooms are unventilated, unventilable and disease breeding, that sometimes 34 individuals must use the

single toilet provided in these tenements; and that the cats and dogs and chickens often share these accommodations because there are no yards - when all these things are considered then the exorbitance of the charge of \$2.78 per room and the danger of putting four people to live in such rooms will be realized.

It is not true that the negroes cause these unsanitary conditions. In the south, where they have freedom of the open air, some ground around the cottage home and soil that can be used for a garden, their homes are not especially filthy or dilapidated. Particularly is this true of the class which for the past few years has been forming a large part of our negro charity seekers. It is too often the atrocious living conditions we offer him and with which he cannot cope that makes this new type of migrant sick and force him to seek charity.

5. CLOTHING.

The item of clothing seems not to concern the poor negro. Almost every colored woman whose family is threatened with want has at least one "place" where she does the laundry work or cleaning. And it is without exception the custom to rely upon the kindness of these white families for old clothing or to work for such instead of for pay when the need is pressing and gifts are not forthcoming. Underwear and shoes for school children constitute the chief items asked for and given to the fifty families under discussion. The School Board does not tolerate absence while the mother works for clothing and so, by cooperation of their attendance officers and the Provident Association, children who are absent be-

cause of real need of suitable clothes, are provided for out of a special fund.

The extent to which this item enters into the expenditures of the family in any case, therefore, is small.

SECTION 3. RELIEF.

Of the fifty negro applicants forth-three sooner or later asked for material relief. Of these requests sixteen were granted, being twenty-seven per cent of the forty-three requests. This amounts to thirty-four percent of the entire fifty families. The cost of all this material relief covering the seven month period was \$80.47 or an average of \$5.03 to each of the sixteen families.

On the whole the amount of relief given negro families is greater than that given white ones. This may be explained as follows:

1. To affect a desired result in negro families takes longer than in white ones because of the educational training that must lead up to the desired result; and to cover this greater length of treatment more material relief must be given.

2. Negro families requesting help need more than a great many white families white applicants.

3. It is more difficult to find work for negro women than for white, so, when the solution of the family problem depends upon securing a position, the relief giving period is prolonged.

SECTION 4. INDIVIDUAL CHARACTERISTICS OF THE APPLICANTS.

a. TRUTH. A great deal has been said about the truthfulness of negroes. Judging only from those who apply to the Provident Association it is apparent that they are no more untruthful than the white families who apply for help. One often finds upon inquiry that the applicants have misrepresented at least one phase or another of their story. In every case where friendly relations were later established with the family, the subject of these former falsehoods was discussed. In fully 3/4 of all cases the explanation lay in their conviction that the hard luck story must be forthcoming or help would be refused. With this premium upon exaggeration many applicants, both white and colored, become untruthful for the time being.

If one thinks of the similarity of all human beings when they are in trouble and suddenly found a sympathetic audience, and adds to this natural human tendency the undeniable dramatic instinct of the negro, some of their effusions can scarcely be credited to untruthfulness. One old mammy was so encouraged by the author's interest in a dead husband that she actually swayed back and forth in her increasingly vivid description of how the man's brain had turned to a gray and dusty cobweb in his declining years - all because his hand had been amputated in his early youth. Any one working among the negroes learns to discount their tales just as grown-ups must discount children's flights of imagination. The responsibility lies with the white people to demonstrate to the colored all the finer

aspects of truth; the way to accomplish this is not by displaying mirth at their exaggerations.

b. MORALITY. Closely allied to this point concerning truth is the morality of the negro. In St. Louis they are undoubtedly living a looser sexual life to-day than the whites, according to the relative proportions of morality as shown in the white and colored families aided by the Provident Association.

Great opportunity lies in the possibility of raising the standards by persistent efforts through this organization. When greater respect is bestowed upon the morally upright negro and more severe ostracism is the result of wrong doing, then, and then only, will the negro have an incentive to improve his moral standards. As it is immorality is suspected of every one of them, and the psychological effect is that those hitherto irreproachable, seeing no especial reward for their uprightness, relax their efforts to live moral lives.

c. PERSISTENCE. One of the greatest faults among the negroes who ask for charity is their lack of persistence. It is a question whether this is a racial characteristic or an indication of fatigue as the result of too long vainly struggling under oppressing conditions of life. Whatever the cause most negro poor families do lack persistence. When a plan of rehabilitation is offered them some adopt it enthusiastically for a time, only to slip back^{later} to their former careless habits. Some consider the proposed plan for a moment only to refuse it before even giving it a trial, shuffling off to their old way of living with a grunt about, "Dat's too much bothah, Honey."

The results of the several experiments indicate that this characteristic is not racial but removable through training. One family especially, known to the Provident Association for years, as a pronounced example of the non-persistent type, appeared as usual early in November asking for coal. The husband was becoming notorious for his work records "good enough laborer, but not dependable for more than two consecutive days per week". He was a stocky, well-built man, but never seemed half awake. In former years he had been sent by the Association to a clinic, but had never followed the physician's orders and because of his utter lack of cooperation with the social worker, the whole family was given up towards the spring of each year as hopelessly lazy.

Because the four children were so badly neglected, it was determined to make a desperate effort to change the family's mode of life. A generous plan was mapped out to take full financial responsibility from the man's shoulders while he went to the clinic and stayed there until he had been thoroughly examined. It happened that after the physician had completed his diagnosis the cause of the man's sleepy condition and his lack of energy was discovered. In the doctor's opinion an operation and regular treatment for six months would bring the man back to good health. By supplementing his wife's income for these six months and holding the man rigidly responsible for regular clinic attendance saved more in the long run than by supplying coal, clothing and food through part of each winter, as had been necessary in the past; and a real piece of constructive work was accomplished. This opportunity had promised little co-

operation at the outset. It had required constant prodding during the first four months because his progress had been slow and he had refused to believe in a final cure. At present he realizes that he is a different man, and the worker realizes that no family problem remains since he is as persistent now to improve as she had been formerly to induce him to attempt the cure.

Whatever may be the shortcomings of the negro in truthfulness, morality and persistence as well as other desirable qualities, it must be conceded that he does very often respond to efforts for his own uplift; and this being the case these efforts should be extended and continued.

SECTION 5. RELATING TO THE WORKERS.

The negro social workers employed by the Provident Association are becoming successful case workers among their own people. They are considered at times too liberal and because of this they need considerable repressive supervision in their work. However they are very faithful and conscientious and bid fair to become leaders in social service among their own people.

As to the white social workers of the Provident Association, it has been repeatedly noted that even they who are striving towards ideals of equality, especially towards the maintenance of normal standards of living for all alike, are oftentimes prejudiced in their attitude toward the colored applicants. This prejudice, though in direct violation of an ideal of the organization, does exist and is reflected in the statistical reports of the organization.

SECTION 6. LACK OF OPPORTUNITIES FOR MENTAL DEVELOPMENT AMONG THE
ADULTS OF NEGRO POOR FAMILIES.

In St. Louis there is an appalling lack of opportunity for mental development among adult negroes. To be sure there is an occasional evening meeting at the schools for a Red Cross Talk by one of the teachers, and an occasional lecture at some of the churches by prominent men passing through the city, but these opportunities reach only an negligible portion of colored people. Compared to the rich opportunities white poor families have of attending exhibits, lectures, educational and recreational clubs throughout the city, the absence of this sort of opportunity among the colored poor is deplorable.

TOPIC V.

RECOMMENDATIONS.

Having presented in this discussion the phase of poverty among our negroes that is seen by our philanthropic agencies it is apparent that the existing conditions still require careful treatment, A few of the more immediate needs of the future are mentioned here.

1. The greater support of our already established negro institutions by the white people of St. Louis. In the earlier years of the colored Y.W.C.A.'s existence the white people had practically full financial and administrative charge of this as well as the white branch. Their handling of the affairs of management for the colored people served as a literal education to the negroes and little by little they took on their own duties until now this Wheatley Branch, as it is called, is the pride of the negro people and almost entirely supported and managed by themselves. They are capable, if they are first shown how, and tho they cannot raise the large sums of money to start improvement in their institutions, they can when once given the start, and the example of wise expenditures, carry on their own organizations. By training groups in the various negro institutions, a nucleus of educated business heads would be formed and thus teach thousands of those who are ignorant of business methods. This would, in time, make for economic efficiency in our city.

2. It is suggested that the St. Louis Provident Association (a) keep separate statistics concerning their findings among the negroes. Coming in contact daily as they do with real conditions of the poor negroes of the city, it is regretted that full statistics of this

valuable information are not recorded. The public might well be made aware of these conditions thru significant reports from the Provident Association.

a. By allowing more time to the negro families with whom it comes in contact. The adjustment of the negro to our scheme of living is to come through his education largely; and the educational opportunity of the Provident Association workers is enormous, had they time for it. From the parents, with whom the visitor becomes friends; the children whom she comes to know both at home and at school; the relatives and church connections whom she meets in the course of her inquiries - all these would be vastly benefited by the insight she could give them into right principles were the time available. Perhaps in no other way could so many colored people who need to be taught and who are most ready to take suggestions and to imitate, be reached, than through these representatives of the Provident Association.

b. Invite some of our leading colored citizens, - a physician, a minister, or lawyer, or school principal; and some leading colored women - perhaps a representative of the negro Y.W.C.A., or of the colored Womens' Branch of the Council of National Defense to become members of the Case Committee. The distinct promotion of good feeling between the races would alone make this an excellent thing. In a practical way it would mean the quicker and more rational planning for colored problems and so the greater efficiency of the organization; for many times the Case Committee is either at a loss as to what to do about a colored problem, or suggests a plan that proves imprac-

ticable, probably because of the committee's lack of negro psychology and negro resources in the city.

c. Adopt definite measures of enlightening the white social workers as to the principles behind its policy in regard to the negro situation, so that the existing prejudices may in time be eradicated, at least among this small group of otherwise socially-minded members of the community.

d. Lastly, advocate the establishment of accredited training classes for negroes, with certificate of graduation which will place the negro social worker on an economic plane with the white worker. This will safeguard such workers in the future from being victims of industrial inequality in the way of under-pay.

2. Inasmuch as negroes are more susceptible to tuberculosis than white people, and that disease is a direct menace to the entire community where it exists, it would seem that more preventative measures should be taken in the case of negroes than of whites. Inasmuch as there is about four times as much tuberculosis among the negroes of St. Louis as among the whites, it would seem that the city should do four times the amount of preventive work for them. Instead, while there are few Open Air Schools for white children there are none for colored. It is therefore suggested that this situation should be met in the near future by the opening of at least one Open Air School for colored children.

4. It is urged that Parent & Teachers' Clubs, free educational lectures, exhibits, and evening settlement recreation be provided for the adult colored poor.

APPENDIX A.

PUBLIC AGENCIES IN ST. LOUIS DEALING WITH NEGROES.

1. BOARD OF CHILDRENS GUARDIANS.

This Board is supported by the municipality and has as its object the caring for neglected and delinquent children. In 1915 -16 it handled 1416 cases, 19 of which, or 13%, were colored - and almost negligible quantity considering the negro population.

2. JUVENILE COURT.

The branch of the Juvenile Court having jurisdiction over the juvenile delinquents and neglected children of St. Louis, comes in contact with a great many negro children.

In 1915 it handled a total of 1826 cases, 282, or 15%, of which were colored children. The figures are especially significant, when compared with those of Table 1, relative to the total as compared to the negro population of St. Louis. Moreover, a far looser standard of "neglect" is applied to negro children than to white; and many more negro children are neglected than ever reach the Juvenile Court.

3. CITY HOSPITAL.

No distinction is made in the records of our City Hospital between the white and colored patients. An actual count was made of the patients treated during March and April of 1918, and

1. Mayor's Message 1915-16.
2. Juvenile Court Report 1914 and 1915 pp 19 and 20.

according to it, out of the March total of 1377 patients, 395 were colored, (28%) and out of the April total of 1445 patients, 400 were colored (34%) .

4. KOCH (TUBERCULOSIS) HOSPITAL.

In 1915-16 this institution admitted 436 white and 106 colored patients. (i.e. the negro admissions were 24% of the total). In the same year 221 whites and 73 colored patients died of tuberculosis at this hospital.

5. CITY INFIRMARY.

TABLE SHOWING NUMBER OF INMATES ADMITTED , DISCHARGED AND DIED DURING FISCAL YEAR 1917-18 - MARCH 31 to MARCH 31.

	W.M.	C.M.	W.F.	C.F.	Total
Total number inmates on hand	597	42	187	31	857
Admissions during the year	266	43	68	19	396
	863	85	255	50	1253
Discharges during the year	268	21	48	9	346
Deaths during the year	100	8	26	9	143
Total number leaving Institution during year.	368	29	74	18	489
Total number inmates remaining at close of year.	495	56	181	32	764
Daily average number inmates for year.	799 54/365				

1. Mayor's Message 1915-16

It will be seen that there are proportionately fewer negro than white at the City Infirmary (Almshouse). It is conceded by all the attendants that they are far less troublesome than whites, and more willing to work when able - and furthermore that the negroes do not come to the Infirmary until far more advanced in years than white old people.

On March 31, 1917 there were 73 colored out of a total of 856 and on March 31, 1918 there were 88 out of a total of 764 inmates of the Infirmary (Almshouse.)

5. Barnes Hospital

For a weekly fee of \$ 14.00 Barnes Hospital will take p patients irrespective of race. This hospital also has about 12 free beds for negro patients.

APPENDIX B.

NEGRO ORGANIZATIONS IN ST. LOUIS.

1. RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATIONS.

There are in St. Louis forty-seven recognized negro churches, 24 of which are Baptist and 15 of which are Methodist. Besides these there is a colored Y. W. C. A. and two colored Y. M. C. A's.

2. SCHOOLS:

St. Louis has nine public grammar schools for negroes and one High School.

3. CLUBS.

The colored women of St. Louis have 18 clubs, which are federated. The W.C.T.U. has a colored branch in this city.

There is a Civic League of negroes in Elleardsville which is one of the city's largest negro sections.

4. LODGES.

Six Lodges have negro chapters in St. Louis.

5. UNIONS.

As far as can be learned, there is only one non-union of colored men in St. Louis, viz., The Colored Waiter's Alliance.

In practically every occupation where colored labor is permitted, there are negro members admitted to the unions of those occupations.

MISSOURI STATE ARCHIVES

APPENDIX C

MISSOURI LAWS CONCERNING NEGROES.

1. The law of Missouri pertaining to schools for negroes, provides that whenever there are fifteen or more in a community, a negro school shall be established. ¹ If there are less than fifteen in any community, then negro children may go to the nearest colored public school, whether it is in their district or not, and they can demand their transportation refunded. Colored schools must conform to the same rules as white concerning length of attendance. In St. Louis where the colored schools are at considerable distance from children's homes the Board of Education provides carfare.

2. In this state it is a two year penitentiary offense, or an offense subject to \$100. or more fine, for a white and a colored person to marry. A jury is provided to determine the amount of negro blood by appearance. ²

3. Although it would seem to be a violation of the Fourteenth Amendment to segregate negroes from white in public gatherings, such as theatres, this question came to an issue in 1876 in Missouri, and it was determined then that a law requiring separate accommodations for negroes in theatres was constitutional. ³

4. St. Louis House Bill #335 in 1912 provided for "white" and "colored" blocks for residence, schools and churches. This Bill was

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1. Missouri Statutes, Art. II, Sec. 10795.
 2. Stephanson, R.D. in A.L. p. 37
 3. Missouri Statutes. Art 7, Sec. 1.

introduced by the United Welfare Association (which is made up of ten improvement associations). It was plainly a discrimination against the negroes because no law would ever be needed to "prevent" white people from deliberately moving into a colored block. This Bill was passed, but is being carried to the Supreme Court on the grounds of its unconstitutionality. It has never been enforced.

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