

Called Meeting
of the
Board of Directors of the
Peoples Institute and Portland Free Dispensary

July 1928

A called meeting of the Board of Directors of the Peoples Institute and Portland Free Dispensary was held Friday, July 10, 1928 at 10:30 A.M. in the office of the Dispensary. Present were Mrs Rockey presiding, Mrs Gerlinger, Mrs Bailey, Mrs Shevlin, Mrs Kerr, Mrs Hamilton Corbett, Mrs C. H. Lewis, Mrs David Honeyman, Mrs Grelle, Mrs Devereaux and Miss Prichard.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved and the action of the Board of Directors at that meeting ratified by vote of the Board.

The Treasurer's report was read and accepted. The Superintendent's report was read and approved. This report showed a total number of visits or treatments of 3480 and the average number of patients per day as 133.

Miss Prichard reported for the committee appointed by Mrs Rockey at the last meeting who went to the County Commissioners with a tentative budget for 1929, estimating the entire amount needed from the County or Community Chest or both as \$13,000.00 for the year 1929. They asked the County to assume a larger share of this amount. Mr Amadee Smith, Chairman of the Commissioners said the whole thing would have to go before the Tax Commission before anything could be done.

Mr Smith asked for a detailed report of our budget and our patients so that they could determine what proportion of the patients would be the county's share. On a second visit the committee took to the Commissioners a complete budget of the Dispensary, including all amounts expected from every contributing source, which amounted to \$41, 716.97 for 1929.

Estimating the Patients for the month of June 1928, which was considered an average month, it was found that 97% of the patients were strictly county patients having a county residence of six months or more.

The estimated cost of each visit, based on statistics of 1927 was \$1.08. Estimated cost of each patient per year was \$3.84. From dues received, the average paid by patient was .64 per year. The part to be paid by cooperating agencies would be \$3.20 per patient, therefore the county's share for each patient, 97%, would be \$3.10. On this basis the legitimate share of the county for 1927 would have been \$31,408.12.

The County Commissioners agreed that they should carry a larger proportion of our budget, but stated that money received from the county could only be used for one very definite purpose and that was to give Medical aid to the indigent of Multnomah County and that all work that was classified as Public Health Work, Social Service Work or Health Education work would have to be financed from some other source such as the Community Chest or private subscription.

The Commissioners stated it would be necessary for us to go before the Chest again this year and ask for the sum necessary because no action no matter how favorable could be gotten until December of this year or later. Then the amount received from the County could be deducted from that received from the Community Chest. A copy of the minutes of the second meeting with the County Commissioners, taken by Mrs Gerlinger and sent to Dr Dillehunt was read to the Board.

Dr Dillehunt was present and spoke to the Board of the necessity of proper housing and proper facilities to carry on the work of the Dispensary. The logical place for such a building seems to be in the Medical Centre of the city, that is up with the County Hospital and State Medical School. The Rockefeller Foundation on being approached indicated that support might be given if there was an assurance that the Supporters of the Dispensary would continue their support after the building had been acquired.

Dr. Dillehunt stated that the Dispensary is in reality the Out-Patient

department of the County Hospital. He stated that it would be necessary to give an absolutely detailed account of our budget in every respect to the county so that each item can be accurately charged to the source of income to which it belongs. This must be done so that the County can legally give the funds for a definite purpose.

The Medical School has a contract with Multnomah County regarding the operation of the County Hospital, legalized by the State Legislature.

Dr. Dillehunt explained his conference with the Education Board of the Rockefeller Foundation. He presented to them the work of the Medical School and the work of the Dispensary in connection with it and showed the need of a new building for this work in connection with the buildings of the Medical School.

He stated that they gave him to understand that if he could assure them that there would be at least \$50,000.00 a year promised here in Portland for the maintenance of this work that they would provide the money for a new building.

He spoke of the meeting which he called after his return from the east, of representatives of all organizations cooperating in the work of the Dispensary, at which time he presented this subject to them. Mrs. Rockey and Miss Prichard represented the Dispensary at that meeting. All present expressed their interest and willingness to cooperate in this larger plan, but none could speak officially. As the yearly amount now contributed for the Dispensary amounts to \$41,000.00 it was felt that it would not be difficult to secure the \$50,000.00 desired, particularly as the County seemed inclined to increase their appropriation, Dr. Dillehunt stated that his desire was to secure an adequate building for the work of the Dispensary and to see the work grow and develop in the future in cooperation with the Peoples Institute, as it had done in the past.

Mrs. Rockey announced that Mrs. David Honeyman would be Colonel for the

collection of funds for the Community Chest Drive this year. The Peoples Institute has for its territory District 51, which includes Dunthorpe and vicinity.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned.

Signed - Bessie H. Grelle.