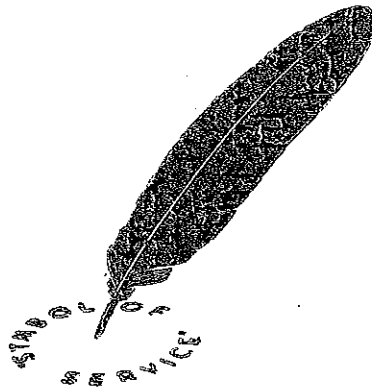


1953

EDMONTON COUNCIL OF COMMUNITY SERVICES

ANNUAL REPORT

1953



10128 - 98 STREET
EDMONTON, ALBERTA

EDMONTON COUNCIL OF COMMUNITY SERVICES

President's Report to Annual Meeting

April 1st, 1954.

Again this year our Annual Meeting is rather late and, therefore, I believe it will be more realistic to report on the activities of the Council to date rather than only for the calendar year of 1953.

For the third consecutive year it is necessary for the President to preface his report with the comment "The past year, for the Council, has been one of upset and change". One year ago to-day our small staff was amalgamated with that of the Community Chest and our Executive Director was appointed as Executive Director of the Community Chest and the Council of Community Services. At the same time our Assistant Executive Director, A.M. Brunlees, joined the staff. Under the new plan all staff are considered to be working for both organizations but each member has been assigned major responsibility in a given area.

In the late fall your Board of Directors carefully reviewed this plan and agreed that, in general, this plan of operation was proving to be a success. Certainly it was felt that a closer liaison and better understanding had developed between the Chest and the Council. On the other hand, however, it was recognized that in many ways the work of the Council had suffered, particularly during the campaign period when because of the demands on the time of Mr. Anguish and Mr. Brunlees committee work in the Council came to a stand-still for over three months. Your Board, therefore, recommended that consideration be given to the engagement of a second assistant executive director with the understanding that the major part of his (or her) time be given to Council work. This recommendation was approved by the Joint Personnel Committee in December and by the Board of Directors of the Chest in January. Since then a search for the right person has been going forward. Two or three possible applications are now at hand for the consideration of the Personnel Committee in the near future.

MAJOR COMMITTEES

The year under review was our first full year under our new system of carrying out the work of the Council through project committees rather than Divisions. As has been indicated above this has been a difficult year in which to assess results of a new system. Committees, as well as Divisions, require a good deal of staff time and where that is not available too much in the way of results cannot be expected. I believe, however, that the brief reports of each committee show that in spite of difficulties some achievements have been possible. Your Directors are convinced that bringing organizations together in a committee for a specific purpose in which they are concerned rather than grouping them in any artificial manner will pay dividends in the long run.

Committee on Juvenile Delinquency - Chairman - W. Clarence Richards

In addition to suffering from shortage of staff time this committee has been dogged with various misfortunes since it was organized last February. In an effort to break down its tremendous task into more manageable projects three sub-committees were formed. One was assigned the task of surveying the situation as it exists in Edmonton and attempting to analyse the predominant problems, areas of concentration, etc. It was decided, as a first step, to plot on a large map all cases handled by the Youth Guidance Section of the Police Department in the first ten months of 1953. Chief Jennings approved the plan but was unable to obtain permission for the committee to use the Department's records until late in July. Then came the campaign. As a result actual work on the map (and it had to be remounted twice) did not get under way until late November when Mr. John Fullerton came in as a volunteer and worked with Mrs. Carefoot of our staff to plot the hundreds of cases. This sub-committee also lost its chairman last fall -- a further impediment.

The second sub-committee was charged with the responsibility of surveying and assessing the preventive and correctional services at present operating in our community. This group under the chairmanship of Mr. D. Mack has begun its work but, too, has been hampered by the lack of staff time available. The third group, under the chairmanship of Mr. D.G. McCullagh is beginning to survey new methods of tackling the problem of delinquency and results of community efforts elsewhere.

It is hoped that in the near future the work of these three sub-committees can be brought together and some plans laid to tackle a situation which our studies so far have shown to be a serious one.

Committee on Transients - Chairman - J. Clark Ready

Vice-Chairman - Very Rev. J. Grant Sparling

During the past four months this has been the most active of all our committees. After an inactive period this committee reconvened in November at the request of its member organizations. It was recognized that the problem of meeting the needs of transients during the winter months had been growing steadily more difficult. As a result a delegation met the Minister of Public Welfare and members of his staff in December to request provision of additional accommodation for single male transients and a central registration bureau to provide a focus for all services and to reduce overlapping. The Minister agreed with the latter suggestion but it was felt that because of conflicting statements regarding accommodation no action could be taken in this regard until some centralization had clarified the picture. The Department of Public Welfare, however, could not see its way clear to operating a central bureau and suggested that this might be done on a temporary basis by the Salvation Army.

After some further consideration by the committee the Salvation Army agreed to provide the necessary administration and supervision for a Central Registration Bureau for an experimental period. The Province agreed to accept the major part of the operational cost of the Bureau. Permission was obtained from the City to erect a temporary building next to the present Salvation Army Hostel and M.D. Muttart Ltd. donated a suitable building. Poole Construction Co. donated labor and materials to provide a floor and the City made workmen available to erect the building. Staff of the Salvation Army completed the work on the interior. The City of Edmonton also agreed to accept 1/3 of the operational costs of the Bureau for the experimental period only. An advisory committee was also set up to work with Major Jennings of the Salvation Army on matters of administration.

The extreme cold experienced in January held up work on the building but the Bureau opened its doors early in February. From the first day it proved its value in centralizing all applications for assistance. Overlapping was definitely reduced and a clear picture of the actual situation was obtained. But since the day it opened the Bureau has had more applications for bed accommodation than it could provide in spite of excellent co-operation from the Provincial Hostel, the Salvation Army Hostel and outside rooming house accommodation for which the Province has agreed to pay. At a recent meeting the whole situation was reviewed and it was decided that the operation of such a bureau is too much for any private agency. The Salvation Army has advised that they will withdraw at the end of March and the Provincial Welfare Department has been asked to take over the Bureau's operations for the balance of the season.

I feel that this committee is to be highly commended for its excellent work and trust that some arrangement can be made for the continuation of the Bureau. On behalf of the entire Council I wish to express our appreciation to Major Jennings and his staff for their untiring efforts under great difficulties, to the Province and the City for their co-operation and to M.D. Muttart Ltd. and Poole Construction Co. for their kindness in this matter.

Child Welfare Committee - Chairman - Mrs. C.E.F. Wolfe

After the Child Welfare Workshop held in February of 1953 it was decided to set up a standing committee on Child Welfare and Mrs. Wolfe was prevailed upon to act as its chairman. At a meeting of the steering committee held late in the spring it was decided to attempt to proceed with work on two problems as a beginning, viz. -

- (a) A study of costs of care in child caring institutions in an attempt to ascertain whether or not present rates of board paid by various public bodies are sufficient; and (b) a study of the problem of foster home care of children who are not wards of either the city or the province.

Again this committee was handicapped by the holiday season and the Chest campaign. One attempt to convene a committee of institutions on the first problem was made in October but was unsuccessful. I am pleased to report, however, that last week this sub-committee held an encouraging meeting and is considering joint action as a committee of child caring institutions, with the Council acting as a facilitator. It is possible that this

may become a standing committee of its own to go on with a study of other mutual problems facing the institutions.

The second problem presented to the committee has not yet received attention. Because of its ramifications it may have to wait until additional staff assistance is available.

Committee on Mental Health - Chairman - Dr. D.E. Smith

This is another matter in which the Council has fulfilled its role as facilitator in a matter of community concern. For some time a number of organizations and individuals in the city have been concerned about the possibility of forming an Alberta Mental Health Association. This matter was brought to a head in the early winter by a visit from Dr. C.M. Hincks of the Canadian Mental Health Association which resulted in an offer by the Hon. Dr. W.W. Cross, Minister of Health for Alberta, to apply for a Federal Health Grant to assist in the financing of such an Association. At the same time there was a movement in Calgary which resulted in the setting up of a local Mental Health Association in February of this year.

At the suggestion of Dr. Smith a committee was set up to bring together those concerned with Mental Health in Edmonton. This group has agreed in principle that Alberta should have a Mental Health Association but because of many factors involved have counselled a policy of proceeding slowly and examining all factors. This committee is trying to look beyond the setting up of an organization in the Mental Health field and to consider such problems as long-range financing, the role of such an organization, problems of staff, relationship to present mental health services, etc. It has also been considering the possible need for a mental health committee within the Council which would have as its primary concern mental health services in Edmonton.

Social Service Exchange Committee - Chairman - Mrs. J. Grant Sparling

This is a standing committee whose chief responsibility is to act in an advisory capacity to the Board and the Executive Director on all aspects of operation of the Social Service Exchange and the Christmas Exchange. Last year the committee spent some time on developing a handbook on the Social Service Exchange as a first step in a program of interpretation to agencies. I regret to report that the final production of this handbook has been another casualty of our staff shortage. The committee hopes, however, to have this prepared shortly and to follow this up by meetings with various agencies using the Exchange or who might be using it.

A statistical report of the use of the Exchange will be found as an appendix to this report.

I should also mention here that Mrs. Sparling, at the last meeting of the Board of Directors tendered her resignation as Chairman of this committee. This resignation was accepted with regret and an expression of sincere appreciation for the splendid work Mrs. Sparling has done on this committee during the past two years. I am pleased to advise you that Mrs. J.R. Love has agreed to take on this responsibility.

Budget Committee - Chairman - R. A. Harrison.

Although the Budget Committee is usually thought of as a committee of the Community Chest I believe it merits reference along with the major committees of the Council. This committee is now composed of nineteen members of which the Council appoints nine. This is a year-round committee which in addition to studying the budgets of the 31 Red Feather organizations, meets with any agency to discuss problems of finance, etc., whenever needed. During the past three months the Budget Committee and its six sub-committees have held no fewer than twelve meetings, many of which started at 7 P.M. and finished a few minutes before midnight. In addition to this the members of the committee spent considerable time visiting the organizations for whom their respective sub-committees are responsible. The Budget committee is one of the hardest working committees of the Chest and Council and their efforts cannot be too highly commended.

Special Committees.

In addition to the committees mentioned above three other committees have been in action for shorter periods. Two of these have been small committees of the Board. Early in 1953 one committee, at the request of the Chest, made a study of the Home for Ex-Servicemen's Children and recommended among other things, that the number of children in the Home be reduced to 36, the maximum figure set by the Child Welfare Commission. This reduction has subsequently been achieved. Another recommendation was that a special grant be made by the Chest to provide for additional bathroom facilities, new locker accommodation for the children and new play room equipment. This grant was made and the equipment has been purchased and put to use.

The second Board committee made a survey of the services of the Canadian Arthritis and Rheumatism Society (Edmonton Branch) at the request of the Chest when the Society applied for Chest membership. The Society has been admitted to membership in the Chest, effective January 1st, 1955.

A special, short-term committee, under the chairmanship of Mr. Fred Brown was established last June to consider the problem of recreation for personnel of the Armed Forces on leave in Edmonton. Representatives of many recreational agencies, veterans organizations and of the Army and Air Force were brought together in this committee and were able to iron out conflicts and misunderstandings. During the summer a weekly bulletin was issued which provided personnel coming to Edmonton with information in advance regarding all types of recreational activities. The Army in particular expressed its appreciation of this service, which, to a great extent, was made possible by the staff assistance of Mr. Brunlees and the co-operation of Mr. Farina, Superintendent of the Recreation Commission.

General

So far I have mentioned only the more tangible aspects of the Council's work. In addition to the work of the committees less spectacular, but none the less important activities are carried out from day to day by our staff. These include consultation with member agencies, technical advice, public addresses, attendance at meetings of related organizations, referral of people seeking help to the correct agency, a general information service, etc.

Nor have I mentioned the work carried on throughout the year by your Board of Directors. Your Directors are a most faithful group and have given freely of their time and energy through a most difficult period. I know I can speak for the entire membership of the Council in expressing your sincere appreciation for their devoted service. May I also take this opportunity of thanking our staff for their efforts which have often exceeded the bounds of duty.

It would not be right to close this report without also expressing our appreciation to Mr. H. G. Greenwood, Past President of the Community Chest and to Mr. F. J. Caine his successor for their unfailing interest and support. And last, but by no means least, may I also thank the Press and Radio for their continued interest and support throughout the year.

Dr. Herbert Meltzer,
President,
EDMONTON COUNCIL OF COMMUNITY SERVICES.

EDMONTON COUNCIL OF COMMUNITY SERVICES

Balance Sheet

December 31, 1953

Assets

Cash in bank and on hand		\$ 281.54
Furniture and fixtures	\$ 1,259.08	
Less accumulated depreciation	<u>743.31</u>	<u>515.77</u>
		\$ <u>797.31</u>

Surplus

Surplus account:		
Amount at December 31, 1952		\$1,024.86
Deduct net loss year ended December 31, 1953		<u>227.55</u>
Amount at December 31, 1953		\$ <u>797.31</u>

EDMONTON COUNCIL OF COMMUNITY SERVICES

Statement of Receipts and Disbursements
Year ended December 31, 1953

Receipts:

Community Chest of Edmonton	\$ 10,067.00
Sale of publications	10.85
Gifts designated for specific purposes	<u>59.00</u>
	10,136.85

Disbursements:

Salaries	\$ 8,067.79
Purchase of equipment	197.50
Rent	480.00
Stationery and office supplies	130.01
Printing and mimeographing	487.38
Maintenance and office equipment	42.25
Books and publications	53.34
Postage and excise	59.00
Telephone and telegraph	241.13
Audit fee	40.00
Membership fees	41.23
Meetings	99.58
Conference and travelling	372.40
Transportation	17.40
Fire insurance	13.20
Gifts allocated to specific purposes	59.00
Sundry	<u>34.78</u>
	<u>10,435.99</u>
Excess of disbursements over receipts	299.14

Decrease in funds:

Cash in bank and on hand, December 31, 1953	281.54
Less:	
Cash in bank and on hand, December 31, 1952	<u>580.68</u>
	<u>299.14</u>

PEAT, MARWICK, MITCHELL & CO.
Chartered Accountants

Empire Block
EDMONTON, ALBERTA.

February 3, 1954.

SIGNED COPY

AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS

We have examined the accounts of the Edmonton Council of Community Services for the year ended December 31, 1953, and have prepared therefrom the following statements appended hereto:

Balance Sheet, as of December 31, 1953
Statement of Income and Expenditure,
year ended December 31, 1953
Statement of Receipts and Disbursements,
year ended December 31, 1953

We have to report that we have obtained all the information and explanations we have required and, in our opinion, the appended balance sheet and statements of income and expenditure and receipts and disbursements correctly set forth the financial condition of the organization as of December 31, 1953, and the changes in its funds during the year under review.

(signed) PEAT, MARWICK, MITCHELL & CO.

Auditors.

EDMONTON COUNCIL OF COMMUNITY SERVICES

SOCIAL SERVICE EXCHANGE

Summary - January to December, 1953.

AGENCY.	ENQUIRIES.	ENQUIRIES IDENTIFIED.	REGISTRATIONS.	REGISTRATIONS IDENTIFIED.	TOTAL CLEARINGS COLS. 1 & 3.
C.W.D.	851	202	890	228	1741
C.N.I.B.	-	-	263	125	263
C.R.C.	1	-	-	-	1
D.V.A.MSS.	4	1	5	3	9
FAM.CRT.	109	28	-	-	109
F.S.B.	50	12	274	52	324
G.C.	1	-	203	29	204
O.P.D.	-	-	220	88	220
Y.W.C.A.TA.	2	-	2	1	4
MISC.	2	-	2	1	4
TOTALS:	1020	243	1859	527	2879

10 Agencies.