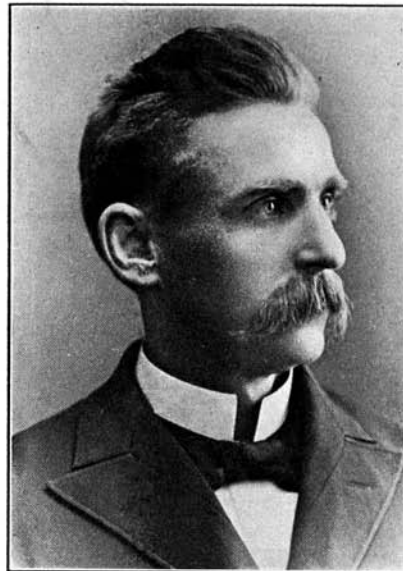


FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY

—of—

*St. John's Home*

1899 - 1949



REV. J. F. W. HELMKAMP

Founder and First President of the Board from 1899 to 1910

*September 25, 1949*

SOUTH AND HIGHLAND AVENUES

ROCHESTER, N. Y.

**DR. FREDERICK  
FRANKENFELD**



**President of the Board  
1910-1934**

**DR. FREDERICK  
H. DIEHM**



**President of the  
Board 1934-1944**

**DR. PAUL M. SCHROEDER**



**President of the Board 1944-**

## History of St. John's Home

**(A Most Exceptional Instance:** Pastor Carl Betz, of Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Rochester, was a member of the original group when St. John's Home was founded. And he has served on the Board of Managers these many years with a rare faithfulness and Christian love. He knows out of his own experience whereof he speaks in the following story.)

On the occasion of the 50th anniversary of St. John's Home it is fitting to give, even in a brief form, a review of its history for the information of those members of our churches and friends of the Home who are not so conversant with the founding and development of the Home.

It was the Rev. J. F. W. Helmkamp, Pastor of Salem Evangelical and Reformed Church who first conceived the idea of founding an institution for the benefit of the sick, aged and needy among our German Protestant people. However, the first idea in the mind of Pastor Helmkamp was not a Home for the Aged, but rather a Deaconess Training School, with which of course would be connected a hospital and Home for the Aged. This idea was at first not taken up seriously by his fellow pastors, except by the Rev. W. Baur, Pastor of St. Paul's Ev. Church. Nevertheless, a meeting of these pastors was called for December 18th, 1898 at Salem Church, when a more favorable attitude was taken toward the projected matter and invitations were sent out for a more general meeting of the members of our German speaking churches relative to a Deaconess Society and the founding of a Deaconess Training School. The response to the invitation was gratifying and numerous applications for membership in the Society were received together with expressions of willingness from some young women to enter the new proposed Training School. Among these young ladies was Miss Christine Schwarz and Miss Frieda Schall. A second meeting took place January, 1899 at which it was deemed advisable to invite the business men from our churches to give their advice and counsel in this matter. Such a meeting was held on May 9th, 1899 at the old YMCA on South Avenue, following a Pastors' meeting on May 5th.

At the meeting on May 9th after sufficient discussion and deliberation, resolutions were passed. They were the following:

1. It is the wish of this meeting to proceed with the founding of a Home for the Aged together with a Deaconess Training School.
2. The members of the Lutheran churches are to be invited by a special committee to take part in this undertaking.

The next meeting on July 3, 1899 at Salem Church attended by the pastors of the following Protestant denominations: the Evangelical, the Lutheran, the Reformed, the Methodist and Baptist, decided to appoint a committee of five to draft a constitution for the founding of a Society for the realization of the proposed Home. A mass meeting was called for August 14th, 1899 at Salem Church, which was well attended and full of enthusiasm. At this meeting the draft of the constitution was read and adopted with a few changes and thus the founding and organization of St. John's Charitable Association was effected. Hundreds of persons declared their willingness to join the new Society and paid their membership fee—\$1.00. A Board of 24 members from the various denominations was elected, of which the following were the first officers: Rev. J. F. W. Helmkamp, President; Rev. H. H. Heck, Vice-President; Pastor C. A. Daniel, Recording Secretary; Pastor C. N. Conrad, Corresponding Secretary; Pastor H. E. Schnatz, Financial Secretary; Mrs. George Roth, Treasurer. The officers of the newly formed Ladies' Auxiliary were as follows: Mrs. J. Werner, President; Mrs. A. J. Ramaker, Vice-President; Mrs. W. Vicinus, Recording Secretary; Mrs. C. B. Meier, Corresponding Secretary; and Mrs. Emma Bornekessel, Treasurer.

The next step was to find a suitable house. After some search by a committee a house was found which was considered to meet the requirements at the corner of Lake Avenue and Flower City Park. It was rented for \$300.00 annually. On Nov. 21, 1899 the impressive dedication of this house took place as St. John's Home. By this time suitable persons had also been found for the positions as Housefather and Housemother. They were Mr. and Mrs. George Bernhardt, who took their positions with enthusiasm and zeal and served the Home until 1903. Many business people made liberal donations to the new Home. Ten persons were received into the Home as residents the first year and by the end of 1900 the number had increased to 24. It was not very long before an annex had to be rented to accommodate the increasing number of applicants. The good women of our churches for a while provided the food for the Institution, and later solicited annually for the Home till the Community Chest relieved them from this task. The total amount collected till then was \$60,000. The Ladies' Aid had a younger sister society, called the First Circle, which also worked faithfully for the Home.

A memorable date in the history of the Home was August 11th, 1900. Since the opening of the Home on Lake Avenue members of the Board and men interested in the young institution had been looking around for a suitable lot upon which to erect a permanent building. On the advice of Mr. Fred Cook, later a great benefactor of the Home, Pastor Helmkamp together with Pastor Baur made the acquaintance of Mr. George Ellwanger, whose interest in the new institution they solicited. Mr. Ellwanger was impressed by what the two pastors told him and later he showed his interest by a donation of \$50.00. On Aug. 11th, 1900 he notified Pastor Helmkamp that he was going to relieve him and others from their worries about a permanent place for the Home by donating a property of his on South and Highland Avenues. It was his former homestead, a house with 14 rooms and 6 acres of land, valued at \$15,000.00. The moral effect of this valuable gift soon became noticeable, for the conviction now grew among the public that the new institution had a secure basis and a promising future. After the necessary changes had been made occupation of the new Home took place April 9th, 1901 in the presence of a large company. In the same summer an addition was made to the house because of increasing applications for admission. The cost of this addition was \$11,000.00. The dedication of this new wing took place Nov. 13th, 1901.

As a result of ever increasing demands for admission to the Home, new plans had to be made for further expansion. Encouraged by liberal gifts from friends of the Home, such as Mr. and Mrs. W. Bausch, Mr. W. Vicinus, Mr. H. Lomb and especially by the legacy of Mr. Fred Cook to the amount of \$25,000.00, it was decided to build, although the estimated costs were to be \$37,000.00, without the furnishings and equipment. Only \$3,000.00 were lacking from the amount needed, which, however, Mrs. F. Cook graciously donated and more than that. In June, 1906 the cornerstone for the Cook Memorial Wing was laid and the dedication of this wing took place April 25th, 1907. A large number of friends of the Home was present. The Memorial Wing, constituting the north wing, included also the fine chapel.

For a number of years this addition provided ample room. However it became necessary to build again to enable more people to come into the Home. It was surely a most welcome announcement at a meeting of the Board on Dec. 1st, 1929, by Mr. W. Bausch that Mr. William Deininger had very graciously agreed to give the magnificent sum of \$50,000.00 to provide more room. The announcement of this gift was most enthusiastically received and plans were at once drawn for the present Deininger Wing. However, its costs exceeded the original \$50,000.00 by \$15,000.00 but Mr. Deininger generously added this amount to the original gift. Mr. and Mrs. W. Bausch, benefactors of the Home for many years, donated the furnishings and equipment of the new wing. Mr. Deininger added later to his princely gift an elevator for the Home family, which proved most helpful to those residents (of the

Home) who found stair-climbing a hardship. The dedication of the Deininger Wing took place Jan. 11th, 1931 in the presence of a large number of friends.

Lack of space forbids mention of all the many benefactors of the Home in these 50 years. An Honor Roll in the entrance of the Home records the names of some of these benefactors. The names of others are preserved in the grateful memory of those who through the years came to know them and knew of their deeds of love and kindness.

To the story of the external development of our Home must be added other information which relates to the management of the Home and services rendered for the comfort and welfare of its residents.

The Board of Directors has grown since 1899 to its present number (36), members largely of our eleven supporting churches. The Society has according to the last report, 1,088 members.

In 1903 Mr. and Mrs. Bernhardt resigned their positions and in their places were called Sister Christine Schwarz and Sister Frieda Schall. After a short time Sister Frieda left the Home and Sister Christine held the position of Superintendent and Matron till February, 1940. Her name is indelibly written into the history of St. John's Home and her services throughout these 36 and more years are not forgotten. Sister Christine after leaving the city entered the Deaconess Hospital in St. Louis. Her successor was Miss Lillian Rothe, who served the Home willingly and faithfully till the present. The Rev. W. Schmitt, former Acting Hospital Chaplain for the Federation of Churches, assumed the superintendency last month.

Mention must now be made of the medical care which the residents of the Home received through the years from the physicians who served on the medical staff of the Home. Dr. J. C. Davis served from 1899 till his retirement many years later. In 1904 Dr. Paul Luedecke became one of the Home doctors, who served also many years. Dr. A. Cassebeer served since 1909 till now. Dr. C. Reitz joined the ranks of our doctors in 1913 and retired later. Dr. Eugene W. Rother served since 1917 and is still serving the Home most faithfully. Dr. A. Bastian has also been on our medical staff for a number of years. Up to World War II we also had the services of Dr. Edward Hoffman, who doing war service had to discontinue his care for our patients. Earlier in the history of the Home Drs. Hennington and Maynard served temporarily.

Our nursing staff has been active in the Home for a number of years; the needs of the Home family necessitated an enlargement of the staff compared with years ago.

The pastors of our various Protestant churches served in the chapel of the Home with religious services, which fact should be mentioned gratefully.

Since the founding of the Home the following pastors served as presidents of the Board: Pastor J. F. W. Helmkamp, Dr. F. Frankenfeld, Dr. F. Diehm and Dr. Paul M. Schroeder.

The present officers of the Board are Dr. P. M. Schroeder, President; Pastor R. Wolf, Vice-President; Pastor A. Schnake, Recording Secretary; Pastor C. Betz, Corresponding Secretary; Mr. Wm. G. Staudenmaier, Treasurer; Mr. C. Strassner, Financial Secretary and Membership Secretary.

The number of persons who have come to the Home in these fifty years for permanent or temporary stay is approximately 600. The average stay of permanent residents has been 7 years and the average age at death 81 years.

The financial condition of the Home is satisfactory, but the continued liberal support of our friends and benefactors is still needed.

Looking back on this 50th anniversary we have ample reasons to cry out with the psalmist: "This is the Lord's doing; it is marvellous in our eyes. Bless the Lord and forget not His benefits."

Pastor C. Betz.

# ST. JOHN'S HOME FOR THE AGED

## *Fiftieth Anniversary*

September 25, 1949

3:00 p.m.

### SALEM CHURCH

Franklin Street at St. Paul Street

### PROGRAM

Rev. Paul M. Schroeder, presiding

**Prelude** Miss Wilma Jean Hoyle, Organist

**Call to Worship** Rev. Frederick Grunst

**Invocation** Rev. Carl G. Haass

**Hymn** "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"

<p>Praise thou the Lord, O my soul, now praise Him, His praise continue until death; While I the pathways of earth am tread- ing God shall be praised with every breath. My soul and body He did give, And waits my praise from morn till eve, O praise the Lord, O praise the Lord.</p>	<p>Happy, yea, happy are they forever Whose help the God of Jacob is, Who hath created the earth and heaven, The sea and all that therein is. Let all the world His praises sing, Who life and health to all doth bring, O praise the Lord, O praise the Lord.</p>
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<b>Scripture</b>	Psalm 103 Galatians 6:2-10	Rev. Bernard J. Tepas Rev. George Roser
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**Prayer** Rev. O. E. Kruger

**United Choirs** "Sanctus" Gounod  
Mr. Lawrence Parker, Director

**Retrospect and Prospect** President, Dr. Paul M. Schroeder

**Greetings** from the Mayor of the City of Rochester, Hon. Samuel Dicker

**Greetings** from the Council of Social Agencies, Hon. Clarence M. Gifford

**Hymn** "My Country 'Tis of Thee"

<p>My country, 'tis of Thee, Sweet land of liberty, Of thee I sing; Land where my fathers died, Land of the pilgrims' pride, From every mountain side Let freedom ring.</p>	<p>Our fathers' God, to Thee, Author of liberty, To Thee we sing: Long may our land be bright With freedom's holy light; Protect us by Thy might, Great God, our King.</p>
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### Recognition of fifty years of service to the Home by Pastor Carl Betz

Presentation Rev. John Kirsch

Response Rev. Carl Betz

**Installation of New Superintendent** Vice-President, R. A. Wolf

### Dedication of Portrait of First President of the Home, Pastor Helmkamp

Presentation by the sons of Dr. Helmkamp

Acceptance by Rev. Alfred Schnake

**Choirs** "Gloria in Excelsis" Gounod

**Address** Rev. Frederick Diehm, President of the Home 1934-1944

**Offering** Rev. Oscar Nussmann

**Hymn** "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"

<p>A mighty fortress is our God, A bulwark never failing; Our helper He amid the flood Of mortal ills prevailing. For still our ancient foe Doth seek to work us woe; His craft and power are great; And, armed with cruel hate, On earth is not his equal.</p>	<p>Did we in our own strength confide, Our striving would be losing; Were not the right man on our side, The man of God's own choosing. Dost ask who that may be? Christ Jesus, it is He, Lord Sabaoth His name, From age to age the same, And He must win the battle.</p>
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**Prayer and Benediction** Rev. Louis G. Golder

### OPEN HOUSE AT ST. JOHN'S HOME

You are most cordially invited to attend the Open House at St. John's Home Wednesday Afternoon and Evening, on September Twenty-eighth, from Three to Eight o'clock. Refreshments will be served by the Ladies' Aid of St. John's Home.

### SPECIAL ST. JOHN'S HOME ASSOCIATION MEETING

A Special Meeting of the Members of the Association will be conducted on that same evening at eight o'clock to act upon the proposed changes in the Constitution as outlined in the last Home Bulletin.



**OUR LEADERS****In the Anniversary Year — 1949****Officers of the Board**

President .....: Paul M. Schroeder  
 Vice-President ..... Richard Wolf  
 Recording Secretary ..... Alfred Schnake  
 Corresponding Secretary ..... Carl Betz  
 Membership Secretary ..... Chester Strassner

Financial Secretary ..... Chester Strassner  
 Treasurer ..... Wm. G. Staudenmaier  
 Trustees: Messrs. Wm. Staudenmaier,  
 C. Schlegel, J. Lieberum, C. Spies, J. Hoff-  
 man, C. Hallauer, C. Strassner and B. J.  
 Stallman.

**I. Members of the Board,  
and Associated Churches****Representatives**

**Baptist:**  
 Andrews St. O. E. Krueger, Pastor  
 Christ B. J. Tepas, Pastor  
 Emanuel O. C. Nussmann, Pastor  
 St. Paul's A. E. Schnake, Pastor  
 Salem P. M. Schroeder, Pastor  
 Trinity C. G. Haass, Pastor  
 Lutheran:  
 Bethlehem C. Betz, Pastor  
 Concordia L. G. Golder, Pastor  
 St. John J. A. W. Kirsch, Pastor  
 Zion F. Grunst, Pastor  
 Methodist:  
 Emmanuel R. A. Wolf, Pastor  
 Mrs. Wm. Hesskamp

**II. Members at Large:** Messrs. Wm.  
 Staudenmaier, C. Schlegel, C. Hallauer  
 and C. Kaelber.

**III. Ladies' Aid Society:** Mesdames A.  
 Schnake, O. Weeks, C. Bender and G.  
 Hafner.

**IV. St. John's Home:** Rev. Wm. E.  
 Schmitt, Ex-officio.

**The St. John's Home Association** has a  
 present membership of 1,089.

A cordial invitation is extended to any-  
 one interested to take out a membership  
 at \$1.00 per year.

**The Officers of the St. John's Home  
Ladies' Aid**

Mrs. Alfred Schnake, President; Mrs.  
 Fred Reuschle, 1st Vice-President; Mrs.  
 T. C. Uhlen, 2nd Vice-President; Mrs.  
 Orlo Weeks, Treasurer; Miss Ida Zimmer,  
 Assistant Treasurer; Mrs. Chris Bender,  
 Membership Secretary; Miss Mae Stecher,  
 Chairlady of Hostesses; Mrs. B. Phillips,  
 Librarian; Mrs. Carl Betz, Secretary.

The Ladies' Aid has a present mem-  
 bership of 184. It meets on the last Friday of  
 the month; Membership Dues are \$1.50  
 per year. (Or combined Ladies' Aid and  
 Association—\$2.00.)



**SISTER CHRISTINE SCHWARTZ**  
 Superintendent 1903-1940

**THE REGULAR STAFF OF ST. JOHN'S HOME****Superintendent**

Rev. William E. Schmitt

**Medical Staff**

Physicians: A. F. Bastian, A. F. Casse-  
 beer, E. W. Rother. Resident Intern:  
 Frederick M. C. Kechan.

**Nursing Staff**

Nurses: Mrs. Rowena Hallings, Miss  
 Margaret Reedhead, Mrs. Ada Sternberg,  
 Mr. Harry Jones. Supply: Mrs. Emma  
 Hesskamp, Mrs. Elizabeth Tompkins.

**Commissary**

Mr. Ralph Rogers, Mrs. Harriet Too-  
 good.

**Maintenance**

Mr. George Losee, Mr. Harry Hering,  
 Miss Elizabeth Herbst, Mrs. Christian  
 Schwartz.



**MISS LILLIAN ROTHE**  
 Superintendent 1940-1949

### OUR HOME FAMILY AND THEIR BIRTHDAYS

Birthday			
Miss Maybelle Kinney	Jan. 17	Miss Julia Young	Aug. 4
Mrs. Mary Hanneman	Jan. 19	Mrs. Evelyn DeBruyne	Sept. 29
Mrs. Kate Martin	Jan. 26	Mrs. Nora Ruede	Oct. 16
Mrs. Anna Tardier	Jan. 30	Mrs. Emily Tuscher	Oct. 16
Mrs. Caroline Grienke	Jan. 31	Miss Carrie Pflaum	Oct. 29
Miss Christine Danzer	Feb. 4	Mrs. Mary Lauer	Nov. 11
Miss Alvina Oldenburg	Feb. 8	Mrs. Elizabeth Clark	Nov. 15
Miss Anna Lebbert	Feb. 12	Miss Mary Raschke	Nov. 16
Mrs. Emma Marvin	Feb. 19	Mrs. Barbara Holl	Nov. 27
Miss Sophie Strumpf	Feb. 20	Mrs. Anna Merlau	Nov. 28
Mrs. Augusta Schultz	Feb. 24	Mrs. Ada Wiant	Nov. 29
Miss Emma Zimmer	Mar. 2	Mrs. Anna Kistler	Dec. 15
Miss Minnie Weber	Mar. 3	Miss Louise Leible	Dec. 18
Miss Christine Popp	Mar. 10	Mrs. Johanna Pickard	Dec. 18
Miss Mary Rich	Mar. 10	Mrs. Louise Kettleholm	Dec. 20
Mrs. Anna Nessenius	Mar. 21		
Mrs. Martha Unruh	Mar. 27	Edward Arndt	Jan. 16
Miss Louise Sandusky	Apr. 14	Henry Schafer	Jan. 19
Mrs. Maude Squires	Apr. 15	Frank Ruede	Mar. 2
Mrs. Caroline Fuelhard	Apr. 24	Frank Gleichauf	Apr. 16
Mrs. Louise Weber	May 3	Fred Schmid	Apr. 22
Mrs. Caroline Bräun	May 11	Carl Barnett	May 7
Mrs. Rose Steavens	May 18	James Lambright	June 5
Miss Anna Balke	May 19	George Metzger	June 7
Mrs. Bertha Kubitz	May 19	Marius Blatau	June 20
Miss Emma Thiem	May 19	Charles Brodie	July 9
Miss Louise Kettwig	June 3	Louis Mutschler	July 23
Miss Mary Weber	June 13	Christian Lux	July 26
Miss Lena Kettwig	June 14	Herman Scheutzow	Aug. 10
Mrs. Charlotte Bansbach	June 22	Carl Schmidt	Aug. 14
Mrs. Elizabeth Raab	June 27	Albert Schild	Aug. 22
Mrs. Elizabeth Herter	July 2	Robert Schutte	Oct. 12
Mrs. Elizabeth Brakeman	July 15	Owen Thomas	Oct. 22



REV. WILLIAM E. SCHMITT  
Superintendent 1949-

### Form of Bequest

I devise and bequeath to the Protestant St. John's Charitable Association of  
Rochester, Monroe County, New York, the sum of .....  
to be used for the purpose of said corporation as its trustees may direct.

Name .....

Witness .....

Date .....

THE BULLETIN OF

# St. John's Home for the Aged

Founded — 1899

1262 SOUTH AVENUE      ROCHESTER, N. Y.

Miss Lillian Rothe, Matron      Telephone, Monroe 2100

VOL. 43

JUNE, 1944

No. 6

Editors: Rev. Elmer H. Hoefer, Miss Sue Yost

## Annual Report of the President, Frederick H. Diehm

April, 1943 to April, 1944

Dear Friends of St. John's:

This is my tenth annual report as president of our beloved Home. During these years many changes have taken place and a large number of the most loyal members of our Board have been called home. We are happy to state, that we still have many faithful members who seldom miss a meeting and are always willing to serve.

We do not remember when the residents of our Home have been quite as happy, content and cheerful as they have been the past year. It is true the physical freshness of youth has departed, but grace and beauty of age is a matter of spirit and the spirit should not grow old. To grow old gracefully is an art. May the good Lord help each and everyone of our large family to bear the infirmities of the oncoming years with cheerfulness. David in Psalm 125 says, "As the mountains are round about Jerusalem, so the Lord is round about his people forever." At present we have 42 women and 23 men, a total of 65 residents. Since our last annual meeting 21 have departed and 16 new members have joined our family.

Our matron, Miss Lillian Rothe, has had a very trying year, for the war has made itself felt in so many ways. The matter of food, help and equipment have oft tested her patience and strength. She has oft been called upon to put in many hours of manual labor. Her careful management has kept the Home family cheerful and happy. In so large a family, adjustments must oft be made and this is not an easy task.

The Board of Managers met the last Monday evening of each month, with the exception of July and August. All sessions have been permeated with a spirit of good will. We are glad to report that the Trustees are making every effort to put our building, within and without, in a number one condition. Many rooms have been redecorated, flooring replaced, and the matron's rooms not overlooked.

The Ladies' Aid Society is always alert to the many needs of our Home. We wish to express our sincere appreciation for their splendid co-operation.

The Medical Staff has had a busy year. We are deeply indebted to the members of the staff for guarding the health of our Home family. They serve without remuneration and with them it is a service of love cheerfully rendered.

Religious services have been conducted each

Sunday afternoon at three o'clock and are open to the public. The Friday evening Lenten services were much appreciated by the Home family. To Pastor Haass who arranges these services and to the pastors who conducted them so willingly we express our sincere thanks.

The donations have been many and very generous. We have requested Miss Rothe to compile a list of all, who in one way or another, made donations during the past year. To all these kind friends we say a hearty "Thank you."

Our needs are many. Will the president's dream of a Social Hall with stage, and an enlarged Entrance Hall and Waiting Room and last but not least, a renovated Chapel, will these come true? We hope so.

"I slept, and dreamed that life was beauty;  
I woke, and found that life was duty.  
Was the dream then a shadowy lie?  
Toil on, poor heart, unceasingly;  
And thou shalt find thy dream to be  
A truth and noonday light to thee."

—Ellen Hooper.

### ANNUAL MEETING

At the annual meeting of the Home the following routine reports were heard and received:

- Financial report
- Ladies' Aid Report
- President's report
- List of donations and donors
- Nominations to Board
- Report of Membership Secretary
- Report of Devotional Committee.

Apart from hearing these reports, the feasibility of erecting a small apartment house on Home grounds for couples who can pay a little more as entrance fee, was discussed.

The possibility of having outdoor services on Home grounds during summer months was brought up.

**Amendment was made to constitution as follows:**

"After the probationary period, in case the applicant has paid in more than the minimum entrance fee of \$600, 2% annually of the amount paid in excess of the minimum fee will be paid to the applicant in two installments, one on May 1, and the other on November 1, during the applicant's lifetime."

**ASK YOUR FRIENDS!**

Are you a member of the Ladies' Aid of St. John's Home for the Aged? Have you ever attended any of its meetings? If not, why not decide right now, to attend the next meeting and hear what the women are doing toward making life at our Home pleasant for the family. So many of us belong to many organizations, however know too little about their history and origin. We are therefore delving into the "Family Tree" of this organization and tracing our steps backward to early history, which should prove most interesting and bring back memories to many. Miss Lula Baetzel will give the first of these reminiscences at the June meeting, held at Salem parlors, June 9, at 2:30 P. M. This will be the annual June Party meeting, with an interesting program being planned, so come and bring a friend. Guests are always welcome. Let "I'll meet you at St. John's Ladies' Aid" be your slogan for the second Friday in each month. We'll be seeing you June 9th.

Ruth Diehm, President.

**REPORT OF THE DEVOTIONAL COMMITTEE**

During the past year services have been held Sunday afternoons at 3 o'clock. There has been a very fine response on the part of the members of our Home and their friends, who have visited them on the Sunday afternoons. There have been different ministers and laymen holding these services. Most of our services are conducted in the English language, although a number of the men conduct a German-English service.

We wish to thank the following for having served: Reverends Frederick H. Diehm, Paul M. Schroeder, Oscar C. Nussmann, Paul Schmieder, Carl Betz (he has preached 32 times in the last few years), Elmer Hofer, Daniel Fuchs, Richard Wolf, Thomas Berg, Assaf Husmann, Eugene Stowell, Herbert Plehn, Adam Schreiber, Henry Erbes, Carl T. Smith, B. J. Tepas, John Rein, Oran Holtrop, John M. Beck, William Schmidt, Laverne Erickson, Alfred Beck, Harold Dickins, Anthony Luidens, Yost Brandt, and your chairman has preached 38 times in the last few years. Also Messrs. William Burton, Raymond Voss, George Roser, Howells and Mrs. Knubel's class. Mrs. Hollenbach also served. During the Lenten season devotions were held each Friday evening just following supper. There were four communion services held. The various pastors ministered to the spiritual needs of their people in the Home. The World Day of Prayer was conducted by Mrs. Carl G. Haass on Feb. 25th.

Our thanks are also due to those people who furnished music for these services.

Respectfully submitted,

Carl G. Haass, Chairman,  
Paul Schmieder,  
Miss Lillian Rothe.

**WELCOME TO NEW RESIDENTS**

January 8th	Mrs. Louise Kettlehohn
January 13th	Mr. Albert Schmidt
January 15th	Mrs. Marie Bandemer
March 1st	Mrs. Clar Rucker

**CALLED BY THE ANGEL OF DEATH****1943**

December 8th	Mrs. Mary Burger
December 16th	Miss Minnie Hoppe (13 years at the Home)
December 23rd	Mrs. Christine Schwartz (15 years at the Home)
December 25th	Mrs. Marie Voitel

**1944**

January 1st	Mr. William Stark
January 7th	Miss Emma Waterstraat (13 years at the Home)
February 5th	Miss Catherine Kuenzli
May 7th	Mrs. Caroline Baetzel

**HAPPY HOURS**

February 11th—Ruth Class of Salem Church gave the folks a Valentine Party, serving home made cakes and chocolate, also Valentine favors.

March 8th—The ladies of the Altar Society of St. Paul's Evangelical and Reformed Church and their pastor gave the folks a pleasant afternoon, serving home made cakes and coffee and making a donation of \$10.50 for the Sun Shine Fund.

The annual Egg Social was held at the Home the Wednesday before Easter and was largely attended. Coffee and kuchen were served to about 150 guests. 92½ dozen eggs received and \$36.35 for Sun Shine Fund.

April 19th—The ladies of the Martha Society of Trinity Evangelical and Reformed Church and their pastor spent the afternoon at the Home, serving ice cream, coffee and home made cakes and making a donation of \$36.00 for the Sun Shine Fund.

May 26th — The Kingdom Circle of Salem Church presented an interesting program, and served delicious refreshments.

**DONATIONS TO THE HOME****From April 1, 1943 to April 1, 1944**

Numerous donations of sausage by Mr. Arthur Blank.

Numerous donations of pies, cakes, bread and rolls from Richter's, Winton and Wannemacher bakeries.

Turkeys for Christmas dinner and ice cream and cake from Mr. and Mrs. A. G. Reinhardt, also ice cream and cake on several other occasions during the year, as well as oranges and grapefruit from Florida.

Chicken dinner and ice cream and cake for New Year's by Mr. William Bausch in memory of Mrs. Bausch.

Oysters and crackers by Mr. and Mrs. Hoffman and Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Spies.

Fish by Mrs. J. J. Bausch.

By the Zimmer sisters, residents of the Home, several times pies and ice cream and cake.

Pies and ice cream by Mrs. Grimm and Mrs. Libbie Raab.

Pies by Mrs. Nettie Metzger.



Ice cream and cake twice by the Hallman Class of Calvary Evangelical Church.

Ice cream by Miss Louise Baetzel, Miss Mathilda Seiler, Mrs. R. Holfinz, Mrs. Goettel (a former nurse), Mrs. Fletcher of Chili Avenue, Miss Catherine Werwatz of New Jersey, Miss Feiler and the matron, \$2.00 for a treat from Mrs. Pritzbur of Trinity.

Candy by the Rau family several times, also Mr. Sittler of New York and Lock Haven Welfare Club.

Oranges and grapefruit from Mr. and Mrs. Carl Wirth.

Oranges in memory of Mrs. Kingsley of Pittsford. Oranges from the Dorcas Society of Zion's Lutheran Church and Concordia Church.

Donation of sausage by Zweigle Co.

45 dozen eggs from Herbert Hoffman, 10 dozen from Mrs. Friedrich.

Apples from Mrs. Ries of East Avenue.

Vegetables from Mrs. Repperger.

Coffee and cocoa numerous times from Armstrong Coffee House.

Flower seeds by Mrs. Fred King.

Canned fruit and jellies by Mrs. Rose Manhold (former nurse), and the Misses Pattison of Lake Avenue.

Material for overdrapes by Mrs. Brueck.

Oil cloth shelving for cupboards by Mrs. Hallings (nurse), also mirror for staff quarters, and two beautiful afghans from Zion Lutheran Church.

Toweling from Needle Work Guild.

Bookmarks from Mother Drexler.

Christmas greens by Miss L. Baetzel and the Newman florists.

Subscription to the Christian Herald by Mrs. E. G. Lang.

Two subscriptions of the Democrat & Chronicle by Ladies' Aid.

One by Mrs. Thompson, in memory of her parents, who were members of the Home, and several copies of the Abendpost Daily.

These have been all sent a thank-you when received.

Book markers by Rev. Harold Dickins.

#### — NEWSCASTS —

The Community Chest Campaign was again a splendid success. Rochester seldom fails to support any great cause adequately, but there may always be a first time, so we of the Home sit on the anxious seat for several weeks each spring, for no small portion of our support, now that income from investments is declining, comes from the "Chest". We are grateful to all whose gifts to the Community Chest, gave also to our St. John's Home.

Among those whose interest and presence made them almost as stable as "fixtures", has been Mrs. Frank Ritter of 34 South Goodman Street. Active on the Board, in the Ladies' Aid Society, on the Home Committee, and Admissions Committee, she could always be depended

upon to do her part. Illness has stayed her active hands. We have missed her about the Home more than mere words can say. If prayers and good wishes could make her well, she would long since have returned to health. God wills it otherwise, so we must be content. We know that in love and interest for the Home she is still with us, and that gives extra strength to those who carry on.

In the beautiful days of Spring, the Home grounds look almost like a park. Those who originally gave the site, could not have made a happier choice. Right next door to Rochester's famous Highland Park with its magnificent display of lilacs, St. John's cannot help but be the beautiful place that it is. But it takes work and loving interest to keep looking well, and that is true of our Home grounds too. A salute to Mr. Hille, Mr. Lutz, and Mr. Pett, who have been working about the flower beds and shrubbery. To them belongs no small share of the credit for keeping the place beautiful.

When the RED CROSS Campaign was in progress earlier in the spring, the residents of our Home were given opportunity to share in the giving. It is our happy privilege to report that \$46 was the amount our folks gave to the Red Cross.

"Man-Power Shortage" is a common phrase these days. That shortage has also hit our Home. For several weeks our matron, Miss Rothe, has had to act as night-nurse in addition to her many other duties. Since only a practical nurse is needed, there should be someone in our host of friends who would interest herself in this need. Even part-time help would be a helping hand to our over-worked staff.

#### BOARD MEMBERS FOR 1944-45

##### I. From Churches:

1. Salem: Pastor Schroeder, Messrs. Hoffman, Spiess, Reinhardt.
2. St. Paul's: Pastor Hoefer, Mr. Meili.
3. Trinity: Pastor Haass, Mr. Dicke.
4. Emmanuel: Pastor Diehm, Mr. Lieberum.
5. Andrews Street: Pastor Fuchs, Prof. A. Husmann.
6. Emmanuel Methodist: Pastor Wolf, Mrs. E. Hollenbach.
7. Zion Lutheran: Pastor Heyd, Mr. Seitz.
8. Concordia Lutheran: Pastor Berg, Mr. Klick.
9. St. John's Lutheran: Pastor Schmieder, Mr. F. Keller.
10. Bethlehem Lutheran: Pastor Betz, Mr. O. Kukla.

##### II. Members at large: Messrs. Bausch Staudenmaier, Wuensch, Schlegel, Kaelber, and Hallauer.

##### III. Ladies' Aid: Mrs. F. Ritter, Mrs. Weeks, Mrs. Betz, the Misses Diehm, Baetzel, Yost and Rothe.

## — ST. JOHN'S HOME SOCIETY —

These are the names of the folks who are members of the Association which owns and operates St. John's Home for the Aged. Representatives of the various supporting churches have solicited memberships in their congregations, and we are happy to present the Roll as our membership secretary, Mr. Fred Keller, has arranged it as of the year 1944. Thank you one and all. We wish you would show interest, not only in being a member of the Association, but by visiting the Home frequently, and by attending the Annual Meeting each April. Remember, we shall be looking for you and your friends at the Fall Festival!

**Andrews Street Baptist**—Mrs. A. Berndt, Prof. A. Bretschneider, Mrs. Lina Chochard, Mr. John Ehrlich, Rev. Daniel Fuchs, Mr. George L. Gietz, Assaf Husmann, Prof. and Mrs. Lewis Kaiser, Mr. Oswald Kannwischer, Prof. O. E. Krueger, Mr. Frank Miller, Mr. Felix Neumann, Prof. A. A. Schade, Mrs. Rose Storz, Mr. Edward Suter. (16).

**Bethlehem Lutheran** — Mr. Fred Akuncius, Miss Ida Bastman, Rev. and Mrs. Carl Betz, Miss Martha Betz, Mrs. L. Dettman, Mr. William Frank, Mrs. Mary Frank, Mr. Ottfried Kukla, Mrs. Fred Kukla, Mr. Karl Stein, Mary Taillie. (12).

**Concordia Lutheran**—Mr. Wm. Adams, Rev. and Mrs. Thos. A. Berg, Mr. Frank W. Cooligan, Mr. Arthur Demler, Mrs. Lucy Dodds, Miss Alma Dumrese, Miss Bertha Gaedt, Mrs. Emma Grimm, Mrs. E. Hardies, Mr. Carl Klick, Mr. Albert Knitter, Miss Ida LaBudde, Mrs. John Mitchell, Mr. Wm. Mors, Miss Emma Scheick, Mr. Otto Scheick, Mrs. Clara Selke, Mr. Wm. Slager, Mr. Theo. Twietmeyer, Mr. Henry T. Unterborn, Mr. Chas. Urlaub, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Wackerman. (24).

**Emanuel Evangelical and Reformed** — Mrs. Simon Beisheim, Rev. Fred. H. Diehm, Miss Ruth Diehm, Mr. Carl Doerr, Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Doerr, Mrs. H. Goebel, Mrs. E. G. Lang, Mr. Jacob J. Lieberum, Mrs. E. Lindsay, Mr. Wm. Matthies, Mr. August Miller, Mrs. Cath. Miller, Mrs. J. Miller, Miss Ada Renner, Mrs. Gustave Schelling, Miss Valencia Schwartz, Miss Isabelle Siebert, Mr. Geo. Simon, Mrs. Arthur Stady, Mr. Wm. Uhlen, Mrs. T. Uhlen, Mrs. Josephine Whipple, Miss Ida Kurzrock. (24).

**Emmanuel M. E. Church**—Mr. Elmer Duepois, Mr. Rudolph Herman, Mrs. Emma Lofers, Mrs. Maule, Mrs. Carrie Miller, Mr. A. Mueller, Mrs. G. Pfrommer, Mr. and Mrs. Ch. Rudolph, Mrs. Geo. Schild, Mrs. Gustave Schneider, Mr. Moritz VanGrafeiland, Mrs. H. Wuensch. (13).

**Salem Evangelical and Reformed**—Mr. J. J. Andersen, Mr. Fred Baetzel, Miss Louise Baetzel, Mrs. J. J. Bausch, Mr. Wm. Bausch, In memory of Mrs. Wm. Bausch, Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Bareis, Mr. and Mrs. A. S. Blank, Mrs. C. E. Booth, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Brown, Mr. and Mrs. John Cooper, Mr. and Mrs. Carl Drexler, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Dubelbeiss, Mrs. Kate Dubelbeiss,

Mr. and Mrs. Louis Ehrman, Mr. August Filske, Mr. and Mrs. Carl Fischer, Mrs. Geo. A. Fox, Mrs. Chas. Gerhardt, Mrs. Geo. Hafner, Mr. and Mrs. Carl Hallauer, Miss Emma Haller, Miss Rose Haller, Mrs. Chas. W. Harris, Mr. Harry Hempel, Mr. J. Harry Herbst, Mrs. John Hess, Mrs. Maria Himmer, Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Hoffman, Mrs. C. Holzwarth, Mrs. C. H. Hummel, Mr. W. G. Kaelber, Mrs. W. Karle, Mrs. H. J. Karweick, Mrs. Robert Kaucher, Mr. and Mrs. E. Kurkowski, Miss Louise Kettwig, Mrs. Henry Kurtz, Mr. Wm. Lauterbach, Sr., Mr. William Lauterbach, Jr., Mrs. Walter Lauterbach, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Lauterbach, Mr. and Mrs. Herbert A. Lauterbach, Miss Anna Linsin, Mrs. Laura Marth, Mr. Frederick Miller, Mr. Geo. Miller, Miss Minnie Muisus, Mr. and Mrs. Albert Mutschler, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Nelson, Mr. G. W. Neth, Mrs. Chas. Neuscheler, Mrs. J. C. Nusbickel, Rev. Oscar Nussmann, Mrs. Anna O'Boyle, Mrs. Herman Orselet, Mrs. Edith Oviatt, Miss Sophia Paul, Miss Lucia Rau, Mrs. J. Resue, Mr. and Mrs. A. G. Reinhardt, Mr. Harold Reinhardt, Mrs. Carrie Renouf, Mrs. L. E. Ritter, Mr. Emil Schauman, Mr. George Schauman, Miss Margaret Schaefer, Mr. and Mrs. G. A. Schaub, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Schelter, Mr. and Mrs. Chas. P. Schlegel, Mrs. Otto Schlegel, Mrs. John Schlegel, Mrs. Rosa Schropp, Mrs. Anna Schippers, Mrs. Anna Schlenker, Rev. and Mrs. Paul M. Schroeder, Mrs. John Schroth, Mrs. Anna Schust, Mrs. C. Seitz, Mrs. J. C. Sperling, Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Spiehler, Mr. and Mrs. Adolph Spiehler, Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Spies, Mr. Chas. Stark, Mrs. Hattie Taglin, Mr. Chas. Then, Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Thompson, Rev. Theo. Trost, Mr. and Mrs. Emil Vetter, Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Vogel, Mr. Henry Weber, Mr. and Mrs. Orlo J. Weeks, Mrs. Chas. Weiss, Mr. Geo. C. Wickman, Mrs. W. Wolfesperger, Miss Sue E. Yost, Miss Julia Young, Mr. Oscar E. Zabel, Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Zimmer, In memory of Dr. F. W. Zimmer, Mrs. Josephine Zimmer, In memory of Dr. F. W. Zimmer, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Zimmer. (133).

**Additional Salem names:** Mrs. Louise Fox, Mr. John Frear, Mrs. Henry Muellendorff, Mr. Arthur Rau, Mrs. Rose Reinhardt, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Schlegel, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. G. Staudenmaier.

**St. Paul Evangelical and Reformed** — Mrs. Theo. Benz, Mr. Fred Bopp, Mrs. Lena Boss, Mr. Ralph Boss, Mr. Floyd Christ, Mrs. M. Donish, Mr. Jacob Eckert, Mr. and Mrs. John Eiseman, Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Ernisse, Mr. A. Fauth, Mrs. Hilda Graf, Mr. Justus B. Gross, Mr. Albert Groth, Mrs. Emelia Gumpel, Mrs. Marie Hass, Mrs. A. Hays, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Haupt, Mr. Henry Hieb, Rev. and Mrs. E. H. Hoefer, Mr. Geo. Hoffman, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Huck, Miss Emma Kern, Mr. and Mrs. Adolph Knoll, Mr. Rudolph Kolb, Mrs. R. Kolb, Mrs. R. Krase, Miss Florence Krase, Mrs. A. Krenzer, Mrs. Ruby Kummer, Mrs. T. Lange, Mr. and Mrs. E. Lohler, Miss Ruth Michaelson, Mr. and Mrs. A. Meili, Mr. Wm. J. Otto, Mrs. P. Pagel, Miss Emma Pagels, Mr. R. A. Pasch, Mrs. Bertha Pomerening, Mrs. Paul Prietz, Mrs. Marie Radig, Mrs. F. Reuschle, Miss M. Rocktaschel, In memory of Mrs. A. Sahs by Mrs.

Ruth Stephany, Mrs. Addie Seils, Mr. and Mrs. Louis Schaeffer, Mrs. Sophie Stoll, Mrs. Earl Talbot, Miss M. Tauber, Mrs. E. Toughy, Mr. Ed. Uehlin, Mr. Frank Vogel, Mr. and Mrs. E. Wagenhols, Mrs. Anna Walsh, Mr. and Mrs. Ed. Weismiller, Mrs. Mary Williams. (65).

**St. John's Lutheran**—Mr. Edward Albrecht, Mrs. Marie Berghouse, Miss Matilda Burbott, Mr. Leo Deuter, Miss Caroline Deuter, Mr. Clarence Eggert, Mr. Albert Fedrau, Mrs. H. Horler, Miss Eliz. Keller, Mr. Fred Keller, Mrs. A. Kiefer, Mr. Chas. T. Klem, Mr. Albert Kosbab, Mr. C. W. Kosbab, Miss Alma Kubitz, Miss Martha Legel, Mrs. Mary Luther, Mr. and Mrs. John Merkert, Mr. Clarence Offerman, Miss Minnie Renckert, Mr. and Mrs. George Schnackel, Rev. Paul Schmieder, Mrs. F. Schutte, Mr. and Mrs. Herman Stoll, Miss Mary Vick, Miss Clara Walter, Mrs. K. Yantz. (30).

**Trinity Evangelical and Reformed** — Mrs. Marcus Beck, Mrs. R. Benedict, Mr. Paul Brucicki, Mrs. Nellie Budd, Mr. Adam Conrad, Mrs. Frank Cooper, Mrs. F. Dezen, Mr. Oscar Dicke, Mrs. Flora Dicke, Mrs. Robert Durning, Miss Kath. Erbeling, Mrs. Emelie Erbeling, Miss Mildred Feiler, Rev. and Mrs. Carl G. Haass, Mr. Otto Hennik, Mr. Ernest Hess, Mrs. Carl Horn, Mrs. Stephen Hunt, Miss Matilda Klumpp, Mrs. Alfred Knight, Miss Annie Koehler, Mr. and Mrs. Carl Kron, Mrs. Adelaide Larson, Mr. Gustave Luther, Mr. Jacob Matheis, Mrs. Hugo May, Mrs. E. Mooney, Mrs. Edward Nellis, Mrs. Emil Preiss, Mr. Otto Preiss, Miss Louise Pritzbure, Mr. Harry Reese, Miss Lillian Rothe, Mrs. Geo. Ruppel, Isabelle R. Scharrer, Mr. Geo. Schmidt, Mr. Chas. Schuchart, Mr. Conrad Strassner, Miss Matilda Seiler, Mrs. Harriet Sengbush, Mr. Chester Strassner, Mrs. Kath. Strassner, Miss Ruth Theiler, Mrs. Mary Townsend, Mr. Earl Trost, Miss Erna Trost, Mr. Harold Trost, Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Walch, Miss Lois Wirth, Mrs. Wm. Young. (53).

**Zion Lutheran**—Mrs. Herman P. Arndt, Mr. and Mrs. Christian Bender, Mrs. Bertha Bender, Mr. Jacob Breitenbach, Mrs. J. Ray Binder, In memory of Mrs. Christian Grunst, Rev. and Mrs. Ernest Heyd, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Gudet, Mrs. Emma Hill, Mr. and Mrs. John Keller, Mr. Geo. W. Kuder, Mr. Theodore Kuder, Mr. Herbert Mailander, Miss Lydia Mailander, Mr. and Mrs. Elwick Newborn, Mr. and Mrs. Louis Raetz, Mr. Charles Ringfile, In memory of Mrs. Chas. Ringfile, Mr. J. Frederick Rohr, Mrs. F. G. Schultz, Mr. Arthur G. Seitz, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. E. Steinmiller, Mr. and Mrs. Emil J. Villnow, Mr. Clarence P. Wagner, Carolyn G. Zimmer. (33).

**Memberships Through Miss L. Rothe**—Mr. H. Armstrong—Armstrong Coffee House, Mr. J. Max Blauw—Blauw Drugs, Mr. Harry Brake-man, Mr. W. D. Brown—Douglas Products Co., Meyer, Foote & Dayton Co., Head-Miller, Inc., Mr. W. C. Jayne—Roch. San. Prod. Co., Mr. Max Meinhardt—Crescent-Puritan, Mr. Noonan—Blue Boy Dairy Co., Mr. Henry Prevost—Roch. Germicide Co., Mr. Erhardt Richter—Richter Bakery, Mr. A. Wegman—Roch. Provision Co., Mr. B. H. Winters—Brighton Place Dairy Co., Winton Bakery, Mr. Woodruff—Blue

Boy Dairy Co. (15) and many more through Miss Rothe that are listed under their respective churches.

**Other Memberships**—Mr. and Mrs. Theodore Brueck, Mrs. William Kress, Mrs. Harry Metzger—Ascension Church, Mr. John Rothe—First Baptist Church, Mr. and Mrs. Donald Schwartz—St. Paul's Luth. (Pittsford), Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Thompson—Church of the Reformation, Mr. and Mrs. Edw. G. Wuensch—United Congregational. (11).

Note: These figures do not balance with treasurer's report because his books close March 30, whereas many memberships were received later than that date.

### THREE GATES

If you are tempted to reveal  
A tale to you someone has told  
About another, make it pass,  
Before you speak, Three Gates of Gold.  
These narrow gates; First, "Is it true?"  
Then, "Is it needful?" In your mind  
Give truthful answer, and the next  
Is last and narrowest, "Is it kind?"  
And if to reach your lips at last  
It passes through these gateways three,  
Then you may tell the tale, nor fear  
What the result of speech may be.

—From The Arabian.

### MOTHER'S AFGHAN

She often says she does not understand  
How words like these are fashioned into  
rhymes,  
The while her flying fingers change a strand  
Of silk or wool to Magic things; sometimes  
A quilt, sometimes a bit of lace, and now  
An afghan knit in rows of green and gold  
So (if we doze off in a chair) somehow  
We find it when awake, no longer cold,  
Poems are futile things beside the arts  
A Mother seems to know; with hands to weave  
Beyond forgetting, in her children's hearts,  
Her hopes and dreams, and still find time to  
leave

The blessing of her presence, simply told  
Within an afghan's pattern, green and gold.

—Quizzicus.

### MY FAVORITE MOTHER'S POEM

by Margaret Widdemer

She always leaned to watch for us,  
Anxious if we were late,  
In the winter by the window,  
In the summer by the gate.  
And though we mocked her tenderly  
Who had such foolish care,  
The long way home would seem more safe  
Because she waited there.  
Her thoughts were all so full of us—  
She never could forget  
And so, I think, that where she is  
She must be watching yet.  
Waiting till we come home to her,  
Anxious if we are late—  
Watching from Heaven's window,  
Leaning from Heaven's Gate.

### "WHEN WE GROW TOO OLD—"

There is a song entitled, "When I grow too old to dream, I'll have you to remember." This love ballad has many beautiful sentiments and truths in it, and it gives a lead to even more thoughts. "When I grow too old to work, or to keep house for myself, or have lost my life companion, or have no sense of belonging anywhere anymore . . . What shall I do? Where shall I go?" . . .

None of us like to grow old, but the inexorable ticks of the clock of time make it inevitable for us all. None may stop the advance of years, but all of us can do some intelligent planning for the years to which we tack the adjective "sunset". Some may be fortunate enough to maintain their homes until the angel of death comes. Some may find a comfortable haven with their children. All things considered, however, there is much to be said for finding residence in a Home for the Aged. We ought never to think that this solution is at best, a poor one. Why should older folks live in a common residence together? Why is an Old Home often the best answer to a perplexing problem?

Here are some reasons. Maybe you will think of others. If any feel happier in the HOME because of this friendly chat, or if others will be helped in making a decision, this article will have served a good purpose.

1) Older people often become critical, and do not seem to understand that their children should be free to live their own lives as they see fit, without interference. The desire for amusements, company, and recreation are natural for younger people. Young children make noise, whether we like it or not. An older person in a home where three generations have to live under one roof, often becomes unhappy, because his interests are different from those of others. His disposition becomes soured and unkind. This is not anybody's fault. It is simply a condition where people of too varied age and interest live in one house.

2) There seems to be more tolerance among friends of similar age, than among relatives. Age brings similar interests, so an older person can often be much happier with other old people than with his own children. Therefore there is much to be said for residence in a Home for Aged even if one thinks only of the angle of happiness.

3) There is security in a Home, not to be found elsewhere. People used to earning for years, find, in old age, that their earning abilities are past. They have to live off their savings. Fear of not having enough makes them stingy and fretful. They stint themselves of every pleasure because they don't know how long they will live,, and whether their money will last. In a Home, a resident can rest secure in the thought, that for all the days of his earthly life he will be cared for. He will have a neatly furnished room, good food, wholesome entertainment, good fellowship with kindred spirits. When he is ill, a competent nurse will be at hand. No fear of cost, or of being a burden will assail him. Here is peace and quiet for all the sunset years of life.

4) You need not feel alone. Some come into the Home who have lived alone. They cannot stand the silence and the solitude. They become thin and ill because there is no incentive to cook and housekeep for one person. When they are in a Home for a time, one can see their cheeks fill out, their eyes sparkle with new interest in life. They have companionship of cronies who talk their language, and who are able and willing to go back with them over the road to the Past.

5) You breathe a Christian atmosphere. Older people often lose their joy in the faith, because they cannot, or do not attend church worship as they did in their younger years. As death comes closer, we need more faith, more Christian fellowship. Here at the Home there are chapel services every Sunday. Daily devotions are a part of the serving of meals. Church people come in to visit often. Societies provide entertainments and give one contacts that living alone would never do. So one grows serene and calmer, more assured in the soul-saving faiths that are our staff and stay when we are called upon to walk across the "Great Divide."

Don't feel sorry for yourself if you are in a Christian Home for the Aged. Don't think you are there because no one else wants you. You are in the best place that you can possibly be for your age and condition. Would that many other unhappy people would find the solution to the problem "When I grow too old," as you, dear friends and residents of St. John's have found.

### *Form of Bequest*

I devise and bequeath to the Protestant St. John's Charitable Association of Rochester, Monroe County, New York, the sum of..... to be used for the purpose of said incorporation as its trustees may direct.

Name .....

Witness .....

Date .....