REPORT OF THE PHILADELPHIA SCHOOL OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

The Philadelphia School of Occupational Therapy is particularly fortunate in being one of the member agencies of the Welfare Federation of Philadelphia which has on its list of beneficiaries one hundred and thirty institutions to which it furnishes adequate support. It is very gratifying to our board of directors, as it should be to this Association, that the value of occupational therapy to the community has been recognized by the Welfare Federation ever since its first inception three years ago. During the last two years the school has received ample support and the board has been able to carry on its work without undue anxiety.

The Philadelphia School has had a very successful year. We recognize already the great value to our students of our present course which has been extended to twelve months. The class of 1923, numbering twenty-eight, is a splendid group of girls and women among whom are five registered nurses and already we have secured positions for one-half the number. The balance of the class is still in training.

Miss Mary L. Putman, Field Representative in Occupational Therapy under the State Department of Public Welfare, has been of great assistance in placing some of our students and we are very grateful to her for her interest and splendid coöperation.

The hospitals in the city of Philadelphia under the direction of the Department of Public Health have met with a great loss in the death of Dr. C. Lincoln Furbush. Dr. Furbush's keen interest and perfect understanding of the need of occupation has always been an inspiration to those of us who are trying in every way to raise the standard of occupational therapy.

1 Read at the seventh annual meeting of the American Occupational Therapy Association at Milwaukee, Wis., October 31 to November 2, 1923.
The school opened this year on October the first with a registration of thirty-eight students and Dr. Gladys Ide, our Lecturer on Psychology, after her first test, reported that this is one of the finest groups she has met since she has been connected with the school. Two additional students have registered since October first.

The recommendations of the board of management of this association in regard to the minimum standards have been accepted by the school and will be introduced in every particular as soon as the small additional equipment needed can be added to our plant. We, of course, understand that the board of management is merely attempting to establish a minimum and that the "maximum," as Mrs. Slagle has said, "will be kept a flexible entity for many years to come." Also that "we have a long way to travel yet, no matter how good or fine our work has been up to the present time."

Just at the close of the school year, a decision of great moment was forced upon the board of directors relative to the continued occupancy of our present quarters. We had had an option on this property for two years and in May it became necessary for us to take up the option immediately or to move. Having secured an assurance from the Welfare Federation that interest on the mortgage be carried in lieu of rent, I am glad to be able to report the decision of our board to purchase the property. After making a substantial payment, furnished by members of the board, we find ourselves at the beginning of our sixth year the owners of a property in a situation ideal for our purposes and with a rapidly increasing value.

Our present building is well equipped, beautifully lighted and during the past summer has been repainted and put in order from attic to cellar. A rest room for the use of the students has been most comfortably fitted up by one of the members of the Board.

A vital and valuable part of our school is our workshop where under Miss Olive P. Hough, so well known for her success with the tuberculous at Hamburg, a number of patients may be found happily at work every day. This workshop serves as a laboratory for the students where they learn how to make observations
and keep records of patients' progress and how to care for and account for equipment and materials.

The members of the faculty are loyal and enthusiastic, unsparing of their time and strength, well grounded in their crafts and with a complete understanding of the needs of the occupational therapy aide.

Our lecturers, among whom we are proud to number Mr. Kidner, the president of this Association, are specialists known everywhere for their skill in the treatment of the various disabilities, mental and physical, about which they lecture and our course in anatomy and kinesiology is very fine and is given by one of the staff of the Women's Medical College of Philadelphia.

The board of directors has shown during the past year the same spirit of cooperation for which it has always been noted and, under the able leadership of our new president, Mrs. John McArthur Harris, the school is sure to live and prosper and to be of continued value to the cause of occupational therapy throughout the state and the country.

Florence Wellsman Fulton,
Dean.