

FIRST BIENNIAL REPORT

OF THE

Wisconsin

STATE BOARD OF CONTROL

OF

Wisconsin Reformatory, Charitable and  
Penal Institutions,

FOR THE

Two Fiscal Years Ending September 30, 1892.



MADISON, WISCONSIN.

DEMOCRAT PRINTING COMPANY, STATE PRINTERS.

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## MEMBERS AND OFFICERS OF THE BOARD

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W. H. GRAEBNER, MILWAUKEE,  
Term expires June 30, 1897.

CLARENCE SNYDER, ASHLAND,  
Term expires June 30, 1896.

J. E. JONES, PORTAGE,  
Term expires June 30, 1896.

J. L. CLEARY, KENOSHA,  
Term expires June 30, 1895.

C. D. PARKER, RIVER FALLS,  
Term expires June 30, 1894.

J. W. OLIVER, WAUPUN,  
Term expires June 30, 1893.

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PRESIDENT,  
CLARENCE SNYDER.

VICE PRESIDENT,  
CHARLES D. PARKER.

SECRETARY,  
PETER MULHOLLAND.

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*Pauperism.*

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## PAUPERISM.

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Wisconsin has three systems of poor relief—town, county and mixed. Under the town system of poor relief each town, village or city relieves its own poor through its own officers, and poor who have no pauper settlement in the town are cared for at the expense of the county. By the laws of pauper settlement a person who has lived one year in a town without receiving poor relief acquires a pauper settlement for himself and his legal family, and must be relieved by the town, village or city in which he has that pauper settlement in case he needs assistance. Poor relief is usually administered by the supervisors of the town, village board or aldermen of a city. In many cities a superintendent of the poor is appointed by the common council who gives relief under the direction of that body.

The county system of poor relief may be adopted in any county by a resolution of the county board. A county board being composed of the several town chairmen, supervisors of each village and wards of cities each precinct affected by the change has a voice in the matter. In case of this change the distinction between town and county poor is abolished and all poor are looked after by the county. Residence in the county one year without poor relief secures a pauper settlement. Under this arrangement poor relief is usually administered by superintendents of the poor elected by the county board. These superintendents cannot be members of the county board, except in one county which has a special law for that purpose, but they must act under the direction of the board. Much confusion is caused in many counties by the practice of

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*Pauperism.*

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giving poor relief and not reporting to the superintendents till the end of the year, making it almost impossible to get satisfactory reports of the work done. It would be much the better plan for supervisors to give poor relief in no case except when authorized to do so by the superintendents of the poor. It is not an easy matter for a supervisor to refuse assistance when applied for by one of his own neighbors, and this is where the abuse creeps in.

In the mixed system the poorhouse is under the management of the county and all of the county paupers are sent to it. Towns may send their paupers to the poorhouse at an agreed rate per week, which is generally from \$1.50 to 2.00. The difference between the county and mixed systems is in the management of the poorhouse. In the former the superintendents act as trustees and elect the overseer of the poorhouse, while in the mixed system the overseer is usually called superintendent and is elected by the county board.

Following is a table of counties with the different systems of poor relief carried on in each:

*Pauperism.*

## SYSTEMS OF POOR RELIEF.

Counties.	Systems.	Counties.	Systems.
Adams.....	County, with poorhouse	Marathon.....	Mixed, with poorhouse.
Ashland.....	County, with poorhouse.	Marinette.....	Town.
Barron.....	Mixed, with poorhouse.	Marquette.....	Town.
Bayfield.....	Town	Milwaukee.....	County, with poorhouse.
Brown.....	Mixed, with poorhouse	Monroe.....	County, with poorhouse.
Buffalo.....	Town	Oconto.....	Town, city poorhouse in Oconto.
Burnett.....	Town	Outagamie.....	Town, city poorhouse in Appleton.
Calumet.....	Town	Ozaukee.....	Town.
Chippewa.....	County, with poorhouse.	Pepin.....	Town.
Clark.....	Mixed, with poorhouse	Pierce.....	Mixed, with poorhouse.
Columbia.....	County, with poorhouse.	Polk.....	Town.
Crawford.....	County, with poorhouse.	Portage.....	Town, city poorhouse in Stevens Point.
Dane.....	County, with poorhouse.	Price.....	County, with poorhouse.
Dodge.....	Mixed, with poorhouse	Racine.....	Mixed, with poorhouse.
Door.....	Town	Richland.....	County, with poorhouse.
Douglas.....	County, with poorhouse.	Rock.....	County, with poorhouse.
Dunn.....	County, with poorhouse.	St. Croix.....	County, with poorhouse.
Eau Claire.....	Mixed, with poorhouse	Sauk.....	County, with poorhouse.
Florence.....	County, with poorhouse.	Sawyer.....	County, with poorhouse.
Fond du Lac.....	Mixed, with poorhouse	Shawano.....	Town.
Forest.....	Town	Sheboygan.....	Town, city poorhouse in Sheboygan.
Grant.....	Mixed, with poorhouse	Taylor.....	County, with poorhouse.
Green.....	County, with poorhouse.	Trempealeau.....	Town.
Green Lake.....	Town	Vernon.....	County, with poorhouse.
Iowa.....	County, with poorhouse.	Walworth.....	County, with poorhouse.
Jackson.....	Mixed, with poorhouse	Washburn.....	Town.
Jefferson.....	County, with poorhouse.	Washington.....	County, with poorhouse.
Juneau.....	County, with poorhouse.	Waukesha.....	Mixed, with poorhouse.
Kenosha.....	Town, city poorhouse in Kenosha	Waupaca.....	Mixed, with poorhouse.
Kewaunee.....	Mixed, with poorhouse	Waushara.....	Town.
La Crosse.....	Town, city poorhouse in La Crosse	Winnebago.....	Mixed, with poorhouse.
La Fayette.....	Mixed, with poorhouse	Wood.....	County, with poorhouse.
Langlade.....	Town		
Lincoln.....	County, with poorhouse.		
Manitowoc.....	Town		

From data at hand in this office it seems to be a settled fact that in counties establishing poorhouses there has been a marked reduction in the number of paupers. Without poorhouses there is almost universally a needless expense in out-door relief, making the cost almost, if not quite double what it should be.

The following table shows the amount expended for out-door relief in the state during the year ending March 31, 1892, so far as we have been able to get reports from county clerks:

*Our Door Relief.*

## OUT DOOR RELIEF.

COUNTIES.	No. of cases aided. Com mitting of Tramps.	No. of these who re- ceived full support.	No. of tramps aided out of poor fund.	Total am'nt of orders drawn for poor relief during year.
Brown.....	61	39	14	\$2,263 45
Burnett.....	26	5		1,264 15
Calumet.....	47	15	8	2,504 18
Dane.....	281	275	263	12,503 87
Door.....	43	23	23	3,938 92
Douglas.....	1,506	107	25	11,245 50
Eau Claire.....	143	37	31	12,628 52
Florence.....	10		3	783 12
Forest.....				32 00
Green.....	86		62	2,239 96
Green Lake.....	59	35		7,702 98
Jackson.....	42	25		1,095 26
Juneau.....	64	4	5	3,377 33
Kewaunee.....	54	38		1,741 67
La Crosse.....	329	37	37	14,840 62
Langlade.....	21	2	16	414 61
Lincoln.....	69	10		3,634 61
Marathon.....	777	93	1	3,253 44
Marinette.....	223	81	11	10,854 45
Monroe.....				2,541 09
Ozaukee.....	35	18	511	3,211 78
Pepin.....	9	5		741 61
Pierce.....	8			517 92
Polk.....	71	4	29	2,202 10
Portage.....	92	28	7	6,358 83
Price.....	12	8		1,311 85
Richland.....	211			3,768 00
Rock.....				6,424 92
Sauk.....				3,014 18
Sawyer.....	17	3	2	3,533 10
Shawano.....	41	40	8	3,172 97
Taylor.....				513 70
Trempealeau.....	63	40	36	4,654 48
Vernon.....	98	2		3,745 00
Walworth.....				2,215 62
Waukesha.....	89	16	25	3,577 96
Waupaca.....				457 74
Wausahara.....				339 96
Total.....	4492	990	1117	\$148,691.45

*Pauperism.*

## STATISTICS OF PAUPERISM.

The years 1891 and 1892 mean the twelve months ending September 30th.

Movement of population in poorhouses.	1891.	1892.
Number in poorhouses at the beginning of the year.....	983	1028
Of whom were males.....	663	682
And females.....	320	346
There were received during the year.....	743	761
Of whom were males.....	524	542
And females.....	219	219
There were born in poorhouses.....	28	14
Of whom were boys....	14	8
And girls.....	14	6
Making the total number of different persons in poorhouses during the year....	1754	1803
Of whom were males.....	1201	1232
And females.....	553	571
There were discharged during the year.....	610	585
Of whom were males.....	431	408
And females.....	179	177
There were placed out during the year.....	25	31
Of whom were males.....	14	23
And females.....	11	8
Ran away during the year.....	8	20
Of whom were males.....	5	14
And females.....	3	6
There died in poorhouses during the year.....	142	139
Of whom were males.....	101	105
And females.....	41	34
Number remaining in poorhouses at the end of the year....	969	1023
Of whom were males.....	644	673
And females.....	325	350

The above table is necessarily incorrect in some minor particulars owing to errors in reports by superintendents of poorhouses. In several cases males and females are not reported separately, totals only being given.

*Ages of Paupers in Poor House.*

## AGES OF PAUPERS IN POOR HOUSES.

	1891	1893
Number of inmates under five years of age at close of year...	22	21
There had been in all during the year.....	69	54
There were between five and sixteen at close of year.....	26	31
There had been in all during the year.....	77	75
Of these were of sound mind and body at close of year.....	19	62
There had been in all during the year.....	31	123
There were between sixteen and sixty at close of year.....	409	391
There had been in all during the year.....	711	670
There were over sixty years of age at close of year.....	553	557
There had been in all during the year... ..	713	774

## CAUSES OF PAUPERISM IN POOR HOUSES.

Officers in charge report as follows for those in poor houses during each year:

	1891	1892
Insanity.....	32	26
Epilepsy.....	26	37
Idiocy.....	99	94
Deafmutism.....	6	23
Blindness.....	37	55
Old age.....	507	518
Disease.....	358	295
Deformity or loss of limbs.....	52	52
Lying in cases.....	27	32
Not disabled.....	252	230



*Pauperism.*

## NATIVITY OF PAUPERS IN POOR HOUSES DURING EACH YEAR.

	1891	1892
Number of inmates of native birth .....	467	496
Number of foreign birth .....	833	958

The foregoing tables are somewhat defective because of the failure of the proper officers to fill out reports correctly.

## FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF POOR HOUSES.

EXPENDITURES.	1891.	1892.
Salaries of overseers and matrons .....	\$23,925 90	\$21,321 83
Wages of employes .....	14,934 10	15,675 21
Medical attendance .....	5,862 20	5,147 43
Groceries and provisions .....	31,267 71	25,948 67
Fuel and lights .....	6,825 50	7,052 70
Clothing .....	7,021 85	7,155 66
Furniture .....	1,496 39	3,381 12
Ordinary repairs .....	3,634 73	4,233 71
Other ordinary expenses .....	16,503 86	13,916 23
<b>Total current expenses .....</b>	<b>\$111,471 74</b>	<b>\$103,832 56</b>
<b>RECEIPTS.</b>		
From sales of farm produce .....	15,283 74	9,953 58
From expenses of inmates refunded .....	1,613 18	3,128 67
From other sources .....	5,542 23	3,959 94
<b>Total receipts .....</b>	<b>\$22,439 15</b>	<b>\$17,042 19</b>
<b>The net expenses, therefore, were .....</b>	<b>\$89,032 59</b>	<b>\$86,790 37</b>
<b>Total number of weeks' board furnished .....</b>	<b>57,072</b>	<b>54,244</b>
<b>Average cost of support per week .....</b>	<b>\$1 56</b>	<b>\$1 60</b>

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*Cost of Poor Relief.*

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## COST OF POOR RELIEF.

The following table, made up from reports to the secretary of state by the different county clerks, shows the amount expended for poor relief in the several counties for a series of years. The average for the state is about twenty-six cents taxation for each man, woman and child of the population. It will be seen that the variation from this average is very great, ranging from seven cents in Ozaukee to \$1.51 in Florence. In a majority of instances where the cost of poor relief greatly exceeds the general average of the state there can but be a waste of public money:

Cost of Poor Relief.

COST OF POOR RELIEF.

	1883.	1885.	1887.	1889.	1891.	Total.	Average annual cost.	Average of population 1880 and 1890.	Cost of poor relief to population.
Adams	\$1,915 56	\$1,989 00	\$2,000 00	\$1,823 92	\$1,985 44	\$9,712 92	\$1,942 58	6,814	\$0 14
Ashland	523 56	1,100 00	5,315 47	6,944 99	9,884 37	23,768 89	4,753 78	10,760	23
Barron	5,207 13	6,038 27	4,111 35	4,890 32	1,302 19	21,082 30	4,207 47	11,206	32
Bayfield	81 06	1,100 00	3,713 68	3,596 00	3,529 55	10,040 29	2,004 06	3,897	19
Brown	8,844 01	9,386 49	5,885 20	7,488 56	4,000 00	35,098 26	7,019 65	36,543	32
Buffalo	1,710 25	2,605 32	2,047 80	2,354 00	1,173 00	9,890 37	1,968 07	12,751	13
Larnett	392 58	400 00	5 00	476 00	216 10	1,518 68	303 74	3,766	8
Calumet	2,573 41	2,139 19	2,286 50	2,484 24	1,225 70	10,659 04	2,131 81	16,624	13
Chippewa	3,627 91	7,255 66	5,312 49	8,072 39	4,209 82	28,568 27	5,713 65	20,245	26
Clark	4,351 29	3,757 32	4,488 06	5,971 66	2,809 58	21,907 91	4,381 58	15,395	28
Columbia	10,193 73	9,096 32	11,159 06	11,198 02	10,500 00	62,147 13	10,429 43	28,188	27
Crawford	810 00	3,650 00	4,524 33	7,639 53	3,601 99	20,418 85	4,083 57	15,802	26
Dane	12,278 45	11,134 43	15,768 50	14,269 31	16,592 37	70,093 09	14,006 62	56,393	25
Dodge	10,398 45	12,056 45	5,669 49	4,855 19	1,884 15	34,563 77	6,972 77	45,429	16
Door	1,842 20	2,328 95	3,820 10	1,817 76	627 33	10,456 41	2,057 28	13,604	15
Douglas	1,000 0	5,067 85	9,227 59	16,100 00	9,390 71	40,815 15	8,163 03	7,030	10
Dunn	4,521 53	6,051 68	7,009 85	7,325 54	6,966 76	31,869 36	6,373 87	19,691	32
Eau Claire	8,731 42	8,502 55	5,073 27	4,330 61	3,186 24	29,854 09	5,968 82	25,332	24
Florence	1,303 29	4,534 86	1,000 00	11,241 12	1,680 38	19,659 65	3,931 93	2,602	1
Fond du Lac	11,441 89	14,685 67	11,077 90	10,680 80	2,513 00	50,397 70	10,079 55	45,432	1
Forest	7,124 39	4,312 47	663 28	25 00	.....	688 29	344 14	1,112	22
Grant	5,891 65	6,700 00	3,498 71	2,777 13	625 55	18,388 55	3,667 65	37,250	10
Green	3,497 13	1,564 41	3,378 73	10,994 90	14,000 00	45,586 55	9,117 31	22,214	41
Green Lake	3,021 50	6,600 00	4,000 00	2,900 00	768 09	12,956 81	2,591 36	14,817	18
Iowa	3,050 00	4,468 63	3,735 38	2,000 00	.....	15,621 50	3,905 37	22,897	18
Jackson	5,607 81	6,720 06	5,329 81	8,643 74	3,755 70	23,456 45	4,731 29	4,731 29	32
Jefferson	4,907 47	5,383 63	4,000 00	5,863 33	6,300 00	31,020 91	6,300 00	32,795	32
Juneau	3,767 76	3,183 39	3,510 48	2,669 55	959 55	20,791 10	4,158 22	16,342	26
Kenosha	2,908 72	3,183 39	4,310 48	2,669 55	959 55	14,451 37	2,890 27	14,562	20
Kewaunee	7,000 00	8,112 90	15,316 57	4,249 82	2,610 50	32,889 69	6,397 50	15,984	21
La Crosse	7,372 60	5,972 04	6,254 61	4,249 82	2,610 50	32,889 69	6,577 94	32,916	20
La Fayette	150 00	9,124 00	3,017 37	2,165 91	596 31	28,660 43	5,732 08	20,772	26
Langlade	1,500 00	3,455 51	2,291 66	3,020 21	6,989 71	16,267 09	3,368 48	5,060	27
Lincoln	5,700 00	8,268 76	6,035 74	4,528 46	2,450 00	26,977 95	4,905 59	37,577	38
Manitowoc	8,466 99	15,815 90	94,093 62	6,773 84	1,774 86	11,284 94	2,284 94	24,637	50
Marathon	5,628 98	2,286 49	2,603 58	3,309 78	4,573 71	18,344 74	3,668 99	14,616	23
Marquette	1,200 00	1,162 44	930 00	1,215 00	260 00	4,767 44	961 49	9,395	10

Cost of Poor Relief.

Milwaukee.....	124,654 11	52,941 00	39,998 58	30,977 48	290,659 96	59,091 85	167,197	85
Monroe.....	4,500 00	5,500 00	2,500 00	4,500 00	25,000 00	5,000 00	29,993	26
Ontario.....	4,674 88	3,643 43	3,781 37	646 00	16,074 37	3,765 95	12,883	84
Ozaukee.....	1,780 81	5,094 54	4,250 25	4,810 94	4,152 25	5,155 95	33,654	15
Pequin.....	1,189 67	1,108 05	698 90	.....	5,272 61	1,080 06	5,573	7
Portage.....	308 00	308 70	628 20	.....	4,350 67	1,960 24	2,570	7
Rock.....	8,000 15	7,094 12	5,061 84	3,198 01	24,059 54	4,853 63	19,055	24
St. Croix.....	1,802 82	1,038 50	2,012 22	1,929 13	9,896 46	1,853 60	11,469	16
St. Joseph.....	5,822 07	4,258 50	3,396 46	5,041 77	15,290 49	3,464 02	90,409	19
St. Louis.....	4,000 00	3,000 00	2,500 00	3,800 00	30,500 00	6,484 12	3,017	1
St. Paul.....	8,463 11	6,603 07	3,869 71	3,894 04	30,500 00	6,178 44	38,582	48
St. Peter.....	2,253 84	2,243 23	2,000 00	3,894 04	14,272 67	9,875 44	18,633	15
St. Regis.....	2,000 00	1,144 63	13,330 46	1,898 91	67,912 61	13,603 70	41,012	32
St. Croix.....	4,069 16	5,036 25	6,483 46	8,745 35	89,314 58	7,583 43	91,018	23
Sauk.....	5,000 00	6,698 60	2,498 00	3,754 00	89,314 58	7,663 90	50,646	23
Shawano.....	1,688 06	3,364 00	5,670 00	3,061 65	3,084 96	2,417 07	14,800	1
Sheboygan.....	1,531 00	1,728 01	2,736 05	3,826 11	46,198 90	6,297 96	89,893	11
Taylor.....	6,341 23	6,457 43	20,736 05	8,926 11	85,082 27	5,017 55	8,093	26
Union.....	3,216 03	3,955 73	6,780 77	6,267 49	15,000 00	3,060 54	11,000	17
Vermilion.....	2,923 00	4,506 14	3,904 00	3,500 00	12,000 00	3,860 00	34,160	14
Walworth.....	3,100 00	3,000 00	3,400 00	3,500 00	11,727 12	8,440 82	24,998	11
Washington.....	7,000 00	6,000 00	8,512 00	11,727 12	42,854 00	8,350 00	3,925	31
Washington.....	1,600 00	2,745 00	2,700 00	32,260 00	49,728 00	8,545 00	28,080	19
Waushara.....	4,675 03	6,015 61	6,303 77	32,431 71	97,633 00	5,570 90	31,043	32
Waupaca.....	6,927 19	8,010 00	6,426 97	3,520 60	35,413 57	7,009 60	33,943	16
Waupesa.....	2,357 06	2,010 00	1,679 00	2,500 00	9,313 99	1,949 59	19,089	34
Winnebago.....	13,134 35	17,038 65	13,746 86	11,218 76	72,092 18	14,418 43	46,374	14
Wood.....	3,550 00	4,350 00	5,384 00	5,160 62	23,916 10	4,768 62	13,941	31
Wood.....	3,550 00	4,350 00	5,384 00	5,160 62	23,916 10	4,768 62	13,941	27
Total.....	\$11,821 03	\$382,059 62	\$412,886 10	\$117,713 29	\$308,453 09	\$390,808 61	1,490,287	26

*Pauperism.*

## LIST OF SUPERINTENDENTS OF POOR HOUSES.

COUNTIES.	Name of Person in Charge of Poor House.	Post-office Address.	Salary.
Adams.....	Wm. Bidwell.....	Big Spring.....	\$400 00
Ashland.....	D. S. Mackie.....	High Bridge.....	900 00
Barron.....	John Darrow.....	Barron.....	600 00
Brown.....	John Cryan.....	Green Bay.....	480 00
Chippewa.....	R. P. Dickinson.....	Chippewa Falls.....	700 00
Clark.....	C. H. Ebbe.....	Neillsville.....	550 00
Columbia.....	B. Miller.....	Wycocena.....	333 00
Crawford.....	E. L. Wannemaker.....	Seneca.....	900 00
Dane.....	J. S. Meyers.....	Verona.....	800 00
Dodge.....	S. Rudolf.....	Juneau.....	800 00
Douglas.....	Wm. Kennedy.....	West Superior.....	800 00
Dunn.....	A. Forbes.....	Menomonie.....	400 00
Eau Claire..	C. A. Seaman.....	Eau Claire.....	600 00
Fond du Lac...	L. Manderscheid.....	Fond du Lac.....	600 00
Grant.....	James Alderson.....	Lancaster.....	480 00
Green.....	R. C. Whitcomb.....	Monroe.....	450 00
Iowa.....	E. J. Perkins.....	Dodgeville.....	450 00
Jackson.....	J. C. Tucker.....	Black River Falls.....	350 00
Jefferson.....	H. J. Graeszel.....	Jefferson.....	400 00
Juneau.....	R. F. Jones.....	New Lisbon.....	600 00
Kewaunee.....	Theodor Drissen.....	Alaska.....	375 00
La Fayette.....	Paul Noble.....	Darlington.....	450 00
Lincoln.....	Edw. Patzer.....	Merrill.....	500 00
Marathon.....	Chas. Fisch.....	Wausau.....	800 00
Milwaukee.....	F. Wedenkamp.....	Wauwatosa.....	1,000 00
Monroe.....	A. Boss.....	Sparta.....	700 00
Pierce.....	C. Fenton.....	Ellsworth.....	600 00
Price.....	N. Auley.....	Phillips.....	600 00
Racine.....	Mrs. Elizabeth Dietrich.....	Union Grove.....	900 00
Richland.....	D. W. James.....	Bloom City.....	500 00
Rock.....	Peter Aller.....	Johnstown.....	400 00
St. Croix.....	J. P. Foley.....	Kinnickinnick.....	600 00
Sauk.....	Wm. Andrus.....	Reedsburg.....	800 00
Sawyer.....	Peter Gullickson.....	Hayward.....	360 00
Taylor.....	Henry Voss.....	Medford.....	600 00
Vernon.....	John Friedel.....	Viroqua.....	600 00
Walworth.....	J. P. Davis.....	Elkhorn.....	500 00
Washington.....	Wm. Wendelborn.....	West Bend.....	600 00
Waukesha.....	Martin Farady.....	Waukesha.....	700 00
Waupaca.....	R. J. Woolsey.....	Waupaca.....	500 00
Winnebago.....	B. W. Eaton.....	Winnebago.....	800 00
Wood.....	A. Abrams.....	Port Edwards.....	600 00
CITY POOR HOUSES.			
Appleton.....	Joseph Ulman.....	Appleton.....	360 00
Kenosha.....	Mrs. Hall.....	Kenosha.....	150 00
La Crosse.....	Rudolf Koblitz.....	La Crosse.....	700 00
Oconto.....	Mrs. Jas. O'Connor.....	Oconto.....	.....
Stevens Point..	.....	Stevens Point.....	.....
Sheboygan.....	H. Siebers.....	Sheboygan.....	600 00