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List of Sundry Donations for 1914

Mrs. E. Gollmark, Christmas toys	Wise & Co., hats
Middle Dutch Church, Christmas toys, books, etc.	Miss Stokes, Memorial Fountain
E. I. Horseman Co., box of dolls, etc., Christmas.	Wanamaker, \$5.
Miss Helena Knox, Christmas toys	The Fleischmann Co., \$2.
Miss Carolena M. Wood, fruit, flowers, plants, vegetables, etc.	Mrs. Edward Williams, dresses.
The Aeolean Co., two pianos.	Brentanos, books.
Ditson & Co., one piano.	Vacation Bible School, 3 cord hammocks.
Kranich & Bach, two pianos.	Mr. E. E. Olcott, 20 children to West Point.
Mrs J. Isaacs, candy	Fresno (California) Chamber of Commerce, 360 lbs. raisins.
Barnum & Bailey, 150 admissions to circus.	Workers at C. O. A., \$5 for treat.
"101" Ranch, 75 admissions to show.	Chapin Estate, furniture.
Woodmen of America, 50 admissions to show and treat, Yonkers.	Mr. Herbert, St. Philips Church, car fare for 30 to New York.
Greater N. Y. Fair Co., 60 admissions to Yonkers Fair.	Miss Grace Dodge, boat rides.
Ambrose & Co., hats	Bible Society, prayer books and hymnals.
	H. B. Claflin, pieces for patch work.
	Clarence Robinson, conducting Sunday services.
	Mrs. Newman, toys

Peter Cooper Golden Wedding Fund.....	\$ 35.00
A Friend for the Capital Account.....	100.00
Mrs. R. N. MacLaren for Easter flowers.....	5.00
Ewart, Mr. R. H., Children's Christmas.....	25.00

The books and magazines are available at all times, and we all do our best to encourage the highly profitable habit of reading. We are striving hard to improve the mental, physical and moral conditions of our children, and trust we shall not fall short in our efforts.

At a recent meeting, Brother Barnabas, said he believed the function of the Institution is to so fit the child mentally, physically and morally, to go out into the world so that the Institution would not have to apologize for him. Give the child such a training that he will be on a par with the child brought up in a family home and he will not be handicapped and marked as a "pauper." This, we trust, is the ideal towards which we are working.

I have not mentioned the medical or social service departments as their reports will speak for themselves. We wish to extend our thanks to the following persons and Institutions for the assistance rendered us in our work during the past year; for the assistance rendered us in our work during the past year; State Board of Charities, Children's Bureau; Gerry Society; S. P. C. C. Yonkers; Sea View Hospital, Randall's Island; Fordham Hospital; Vanderbilt and St. Bartholomew's clinics; Board of Health; New York Hospital; New York Eye and Ear Hospital; St. Mary's Hospital; Riverside Hospital; Board of Education; Dr. Max Schlapp of the Clearing House; Mr. W. Hynes and others from Dept. of Finance; Mr. Theos. W. Hynes and others from Dept. of Finance; Miss Clarence and Miss Mozart, of the Parks and Playgrounds Assn.; Stevens and many other kind friends. Also I would make special mention of the different churches which have so kindly received our children during the year and assisted us in our work here, viz., St. Andrews Episcopal Church, Baptist Church of the Redeemer, and South Yonkers Presbyterian Churches of Yonkers, Presbyterian Church of Riverdale, and St. Philips Church of New York.

In closing this report, I wish to express my appreciation of the zealous manner in which officers and employees have performed the tasks assigned to them.

To your Board I am under obligation for the most fair and impartial consideration of all matters pertaining to the needs and management of the Home during my incumbency and for frequent helpful suggestions and valuable advice concerning our work.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

MASON PITMAN,
Superintendent.

Dec. 14, 1914.

Another valued form of co-operation with people outside the Institution is in the Sunday Services. We have a regular graded Sunday School taught by the workers in the morning, and about 50 children go out to Church. The afternoon service is conducted by Mr. Robinson of the Brotherhood of St. Andrew.

a greater benefit. Our Church services have been carried on each Sunday by visiting ministers, as Mr. Clarence W. Robinson, who carried on our religious work for so many years, had to give up the work about a year ago on account of illness.

1914 – references to Clarence Robinson 's support at COA , began this year . Also St. Philip's is noted as receiving children which can be attributed to the time he was a vestry member and lay leader His support to COA was for over 20 years. He stopped regular Sunday school classes in 1930 due to illness but maintained an association until his death

The 1931 Annual Report References Clarence W. Robinson's illness



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Services are held every Sunday afternoon in our Chapel by Mr. C. W. Robinson, or someone assigned by him, and Sunday School every Sunday morning. All the children receive religious instruction, and we do everything in our power to develop and surround them with a true, clear religious atmosphere. On June 6th the Coloras Club of New York City presented us with a beautiful organ for our Chapel services.

For the many considerations and help received from the following persons; we are very grateful, and wish to thank them for their kindness: State Board of Charities, and Mr. Charles H. Johnson, its Secretary; the Hon. Charles L. Craig and his assistants; the Hon. Bird S. Coler, Commissioner of Public Welfare and his assistants; Mr. Thomas Hynes and Mr. Blatchford of the Department of Finance; Col. Ernest K. Coulter, General Manager of the S. P. C. C. of New York City, and his assistants; Mr. Arthur W. Towne, Superintendent of the Brooklyn S. P. C. C.; Mr. Chas. Warner of the Yonkers S. P. C. C.; the Judges of the Children's Courts, and the many other kind friends, not forgetting our kind and faithful Mr. Clarence W. Robinson.

Respectfully submitted,
MASON PITMAN,
Superintendent.

On Arbor Day we planted a Japanese cedar in memory of our good friend, Mr. Clarence Robinson, who died suddenly at Easter time.

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There were also many shopping tours. Concerts and entertainments were given at the institution by members of the Coloras Club, the Reserve Club

The Coloras Club held its Service of Thanksgiving at the institution May 23rd, 1937. Music was furnished by the Schubert Society and the address was given by the Reverend John Johnson from St. Martin's Church, New York.

The 1920 annual Reports also acknowledges Mr. Clarence W. Robinson's support. Also through his relationship with the Coloras Club which he founded. This club is mentioned in as providing sundry support and members visiting the institution in the Annual reports through Clarence W. Robinson's life.

Excerpt from the 1937-1938 Annual report with accolades for Clarence W. Robinson through his death.

Also references to the Coloras club and Reverend Johnson associated with St. Martin's

Donations 1935 - 1936	
The Brez Foundation	\$ 750.00
The Baldwin Fund, through the Protestant Welfare Federation	100.00
Mrs. Charles F. Maclean	40.00
Mrs. Clarence M. Hyde	25.00
Peter Cooper Golden Wedding Fund	18.84
Anonymous	15.00
Dr. Bernard Herstein	12.00
Foster Mother's Club of Corona, L. I.	10.00
Mrs. R. A. Macready	8.00
The Debutante Club	7.00
Trustees, for prizes, etc.	5.00
Mr. George A. J. de Naouley	5.00
Mrs. Willard Parker	5.00
Mrs. Robert N. MacLaren	5.00
Mr. Robert M. Brill in memory of Carolena M. Wood	5.00
A Friend in memory of Carolena M. Wood	5.00
Mrs. I. J. McGetrick	3.00
A Friend	2.00
St. Martin's Church	
	\$1,045.84

Copies of New Clippings that reference Clarence W. Robinson pg. 1 of 2

Mr. Clarence Robinson letter to the editor in response to the criticism of the institution. *The New York Age* March 2nd 1916 (a black newspaper produced from 1887 to 1960, and was one of the most influential black newspapers of its time.)

The Colored Orphan Asylum Management.
To the Editor of The Age:
The management of the Colored Orphan Asylum at Riverdale has recently been subjected to so much unjust criticism, both through the press as well as on the part of unthinking individuals, that it becomes a duty on the part of one who knows whereof he speaks to say a word in refutation of these situations. My purpose is to set forth the injustice in criticizing the fact that a white man holds the position of superintendent and the implication that a white man cannot take sufficient real interest in colored children.
It is due to Dr. Pitman to say that I do not know of any institution owned and operated exclusively by colored people, where the general management is any better than that at Riverdale and this is no reflection on the Negro race.
The institution at Riverdale is owned and managed by our white friends. Employment is given to about fifty adults. About one-half of whom are white. It is apparent to any open mind that this management of or any other institution is a prerogative entirely in the hands of the trustees and any attempt on the part of any person to minimize or discredit the good work being done under the present superintendent is, to say the least, discourteous and rash. No one, white or black, will deny that the Negro in all parts of our country is subject to many indignities at the hands of the favored race, but the significant fact remains that among that favored race we have always had friends who have never hesitated to nobly respond to the needs of the unfortunate of our race. No better argument for this claim can be furnished than that state-ly institution at Riverdale, which—

buildings, cottages and ground combined—has a valuation of approximately one million dollars. When the monument of Sir Christopher Wren, the architect of St. Paul's, London, was sought, the answer was "Look about you!" When certain of the disciples of John the Baptist wanted to know of Jesus if He was the Messiah who had been so long looked for. His answer to them was "Go back and tell John what things ye have seen."
Seeing is knowing and believing. I believe that if more of our people will come and see and look about them, and having seen, tell their friends what things they have seen at the Colored Orphan Asylum. Another important link will have been forged in the chain which unites our white and colored inhabitants into one common bond of mutual sympathy.
CLARENCE W. ROBINSON.

It appears *The NEW York Age* was criticizing the management of the institution since it was white. This is a continuation of published in Du Bois's complaint, which was published in the 1913 *The Crisis*, the organ of the NAACP. He implied because the management was white it had a patronizing and condescending philosophy which was to keep the youth in their place instead of working to make American society, with all its possibilities, a reality for them. (AM *New Start In Riverdale*, 1907–22 page 17)

ELECTION OF VESTRY AT ST. PHILIPS CHURCH
St. Philips **Protestant** **Episcopal** church, West 134th street, the Rev. Hutchins C. Bishop, rector, held its annual election of wardens and vestrymen on Easter Monday, March 28th, between the hours of 12 and 2 p. m. It was one of the most interesting elections held in recent years and one in which a very large vote was cast.
Considerable opposition developed against some of the old vestry board and when the balloting was over and the votes counted, it was found that three of them had been displaced. H. T. Mars of Brooklyn, W. H. Norwood, and S. H. Baley of Yonkers were the three new members elected, taking the places formerly held by Clarence W. Robinson, Enoch W. Newton, A. Manson.
The old members reelected were Dr. Alfred T. Robinson, Thomas H. Harrison, William J. Pitray, Ernest H. Pulley and Richard C. Clarke.
Francis H. Carmand and Theodore A. Morse were reelected as wardens.
When the result was announced, Rector Bishop made a short speech, thanking the parishoners for their interest and expressing satisfaction at the results of the election. He has been somewhat worried during the past year, he is reported as saying, over some conditions that existed but now he felt sure that he would be given the support and assistance of his board of vestry men and wardens.

April 2 1921 Clarence W. Robinson voted off vestry and associates with St. Luke's/ St. Martin's

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Apr 19, 1924 The New York
Age regarding a Palm Sunday Service

Riverdale Orphanage

Palm Sunday services at the colored Orphan Asylum attracted a large number of visitors. Palms were freely distributed to the children and visitors, in honor of the Triumphal Entrance of Jesus Christ, the King of Kings, into Jerusalem. Appropriate music was rendered by the children and special soloists.

Clarence W. Robinson, the chaplain, in his address, laid emphasis on the matchless beauty of the character of Him whose Sufferings and Death are universally held in remembrance this week. Preparations have been made for a special musical festival and an abundance of floral decorations at the three o'clock service on Easter Day.

Clarence Robinson obituary from the *New York Times*, Saturday April 16, 1938 indicates his long relationship with COA and his relationship with the Coloras club

CLARENCE W. ROBINSON

Negro Lay Reader of Episcopal Church for 40 Years

Clarence W. Robinson of 552 Hancock Street, Brooklyn, a Negro licensed lay reader of the Protestant Episcopal Church for forty years, died on Tuesday of a heart ailment during a visit to Bermuda, according to word received here yesterday. He was 69 years old.

Mr. Robinson frequently conducted services in the parishes and missions in the dioceses of New York and Long Island. For twenty years he conducted services for and gave religious instruction to the children at the Colored Orphan Asylum at Riverdale-on-the-Hudson. He founded St. Luke's Mission in Manhattan and the Bermuda Benevolent Association and Coloras Club. He worked for the American Society of Mechanical Engineers for forty-two years.

Surviving are two sons, John and Norman, and two brothers, Somers and Edward.