Shriners Are Workers In Cause of Crippled Childr

« « They Do The Work » »

SMILING CRIPPLE MAKES THE NEWS

An unheralded incident became a heralded coincidence for Shrine Hospital publicity. While the Board of Trustees and Imperial Divan were in session at St. Louis, a news story hit the front pages about Minnie Rose Webb of Rialto, Tennessee, who was being speeded to St. Louis Unit for a routine pre-examination.

When the news story came over the wires, an avalanche of inquiries flowed into St. Louis. Press photographers, news-reel camera men, radio broadcasters, reporters and special writers flocked into town. The story was a "natural" for them. Little did they suspect, as they came to St. Louis, that highest officers were there for their regular mid-season session. Dignitaries were at the station, at the Hospital, and at the bedside broadcast while the cameras clicked, the film rolled and the air waves repeated.

From a ramshackle farm house a crippled girl had waved to the trains that passed. The railroad men adopted her as a mascot, bought a wheel chair for her comfort and became deeply interested in helping her regain her health, if possible. Noble C. Y. Walker, County Court clerk at Covington, Tennessee, sent an application, through Al Chymia (Memphis), for examination of the 13-year-old child. In due course, the St. Louis Unit notified them to send the child for a routine examination prior to a decision on regular admission. Her railroad friends down Covington way got busy, supplied a drawing room on the Illinois Central Chickasaw Limited, gave her dolls, candy, toys—and then the press service let the story loose.

Shrine Hospitals were mentioned in nationwide publicity starting from a simple, human-interest story emanating from Covington, Tennessee.

Their Hospitals Have Reli Or Cured 100,000 Young

There is one thing above all else that any will talk about—the thing closest to his hea pitals for crippled children.

In 1922 the first unit was opened at Shre La., and since that time more than 100,000 have been either completely cured or grea proved through the efforts of Shriners.

But here is the important part: Had it not been for the Shriners' Hospitals, these 100,000 children, almost without exception, would have gone through life as hopeless invalids.

Patients have numbered as high as 30,000 a year and today, over $44,000,000 is invested in what are affectionately called these Temples of Baby Smiles.

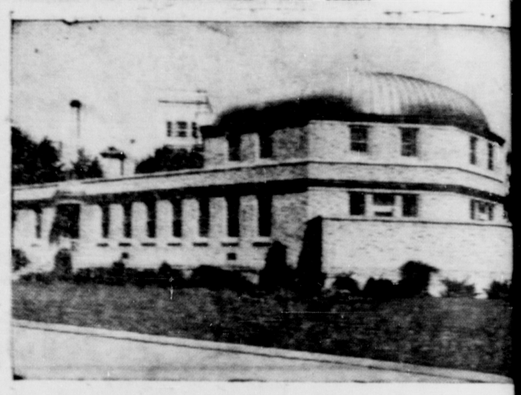
Besides chief surgeons, top flight orthopedic doctors and nurses, the hospitals have an advisory board of outstanding members of the American Association of Orthopedic

Hospitals are lo Shreveport; Minneap Francisco; Portland, Louis; Montreal; S Mass.; Chicago; Phi Greenville; Honolulu; Salt Lake City; Winn Lexington, Ky.

Just take a look at place in these 15 hos year.

Nine thousand chil admitted, an average patients a day. There 000 physical therapy 4,800 operations on 1 ren, 11,000 X-rays w 1,776 highly precise ted. In the out-patie 20,888 children wer and 2,600 little boys who entered on stret somebody's arms, wal

There is but requir ability to pay. Of child must be ment and within the reali ing. The age has be to 14 to avoid adole lems.



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