

**TRANSACTIONS OF THE ILLINOIS  
SOCIETY FOR CHILD-STUDY.  
REPORTS OF WORK IN CHILD-STUDY  
CARRIED ON BY MEMBERS AND  
ROUND TABLES. VOLUME II, NO. 1, 2**

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**C. C. VAN LIEW**

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VOLUME II.

No. 1.

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EDITED BY  
C. C. VAN LIEW  
Secretary of the Society



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## INTRODUCTION.

This first number of the second volume of the Transactions of the Illinois Society for Child-Study is contributed almost wholly by those who have been working members of the Society for the past year or two. In preparing for the Annual Child-Study Congress to be held at the Chicago and Cook County Normal School, Englewood, May 14, 15 and 16, 1896, the officers of the Society thought best to call out as general an expression as possible from the members of the Society of the value that the work of the Society has been to them and of the actual work of Child-Study that they have undertaken. Accordingly, in Special Circular No. 1, announcing the preparation for the Child-Study Congress, the following questions were put to the members of the Society with the request that all who could do so should prepare and send in responses for publication:

1. How has what you have heard or read on the subject of Child-Study helped you in your daily practical work of education,—in your *treatment* of children, either physically, mentally or morally?
2. Have you pursued any *special* study of children? If so, no matter how slight, please write out the results, or send in the full data if you have them recorded.
3. Have you, since your acquaintance with the subject of Child-Study, discovered among the children under your care any whose senses, motor activities, or general mental powers were in any way *defective*? Did these defects seem in any case to be due to causes which it was possible for you to remove? What did Child-Study lead you to do for them? How was the defect discovered, and what change appeared in the child after it was removed?
4. Have you made use of any of the syllabi for Child-Study, prepared for the use of the Society and published in its Trans-

actions, Vol. 1, Nos. 1 and 2? If so, which ones have you found most useful for the work of your grade or school? Give a summary of the results, or, if available, send in the individual data in simple form.

In spite of the reluctance which many feel in writing upon a subject which is new to them, the Society has succeeded in getting a number of responses, most of which appear in the following pages. While many of these published reports cannot lay claim to great scientific accuracy, they are still of very great value to the Society in many ways. Those that have not yet taken part in the work of Child-Study, especially those who have doubted its practical benefits, will receive a new stimulus from the testimony of their fellow workers in all fields and grades. The Society, as an organization, will be better able to know wherein its work in the past has been either efficient or fruitless. It hopes thus to be still better able in the future to guide the work of child-study in this state with efficiency.

The material contained within these pages does not by any means represent all of the work that has been carried on by the members of the Society. The Child-Study Monthly, edited by Dr. W. O. Krohn, of Champaign, Illinois, which always co-operated heartily in the work of the Illinois Society for Child-Study, has, during the past year, published a number of articles by members of the Society which should be counted as in part due to inspiration received from the work of the Society.

A number of others state that they have sent the data which they have collected to G. Stanley Hall, in reply to certain of his syllabi published in the transactions of the Society.

A great many whose names do not appear in these pages, have frequently testified to the benefits they have received from the publications of the Society.

A number of reports that have been sent in were received too late to be published in this number of the transactions. They will probably be reserved for a future number.

The members of the Society may look in the future for a number of the transactions containing some of the papers and discussions of the Third Annual Child-Study Congress.

It has been pre-eminently the province of the Illinois Society for Child-Study to lift the subject of Child-Study into prominence before the teachers, parents, and social workers of the state. In this work it can lay claim to a fair degree of success. Its membership has been constantly increasing so that in a short time the 1,000 mark will have been passed. It will probably be along this same line of propaganda that the greatest usefulness of the Society will be found for some time to come, so that the measures undertaken by the officers and executive committee of the Society will undoubtedly be shaped by the attitude which seems to prevail among its members toward the entire subject of Child-Study.

As some index of the abiding interest and real progress that Child-Study is achieving in modern educational and social circles, and especially among those who are busy with the constructive problems of education, this number of the transactions of the Illinois Society for Child-Study seeks its mission.

C. C. VAN LIEW,  
Sec. and Treas.

NORMAL, ILL., *April, 13, 1896.*