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UNIVERSITY OF LOUISVILLE

THE DEVELOPMENT OF PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION
FOR SOCIAL WORK AT THE RAYMOND A.
KENT SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK
OF THE UNIVERSITY
OF LOUISVILLE,
1918-1946

A Dissertation
Submitted to the Faculty
Of the Raymond A. Kent School of Social Work
In Partial Fulfillment of the
Requirements for the Degree
Of Master of Science in Social Work

By

MAURICE L. KOHNHORST

1948



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NAME OF STUDENT: MAURICE L. KOHNHORST

TITLE OF THESIS: THE DEVELOPMENT OF PROFESSIONAL
EDUCATION FOR SOCIAL WORK AT THE
RAYMOND A. KENT SCHOOL OF SOCIAL
WORK OF THE UNIVERSITY OF
LOUISVILLE, 1918-1946

APPROVED BY THE READING COMMITTEE COMPOSED OF THE
FOLLOWING MEMBERS:

Howell V. Williams

CHAIRMAN

Helen A. Brown

DATE: JANUARY 27, 1948

Dedicated to Mrs. Reuben Post Halleck
(1868-1946)

There are persons who are the givers in life. Such was the gift possessed by Mrs. Halleck and she gave of it freely, unobtrusively, with little asking of, or expecting material benefit. Always a believer in professional education for social workers, she served in many capacities during the tumultuous history of the struggle to secure a solid foundation for the social work school at the University of Louisville. Without her loyal support the school would be far from the peak it has reached. Mrs. Halleck was always available as an advisor to the school and fought tenaciously for higher standards in social work education. Her results can never be shown in black and white but will be generated through the years by those who are trained under the standards she helped develop.

PREFACE

It would be impossible to single out any individual or group and give credit for the development of the Raymond A. Kent School of Social Work. There are names which bring to mind real achievement and tremendous effort in the field which they had chosen and to which they had dedicated their service; names which lived through years of discouragement and disillusionment; names which perhaps have been forgotten with the passage of time but played vital roles in different periods of the development of the school. This, therefore, is not an account of things happening, but in reality, an account of the efforts of real persons with foresight and a faith in a goal.

The writer wishes to acknowledge his gratitude to Miss Esther M. Taylor, General Secretary, Family Service Organization, Louisville, for the reading of this material and for many helpful suggestions. Miss Taylor has been used throughout as a source in that she has served in many advisory capacities for the school since 1930.

Appreciation is also expressed to the following persons who were extremely helpful to the writer in the gathering of material; Mary S. Brisley, former Director of the Louisville School of Social Work; Mary Stotsenburg, Executive Secretary of the Community Chest; Catherine Fox, Louisville and Jefferson County Children's Home; Eleanor Burks, Louisville Chapter of the American Red Cross; Birdie Lee Brown, Secretary to the Dean, Raymond A. Kent School of Social Work; F. C. Grise, Dean, Western State Teachers College; Harold E. Wetzel, Head of the Department of Social Work, University of Kentucky; W. Scott Hall, Sociology Department, Transylvania College; Constance B. Adams, Librarian, Russell Sage Foundation; Helen H. Dingman, Department of Sociology, Berea College; Mae Kelso Muller, Administrative Assistant, National Office, American Association of Social Workers.

My most sincere thanks are due the Western Kentucky Chapter of the American Association of Social Workers, The Registrar's Office, University of Louisville, The Family Service Organization, The Community Chest and The Raymond A. Kent School of Social Work for the kind use of material contained in their files.

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CHAPTER I

Early Developments in Education for Social Work

The Apprenticeship Period

Early preparation for social work followed the apprenticeship system originally used as a supplement to professional schools of law, medicine, teaching and engineering. Steiner describes the apprenticeship method as simply a means employed by organizations to train new workers. He states:

The employee in training sometimes received formal instruction from his superiors through assigned readings and conferences, but the training consisted chiefly of practical work carried on under supervision. Such an apprenticeship therefore cannot be called training for social work as it gave the worker no well-rounded view of the whole field but prepared him merely for specific tasks within a single organization.¹

Generally speaking, social agencies in the early days had no desire for the responsibility of training workers not in their employ and usually demanded a period of service for those they undertook to train. Miss Anna Dawes, in a paper read at the International Congress of Charities in Chicago,

¹Jesse F. Steiner, Education for Social Work (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1921), p. 7.

in 1893, made the first public statement recognizing that the apprenticeship system was not adequately meeting the demand for trained workers. In her paper, "The Need of Training Schools for a New Profession", she pointed out how Charity Organization Societies were either failing, or carrying on this work in a feeble manner. She made a challenging appeal for a training school to be established but there still was very little recognition of this need on the part of the profession.²

Beginning of Schools of Social Work

Before the beginning of the twentieth century, The National Conference of Charities and Correction (later The National Conference of Social Work) in its annual meeting in Toronto, Canada, in 1897, gave first extended consideration to the problem of professional training. Mary E. Richmond read a paper on the subject "The Need of a Training School in Applied Philanthropy", in which she advocated that professional standards could not be attained "until a training school had been provided and common ground established for those who are doctoring social diseases in many departments of charitable work."³

During the following year (1898) The Committee on Philanthropic Education of the New York Charity Organization Society opened a six week summer school, charging no tuition and giving no credits, but aiming to give what could be termed a refresher course. Dr. Philip Ayres was placed in charge of the

² Ibid, citing Anna Dawes, "The Need of Training Schools For a New Profession", Chicago, 1893.

³ Ibid, citing Mary E. Richmond, "Need of a Training School in Applied Philanthropy", Toronto, 1897.

training class which was attended by twenty-seven students, representing fourteen colleges and universities and eleven states.⁴

Until the year 1903, this summer course represented practically the only organized effort to provide systematic training. In this year the training program was extended to include a six months winter session which provided weekly lectures at a late afternoon hour so the course would be available for social workers employed in the city. In 1904 a three months course was established and in 1905 a full year's course of training was established, which was planned primarily for students without experience in social work. The first year saw fifty-seven students register, twelve of whom completed the year's work and received the certificate of the school.⁵

At the same time the movement to secure trained workers was growing and being felt elsewhere. To Dr. Jeffrey R. Brackett belongs the credit for founding Boston's School for Social Workers (now Simmons College of Social Work) in 1904. He felt that there was a need for a training center for young people who wished to be prepared before entering the field or for volunteers, who had such good intentions, but little technique. The cooperation of Harvard University and Simmons College made it

⁴Bulletin of The New York School of Social Work, 1946.

⁵Esther Lucille Brown, Social Work as a Profession(New York: Russell Sage Foundation, 1942), p.30.

possible to start sessions in 1904. The first class had twenty-seven students, and classes increased rapidly thereafter. In 1908 a research department was added to the school by the Russell Sage Foundation. As of June, 1945, graduates numbered 4,045.⁶

In Chicago, The Chicago School of Civics and Philanthropy was started in 1901 as a series of courses under the Extension Department of the University of Chicago and was originally called The Chicago Institute of Social Science. Dr. Graham Taylor took a prominent part in the development of the Chicago Institute and the course proved so successful that the Russell Sage Foundation enlarged the Institute by establishing in 1907, a department of research with Julia C. Lathrop and Sophonisba P. Breckinridge in charge. In 1920 the present Chicago School of Social Service Administration was organized.⁷

Still farther west in St. Louis in 1904, The School For Practical Training of Charity Workers was organized. Classes were first held in the Young Men's Christian Association building and received impetus from social workers in the city. Later the school was affiliated with the University of Missouri and became the Missouri School of Social Economy. In 1928 the trustees of the estate of George Warren Brown turned over his residual estate for the use of the department, which thereupon became The George Warren Brown Department of Social Work of Washington University.⁸

⁶Simmons College of Social Work, Announcement, 1946.

⁷Edith Abbott, Twenty-one Years of Education For Social Work, 1920-1941, (University of Chicago Press, 1942.) p. 2.

⁸Steiner, Op. Cit., p.8.

The development of schools for social work made their first entrance in the south in 1916 with the establishment of The Richmond School of Social Economy at Richmond, Virginia. At the same time a school was also established in Houston, Texas called The Texas School of Civics and Philanthropy. The Richmond school had as its first director Dr. H. H. Hibbs, under whose leadership the school was organized. The Texas school was organized by the social agencies of Houston as an independent school and was taken over by Rice Institute in 1918 when its director, Dr. Stuart A. Queen, resigned to enter military service.⁹

Development of the American Association of Schools of Social Work

In 1919, nineteen colleges and universities and independent schools responded to an invitation to form the Association of Training Schools of Professional Social Work. The name was changed to present title, American Association of Schools of Social Work, in 1933. When the Association was first organized the charter read that "Any educational institution maintaining a full time course of training for social work covering at least one year of academic work and including a substantial amount of both class instruction and supervised field work may become a member."¹⁰

⁹Ibid, p. 9.

¹⁰"American Association of Schools of Social Work," Social Work Year Book, (New York: Russell Sage Foundation, 1941), p.210

The first Association became an informal conference group of educators, many of whom held widely different views concerning preparation for the field of social work as it was known at that time. The period of the 1920's was one of gradual expansion, and in 1927 more definite requirements for membership were formulated. These have been expanded and changed as the content of the curriculum has been more clearly defined. There was rapid expansion of the membership during the 1930's to meet the demand of new and extended programs. New schools, as well as member schools, are now governed by the same requirements.¹¹

¹¹Ibid, p. 211.

CHAPTER II

DEVELOPMENT OF EDUCATION FOR SOCIAL WORK IN KENTUCKY

In Kentucky, notwithstanding the University of Louisville, the development of education for social work, especially on the graduate level, has been at a minimum. There have been sporadic efforts made toward achieving accredited status and perhaps the University of Kentucky has been the most consistent school, other than the University of Louisville, in its efforts.

Courses in preparatory social work have been offered from time to time since as far back as 1918. These courses, according to the present director of the University of Kentucky Department of Social Work, have not always been directly under the sociology division or in the Department of Social Work, but have been available in other departments. These include such departments as Economics, Nutrition, Agriculture and Rural Sociology. Dr. Harold Wetzel, director, recently described how the present Department of Social Work at the University of Kentucky was set up separately from the Sociology Department in 1938. According to Dr. Wetzel, the purpose of this Department was to provide a one year graduate

training program, and the curriculum followed the pattern recommended by the American Association of Schools of Social Work.¹ Originally the advocacy for courses in social work came from social workers in the field. Dr. Harry Best, former head of research and sociology at the University of Kentucky, recognized the need for more training of social workers and advocated a more complete program. Later, as membership requirements in the Kentucky Chapter of the American Association of Social Workers became known, renewed effort was made toward the establishment of a professional curriculum. This was especially true in view of the fact that membership in the American Association of Social Workers made it necessary for applicants to have completed field work in a recognized school. In 1935 the University requested the Chairman of the Kentucky Chapter (at that time the Louisville Chapter) of the American Association of Social Workers to teach a course in social case work at the University. One year later a full-time instructor was employed to teach courses in social work. In 1943, due partly to the wartime situation, the department closed and was not organized again until the fall of 1944.² At present the emphasis is primarily on the development of the undergraduate program, looking toward more adequate preparation of students for later graduate work, as well as preparing for immediate jobs on the pre-professional level.

¹Letter from Harold Wetzel, Head of Department of Social Work, University of Kentucky, January 16, 1947.

²Statement by Esther M. Taylor, personal interview.

Western State Teachers College in Bowling Green, Kentucky, has also offered courses on the undergraduate level, which would prepare students for admission to a graduate school of social work. A graduate program for preparation for social work has never been offered. The school's curriculum was praised in April, 1944, by Leona Massoth, Executive Secretary, American Association of Schools of Social Work, who wrote Dean F. C. Crise, Dean of Western State Teachers College that:

I appreciate having the opportunity for studying the pre-social work curricula, No. 1 and No. 11, worked out by you. I have studied them carefully and consider them excellent in every respect. They would certainly meet admission requirements not only for the University of Louisville, but any accredited school of social work.³

These curricula have not been published, according to Dean Crise, but have been used for counselling purposes with undergraduate students who are taking, or considering taking, courses in preparation for careers in social service.⁴

Courses on the undergraduate level have also been offered in other colleges throughout the state. Berea offered such courses in the early 1930's and although there never has been a curriculum developed on the graduate level, the College is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools.⁵ Courses at Transylvania College, on the

³Letter from Leona Massoth, Executive Secretary, American Association of Schools of Social Work, April 21, 1944.

⁴Letter from Dean F. C. Crise, Dean, Western State Teachers College, March 24, 1947.

⁵Letter from Helen Dingman, Sociology Department, Berea College, March 25, 1947.

undergraduate level, have been offered since 1942, but at the present there is only one course being offered. No courses have ever been offered on a graduate level.⁶ It is not possible to describe all of the college undergraduate work being given at various other schools in the field of social work; suffice to say that other colleges are giving courses but on the undergraduate level.

⁶Letter from W. Scott Hall, Sociology Department, Transylvania College, March 25, 1947.

CHAPTER III

BEGINNING OF SOCIAL WORK TRAINING AT THE UNIVERSITY OF LOUISVILLE

In the fall of 1837 James Guthrie introduced an ordinance before the city of Louisville Council providing for the establishment of the Collegiate Institute of Louisville. The first year enrollment was seventy students and tuition was twenty-five to thirty dollars for a six months' term. In 1840 the Institute was reincorporated as Louisville College and in 1846 the University of Louisville was chartered. Recognized as the oldest Municipal University in the United States, its colorful history provides a worthy setting for the founding of the School of Social Work. Five university presidents have headed the University of Louisville during the development of the social work school. They were: Arthur Ford, 1914-1926; George Colvin, 1926-1928; John L. Patterson, 1928-1929; Raymond A. Kent, 1929-1943; Einar Jacobsen, 1943-1946.¹

Early Days of Organization

At the November, 1918, meeting of the Louisville Conference of Social Workers and the Board of Workers of the

¹Centennial History of the University of Louisville,
Kentucky Writers Project, Works Progress Administration, 1939.

Welfare League the recommendation that a school of social work be established was considered. Other groups participating in the plan were the University of Louisville, the Presbyterian Theological Seminary, Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Board of Education and the Public Library. The Federation of Social Agencies (later the Welfare League and then Community Chest) and the Conference of Social Workers assumed financial responsibility for the school. The latter group had only been re-activated March 30, 1918, "after a period of inaction due to a variety of causes."² Plans were made for classes to be held twice a week and were set up primarily to meet the need for training people already employed in social agencies. Classes met, beginning in December, 1918, in the Engineers and Architects Club on the fourteenth floor of the Starks Building.³ Tuition was free to all paid members of the Louisville Conference of Social Workers and a fee of fifty cents was charged to students and one dollar to others.

The University of Louisville, the Normal School (a training center for teachers) and the two theological seminaries planned to give one semester's credit for the completion of work at the school. By April, 1919, classes were averaging seventy-five, with attendance at some lectures totalling one hundred and twenty-five. The Executive Committee

²Mary S. Brisley, "History of the School for Social Work" (unpublished paper, June, 1926, Community Chest Files).

³Bulletin, School of Social Work, November, 1918.

was made up of the following persons: Professor C. S. Gardner, Baptist Seminary; Professor Reuben Post Halleck, Professor M. A. Caldwell, University of Louisville; Professor Jesse L. Cotton, Presbyterian Seminary; Professor O. L. Read, Superintendent of Public Schools; Ethel Lovell, Acting President of Louisville Social Workers Conference; Judge R. W. Bingham, President of the Louisville Community Council; Mr. George Settle, Public Librarian; Elwood Street, Director, Louisville Federation of Social Agencies; Frances Evans, and Margaret Bergen.⁴ (It may be noted that throughout this dissertation, wherever it is possible, the affiliation of persons mentioned will be given in order to present a complete picture of community participation in the school of social work activities).

One month was devoted to each subject presented and the first class meeting was held on December 2, 1918. Dr. W. H. Slingerland, Special Agent, Child Helping Department of the Russell Sage Foundation, who was making a study of institutions in Kentucky, gave the first lectures. Some of his lecture titles were: "The Community's Responsibility for its Dependent Children"; "Child Placing in Family Homes"; "State Supervision of Children's Institutions." Following these lectures by Mr. Slingerland other courses were offered in the following subjects: Public Health and Housing, Industry, Education, Recreation, Delinquency and Crime. However, it was

⁴Ibid

recognized that an independent school was more or less a make-shift arrangement:

Such a course is only temporary and should be succeeded by some formal mode of instruction in which students will do regular work and get credit for the work done. In consequence, plans are now being made for the assumption of the School of Social Work by some established educational institution of University rank. It is hoped that a regular four year course can be arranged and also a two year course for those who do not wish to graduate from a University, as well as ⁵ possibly a summer course in social work being arranged.

By January, 1919, negotiations had been entered into with both the University of Kentucky and the University of Louisville. Both seemed favorably inclined and a plan was proposed to the University of Kentucky whereby a school should be established in Louisville directly under the University of Kentucky. A memorandum of the suggested arrangement stated that the first two years of the course leading to the degree of Bachelor of Arts in Social Science were to be taken at Lexington and the last two in Louisville. For reasons not apparent, the negotiations with the University of Kentucky were discontinued and those with the University of Louisville were pressed. ⁶

The earliest correspondence with the University of Louisville is thought to be a letter written to the Liberal Arts and Science College Dean, John L. Patterson, by Elwood Street, Director of the Welfare League, in February, 1919.

⁵Annual Report of the Welfare League, 1918-1919 (Louisville March, 1919).

⁶Brisley, Op. Cit. p. 2.

In this letter Mr. Street urged the University of Louisville to establish a school of social work, and also stated that the Welfare League would be willing to help finance the proposed school.⁷ Later, in a letter to Mr. Arthur Y. Ford, President of the University, Mr. Street stated that the Welfare League had appropriated one thousand dollars for the school year, 1919-1920, providing the University trustees approved the appointment of a professor of Applied Sociology.⁸

The School of Social Work is Incorporated
With the University of Louisville

In April, 1919 Mr. Ford, who headed the University during the years 1914-1926, wrote Mr. Street to the effect that the Board of Trustees had authorized the establishment of a Department of Applied Sociology and stated that he hoped the department would grow into something of great practical value to the community. Details of the course would be worked out with Mr. Patterson, Dean of the Liberal Arts and Science College.⁹ During the fall of the same year, Dr. Norman J. Ware of Toronto, Canada was secured as Professor of Applied

⁷Letter to Mr. John L. Patterson, Dean of Liberal Arts and Science College from Mr. Elwood Street, Director of Welfare League, February 3, 1919.

⁸Ida Levin, "Resume of Connection Between the University of Louisville and the Louisville School of Social Work", (Unpublished paper, June 2, 1927).

⁹Letter to Mr. Elwood Street from Mr. Arthur Y. Ford, President of the University of Louisville, April 16, 1919.

Sociology and was in charge of the courses being offered. Other members of the faculty and executives of various social agencies provided other lectures. The total enrollment in all courses totaled one hundred and thirty and were broken down as follows: Applied Sociology, 22; Management of Social Work, 20; Family Case Work, 18; Political Science, 15; Social Settlements, 15; Labor Problems, 12; Practical Psychology, 10; Hospital Social Service, 8; and Playgrounds, 10. Classes were held in the University Building at 119 West Broadway and later moved to the Social Service Building. The Welfare League had agreed to assume part of the expense incident to carrying on the school up to, and through June, 1920. The University apparently went on the assumption that the Welfare League was willing to continue its contribution, and classes were continued through 1920-1921.¹⁰ On March 3, 1921 the treasurer of the University wrote the Welfare League with the request for additional funds. Later the University president, Mr. Ford, followed with a letter stating that he understood the League planned to continue the cooperative plan. The director of the Welfare League replied that the League did not plan to continue contributing a sum to the University and that it had done so only for the academic year, 1919-1920. The courses were discontinued after the spring semester, 1921.¹¹

¹⁰ Brisley, Op. Cit., p. 3

¹¹ Levin, Op. Cit., p. 2.

Following the discontinuance of the School of Social Work, Dr. Ware remained at the University, and in August of 1922 he wrote to Dean Patterson, Liberal Arts College, urging the re-organization of the school. He recommended that fees paid for the courses be retained by the school to pay part of the director's salary.¹² Other plans were also under way through instigation of the Board of Workers of the Welfare League and the Board of Presidents. In a meeting between these two groups in July, 1922 a curriculum had been planned and discussion on fees brought a suggested temporary fee of ten dollars per course. Dr. Patterson and Mr. Liggett, Director of the Welfare League, worked on a plan whereby the school would be supported by the Welfare League and definitely under the League and an Executive Committee of that organization. It was planned that the school should run from October to March and a certificate was to be given for the completion of five courses. Sixteen courses had been outlined and Dr. Ware was to remain as an "Advisory Director" and the matter of credits would be left to his discretion, within the regulations of the University.¹³

Marjory Warren, First Director of the University
of Louisville School of Social Work

In November, 1922 Miss Marjory Warren came to the newly organized school as Director from the Family Welfare Society of Boston. She had specialized in training students and volunteers.

¹² Levin, Op. Cit., p. 3.

¹³ Brisley, Op. Cit., p. 3.

It is interesting to note the press comment following the appointment of Miss Warren as Director of the School of Social Work:

Social Work in Louisville will receive a modern, scientific complexion when the Welfare League in cooperation with the University of Louisville open the new training school.....Miss Warren, the incoming director, is a graduate of Elmira College and has two years of graduate work at Simmons College of Social Work, Boston. Hitherto Louisville has had no means of training new workers, except by apprenticeship, which takes too long. Consequently, it has been necessary to secure workers from the outside who are at a disadvantage in coming to a city and a part of the country with which they are unfamiliar. It is also true that Louisville has lost many of its young men and women who had to go elsewhere for training and have naturally accepted positions away from home.¹⁴

Later another press notice explained that the school's headquarters had been established in the Welfare League office at 652 South Fourth Avenue, but that permanent offices and classrooms will be in the annex of the Social Service Building. The Advisory Board of the new school was listed as follows: David C. Liggett, Mrs. Herbert Mengel, Leonard Hewett, Mrs. Malcolm Bullitt, Miss Elvira Bears, Adele Brandeis, Helen Donaldson, Miss Marjory Warren and Norman J. Ware; Warwick Anderson, Dean of Liberal Arts College; Nettie Lovell, Children's Protective Society; Dr. Frank J. O'Brien, Psychological Clinic; Miss Vera Paschal; Lula Krakaur; and Linton Swift, Executive of the Family Service Organization.¹⁵

¹⁴ Louisville Courier-Journal, November 5, 1922.

¹⁵ Louisville Courier-Journal, December 17, 1922.

The school opened January 8, 1923 with classes meeting at the University for about the first ten days. Later they were shifted to the assembly room of the Social Service Building and then established finally in the annex of the same building. The total registration during the first semester was seventy-eight persons, four of whom were full time.¹⁶ Requirements for admission to the school were "persons with high school or college education or its equivalent in other forms of study or work." The catalogue stated: "The school accepts as students only those who have natural aptitude for work of this sort and who combine with a zeal for service and a love of their fellow men, a serious desire to acquire the techniques and skill that will make them more useful in helping to meet the intricate problems that confront individuals and communities today."¹⁷ Full time students were required to take fifteen hours of field work and the same number of hours in class. The following courses were offered during the year 1923-1924: Principles of Case Work and Advanced Case Work (Miss Warren); Labor Problems, Social Psychology and Rural Sociology (Dr. Ware); Elementary Course and a Seminar in Psychology (Dr. O'Brien); Recreation, Community Organization and Community Recreation (Miss Vera Paschal); Community Program (David Liggett); Administration of Social Agencies (Linton Swift).¹⁸

¹⁶ Brisley, Op. Cit., p. 4.

¹⁷ University of Louisville School of Social Work Catalogue, 1923-1924, p. 1

¹⁸ University of Louisville School of Social Work Catalogue, 1923-1924, p. 3.

In the fall of 1923 an Occupational Therapy Department was being organized at the University of Louisville at the instance of the Welfare League and the University. This Department was to be a part of the School of Social Work, despite obvious objections voiced by the Director of Social Work School, Miss Mary Louise Speed, who at the time was in charge of Civilian Rehabilitation at the City Hospital, was to be the director of the Occupational Therapy Department. This Department opened with a registration of six. Two dropped out in the first semester and two completed the theoretical and practical course but did not complete field work. In February, 1925, there were two certificates given and shortly afterwards the Department was discontinued because of lack of registration.¹⁹

Mary Brisley and the Community Chest

During the year 1924 the school's enrollment was on the increase. Courses in recreation had been offered since the school opened by Miss Vera Paschal, assistant at Neighborhood House. In September Miss Ida Levin was engaged as the head of the Council of Recreation, of the Community Chest, and was, in a large part, responsible for the growth of this department in the school during the next two years. By September, 1924 the total enrollment of the school had reached the figure of twenty-two, twelve of these being full-time. The semester beginning in February, 1925 found thirteen full-time students and sixty-six part-time registrants.²⁰

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Brisley, Op. Cit., p. 3.

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Publicity Report for the Community, Louisville Community Chest, March, 1925.

During this growth of the school Miss Warren had left and in October, 1924 Miss Mary Brisley assumed the directorship of the school. Miss Brisley came to the school from a position as case work supervisor in the Minneapolis Family Agency, which had been closely affiliated with the University of Minnesota. In her first semester's work she offered an accredited course in case work to seniors in the Liberal Arts College. Four students enrolled, none being sociology majors.²¹ At this time the curriculum was entirely revised to make it conform to University standards. All one and two hour courses were eliminated or combined into three hour courses. Regarding instructors, Miss Brisley wrote: "Instructors were chosen with an eye as to their acceptability to the University, although none of the local people who lectured were receiving salaries which inevitably resulted in poor preparation, irregularity and general lower quality of work than those people were capable of."²²

Prior to Miss Brisley's coming to the school, the decision had been made by the Executive Committee (June, 1924), that unless there was sufficient registration in the fall, the school would be discontinued. Although registration of full-time students was small (only three) there would be sufficient part-time people to assure continuance through the year 1925.²³

²¹ Letter from Mary S. Brisley, February 28, 1947.

²² Ibid

²³ Brisley, History of the School for Social Work, p. 3.

In February, 1925, the Advisory Committee of the School of Social Work met and discussed the discontinuance of the school. It was felt that the school was an expensive luxury to the community and if there were not a sufficient enrollment the next semester, the school would be discontinued. The following month the Executive Committee of the school met and again the question was raised as to whether or not the school should continue "when it had comparatively few students and when money was needed for other agencies." It was felt that the only way for the school to continue was to have the classes at the University, where there would be no question about small enrollment. Much would depend on whether or not the School of Social Work could build sufficiently to justify the University taking it over and it was decided that the school would operate separately for another year and then approaches to the University would be considered. 24

Miss Brisley relates how the school had made definite gains by this time but she emphasized the continuous struggle. The Community Chest felt that the school should keep courses "more practical and within closer proximity of local agencies." The Chest seemed to believe also, according to Miss Brisley, that the school should exist for the purpose of furnishing workers to local agencies rather than as an educational institution:

The manifestation of this attitude is mirrored in the very wretched quarters assigned the school. One large class room and two tiny offices on the third floor of the Social Service Building Annex on Pearl Street, at that time, lined with houses of prostitution, had a

definite influence on the enrollment. The recreation department met this situation by transferring practically entirely to the Neighborhood House. In fact it was more in effect a department of the settlement rather than of the school.²⁵

The School of Social Work Becomes Part of the
University of Louisville
Sociology Department

At a meeting on November 25, 1925 Miss Adele Brandeis read a communication from the Board of Workers of the Community Chest, the Advisory Committee of the School of Social Work and the Recreation Council of the Community Chest, endorsing the plan of having the courses in social work given at the university. Social workers in the community would give the courses and the plan would involve no further upkeep of the School of Social Work. Case Work was to be taught by Miss Edith Bain, Case Work Supervisor of the Family Service Organization, and Miss Levin, Director of the Recreation Council of the Community Chest, was to teach the courses in recreation.²⁶ The School of Social Work, as a separate institution, went out of existence July 15, 1926. The furniture and equipment was given to the Recreation Council, the Phillis Wheatley Branch of the Young Women's Christian Association and the Occupational Therapy Department of the General Hospital. The books were turned over to the University of Louisville.²⁷ The following announcement appeared in the press relative to the new plan:

Mrs. Herbert Mengel, President of the Louisville School of Social Work Board of Directors announces the

²⁵ Letter from Mary Brisley, February 28, 1947.

²⁶ Levin, Op. Cit., p. 3.

²⁷ Brisley, History of the School for Social Work, p. 2.

incorporation of the Louisville School in the fall of 1926 with the University of Louisville Sociology Department....Dean Warwick Anderson of the Liberal Arts College declares that the School of Social Work and the University of Louisville will profit from the consolidation.²⁸

During the years January, 1923 through June 1926 there were twenty-nine graduates from the School of Social Work, including eight in case work, seventeen from recreation and four from the Occupational Therapy Department. The following table shows the number of students registered in the Case Work and Recreation Departments.

TABLE I

REGISTRATION IN THE LOUISVILLE SCHOOL OF
SOCIAL WORK 1923-1926*

	Case Work		Recreation	
	Full Time	Part Time	Full Time	Part Time
Jan.-June 1923	4	48	-	14
Sept.'23-Feb.'24	4	14	6	8
Feb.-June 1924	4	12	4	40
Sept.'24-Feb.'25	4	6	12	13
Feb.-June 1925	1	24	13	6
Sept.'25-Feb.'26	2	17	2	8
Feb.-June 1926	2	15	1	7
Total	21	136	38	96

*Brisley, History of the School for Social Work, p.4.

Beginning in the fall of 1926 courses which had been given at the School of Social Work were given at the University. Miss Brisley had prepared the catalogue material which was

accepted by the University. Course registration for the semester, September 1926-1927 totaled sixty-seven. There were twenty registrants in the courses taught by Ida Levin; twenty-one in Mr. Benjamin's Contemporary Social Work course; eight in the Child Welfare class taught by Mr. Taylor, Children's Bureau; eighteen in Mental Hygiene, with Dr. O'Brien the instructor. Mary Brisley had left the school in the spring of 1926 and Ida Levin was Acting Director. She received a letter from Dean Anderson, Liberal Arts College in April, 1927 requesting continuation of the courses for the coming year, 1927-1928.²⁹

During the semester 1927-1928 negotiations were under way for the University to pay part of Miss Levin's salary. University President Colvin had indicated that he would support this plan but Miss Levin became ill prior to the end of the term and Miss Leila Delaplane, a graduate of the University of Minnesota, was secured.³⁰ During the year Dr. Frances Price came to the University as assistant professor of the Sociology Department. In June, 1929 she became head of the Department and served for a period of one year.³¹

²⁹ Levin, Op. Cit., p. 3.

³⁰ Mary Stotsenburg, "History of the Graduate Division of Social Administration," (unpublished paper, January, 1937).

³¹ Letter from Membership Chairman of the Louisville Chapter of the American Association of Social Workers to the National Membership Committee Chairman, February 15, 1932.

CHAPTER IV

THE LOUISVILLE CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF SOCIAL WORKERS

No history of the development of professional education for social work in Louisville would be complete without describing the formation of the Louisville Chapter of the American Association of Social Workers (later the Kentucky chapter and most recently the Western Kentucky Chapter). A very brief review of the formation of the chapter might give more perspective in presenting the continuation of the development of the Raymond A. Kent School of Social Work, as the development of the school is very closely related to the chapter.

Although the Louisville Chapter of the American Association of Social Workers was started in 1929, the movement actually had its national beginning in 1911. Through the efforts of an organization called the Intercollegiate Bureau of Occupations, a group of New York alumnae from several colleges, there came into being a vocational guidance center. There were so many inquiries concerning social work that a separate department for social workers was set up in 1913. In August, 1917 the department separated itself from the Intercollegiate Bureau and became the National Social Workers Exchange. Gradually emphasis shifted from placement only to matters of professional concern and on June 27, 1921 the American Association of Social Workers was founded by a vote of the

membership attending a meeting called in Milwaukee. Within two years the regulations regarding eligibility of local groups had been codified and in 1922 the first two chapters, in Boston and New Bedford, were granted charters. Later that same year the chapters from Seattle, Tacoma and Cleveland were admitted. There are now ninety-eight chapters in forty-two states, Hawaii and Puerto-Rico.¹

Mr. Elwood Street came back to Louisville in the fall of 1928 as representative of the National Office of the American Association of Social Workers, to discuss the formation of a Louisville chapter. In a meeting held at the Christ Church Cathedral, Canon J. M. Nelson presiding, initial plans were made. Following this meeting a second group gathered to talk with Mr. Frank Bruno, President of the American Association of Social Workers. With momentum increasing still another meeting was held on March 12, 1929 at the Family Service Organization. Fourteen persons were present to discuss the chapter formation with Mr. Walter West, from the National Office. There was a frank discussion about the lack of stimulation from National Headquarters and the need for the local group to get organized. At the motion of Mrs. Alice Neubold and seconded by Elizabeth Fike, it was decided that a petition be drawn up for application for membership in the American Association of Social Workers.²

¹ Frank J. Bruno, "Twenty-five Years of Social Work," Social Service Review, (June, 1944) p. 152.

² Minutes of the Louisville Chapter of the American Association of Social Workers, Organization Meeting, March 12, 1929

On April 4, 1929 the petition and a constitution were sent to the National Office requesting admission to the national association. The petition was signed by the following charter members: Hershel Alt, Field Director, Louisville and Jefferson County Children's Home; Lucy Warren, District Supervisor, Family Service Organization; Mary Marriott, Supervisor, Children's Bureau; Dorothy Crouse, Psychological Clinic; Mildred Scheirich, Louisville General Hospital, Social Service; Alice Neubold, Case work Supervisor, Family Service Organization; Elizabeth Fike, Supervisor, Family Service Organization; Jessica Scott, Case Worker, Family Service Organization; Virginia Howlett, Supervisor, Family Service Organization; Pauline Parr, Louisville General Hospital, Social Service, and Ida Levin, Recreation Council, Community Chest.³

On April 15, 1929 the group received a letter from Walter West, National Association Secretary, suggesting that the group draw up by-laws and include in the constitution an article for amendments.⁴ Later in the month the local organization chapter application and constitution were approved and the Louisville Chapter of the American Association of Social Workers was a reality.⁵

³ Letter to the National Office of the American Association of Social Workers from Louisville Chapter, April 4, 1929.

⁴ Letter from National Office, American Association of Social Workers to Louisville Chapter, April 15, 1929.

⁵ Minutes of the Louisville Chapter of April, 1929.

From the very beginning of the Louisville Chapter, one important committee, the Committee on Training (now called the Committee on Education) has functioned in a close relationship with the social work school, and has been active in sponsoring the development of professional standards at the University. The earliest example of this committee in action is seen in a letter from Harriet Anderson to the Executive Secretary of the National Association in which she describes the effort made by the local chapter to raise standards and gives credit to the new University President "as a president who goes out to meet social workers and manages to do business with them joyously."⁶ Miss Anderson was referring to Raymond A. Kent, who came to the University in July, 1929, and whose leadership provided a great amount of confidence to the Louisville Chapter of the American Association of Social Workers.

6

Letter to the National Secretary of the American Association of Social Workers from Harriet Anderson, November 12, 1930.

The table below depicts the growth of this group since its inception in 1929.

TABLE 2

MEMBERSHIP TOTALS WITH CHAIRMAN FOR EACH YEAR OF
THE WESTERN KENTUCKY CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN
ASSOCIATION OF SOCIAL WORKERS 1929-1946*

Year	Senior	Junior	Chairman
1946-47	93	1	Ruby Dennis
1945-46	96	1	Ruby Dennis
1944-45	89	2	Viola Pryor
1943-44**	91	3	Viola Pryor
1942-43	115	10	Gardiner Cook
1941-42	114	13	Gardiner Cook
1940-41	112	19	Sarah Benedict
1939-40	110	17	Sarah Benedict
1938-39	100	24	Chester Bower
1937-38	116	29	Chester Bower
1936-37	64	8	Louise Wood
1935-36	53		Ruth Mellor
1934-35	50		Esther Taylor
1933-34	41		Mary Stotsenburg
1932-33	37		Geraldine Graham
1931-32	35		John Glendenning
1930-31	26		Martha Davis
1929-30	15		Hershel Alt

* From the Files of the National Office of the American Association of Social Workers, December, 1947.

** The Chapter divided into Eastern and Western Kentucky Chapters in 1943, which accounts for the decrease in membership in 1943-44.

CHAPTER V

THE GRADUATE DIVISION OF SOCIAL ADMINISTRATION

Margaret K. Strong Heads the Division

In 1930 Dr. Margaret K. Strong was secured as a member of the faculty in the Sociology Department of the Liberal Arts College. During the year Dr. Price who had been director of the department resigned and Dr. Strong assumed the directorship. It was under her guidance that the department expanded, although she had loyal support from the American Association of Social Workers Chapter and President Kent. Dr. Kent had come from a position as Dean of the Liberal Arts College at Northwestern University, where he had served for six years. Under his leadership the University achieved very swift expansion, particularly the Sociology Department.

Dr. Strong had been secured through the combined efforts of the American Association of Social Workers Chapter, the Community Chest and social agencies interested in the school. It was with the hope that the social work curriculum could become established on a par with other accredited schools in the country. In a letter to President Kent in April, 1931, the local chapter of the American Association of Social Workers pledged three thousand dollars for the expansion of the sociology department.¹ This amount was later reduced to fourteen hundred dollars

¹Letter to President Kent from the Training Committee of the American Association of Social Workers, April 15, 1931.

when the banks collapsed during that year. The University accepted the responsibility of supplementing this sum to fulfill the obligation with the new director of the school.²

That the need for an accredited school had been illustrated is further borne out in correspondence with the National Membership Chairman of the American Association of Social Workers regarding the courses at the school. Problems had arisen regarding membership in the American Association of Social Workers and it was quite difficult to evaluate work taken at the University. In certain instances persons applying for membership in the Association were given credit for field work if enough training had been given in a recognized agency. In reference to a request for clarification the following reply was received by the chapter membership chairman:

After carefully going over the information you sent us regarding training courses at the University of Louisville, the Committee reached the conclusion that it would not be possible to make an exception to the regular requirements for membership in order to admit the applicant in question. The Committee was of the opinion that since these courses were not well established at the school at the time and since case work courses were given by a teacher of Sociology (Dr. Price) who had not had case work experience, the courses could not be considered the equivalent of those offered by an established school of social work.³

It was therefore impossible to meet membership requirements of the American Association of Social Workers at the University of Louisville as students were limited to twelve hours credit in a non-accredited school. Twenty-four semester hours were required for full membership.⁴

² Statement by Esther M. Taylor, personal interview.

³ Letter to Membership Chairman, April 1, 1932.

⁴ Letter to Membership Chairman, May 10, 1934.

Provisional Accrediting

Dr. Strong, in a meeting of the Executive Council of the American Association of Social Workers, commented on the fact that if the school could employ another qualified instructor, it would be one step closer to accrediting.⁵ Later in correspondence with President Kent the director urged the University to give serious consideration to the question of whether or not the school means to build up a program for the all around training of social workers. She pointed out:

That to have a school accredited by the American Association of Schools of Social Work calls for a minimum annual budget of \$10,000, at least two full time instructors and other standards. You are aware of the almost complete dearth of trained social workers in the state of Kentucky, outside of Louisville; also that practically all the executives and supervisors of the social agencies in Louisville had to be recruited from outside of Louisville and out of the state.⁶

Dr. Strong indicated that the need for workers would be greater and not less in the future and the University faced a great opportunity. She felt that the administration of the University should consider seriously meeting the standards of the accrediting body. No action was forthcoming immediately, but the seeds had been sown.

In the fall of 1934 Mr. Chester Bower was employed by the Division of Recreation of the Community Chest and later added to the faculty of the sociology department through funds contributed by the Community Chest.⁷

⁵Minutes of the Executive Council, American Association of Social Workers, Louisville Chapter, March 5, 1934.

⁶Letter to Raymond A. Kent, from Dr. Strong, March 16, 1934.

⁷Report to President Kent from Dr. Strong, September, 1934.

In April, 1935, the Training Committee of the American Association of Social Workers brought to the membership at large the question as to whether or not the chapter should ask the University to establish a school of social work, parallel to the Schools of Law and Medicine, and separate from the sociology department. The Committee emphasized that additional requirements to meet national standards set by the accrediting body would mean the employment of a full time professional staff member and a secretary. The need for separate office space was also pointed out. The motion was made and passed that the Training Committee be given the power to discuss enlarging the department with President Kent.⁸

Again in the spring of 1936 the Training Committee Chairman reported in an executive meeting that the Committee met several times to consider the possibility of a training school at the University. The Committee felt it would be highly desirable to secure the advice of someone with experience in a training school. The Committee further recommended that Dr. Marian Hathaway, of the recently established Pittsburg School of Social Work, and Secretary of the American Association of Schools of Social Work, be asked to come to Louisville.⁹

This recommendation was later presented to the membership with the information that Dr. Hathaway had indicated that she

⁸ Minutes of the Louisville Chapter of the American Association of Social Workers, May 15, 1935.

⁹ Minutes of the Executive Committee of the Louisville Chapter of the American Association of Social Workers, March 9, 1936.

could be in Louisville the following month. Dr. Kent, it was reported, was very sympathetic toward the need of such a school. Dr. Strong again emphasized that a budget of ten thousand dollars was needed to become eligible for accrediting and to carry on the program.¹⁰

Members of the Louisville Chapter of the American Association of Social Workers urged various agency Boards of Directors to endorse the plan to have Dr. Hathaway come. It was also felt that perhaps large lay committees might be formed with the plan of pushing the formation of the new school.¹¹ Several such letters were received by President Kent. One president of an agency Board of Directors wrote:

We are pleased to hear the Louisville Chapter of the American Association of Social Workers has requested that the University of Louisville establish a School of Social Work. At our regular meeting of March 17, the Board of Directors went on record as approving and endorsing this request. Our Board would like to offer its assistance in forming a lay committee of representatives of the Boards of social agencies and citizens at large to sponsor the establishment of this school....¹²

Dr. Hathaway was in Louisville April 24-25, 1936, and in a luncheon meeting, was presented to representatives of the University and the community. Later she reviewed the nationwide program for the professional training of social workers and the subject was discussed at great length. As a result, a plan in

¹⁰ Minutes of the Louisville Chapter of the American Association of Social Workers, March 25, 1936.

¹¹ Ibid

¹² Letter to President Kent from Richard Priest Dietzman, President of the Family Service Organization, March 24, 1936.

accordance with recommendations of the Louisville Chapter of the American Association of Social Workers was presented to the University by Dr. Strong.¹³

During the month of May, 1936, President Kent met informally with the Deans of the Colleges of the University and later with the Board of Trustees. The Trustees approved the extension of the University program to provide for a graduate division of social work, to be known as the Graduate Division of Social Administration. It was recognized that Dr. Hathaway's visit had been of great assistance in this effort. Dr. Strong later stated how the new school would function:

The plan of two types of work to be given has been decided upon. Under one plan a certificate or diploma would be offered which would qualify recipients for senior membership in the American Association of Social Workers. The second plan would not only qualify for senior membership in that group but would also grant a Master's Degree. Curricula had to be planned to meet the requirements of the accrediting body.¹⁴

The Training Committee of the American Association of Social Workers, through a request by Dr. Strong, was asked to continue as an advisory body for the newly established school. The Committee also planned to explore the possibilities for improving training opportunities for negroes.¹⁵

During the Fall of 1936 Miss Lois Blakey was added to the faculty as director of Field Work and Case Work, and assisted in drawing up a new curriculum. About the same time Mr. Emil Sunley came on the staff of the Graduate Division of Social

¹³ A Report to President Kent from John J. Cronin, March 15, 1943

¹⁴ Minutes of the Louisville Chapter of the American Association of Social Workers, May 13, 1936.

¹⁵ Ibid, October 8, 1936

Administration as Acting Director, as Dr. Strong was on leave of absence, due to illness.¹⁶

After a tremendous task of compiling data and building on Dr. Strong's previous planning, Dr. Sunley and President Kent were able to present the school's application for accrediting at a meeting of the American Association of Schools of Social Work in St. Louis in December, 1936. Dr. Sunley had also utilized the Training Committee of the American Association of Social Workers, besides his own staff consisting of Miss Blakey and Mr. Bower. At the St. Louis meeting it was felt that the school had an excellent chance of being accepted by the accrediting group.¹⁷

Aside from giving a minute description of courses and instructors, with their qualifications, a general plan of action and procedure, the application for admission also contained a statement relative to the financing of the school:

The financial support of the Graduate Division of Social Administration is not dependent upon any specific fees. It is an integral part of the University of Louisville. The administration's fiscal policy is to place all income not from specifically designated sources into the general fund and allocations from these funds are made to the different units according to their specific needs.¹⁸

Also attached to the application was a letter from President Kent giving assurance to the accrediting body that there would be the guarantee from the administration of continued maintenance

¹⁶ Report to President Kent from John J. Cronin, March 15, 1943.

¹⁷ Letter to Margaret Strong from Emil Sunley, February 19, 1937.

¹⁸ Application for Admission, Graduate Division of Social Administration to American Association of Schools of Social Work, May 22, 1937.

of the new school as any other school, division or department in the University.¹⁹ The final draft, after alterations, additions, and corrections had been entered was accepted in May, 1937 and the Graduate Division of Social Administration became a member of the American Association of the Schools of Social Work.

¹⁹ Letter from President Kent to Dr. Emil Sunley, May 12, 1937.

CHAPTER VI

EXPANSION OF THE DIVISION TO FULL ACCREDITATION

Scholarships and Mrs. Halleck

Although the Graduate Division of Social Administration had gained provisional accreditation, there was concern expressed about ways to achieve full accreditation. During the year, 1937, the Training Committee of the American Association of Social Workers was actively engaged in assisting the faculty of the school in working out plans for acceptance on the two-year graduate school level. The Committee emphasized three factors: (1) the curriculum needed to place the school on an accredited basis, (2) the function of social agencies in assisting the school, (3) the development of community support for the school.¹ During this year Miss Mathilda Mathisen, Chief Social Worker at the Louisville General Hospital, joined the faculty. She had recently come from the staff of the School of Social Work at Tulane University, where she had taught classes in medical social work and had also been in charge of field work.²

Other developments were also taking place in the growing acceptance of the school by the community and especially by

¹ Minutes of the Louisville Chapter of the American Association of Social Workers, March 17, 1937.

² Letter to Dr. Margaret Strong from Emil Sunley, March 29, 1937.

by social agencies. There began to be more of an awareness of the school as witness the growth of scholarships and fellowships. Dr. Strong, after her return to the school in September, 1937, urged more endowment of the division as a necessity for a continued growth of the division.³

Probably the strongest supporter of the school was Mrs. Reuben Post Halleck, who gave a scholarship in September, 1937, and continued to demonstrate her interest in the development of professional standards by generous contributions. Mrs. Halleck became interested in social welfare and reform as a young woman. She was well known through her efforts in promoting child labor laws and a minimum wage law for women. In 1901 she organized, and was the first president, of the Consumer's League. She was on a committee organized in 1906 to assist in establishing a non-political juvenile court in Louisville. In 1911 she was a member of the committee which was successful in securing the first trained social worker for the Family Service Organization, and until her death in October, 1946, she was the oldest active member of that agency's Board of Directors. In 1933 Mrs. Halleck was honored at the National Conference of Social Work in its annual meeting in Buffalo.⁴ That her support of the school was unstinting, is clearly indicated in correspondence from the Director of the School, following receipt of one of her many gifts to the school:

I need not tell you how grateful we are for your grant of fifteen hundred dollars. The accrediting committee

³Annual Report to President Kent from Dr. Strong, June, 1938.

⁴Louisville Courier-Journal, November 1, 1946.

stressed our inadequate financial status as one of our basic weaknesses. Your grants of the last few years have enabled us to do things which we could not have otherwise undertaken. Without your assistance, I simply believe the Division could not have survived.⁵

Just as valuable as her financial backing was the fact that Mrs. Halleck gave of herself in a relationship full of warmth. Her sincerity and faith in the value of professional education for social workers was of inestimable help, especially during trying periods.

The American Association of Social Workers, another outstanding example of strong support for the school, met in May, 1937, to discuss the possibility of a chapter fellowship. It was advocated that a fellowship in memory of Miss Harriet Anderson, described in the meeting "as the moving spirit of the development of the school of social work," be considered. The funds were to be raised by voluntary contributions or by raising local dues. As a quorum was not present at this meeting it was not possible to act on the motion, but the chapter went on record as being interested in ways and means of establishing the fellowship.⁶ In a subsequent meeting the chapter agreed to make the fellowship a grant of one hundred and fifty dollars, financed through a seventy-five cent increase in dues.⁷

There were other developments relative to the Harriet Anderson Scholarship of more recent date. In 1940 the Scholarship

⁵Letter to Mrs. Reuben Post Halleck from Mr. John J. Cronin, May 26, 1943.

⁶Minutes of the Kentucky Chapter of the American Association of Social Workers, May 19, 1937.

⁷Ibid, June 9, 1937.

Committee of the Chapter recommended that the fund be made into a loan, to be repaid within five years. This action was deferred.⁸ During the same year it was later voted by the Chapter to make the scholarship into a half-gift and half-loan, the loan to be without interest.⁹ The scholarship has now become a total loan and it is expected that it will build itself into a self-supporting fund eventually. It is granted on the basis of need and the ability of the student making application.

The J. B. Speed Graduate Scholarship was offered to a student eligible for admission to the Graduate Division for the first time in the fall of 1937. This scholarship is from the residue of income from the J. B. Speed Scholarship Fund, after three undergraduate Speed School Scholarships are provided for. The fund is for the benefit "of specially gifted students" of the College of Liberal Arts and in no case shall more than two hundred dollars be awarded any one student.¹⁰

In December, 1936 the Family Service Organization offered the first work-study fellowship in cooperation with the Division. The amount was to be forty-two dollars and fifty cents monthly for the semester period. Two of these fellowships were awarded in 1937 and later the stipends were increased to sixty-five dollars monthly or payable in a lump sum of eleven hundred dollars for a two-year fellowship. The student is now committed to work in the agency for one year following the completion of

⁸ Ibid, June 5, 1940.

⁹ Ibid, December 12, 1940.

¹⁰

Bulletin of the Graduate Division of Social Administration, September, 1937.

his graduate work. These fellowships are granted on a need basis established by the school and the student is expected to receive two semesters of field work at the Family Service Organization. The school has final authority as to whether or not the student is admitted but the agency usually interviews the applicant for clarification of the agreement.¹¹

Also in 1937 there was a tuition scholarship offered by the Louisville and Jefferson County Children's Home. Later this was to become a fellowship with a fifty dollar per month stipend.¹² Other agencies offered fellowships at later dates and will be discussed in connection with the particular period during which they were offered.

The Provisional Accreditation is Continued

During the three year period set by the accrediting body as a time of development of new schools, the Graduate Division of Social Administration endeavored to attain the necessary standards for full accrediting. In the annual report to the University President in 1939, Dr. Strong pointed out the gains the school had made. Mr. Gardiner Cook had been secured on a full time basis to replace Mr. Chester Bower, who resigned in 1939. Plans were made with the School of Law for the inauguration of a new course, "Social Work and the Law", which was to be taught by a member of the Law School faculty; two instructors in the Medical School had been secured during the previous year and would continue as

¹¹Letter to Mrs. L. C. McDermott, Family Service Agency, Little Rock, Arkansas from Sarah Benedict, Louisville Family Service Organization, August 8, 1945.

¹²Statement by Elizabeth Fox, Personal Interview

part-time instructors.¹³ These were gains, in one sense of the word, but illustrations that the school was in need of more faculty members of its own.

Dr. Strong also indicated the need for better physical accommodations for the school:

With four faculty members and a secretary in one room we are definitely handicapped for space, especially as much of our interviewing is of a private nature. The students are very conscious of this need and both they and the faculty members feel that the time has come to ask for increased accommodation. A private office for the director is an immediate need, but in fact, the Division could make good use of a whole building and I believe the University would be justified in so planning.¹⁴

These needs were elaborated upon at great lengths when the plans for the Belknap Campus Developmental Project was announced in 1940.¹⁵ Dr. Strong went into detail on the need for additional faculty, more funds and more space but the Developmental Plan apparently never was more than a paper plan after the start of World War II.

In October, 1940 Dr. Marian Hathaway again visited the school for the purpose of reviewing its status in the American Association of Schools of Social Work. Following her visit she later wrote regarding action of the Association's Executive Committee in reference to the report which she had submitted:

After considerable delay the Executive Committee decided to recommend that the provisional membership of the school be extended for one year, beginning January, 1941. The school is asked to consider the future development of the program with reference to certain specific problems. These are: (1) Lack of growth in school enrollment over a three-year period; (2) the small number of degrees granted in the same period; (3) limited resources of the school in relation to the curriculum being offered;

¹³ Annual Report, Graduate Division Social Administration, University of Louisville, 1939.

¹⁴ Annual Report of the Graduate Division of Social Administration, June 27, 1939.

¹⁵ Report of Activities and Progress of the University of Louisville Developmental Plan, June 15, 1940.

(4) needs of the community of Louisville and surrounding area, with special reference to the public welfare agencies.¹⁶

Miss Hathaway outlined the procedure which indicated a re-classification for the Louisville School and suggested that probably the Graduate Division would be in Type 1, schools with a one year curriculum. She continued: "The committee is of course sympathetic with the problems you have been faced with in the Louisville area and has taken this position only in the belief that some clarification of the future of the school may be in the long run helpful to the University and to the field."¹⁷

Dr. Strong expressed her concern about this decision in correspondence with Miss Sophonisba Breckinridge of the University of Chicago, who was interested in the Louisville school:

You are doubtless aware that the status of our Graduate Division of Social Administration is under review and it is suggested that possibly we should revert to the level of a one year school.... I believe a reversal now would mean a very serious blow to our school. I hope you will be able to use your influence with the executive of the American Association of the Schools of Social Work to have them take into consideration the function we are now performing in the state of Kentucky.¹⁸

Dr. Strong continued to meet with persons and groups interested in the continuation of the school. This included meetings with President Kent, alumni groups, and the Kentucky Chapter of the American Association of Social Workers. She wrote of these

¹⁶ Letter to Dr. Margaret Strong from Marian Hathaway, Secretary, American Association of Schools of Social Work, December 4, 1940.

¹⁷ Refers to the letter to Dr. Strong from Miss Hathaway, December 4, 1940.

¹⁸ Letter to Sophonisba P. Breckinridge from Dr. Strong, February 2, 1941.

meetings in correspondence with Dr. Hathaway, stating that the situation was receiving a thorough review. She indicated that the expressed desire of the group in Louisville was that the school be continued on its present basis:

We believe that our school is on a sound educational basis and that the smallness of the number of graduates is in fact due to the maintenance of high standards with which we have not compromised....There is no question here among informed persons but that the program should be continued with emphasis on expansion rather than retreat. We need more money and this fact the President increasingly recognizes. I believe he is planning something fairly definite for the future but the outlook is uncertain regarding finances for the University as a whole.¹⁹

In May, 1941, word was received that the present standing of the school would continue and in the same month Dr. Strong announced her intention of resigning. She wrote to Miss Breckinridge regarding her plans and mentioned again her real interest in the school: "Our little school seems to be on a sound foundation and I hope very much that we will go forward in these trying times....My years in Kentucky have fully repaid me for my efforts in respect to our educational program."²⁰

In the annual report for the year 1940-1941 Dr. Strong still indicated her concern about the low enrollment in the school:

The lack of growth in the number of full time students in social work has been a matter of major concern and at the suggestion of the American Association of Schools of Social Work, has been seriously reviewed during the past year. Only seven full-time students were enrolled even though the demand for our graduates far exceeds the supply. A program of aggressive recruiting seems indicated if we are to meet community needs.²¹

¹⁹Letter to Dr. Hathaway from Dr. Strong, March 31, 1941.

²⁰Letter to Sophonisba Breckinridge from Dr. Strong, May 26, 1941.

²¹Annual Report of Graduate Division of Social Administration, June 4, 1941.

John J. Cronin and a New Emphasis

In September, 1941 John J. Cronin, former assistant professor in the Department of Social Work at the University of Notre Dame, came to the Graduate Division, of Social Administration as Director. Mr. Cronin was quick to realize the need of some advisory group to be formed to give assistance to him in guiding the affairs of the school. He wrote to a number of agency executives, board members and other lay persons throughout the state requesting that they help him form "a more direct link between agencies and the school." He had on his Advisory Committee the following persons who were chosen for their particular field of interest: Mrs. Gertrude Weill, Owensboro; Rabbi Joseph Rauch, Louisville; Mrs. Laura Lewis, Louisville; Miss Helen Beauchamp, Frankfort; Mrs. Ella Layne Brown, Frankfort; Miss Muriel Cavis, Lexington; Miss Helen Dingman, Berea; Miss Elizabeth Fike, Frankfort; Mr. J. P. Glasgow, Frankfort; The Very Rev. Elwood Haines, Louisville; Mrs. Reuben Post Halleck, Louisville; Mr. Matthew Henchey, Louisville; Miss Eda Herman, Danville; Mrs. Viola Pryor, Louisville; Rev. Peter H. Pleune, Louisville; Mr. Charles Rieger, Louisville; Mr. A. B. Sawyer, Louisville; Miss Mary Stotsenburg, Louisville; Miss Esther Taylor, Louisville and Mr. Thomas R. Underwood, Louisville.

The first meeting of this group was held November 20, 1942, in Lexington, with ten members present. Miss Esther Taylor was elected temporary chairman. Plans and suggestions on means of

recruitment and other plans for the school were under consideration.²³ Mr. Cronin was not able to give the necessary time to this group, apparently due to other pressures with the school, and it gradually disintegrated. Later another advisory group was organized. (see page 59).

Another one of Mr. Cronin's first acts as the new Director of the school was to review the study of the Division made by Dr. Hathaway in 1940. In attempting to analyze the small full-time enrollment during the years since the Division had been established, he said:

My analysis of the records of the part-time students enrolled with the Division pointed significantly to the main reason for the small full-time enrollment. The pattern of preparation for social work as it developed in the community and the University has been primarily one of part-time education. Statistics confirm the pattern; i.e. there were each year approximately ten times as many part-time students as there were full-time students. Some of them had been taking this work over a ten to twelve year period.²⁴

The table shown below is reproduced to illustrate Mr. Cronin's argument.

TABLE 3

A STUDY OF 52 PART-TIME STUDENTS ENROLLED
IN THE GRADUATE DIVISION SEPT. 1942.*

Period of Time	Number of Students
12 Years.....	3
8 Years or More:.....	7
7 Years or More.....	11
6 Years or More.....	13
5 Years or More.....	19
4 Years or More.....	21
3 Years or More.....	30
2 Years or More.....	40
1 Year or More.....	52

* From a Memorandum to Agency Executives, from John J. Cronin, October, 1941.

²³Minutes of the Advisory Committee, Lexington, November 20, 1942.

²⁴Annual Report of the Graduate Division of Social Administration, University of Louisville, October, 1942.

The following policy was adopted by the Graduate Division of Social Administration of the University of Louisville on January 19, 1942:

Any student coming to the Division will have to finish his work for the Provisional Professional Certificate in Social Administration within four years of first registering in the Division; for the degree of Master of Science in Social Administration within six years of first registering in the Division. A full period of residence will have to be spent in gaining the Certificate and the Master's Degree.²⁵

Mr. Cronin later expressed the hope that the new policy would not only give more balance to the educational program through a more equitable distribution between part-time and full-time student enrollment, but that it would lend more effectiveness to the educational program. Without a heavier enrollment of full-time students the Division would not be able to demonstrate to the University the necessity of continuing as a separate school within the University. He remarked that at the time the school was being supported by the University up to eighty-five per cent. A larger full-time enrollment would show more justification for such support.²⁶

Later in 1942 the Division adopted the quarter system, in keeping abreast of the other schools at the University, and with the idea of speeding up the tempo of graduates from the school.²⁷

At the same time these new regulations were taking effect plans were in motion for the recruitment program, mentioned the

²⁵ Memorandum from Dean Cronin to Social Agencies, January, 21, 1942.

²⁶ Memorandum from Dean Cronin to Social Agencies, January, 27, 1942.

²⁷ School Memorandum, May, 1942.

previous year by Dr. Strong. This was instituted through seeking out opportunities to address the students of Liberal Arts Colleges in the area. Members of the faculty of the Division addressed the students at Berea, Western State Teachers College, Hanover College, Centre College and others during April and May of 1942.²⁸

The year, 1942, also witnessed the registration of negroes in separate courses in the Division. These classes were held in the Board Room of the Children's Center. This policy was later given approval by the University Senate, but plans are still in the experimental stages.²⁹

The war had its effect on the faculty during this period. Miss Blakey was granted a leave of absence to take an overseas assignment with the American Red Cross and Mr. Gardiner Cook also left to take a commission in the Naval Reserve. Miss Annie Louise Pruitt was appointed to take over Miss Blakey's duties.³⁰

On January 3, 1943 an Accrediting Committee composed of Miss Leona Massoth, Executive Secretary of the American Association of Schools of Social Work and Miss Eleanor Cranefield, University of Michigan School of Social Work, visited the school. This was on an invitation from the Director and the Committee stayed until the 6th of January. In March Mr. Cronin received a letter from Miss Massoth. She introduced the subject with the

²⁸ Annual Report of the Division, August, 1943.

²⁹ Annual Report of the Division, August, 1943.

³⁰ Annual Report of the Division, August, 1943.

statement that no school can be excellent in every respect but that a school's awareness of its weaknesses and its effort to study and remedy them are compensatory to some degree for certain deficiencies. She went on to say that the Association was decidedly heartened by what Mr. Cronin had accomplished and was especially complimentary in speaking of the place the school had made in the community. She felt there was still room for improvement, notwithstanding long time problems, as far as making the school known and felt at the University. Suggestions were made regarding physical arrangements, administrative organization, library facilities, faculty, quality of instruction and finances. Regarding the last point she said:

The low budget of the school has, as you know long been a concern of the Association and perhaps the heart of some of your problems lie in this fact. To secure sufficient and capable faculty adequate salaries must be offered them and conditions of service such as to enable them to continue rendering efficient service.³¹

The letter closed with the statement that the Association is interested only in the development of sound educational programs and wanted to offer positive help to the Division.

On January 27, 1943 at the annual meeting of the American Association of Schools of Social Work, the Board of Trustees voted to accept the Graduate Division of Social Administration of the University of Louisville into full membership.³²

³¹ Letter to Mr. Cronin from Leona Massoth, Secretary American Association of Schools of Social Work, March 23, 1943.

³² Annual Report of the Division, August, 1943.

CHAPTER VII

THE RAYMOND A KENT SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

The Raymond A. Kent Memorial Fund

The year, 1943, was a memorable year for the Graduate Division of Social Administration as it was during the first month of the year that the school received full recognition from the accrediting association. During the second month of this same year the Division lost one of its staunch supporters. On February 27, Dr. Raymond Asa Kent died suddenly of a heart attack. Dr. Kent, whose career began as a grade school principal of Fountain, Minnesota, had come to the University July 2, 1929. His was a never ceasing fight against the apathy toward the University on the part of most of the people of Louisville.¹ He supported the Graduate Division with a firm belief in the need of such a school and during the years of his presidency there was a tremendous growth.

In 1944, Mrs. Reuben Post Halleck, as a member of groups closely affiliated with the Division, expressed her concern about the school. Enrollments in schools of social work throughout the country were on the decrease and Mrs. Halleck thought some substantial evidence of community support of the Division would enhance its value in the community and promote further stability.

¹Louisville Courier-Journal, February 28, 1943.

She subsequently conceived the idea of establishing a five year fund to insure the growth of the school. In the Spring of 1944 Mrs. Halleck agreed to head a memorial drive to raise the necessary money to carry out the five year plan, and it was decided to memorialize the school with the name of Raymond A. Kent. Mrs. Halleck's gift of twenty-five thousand dollars was half of the goal, which had been set at fifty thousand dollars. Inasmuch as the plan called for the establishment of an executive committee, which would direct the disbursement of the fund for the school's future needs, President Einar Jacobsen, who had succeeded Dr. Kent, made the request that the drive be underwritten. Mrs. Halleck agreed to this and stipulated this clause in her will.²

In May, 1944 the campaign was under way with Mrs. Halleck as chairman and assisted by the Executive Committee, composed of agency executives and a small group of agency Board members. A selected group of sponsors was drawn up, representing a cross section of the community. Close to four thousand dollars was pledged by social workers throughout the state and there were several contributions accompanied by special dedications to "post war human services." One a gift of one thousand dollars was designated as "the Lt. John J. Atherton Memorial Gift" and the donor wrote: "I know John would like to feel that the gift was made to help train workers who might solve some of the problems of the returning Navy and Army veterans."³

²Statement by Esther Taylor, personal interview.

³Memorandum to Dean John J. Cronin from Miss Esther M. Taylor, October 6, 1944.

The breadth of the Raymond A. Kent Memorial Fund drive is indicated through the response of the community. Twenty-five thousand dollars was raised through gifts and pledges ranging from one dollar to five thousand dollars. The sincerity and conviction of the people who solicited brought surprising results. Several with definite aversion to soliciting and little or no experience, had such a conviction about the need for the school that they were surprisingly successful.⁴

After the drive was reported successful, the press in an editorial gave tribute to Mrs. Halleok:

No report of the fulfillment of this enterprise of community vision could be complete without calling the name of Mrs. Reuben Post Halleck, who presented the cause to the Louisville public, and assured its success, by her personal gift of \$25,000.00. Hers was leadership for which the community should be grateful.⁵

The Raymond A. Kent Memorial Fund Executive Committee continued to function after the drive and has assisted in formulating, with the school administrator, plans for using the funds. The Committee provided the Dean of the school with the power to use the funds as the need became apparent. It was agreed that the funds could be used for faculty, scholarships, and other needs of the school as seen by the Dean. When all pledges have been honored and the school has used the last of the Fund, the Executive Committee of the Raymond A. Kent Memorial Fund will cease to function as such.⁶

⁴Memorandum to Dean John J. Cronin, from Miss Esther M. Taylor, October 6, 1944.

⁵Louisville Courier-Journal, October 9, 1944.

⁶Statement by Esther Taylor, personal interview.

Prior to his death, Dr. Kent had suggested that the Graduate Division of Social Administration become a separate professional school, upon receiving full and unconditional membership in the American Association of Schools of Social Work. This became a reality in July, 1944 when Dean Cronin requested President Jacobsen to recommend this to the University Board of Trustees. On July 5th the Board of Trustees approved the request and the school was to be known as the Raymond A. Kent School of Social Work, in memory of the late University President. Mr. Cronin stated later in correspondence: "This change culminates the efforts of the past twenty-five years of the University and the community in education for the applied social sciences and lays the foundation for a ready adjustment in this comparatively new educational field in the post-war world."⁷ Following the establishment of the new school, which made it the third accredited school in the south, congratulatory messages poured into the school's office. Dean Cronin thought the changeover from Division to School would be significant in terms of student and community reaction.

Through funds from the Raymond A. Kent Memorial Fund drive it was possible to bring about administrative changes which had been needed for some time. With the new autonomy the school could more readily go about enriching the curriculum through the addition of new faculty members. The lack of a regular full-time case work instructor to replace Miss Prewitt, who left the school in the summer of 1944, was partly solved by the use of

⁷ Letter to Gertrude Vaile, University of Minnesota, from Dean John J. Cronin, August 24, 1944.

several part-time instructors. Miss Sarah Benedict, Family Service Organization, Miss Mildred Merrifield, Department of Psychiatry, Louisville General Hospital and Miss Regina Cohn also from the Louisville General Hospital served until Miss Erna Henschke was added to the faculty in 1945.

With the fostering of further development of the curriculum came the announcement by Dean Cronin that two new full-time faculty members had been secured. These were Miss Helen Brown, who came from the staff of the University of Indiana, and Miss Mathilda Mathisen, who had been on the staff of the Graduate Division of Social Administration School in 1937 and most recently had been Director of Social Service, Municipal Hospital, Hartford, Connecticut. Miss Brown was engaged to fill the position left vacant since Mr. Gardiner Cook had left in 1942, and was responsible for the curriculum in Community Organization. Later Miss Brown was very active in carrying on the stepped up recruitment program for the school, and traveled extensively in the south and southwest. Miss Mathisen, who was very familiar with the medical social work program in Louisville, was responsible for the planning of the medical social work curriculum and the initiation of steps toward accreditation of this specialized field. Later in the school year, 1944-1945, the school received provisional accrediting from the American Association of Medical Social Workers. This followed a visit to the school by Miss Kate McMahon, Educational Secretary of the accrediting body, in January, 1945.⁸

THE SCHOOL GROWS AND IS REVIEWED

In his report to the President in 1945, Mr. Cronin made note of the study of the school by Miss Grace Coyle in November, 1944, to evaluate the possibility of the school developing a group work specialty on the graduate level. Miss Coyle is a Professor of Group Work, School of Applied Social Sciences, at Western Reserve University. This was an effort on the part of the school's administration to enrich and expand the curriculum. Miss Coyle later wrote Dean Cronin that though there had been interest in Group Work training from time to time at the school, its development had not been too successful. She remarked: "That the fact that two previous attempts to establish a group work course have failed to enlist either community interest or a sufficient number of students, makes it all the more remarkable that there still remains some interest in reviewing the group work curriculum."⁹

Miss Coyle pointed out that there were three possibilities which should be considered: "(1) The possibility of adding a course in group work to the present curriculum of the school. (2) A series of courses and institutes devoted to the training of present staff in the group work agencies. (3) Setting up of professional training for group workers as part of the curriculum of the school."¹⁰ She emphasized that the third possibility rests upon whether or not the program would receive wholehearted support of the group work agencies in which students would need to be placed for field work. This would also include provision of a staff equipped to supervise.¹¹

⁹Letter to Dean Cronin from Grace Coyle, School of Applied Social Science, Western Reserve University, November 28, 1944.

¹⁰Ibid

¹¹Ibid

During the year, 1944-1945, Miss Meta Schweibert, Group Work Secretary of the Louisville Council of Social Agencies, was added to the part-time staff of the school, and a basic course in Group Work was added to the curriculum.

Miss Charlotte Towle, Professor of Psychiatric Social Work, School of Social Service Administration, University of Chicago, visited the school in May of 1945 to study possibilities of establishing Psychiatric Social Work training. In a letter to Mr. Cronin later in May, Miss Towle offered encouragement to Dean Cronin provided the school and community could meet standards of the American Association of Psychiatric Social Workers. She continued: "As to whether it is a wise course of action for you to pursue immediately from the standpoint of your enrollment, the development of other programs in the school and community, you will be better able to judge than I am."¹² Miss Towle commented that the courses being taught at the school were nearly equated to those required for admission to the American Association of Psychiatric Social Workers but suggested the addition of an advanced case work discussion course. She also recommended the appointment to the faculty of a person eligible for active membership in the Association of Psychiatric Social Workers. She had been favorably impressed with the two field work centers, (Mental Hygiene Clinic and Psychiatric Department of Louisville General Hospital) and the indication of "excellent teaching staffs there." She also felt that possible future developments in Louisville might make possible further expansion of a psychiatric social work program in the school. ¹³

¹²Letter to Dean Cronin from Charlotte Towle, School of Social Service Administration, Chicago University, May 21, 1945.

¹³Ibid

While these studies had been progressing there had been other developments which deserve mentioning. One was the founding of the Cary Tabb Memorial Foundation in 1944. This fund was established by Mrs. Herbert Cochran, Norfolk, Virginia, in memory of her late husband, George Cary Tabb. Mr. Tabb had practiced law in Louisville until his death in 1934. Mrs. Cochran stated:

The \$200.00 annual gift was to be used by the President and the Board of Directors of the University to enforce and arouse the community as to the causes and means of the prevention of juvenile delinquency with a view to developing and furthering a sound program; one which will ensure effectiveness, continuity and permanence of community activity to this end.¹⁴

Later that year President Jacobsen appointed the Dean of the Raymond A. Kent School of Social Work to be administrator of the fund. Dean Cronin organized an advisory group to meet with him and formulate plans for carrying out the purpose of the foundation. Later the funds were used in several projects including sponsoring trips to national conferences and offering institutes to the community.¹⁵ The short institute had already been used successfully in 1943 and 1944 as a useful medium for educational service to the community.

Another development of note during the Fall of 1944 was the formation of a new Advisory Committee. Following a meeting of the Executive Committee of the Kent Memorial Fund, the secretary of that group wrote Mr. Cronin, in behalf of the Executive Committee, that it was felt that "a live active committee for the Kent School of Social Work could be set up." It was pointed out

¹⁴Letter to Einar Jacobsen from Mrs. Herbert Cochran, August 5, 1944.

¹⁵Minutes of the Cary Tabb Memorial Foundation Advisory Committee Meeting, December, 1944.

that there had been several committees which had overlapping functions and it seemed that an Advisory Committee appointed by the school could coordinate the interests and activities of these committees. In November, 1944, this new advisory committee came into being and held its first meeting on November 17, 1944. The charter members were: Miss Mary Stotsenburg, Executive Secretary of the Community Chest, Mrs. Reuben Post Halleck, Miss Ruth Mellor, Executive Mental Hygiene Clinic, Miss Esther Taylor, General Secretary, Family Service Organization, Mr. Alexander Erlen, Executive, Jewish Welfare Federation, Miss Louise Diecks, Director of the Louisville Department of Public Welfare, Miss Grace Caswell, Director of Social Services, Nichols General Hospital, Mr. Harold Brigham, Director Neighborhood House and Mr. Henley Bastin, Superintendent of the Louisville and Jefferson County Children's Home.¹⁶

One of the problems which faced Miss Henschke, case work instructor in 1945, was that of field work placements. As the enrollment of full-time students increased (see table 4 on page 61) this became more difficult. The school made arrangements with the Aid to Dependent Families Division of the Jefferson County Department of Welfare for the inauguration of field work placements on a joint-school-agency arrangement. This entailed the sharing of supervisory salary by the school and the agency. Other placements were started and placements already inaugurated in agencies were increased wherever possible. One of the new placements was at Nichols General Hospital, a Veteran's Administration facility.¹⁷

¹⁶ Minutes of the Advisory Committee, November 17, 1944.

¹⁷ Annual Report to President Jacobsen, June 24, 1946.

TABLE 4

CLASSIFICATION OF STUDENTS REGISTERED IN THE
RAYMOND A. KENT SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK WITH
THE NUMBER OF DEGREES AND CERTIFICATES
GRANTED, 1937-1946*

	Classification		Graduates	
	Part Time	Full Time	MSSW	Certs.
1946-47.....	45	17	2	2
1945-46.....	30	10	3	0
1944-45.....	45	2	0	5
1943-44.....	45	9	7	5
1942-43.....	39	13	4	9
1941-42.....	46	12	2	5
1940-41.....	52	6	3	6
1939-40.....	56	8	2	9
1938-39.....	51	7	2	9
1937-38.....	39	7	0	0
Total.....	448	91	25	50

* Files of the Registrar, University of Louisville, November, 1947.

In the Spring of 1946, at the University's invitation, Mr. R. B. Stewart, Vice President and Controller of Purdue University, was invited to make an informal appraisal of the problems confronting the University. Mr. Stewart and his associates were somewhat critical of the Kent School in their report and remarked that only if the school rendered service through the School of Medicine, Dentistry and the Board of Health, is it justified in giving work to the very few students at an extravagant cost. The report continued:

It may be true that the support for the Kent School comes from sources entirely outside the ordinary operation of the University; support which would otherwise not be made available to the University. Nevertheless, the expenditure of funds for this unit should result in such a benefit to the University and the community that there would be a real justification for its existence and support as an integral part of the University. Furthermore, the social work made possible through contact and cooperation with the Schools of Medicine and Dentistry, and other units, will be very much more worthwhile for teaching purposes than the independent work by the faculty of the School of Social Work.¹⁸

Before the report of Mr. Stewart was given to the press, Dean Cronin was quite critical of the lack of cooperation of Mr. Stewart and his advisors. He stated in a letter to President Jacobsen that neither he nor any member of the school had an opportunity to discuss the needs of the school or plans for the development. He had previously requested an opportunity of talking with Mr. Stewart but it had not been granted.¹⁹ Mr. Stewart had not talked with any of the persons affiliated with agencies working with the school.

The writer attempted to gain some indication of what the graduates of the school had achieved since graduation. In a poll the writer received fifty per cent of the questionnaires back, out of a total of eighty mailed to graduates. There was indication from the returned questionnaires that the graduates had achieved relatively high positions in administrative and supervisory capacities in the field throughout the country.

¹⁸ The Stewart Report, University of Louisville, March 29, 1946.

¹⁹ Letter to President Jacobsen, from Dean John Cronin, February 28, 1946.

CHAPTER VIII

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

These have been years depicting the striving of a group of people interested in the development of professional education for social workers. At times obstacles seemed insurmountable but always leadership was present to press on toward the specific objectives.

In the very beginning of the school the struggle seemed to center around getting clarified what the objectives of the school were to be. Apparently always present, was the struggle against community inertia. Marjory Warren (1922), the first director of the school and her successor, Mary Brisley, (1924) were both consistently faced with opposition not only from community groups, but also from the University. There was no feeling of cordiality or an extension of the bond making for common interests in those days. The School of Social Work, as an entity, went out of existence in 1926. In the Fall of 1926 the school was incorporated with the University of Louisville as part of the Sociology Department. The curriculum for the most part was carried over into the new arrangement.

Dr. Frances Price became head of the Department of Sociology and Social Work in June, 1929 and during her term of office which lasted a year, Dr. Margaret K. Strong came on the staff. In 1930 she became Director of the Department when

Dr. Price's resignation was effected. In the establishment of the Louisville Chapter of the American Association of Social Workers in April, 1929, the Department received added impetus and enthusiastic acceptance of the need to develop the program for professional education at the University. The formation of a Graduate Division of Social Administration came out of the work carried on by the chapter with the support of Dr. Raymond A. Kent, University President, and Dr. Strong. Dr. Emil Sunley deserves much credit during this period.

Dr. Strong remained until 1941 and during the eleven years she served as director, the Division developed to the point of acceptance in the accrediting body, the American Association of Schools of Social Work. This became a reality in 1937 and the school became the only accredited school of social work in Kentucky and, at the time, the third in the entire south. There have been occasions when this forward step has been in jeopardy but the school has held to the standards set up by the accrediting body.

In 1941 John J. Cronin came to the school as director from Notre Dame University. Mr. Cronin remained through 1946 and during his stay at the school it was given full and unconditional membership (provisional since 1937) in the accrediting association. As the groundwork laid by his predecessors began to bear fruit, and through his leadership, the school expanded and was able to move forward in fulfillment of its responsibilities in the community and the state. It was during these years that the memorial to President Kent was established and carried through to a success, through the leadership and generosity of Mrs. Reuben

Post Halleck. The school became the Raymond A. Kent School of Social Work in 1944.

In retrospect it is interesting to note the different emphasis placed on the school by the latest directors, Dr. Strong and Mr. Cronin. Dr. Strong was faced with the task of bringing the school from the status of an undergraduate, pre-professional curriculum to a basic acceptable professional curriculum. Her energies, in the main, were directed toward the school and the growth of the curriculum. On the other hand Dean Cronin's major interest seemed directed toward making the school known, not only in the community and state, but in the country at large. He affiliated with a score of local, state and national organizations, serving on committees and Boards and continuously gave publicity and interpretation of the school's value.

In any analysis or evaluation there logically seems to be a starting place at one of two possibilities. One might review the many accomplishments of the past years or again one could choose to look on ahead for the future possibilities the years may hold for the school. For those who look back, the results can be viewed with pride in real achievement; for those who look to the future comes the challenge of accepting the responsibility of continuing to foster growth and development of the school.

The Raymond A. Kent School of the University of Louisville as a member of a national accredited group of schools, with one of its objectives stated "to elevate the standards of the constituency", has to remain alert to this, and consequently,

alert to change in a forever changing society. It should, besides fulfilling its major objective, preparation of students for professional social work, be ready to and able to offer strong leadership to the community in fields relating directly or indirectly to social welfare. The school has the opportunity of playing a leading part in presenting a united social welfare front to the community by cooperation with such groups as the American Association of Social Workers, The Kentucky Conference of Social Welfare, and the Health and Welfare Council of the Community Chest.

The school has in the past offered institutes to the community and this service seems commendable as an opportunity for community participation and education. In spite of a certain apathy of the community toward the school, there has been a conscious use of the school faculty in various advisory or consultative positions. The faculty has always responded with genuine interest in the requests for their services, and have held very responsible positions with various organizations.

The growth of the curriculum of the school had been very pronounced and has been constantly reviewed by authorities in the various specialized fields. This fact would indicate an increase in school enrollment and a need to examine the curriculum in view of the needs of the full-time student. The trend in future enrollment seems to be toward full-time students and away from part-time students or employed workers. There is a need to study class schedules and the curriculum to give the full-time student more adequate benefit of day schedules and a broadened curriculum.

A report of the Curriculum Committee of the American Association of Schools of Social Work was recently made public. The Committee recommended eight subject matter areas basic to the practice of all social work. These are: Social Welfare Administration, Social Case Work, Social Group Work, Social research, Medical Information, Psychiatry, Community Organization and Public Welfare. The study indicated further that:

When adaptations in time and scope must be made in either the one year or the two year schools, some reduction should be considered in all areas rather than elimination of the total content of any one of them. Although the Association goes on record as approving a curriculum containing the basic eight subjects, it does not believe, and never has believed, that all areas should be included in a school program in the absence of qualified teaching personnel.¹

Apparently the time is at hand for the school to examine its curriculum in view of the trend toward specialization. The question which seems foremost is whether or not the student can specialize and still get the "basics". Perhaps specialization implies a third year similar to the internship now practiced in medical schools, with the two year program serving as generic to the training program. The Raymond A. Kent School is offering in its curriculum, at the present time, the subject matters in the eight areas basic to the practice of social work.

The growth of the school is dependent in a large part upon field placement opportunities. This is in turn related to the whole question of financing, which has continued to be a problem throughout the growth of the school. As the school has

¹Leona Massoth, "The Basic Eight", The Family, (February, 1945), p. 22.

de-emphasized the part time "professional" student, it must rely in part on having agencies in the community cooperate in giving educational leaves to workers interested in continuing their professional education. School-subsidized supervisors will relieve the strain on agency supervision of students, but leave unsolved the question of how the school is to continue to finance such a program.

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