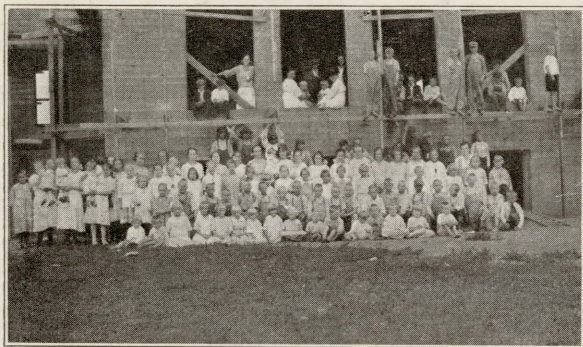


FROM O. M. NORLIE
1920
COLLECTION
YOUR FAMILY



Wild Rice Children's Home

TWIN VALLEY, MINN.



YOUR FAMILY

THE Wild Rice children are your family. Your family needed a larger and better home. Your Church realized it. Your Board of Charities urged it as soon as the funds were available. But the State Board of Control and Board of Health *demand*ed it. Therefore the work *had to be done*, and your family became comfortable, content, and happy.

Your family comes to you in this way to ask you to help pay the bill for the improvement of this home which made them so happy. Your family feels confident that you do not want them to live in a home that is not paid for.

Mr. and Mrs. N. A. Skauge, who have served as such for twenty years.

On scant equipment, with many difficulties and discouragements, they have, together with their faithful co-laborers, made Wild Rice.

The Church owes a debt of gratitude to these workers for their unselfish devotion to Wild Rice. Miss Rachel Skauge has served as assistant matron for fourteen years. Miss Ask, Miss Warwick, and Miss Ness have been there from five to seven years. Nils Mugaas has been farm manager for eighteen years.



*A Cripple
Helping
the Helpless*

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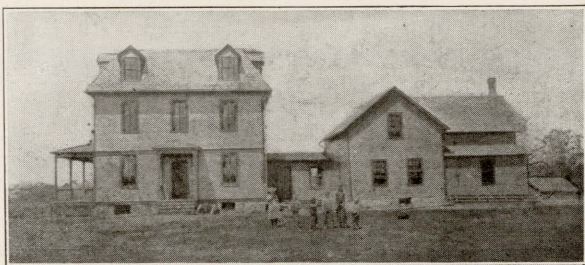
## ROUNDS IN THE LADDER

1898—The Norwegian Synod decided to locate Wild Rice on the 160 acre farm donated by Mr. and Mrs. Jens Urdahl.

1898—The first Board of Directors' meeting was held October 21st.

1899—Rev. and Mrs. H. A. Blegen took charge as matron and manager March 22nd.

1899—First child was admitted April 13th.



1901

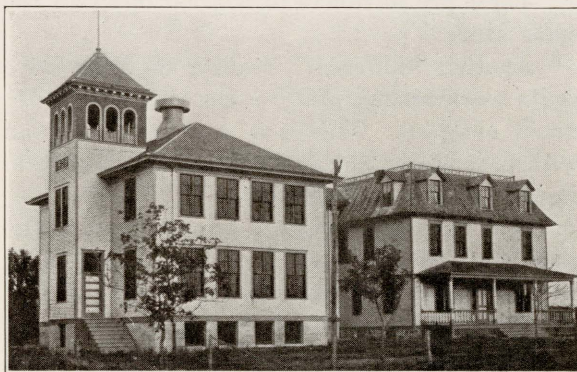
1901—Main building, which is the center section of the present building, was erected. Costing \$3,000.00.

1902—Pastor and Mrs. Blegen left, and Mr. and Mrs. N. A. Skauge took charge as manager and matron.

Forty acres of timber land was secured three miles north of the home.

1903—One hundred and sixty acres was added to the home farm.

1904—A 26x44 addition was added to the back side of the original building. This contained the kitchen and dining room, and sleeping rooms on second floor.



1904

1905—Electric light plant installed.

1906—Round 61 ft. diameter barn was erected to replace log barn.

1910—School rooms were added to the main building.

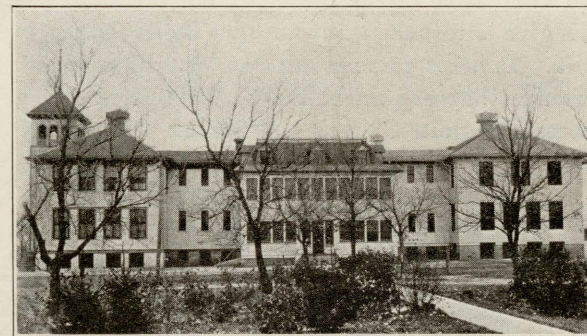
Manager's residence erected, and building for central heating, power, and laundry.

1915—Hospital erected.

1918—Main building remodeled and improved, at a cost of \$10,000.00.

1919—Another one hundred and sixty acres was added to the farm, making it a total of 480 acres.

1920—South section of building was erected, completing the building as originally planned and as it appears now.



1920

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HOW DO YOU VOTE?

Generous and worthy results have attended the work done at Wild Rice Children's Home. We hear so much about the present crime wave and crimes committed by mere youths, still in their teens. We also hear so much about the conservation of our natural resources such as timber, coal, water power, iron, etc., but what about the conservation of our abandoned, neglected, and dependent children, our future manhood and womanhood? If the Church is faithful to her trust, she must be God's right arm in this conservation and in His battles with the sin and crime of the world.

Shall we mould children or reform Juvenile lawbreakers? Your contribution is your vote on this question.

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## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

*Wild Rice Children's Home*

REV. H. O. NORDBY, *Chairman, Ada, Minn.*

JENS J. SETHNEY, *Vice Chairman, Fertile, Minn.*

M. E. DAHL, *Secretary, Twin Valley, Minn.*

REV. O. M. NELSON, *Duluth, Minn.*

A. B. PETERSON, *Twin Valley, R. 1, Minnesota.*

The late Hon. L. O. Thorpe volunteered to raise the funds with which to pay the bill. He had fairly begun this work when he died. Therefore the bill is unpaid, and therefore we are making this appeal, hoping that you will do all you can in order to get this bill paid.

Just go over these pages and become acquainted with your family. Your heart will be filled with love for them, and you will want to do something for them. The more you do for them, the happier you will be, because you know it will make your family so very happy.

For twenty-four years Wild Rice has received as many as Five Hundred children of all ages and has sent them out as grown up men and women to fill some place in the great American family. Many of the boys and girls are married and have established homes for themselves and their families. How large the Wild Rice family has grown, there is no way of knowing. Most of them are making good in their respective places and vocations. What a splendid reward this is for the devotion and sacrifices that have gone to make Wild Rice.

These boys and girls faced life with a handicap. They did not have the chance which other boys and girls had. Years sped them on to what? Wild Rice helped them to overcome the handicap. Year after year, Wild Rice has sent out the most precious things in life: clean, honest, God-fearing men and women.



*The Confirmation Class*

To continue this blessed service in the future is the purpose for which the improvement has been made, and every dollar contributed to Wild Rice in the past, present, or future is to give a forsaken boy or girl their chance in life. It helps to send out the kind of men and women that are an honor to Wild Rice and a blessing to our Church and State.



*The  
Stronger  
Helps the  
Weaker*

### A LITTLE DIFFERENT

Besides doing the work that all Children's Homes are doing, Wild Rice is just a little different. It is making a specialty of the difficult child. The child that is looked upon as being bad. The child that nobody loves, who has no friends, who has sinned against God and society. The child that is in greater need of help than any other class of children.

Mr. Skauge had seen so many of them in juvenile courts and correction institutions. He realized that they were without God and without hope in the world. He decided to try to help them. In this he has been signally successful. He has handled about seventy-five such children during the last few years.

It was in the juvenile court. She was only fourteen years old. Her parents, both dead, had been members of our Church. They had baptized her and tried to bring her up in the fear and nurture of the Lord. Yet she did not

believe in God and laughed at Mr. Skauge when he spoke to her about Jesus. She had been assigned to a Catholic institution, but the court turned her over to Wild Rice, where she was confirmed and developed into a splendid girl. She was discharged from Wild Rice a few months ago, and all reports indicate that she is developing satisfactorily and is a trustworthy young lady in every respect. She is only one of many.

A boy headed for destruction as fast as twenty-four hours per day could bring him, came to Wild Rice some time ago. He was a physical and moral wreck, but today he is a boy that any man would be proud to call son.

These are instances of a great many of the same kind.

Another "different" feature of Wild Rice is its work among and for the wild and delinquent children. This is a work so large and with possibilities so far reaching that the blessings cannot be calculated.

God has richly blessed this work, and Mr. and Mrs. Skauge feel very much encouraged to continue this "little different" work.

The friends of Wild Rice also have every reason to feel encouraged and to support them by liberal contributions. It is a hard and difficult task to handle these children, but they are worth all the efforts and expense bestowed upon them. Jesus gave His life for them, and His people should walk in His footsteps. The Church has an opportunity here and a duty that she ought to meet gladly, thankfully, and efficiently.



*Happy  
Though a  
Cripple*

### WHERE DO THE CHILDREN COME FROM

Some of them are there because their fathers are sleeping where the poppy blows on Flanders Field. They responded to the call of their country and paid the supreme price, as they thought, "to make the world safe for democracy." Some of these children are at the Wild Rice Children's Home, which says that they shall not suffer because their fathers sacrificed. It proposes to bring these children up to clean, good manhood and womanhood.

#### *From Homes under Death's Shadows*

Either one or both parents are no more. Here are children of tender age, blue-eyed or brown, light-haired or dark, rollicking, chubby, rays of sunshine—or shy, self-conscious, silent, pathetic little mites, whose eyes plead for love, and care.

Wild Rice is a home of refuge for such children. Takes away their cares and tries to replace the love they lost with the loss of their homes.

#### *From Homes Worse Than No Homes*

Some of the children are worse off than if they had lost their parents—for their parents have lost themselves, and the children must be protected from their parents. It seems like a change from hell to Heaven for these children to come to Wild Rice.

#### *To a Christian Home*

They come there these children with that divine right of childhood to be loved and to have a fair chance in life. That is what Wild Rice is for. It is your family of children ruled by the law of childhood—the law of unselfish and devoted love.

To love and be loved of children is a rare and precious gift which has been granted in large measure to our orphan father and mother.