
historical notes The Children's Dispensary and Hospital Association was founded in 1909 by Charles E. Hansel with Dr. J. B. Berteling in an effort to lower South Bend's child mortality rates. The Dispensary's first location was in an old cigar store at 1029 W. Division. (Western Avenue). Until 1912 the Dispensary's main function was the distribution of free milk during the summer months. Around 1918 the Children's Dispensary moved to a house at 1040 W. Division and expanded their services to include medical and dental care. By 1922 it was apparent that the Dispensary's new location was too small for their growing services and a new building campaign was started.

On March 19, 1925 the cornerstone to the new hospital was laid. Designed by Willard M. Ellwood, a local architect, the new dispensary and hospital had thirty rooms, a gymnasium, and elevator leading to a roof sun deck. The fireproof building was designed with terrazzo floors and iron stairways. Placed over the entrance door is a terra-cotta reproduction of "Bambino" by Luca Della Robbia.

The Dispensary offered free medical check-ups for children up to the age of sixteen, along with orthopedic care, dental care, nutritional services (i.e. free milk), and eye and ear care. In addition the Children's Dispensary offered classes and clubs for boys and girls as well as their mothers.

In 1951 the milk fund was discontinued and in 1956 the gymnasium was turned over to the South Bend Parks and Recreation Board for use by the Senior Citizens. On December 31, 1966 all medical operations of the Dispensary were turned over to Memorial and St. Joseph Hospital and the building rented to United Community Services. Although the Children's Dispensary Hospital was closed the Children's Dispensary and Hospital Association is still in existence and continues to operate Camp Millhouse which began in 1940, an outgrowth of earlier summer camps.

In 1966 the building's name was changed to Hansel Center after Dr. Hansel and is now one of South Bend's neighborhood Centers.

The brick wall, brick and iron fence and the one-and-a-half story brick and stucco garage were built around 1910 and were part of the "old Pine property". The 1917 Sanborn map shows a foundation for a large structure, the garage, and the brick wall. **There is no information available about the large foundation and it is not known if the foundation was for a large house that was completed and later destroyed, or whether it was never completed.**

The present Children's Dispensary was built without disturbing the fence, wall, or garage.

source of information

1. South Bend Public Library Clipping File: Hospitals & Children's Dispensary
2. South Bend Public Library Biography File: C. E. Hansel
3. Stoll p. 79
4. Children's Dispensary & Hospital Association's Scrapbooks.

History of the Children's Dispensary Property

About 1903, Dr. Milton Barmore Pine, a young Chicago dentist, returned to his home town, and took employment as a manager for The Singer Mfg. Co. in South Bend. His father, Leighton Pine, was the longtime works manager of the Singer facility here, whose leadership had resulted in its rapid growth. Dr. Pine was married in 1904 to Garnet Hupp of Lakeville, and in 1905, after his father died unexpectedly at age 61, succeeded him as works manager at Singers. That same year, he purchased two existing homes, at 1101 and 1105 West Washington St., used as investment properties by Joseph Rockefeller, with the intent of building a large new residence. In 1907, Dr. Pine purchased another home, west of the first two, at 1111 West Washington from the estate of Abraham Huston (1819-1906). Abraham was a retired farmer from Warren Township who had resided at this home with his wife Amelia since 1869. Work soon began on securing the cleared site, with a brick wall, iron fencing and carriage house being completed in 1909. That same year, Dr. Pine left the employ of Singers, and acquired the Marshall Field Jr. mansion at 1919 South Prairie Ave., Chicago, for \$40,000, to be used as the Pine Sanitarium, and took up residence there. The sanitarium advertised "Drug and Alcohol Addictions Treated Exclusively," and considerable staff was employed for patient treatment. By 1917, a sizable foundation had been constructed on the Pine property, but a divorce from his wife and failure of the sanitarium in Chicago left plans in South Bend unfulfilled. He remained in Chicago, remarried, and in 1922, for consideration of \$1.00 and assumption of an \$8,000 mortgage made possible by a generous donation by Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Fish, he and his wife deeded the property to the Children's Dispensary and Hospital Association.

28686

Milton B. Pine & wife

W.D. COMPARED

Children's Dispensary & Hospital Assn.

285

This Indenture witnesseth, that Milton B. Pine and Elizabeth M. Pine, his wife, of Cook County, in the state of Illinois, to convey and warrant to

CHILDREN'S DISPENSARY AND HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION

of St. Joseph County, in the State of Indiana, for the sum of one & no/100 dollars, the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged the following Real estate in St. Joseph County, in the State of Indiana, to wit:

Lot Numbered one (1) as shown on the recorded plat of Joseph Rockefeller's addition to the city of South Bend, and lots Lettered A, and numbered eleven (11) and twelve (12) as shown on the Recorded plat of Joseph Rockefeller's second addition to the city of South Bend.

Subject to the unpaid balance amounting to eight thousand dollars (\$8000.00) due on a certain mortgage given by the grantors to the St. Joseph County Savings Bank and recorded in Mortgage Record 113, page 632, which grantee assumes and agrees to pay; also subject to the taxes for 1922 payable in 1923.

In witness whereof, the said Milton B. Pine and Elizabeth M. Pine, his wife, have hereunto set their hands and seals this 28th day of June, A.D. 1922.

\$5.50 I.R. S. c.

Milton B. Pine (seal)
Elizabeth M. Pine (seal)

State of Illinois Cook County SS:

Before me, the undersigned, a Notary Public in and for said County and State, this 28 day of June, 1922 Personally appeared Milton B. Pine and Elizabeth M. Pine, his wife, and acknowledged the execution of the annexed deed.

Witness my hand and notarial seal.

My commission expires _____ 19 _____

Notary seal

J.C. Donnelly Notary Public

Recorded July 6th, 1922 at 3:50 P. M.

John A. Swanson Recorder.