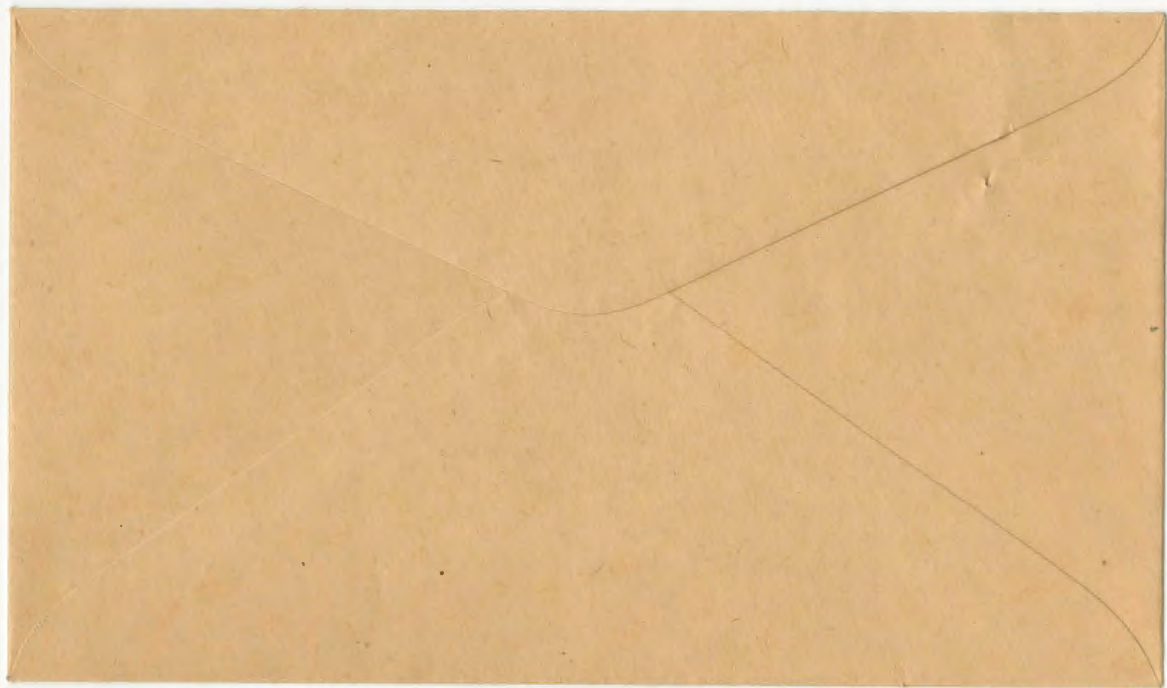


BRIG.=GEN. E. FIELDING,

Room 16-17 184 Dearborn St.,

PERSONAL

CHICAGO, ILL.



BALLINGTON BOOTH
COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF



BRIGADIER-GENERAL EDWARD FIELDING.
TERRITORIAL COMMANDER

The Volunteers of America

INCORPORATED NOV. 6, 1896.

ROOMS 16-17

HOWLAND BLOCK, 184 DEARBORN STREET,

CHICAGO,

Oct. 22, 1902.

Dr. W.R. Harper,
University of Chicago,
City. ✓

My dear Sir:-

I thank you for your kind favor of the 13th in response to mine requesting the announcement at the University of the Booth lectures in the Auditorium on Monday night, Oct. 27th.

I have no words to express my appreciation for your kindness in this matter and if you can conveniently attend on this evening and will let me know, I shall be delighted to send you complimentary tickets. We are confident that the occasion will be one of great interest to our friends and of profit to the Organization and the work in which we are engaged.

Again thanking you, I remain,
Sincerely yours,

E. Fielding
Brigadier General.
R.

H-

The Volunteers of America



ROOMS 15-17
HOWLAND BLOCK, 104 DEARBORN STREET

CHICAGO

Oct. 23, 1903

Dr. W. R. Harper,
University of Chicago,
Chicago

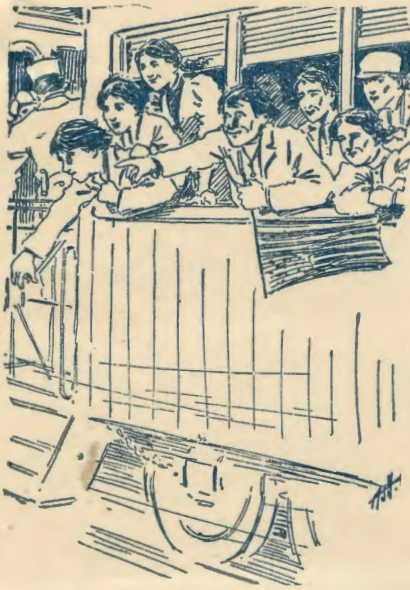
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Again thanking you, I remain,
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Brigadier General

CHILDREN'S DAY FREE PICNIC



BALLINGTON BOOTH
Commander-in-Chief



Brig-Gen. EDW'D FIELDING
Territorial Commander

The Volunteers of America

Incorporated Nov. 6, 1896



Western Territorial Headquarters, HOWLAND BLOCK 16-17, 184 Dearborn St., Chicago

Nineteenth Annual Free Picnic for Chicago's Poor Children and Mothers

THURSDAY, JUNE 25TH, 1903

PROCLAMATION.

MAYOR'S OFFICE, CHICAGO, May 25, 1903.

Whereas, There are in the City of Chicago many poor children who from circumstances are compelled to act in the capacity of bootblacks and newsboys, etc., in order to eke out a meagre existence, and

Whereas, It has been the annual custom during the last eighteen years, through the benevolence of our newspapers and citizens in general, to give these children an outing and picnic, the same will be given again this year under the auspices of THE VOLUNTEERS OF AMERICA, at Washington Park: and

Whereas, the 25th day of June has this year been selected as the date for holding the said annual picnic,

Therefore, I, CARTER H. HARRISON, Mayor of the City of Chicago, do hereby proclaim the 25th day of June, A. D. 1903, as Children's Day, and earnestly recommend the same to the citizens at large. I call upon them to warmly support the project of giving the children of Chicago a happy day's outing among the trees and flowers of one of our City Parks, thus bringing into many clouded lives some of the gladness and sunshine so freely enjoyed by children in happier circumstances.

Furthermore, I appoint Brigadier-General EDWARD FIELDING to be the Director-General of the day.

CARTER H. HARRISON, Mayor.

My Dear Friend:

I desire to impress upon your mind the fact that this is not a denominational Picnic, but a City affair for all classes, irrespective of persons or creeds. It is also a large undertaking; not merely a few hundred, but thousands of children take advantage of this outing yearly. We have never had less than seven trainloads, whom we have taken out to the Park and brought back safely.

I would remind you that this is not a small undertaking. We have always had from 10,000 to 15,000 children, hence you can judge from this what a great responsibility we have taken upon ourselves. It is not confined to newsboys and bootblacks, but poor mothers come here with their whole family and enjoy the day's pleasure with us.

A large refreshment booth will be erected in the Park, where each child will be given a box of food, also ice cream and lemonade.

This year we will make a special feature of the games, to make the day interesting; prizes will be given and every effort put forth for the happiness of the Children.

The Park Commissioners have again given us the free use of Washington Park.

The Superintendents of all Charitable Institutions in the City will receive invitations to come and bring their Children with them, everything being free; and it is expected that a number of Sabbath Schools, who are unable to give their Children a Picnic this summer, will join with us to enjoy the good things provided at this Outing.

We were delighted with the success of last year's Picnic, the evident enjoyment of the Children, and also touched with the many little ones who, poorly clad, came to us with baskets at the close of the Picnic, requesting food for the needy ones at home who were unable to accompany them to this day's pleasure and freedom, but were not forgotten, that we have dared to undertake this worthy enterprise again. We have also been appealed to by the Children themselves on the streets, asking if there would be another Picnic this year, and though it means a tremendous responsibility and is almost a herculean task, we have confidence that the Christian and philanthropic people of Chicago will willingly help us to make this Picnic possible, especially when they know that there are so many loving, willing hearts giving their thought, time and energies free for the benefit of these little ones who would seldom, if ever, have one day's happiness or brightness were it not for some such charitable undertaking as this.

To give you some idea of the magnitude of this outing, I wish to say, that we never distribute less than 18,000 lunches, 200 gallons of ice cream, 1,000 gallons of lemonade. The work in this effort keeps our force of officers busy night and day for a month, and the expenses are far greater than it would be possible for you to imagine, unless you had the responsibility of such a task yourself.

Depending upon you to send us a donation, I remain,

Yours sincerely,

Director-General of Children's Picnic.

This Picnic is absolutely non-sectarian.

The Picnic has been established nineteen years.

Mothers and note families take advantage of this Free Outing; and the number increases each year. The Volunteers of America are engaged in social and charitable work all the year round!



TEL. CENTRAL 4306

The Volunteers of America

INCORPORATED NOV. 8, 1896.

ROOMS 16-17
HOWLAND BLOCK, 184 DEARBORN STREET,

CHICAGO,

June 10, 1903

Mr. W. R. Harper.

Chicago, Ill.

My Dear Friend:-

I desire to call your special attention to the enclosed printed circular, giving fullest particulars concerning an Annual Free Picnic for the poor children of Chicago, which has been under the management of our Organization for many years.

Notwithstanding the material assistance given by the issuing of the Mayor's Proclamation and the sympathy of other friends who have been acquainted with the enterprise for some time past, we still find it is necessary to put forth special effort to raise sufficient money to meet the expenses of such a vast undertaking, and we trust you will see your way clear to give us a liberal donation.. I would call your attention to the following points in the circular.

1. This Outing occurs but once a year and is especially for the children and mothers from the poorer districts of the City. But all classes avail themselves of the opportunity afforded.

2. It is absolutely unsectarian and people of all creeds, color and conditions are invited. Although the Volunteers are engaged in permanent charitable and religious work, this is a special and separate branch from all others.

3. Each year the number of poor mothers who come and bring their whole family and take advantage of this Outing without any personal expense, increases.

4. I would call your attention to the fact, that such an effort, when it is known that the business people of Chicago assist with their finances, cannot fail to have a beneficial effect upon the poorer classes of society. I know of many who have been assisted to a better condition in life through the kind motive which actuated the giving of such an Outing to the poor.

Trusting that you will assist us to the best of your ability, I am,

Yours sincerely,

E. Fielding
Brigadier General.

The Volunteers of America



INCORPORATED NOV. 1, 1897

ROOMS 12-17

HOWLAND BLOCK, 184 DEARBORN STREET,

127 CENTRAL AVENUE

CHICAGO, June 10, 1908

My Dear Friend:

Chicago, Ill.

My Dear Friend:-

I desire to call your special attention to the enclosed printed circular, giving fullest particulars concerning an Annual Free Clinic for the poor children of Chicago, which has been under the management of our Organization for many years.

Notwithstanding the material assistance given by the assistance of the Mayor's Provisional and the sympathy of other friends who have been acquainted with the enterprise for some time past, we still find it is necessary to put forth special effort to raise sufficient money to meet the expenses of such a vast undertaking, and we trust you will see your way clear to give us a liberal donation. I would call your attention to the following points in the circular.

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Trusting that you will assist us to the best of your ability, I am,

Yours sincerely,

Brigadier General.