

**SOCIAL WELFARE IN
CAMBRIDGE: A
HANDBOOK FOR CITIZENS**

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Social Welfare in Cambridge: A Handbook for Citizens by Cornelia James Cannon & Louise Williams Jackson

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CORNELIA JAMES CANNON & LOUISE WILLIAMS JACKSON

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SOCIAL WELFARE IN CAMBRIDGE

A HANDBOOK FOR
CITIZENS

PUBLISHED UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE SOCIAL SERVICE
COMMITTEE OF THE FIRST CHURCH IN CAMBRIDGE (UNITARIAN)

PREFACE

THIS summary of the more important agencies for public service in Cambridge is published with the hope that it may prove of practical use to Cambridge citizens and social workers.

The omission of any agency or society has no significance; the list, for various reasons, is incomplete. Among the subjects not included, or given in part only, are mutual benefit and secret societies, details of church work, clubs of various kinds, and charities of a strictly eleemosynary character.

The assistance given by members of a city study class, and by other interested persons, is gratefully acknowledged.

CORNELIA JAMES CANNON.
LOUISE WILLIAMS JACKSON.

Cambridge, Mass., Oct. 1, 1907.



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Social Welfare in Cambridge

I. THE CITY AND THE CITIZEN

THE citizen should understand the government of his city for two important reasons: first, that he may be acquainted with factors which vitally affect the general conditions under which he lives and works; and, second, that he may protect, through the natural agencies devised for their protection, the weaker members of the community from the consequences of their own ignorance and helplessness. Those departments of the city government of Cambridge which may be of most use for such purposes are given in this section and scattered through other sections, particularly that on public health. The City Charter, the annual City Document, and the reports of departments, all of which may be obtained from the city messenger, City Hall, are suggested as additional sources of information.

INSPECTION OF BUILDINGS

City Hall, Room 28. Hours, 8 A. M. to 4 P. M.

This department, under the direction of the superintendent of public buildings, grants permits for new buildings and repairs and alterations of old buildings, which conform to the buildings regulations of the state and city. There is also an annual inspection by the

department of the means of egress in all buildings having more than ten rooms above the second floor, and of elevators; and violations are reported to the chief of the district police in Boston.

INSPECTION OF PLUMBING

New plumbing is inspected by the department when the plumbing is put in, and any failure to conform to the rules of the inspector is punished by the district police. Complaints of defective plumbing after it is once in are sent to the board of health. The expenses of the superintendent of public buildings (\$7,150 in 1907) are met by a city appropriation.

For further information apply to Mr. Thomas F. Tracy, Superintendent of Public Buildings, Room 28, City Hall.

SEALER OF WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

Brattle Square Building. Hours, Friday, 8 A. M. to 4 P. M.
Saturday, 8 A. M. to 12 M.

The sealer of weights and measures, appointed by the mayor and confirmed by the city council, tests all glass milk jars used by Cambridge firms, annually tests all seals, weights, and measures used in buying and selling in Cambridge, and makes special examinations more than once a year when necessary. In the winter coal sold in bags containing one hundred pounds is carefully supervised, and in the spring and summer ice scales are inspected. Complaints are received by the sealer, and violations of laws prosecuted. The expenses (\$2,747 in 1906) are covered by a city appropriation.