These are corporate records, mostly minutes of meetings of the Board of Directors and shareholders, of the Goodhealth Shoe Company of Carthage, Jasper County, Missouri. Its purpose was to manufacture children’s footwear and, later, to lease its factory to other manufacturers.

On 14 November 1921 a preliminary meeting of shareholders was held in Carthage, Jasper County, Missouri, to organize the Goodhealth Shoe Company. On 16 November “Articles of Association” were adopted, and the firm was incorporated by the state of Missouri on 21 November. Capitalization was $50,000 distributed in 500 shares of stock. The first president was C. F. Reith, and the firm located in the former site of the Howard-Hulme-Dittrich Shoe Company.

The new firm contracted with the Juvenile Shoe Corporation of America to “take on the sales work” for a commission of 7¢ per pair for the first 200,000 pairs of shoes, and 5¢ per pair thereafter. However, before operations could get under way, President Reith on 19 January 1922 “urged that some steps be taken in an effort to correct labor conditions which prevailed in the community….,” whereupon the Board established a committee of three “to confer with other factories with a view to developing a plan which will obviate the present competition in labor.” By late summer that year the plant was still not in operation, although the Board was told on 13 September that it would be up-and-running by 15 October. “Mr. Market,” the factory superintendent for Juvenile, would also supervise Goodhealth’s operations, and the production of Juvenile’s “Boys and Little Gents” footwear would be shifted to Goodhealth’s facility. By 18 July 1923 the entire building had been leased to Juvenile, followed by a near three-year gap in the corporate records.

In June 1926 Goodhealth leased its building for $150 per month to Smith Brothers, a manufacturer of work clothing, and in January 1927 the firm’s shoe-making machinery was put into storage. This arrangement lasted about five years, for in September 1931 the lease with Smith Brothers was terminated. At this time, in the depths of the Great Depression, the Carthage Chamber of Commerce assumed the rental payments on Goodhealth’s building for a new tenant, the United Wood Heel Company. Also at that time the Chamber of Commerce offered to buy the factory for $18,000 but the sale was not effected.

In July 1933 Goodhealth began paying occasional dividends to its shareholders, never less than $1 per share and never more than $2, until the dissolution of the company. The Carthage Loan and Investment Company (see WHMC-Rolla collection R692), through W. E. Carter, became the single largest shareholder in the firm, owning 70 shares in 1934 and 124 shares when
the company was dissolved eleven years later. Another, minor, shareholder was R. Marlin Perkins of Chicago’s Lincoln Park Zoo. In October 1934 the factory was leased to the Carmo Shoe Manufacturing Company, and this lease was renewed in March 1938.

A financial statement dated 31 December 1938 indicated that rental income from the factory building was essentially Goodhealth’s only commercial enterprise, but by 31 December 1941 the financial statement suggested that the edifice was vacant, because income for that calendar year had been “none.” There was also no income in 1942, and only $370 for 1943, during which year the firm sustained a loss of almost $1500.

In February 1944 the factory was leased to Fred M. Sears’s Carthage Furniture Manufacturing Company, for only $75 per month, and the treasurer was authorized to execute notes for $1000 with the Bank of Carthage. Rental income of $1085 in 1944 constituted the company’s profit for the year. Finally, in February 1945, H. W. Putnam, Jr., offered to purchase the company’s real estate, essentially its only asset, for $12,000. The Board recommended to the shareholders that they accept the offer, and, furthermore, that they vote to dissolve the corporation. On 1 March 1945 the shareholders approved both propositions, and the firm was dissolved, paying a final dividend of $23.03 per share. On 29 June 1945 “Articles of Liquidation” were filed with the Missouri Secretary of State, and the Goodhealth Shoe Company, which had produced few shoes in its nearly of 24 years of corporate life, ceased to exist.

Besides C. F. Reith, other presidents of the firm were Dr. R. W. Webster, F. C. Hodson, and O. E. Proctor, all of Carthage.

27 August 2001 Powers Museum Loaned for microfilming

Shelf List

These are corporate records, mostly minutes of meetings of the Board of Directors and shareholders, of the Goodhealth Shoe Company of Carthage, Jasper County, Missouri. Its purpose was to manufacture children’s footwear and, later, to lease its factory to other manufacturers.

The papers have been filmed in chronological order. Highlights include:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>14 Nov 1921</td>
<td>Preliminary meeting of shareholders</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 Nov 1921</td>
<td>Articles of Association</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21 Nov 1921</td>
<td>Contract between Goodhealth Shoe and Juvenile Shoe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 Nov 1921</td>
<td>Certificate of Incorporation; bylaws</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26 Nov 1921</td>
<td>Fay Thomas distributes 350 shares of stock</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 Sep 1922</td>
<td>Goodhealth to produce “Boys and Little Gents Footwear” of Juvenile.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18 Jul 1923</td>
<td>Goodhealth factory leased to Juvenile</td>
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<tr>
<td>06 Jun 1926</td>
<td>Negotiations with Smith Overall Co. (Smith Bros. Manufacturing Co.)</td>
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<tr>
<td>20 Jan 1927</td>
<td>Discussion of disposition of shoe-making equipment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23 Sep 1931</td>
<td>Carthage Chamber of Commerce to lease factory for United Wood Heel Corp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19 Jan 1933</td>
<td>List of shareholders</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18 Jan 1934</td>
<td>Dividend declared of $1 per share</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>05 Oct 1934</td>
<td>Discussion of lease to Carmo Shoe Manufacturing Company</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 Jul 1935</td>
<td>Dividend declared of $2 per share</td>
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29 May 1936 Dividend declared of $1 per share
10 Dec 1937 Dividend declared of $2 per share
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01 Dec 1938 Dividend declared of $1.50 per share
31 Dec 1938 Financial statement (first one on file)
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01 Feb 1945 Letter from H. W. Putnam, Jr., offering to buy Goodhealth’s property
01 Mar 1945 List of shareholders; shareholders vote to sell property and dissolve firm
16 Mar 1945 Articles of dissolution
12 Apr 1945 Final dividend of $23.03 per share
29 Jun 1945 Articles of Liquidation

Chronology

These are corporate records, mostly minutes of meetings of the Board of Directors and shareholders of the Goodhealth Shoe Company of Carthage, Jasper County, Missouri. Its purpose was to manufacture children’s footwear and, later, to lease its factory to other manufactures.

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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>14 Nov 1921</td>
<td>Minutes of preliminary meeting of stockholders</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 Nov 1921</td>
<td>Articles of association of the “Good health Shoe Co.”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$50,000 capitalization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>C.F. Reith  50 shares Carthage Mo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>R. W. Webster 50 shares Carthage Mo</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>W.E. Carter 20 shares Carthage Mo</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>O.E. Proctor 20 shares Carthage Mo</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Allen McReynolds 10 shares Carthage Mo</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Fay Thomas 350 shares Carthage Mo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21 Nov 1921</td>
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<td>26 Nov 1921</td>
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<td>26 Nov 1921</td>
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<td>Letter from Fay Thomas dividing her 350 shares of stock</td>
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<td>28 Nov 1921</td>
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<td>Dec 1921</td>
<td>D.H. Irwin, division of stock</td>
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<td>Dec 1921</td>
<td>A.A. Ramsay, division of stock</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec 1921</td>
<td>W.E. Learter, division of stock</td>
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<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Event Description</td>
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<tr>
<td>19 Jan 1922</td>
<td>Proof of publication</td>
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<td>19 Jan 1922</td>
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<td>19 Jan 1922</td>
<td>Waiver of notice</td>
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<td>13 Sep 1922</td>
<td>Juvenile shoes to turn several models over to Goodhealth plant</td>
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<td>08 Feb 1923</td>
<td>Waiver of notice</td>
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<td>08 Feb 1923</td>
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<td>10 Feb 1923</td>
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<td>16 Jan 1930</td>
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<td>15 Jan 1931</td>
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<td>Smith Bros. Lease expires; Chamber of commerce and United Woodheel Corp. lease agreement</td>
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<td>Sale of factory building</td>
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<td>Routine minutes</td>
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<tr>
<td>19 Jan 1933</td>
<td>List of shareholders</td>
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<td>19 Jan 1933</td>
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<tr>
<td>21 Jul 1933</td>
<td>Dividend of $1 per share paid</td>
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<td>05 Oct 1934</td>
<td>Carmo shoe lease proposal</td>
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<td>27 Nov 1934</td>
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<td>31 Dec 1934</td>
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<td>17 Jan 1935</td>
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<td>10 Jul 1935</td>
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<td>Dividend of $1 per share</td>
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<td>20 Jan 1938</td>
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<td>Routine minutes</td>
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<tr>
<td>16 Mar 1938</td>
<td>Carmo shoe lease extension</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
01 Dec 1938  Dividend of $1.50 per share
31 Dec 1938  Balance sheet
19 Jan 1939  Routine minutes
19 Jan 1939  Proof of publication
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21 Mar 1945  Letter from the state tax commission
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