

ONE HUNDRED AND FOURTH
ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

South Carolina State
Hospital

FOR THE YEAR 1927

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RELIGIOUS SERVICES

The Rev. J. C. Abney, chaplain, conducted services regularly every Sunday morning in the city and at State Park until September 1st when, because of ill health, he resigned.

Since Mr. Abney's resignation the Rev. A. L. Gunter has been acting as chaplain. Ministers of various churches have made visits to the hospital and some have conducted special services for members of their faith.

Funeral services have been conducted for all patients buried in the hospital cemetery.

IMPROVEMENTS AND REPAIRS

There were completed at State Park during the year three buildings for colored men and during the latter part of November 251 patients were transferred there from the Parker Building. The new buildings they are now occupying are modern in every respect and as near fire proof as possible.

Since the removal of the colored men to State Park, one ward in the Parker Building is being used as receiving ward for colored men committed to the hospital. As soon as these cases are diagnosed they are transferred to State Park for further treatment.

The west end of the Parker Building is being remodeled with the view of using it to relieve the congestion in the white male department.

The tubercular pavilion, one wing of which is occupied by white women and the other by white men, has been equipped with steam heat from the main heating system.

A storeroom has been built to the rear of the bakery for the storage of flour.

NEEDED IMPROVEMENTS

During the year all departments have been overcrowded. It was necessary to refuse admission to 180 and to some who voluntarily wanted to commit themselves. At present there are 422 more patients than the maximum capacity allows.

It is gratifying to state that the overcrowding in the colored male department has been overcome to a great extent since the completion of the three buildings at State Park. On the other

hand the congestion in the white female and colored female departments has been relieved. It is hoped that provision will be made for these departments. It is very important to the welfare of the patients.

FIRE

This is under the supervision of the City Fire Department. Regular inspections of all hospital buildings and at frequent intervals of the City Fire Department hospital.

The fire equipment consists of a fire truck and a chemical fire extinguisher under the Nurses' Home Administration Building.

Nurses and attendants are trained in the handling of fires and fire drills are held frequently in order to prevent accidents as well as to prevent fires.

For several years there has been a constant need of a special department for white and colored patients.

The Courts, as well as the Courts, are constantly commencing and to determine the guilt of the accused.

We have no special department for persons and in order to prevent their escape.

This method of procedure as possible results in it was deemed necessary to

The Board of Directors has been studying the problems presented by the

hand the congestion in the other departments—white male, white female and colored female—is still acute. It is earnestly hoped that provision will be made to relieve the situation in these departments. It is vitally necessary to the best interest of the patients.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

This is under the supervision of E. M. Dickert who makes regular inspections of all equipment for fire protection at the hospital and at frequent intervals accompanies Chief Marsh of the City Fire Department on a tour of inspection of the hospital.

The fire equipment consists of two hand reels and hose, motor truck and a chemical engine. One of the hand reels is kept under the Nurses' Home and the other is placed under the Administration Building.

Nurses and attendants are given instruction in fire prevention and the handling of patients in case of fire. Fire drills are held frequently in order to further acquaint nurses and attendants as well as patients with the procedure to follow in case of fire.

CRIMINAL INSANE

For several years our reports have called attention to the urgent need of a special building for the criminal insane of both white and colored races.

The Courts, as they have a right to do under the law, are constantly committing persons to the hospital for observation and to determine whether or not they are insane.

We have no special building in which to take care of these persons and in spite of every precaution some of them make their escape.

VOLUNTARY COMMITMENTS

This method of commitment has been discouraged as much as possible recently because of lack of room. However, because it was deemed advisable 15 were allowed to come in voluntarily.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The Board of Regents has shown a kind consideration of all problems presented and has worked harmoniously and untiringly