

One Hundred And Twenty-Fourth  
ANNUAL REPORT

of the

**South Carolina State  
Hospital**

FOR THE YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 1947



PRINTED UNDER THE DIRECTION OF THE  
JOINT COMMITTEE ON PRINTING  
GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Sr., who has had many years in training here in preparation for the position to which he will be advanced on July 1, 1947.

### SUPPLIES

Less difficulty has been experienced in securing most of the needed supplies and commodities, except bed linens of all kinds which cannot be secured in sufficient quantities. Naturally there is great wear on linens with constant usage and some destruction by disturbed patients. The inability to secure sufficient replacements has resulted in a serious shortage of these essentials.

Economic conditions enable the Board to resume the purchase of items necessary for the operation and maintenance of the hospital on competitive bids after public advertisement, which method was temporarily discontinued in some instances during the war period.

The marked increase in the cost of coal, and other supplies, has given deep concern, but it must be borne in mind that the Board has the responsibility of seeing that the mentally ill committed to the hospital's care are provided for adequately.

The difficulties under which the hospital has labored during the past fiscal year are fully appreciated by Your Excellency and the General Assembly; and every assurance is given that continued efforts will be made to conduct the hospital in the same economic way as heretofore.

Gratitude is expressed for the assistance and cooperation of those with whom the hospital has transacted business for years in protecting the State's interests by furnishing supplies when obtainable.

Farm and dairy equipment have been purchased, and the change from manual to mechanized farming along with favorable climatic conditions resulted in the production of excellent crops on the sandy type of soil being cultivated. Attention is particularly called to the farm reports.

### NEEDED PERMANENT IMPROVEMENTS

Attention is respectfully called to the fact that no progress has been made in permanent improvements mentioned in last year's report.

Economic conditions remained such as to prohibit construction; and to curtail and almost prevent repairs and replace-

ments unless imperative. The limited hospital maintenance crews have been able to keep pace only with the urgent repairs, and at present major renovations in certain buildings require immediate attention for the preservation of the structures and the proper care of the patients. Some emergency repairs have been made, and there has been extensive painting throughout the hospital, particularly in the wards and rooms, but much more general repair work and painting are urgently needed.

Throughout the years the policy of the Board has been to maintain all buildings in a state of good repair, and well painted for preservation as well as a therapeutic measure; and this is desired to be continued.

Briefly, the needed structures are again mentioned: a central heating plant at State Park; the erection of a separate unit at State Park for the Negro mental defectives now cared for with the mentally ill; an Administration Building at State Park; an enlargement of the sewage disposal plant at the unit for Negro patients; and adequate dairy-farm facilities for the Moore farm. Also a central shop building in the city; and complete renovation and relocation of the refrigeration and ice manufacturing system at the Columbia plant; and a building for patients with criminal tendencies.

The fund for the proposed church building at the hospital in the city is nearing the goal; and construction will begin as soon as economic conditions permit. We request the continuance of the \$30,000.00 matching fund for this purpose.

### NATIONAL MENTAL HEALTH PROGRAM

Interest manifested by the public is indicative of the necessity of an extensive mental hygiene program within the State. Activities in this field of preventive medicine will be re-activated about July 1, 1947, as there is assurance that Federal funds on a matching basis will be available at that time.

### APPRECIATION

Again the Board is deeply grateful to Your Excellency, to the Budget Commission and to the General Assembly for continued support, sympathetic understanding and cooperation with the numerous difficult problems encountered during the past year.

**REPORT OF ARCHITECTS**

July 1, 1947

Dr. Coyt Ham, Superintendent  
South Carolina State Hospital  
Columbia, S. C.

Dear Dr. Ham:

We submit our report for the year ending June 30, 1947.

During the past year no new construction has been instituted through our office. Our service has been principally in connection with maintenance and repairs.

There has been considerable trouble with water seeping through the walls of the Williams Building and the Research Laboratory. To eliminate this we are suggesting that these buildings be treated externally by an expert waterproofing concern. We have requested two concerns to inspect and make a report on their recommendations and the cost of same. We will then consult with the Board of Regents offering our recommendations for their consideration.

As previously reported, plans and specifications are complete for the building for patients with criminal tendencies. This building is badly needed and we trust funds will be made available soon for its erection.

Respectfully submitted  
LAFAYE, LAFAYE & FAIR  
R. S. Lafaye.