One Hundred And Twenty-Second Annual Report

of the

South Carolina State Hospital

FOR THE YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 1945



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The policy of the Board throughout the years has been to keep all buildings in a state of good repair, well painted for preservation and as a therapeutic measure for those, who, because of their mental condition, remain on the wards a greater part of the time. During the past three years, as previously stated, due to the shortage of carpenters and painters, the interior of the buildings could not possibly be kept up to the usual high standard.

Building number one at State Park, the oldest structure in that unit, is in need of complete renovation and the installation of an adequate heating system. Throughout the years this building has been heated with hot air furnaces, supplemented by coal stoves. This form of heating is not at all satisfactory, neither is it adequate for the proper care of the type of patients kept there. This one item, together with other necessary improvements, will be an item of expense that must be expected.

NEEDED PERMANENT IMPROVEMENTS

A central heating plant at State Park would in the end prove to be an economic measure over the present system of heating each building individually.

The erection of a separate unit for the care of the Negro mental defectives, now being housed with the mentally ill, would relieve the overcrowding in the Negro department, and thereby provide more adequate care for the mentally ill.

The Columbia unit has grown to such proportions that quarters for the present mechanical and plumbing departments, tin shop, carpenter shop and automobile repair shop are inadequate. All of these departments should be housed in one building which would enable the master mechanic to keep constant supervision over all sections in his charge, would eliminate lost motion and provide a more satisfactory service.

The Board feels that at the earliest possible moment the building for patients with criminal tendencies should be constructed. The plans for this structure have already been prepared.

RESIGNATION OF DOCTOR WILLIAMS

Dr. Charles Frederick Williams served as superintendent of the South Carolina State Hospital from May 1, 1915 to May 1, 1945. After thirty years continuous service he submitted his resignation and at his own request was relieved of the position

REPORT OF ARCHITECTS

July 1, 1945.

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

Dear Doctor:

We submit a report covering our activities since July 1, 1944.

There has been no new construction at either the Columbia or State Park unit, our services to the hospital for the past fiscal year consisting mainly in connection with maintenance.

No drawings were made for construction except a plan for shelter sheds to be built adjacent to the new ward buildings.

Now that the war is ended, we believe it is a good time for the erection of the building for patients with criminal tendencies. It is to be recalled that the plans and specifications for this building have been completed.

Respectfully submitted

LAFAYE, LAFAYE & FAIR

per Robert S. Lafaye

Architects

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