

Lives of State Hospital Patients Are Made Happier By Good Neighbor Program of Columbia Churches

By WILBUR McCARTHA

Patients of the South Carolina State Hospital are finding life a little brighter through a good neighbor program inaugurated at the hospital last fall by Superintendent Dr. William S. Hall.

This good neighbor program which is enriching the lives of hospital patients is carried out by volunteer workers from various churches in the Columbia area.

Entertainment, recreation and visits in the wards from church groups bring cheer to many patients. Some groups have contributed television sets to some wards. Patients in these wards show a new interest and enthusiasm as they watched and looked forward to television programs.

The voluntary service program was introduced November 1, 1954 with churches of the various denominations of Columbia and immediate vicinity participating through adoption of 60 hospital wards totaling approximately 3,000 patients. Thirty-two of these wards have volunteer workers for a social get together, recreational and tea parties.

There are no visitors in the remaining wards but adopting groups participate in projects which make these wards more comfortable and supply the patients with remembrances of some kind.

The adopting group usually entertain the patients once each month. They have been very generous with gifts of various kinds for the pleasure and comfort of the patients. In addition to several television sets, there have been gifts of pianos and record players. In some instances they have supplied air foam cushions, reading and floor lamps, attractive pictures, colorful draperies, ironing boards, and many other items to bring happiness and added comfort.

Aside from the personal visits which mean so much, the visitors remember birthdays with personal cards and often with a decorated

cake for the entire ward group to enjoy. Magazines and books have been brought.

For entertainment at the monthly visits there have been musical programs, skits, magicians to perform, bingo and other games and refreshments.

Anniversaries have been celebrated with appropriate parties. During the Christmas season, there were numerous special parties, some with Santa Claus to personally deliver individual gifts from decorated trees, and holiday refreshments from beautifully appointed tables. The churches have been very thoughtful and generous at Christmas with a gift for each member, Doctor Hall said.

Doctor Hall said these volunteer workers are rendering a very valuable service to the hospital patients. "Our patients need help above and beyond services that are performed by employees."

"All sick people are benefited by morale building and the volunteer workers do an excellent job in this regard. In addition, our patients, like other people, have a yearning for new friends and companions and enjoy fellowship with others. The efforts of the volunteers satisfy these basic psychological needs in an admirable way," he said.

Doctor Hall noted that visitors with patients bring them companionship and fellowship which would not otherwise have been possible. "It gives them a feeling of a little bit of home being brought into the hospital by these volunteer workers. Outsiders—establish more of a personal contact with the patients than hospital employees who work with and see many patients each day," Doctor Hall observed.

"Our patients, although somewhat hesitant at first, now welcome the volunteers on the various wards where visits are made. They express sincere appreciation for this service, look forward with eager anticipation toward the visits and the 'proof of the pudding' is the fact that the great majority of pa-

tients participate in the activities provided.

For employees are also very enthusiastic about the volunteer movement, although the program necessitates some additional work for them. They have accepted this willingly, particularly after the workers demonstrated what their efforts meant to those entrusted to our care.

"Last but not least, this 'good neighbor program' is welding a strong connection link between the hospital and the church people of the central South Carolina area. The accomplishments of the South Carolina State Hospital as well as our problems and needs are carried into the communities where other citizens become acquainted with them," Doctor Hall continued.

Recently, a visit was made to the State Hospital to observe the activities of these volunteer groups. On the first visit, the women volunteer visitors to the S. C. State Hospital of Trinity Episcopal Church, were on their regular monthly visit to their adopted women's ward.

For the August visit, the patients in the ward had planned a special program for their adopted group in appreciation of the work the Trinity women had done for their ward. Patients in the ward presented an enthusiastic program, including a religious skit readings, scripture, songs, and refreshments. This was the first time patients in a ward had entertained an outside group.

After the program was over, Mrs. Henry Averill, chairman of the Trinity church group, told the patients that "this has been a true inspiration and we appreciate it from the bottom of our hearts."

Mrs. Belle Gaston was chairman in charge of refreshments from the church.

The work being carried on in a convalescent women's ward adopted by the Trinity women is typical of the work being carried on by some of the other groups. Their

activities include a recent garden tour, and a visit to the garden of Mrs. Robert Lafaye. This group also has furnished the reading room for this ward and added chairs, lamps pictures and draperies to beautify the dayroom.

On another occasion, the men's group from Ebenezer Lutheran Church was found visiting the patients in its adopted men's ward of about 30 patients.

The Ebenezer men found the patients in the ward looking brighter and more enthusiastic than ever that evening. The group had presented a television set to the ward and the set had been installed that afternoon. A ward attendant, looking at several of the men intently watching the television program, said "it has helped some of the patients 100 per cent. It keeps their minds occupied, and brightens their faces." Some of the patients who formerly stayed in bed most of the time now eagerly get up to watch television programs," he added.

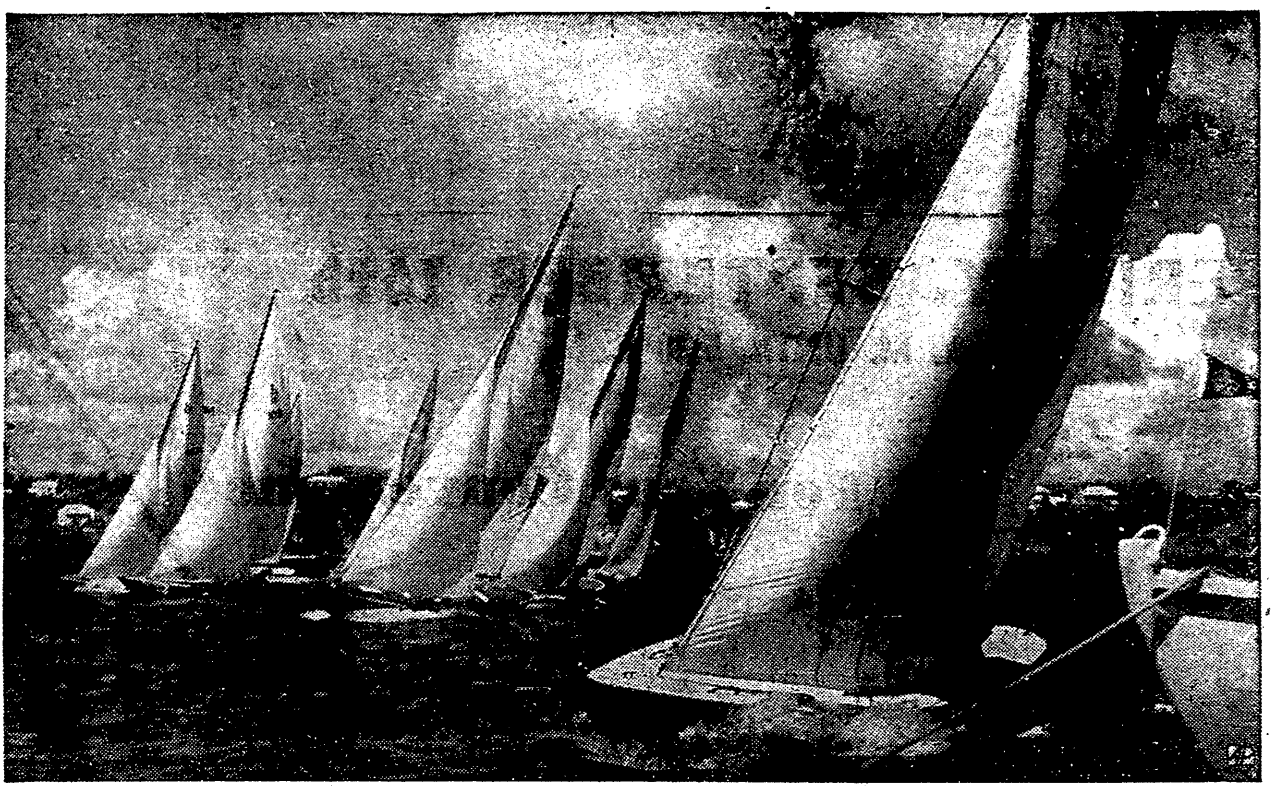
Hospital officials noted that only a few television sets have been contributed to the hospital wards, but these have boosted the morale of the patients in these wards.

Programs sponsored by the Ebenezer men include visits with the patients, refreshments, gifts and a Christmas party last year. They observed that cakes, candies, and cookies prepared at home are a special hit with the patients.

"A little effort on our part that we never miss means so much to these patients," one of the men commented.

The Ebenezer men's group who were accompanied by Doctor Hall and Mrs. Inez Frupp, secretary, included S. C. Sessions, Lucius A. Denny, Charles E. Koon, vice chairman; W. O. Freeland, M. L. Hallman, Grady B. Wingard, W. W. McIver, G. W. Hoffman, chairman.

At the present time, the volunteer service program is set up under the chaplaincy section of the hos-



OFF IN A BREEZE—Close hauled in a stiff breeze a group of Luders 16s beat to windward at start of an international sailboat race off Bermuda. Skippers of these sleek craft competed for world's top honors in the class.

Sandhills Experiment Station Is Host to Richland Farmers

By Robert Whitehead McNeely

The Sandhill Experiment Station, Wednesday, was host to some 200 Richland and contiguous county farmers for showing progress made recently in sandhill farm economy.

The day's outing, including visits to various private farms, during the forenoon, which had projects instigated or connected with those at the Experiment Station, was arranged by Bob Bailey, Richland farm agent, in a motorcade of some 50 cars.

The guests were welcomed by Superintendent Rhodes and his staff at the station's assembly room near the ponds, in the pines, where a barbecue lunch was served by the ladies, Bob Bailey presiding.

Doctor Farrar, dean of agriculture, Clemson College, addressed the meeting; also, Doctor Carter, in charge of the animal clinic at the station; also, Audley Wood district executive agent, who all ways gives a touch of dessert in his remarks. Various well-known in agriculture were called upon to take a bow. Sinkler Manning was presented a silver cup given by one of the chemical companies for outstanding work on his Bluff Road, Richland county, farm.

After the meeting, the various plots in the fields, and the clinic, were shown.

The outstanding items on the pamphlet issued to the guests were the Bermuda grasses, sesame (the plant which produces a high percentage of oil; it is the old, 'benne seed' plant), and irrigation management.

The Bermuda grasses have made a heavy impact on our cattle raising, feeding, grazing, and ensilage, and, as they will upon our lawns, borders, ornamental plots; corn, tobacco, cotton, vegetables, legumes, small grains, were not forgotten; watermelon projects, projects, too, this late, one was seen in the distance with melons 'smilin' on the vine.'

In fact, the whole aspect of the station seemed to have had its face 'lifted'; it is a credit to Richland County and the state of South Carolina—the sand hill holds so great potentialities the station's expansion in research certainly is indicated in uplifting the economy in that great area of the Southeast, the Sandhills, largely neglected in the past.

Let us return for a moment, to the meeting at the barbecue, to give roughly two excerpts of Dr. Farrar's address:

Deserving the serious attention of our cattle raisers for the market is the effect of certain final feeding practices in fattening beef cattle. It seems that Western cattlemen make their fattening die of corn and grains and ours of grass. The Western diet gives the fat a whitish color, while ours gives the fat a yellow color, and, the retail market has been prevailed upon to choose the white fat and to pass over the yellow as inferior at a reduced price.

In dietary value there is no difference between the white and the yellow.

Esthetically, we much prefer the yellow; chaurvinism having nothing to do with it. The same happens in the egg market, some prefer yellow eggs and some the white, but, it is not that simple, if the bigger produced can persuade the market by propaganda that his product (by color alone) is the better, the littler fellow may be forced to the wall and out of competition.

Ironically, in the peach industry the shoe, as to color of meat, is on the other foot—the market has been persuaded that the yellow-fleshed peach is the better, while it is our experience and delicate taste that, two varieties of white fleshed peach can hardly be approached in quality, flavor, aroma, and taste, by any yellow-fleshed peach grown on this orb.

So much for color.

Second, Dr. Farrar noted the outbreak of sleeping sickness in the lower parts of the state in horses and mules.

Dr. Carter gave details of the diagnosis and therapy of this disease and the great care taken by his interns against human infection.

Now, let us return to the field projects it seems that Suwanee

Bermuda has the lead over other varieties but this opinion has not crystallized.

The Bermuda-based lawn grasses were given particular attention. Some of the stocks came from Africa, Japan, and other remote parts, some hybridized in Georgia.

Some of these beautiful grass plots were 'sights to behold' and garden clubs could stage a notable visit here to see them; our friend Seen By The Roadside Eleazer might remark: 'How things have changed since we were boys!'

We were shown one lawn grass plot whose grass was being sold, so it was said, in Georgia, at \$50 per square yard. Remember, a yard is only 36 inches. Remember, also, the grass grows night and day, this was before oil was said to have been struck in Georgia.

Maybe, they will charge a fee for looking at it and a criminal offense for stepping on it.

One notable use for Bermuda grasses is for all types of borders; one we saw recently was around one of the buildings at Clemson College at Farm and Home Week—the sprigs or runners (in technical language 'stolons') for this border came from our Sandhill Station.

In our running account above, no doubt, we have left out many important things which passed under our unseeing eyes; certainly without intent. It was a welcome surprise to see in print at the back of the pamphlet a list of projects worked on and to be worked on, some of which will be of great value when completed successfully:

a. Comparisons of alfalfas; b. Highway beautification, grasses. c. Tests of shade tolerances of lawn grasses and their management; d. Bermuda rotation with various field crops; e. Establishment of Coastal and Suwanee on common Bermuda sods; f. Fertilizer use in many methods. Some in production of seeds.

Many of these projects will be of interest to city people as well as farmers.

Had we the power, we would add the following to the list of projects at the Sandhill Experiment Station: Investigation of soil fumigation, nematode, viruses. These require meticulous research—that's the rub between the overshadowing clay economy and the sandhill economy.

Before we stop, let us repeat what seems universally the spectre behind the thoughts of every American farmer: The growing cost of labor and of nearly everything the farmer has to buy and cannot produce on the farm—and, the lessening of the price of nearly everything he receives for the product of his farm.

This is a serious and pressing condition which, inevitably, must be solved and one which the small farmer alone is unable to solve.

It can be summed up succinctly like Mark Twain's remark about the weather.

Lebanese Army Told To Shoot Infiltrators

BEIRUT, Lebanon, Sept. 15 (AP)—Lebanese army units on the southern borders have been ordered to fire without warning on infiltrators from Lebanon into Israel and vice versa, the government said in a press statement tonight.

It said the measure was taken after Israel's charges yesterday that Lebanese infiltrators attacked an Israeli border settlement.

Peru's Cabinet Quits In Reorganization

LIMA, Peru, Sept. 15 (AP)—The Peruvian Cabinet resigned today to give President Manuel Odría a free hand in reorganization of the government.

Only four of the 12 resignations will be accepted, an official said.

Eyes used for sight-saving operations must be removed within three hours after the donor's death and the operation usually must be performed within 24 hours.

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East German Head Seeks POW Release

BERLIN, Sept. 15 (AP)—East German Communist President Wilhelm Pieck has formally asked the Soviet Union to free all former German war prisoners still held in Russia, the official East German news agency ADN said tonight.

ADN said Pieck made his request in a letter to Soviet President Klementi Voroshilov dated Aug. 31—almost two weeks before Chancellor Konrad Adenauer made a similar plea during his Moscow negotiations.

The announcement apparently added weight to Western speculation that the Russians intend to give East Germany an exclusive official credit for obtaining release of the prisoners.

Adenauer has declared the Russians promised him orally that the prisoners would be freed in the nearest future. But the letters signed by Adenauer and Premier Nikolai Bulganin Tuesday failed to mention the prisoners' question.

In his letter, Pieck referred to earlier Soviet-East German negotiations on the prisoner issue. He said he believed the time had come now to appeal to the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet "with an official intercession of the (East) German Democratic Republic for the premature release and return to their homeland of all former German war prisoners who must serve sentences in the Soviet Union."

"Taking into consideration that more than ten years have passed since the end of the war, I permit myself to express the hope for a benevolent examination of my request," the letter said.

The Soviet Union can be certain that such a generous action will be accepted by the entire German people with deep gratitude," he concluded.

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