

ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTH  
ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

South Carolina State  
Hospital

FOR THE YEAR 1929

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of more than 300 colored female patients and it is not so constructed nor equipped as to furnish quarters and treatment of a modern kind. The colored women occupying this building are the only colored patients remaining at the plant in the city of Columbia, all the others having been removed to State Park. It is hoped that a sufficient appropriation will be made available this year so that a building may be constructed at State Park to take care of these patients.

By reference to the annual report for several years past it will be noted that attention has been called to the urgent need of a nurses' home. The hospital is conducting a training school for nurses which meets all the training school standards and it is desirous of getting the very best students possible. Prospective students in selecting a school quite naturally think of the environment in which they will be placed during their training. The present home is overcrowded and some of the nurses as well as the attendants have to sleep in rooms in buildings occupied by patients. This is not fair to them nor does it make for efficiency in the hospital's operation.

With the removal of all colored patients to State Park, a certain part of the official force will also have to be transferred and reside there. There is need for additional home for a physician, and living quarters will have to be provided for attendants, both male and female.

### FIRE DEPARTMENT

Mr. E. M. Dickert is head of this department and makes regular inspection of all equipment. Often he is accompanied by Chief Marsh or some other member of the City Fire Department. During the year fire drills have been held regularly for the patients and employees.

The interest and help of Chief Marsh and his men in all matters looking to the prevention of fire is a source of much comfort to the hospital management.

### CRIMINAL INSANE

Attention has been repeatedly called to the need of a building for the criminal insane. In spite of appeals provision has not been made to take care of this class of patients. The hospital

is called upon quite frequently during the year to take cases which are sent in by the Courts in accordance with the Statutes.

These persons are cared for along with the other patients without any special provision for holding them, and the hospital gets the blame if they happen to make their escape.

Aside from the desirability of holding securely dangerous individuals it is hardly fair to the patient population generally to force them to live in contact with patients of violent tendencies.

Such a building would enable the hospital to give these patients much more liberty without the danger of their escaping and would also serve as a place in which to keep other patients who might display dangerous tendencies during their upset periods, thus not only protecting them, but also the other patients from their violent outbursts. It is earnestly hoped that provision will be made for the care of these patients.

### VOLUNTARY COMMITMENTS

This method of commitment has been discouraged due to the lack of room. Because of the urgent necessity of their having care and treatment, 43 persons were allowed to commit themselves. All other cases were referred to the clinics.

### ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

To the members of the Board of Regents appreciation of their invaluable aid in administering the affairs of the institution is heartily expressed. Their kind, sympathetic and patient consideration of every question brought before them served to inspire confidence and determine the course of procedure.

Thanks are due to the medical and consulting staff, office force, nurses, attendants and all employees of the institution for their prompt and unfailing co-operation.

For the pleasure and benefit of the patients many cash donations have been made and various articles of ornament and use have been presented by friends of the hospital. These friends by their timely and liberal gifts have helped to spread good cheer and send rays of sunshine into eager, throbbing human hearts.