

NINETY-SIXTH  
ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

SOUTH CAROLINA  
STATE HOSPITAL  
FOR THE INSANE

FOR THE YEAR 1919



Gonzales and Bryan, State Printers  
Columbia, S. C.  
1919-1920.

## REPORT OF THE REGENTS

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Columbia, S. C., January 1, 1920.

To His Excellency, Robert A. Cooper, Governor:

The Board of Regents of the State Hospital for the Insane begs leave to submit the report of the Institution for the year 1919.

In making this report, the first since your Excellency became Governor, we desire to briefly review the recent history of the Hospital.

In 1915, on invitation of your predecessor, the Honorable Richard I. Manning, Dr. Arthur P. Herring made a survey of the Hospital for the purpose of ascertaining its needs. He recommended a program of development and repair which the General Assembly, at its regular session in 1915, adopted. This provided for an annual appropriation of one hundred and fifty thousand dollars, with which to carry out the plan. The appropriation has continued for the years 1915 to 1919, inclusive.

We had hoped to be able to complete the work, but when the World-War came on conditions changed. Later, when our own Government entered the war, everything became more or less demoralized, and the cost of labor and materials more than doubled. However, we are pleased to report that we have been able to complete the rebuilding of the plant for the white patients at Columbia, with the exception of the Taylor Building, which cares for the chronically disturbed white male patients. The work, as completed from year to year, has been set forth in our reports, but it is again summarized in the architect's report for this year.

In the first annual report this Board filed, it advised the segregation of the races and the transfer of the colored patients to State Park as soon as provision could be made for them. We suggest that it would be well for the General Assembly to consider this question at its approaching session.

We are anxious that the full plan outlined by the Herring report and adopted by the General Assembly be carried to completion. The State is definitely committed to this program, and it should not abandon nor lessen its efforts in carrying out the policy, even under present high cost of labor and materials. The needs of the class for whom provision is being made cannot be ignored. Should this policy

be carried out and the colored race transferred to State Park, the buildings they now occupy will be liberated, and, after being remodeled, can be used to meet the needs of the growing population of white patients for some time to come.

One of the urgent needs to be met at State Park is an adequate water supply. The Board has had a survey made to determine which would be the cheaper, to establish a plant at State Park or lay a line from the city of Columbia and procure water from this source. At the price the city of Columbia is at present getting for water from consumers beyond the city limits, it would be much cheaper to establish and maintain a plant at State Park. However, if the General Assembly could make some arrangement with the city for water at a reasonable rate, it is felt that this source would be preferable.

The profits from the farms have been very good this year. The farm and dairy reports show a profit of twenty-two thousand one hundred and ninety-seven dollars and twenty-eight cents. The fall vegetable crop was again ruined by the drought which prevailed in this section. As this happens so frequently, we have been led to study irrigation as a means of insuring a regular vegetable crop for the Hospital. Fresh vegetables the year round are essential to the health of the patients, and it is believed that a properly installed irrigation system would enable us to provide vegetables, and that it would prove a considerable economic value to the State.

We would respectfully direct your attention to the unusually low death rate shown in the report of the Superintendent. This is most gratifying, and yet it is to be noted that it has contributed to the increased permanent population, and, consequently, to the increased cost of maintenance.

Another contributing cause to the increased cost of maintenance is the high wages paid by the Government at Camp Jackson and our being forced to meet the raise. However, many of our employees left, and we were able to retain only a very small force of mechanics. Consequently, a great deal of work which should have been done in 1918 was left undone until 1919, when the labor situation was relieved to some extent.

The world conditions led us early in the year to anticipate unrest in the coal industry, and we laid in a supply of coal, which it is estimated, will run us through March, 1920. It would seem a wise policy for the Board to regularly purchase coal in the spring so that it can be delivered during the summer.

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We regret to have to report a deficit of \$141,560.73 for the year 1919. No one is to blame. We have worked in the shadow of it the entire year, for it is the result of the steadily increasing prices of most of the items of food and clothing we use. We strove to prevent it by making every effort to buy supplies at the lowest possible prices. We sought bids from various markets throughout the country and from the surplus supply officers of the Army and Navy of the United States. The intelligent public, however, needs no explanation, as everyone is aware of the increased cost of all the necessities of life.

We invite attention to the table of prices, found elsewhere in the report, for this and the three previous years, to which we have added prices for the past quarter. These go into the 1919 average, but are much higher on many of the items.

While the cost of living in common parlance has doubled since 1914, the following is our daily per capita cost for each of the six years:

1914—48c,  
 1915—47c,  
 1916—52c,  
 1917—54.3c,  
 1918—65.2c,  
 1919—82.05c.

We do not refer to this table by way of apology. We have been economical, but have tried to provide for the inmates as fully as the means at our disposal would allow. The increased population and constantly increasing prices of supplies of all kinds necessitates increased appropriations for this institution.

In submitting this, our first report, to you, we desire to express our deep appreciation of your Excellency's special interest in the Hospital, and cheerfully pledge you our hearty support and earnest efforts in behalf of those treated and cared for in this institution.

We congratulate your Excellency upon the adoption by the General Assembly of the Budget System as proposed by you. We believe it a wise step, and that under this plan the General Assembly will be enabled to legislate more intelligently and economically.

We wish to record our appreciation of the spirit of co-operation with which we have been met during the year by the various State

## REPORT OF ARCHITECT

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Columbia, S. C., December 16, 1919.

To the Board of Regents, State Hospital for Insane, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Sirs: A report of the progress made upon the development and repairs to the buildings and their equipment is herewith submitted.

In previous reports the general plan of reconstructing and developing the buildings of this institution were given. The development contemplated the segregation of the races, the white patients were to remain at Columbia and buildings were to be provided at State Park for the colored patients.

The institution at Columbia was first to be developed along the general plan adopted and after these developments had been completed new buildings were to be erected at State Park.

A thorough study was made of the best and most economical method of administering to the patients and the buildings and equipment were planned to meet these requirements.

The old buildings were not properly arranged or equipped to meet the conditions required in a modern hospital for the care of the insane. The physical condition of the old buildings, as previously reported, was in a very poor condition and the equipment was inadequate and deteriorated.

In order to properly arrange and equip the buildings and to restore them to a first-class condition it was necessary to practically rebuild all of the old buildings, to build such new buildings as was necessary and to provide all new equipment so as to make this institution as a whole a modern and complete plant for the proper care and treatment of the patients committed to it. A general plan of the physical development was adopted in 1915 and each year work has been advanced towards the completion of this plant. The execution of the work has not been as rapid as was contemplated. This has been due to two difficulties: first, the cost of labor and materials has rapidly advanced since the work was started; and, second, in developing the wards it was not possible to get access to more than a limited amount of the old buildings so as not to seriously overcrowd or inconvenience the patients. It was hoped that the buildings at Columbia would be completed this year, but the appropriation was

not sufficient on account of the advance in the prices of labor and materials, and also due to the fact that expenditures were necessary that was not contemplated.

Since work upon the development and repairs of this institution was begun in 1915 there has been a tremendous amount of work done, and to attempt to detail this in a report would prove too voluminous. All of the general plan adopted has been carried out, with the exceptions as hereafter made, as well as numerous other improvements and additions that became necessary. Attention is directed to previous reports and to the following statement of the buildings and improvements completed, which, in a general way, will give an idea of the various work accomplished, all of which was necessary to carry out the plan to make this institution thoroughly arranged and equipped to properly care and treat the patients in a most economical manner. There are a great many other improvements and additions that would be desirable, but only those that were necessary were contemplated and provided.

The following buildings contemplated in the general plan of development have been completed:

- Administration Building.
- Male Wards, Main Building.
- Female Wards, Main Building.
- North Building.
- Talley Building.
- Tuberculosis Pavilion.
- Male Congregate Dining Room.
- Female Congregate Dining Room.
- Nurses' Home.
- Dairy Barn and Dairyman's Cottage.
- Calf Barn.
- Bakery.
- Laundry.

Central Boiler Plant and Stack, including the heating and ventilating of all buildings developed.

Transformer House, including electric lighting and power for all buildings developed and for yard lights.

- Central Kitchen and Storeroom, including Refrigerating Plant.
- Medical Director's Residence (renovated).
- Treasurer's Residence (renovated).
- Manager's Residence (renovated).
- Potato Houses.