

ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTH
ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

South Carolina State
Hospital

FOR THE YEAR 1928

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JOINT COMMITTEE ON PRINTING
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RELIGIOUS SERVICES

The Rev. A. L. Gunter, pastor of the Washington Street Methodist Church, kindly acted as chaplain until June 2nd when the Rev. Claude McIntosh, a recent graduate of the Columbia Theological Seminary, reported for duty.

Deep appreciation is expressed to Dr. Gunter for his interest in and services to the patients and employees of the hospital.

Mr. McIntosh resides in the hospital and holds services regularly in the chapel and at State Park.

In order to become familiar with the patients the chaplain attends staff meetings and visits on the wards, supplying the patients with anything of a religious nature that they desire.

Religious rites are observed for all patients buried in the hospital cemetery.

Ministers of the city have visited the hospital and at times some have conducted services for those of their denomination.

IMPROVEMENTS AND REPAIRS

Two buildings have been completed at State Park. To one of these 167 colored women were transferred from the Old Building, while on September 25, all the colored men were transferred from the Parker Building to State Park. Since then the receiving ward for the colored men has been at the latter place.

The west end of Parker Building, the remodeling of which was begun last year, is now completed and occupied by white men, some of whom were transferred from the Parker Annex. The Annex has been converted into a pavilion for white men suffering with tuberculosis. Heretofore there was only one such pavilion, one wing of which was occupied by women and the other by men. With the removal of the men from this pavilion more room is available for the women.

A bungalow for the physician at State Park was completed and an abattoir was built on the farm.

NEEDED IMPROVEMENTS

During the year the opening of the west wing of Parker Building for white men and of the two buildings at State Park for colored men and women has relieved the congestion to a large extent, however, overcrowding, particularly in the quarters for

white women, still exists. At present there are 50 more patients than the maximum capacity.

It was necessary during the year to refuse admittance to 153 persons, some of whom wished to commit themselves voluntarily.

Perhaps the most urgent need of the hospital is additional buildings for the care of the patients. There has not been a time in many years when the hospital was not overcrowded. In this respect, however, the hospital is more fortunate at present than at any other time in the last quarter of a century.

According to the requirements of the State Department of Health, the maximum official capacity of the hospital is 2794. The census on December 31, 1928 was 2884.

One of the buildings, however, which is taking care of 250 colored women is the Old Mills Building which is more than 100 years old and is not so constructed nor equipped as to furnish quarters and treatment of a modern kind. It is hoped that funds will be provided so that the negro women occupying this building can be removed to State Park where all the other negro patients are cared for and that the building will then be remodeled for a nurses' home and employees' building.

An analysis of the records of the hospital show that there has been an approximate increase of 100 patients each year for the past 15 years. This gain is almost in direct proportion to the increase in population in the State, consequently some plan should be adopted whereby the hospital would have a definite building program for each year to take care of the increase.

Your attention is again called to the need of a nurses' home. The hospital is conducting a training school of a three year period meeting all the requirements of the nurses' association and is giving a splendid opportunity to the young women of our State who want to enter the profession of nursing.

The present nurses' home is inadequate. It is a frame structure which has been added to from time to time, is in no sense modern, expensive to keep in repair and is a great fire hazard.

In this building there is room for only 45 of the 80 odd white female employees of the hospital. This causes about 40 of these employees who work hard each day to have to occupy rooms in the buildings with patients. It is maintained that this is not fair to them nor it is an economic investment for the institution.

REPORT OF ARCHITECT

January 1, 1929.

*To the Board of Regents, South Carolina State Hospital,
Columbia, S. C.*

Gentlemen: A report is herewith submitted of the annual improvements that were made and the new buildings erected during the year of Nineteen Hundred and Twenty Eight.

At the August meeting of the Board a contract was awarded to J. C. Heslep for the re-building of approximately one half of the Parker Building. This building was formerly occupied by colored patients and in the scheme of development it was planned to be re-built for the white male patients. Plans were made for the development of the entire building but the contract was awarded for the re-building of approximately one half. The contractor for this building completed his work and the building was occupied during August of last year.

Plans were made for two excited wards, buildings No. 6 and No. 7 to be built at State Park and the Board awarded the contract for these two buildings at the August meeting to C. M. Guest & Son, of Anderson. These buildings were finished and occupied in May, 1928.

In order to continue the building program as adopted with a view of segregating white and colored patients, it is necessary at this time to construct another ward building at State Park to be occupied by the colored patients that are now housed in the Old Building at Columbia. This ward building would have a two hundred and fifty bed capacity which would accommodate the patients now in Columbia and some of the patients in the old building at State Park, which is overcrowded. This building would cost One Hundred and Fifty Thousand Dollars.

As previously reported, it is absolutely necessary to extend the sewerage system on the north side. On the south side a sewer and storm drainage system has been built and it is planned to build these systems on the north side as soon as the ward building is built. At the present time the sewerage from the building on the north side is discharged in the old septic tank which has been condemned as being inadequate, but use continued until

such time as appropriation could be had for extending new system into new filter beds. This system will cost approximately Twenty Thousand Dollars.

An urgent need at the institution in Columbia is a Tubercular Ward Building for the white male patients. These patients are now housed in the Parker Annex which has been renovated but is intended to be used for an industrial shop. It will be necessary to build a pavilion with capacity of forty beds, which will cost Forty Thousand Dollars.

It would also be advisable to complete the Parker Building for the white male patients which will provide additional space for patients to be admitted. This could be done at the expense of Forty-Five Thousand Dollars.

In order to complete the building program as adopted to take care of the ever increasing demands on this institution it will be necessary to provide other buildings and accommodations as have been previously incorporated in reports. We will not mention these but consider those items mentioned in this report as being absolutely necessary at this time.

Respectfully submitted,

LAFAYE & LAFAYE, Architects.

Per George E. Lafaye.