economy in construction rather than economy in administration. A reversal of that rule would be beneficial. Proper construction cannot be had for less than $300 per inmate, but it need not exceed $800 per inmate.

Poohshouses are built to meet a distinct need—the humane and reasonable economical care of people who cannot be provided for by themselves or by their near relatives. The mere provision of room for a given number of people will not answer. The construction of a large farm house will not meet this need, and in the purchase of a poor farm it is better to select a site whose buildings are valued low, because experience has proved that buildings previously constructed cannot be utilized to advantage as part of the main building.

Each department should have its separate stairway to the second floor, and the men's and women's departments should each be provided with an ample day room or sitting room, and there should be a smoking room for the men. The informal and friendly character of the inmates makes it important that there be a classification. In small pothouses it is desirable that each dormitory contain more than four or five beds, and it is better that provision be made for most inmates in rooms having but one or two beds. Single iron beds are preferable. Double beds should never be used. It is very desirable, and effects a considerable saving in administration, if the ground floor have three or more sunny rooms which may be used by the insane patients.

A broad covered porch is useful for inmates in inclement weather, and a deck over its roof will be useful in airing bedding and in house-cleaning. Fire escapes should be provided. A general rule for the division of floor space has been suggested as follows: For each inmate in the dining room, 16 square feet; in the living rooms, 30 square feet; and in the bed rooms, 35 square feet, when they are occupied by four or more persons, and at least 50 square feet for one person.

Among the chief requirements are good-sized, properly heated and ventilated bathrooms, with plenty of hot and cold water, good roll-top enamelled bathtubs, or still better shower baths, with shoulder sprays for the women.

Heating and ventilating are correlative. Unless the heating apparatus is such as buildings are effective, the ventilation must necessarily be imperfect, because the class of people occupying them are particularly susceptible to the presence of bad air, and will shut their windows at all hazards to keep warm. Uniform temperature is most desirable, and very difficult to attain, unless great care is used in the means of heating it. The importance of light for health and cleanliness is beginning to be realized, and no place outside of an actual hospital requires more light than a poohshouse. The windows should be of good size, numerous and well placed.

The similarity to a hospital leads easily to the conclusion that a simple and adequate scheme of ventilation is essential. Every room should be provided with some plan that will insure the natural removal of foul air. The plan of ventilation should be such as to be effective and as simple as to be practically self-operative.

I do not know that an attempt has hitherto been made to present a series of stereopticon views representing poohshouse construction. The subject is not inviting from an artistic standpoint, but it is intensely practical. Permit me to present you views showing the exteriors and as far as possible the interiors.

Proceedings of the Ninth Minnesota State Conference of Charities and Correction Held in Winona October 1-3, 1900

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON CARE OF EPILEPTICS.

Your committee to whom was assigned the duty of looking over the report for the care and treatment of epileptics beg leave to submit the following report:

Our purpose has been, first, to ascertain, if possible, the number of epileptics in the state; second, to consider what is being done for epileptics in Minnesota; third, to ascertain what according to advanced ideas and modern experience is most conducive to the improvement of epileptics as individuals; and lastly, what, looking into consideration along the lines of good public policy, fourth, what, looking into consideration along the lines of good public policy, is the best arrangement of the public houses in Becker, Fillmore, Goodhue, Hennepin, Lyon, Nicollet, Olmsted, Otter Tail, Pipestone, Ramsey, Rice, Rock, Wabasha, Washington, and Winona counties. That in Becker county is nearest perfect, and the best poohshouse of its size within my knowledge. The collection also indicates the need of more floor plans for a poohshouse for forty and for fifty inmates respectively which are not more than 10 by 20 by 30 feet.

WHAT IS BEING DONE FOR EPILEPTICS IN MINNESOTA?

Epilepsy is very closely allied to insanity and feeblemindedness. There are many persons with this disease who have bright minds and who perform their duties in life with ability and conscientiousness. Some of the word
great geniuses have been afflicted with the disease, and yet about ten per
cent of all epileptics become insane, and the general tendency of the disease
is to cause mental deterioration, the degenerating process being generally
commensurate with the severity and frequency of epileptic seizures. In any
aggregation of epileptics, children or adults, a very large majority are distinctively and noticeably below par mentally. At the City Colony, New York, for instance, about ninety per cent of all the patients are mentally deficient to the extent of being unable to become self-supporting.

It is thus natural that the hospitals for insane everywhere should re
cieve many such patients, and that the institutions for feeble-minded should be sought by the parents and friends of epileptics, children especially, as homes for the latter.

As stated above, about 145 were reported from the hospitals of Minneas
to, and they are about equally distributed between the three large institutions of St. Peter, Rochester, and Fargo Falls.

Contrary to the rule of exclusion usually attempted in institutions of like
kind in this country, the school for feeble-minded at Fairmount is not required
by law to recognize epileptics as eligible to admission therein. The board
of directors early recognized the necessity for special provision for them,
and in February, 1897, organized a department for boys, and in June, 1898,
a department was opened for girls. They include separate day, sleeping and
dining accommodations, and in the case of the boys there is a separate
dietary. Some extent the school training and shop employment are common to the epileptics and feeble-minded; of the 107 epileptics at Fairmount, ninety-seven are thus separately provided for. The others are of such extreme mental weaknesses that they are still cared for with other children of like mental condition, regardless of their epilepsy.

On Saturday last, September 26th, the corner stone was laid of a substan
tial building to be used for the home of a colony of thirty epileptic men who
will be employed in farming and gardening. It is situated about one-third
of a mile from the main building on the institution farm. A small frame
building near the institution formerly used for detached hospital
purposes, is being fitted for a class of twelve boys, who will be largely employed
in the shop and upon the grounds of the central building. The rooms now occupied by the epileptic boys and men of all ages will be used by the little fellows who require more school training. These changes will increase the capacity at Fairmount to about 150 epileptic patients to be separately provided for.

WHAT IS THE BEST THAT CAN BE DONE FOR EPILEPTICS?

The experience of the medical profession is unanimous as to the very
limited number of epileptics curable, even with the best known methods of

treatment. From six to ten per cent is the highest estimate of cures even
the most optimistic ventures to claim. The utter isolation of most chronic
epileptics from the ordinary pursuits of life and its social opportunities is
well known to all persons. They are at all familiar with this disease. This
manner was vividly portrayed to this conference last year at Duluth, by Mr.
Hart. These two facts of limited curability and the incompatibility of the
life of an epileptic with that of the ordinary family, both as relates to the

welfare of the patient himself and the comfort of the family, have led to the
 evolution of an institutional system for epileptics.

This is known as the colony or village plan. The colonies are the small
groups of companionable patients, separated far enough from other groups
to avoid the irritation that close contact would involve and to carry out so
far as practicable the idea of small family homes. The entire collection of
colony groups, together with the administrative buildings, schools, shops,
workhouses, hospital and chapel, with their corps of administrative medical
and clerical forces, form the village community.

As to the advantages of the colony plan, your committee begs leave to
quote the statement of experienced observers in R. Kolbe's A Treatise of Epileptics, page 182:

"It has ever been an extremely difficult task to train sick children properly.
In the family circle it is often impossible to accomplish this and in the
case of epileptics. A clear understanding of the physical condition of the
epileptic, above all, necessary; and how many parents, however well
educated, can fulfill this. It might prove no more advantageous for the child if the treatment was given over to the family doctor, either wholly or in part. The trained parents indulged the little patient in many ways for the sake of keeping him for guidance is, on no account, any exception. Yet epileptics, more than all others, should be strictly brought up. The so-called epileptic character, with all its receptive sides,
may be cultivated by carefully planned methods of training from earliest
childhood. Experience teaches that this is possible. There are very attrac
tive, even charming, characters among epileptics, when the disease has
not wrought too great ravages of mind and soul; and there are, on the other
hand, epileptics with a milder form of disease who are undisciplined; who
are denied to any work who are moody, obstinate, suspicious and
selfish, in fact, classical types of evilism. The causes which have operated
to produce such a character are usually conditioned. Each attack makes
the patient wish to avoid the next as means to prevent the next, which makes him introspective and desirous of managing himself in his own way.

It is easy to see that an institution has various means of training at its
command to fulfill the work of education. It is the child becomes accus
tion to regularity from morning to evening, without effort. Arising, dress
ing, washing, eating, going to school, working, playing, all have their ap
pointed time of day. A child who was dissatisfied at home always the
command of the institution and learns to carry out the daily program without
dispute. The association with other epileptics can in no way be deemed dis
advantageous. It may happen that a specially sharp eye coming from one
patient overcome by an attack may so frighten another as to cause a con
vulsion to occur in his case as well, but such a point is insignificant in com
parison with the drawbacks entailed upon an epileptic by home life. It
sometimes has a good educational effect for an epileptic to see attacks in
others. The first impression is necessarily very depressing, but he comes
to the healthful comprehension of how much those who care for him have to
bear in his own case. Modesty and gratitude are thereby aroused in him.
Instead of the traits which form the epileptic character, in some forms of
this disease he is induced thereby to combat and suppress certain kinds or
attacks. It is a pretty outgrowth of the community life of epileptic children.
that, as soon as one is overcome by an attack, the others hasten to his aid, and lay him tenderly on a mattress. If we remember how epileptic children outside of an institution are avoided by others in the schoolroom or at play, and think of the happy times which such children have together in institutions, we come to believe in the saying, 'No one is happy save in the company of his own kind.' As soon as an institution has acquired the suitable tone for its sick children, and the proper atmosphere is felt within its doors, the casual visitor will, with a few exceptions, see happy faces and often hear merry songs.

"The means employed in the colony system to cure, to educate—intellectually, morally, and industrially—and to teach self-support are so intimately interwoven that they must be considered as one, and all at the same time. When they enter the colony the patients' education should be begun along two lines—one to give them a common school education, the other to put a means in their possession whereby they can become producers as well as consumers, and at the same time become themselves the effective agent in the application of a remedy of untold value in the treatment of their disease."

"Nothing tends to build up the epileptic so rapidly as congenital, healthy employment, especially that out-of-doors, where the sunshine, fresh air and surroundings of nature draw his mind from himself and his disease, and inspire within him mental activity and helpfulness in the place of despondency and gloom. Among the various kinds of employment in which it has been found practicable to engage epileptic patients may be mentioned as first in importance that afforded by agricultural and horticultural pursuits. The benefits derived from the cultivation of fruits and garden products cannot be overestimated. Besides the immediate physical benefits to be derived in recuperating or building up the general health of the epileptic, the labor involved in such occupations furnishes an abundance and variety of those kinds of food most desirable in the treatment of his disease. The care of stock and the dairy affords much to be desired in the way of health-giving labor. If the property of the institution includes a bed of good clay, brick-making is an industry that should receive early attention, and the cost of buildings may be lessened by using brick made by the patients, aided by skilled assistants and brick-making machinery. If there is a good stone quarry on the place, it should be early developed for the same reasons. Carpentry, blacksmithing, the making of trade, painting, tailoring, brush-making, printing, and bookbinding are indoor occupations that have also been followed with advantage.

For women, light garden work, the care and cultivation of fruits and flowers, nearly every kind of domestic work, including washing, cooking, sewing, wearing apparel, knitting, and fancy needlework, may be mentioned. At Bielefeld some thirty different callings are followed by the men and women patients.

These and similar observations, from other unquestioned authorities and experienced workers among epileptics, afford undeniable evidence of the necessity for regular colony institutions for epileptics.

WHAT SHOULD MINNESOTA DO FOR HER EPILEPTICS?

The consideration of the care of insane epileptics does not concern your committee at this time, as they represent a hopeless class, whose care is practically identical with that of other chronic insane; it being understood, of course, that they should not be associated with the acute insane, to whom their presence is very detrimental.

The epileptic children of the state are being cared for and trained at Faribault, so far as the capacity of the institution will permit, along lines that are in harmony with colony ideas, and without material detriment to the interests of either the epileptic or the feeble-minded. But in the opinion of your committee the time has arrived when the state should provide more generous accommodations for the former class than it has so far done. The older states of New York, Ohio, Massachusetts and New Jersey have established separate institutions for epileptics. In California, at the school for feeble-minded, with nearly 2,000 acres of land, it is proposed to colonize the epileptic on the same estate.

It is the opinion of your committee that the coming legislature should be urged to take steps looking towards a more generous provision for the state's epileptics, according to the colony lines, at the earliest possible date consistent with a well-matured plan for the cause, which might be proposed and developed by a commission appointed by said body. It is the recommendation and earnest desire of your committee that the members of this conference through their representatives in the legislature use their utmost influence to this end. Respectfully submitted, W. W. Folwell, C. E. Faulkner, W. B. Douglas, T. C. Clark, C. E. Riggs, A. C. Rogers.

DISCUSSION.

CAPTAIN FAULKNER: Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen: At the conference last year a committee was designated to consider the needs of the epileptics and to make report to this conference, the consisting of the conference, Dr. Folwell, Bishop Gilbert, Attorney General Douglas, Dr. Clarke of Stillwater and myself. As you are aware, Bishop Gilbert passed away—a man who was in hearty sympathy with the cause of these unfortunate people—and by Riggs was appointed to fill his place. I may say that it was through the zeal and the courteousness of the learned superintendent of the school for the feeble-minded that the committee are indebted for so much of their information and are able to make this report which is submitted tonight.

President Folwell: These thousand epileptics in Minnesota? Something ought to be done right away. What might be done—one of the plans—we shall learn about from what Dr. Riggs will say to us.

Dr. C. EUGENE RIGGS, St. Paul: Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen: I should like to present the few points I shall make by emphasizing what Captain Faulkner has said with reference to the great work that has been done along this special line of altruism by Dr. Rogers. The medical profession of the state have felt for years that we should follow up the example set us by our Chas, which have been more specific in calling this up work than we and, as has been said, it is not true of Dr. Rogers' correctness and desire, born of a kinder spirit than simple; that of scientific progress, we should be just where we were five years ago. In my reports to the governor for the past five years I have urged that some special action be taken to provide proper care for epileptics.

From the earliest periods epilepsy and epileptics have been known both to the profession and the laity. Hippocrates devoted a special pamphlet to epilepsy; and Graden, a noted writer of the church, and one of the early fathers, was ingenious enough to suggest that Plato's "Eros" in the "Phaedrus" was an expression of epilepsy. Epilepsy was very greatly feared by the
When I visited Bielefeld in December, 1894, the colony was a flourishing institution. There were about 1,000 epileptics. In the Massachusetts colony, and I think in the Connecticut colony also, they do not take the violent insane, nor the criminal, nor the insane; but in the Bielefeld colony, the colony had a colony of epileptics, not of epileptics, but of epileptics. Unfortunately, the wife of Father Don, who suffered a few days before I arrived, and I was not able to see her, but I met Father Don, who had charge of the colony in the colony proper, and from him I received all the information necessary. From what I saw of the Bielefeld colony, the colonists and the people who live in it, I received inspiration enough to last me as long as I live.

At Bielefeld they have a large community of troops and Jewish. The people who belong to the colony are much more simple than the colony, but the colony is the colony. All the people who belong to the colony are more simple, more honest, than the colony. We had a meeting in the colony in a cottage, and the patients living in the colony in the cottage. It is very interesting, in passing through the buildings, to see the cleanliness and the kindly spirit which is manifested everywhere.

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PROBATION LAW IN MINNESOTA.

President Forestell: The conference will come to order. It was announced that a short time would be given to the matter of the probation system, which was established by the last legislature. The subject was before the conference at its last annual meeting—but has been—and received the endorsement of the conference in a general way. The last legislature passed a law establishing a probation system for the three large cities of the State, and it has been on trial a little over a year in one of the cities. I presume it is understood by all who are present what is the intention of the operation of this law. It is to arrest first offenders and put them in probation—give them an opportunity of straightening things up without going to prison. I have here a sheet showing statistics under the operation of the probation law in Hennepin, Ramsey, and St. Louis counties for the twelve months ending Sept. 1, 1890. The information was kindly furnished by the probation officers of the three cities, and Mr. Cowie has corroborated it. Very briefly, the number of cases brought up in Hennepin county was 236, of which 67 were placed on probation; discharged from probation, 51, revoked, 7, otherwise disposed of 4, and remaining in care of probation officers, 19. There is a table showing the inability of the persons charged, which is quite interesting. The statistics are in the out-patient class; next come the Irish; 27; the Scandinavians, 24; the German, 16, and the rest are scattered; 12 Russians, however, among them. Little single thieves, I suppose most of these boys. So far as the State Board of Corrections and Charities is informed, the probation system is working very well, indeed, and promises excellent results.

Mr. Holt of Minneapolis wrote me that he finds little difficulty in getting the parents on his side; almost always the parents are delighted to have that law in operation, and they cooperate with him; and he is generally successful as I presume the other officers also are, in securing the friendship of the boys, and very little trouble has been had in getting reports from the young fellows themselves. They are obliged to report periodically to the probation officers. I see Mr. Willmott of St. Louis county is present. He is the probation officer of that city. Perhaps he can collect us a little more particularly in regard to the operation of the law in that county. Mr. Bingham has something he wishes to say here this morning.

Mr. Willmott, Duluth: I am the executive officer of the Duluth Home Society, the branch of the United States Probation Society, and the probation officer for the Duluth public schools, and the probation officer for St. Louis county, the largest county in the great State of Minnesota. I am pretty well acquainted with the juveniles of our city. As probation officer I now have 22 children on probation, 23 boys and 1 girl. Twenty-one are from the city of Duluth, and one from Tower. They have all been boarded for a period of one year. These children are interesting characters, and are among the brightest children of our fair city. If adults can be kept at work on the farm through the year, juveniles ought to be kept quiet and day without running away, and utterly separate from the parents. As Gov. Linz stated last night, one of the best preventative against crime is the compulsory school system law when it is wisely enforced. In my present work I have a pamphlet with extracts from three statutes—namely, "An act requiring the education of children," Chap. 20, Laws of 1890; "Crucifixion toward children," Chap. 50, Laws of 1893; and "An act to