

MINNESOTA STATE BOARD OF CONTROL

BLANCHE L. LA DU, Chairman

JOHN COLEMAN

C. J. SWENDSEN

DOWNER MULLEN, Secretary

MINNESOTA STATE INSTITUTIONS

Anoka State Asylum.....	Anoka
Dr. Arthur T. Caine, Superintendent	
Hastings State Asylum.....	Hastings
Wm. J. Yanz, Superintendent	
Willmar State Asylum.....	Willmar
Dr. B. F. Smith, Superintendent	
Fergus Falls State Hospital.....	Fergus Falls
Dr. W. L. Patterson, Superintendent	
Rochester State Hospital.....	Rochester
Dr. Arthur F. Kilbourne, Superintendent	
St. Peter State Hospital.....	St. Peter
Dr. Geo. H. Freeman, Superintendent	
School for Feeble-Minded and Colony for Epileptics.....	Faribault
Dr. J. M. Murdoch, Superintendent	
Colony for Epileptics.....	Cambridge
Dr. D. E. McBroom, Superintendent	
Minnesota School for the Blind.....	Faribault
M. R. Vevle, Superintendent	
Minnesota School for the Deaf.....	Faribault
Victor O. Skyberg, Superintendent	
State Public School for Dependent Children.....	Owatonna
Galen A. Merrill, Superintendent	
State Training School for Boys.....	Red Wing
J. T. Fulton, Superintendent	
Minnesota Home School for Girls.....	Sauk Center
Mary L. Stewart, Superintendent	
State Reformatory.....	St. Cloud
Chas. E. Vasaly, Superintendent	
State Reformatory for Women.....	Shakopee
Florence Monahan, Superintendent	
State Prison.....	Stillwater
John J. Sullivan, Warden	
Minnesota Sanatorium for Consumptives.....	Ah-gwah-ching
Dr. H. A. Burns, Superintendent	
Gillette State Hospital for Crippled Children.....	St. Paul
Elizabeth McGregor, Superintendent	

31-CDC-BLD

QUARTERLY CONFERENCE
of the
EXECUTIVE OFFICERS OF THE
STATE INSTITUTIONS

with the
STATE BOARD OF CONTROL
HELD AT THE
COLONY FOR EPILEPTICS
Cambridge, Minn.

Oct. 6, 1931

"Activities of the Division of Soldier Welfare"—Wm. T. Kroll,
Director, Soldier Welfare Division, Minnesota State Board of Control.

"What More Can We Do with Our Libraries?"—Perrie Jones,
Supervisor, Institution Libraries.

"Epilepsy"—D. E. McBroom, M.D., Superintendent, Colony for
Epileptics.

"Graphic Representation of Incidence of Seizures in Epileptic Patients"
—Theodora Wheeler, M.D., Rochester, Minnesota.

Present: Members of the Board—Blanche L. La Du, Chairman; John
Coleman, C. J. Swendsen. Superintendents: Caine, Yanz, Smith, Patter-
son, Kilbourne, Freeman, Murdoch, McBroom, Vevle, Skyberg, Merrill,
Fulton, Stewart, Monahan, Burns, McGregor.

Meeting called to order at 10:45 a. m., Blanche L. La Du presiding.

Afternoon session, presided over by C. J. Swendsen, was called to
order at 2:15 o'clock.

Adjourned at 4:30 p. m.

Blanche L. La Du, Chairman, State Board of Control: It is a pleasure
to see you all again. It has been several months since we have had a
meeting. The program committee thought you would all be especially
pleased to have an opportunity to visit this institution. This is the baby,
the newest of our eighteen state institutions. Some of you are very
familiar with it; others know very little about it; and many have never
been here before.

The Colony for Epileptics was opened in 1925. At that time we had
just the administration building and one cottage. Since that time the
institution has increased by the addition of two new cottages, so that we
have at the present time a capacity of 460. The institution is filled to
capacity.

The grounds here, including the farm, comprise 343 acres, with
about 100 acres under cultivation. It is a pretty good farm, and is going
to be a better one when it has been improved as it should be.

We have a small dairy herd.

The value of the buildings, not including the buildings that are being built at the present time, and the personal property combined, is about \$840,000.

The last legislature appropriated funds for two new cottages to house 100 patients each. They also appropriated money for a new power plant. The new cottages and the power plant, with repairs, the purchase of 18 acres of land to give us a larger building site, library, and other expenses, made a total appropriation of \$689,300 granted by the last legislature for the biennial period.

The staff consists of Dr. McBroom, superintendent; Dr. Hedenstrom, physician, of Cambridge, who comes to the institution daily to look after the physical needs of the patients; Dr. Anderson, of Cambridge, the dentist; and Mr. Gregory, the steward. Mr. Gregory came from Faribault with Mr. Hanna when he first took over the supervision of this institution.

The institution school consists of a principal, three teachers of the grade-school or the literary work, and two occupational therapists, making six teachers in all. All patients under the age of eighteen attend school. Practically all patients have work in the occupational therapy department.

The religious services are in charge of the local pastors. Reverend Henry and Reverend Gustafson are the pastors who conduct the regular services, and Reverend Wey, of Rush City, conducts the services for the Catholic patients.

The institution provides the usual amusements for the patients. You who are familiar with institutions know about what that would include. They have a radio; they have their regular parties, social gatherings, social groups, special days, celebrations, etc.

We hope you will have time to visit every part of the institution to see what is being done for the people who are being cared for here.

The program committee has a good deal of difficulty in arranging a program that will be of interest to this group. Your interests are very different. You deal with different groups of people. The committee has talked over the needs of the various institutions a great many times. It is not an easy matter to suggest subjects that will be of general interest to all.

We were to have had Governor Olson with us today as one of our speakers. We arranged our meeting for September 22 at first, thinking he could be with us on that date, but he was not well at the time and could not come. We changed our program for a later date, hoping he would be able to come. Last Saturday he told us he would be with us today, but he informed us yesterday he could not come. We are disappointed that he cannot be with us. Those of you who have heard him would enjoy hearing him again, and those who have not heard him have something to look forward to, as he is a very interesting speaker.

The program committee thought we would have time for a discussion of the subject of epilepsy, which is to be our program for the afternoon, and also to hear something from some of the departments supervised by

the Board of Control. You know we have several departments not related to institutions. For instance, we have the Children's Bureau, which is our biggest activity outside the supervision of the state institutions, a division for the rehabilitation and relief of the adult blind, a division for the parole and deportation of the insane, the Soldier Welfare Division, and others.

We thought that the Division of Soldier Welfare would bring you something in the way of a new interest, something you would be very glad to know about. The Soldier Welfare Department was created by the legislature of 1923. The Board of Control was authorized to appoint a director and such assistants as it deemed necessary to carry out the intentions of the law relative to this group. Stafford King was chosen the first director and served until he was elected State Auditor. Mr. Wm. T. Kroil was appointed as his successor.

This department does much in assisting the ex-service men. If they have been in service in any way, in either the naval or military forces of the United States, they are entitled to the aid of this department in presenting and establishing claims which they may have against the Federal Government, claims for hospitalization, pensions, adjusting compensation, etc. The purpose of the department is to help them in securing their rights because of their connection with the service.

Last year the legislature appropriated \$10,000 a year for the two years of the biennial period to carry on the administration of this work, and they appropriated \$20,000 a year for the two years, or \$40,000, for the relief of the ex-service men and their dependent families.

Mr. Kroil, director of the Soldier Welfare Department, is going to speak on the work of his department. Mr. Kroil was liaison officer, stationed at Fort Snelling, previous to his promotion to his present position. He is very familiar with all of the work in connection with the department, and is especially qualified for his present position. He was endorsed by the American Legion, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, and other organizations of the state. Mr. Kroil.