

# Third Biennial Report

OF THE

Minnesota State Board of

Visitors for Public

Institutions

1912

ST. PAUL, MINN., December 1, 1912.

TO THE HON. A. O. EDERHART, GOVERNOR, AND THE LEGISLATURE OF THE  
STATE OF MINNESOTA.

The State Board of Visitors for Public Institutions herewith submits its  
second biennial report, as required by law.

Respectfully submitted,

J. T. SCHALK, President.  
SWAN J. TURNBLAD, Vice President,  
GEORGE R. O'REILLY, Secretary,  
L. R. S. FERGUSON,  
J. R. SWANN,  
THOMAS H. HINELANE.

JAMES C. MATCHETT, Executive Secretary.

JESSIE V. RHODES, Clerk and Librarian.

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## IN EXPLANATION.

A word of explanation relative to the State Board of Visitors for Public Institutions seems in order in presenting its third biennial report, that its field of work may be the better understood. And in so doing, we take the liberty to in part repeat a few lines in this regard which were in our last biennial report.

The act establishing the State Board of Visitors for Public Institutions provides that the board "shall study the whole subject of the care and management of charitable and correctional institutions." The intent, if not the letter of the law, is that the investigations of this board shall be with a special view to the humanitarian side of such public work. In visiting the various institutions the Board members have accordingly had this in mind as their primary duty. The financial questions have been given some attention, with special consideration of their humanitarian application. The Board of Visitors believes the financial side of institutional work is fully cared for by the State Board of Control, for which purpose primarily the Board of Control was created. This report is accordingly written, leaving matters financial to the Board of Control, which always deals with them in its report in lengthy explanatory detail.

As there is no Board of Corrections and Charities now existing in Minnesota, the Board of Visitors feels there is a great field for its work along humanitarian lines. What recommendations are made in this report result from both a study of the subject in hand (the theoretical) and visits to, and thorough investigations of, institutions and their operation (the practical). The need of the Board of Visitors for state institutional visitation alone is sufficient reason for its existence and liberal support if the public but realized the vast burden of business detail devolving upon the three men who compose the Board of Control, practically prohibiting them because of this volume of work from careful investigation of humanitarianism in state institutions. Under the Board of Control system each institution superintendent is held directly responsible for his institution, and given to a large degree, dictatorial powers in his local domain. There is no direct communication between institutional employee or inmate and Board of Control, except through the superintendent. The employee or inmate must report or complain to the superintendent, and the case only goes farther if the superintendent so rules. The Board of Control has more than enough to do without giving unjust hearings to one and all complaints and demands originating in the various institutions. It would be a physical impossibility. But without further safeguarding of the rights of those within our state institutions, complaints which should be given

heed might never be heard. And it is in alleviation of this fault, as well as the larger humanitarian opportunity of looking to the welfare of those so unfortunate as not to be able to make any form of complaint, that the Board of Visitors has its special field in institutional work. The Board of Visitors feels its influence for good is considerable by virtue of its right to make recommendations for improvements and for betterment of existing conditions without regard to any undue influence.

The Board of Visitors furnishes the governor a means of impartial investigation of institutional complaints. "The governor may at any time in his discretion order an investigation by said Board of Visitors or by a committee therefrom, of any penal or charitable institution in the state." Such investigations always involve tedious detail. For this reason a governor must assign such work to others. In days previous to the Board of Visitors these investigations naturally devolved upon the board or boards managing the respective institutions in question. Yet it is manifestly unfair to any issue involved to have such investigation by a body which might be subject to criticism with the real facts brought to light. With the best of intent, the course of such examination must fail to give public satisfaction in that it would naturally be expected to be directed primarily toward vindication of the examiners rather than securing the plain facts from the examined without regard to whom they affect. Thus the Board of Visitors has a vitally important place in the delicate work of securing fairness to all concerned in institutional work, as well as guaranteeing humaneness toward the wards of the state.

The Board of Visitors has made it a rule to visit institutions without any previous announcement. The Board has desired to ascertain how every day conditions are, and not conditions especially prepared for a visitation. Every room in every building visited has been inspected from garret to cellar. In the sleeping quarters, beds have been taken apart to ascertain their condition and if the linen were clean. Plumbing and toilets were given special attention. In the kitchens, food has been inspected both before and after cooking, and sampled. Store rooms and cooking utensils were carefully observed. Tidiness, personal appearance and general characteristics of employees have been noted. Institution inmates have been questioned on each visit as to their condition, their treatment, their clothing, care and food; and have been told to speak freely as to whether they had any just complaint to register, with an assurance that such complaints would be thoroughly investigated and would get them into no trouble. A number of minor complaints have been given attention and adjusted. In brief the board has endeavored to do its work thoroughly, in a fair minded and unbiased way. The executive secretary has made a number of visitations unaccompanied by members of the board, and has also made written reports of such work to mem-

bers of the board, and has made reports of all visitations a part of the files of the office in the Old Capitol.

In order to more effectually carry on the duties of the Board of Visitors, it was deemed best to divide its membership into committees to better facilitate the various departments of work. These committees are now made up under appointment by President A. T. Schain, are as follows:

**Penal Institutions:**

George H. O'Reilly, Chairman,  
Thomas H. Hinceline,  
Swan J. Turnblad.

**Children and education:**

A. R. Swann, Chairman,  
Rev. L. R. S. Ferguson,  
George H. O'Reilly.

**Insane and sick:**

Thomas H. Hinceline, Chairman,  
J. R. Swann,  
Rev. L. R. S. Ferguson.

**Municipal Institutions:**

Rev. L. R. S. Ferguson, Chairman,  
George H. O'Reilly,  
Thomas H. Hinceline.

The terms of the present members of the Board of Visitors, are as follows:

Hon. J. T. Schain, president, formerly of Brown's Valley, now of Minneapolis, term expires first Monday in January, 1915.

Swan J. Turnblad, vice president, Minneapolis, term expires first Monday in January, 1917.

George H. O'Reilly, secretary, St. Paul, term expires first Monday in January, 1918.

Rev. L. R. S. Ferguson, St. Paul, term expires first Monday in January, 1918.

Thomas H. Hinceline, Minneapolis, term expires first Monday in January, 1915.

J. R. Swann, Madison, term expires first Monday in January, 1917.

Each appointment on the Board is by the Governor, and for a six year term.

During the last biennial period, James C. Matchitt, St. Paul, has continued to serve as executive secretary, and Miss Jessie V. Rhodes, St. Paul, as clerk and librarian.



## OUR "FINANCIAL CRISIS."

The appropriation for the State Board of Visitors for Public Institutions is \$3,500 a year,—\$1,000 standing and \$2,500 special appropriation per annum. Our expenditures the two years of the past biennial period were as follows:

	Total	Transportation	Hotels and Meals	Livery	Postage	Supplies and Printing	Salaries	Miscellaneous
Aug. 1, 1910 to Aug. 1, 1911	\$4,511.75	710.40	758.92	65.50	\$75.00	\$575.78	\$2,100.00	\$226.15
Aug. 1, 1911 to Aug. 1, 1912	3,347.60	377.61	112.60	56.50	18.00	143.14	2,225.00	114.75
Totals for the 2 years	7,859.35	\$1,088.01	\$1,171.52	\$122.00	\$93.00	\$718.92	\$4,325.00	\$340.90

According to the above showing, it would seem the Board has materially exceeded its means by its expenditures. This, however, is not the case. We had a balance left over from the previous biennial period which a little more than took care of the difference for the fiscal year of 1910-11. It will be noted the expenditures for the 1911-12 fiscal year are \$1,255 less than for the previous year. This has necessarily meant a material and undesirable curtailing of our expenditures and work, which we gently regret to have been necessary. We requested of the 1911 legislature an appropriation of \$5,000 a year,—\$10,000 for the biennial period. This was not a dollar more than could have been advantageously expended. There is much work we would like to do, which our very limited means prohibit. There are other state departments which are materially smaller than ours, and yet which receive considerably more appropriation than the Board of Visitors. We do not ask a penny for needless expenditure, but we do ask for sufficient money to carry on our work as it should be done. It should also be kept in mind that the six members of our Board, appointed by the Governor, receive no remuneration for their time, study and hard work, expended for the State. They merely have their travelling expenses paid. The time they have freely and ever willingly given to the state has meant a material financial sacrifice,—for with busy professional and business men, "time is money."

For the first five months of the new biennial period our expenses have been (with December, '12 partly an estimate) \$2,405.02, divided as follows: Transportation, \$242.03; hotels and meals, \$356.65; livery,

\$46.75; postage, \$44.00; supplies and printing, \$441.39; salaries, \$1,075.00; miscellaneous, \$95.24. This leaves us but \$1,094.28 of our \$3,500 annual appropriation for the remaining seven months of the fiscal year. Office salaries alone for the seven months figure \$1,505.00. Hence it is evident that unless we are given an emergency appropriation of \$1,000 immediately available by the close of the session we will have to close our office and suspend all work until the new fiscal year opens. We sincerely hope the legislature will take care of our present pressing need, and in doing so, will remember that with increased work we will not be expending more than during the same year of the last biennial period, at which time we had about a thousand dollars left over from the previous year, when we were not fully organized for work.

For the coming biennial period we actually need \$10,000,—i. e., \$5,000 a year, and in addition should have \$1,000, i. e., \$500 a year to enlarge our sociological library.

The \$5,000 a year asked is only \$500 more than we spent and found our actual need for the fiscal year of 1910-11, and should have had for the year 1911-12.

Our library consists of up-to-date reports of public institutions throughout the United States and Canada, and in addition works on all phases of sociological information. The library is small but ever increasingly appreciated by students, clergy, club women, settlement and institution workers, etc. It needs the \$1,000 asked.

## STATE TRAINING SCHOOL FOR BOYS AT RED WING.

No subject was given more attention by the last legislature than the State Training School for Boys at Red Wing. And the result was that it received some betterments which it had needed and been requesting for many years, most prominent among them being the new gymnasium building. For some unknown reason the Board of Control long delayed the breaking of ground for the new building, so that although almost two years have rolled by since the last session, at this writing the foundation walls are barely completed.

We also deeply regret the building itself was not given more study before the plans were adopted and work begun. The building, in our estimation, will be acceptable as it is, on the ground that "half a loaf is better than none." It has an auditorium 66 by 42 feet, with a balcony in addition. This is the most acceptable portion of the building, and the portion which will be the least used.

It has no bowling alleys whatsoever, and there is not a spare place left where they can be put in. They will have to be in a separate building, if ever supplied.

The swimming pool—a boy's delight which should be available to everyone of them—is 17 by 30 feet. This is ridiculously small and inadequate for the nearly 300 boys of the school. It is five feet deep at one end, and slopes to seven feet at the other. At the shallowest end it is thus too deep for many of the little youngsters and at the other end too shallow for safe diving. In addition to the swimming pool, there are a series of 12 shower baths in a room 16 feet 8 inches by 23 feet 2 inches. The locker room is 38 feet 10 inches by 24 feet 4 inches—large enough for accommodations for boys using a pool three times as large and twice as many shower baths (as it should be). We are glad the boys are to have the long-needed new building, but regret that when erected in these progressive days, it should not have been with more forethought. We even believe it would be a wise move for the 1913 legislature to make appropriation to have the rear of the building extended before further work is done, that the pool may be enlarged, the shower bath accommodations increased, and a bowling alley added.

The plumbing in both the main building and the cottages has been in a terrible condition during the entire past biennial period. New plumbing and repairs have caused a large amount of tearing up. The work seems certainly to have been unreasonably delayed. When we expressing our opinion on a visit, the reply was that the original specifications and contract had been so fantastically changed since the work was begun, that it was probably of no use to attempt to force the completion of the work within any time limit. It was a case of "grin and bear it." Even on our last visit to the institution we found plastering on walls and ceiling in bad and dangerous condition, with roof leaks causing much of the trouble. This should have been remedied without being allowed to continue so long.

The cottage formerly used to house the Girls' School (now located at Snuk Center) has recently been remodeled to be used as a cottage for the small boys of the institution. On the third floor four new toilet rooms have been built with tiled floors and modern plumbing, one in the center of the building, and others along the outside walls and opening off dormitories. Not one of these new toilets has a window for light and fresh air when needed, and NOT ONE OF THEM HAS EVEN A VENTILATING SHAFT. We call this matter to attention in a report made public August 27th last, relative to a visit of August 9th. On visiting Red Wing again, we found the work had been completed with the new toilets still left dark and dingy holes, where artificial

light is needed day as well as night, and still without any ventilation, permitting the foul, unsanitary air to circulate out into the adjoining dormitories. We believe instead of improving the condition of the small boys, compelling them to sleep in these new dormitories under existing conditions, is absolutely detrimental to their health, a step backward instead of forward. There is also a toilet room for use of officers of the cottage located in the center of the building, which is absolutely without ventilation. We do not know whether the fault lies with the architect who prepared the plans and specifications for the work, with the Board of Control in overlooking the matter or in mistaken economy in saving a little money; but we do know that "somebody blundered" and no one seems to be correcting the mistake.

It is worthy of note that former Superintendent Whittier in his final report, covering up to August 1st, 1912, calls attention that because of poor lavatory and toilet facilities, a number of cases of tonsillitis and other throat troubles appeared. This statement is endorsed in the report of Dr. A. W. Jones, who has been physician at the school since December 26th, 1911, and who says: "Insufficient bathing facilities, inadequate plumbing and sewage, and overcrowding of dormitories, has added somewhat to the amount of sickness as evidenced by a number of cases of irritative skin diseases and boils, and excessive number of sore throats due to infection. Tearing out of the old plumbing and the necessary interference with the care of the toilet rooms—has added still more to the unsanitary conditions."

The tearing out of the old plumbing and replacement with new, with separate baths for each "family," was a necessary work, but the long and dangerous delay in its completion does not seem to have been necessary nor is the further present danger excusable, of compelling the small boy to sleep amid unsanitary conditions.

Beginning August 1st, 1912, Dr. C. A. Merice became superintendent of the Red Wing institution. Mr. Frank A. Whittier retiring and becoming state parole agent connected with the state prison work. Mr. Arthur C. Dorr, assistant superintendent, left and went to the St. Cloud reformatory as steward. Mr. Paul Jansen, state agent, temporarily served as assistant superintendent, not long after being succeeded by the Rev. John Fulton, who resigned the pastorate of the Red Wing Presbyterian church to go into a less remunerative work, but one in which he has a heart interest.

In retiring from the superintendency, Mr. Whittier files his final biennial report, in which he makes a number of recommendations. Some of these are not new, yet they are just as important today as when he began calling attention to them in former reports.

He remarks that the comparatively new law making each probate court a juvenile court (aiming to extend the beneficial juvenile court system of the large cities throughout the state) has been little used, that there have been few commitments thereunder. We agree with him that all juvenile courts should use uniform blank forms, not only of commitment, but with the fullest detail of knowledge and information relative to each individual case. We would go a step farther, and recommend a law permitting one or more counties, jointly or separately, through their boards of county commissioners, and on recommendation of juvenile courts within their respective limits, to hire a juvenile court probation agent. Without the probation officer, the juvenile court is minus an important link in its needed machinery.

Mr. Whittier says children are sometimes sent to Red Wing who are not criminal, but feeble-minded or diseased—perhaps both. He recommends a thorough mental and physical examination be made of every boy before commitment to the institution—a recommendation which will doubtless appeal to all as a progressive need.

We endorse the recommendation for increase in salaries of teachers. The institution has a graded school. As might be expected, the boys are more difficult to handle and teach than those of the ordinary public school. And in addition to teaching, the teachers have other duties which add materially to their work and hours of duty. This is also true of the instructors in the industrial trade department.

We believe a material betterment would be made by employing more officers. Thus the teachers could have fairer hours and devote themselves entirely to school work, and the boys could be divided into more and smaller companies and better supervised—all of which is most important to their welfare and improvement.

Mr. Whittier asks for enlargement of the farm; that even the city boys enjoy farm work and that it is very healthful. This proposition should appeal to one and all without argument.

Providing individual sleeping rooms for the boys instead of continuing the antiquated open-dormitory system is a betterment that is demanded by Mr. Whittier in his report, and which has been very strongly advocated by Dr. Merica on the lecture platform, and which we have always endorsed. Mr. Whittier says:

"This has been suggested and urged in every report I have ever written and is again renewed. No one knows better than the management of an institution of this kind the evil that results from the open-dormitory system.

"I AM FREE TO SAY, THAT IN MY JUDGMENT, IN SOME CASES THESE EVILS HAVE OVERBALANCED THE GOOD A BOY OTHERWISE WOULD RECEIVE FROM COMMITMENT HERE. KNOWING

THIS, I HAVE ALWAYS FELT THAT IT WAS ALMOST A CRIMINAL ACT ON OUR PART TO CONFINE THESE BOYS IN AN OPEN DORMITORY."

We believe the erection of a series of company cottage buildings would be a great help to the institution, these to contain the individual sleeping rooms. The old dormitories cannot be built over into individual rooms without great waste of space, and then with unsatisfactory results. Let some other use be found for them, or let them not be used at all in preference to continuing as vice-breeder.

For some unexplainable reason, the legislature of 1911 cut down the institution's appropriation of \$7,000 for state agency work to \$5,000. There are an average of 450 boys on parole, scattered all over the state, and it needs at least four traveling state agents (five would be still better) to properly keep track of them; to visit them with sufficient frequency and keep in touch with each boy, that he may continue to climb the ladder instead of slipping backward. In February, 1912, one state agent resigned, and lack of money prevented filling the place. To have less than four state agents means a neglect of a most important work.

Since the arrival of Dr. Merica at Red Wing, Henry L. Smith, of Jordan, Minn., has been employed as music teacher and bandmaster. Mr. Jordan was formerly solo cornetist and assistant bandmaster of the 17th U. S. Infantry band. He played "first trumpet" during the Como Park, St. Paul, band concerts, season of 1912. He seems an efficient and bright young man. But he reports that he is "up against it" in attempting to organize a band without instruments. He thought first he would start an orchestra. All the "string" instruments he could find were a half dozen violin cases—empty. There are only two sections of a flute to be found, the "head" missing. There are several drums—all broken. The brass horns ("there's only a few of them left") are badly dented, with keys broken and parts missing. In short, Bandmaster Smith has plenty of musical talent to direct, but he can do nothing until the next legislature supplies a complete set of band and orchestra instruments. And we sincerely hope a special appropriation will be made for this purpose, as music means much to the boys and a number of them are especially gifted musically.

Dr. Merica has informed us that he has abolished corporal punishment. In fact, during the interval since the last legislative session it seems to have been little resorted to, and under order of the Board of Control was limited as a maximum to fifteen strokes with a broad tender strap. In fact, it seems to us Dr. Merica has largely eliminated the strict discipline which has previously prevailed at the institution. The school seems to be run with the boys allowed to depend largely

on their own resources and honor. On two visits since Dr. Merica's arrival and up to the time of drafting this report, we have found the boys playing on the grounds, football, catch, "pull-a-way," tooting flutes from the music room, etc. We talked with a number of them. They one and all said they liked Dr. Merica and his new methods. If boys of an incorrigible class, who couldn't be managed at home, in public schools, or finally by probation officers, can be handled with the leniency extended to them at present, it is all the better, and for so doing all the credit possible will be the due of Dr. Merica and his assistants. We wish him the greatest success. We feel sure that not only is he a man of high education and culture who gave up the presidency of a western university to come to the Red Wing school, but a man who has the best interests of the boys at heart, who wants to be one of them, to let them have all the enjoyment possible out of their already more or less marred young lives; and finally, who wants to let them grow up in as content and enjoyable an atmosphere as possible into successful manhood, an honor to themselves, the state, and society at large. We ardently hope he will succeed and that he will have every legislative aid needed toward this end.

It has previously been a rule for all the boys to retire at 8 P. M. only. This rule was continued by Dr. Merica, but he informed us he intended to extend the hour to 9 o'clock for the older boys; that in his opinion 8 P. M. was too early to ask large, well developed boys to go to bed.

As a final word relative to the Red Wing school, we hope that as the so-called incorrigible girls have been given an ideal plant and equipment at Sauk Center, that the legislature realize it is just as vitally important that the boys be equally well cared for. They are worth it as well as the girls. A start has been made in giving them a gymnasium building. Yet this is only a start. Don't let the good work stop unfinished. Give the boys individual sleeping rooms, give them more officers, let the buildings be put in complete repair without further delay, do away with unsanitary conditions, and let there be a state agency system sufficient and efficient to supervise and aid nearly half a thousand boys!

#### OWATONNA STATE PUBLIC SCHOOL.

The State Public School at Owatonna has been in charge of Supt. Galen A. Merrill ever since its establishment in 1885, and its great success is accordingly due to his untiring endeavors to make the institution a success in every way. It is beautifully located on a hill overlooking the city of Owatonna, with ideal grounds surrounding the

building. The children are cared for in a series of cottages, each in charge of a "Mother" nation—the ideal system. It is too bad most of our other state institutions, asylums, hospitals, institution for feeble-minded, etc., were not established on the same up-to-date system,—the cottage plan, instead of in great, gloomy, rambling buildings.

It is generally understood that this institution is not planned as a permanent, but a temporary home for all needy and dependent children. They are kept at Owatonna as long as they have no home elsewhere, but the work of placing children in private homes anxious to receive them, is constantly going on.

In this respect, the state school is much like a number of private children's home institutions. We are inclined to the belief, however, that the state home is today superior in both its equipment and management to any of these private institutions. They, as a whole, are dependent on private subscriptions. The state has been fairly generous with the Owatonna Public School. It is supplied with a good graded school building and corps of teachers; with all kinds of outdoor amusements, honks, whips, merry-go-rounds, sand-boxes, sleds, skates, etc.; with toys in the cottages for the smaller children, and plenty of warm clothing for all.

Great as is the good work at the school, still greater is that of the state agency force; an able corps of assistants to Supt. Merrill, constantly traveling in their respective allotted districts, not only placing lonely children in homes where open arms and warm hearts are ready to receive and welcome them, but making frequent calls where children have been placed to see how they are treated, how they are behaving, and if things are congenial and satisfactory. If not, the child is taken back to the state school until a chance comes to enter some other private home where the attempt at becoming a member of the family may be more successful.

We believe no institution in the state has as capable a corps of agents as the Owatonna school. In addition, it is not purely a work for private philanthropy to see that children are properly provided and cared for. The state has a responsibility which it should not shrink or even permit to be entirely taken over by private institutions.

We therefore recommend that Supt. Merrill be authorized to enlarge his corps of state agents sufficiently so that they shall regularly visit delinquent children who have been placed in foster homes by private associations, organizations, and institutions, with authority to have such children removed either to the care of the private organization by which they were placed, or to the state public school. The ruling of the state agent in such matters should be final when questioned, if it has the endorsement of the superintendent of the state public school.



Every child placed in a foster home by a private organization, should be only so placed under a form of contract approved by the superintendent of the state public school, and having conditions and terms similar to those in the contract required in such cases by the state that the future welfare of the child may be assured.

We hereby renew our recommendation of two years ago for a "Minor's state pension" law, i. e., a state allowance not to exceed the per capita cost of keeping a child in the state public school, to be allowed the needy parent or legal guardian of a child that such child may be kept in its home rather than removed therefrom. It is not only cruel, but a mistake in every way for the state to break up a home on the sole ground that the breadwinner thereof is no longer able to support the children. Yet this is the custom followed. The death of the husband and father in a poor family, frequently means a miserable, unsuccessful struggle by the widowed mother, soon ending in the children being taken from her and sent to the state public school, and from there distributed to different points, where, the mother never knows. A little aid might keep such a family together. It might even be a financial saving for the state.

To quote Supt. Merrill: "Many requests have been received for the admission of children conditioned upon their being held in the school for six months or a year to enable a worthy parent—usually a mother—to improve her condition and circumstances so as to be able to take them again. Such requests come from the judges who have authority to commit children to the school, from relatives and friends and from the parents themselves.

"We believe it would be a wise, humane and economical step for the state to give authority and make provision for helping such children in their own homes. This Board could be authorized, on the order of the court committing them to its guardianship, to expend for the benefit of the children so committed and left in their own homes a sum not to exceed the amount that would be expended for their care and support in the institution for a given period. In such cases the children should be kept under supervision and visited in their homes the same as any other children committed to this school and placed in homes not their own. This would cost the state no more than their support, would help both the children and the parents and avoid the necessity of breaking up many homes and destroying family relationships."

The directors of the Owatonna school have passed a resolution asking for the establishment there of vocational training for dependent and neglected children. Supt. Merrill treats this at some length in his report, and we heartily join with him in approving thereof, and in

asking the legislature for the needed appropriations for an industrial building and its equipment, a cottage for industrial students, enlargement of the dining hall, additional boiler and auxiliaries, etc.

The Owatonna institution has long needed an amusement building. This should contain primarily, a gymnasium and swimming pool.

The south wing of the main building should be fire-proofed to make complete fireproofing already done of part of this structure—the center and north wings.

#### STATE SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND.

Material changes made during the past biennial period at the State School for the Blind at Fairbault have probably brought that institution to a better degree of efficiency than ever before.

During the school year 1910-11 the attendance was 31, of which 53 were boys, 38 girls. The summer school of 1911 was attended by 13 men. During the school year of 1911-12 the attendance was 32, of who, 49 were boys, 34 girls. The summer school of 1912 was attended by 18 men. The superintendent explains the reduction in the number enrolled in the 1911-12 school as due in part to the lowering of the age limit for admission from 25 to 21 years, made practical by the holding of the summer school which is for adults. Another commendable reason was the transfer of a number of children of hopeless mental deficiency, through epilepsy, feeble-mindedness, or degeneracy, to the school for feeble-minded or their return to their homes. We believe much of what little trouble there has been at the school for the blind in the past, was due to letting these undesirable remain at the institution. This is a school for mentally normal, blind, and not for otherwise defective individuals, and we heartily commend the recognition of the fact by the management.

The superintendent's report shows a large number of changes in the faculty during the past biennial period, many teachers going to other schools. We would ask the legislature to bear in mind the teaching of the blind requires instructors of special training and ability along certain lines. That in view of this, they are worthy of being paid more, grade for grade, than teachers in the public schools throughout the state. We recommend that in making appropriation for these teachers' salaries, they be sufficiently increased so that desirable teachers may be kept in our own state school for the blind instead of being secured by other schools paying higher salaries.

Compared with other state institutions the school for the blind is not up to the average in its furniture. The furniture is insufficient.

and what there is, is old and rickety. Considerable new furniture is needed. The plaster in places is loose and in danger of falling. In the girls' dormitory there was a place in the ceiling where plaster had fallen. We found the kitchen ceiling loose and the plaster in danger of falling on those below. In fact, a new kitchen is a material need.

The biennial report of the Board of Directors expresses appreciation to Dr. Dow for gratuitous services at the summer school. This summer school is for adults. It is one of the first summer schools of the kind established in the country and was Dr. Dow's commendable idea. But we believe Minnesota is too rich and fair a state to expect Dr. Dow to spend every summer in superintending a school for blind adults without remuneration. It is unjust and unnecessary. We recommend that in making the appropriations for the next biennial period, a just amount be added as additional compensation to Dr. Dow for summer school work, both past and the two years ensuing.

It has occurred to us that in the establishment of this summer school for industrial training of the adult blind, a partial solution of the problem of the indigent blind may be found. The blind man, or sometimes woman, who sells pencils on the street with a placard of "please help the blind," or the one who hopelessly grinds a street organ, does so to earn a hard living and because of being unequipped to otherwise secure a living. We recommend the enactment of a law that it shall be the duty of the county commissioners, on application of indigent blind individuals, who are legal residents of the county, to send them to the state summer school for the blind at county expense, and that the dependent families of such individuals be declared fit subjects for relief during that period from the county poor fund.

A family which is more or less a charity charge, may thus be made actually self-sustaining if the individual who is at its head learns a trade.

Nor is this theoretical. For example, an old man between 65 and 70 years of age and a resident of the Ramsey county poor house at the time, was sent to the state summer school for the blind, at Faribault. At the school, among other things, he learned weaving, net and basket weaving. He is now a resident of a Home at St. Cloud, and earns considerable money selling baskets and nets. His time is occupied, his spirits are refreshed and life is much more worth the living in the knowledge that he can once more work and earn money like other men.

During the past biennial period, the industrial trade work in all departments has been extended. A course in salesmanship has been added, a most practical form of helpful instruction. Two new pianos and two secondhand ones have been added to the music department, the former for musical instruction, the latter for demonstration in piano tuning. Loom work has been extended. Six looms are in operation, one being manufactured in the school's wood working department. Weaving has also been successfully carried on in many grades and phases of this work. Some good furniture has also been made by the students. Other industrial training includes broom making, chair caning, willow work, basket making, knitting, embroidery, mat making, etc. Physical culture has been given more attention. There is now so is cottage gymnasium and exercise equipment, but a commodious and well equipped gymnasium for the boys and another for the girls would be a welcome addition.

We heartily endorse the requests made by the Board of Directors and Supt. Dow for betterment and re-arrangement of buildings, especially as regards fireproofing. These matters are explained in detail in their report to the legislature. We would, however, call attention to the fact that about 15 blind girls sleep on the second floor of the north wing, which is of old frame interior construction, a veritable fire trap.

During the past biennial period we conducted a hearing at the school for blind, during which testimony of a number of students, both girls and boys, was taken. The showing was indicative of much improvement in the school, of a better atmosphere and a general feeling that the school was accomplishing more than ever before, and there were practically no complaints. One and all reported the cooking and diet decidedly improved.

Corporal punishment has been abolished without any apparent injury to the school discipline. The discipline is doubtless aided by the removal from the school of those students who were defectives and degenerate as well as blind.

#### STATE SCHOOL FOR FEEBLE MINDED AND COLONY FOR EPILEPTICS.

The total population on July 31st, 1912, of the State School for Feeble Minded and Colony of Epileptics was 1,236—633 males and 603 females. Compared with July 31st, 1910, the population increased during the biennial period, 91 females and 57 males—a total of 148. We have ever found the inmates of this institution well housed, fed,



clothed and cared for. In Dr. A. C. Rogers as superintendent we believe the state is exceedingly fortunate in having a man in whom are combined the traits of a most efficient business head and executive, and a specialist of deserved national reputation in his professional work. We have only commendation for him and for his work, and believe he has succeeded in making all those under his charge as happy as possible, as well as alleviating their troubles by the best professional care.

In response to a request of the Board of Visitors for a report along certain lines, and containing desired information, Dr. Rogers under date of Nov. 30th, 1912, sent us a statement covering interesting conditions and needs at the institution, which we believe deserves duplication here in our biennial report. It here follows:

State Board of Visitors for Public Institutions, St. Paul, Minn.—

Gentlemen:

Pursuant to your request, I present herewith a report on the following points connected with the work of this institution, viz.: First. An estimate of the average cost to the state of the institutional care of the feeble minded and epileptic. Second. An estimate of the number of defectives in the state. Third. A short statement of the work and purposes of the Research Department of the institution, and, Fourth. A memorandum of needs.

A careful computation of the time spent in this institution by all the inmates from its opening till August 1st, 1912, shows that the average has been approximately 7 5/6 years. At the present cost of support and administration, it would be fair to name \$2,000 as the average expense to the state, including interest on investment in plants, etc., for the institutional care of the individuals of this class. This is probably slightly higher than the actual cost has been in the past, but on the other hand as the plan of permanent custody is better understood the average time of residence will probably increase some and thus the cost of same would increase in proportion.

The number of defectives in the state, we have as yet no satisfactory means of determining. The ratio of 1 to 500 in the general population assumed for years to represent the facts, is undoubtedly too low. Whether the ratio of 1 to 300 assumed by some is too high cannot be determined without some better system of census taking than has yet been available. The field investigations referred to below afford data that emphasize the fact that mental defect is responsible for a larger number of social failures than has generally been recognized, and the chronic pauperism and dependency of many families is

thus explained. Investigations concerning mental defect among violators of law has also added to the number of recognized defectives. No doubt the higher standard required by the evolution of social and economic laws and customs has necessitated a more careful differentiation between social conformers and social misfits.

Thus while the whole number of defectives is larger than has been commonly supposed and while we feel that 1 to 400 of the general population is more nearly correct than 1 to 500, yet it is not necessary to assume from this that there has been any corresponding increase in the actual percentage of defectives as compared with such general population. Rather a better understanding of the nature of mental defect and how it prevents conformity to social and economic requirements has enlarged the percentage recognized.

#### Research Department.

Our psychologist, Dr. Fred Kuhlman, has made a very thorough and painstaking examination of the mental age of our entire inmate population during the last year of the biennial period.

The examination of 1,469 cases shows the average mental age of the various groups to be as follows:

Pupils in the School Department (573) . . . . . 6.4 years.

(This group consists of young improveable and hopeful children of both sexes and incidentally includes a number of older girls.)

Female boys (50) . . . . . 6.9 years.

(This group includes older boys and men, most of whom have been trained in the school.)

Custodial (687) . . . . . 5.3 years

(This group includes individuals of both sexes of very low mentality and incidentally a number of care-takers of comparatively high ability.)

Epileptic (503) . . . . . 7.2 years

(This group includes both sexes.)

In the matter of field research, Miss Sallie Devitt, chief field worker, has reported on 65 families, represented in the institution by 99 inmates.

In these, there have been found, among the 1,755 individuals involved, 284 feeble minded, or an average of 4.37 to each family; 50 epileptics; 61 insane, 220 alcoholics, 83 insane, 2 choreics, 9 paralytics and apoplectics and 11 syphilitics; 300 died in infancy, 134 died while young; then there were history given of 85 miscarriages and 7 still births; 105 were sex offenders, 22 showed marked criminalistic tendencies. There were 215 tubercular cases, 11 blind, 11 deaf, 3

tramps and 4 suicides. There were only 562, or 17.8% known to be normal, though there were 2,275 individuals whose status is yet to be localized.

At the present writing an additional worker, Miss Marie Curial has been employed, and also a clinical assistant, Miss Maude Merrill, and it is clearly a hopeful and important line of activity that should be encouraged and extended.

#### Needs of the Institution.

In regard to the improvements desired there are a number of minor things required to complete the mechanical equipment as planned by the consulting architect and engineers to increase the capacity of the various departments as required by the last two sessions of the legislature and the rehabilitating of the institution in the matters of more substantial and lasting construction than was deemed expedient in its early history. I refer to such matters as fire proofing, enlarging and re-equipping laundry, extending the capacity of the hospital and better facilities for isolation of contagious diseases, improvements in the ventilation of older buildings, changing of the river sewerage discharges to a septic tank system, completing improvements in heating equipment, small additional extensions to the subways, rewiring for better safety from electric lighting system, larger provisions for miscellaneous repairs, extending barn facilities for colony farms, completing and extension of boys' cottages at Grand View Colony, etc. For all these the State Board of Control are recommending to the legislature that suitable appropriations be granted.

They have also under consideration the following important extensions and improvements:

First. Construction of an administrative building that shall meet three requirements, 1st, that of new administrative offices, the ones now in use being required for other purposes and which at present are scattered, rendering co-ordination inconvenient and wasteful of time. 2nd, that of improving and enlarging the assembly hall for the children of the institution from all departments, including the colonies. For the present population we need an auditorium and amusement hall that shall provide for 1,000 children and the hall constructed at the present time should provide capacity for 1,300 to allow for the growth which is inevitable in the near future. We have been crowding over 700 children into the present hall when entertainments have been given for their benefit, and this makes it difficult for anyone to crowd through from one end of the hall to the other, and in case of fire, removing them would be at best, at the risk of serious mishap if not death. 3rd, provision for living quarters for the help connected with general

and administrative work, for which no provision has been made to correspond with the growth of the institution.

These three facilities could be combined in one well fireproofed building located in front and attached to the present main building.

Another matter of importance to be considered in this connection is the impossibility of fireproofing our present main building in an economic manner as contemplated by the last legislature and for the beginning of which an appropriation was made by it. This comes from the fact that we cannot vacate the present building, which is at best very crowded, to enable the work to be done. The construction of a new building at this time would render it feasible to fireproof an entire section of main building at one time.

Second. An industrial building for work with comparatively low grade boys that are capable when trained in simple activities, to render good service under trained supervision on the farm and grounds. We have never been able to provide facilities for this kind of training proportionate to the growth of this institution in population. Such a building would also provide for the extension of indoor industries.

Third. Separate building for help. The necessity of this has already been well understood and it is not necessary to emphasize the need.

Respectfully submitted,

A. C. ROGERS,

Superintendent.

Faribault, Minn., November 30, 1912.

Dr. Rogers' report is so comprehensive we can add but little. We would like, however, to call special attention to some of the statistics given and what they mean. He estimates \$2,000 as the average cost to the state per individual inmate of his institution. This means the 1,336 inmates of August 1st, last, represent an expense to the state of \$2,472,000. Dr. Rogers estimates the defectives in the state at 1 to every 400 population. This figures out 5,189 defectives in Minnesota. To place them under state custodial care would cost (to again use Dr. Rogers' figures) \$10,378,000. But to permit them continued freedom, to wed and multiply, means the burdening of untold additional millions of expense on the state, as well as the harm done society as a whole—injury which cannot be estimated in dollars.

We recommend, therefore, a careful survey, psychologically and medically, of all school children throughout the state, by medical examination under direction of public school authorities, that various forms of defectives may be early known and treated to best advantage, and even segregated where necessary.

## OUR STATE SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF.

During the past biennial period the Board of Control has purchased 25 acres adjoining on the east the grounds of the School for the Deaf as the nucleus of a farm for the practical demonstration of instruction in agriculture. The purchase includes a comfortable residence, a large barn, chicken house, and an orchard of large and small fruits. A silo has since been built and one of the chicken houses has been built over into a greenhouse for practical demonstration in horticulture. This is all a move in the right direction, which all interested in the school have long desired, and it is to be hoped the further recommendation of Supt. Tate to the legislature will be heeded in the purchase of 20 additional acres for which he already has the refusal at \$207.50 an acre. Better equipped as it is to-day, the school now expects to teach poultry raising, agriculture, bee culture, and dairying.

In connection with this work, arrangements have been made for assistance in instruction by the extension department of the State Agricultural College. During the past year lectures have been given at the School for the Deaf by Prof. M. E. Chapman, Prof. R. A. Shutz and other professors of the Agricultural college, and the Extension department. Prof. Chapman spent an entire week at the school during which time all other school work was abandoned and the whole time given over to the instruction he offered. The students were enthusiastic over his lectures. These covered fruit and vegetable culture and the best ways of preserving them for winter use. This and like agricultural work is to be continued as a permanent feature and is most commendable, combining as it does a high grade of both scientific and practical instruction.

During the past year we have had several meetings with representatives of the Minneapolis Association of the Deaf, and spent one evening with the Association at Richmond Hall, Minneapolis. These conferences have all been relative to the State School for the Deaf. The members of the Association are naturally very much interested in this institution, which they have most of them attended and from which a large number have graduated. They want an increase in salary for teachers at the institution, holding that the work of these teachers is technical and that the Minnesota School should not be made a place for the development of experts in teaching the deaf, who, as soon as their superior ability becomes known, are secured by schools of other states through payment of better salaries. This seems logical, and we sincerely hope that the legislature will make sufficiently generous appropriation at the coming session so that the management of the school may increase the salaries of deserving instructors who otherwise may be lost to our Minnesota school.

The Association also urges strongly the more complete equipment of the school for the teaching of the various trades. This is being already met along the line of much more elaborate instruction in scientific and practical agriculture as already explained—all of which must meet with general commendation. And in furtherance of the general idea we hereby gladly endorse the recommendation of Supt. Tate and the Board of Directors for the remodeling of old Mott Hall to this end. The plan is for part of this building to be made into two gymnasiums, and the balance into an industrial building, which would much better house and provide for the industrial work than it has been for some years past. This would include enlargement of the department for teaching the printing trade, as asked by the Minneapolis Association for the Deaf. The changes desired would cost \$28,000, and when finished would make of the building one of the most complete plants of its kind in the country. We sincerely recommend the granting of this betterment by the legislature as one needed for the present students, and desired by the alumni and all interested in the institution.

We recommend the establishment by the legislature of a department in the State Labor Bureau which shall co-operate with the students of the school, faculty, alumni and others interested, in aiding both the deaf and the blind in finding positions. After educating them, it is but fair the state should go the one step further that is so vital, and aid the deaf and blind in securing sustaining employment. The cost would be very slight, and the good accomplished by giving these handicapped young people a start in the world, beyond estimate.

The representatives of the Minneapolis Association for the Deaf expressed themselves as anxious to have the sign language as well as teaching of vocal communication continued in the school. We understand this is to be done.

In a report furnished our Board, Supt. Tate interestingly explains the work of the institution as now carried on, and which explanation of present methods we believe to be of material interest in view of the energy with which the representatives of the deaf of the state have of late months inquired of us relative to the school and its work.

"One-third of the time plus Saturday forenoons is spent in the industries.

"I consider the industrial training we give to the pupils to be of the greatest importance.

"The boys, when they enter school at 8, if they be strong and well developed, are put into the sewing room for an hour each day—about half the usual trade period. If the pupil applies himself, he usually graduates in darning and in the simpler work, such as sewing on but-

tions and hemming and some patching. They as a rule learn to darn beautifully during the year. If they do not they spend another year or part of one in the sewing room.

"The pupil is then placed in the sloyd room for the full trade period each day. He remains there two years. By this time he is eleven or twelve years of age.

"He is then assigned to a regular trade, such as baking, cabinet shop, shoemaking, blacksmithing, etc. The cabinet shop includes cabinet making and general use of tools, caning chairs, glazing, painting, etc. A few of the pupils are instructed in blacksmithing and carving, wood turning, and general house repairs. Shoemaking and typesetting are taught. In addition to this older boys are detailed in turn from the various industries to the farm for a month each.

"Great care is exercised in assigning boys to trades. First, his own make up and his home surroundings are considered, his own preference is consulted and the friends at home interviewed.

"Sometimes a boy wishes to change his trade, but this is not permitted unless substantial reasons are offered. Occasionally a boy is permitted to change his trade after he has gotten a working knowledge of a trade. He then acquires a working knowledge of more than one trade.

"We consider the trades department as more an industrial than a trade training. Though a boy may not follow the trade he learns in school he has had such a preparation as enables him to take up successfully any vocation he may desire.

"The girls are placed in the sewing rooms, but for the first year as they are only eight years of age they are not required to take instruction unless they are large and well developed and then only for a short period of time, and on Saturdays not at all.

"When they are fairly independent with the needle, they are advanced to the dressmaking and fancy work department. From this they are detailed to take domestic science and instruction in ironing. The heavier work in the laundry is not required of them. The girls keep their own rooms, and wash dishes and set tables and are given much instruction in practical housekeeping.

"In this day of sharp competition it would seem that it might be wise to establish a course, say a year or two of technical training for graduates of the school.

"It will be observed that our pupils get only about one year of apprenticeship for every five years in school. Owing to their extreme youth, not many of our pupils get more than five years, which amounts to but one of apprenticeship. It might therefore be advisable to es-

tablish this post graduate course in order to more fully equip our pupils for life. It must be remembered, however, that in the past, our pupils have usually been able to compete successfully with their more fortunate brothers. This is all accomplished with the training now given.

#### "Social Life.

"Of the four Saturday evenings of each month, two are devoted to literary societies, and to a social to which the advanced pupils are formally invited, received by a committee of teachers and taught the amenities of polite society. The fourth Saturday is devoted to a lecture. This is given by one of the men teachers. In addition to this, about nineteen days are holidays, open to the whole school.

"The discipline in a mixed boarding school is a difficult problem. The aim is to make all pupils self-reliant, manly and womanly and clean.

#### "Weighing Pupils.

"It has been our custom to weigh pupils when they come to the school in the fall and again at its close in the spring. We find that the aggregate increase for 1910-11 was 1,602½ pounds, and for 1911-12 was 1,588½ pounds, an individual increase for the first year of 3.59+ pounds, and for the second year of 5.67+ pounds.

"This is a free, unsectarian school, established and supported by the State, for the education of children who by reason of deafness are unable to be educated in the public school.

"Board, care, and instruction are free, but parents and guardians must provide clothing and traveling expenses. A deposit of not less than five dollars is required at the beginning of each school year.

"Counties from which pupils come, will render assistance when needed for clothing and transportation. (Chapter 2a, Section 1934, General Laws 1905.)

"Deaf children residing in Minnesota are admitted after eight and until they are twenty years of age.

"The regular course of instruction embraces ten years. In emergencies a long time is granted. To this has been added one year in high school studies.

"This course of study embraces that pursued in the public schools with some modifications in order to adapt it to this special work. In addition to this a number of industries are taught.

"We have an oral department in which pupils are taught to speak, and read speech from the lips.

"No provision is made for the support or care of children during the summer vacation. During this time parents are expected to take charge of their children.

"The proper time for pupils to enter school each year is at its opening on the second Tuesday of September. The school closes not later than the second Tuesday of June."

Dr. Tate, with the endorsement of the Board of Directors, will next year start a new industry in the line of weaving, which it is hoped will be profitable and appreciated by a number of students.

We suggest the advisability of establishing a summer school at the School for Deaf for the adult deaf who are unable to attend the regular sessions. This is done at the School for Blind with beneficial results, and we believe is an example that could beneficially be followed with the deaf. There are doubtless a number of adult deaf, people who largely have become deaf since reaching maturity and others who had no opportunities for special training when children, who would like to learn the sign language, lip-reading, speaking, and take up various lines of industrial trade instruction that are to be had at the state school. But because of their age, they do not care to enter classes during the regular school year with little children, and it is not best that they should. We should at least like to see the experiment tried, of a summer school for the deaf.

The Board of Directors of the schools for the deaf and blind, already have thereon a blind man who is a graduate of the school for blind. We believe this is most fitting, and a just tribute to the efficiency of the school and the ability of its alumni.

But we further believe it is also most fair and commendable that the alumni of the school for deaf be represented by one place on the board which governs their school. The deaf of the state seem to be even more active than the blind in interest in their respective institution.

We would therefore respectfully recommend, subject to and hoping for the Governor's approval thereon, that in appointing members to this board of directors, the board be so maintained as to always have thereon an alumnus of the State School for Blind and also an alumnus of the State School for Deaf.

#### STATE HOME FOR CRIPPLED CHILDREN.

The biennial report of the State Home for Crippled Children, St. Paul, has already been published and the excellent work it is doing is therein told. The State of Minnesota owes much to Dr. Gillette, surgeon in charge, and the able corps of specialists who give their services free to alleviate the troubles of the little patients.

There are betterments, however, which the legislature should grant for the Phalen Park Institution. There is no cement walk from the

car line to the institution. In wet weather the clay-mud makes the walk almost impassable. It is especially hard for use of crippled children. The bath room for the boys, and also the one for the girls, each need two additional tubs. Additional toilets are also a necessity that should not be overlooked.

There is no adequate storeroom. One should be provided.

The coal supply is kept in cheaply constructed board bins. Handling the coal keeps the entire cellar dusty and dirty. The bins and beating plant should be walled off from the rest of the basement.

The children, although crippled, are still children. They want and lack amusement. The grounds are extensive, and well shaded, and should be provided with a merry-go-round, swings, "teeters," a big sand box, etc. Some one gave them a croquet set early in the summer just past. It was actually worn out in a couple of months with enjoyable constant use. A small appropriation would do much in the way of supplying amusements.

We have found the children at the Home most kindly cared for. They are well housed, and well fed, and the institution kept up in a most commendable manner.

#### HASTINGS ASYLUM FOR THE INSANE.

Under date of December 9, 1912, the Board of Visitors submitted the following report on the Hastings State Asylum for the Insane, to the Governor.

To Hon. A. O. Eberhart, Governor.

Dear Sir:

October 28th, 1912, we visited the State Asylum for Insane at Hastings and examined a number of employees of the institution with a view to getting at definite facts, relative to verbal complaints which had been received by members of our Board. President J. T. Schain and Rev. L. R. S. Ferguson were the members present, and J. C. Matchitt, executive secretary. Every witness was put under oath and a short-hand record secured of the testimony.

The distribution of supplies was first looked into. The testimony showed there are three kitchens, the superintendent's, which the steward testified supplies food for 12 individuals, and which Supt. Yanz says furnishes the meals for 15; the main kitchen, which serves 423 men; and the cottage kitchen, which serves 132 individuals.

Keeping these figures in mind, consider the following distribution of some of the supplies from March 15th, 1912, to September 16th, 1912,—a six months' period.



	Supt.'s Kitchen	Main Kitchen	Cottage Kitchen
Eggs.....	406½ doz.	37½ doz.	120 doz.
White Sugar.....	1,100 lbs.	3,425 lbs.	1,070 lbs.
Raspberries.....	221 boxes	321 boxes	109 boxes
Strawberries.....	268 boxes	906 boxes	371 boxes

From the above, it certainly seems the superintendent's kitchen is getting an unfair proportion, apparently larger than there is any reasonable need for. Over 183 pounds of sugar a month; 813 eggs a month, 203 a week for 15 people. The egg supply for the superintendent's kitchen was over 31 dozen more than the egg supply for the main kitchen, which serves 423 people! And the superintendent's kitchen used nearly a third as much sugar as the main!

Mr. Yanz was shown a complete copy of all the testimony and asked for his written reply thereon. Under date of November 23rd, his reply was sent to our Board. Relative to the eggs and sugar, Mr. Yanz says:

"Referring to the testimony taken at this institution, would say that as to the supplies such as eggs, berries, sugar, etc., I note that the report shows that we have used in this department 406½ dozen eggs, which would be over 2 dozen per day every day for six months; while this number of eggs were charged to this department, no such quantity were ever used during this time.

"The report shows 1,100 pounds of gran. sugar and 100 pounds of light brown sugar; this sugar was used for cooking, baking and putting up fruit, etc. If the amount used in our kitchen is to be compared with what sugar was used in the cottage kitchen and main kitchen, the sugar used in the bakery and cottage dining rooms for coffee, tea, etc., should be taken into account, these I notice have not been taken at all. The seemingly large quantity of sugar and berries used were not used in the time specified, namely, from March 5th to September 15th, but a great deal of this was used in putting up fruit, etc., for future use.

"The number of people served from our kitchen is given 12 while there are 15 every day except Sundays. This includes the two girls from the sewing room and the laundry girl."

Frank C. Beck, steward, testified to seeing an attendant named Carpenter punish an insane patient July 19th, 1912, by throwing the patient down on the floor and bounding him. Mr. Beck says he at once reported the case to Mr. Yanz.

Mr. Yanz in his statement says:

"Referring to the trouble Attendant Carpenter had, this was on the 19th of July instead of July 10th,—he resigned Aug. 1st, by request."

We believe such an apparently flagrant case of abuse of a patient should have called for immediate dismissal, and prosecution of the attendant might have proved an excellent example of what employees who assault patients should expect.

The testimony of Attendant Joseph Messany was astonishing, not only in its admission of abuse of patients, but in charging Supervisor of Nurses Opers with instructing him to "beat up" patients for being refractory. Messany's testimony was as follows:

Q. How long have you been here?

A. Have been here about one year.

Q. What ward are you working on now?

A. Cottage No. 4.

Q. When a patient is hard to handle, what do you do with him?

A. If I cannot handle him myself, I get assistance.

Q. Do you ever strike a patient?

A. No, sir, not if I can help it. I had orders once from the head nurse, Mr. Opers, to slap a patient. This has happened quite frequently.

Q. Did the superintendent ever give you such instructions?

A. No, sir, he told me not to do it. I do not think Mr. Opers knows how to handle men.

Q. Have you any trouble with vermin?

A. I think we are rid of what we had.

Q. Under what conditions did Mr. Opers tell you to slap or strike patients?

A. I had trouble with some patients, and I reported to Mr. Opers.

Q. What was the trouble?

A. One of the patients ran away, but returned. The patient came to the cottage the next day, and I reported to Mr. Opers that the patient had returned and that he belonged in the dining room. Mr. Opers told me to beat it out of him, and I refused to do it. Mr. Opers kicked him in the stomach and knocked him down. The patient was bleeding from his nose. His name was Thomas Carroll. Another patient over there had trouble with Mr. Opers. I think his name was George Lyon.

Q. What did he tell you to do to this man?

A. He said when he didn't behave or do what I told him to do, to simply give him a beating.

Q. Did you do it?

A. I didn't knock him down, but I gave him one in the ribs.

Q. How old was this man that Mr. Opers kicked?



A. He was 65 or 70 years old; supposed to be a consumptive. I think he has the asthma. The time the man was kicked was last spring some time.

Q. Do you know of any other cases where Mr. Opers has beaten a man?

A. I have seen a number of cases.

Q. Could you mention the names of patients?

A. There are so many I cannot remember the names. I asked him when I first came here what I should do with patients I couldn't handle. He told me I should beat them up, but not to mark them up so that it would show. Most of the men who quit here, quit on account of Mr. Opers.

Q. Both of those patients you saw ill treated and told of are still here, are they?

A. One is at C1 and one at the main building.

Mr. Opers was questioned on this testimony and emphatically denied ever giving any one instructions to punish any patient. Other attendants examined during this investigation said they had never received any such instructions from Opers as Messany claimed, and they all stated Mr. Yanz's orders were never to strike a patient.

Mr. Yanz, relative to the Messany testimony, says:

"Replying to the testimony of Joseph Messany in which he states that he was instructed to beat a patient for running away, we have patients run away quite frequently and I have yet to hear the first attendant to say that he was instructed to abuse or beat him for doing so. Mr. Messany admits that my instructions were never to strike a patient, and yet he testifies that he was instructed to beat up a patient if he done wrong. Our rules are that no attendant shall ever attempt to handle a patient that is violent alone, but shall always call help so as to be sure that the patient is not abused."

Mr. John Siebolds, who has charge of construction work, testified:

"One time a group of patients were on the outside with an attendant, and a patient strayed away. The attendant called to him, to come back, and as the patient did not come, the attendant hit him two or three times in the side of the face, and he kicked him too. This was perhaps three months ago. I do not know who this attendant was, but think he was a German by the way he spoke."

Mr. Yanz, in his statement, says in reply to this:

"I note also that one attendant says that in case he has a patient that is giving trouble he strikes him, also that he has kicked a patient. The only reply that I can make to this is that he will be asked to resign."

There are other points in the testimony which should be noted and which are not explained in any way in Mr. Yanz's statement.

Attendant F. O. Ruge, who had been at Hastings two years, was asked:

"From your own personal observation have you ever seen a patient abused here in any way?"

Answer. "Yes, sir. A number of us have taken a man down and made him come to lime. We did not pound him. We used what they call the 'Japanese twist.' That is, taking a man's arms up behind him and pushing them up."

Later his testimony continues:

"Every attendant is careful not to twist a man's arms too far, it will break."

Such conduct on the part of an attendant should not be tolerated a moment. Any and all men in the employ of a state institution who thus abuse patients are only worthy of immediate discharge, and if circumstances permit, prosecution for assault.

Rodman C. Allen, harbor at the asylum, when asked if he had ever seen patients abused, replied:

"Have seen them slapped and thrown on the floor." (He could not give names and dates.)

Mr. T. L. C. Turner, attendant in Cottage No. 2 since June 11, 1912, testified:

"I have slapped a patient to make him mind." And in the same breath admitted his orders were not to strike a patient.

We believe every man who has struck a patient should be at once discharged.

Mr. Yanz concludes his statement as follows:

"It is surprising to me that we have not had more trouble with patients being abused than what we have had, when you consider the small salaries paid. It is impossible to get the kind of help desired for so small a salary. While we get some very good men, still the most of them are a class that care very little about their work or consider at all what it means to care for and look after the unfortunate ones who are sent to our institutions. The main thing they are looking for is to do as little work as possible and draw their check."

We fully agree with this portion of Mr. Yanz's statement, and call attention to these matters under different heading in our biennial report. We also believe the conditions found at Hastings call for a thorough sifting and investigation of all attendants at the Hastings asylum by the Board of Control and Supt. Yanz, that the patients may have the sympathetic handling and care which is their due. There

should be a thorough cleaning out of all employees who believe in the use of cuffs and blows, and even of those who have tolerated such conduct in associated employees without interfering or reporting same.

Several attendants testified there was a shortage of under clothing for the patients. The main kitchen cook testified to a shortage of meat supply. We would recommend the need be met by an emergency requisition which the Board of Control would doubtless allow.

The supervisor of nurses admits having sewed up a wound a patient received from being struck by another patient. We believe such surgical work should be left to the institution physician and surgeon.

There seems to be a custom of employees taking one or more patients away from the institutions to do manual labor and other work for said employees at their homes. We do not believe patients' labor to be the gratuitous property of state employes. If they are mentally and physically able to leave the institution and work, they or the state should receive some remuneration. The principle of state institution employees making free use of the labor of the state's patients and wards, is wrong.

All of which is respectfully submitted for such action as you deem necessary.

J. C. MATCHITT,  
Executive Secretary.

For the State Board of Visitors.

The above report is not the only information we have had of mistreatment of patients by attendants at the Hastings asylum. August '12 a visit was made to Hastings and information secured of mistreatment of patients in one of the men's cottages at the asylum. We were able to get two affidavits of attendants relative to an assault on a patient in the cottage by another attendant. To get one of these affidavits required a long journey by train and a thirty mile drive to a northern Minnesota homestead near Eastwood, Mille Lacs county. The affidavits were placed in the hands of the county attorney of Dakota county at South St. Paul, and on his advice on the evidence submitted, a complaint was signed. No arrest has yet resulted as the man wanted has temporarily at least, left the state.

We regret to have to report as above relative to conditions found in the Hastings asylum. We have found general improvement the past two years in the appearance and up-keep of the buildings. We believe Supt. Yanz's intentions have been the best, and that the mistreatment of patients has come from poor help, which in turn is the result of inadequate salaries and too long hours of work; and that the men who caused the trouble did so behind his back and in direct violation of Mr. Yanz's rules and orders.

### ANOKA ASYLUM.

We have no criticism to make against the Anoka State Asylum for the Insane, in so far as its management by Supt. John Coleman is concerned. He has made the best of everything available ever since the opening of the institution. The original old main building, in which the men are housed, is antiquated and open to material improvement, but it is kept as clean and attractive as possible and the men are made comparatively comfortable. A basement room is still used as an employees' dining hall, poorly lighted and unsuited for the purpose. Its use is made necessary by the overcrowded condition of the building, and we would suggest early provision for a suitable employees' dining hall elsewhere.

The women at the asylum are all housed in a series of cottages, sixty women to the cottage. These cottages are ideal in many respects and modern in every way, absolutely fireproof. Three new cottages are in course of construction at the time of preparation of this report. We have ever found the cottages clean and attractive and the patients comfortable and apparently well fed and cared for. In spite of the fact that Supt. Coleman has managed these many years to run his institution at the lowest per capita cost of any in the state, neither the institution nor the patients seem to be suffering in the least degree thereby. Mr. Coleman also seems the best able to keep employed his full quota of attendants and nurses, and has a more attractive, capable looking corps than most of those found in like positions in our other institutions for the insane.

We have mentioned elsewhere the need of an amusement and industrial training building for each of the state institutions for the insane. This recommendation applies to Anoka as well as the other institutions, and should be kept in mind in considering the needs of this institution.

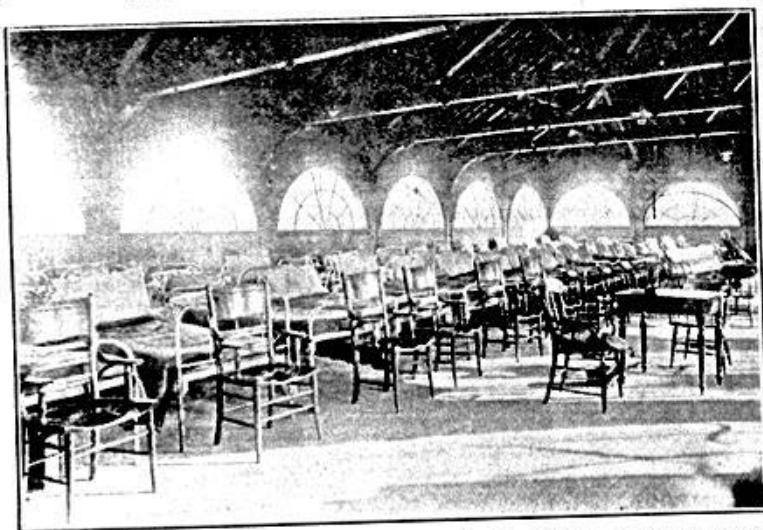
### STATE HOSPITAL FOR INSANE AT ROCHESTER.

Doubtless the most attractive of all our state institutions, to the eye of the visitor, is the State Hospital for Insane at Rochester. Its grounds are beautifully laid out, with various kinds of trees, winding paths and flower beds. The interior of the hospital is lightened with potted plants and flowers, and seems better furnished than our other institutions for the insane.

Like the other state hospitals, the one at Rochester is generally short of nurses and attendants. As of August 1st, 1912, excluding



Exterior of Summer Pavilion Which Overcrowded Conditions at Rochester State Hospital for Insane Now Compel to Be Used as a Permanent, All-Year-Round Dormitory. See Article on Rochester Hospital for Description, page 37.



Interior View of Same Pavilion. These Pictures Are No Criticism on the Management of the Hospital. The Very Best Is Made of Existing Overcrowded Conditions, Which Can Only Be Relieved by the Legislature.

dining room men and outside night watch, there were 49 men of an allowance of 52. Of the women, the payroll permitted the employment of 63 (excluding several like positions) and there were but 52 employed. The last few months of the biennial period just concluded, the trouble was more in getting women than men, the reverse of the ordinary condition.

At Rochester the average pay for men who care for the insane, is probably a little over \$20 a month, ranging from \$22 as a beginner, to \$38, with a head nurse of the infirmary \$45, and head nurse of the house, \$50. The average pay for women is a little over \$25, ranging from \$18 for a beginner, up to \$33 for graduates in charge. The inadequacy of salaries paid these employees, and others in similar positions at the different institutions for the insane, is discussed in detail elsewhere in this report.

The new detention hospital was completed and opened the last fall, with a capacity of 72 patients. This gives little relief to the crowded conditions in the main building. The dormitories are all packed beyond their proper capacity.

As an example of the extremes which it has been necessary to go to take care of all the patients, it is worth calling attention to the fact that for some time past what was originally a large one story frame open pavilion, has been enclosed and is used as sleeping quarters for some sixty men patients. In winter it is heated by a coal stove at one end, and an uncased furnace used as a stove at the other end. Behind a frame screen, are two toilet bowls and several water sinks. The flooring in this so-called toilet room is constantly wet, and as a result is in places rotted through and unsanitary. In summer, when windows may be left open on all sides, these make-shift toilet facilities are bearable; but needless to say, in winter, when the windows generally must be kept closed, the sanitary aspect of the proposition must be much worse, no special ventilation being provided. (See cut.)

It is but fair to state, however, that the superintendent cannot be blamed for the adverse physical conditions and over-supply of patients crowded upon him. The pavilion was fitted up for temporary use only, but necessity has made it a permanent dormitory. An appropriation for a new building was greatly needed from the last legislature, and should be granted this session.

Supt. A. F. Kilbourne, in his biennial report, calls attention in detail to the need of appropriations for the coming biennial period, which recommendations we endorse.

The patients at Rochester seem to be well clothed and well fed.

An industrial and amusement building is needed at Rochester, and recommended elsewhere in this report.

## FERGUS FALLS STATE HOSPITAL.

For several months prior to the drafting of this report, Dr. G. O. Welch, for so many years the efficient and esteemed superintendent of the State Hospital for Insane at Fergus Falls, has been away from duty due to the breaking down of his health. Dr. Welch has been an untiring official, giving his time, thought and energy unstintingly to the state work; and the result finally came in the destruction of his health. We believe the state would do both wisely and justly to grant Dr. Welch a leave of absence of six months or a year if necessary, at full pay, that he may again regain his strength and re-enter state work refreshed and invigorated to assume the arduous duties and heavy responsibilities which for so many years have been his.

During Dr. Welch's absence, Dr. C. C. Burlingame, assistant superintendent, has been in charge of the Fergus Falls institution, and has proved himself most capable, prompt and efficient in the performance of the heavy work so unexpectedly placed upon his shoulders.

It is estimated that in the Fergus Falls Hospital for the coming two years there will be approximately 1670 patients. This number at the annual per capita cost of \$15.00 will bring the current expenses of the State Hospital to about \$250,000 annually. It will cost about \$10,000 a year to maintain the detention hospital, therefore, an appropriation of \$260,000 is needed. New plumbing is needed, to cost \$8,000.

Electric dumb waiters, costing \$2,000, are asked to use in wards and in buildings where the dumb waiters have to be handled by women employees. It is very hard for women to handle heavy dumb waiters by hand and the employees who are obliged to do so are frequently sick.

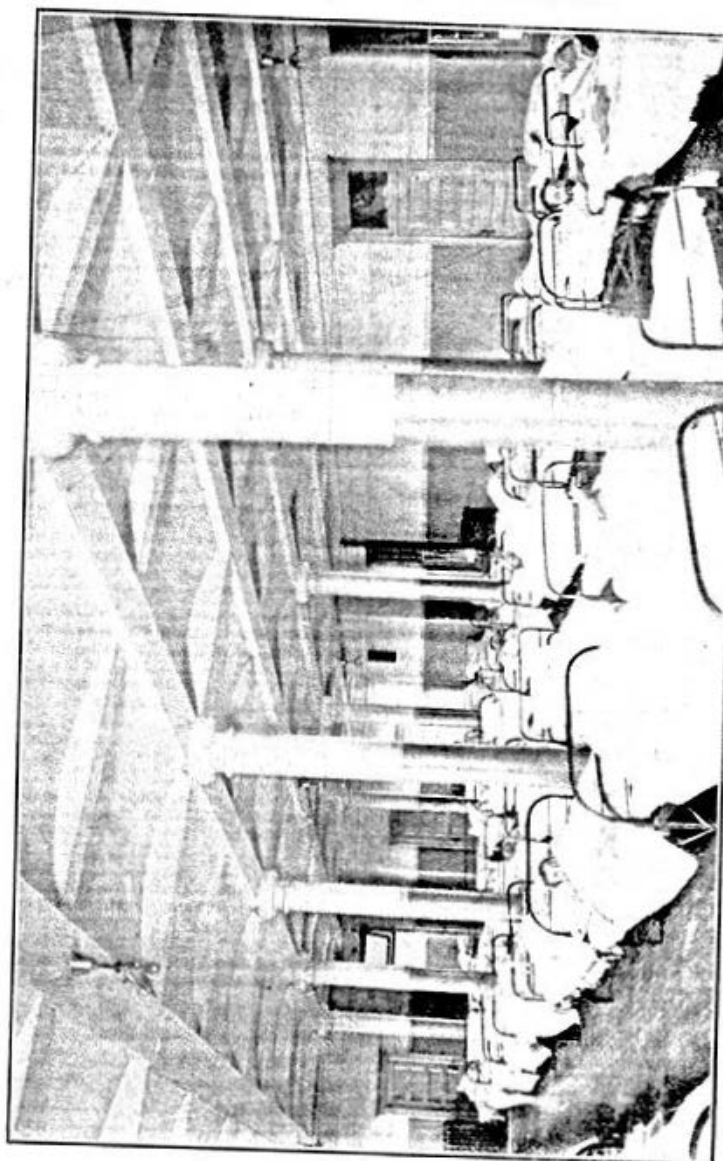
A tunnel to the west detached building, and costing \$2,000, is needed for shorter food service to the wards and especially for a more direct steam service which will result in some saving of coal.

An appropriation of \$3,000 is desired to carry out the idea of all interested parties to fireproof all buildings in which patients are congregated to any extent, especially the main dining room.

A few extra pieces of laundry machinery needed on account of the gradual increase of the hospital, will cost about \$1,000.

We recommend that wooden floors as they wear out be replaced by tile. Fergus wants an appropriation now of \$6,000 for this purpose, and \$750 a year for putting in concrete walks and gutters and laying out the grounds about the hospital.

A coal conveyor is wanted from the shed to the stokers, to cost \$8,000. This is now done by wheel barrows and the coal has to be handled two or three times.



Showing Crowded Condition of Men's Infirmary in Fergus Falls State Hospital for the Insane, a Room 70x14 ft. Containing 14 Beds.  
--Typical of Conditions in All Our State Hospitals for Insane.

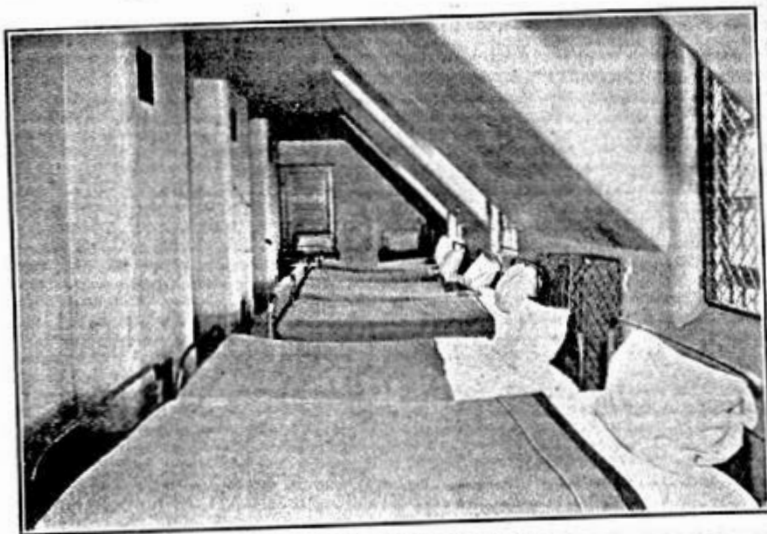


The present detention hospital has a capacity of 46 patients, and as the monthly average of admission the past few months has been about sixty, another like building is needed in order that new cases may be kept there as long as possible. They now have to be moved rapidly over to the old buildings in order to make room for the new cases coming in and thus the purposes for which the detention hospital was built cannot be carried out as it should be.

The remains of the patients who die in the hospital have to be kept in a basement room under one of the day rooms. This is not sanitary and is also depressing to the patients above. A new morgue should be built.

We would further recommend the finishing of the reservoir which was partially completed several years ago, or of putting in another artesian well in place of the reservoir. The water supply is even yet in a somewhat precarious condition and upon several occasions the institution barely escaped a water famine.

The women nurses at Fergus have an ideal cottage home. It is restful, modern and attractive in every way. But the men nurses and attendants are still required to sleep in apartments adjacent to the patients in the main building. They are certainly entitled to a cottage home similar to that provided for the women—a separate building



3 Third Floor Linen Room, Fergus Falls Hospital, Converted into a Crowded Dormitory, Typical of Overpopulation Conditions at all Our State Hospitals for the Insane.

provided with both sleeping apartments, library and rest rooms. Their long hours each day and the small remuneration they receive, certainly require recognition to the extent of a sitting place to rest during the time they are off duty.

Fergus, like practically all the institutions for the insane, is always short of nurses and attendants. And like elsewhere, the scale of wages is altogether too low, men receiving but \$25 to \$38 a month, the women \$18 to \$33.

As may be read elsewhere in our biennial report, we recommend for all state institutions for the insane, the Fergus hospital included, the erection of a combined amusement and industrial building.

Early in 1912 the Board of Visitors received a request from Governor Eberhart to investigate a complaint received by the Governor from one John J. Maher that he was sane and had never been properly committed, and was improperly kept at the Fergus Falls state hospital.

After an investigation by J. C. Mitchell, executive secretary, the following self-explanatory report was made to the Governor:

St. Paul, Jan 23, 1912.

To the Hon. A. O. Eberhart, Governor,

The Capitol, St. Paul, Minn.

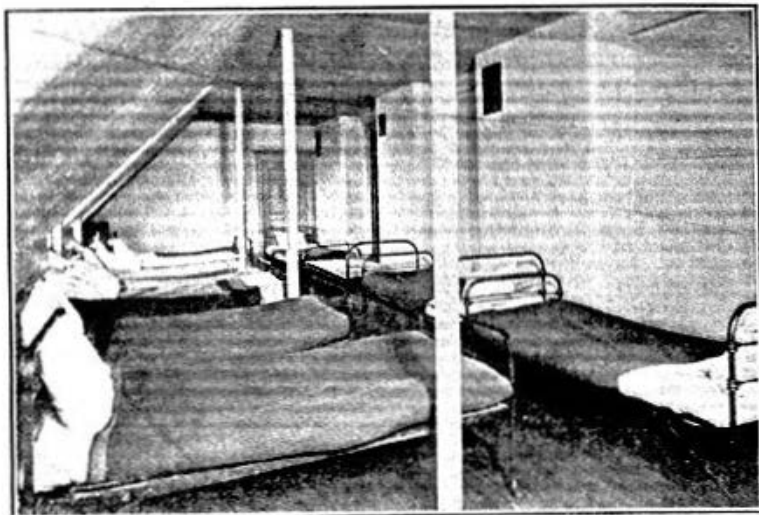
Dear Sir:

I recently received from the Governor's office a letter from A. M. Hayes, executive clerk, calling attention for the Governor to an enclosed letter from one John J. Maher, an inmate of the Fergus Falls State Hospital for the Insane. Said patient, in brief, desired his liberty, charging that he was not insane and had been improperly committed.

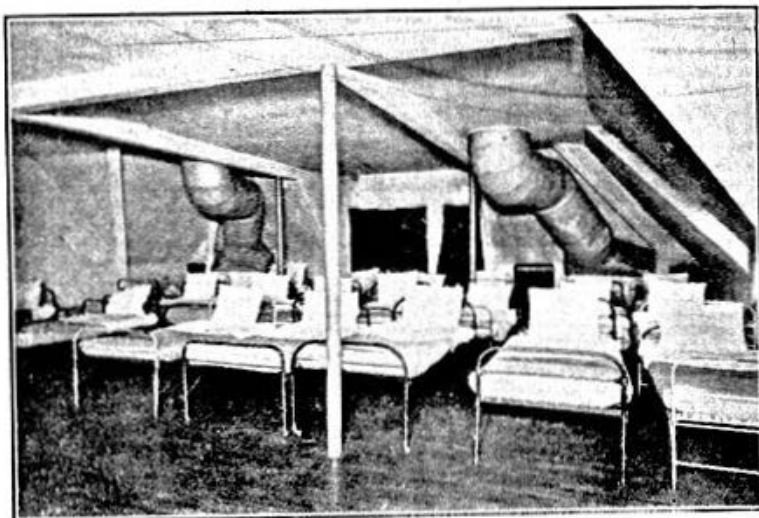
In response to the Governor's suggestion I visited the Fergus Falls institution, secured all the information I could about Maher, a copy of his record, and interviewed the man myself.

The institution's record speaks for itself. It shows this to be his second commitment. The form of insanity from which he has been suffering is intoxication psychosis, persecutory type. The record demonstrates that he was properly committed before Judge J. N. Edwards of Swift Co., after being duly examined and judged insane by Drs. C. L. Schfield, S. J. Frohman, and J. N. Edwards. He was duly transported to the state hospital by O. P. Johnson and A. W. Skog.

Maher seems to be what is commonly termed an "atrophic." He has improved materially at the hospital. He has maintained a good physical condition and when seen weighed a little over 200 pounds. He is now willing to work at the institution but the presence of severe winter weather has cut down the number of men who can be employed



Attic Room Turned Into Dormitory, Fergus Falls. These Pictures Are No Criticism on the Hospital Management. The Very Best Is Made of Existing Overcrowded Conditions.



Another Attic Room, Fergus Falls Hospital, Which Over-Population Compels Use as a Dormitory. Other State Hospitals Are Just as Crowded for Room.

and there is no special work at the institution at present to which he might be assigned.

Dr. Welch, superintendent, and Dr. Lovell, physician in direct charge of his ward, advise that he be retained at the institution until spring, but consent to his immediate release if his relatives will agree to look out for him and, what is very important to him, keep him away from alcoholic drink. They say that if he again becomes addicted to liquor he will without doubt soon be in a condition to be again returned to the institution in a very short time, probably worse than he has been before.

His relatives are: Mrs. Ellen Maher, mother (over 80 years of age), Danvers, Minn.; P. M. Maher, brother, Danvers; Miss Catherine Maher, Danvers (or possibly Beusou), sister; Mrs. Frank O'Brien, Benson, sister; Sister Jane, Mother Superior, Catholic Hospital, Grand Rapids, Minn.

I have written these people the situation, and that on agreeing to look out for John J. Maher, including an agreement to keep him away from liquor, he may be released at once, or in the spring, which is deemed most advisable.

Maher informed me at the hospital that he has the best of care and food, and he has not a word of complaint as to his treatment.

Respectfully submitted,

J. C. MATCHITT,

Executive Secretary.

Later word from his relatives was to the effect that when Maher had his liberty all the neighborhood feared him, that they could not agree to keep him away from liquor nor be responsible for him.

#### ST. PETER STATE HOSPITAL, FOR THE INSANE.

The fireproofing of the detached wards north at the St. Peter State Hospital should be undertaken, not only on account of the risk from fire, but for sanitary reasons also, as the interior of the building is in bad shape and the floors about worn out.

The present kitchen is now a thoroughfare, cannot be kept clean, and is inadequate for the purpose. If the walls of the building are raised and a new roof put on, there will be room to bring the kitchen above ground; and provide proper refrigeration. It will also be more sanitary; while the space now occupied by the kitchen can be used for vegetable room.

The steady increase in building at the institution makes it necessary to increase the coal storage by addition to the present building,



and this should be done as soon as possible, as piling coal out of doors is not only dirty but wasteful.

In addition to the work already completed on the steam plant, stokers should be provided so that fuel may be used more economically.

The present farm house is about fifty years old, inadequate, and nearly ready to tumble down. It is not fair to ask the institution farmer to continue to live in it.

The engineer's and assistant engineer's houses need repairs to put them in good order to live in, especially the assistant engineer's house, which is old.

In order to make the new cow barn sanitary, it will be necessary to substitute steel girders and iron posts for the present wooden ones. Then the ceiling can be lathed and plastered, and the barn be made a sanitary stable. In addition there is equipment needed for the transportation of feed and fodder.

Owing to the overcrowding of the wards for men, the putting in of new floors could not be undertaken this year; and the amount appropriated two years ago is not sufficient to complete the work, so that an additional appropriation should be made.

More people can be cared for in the detached wards south in the day time, than there is dormitory room for at night. There is abundance of room in the incomplete half story of this building, if the roof is raised, to give the dormitory space needed, and as this additional space can be provided for a comparatively small sum, it should be done.

The St. Peter hospital seems to be less fortunate than other state hospitals for insane relative to ability to secure attendants and nurses for patients, either in desired quantity or quality. The institution is always short-handed, and we have found the class of attendants much below par. They seem a constantly shifting, inefficient lot. We have elsewhere touched upon the subject of nurses and attendants and ask that the difficulty be given general relief and improvement in all our institutions for insane, by putting these employees on an eight-hour day shift and increasing their meager wages.

What we have said elsewhere relative to the need of an industrial training and amusement building at each institution for the insane applies also to St. Peter, and we hope will be borne in mind in considering the need of this institution. And like the other state hospitals St. Peter is much overcrowded, statistics relating thereto being given elsewhere in this report.

Dr. H. A. Tomlinson, for so many years superintendent of the St. Peter hospital, recently was succeeded by Dr. R. M. Phelps, formerly assistant

superintendent at Rochester Hospital. Dr. Tomlinson, together with his assistant, Dr. Freeman, goes to William as superintendent of the new State Institution for Inebriates soon to be opened.

#### Wm. Helfman Case.

Last July (1912) we participated with the county coroner in an investigation at the St. Peter State Hospital relative to the death of one William Helfman, patient. The report thereon is self-explanatory as follows:

To the Governor and Members of the State Board of Visitors—

Gentlemen: July 12th and 13th last, President J. T. Schain of our Board, and I, attended the coroner's inquest at St. Peter relative to the death of a patient, William Helfman, who died at the institution July 6th last, after having been an inmate of the institution about nine months.

The finding of the jury after but a few moments deliberation, was:

"We, the jury, find that the said William Helfman came to his death on the 6th day of July from natural causes and that we find no evidence of undue violence having been used, and no evidence of any negligence by the physicians and nurses in charge of the patient."

The history of the case showed the patient to have been suffering from softening of the brain and Bright's disease, which, in its last stages caused uraemic poisoning. The physicians of the hospital testified that the last few days no medicines could have helped the patient. Supt. Tomlinson stated that with softening of the brain in 75 per cent of the cases the final state of the disease would result in hemorrhage of the brain from the diseased condition of the blood vessels therein as well as of the brain itself. In this opinion Dr. Merrit, the coroner, as a physician, also agreed. Dr. Clark, of St. Paul, who performed the autopsy, gave it as his opinion that death was caused by external violence and that hemorrhage in the brain would not result from paresis or softening of the brain. Here was a direct clash of testimony, the jury deciding against the opinion as voiced by Dr. Clark. Every nurse who had been with Helfman was examined, and no evidence of any sort was secured from any one showing that Helfman had ever been struck, kicked, or violently handled. The testimony was general of all who had seen the patient that he was very restless, tossing from side to side of his iron cot, and tended to show that in striking the iron side rails the bruises were caused in the patient's legs. It was also testified that on one occasion the patient had gotten out of bed and fallen, striking his head against the iron side of the cot, thus accounting for the heavy bruise over the eye. A great part

of the time but one nurse was with Helfman in a sick room containing 11 patients, and adjoining a general ward of 57 patients in all.

Under such circumstances even if a nurse had used undue violence with a patient it would be extremely difficult to prove it. In this instance, the general testimony was that the patient was constantly restless, tossing from side to side of his cot and occasionally attempting to get up, but that he was not extremely violent, did not attempt to fight any of the nurses and did not at any time act in a manner which would brook an assault on the part of an unmerciful attendant.

In brief, although an assault on said Helfman might have taken place, there was no evidence whatever to so prove, except the bruises on the body which were accounted for otherwise, to the satisfaction of the jury.

Dr. Tomlinson testified that the bruises on Helfman's chest were probably caused by a sheet being tied tightly across the chest to hold the patient down, the patient constantly straining against this tied sheet.

The wonder is, with conditions such as they are, that the hospital gets along as it does. The hospital is greatly overcrowded. There is shortage of help. And such attendants as there are, many are much below the average of the needs of the institution.

This condition is nothing new. It was called to the attention of the public and the 1911 legislature in our last biennial report. We then presented a tabulated statement to show the state institutions for the insane contained over 900 patients more than they were originally planned to accommodate. We recommend the establishment of a new state asylum. More cottages were provided by the last general legislature for the asylums, but the relief thus afforded is very inadequate.

The ward in which William Helfman was cared for, contained 57 patients, but was planned originally to accommodate but 30. And all these are in charge of but 3 nurses.

The St. Peter hospital contains 534 men and 522 women—a total of 1,056. It has an allowance of 53 male attendants and 90 female attendants, or nurses. Of this fully needed allowance, it is 16 men and 25 women short. And the average term of service of the male employees is at present but 4 months, a large proportion of them but 18 or 20 years of age, and far from the average capacity of that needed to properly care for the insane. The average lot of state hospital attendants today are a roving, irresponsible, and inefficient class. Nor can much more be expected when what is offered them is viewed. A non attendant starts in at \$25 salary a month, and works about 14 hours a day. He has little or no time to himself, and small

return for trying, hard work. There is no incentive for a young man to become a state hospital attendant except when he has failed everywhere else.

Two suicides occurred at the St. Peter Hospital during 1912, and coroners' juries exonerated the institution management from blame.

John B. West, Jr., committed to the Detention hospital August 29th, 1912, committed suicide September 3rd, 1912. He was violent and under restraint in a room by himself. The nurse and physician who had been with him, were called to attend another patient. In ten minutes they returned to find he had struggled out of the canvas strap used to hold his wrists. He hanged himself by attaching the strap to the head of the bed. Every effort to restore life failed.

Mrs. Alice Brown, committed to the Detention hospital September 18th, 1912, committed suicide by strangulation at 5 A. M. September 24th, 1912. She hung herself in the toilet room from the check at the top of the door, using a bandage for a rope. This occurred during a few minutes the nurse left her to visit the nearby sick room. The position of the noose made death almost instantaneous. Work of the nurses and a physician at resuscitation failed.

We believe both these cases again emphasize the danger of permitting conditions to exist that for years have resulted in a continual shortage of nurses and attendants.

#### ASYLUM FOR DANGEROUS INSANE AT ST. PETER.

The history of the Asylum for the Dangerous Insane, since it has been opened, confirms what was anticipated from the experience of other states. The provision is wholly inadequate, and the statute is so drawn that there is no check upon commitments; so that the building is overcrowded now; while if the rate at which commitments from the district courts, and transfers from the state prison and the reformatory have been made, continues, in a short time the cases belonging to the institution for the dangerous insane will have to be received in the hospital proper.

According to the ratio of dangerous insane to the whole number of insane in the state, as determined in New York, there are at least 350 persons in our institutions now who are proper cases for custody in an institution provided for them especially, according to Dr. Tomlinson. Furthermore, these cases are custodial always and offer practically no prospect of recovery; because their insanity has but made apparent in their conduct what was inherent in their innateness; so that an institution provided for their custodial care will answer for the purpose.

## INDUSTRIAL AND AMUSEMENT BUILDINGS NEEDED FOR THE INSANE.

A combination amusement and industrial building is needed at every one of the state institutions for the insane. The state's duty to these wards is not merely to see that they get enough to eat, clothing, medical attention, and a place to sleep. The insane to a large degree are able to appreciate all those things which go toward the brightening of the lives of the mentally balanced. Under present conditions, especially in winter, when there is no farm work, their life is one monotonous round. They arise at a certain hour, eat breakfast and return to their respective wards. There they wait with practically nothing to do until the dinner hour. After dinner come the long hours of the afternoon, a weary wait until supper, perhaps broken with a short outdoor walk. And shortly after the third meal of the day they all retire. This is the program, day after day, year after year.

The general public to a large degree has the idea that the interior of an institution for the insane is a place of continual uproar and noise, with nearly all the patients in violent action. The true condition is nearly the opposite. The percentage of violent patients is very small. And but few are noisy. A ward in a hospital or asylum for the insane is frequently depressingly quiet. The patients sit around in chairs, some of them hardly moving for hours at a time. They seem largely resigned to their sad lot, and it is doubtless due to their befuddled mental condition that they take the tedious monotony of their lives as quietly as they do—certainly vastly more so than would a like number of sane people so confined and with no way of occupying their time.

There is nothing in the world so tiresome as to be shut up the greater part of every day in the year with nothing to do. Such a condition of affairs, year in and year out would make a nervous wreck of a sane person and eventually drive many to insanity. Why let this be the lot of the insane? Why shouldn't the great rich State of Minnesota give greater means of occupation and entertainment to its unfortunate wards? Such proper action by the state is not a charity, it is a humanitarian duty.

The insane appreciate entertainment, and they are not half as particular as to its quality or even quantity as are their more fortunate sane brothers and sisters. This is fully demonstrated by the occasional entertainments given for them in the hospital halls and by their enjoyment of the institution dances. These are a step in the right direction, but only a step.

A delegation of the Board of Visitors visited the State Hospital for the Insane at Cleveland during the National Conference of Charities

and Corrections in that city, June, 1912. In connection with the institution is a separate building devoted to industrial work and training, and amusement. The first floor contains bowling alleys, billiard and pool tables, and other games and amusements. It also has a little store (run by a couple of patients who make it a success financially and otherwise) where soft drinks, candles, cigars and tobaccos, notions, etc., are sold. It is the club room of the institution. It gives patients an attractive place to go, a place to pleasantly pass the long hours and make life worth living instead of a despairingly monotonous period of confinement. It tends to actually aid in the cure of their mental difficulties.

The second floor of this building is devoted to industrial work and training for women. It is in charge of a competent teacher with such assistants as she needs. Industrial teachers for the insane are hard to get, says some one. Admittedly yes, but the Cleveland hospital easily solved the problem by sending a bright nurse to Chicago and paying her expenses in taking a special course of instruction along these lines. It cost but a few hundred dollars—and think of the good that is resulting!

Some one may raise the question that amusement and industrial work can only be taken up by part of the patients, that some are in such a condition that they cannot participate in either amusement or work. This is true, yet remember this important point. That the class who cannot, are those so greatly affected mentally that they fail to appreciate their surroundings, their own condition, and the monotony of their lives. Those who are able to participate in industrial occupations and amusements are those who to a large degree appreciate their unfortunate condition, and greatly need diversion therefrom. It means a great deal to them. There are even many among this class who would be harried from institutions if they had a place to go where the institution management would feel they had proper homes and care.

It is pathetic to go through one of our institutions for the insane and to always be greeted by a large number pleading with tears in their eyes for aid in getting paroled. On such occasions the question forces itself—"Why DON'T the state do something to break the monotony of this institutional life?" And the answer undoubtedly is that the legislature, not seeing the actual conditions, fails to realize the great need along this line. The need is there, and we sincerely hope that an appropriation may be made by this legislature of 1913 for the erection at each of the three state hospitals and each of the two state asylums of a combination amusement and industrial building, with sufficient funds to permit the efficient operation thereof.

In making this recommendation we do not forget that some industrial work is being done at the state hospitals, and that occasional entertainments are given for the patients. But this work is comparatively in its infancy, and is ill provided for.

#### NURSES AND ATTENDANTS IN INSTITUTIONS FOR THE INSANE.

We wish to again call public and legislative attention to the subject of nurses and attendants in our state institutions for the insane. These employes have no sinécure. In some instances they are required to sleep in what were intended to be patients' rooms in the buildings with the insane. The system of nurses' and attendants' cottages should be extended so that every nurse and attendant would be able to leave behind the wearying sight of their labors when they rest, and be permitted perfect quiet in a separate building. Married help should have separate small cottages. It is a strange thing the state, in letting a contract for the construction of a building, has established the legal requirement that the laborers, carpenters, etc., not be allowed to work in excess of an eight-hour day; but that the same great State of Minnesota requires its nurses and attendants to slog for the insane to serve twelve to fourteen hours a day. The care of the insane is hard work. It calls for constant, unceasing attention and activity every moment the nurse and attendant is on duty. An eight-hour day as a nurse or attendant for the insane is a longer and harder task than an eight-hour day as a carpenter on a state building. The carpenter should be cared for as he is in this respect, but much more so should the nurse for the insane. The long hours are one of the reasons for the constant shortage of nurses at hospitals and asylums. With a shorter day more help could be secured, and the superintendents believe that the eight-hour day would result in benefit to the patients in that the nurses and attendants would thus be permitted to become properly rested and be in better condition physically and mentally to do their duty to their charges. The eight-hour day would mean a corresponding increase in the number of nurses to be employed, and increased expense for nurses' salaries; but it would be worth it, to the nurses themselves, to the patients, and to the honor of the state in giving a "square deal" to its employes in this line, as well as demanding it from state contractors.

We recently inquired of the attorney general whether the state law requiring an eight-hour day for all "innuall labor" on state work would not apply to nurses. The reply was in the negative. We

therefore respectfully recommend that the law may be so amended at the 1913 session that the state may itself practice what it preaches.

We have heard many rumors during the last biennial period of mistreatment of insane patients by attendants. We have done our best to run down these various stories and complaints, with but varying success. There seems hardly any crime so hard to verify with admissible evidence which will hold in court, as a case of assault by a nurse or attendant on an insane patient in an institution. The institutions are ever short of attendants, and the man who will accept work at about half the remuneration paid outside for manual labor, is generally very inefficient, yet all there is to be had. Under existing circumstances the best has been made of a bad situation, and one which we called to the attention of the last legislature without any relief being afforded.

Consider this: That the attendant is often alone with a lot of insane patients; that being underpaid (starting at \$25.00 a month, and most of them are "starters"), he is under the average of what he should be in every way; that he is often tired from excessively long hours; that he has little or no training in his work; and then imagine the degree of sympathy or gentleness—if any—such attendant is going to use to overcome the trying, violent and even vicious ways of the insane. Suppose the attendant assaults a patient. How are you going to prove it with the attendant alone with the patient except for the insane around him, who by law are unqualified to testify? There are frequent reports made from attendants in wards of our institutions for insane to the respective superintendents explaining a cut or bruise a patient has, as resulting from being struck by another patient, or by a fall. And with no one present at the time of the injury, in all probability except the insane patients and the attendant making the report, what is to be done but accept the report? Patients do strike each other. Patients do fall and receive minor bruises and hurts. And it is also likely in our opinion that many such reports cover assaults by attendants on patients who have become unruly and played some anger-provoking trick on the attendant.

Who is to blame and what is the answer to it all? We believe the last legislatures have been materially responsible in not acting on reports made to them of these existing conditions. We believe the solution of the difficulty is largely in the legislature following the golden rule so far as attendants and nurses for the insane are concerned. No legislator can consider it affording the custodial insane just treatment to have the state provide a scale of excessive hours and insufficient pay for attendants and nurses—which means inefficient help. In all justice, let the working schedule for all attendants for

the insane be not to exceed an eight-hour day (except in emergency) and at a wage that will attract at least fairly competent help.

In concluding this subject, let us quote to you a statement made to a coroner's jury and our Board, at the St. Peter State Hospital for the insane, by Dr. Tomlinson (then superintendent) at the investigation of the death of a patient whose body had many bruises and injuries. Dr. Tomlinson said (and we heartily endorse his words): "I have preached for years that nurses' and attendants' hours are too long. With the number of patients on some wards with but three or four attendants it is a physical impossibility to give them attention. I have reported it. It has been called before the quarterly meeting of the Board of Control and institution superintendents, and whenever opportunity offered, I have spoken of it, and I made a report to the legislature where I recommended the eight-hour shift.

"All insane patients require careful supervision, and a great many of them constant watching to prevent them from harming themselves or others, and when such work is placed in the hands of men from 18 to 20 years of age (as it is) with but three or four months' experience, the wonder is not that such things as we have been talking about (abuse and assault of patients) occur occasionally, but that they do not occur daily."

#### CARE OF PAROLED INSANE.

The legislature of 1907 provided a law for the appointing of agents for the care and supervision of the paroled insane. The Board of Control, which is authorized to make the appointments, soon thereafter named two agents, a man and a woman. The law wisely provides that such agents must each have at least one year's experience and training in a hospital for the insane. The law we believe to be excellent in its intent, but two agents are inadequate. The paroled insane are looked upon with much suspicion. Frequently they are not even welcomed back into their own homes. We have heard of a number of cases where they have been unjustly complained against merely because relatives or associates did not want them around; desired them back in the asylum or hospital just to save the family or friends trouble or expense, or perhaps both, or undue fear.

The paroled insane should be given a chance. It should even be guaranteed them by the state. They don't want to be returned to the institution, and to force them back is unjust and the creating of additional state expense. Those who would have them re-committed often nag and provoke the patient to an unreasonable degree that he

may show anger and thereby do something that may be construed as renewed insanity. The bringing on of another attack of real insanity by this means is not infrequent. There are also a number of alcoholic insane, who speedily recover when removed from stimulants, but who as speedily become again unbalanced if furnished with liquor when paroled.

And so it is, there are a score of stumbling blocks in the way of the paroled patient. At the best he is shunned and feared by those who know him. During the first period of his parole, he should be frequently visited by a friendly state agent. This agent should not only see that he is employed, and has a home, but that his surroundings are for the patient's best interests; that he is not unduly annoyed, that he has suitable care, that he doesn't get liquor, etc. And if things are not suitable for the patient's welfare, then the agent should promptly remove him and find some other place of employment, perhaps where he is unknown and unfearful, where he can earn a living and further recuperate and continue to enjoy his liberty.

Under the present system, the agent has troubles enough looking up cases where things have happened and gone wrong, and has not the time to make frequent rounds among those who seem to be doing well to see that conditions are such that they may so continue.

We believe the state should be distributed with a corps of these agents who should, as above stated, make frequent visits to those who are just paroled, and visits less frequent to those who have had their liberty for some time without trouble resulting. These agents should report every visit of every case in detail to the superintendent of the institution from which the patient has been paroled. We recommended a conference of the Board of Control and superintendents of state institutions for insane for the purpose of ascertaining how the state can best be distributed according to the distribution of the paroled insane, and as to the number of state agents needed to do this work of visiting patients in such a thorough and efficient manner as to obtain the best possible results.

#### SICK INSANE PATIENTS SHOULD BE KEPT AT HOSPITALS.

Sick insane patients, even though they may be correctly classified as chronic, incurable and custodial cases, should be kept at the State Hospitals and not transferred to the asylums for the insane.

This is generally done in severe cases, yet it seems far from an established rule. There are epileptic, syphilitic and tuberculous patients to be found in our two state asylums, an inexcusable wrong



condition of affairs. These asylums are not equipped to care for this class of patients. At the Hastings asylum there is not a single trained nurse. And at neither Hastings or Anoka is there a resident physician and surgeon. A physician from the neighboring town is under contract at \$50 a month to respond to all sick calls at the institution when ever needed.

With the occupancy of the new cottages now under course of construction at each of the asylums, each institution will have a capacity of close to 800, nearly double that of a few years ago. And with this large increase, we believe it would be well to give each superintendent an assistant who is a physician and surgeon. But until this is done, we believe it radically wrong to have chronically ill patients, especially those afflicted with syphilis or tuberculosis, transferred from state hospitals to asylums merely as incurable insane, and without strict regard for their physical condition and proper care.

In the public mind, the asylum and the state hospital for the insane are much the same thing. They are, however, radically different.

The hospital for insane, as its name designates, is a place to which insane persons go voluntarily, or are committed for medical, surgical or other special treatment with a view to curing their mental ailment, and is in charge of an expert alienist physician and surgeon as superintendent, with a corps of similarly capable assistants, trained nurses, and nurses in training, attendants, and all modern hospital facilities, including operating rooms, and other special equipment.

The asylum for insane is purely an institution for care, other than medical, of patients transferred from the state hospitals after they have been long treated at the hospitals without material improvement in their mental condition; for patients who have become chronically and apparently incurably insane to a more or less degree, and do not respond to further treatment, yet who are physically in condition not to longer need residence in a hospital. The head of an asylum (so far as our state is concerned) has always been a man who is not a physician. Each asylum is merely a custodial home for the physically well but mentally ailing, and should be solely maintained on this basis.

#### TRANSPORTATION NURSES NEEDED.

We wish to repeat a recommendation made in our last biennial report for the establishment of a corps of state transportation nurses, whose special duty shall be to transport insane patients from their places of commitment to the respective state hospitals to which they are committed.

Under the existing antiquated law, the transportation of insane patients is entirely in charge of the county sheriff. This is in accordance with the ancient day idea that an insane person should be classed as a criminal. That insanity is a crime, instead of an unavoidable and pitiable affliction.

No one would for a moment think of placing a patient suffering with tuberculosis or any other disease, in the care of a sheriff or his deputy, to be taken from home to a hospital.

And no more should the transportation of the insane by a sheriff be tolerated. A sick patient, whether mentally or otherwise, needs a nurse, not an officer of the law. It is no crime to be sick, and no individual mentally sick should be treated as a criminal. No man would ever think of calling in a county sheriff to care for a sick person. Yet this is exactly the ridiculous stand which the state takes.

The average insane patient may not need the special care of the average sick person, but of the two the insane patient needs the more careful watching and the greater skill in handling. What the average, even well meaning, sheriff doesn't know about the proper care and handling of the insane would fill a large book. And what he does know on this subject he can generally tell without opening his mouth. Nor is this a reflection on the average sheriff. His line is the care and custody of criminals, not the mentally ill.

As long as the sheriff remains the transporting custodian of the insane, just so long will the wrongful taint of crime be associated with the mentally unbalanced. And accordingly, like a felon the insane patient is often transported from court to hospital, frequently with limbs strapped and ironed.

Rough treatment and mechanical restraint of a patient is frequently not so much because of necessity, but because of the officer in charge wants to save himself the trouble of being on the alert every moment of the trip, or is more fearful of his charge than is at all called for; and in unfortunate addition, has absolutely no training or knowledge of how to handle an insane patient. There are instances on record at hospitals for the insane where patients have actually presented themselves with their commitment papers, the attending officer being too intoxicated to leave the carriage which brought patient and officer from depot to hospital.

The Board of Visitors herewith recommends there be established a corps of transportation nurses as needed, distributed among the three hospitals for insane at Fergus Falls, St. Peter and Rochester, all of whom shall be experienced and expert in the handling of the insane, and whose special duty it shall be to transport persons committed from their respective places of commitment to the institutions in which they are to be domiciled and treated. Necessarily, this corps of travelling



nurses would have to be composed of individuals of both sexes. The present law permits the sheriff to employ women attendants in the transportation of female insane.

This proposed change will doubtless be opposed by the sheriffs of the state. And the reason is that it would cut out a source of revenue in fees. We challenge anyone to give any other reason why the change should not be made. It might as well be argued that capital punishment should be re-established on the sole ground that its abolishment has cut the sheriff out of a fee of \$200 for each hanging. These are days of progress. Let us be progressive.

Mr. Lawmaker, if some beloved member of your family suddenly became insane, would you want the county sheriff to come, handcuff, and bundle the patient off? Or would you prefer to have the patient taken by some kindhearted, skilled nurse, who could doubtless manage without using any form of mechanical restraint, and without provoking violence?

There are instances without number of manacled patients having been brought into state hospitals by a sheriff or deputy; of the handcuffs and straps being removed, and some frail little woman nurse then leading the patient quietly away without any trouble to the receiving ward.

#### NEW INSTITUTIONS NEEDED FOR THE INSANE.

We recommend establishment by the next legislature of an additional state asylum for the insane.

Additional accommodations for the insane, is an imperative need. Nor should our present hospitals and asylums be enlarged. The three state hospitals, at St. Peter, Rochester and Fergus Falls, are already too large. The state asylums at Hastings and Anoka (for chronic cases needing custodial care only) are already large enough. The best solution of the difficulty is the establishment of the two new institutions mentioned above.

From a humanitarian point of view, which in this enlightened day should always be first in consideration, the state is not doing its duty to the insane by compelling these unfortunates to crowd into living quarters like so many cattle. This is literally true relative to dormitory sleeping quarters, especially in the larger hospitals. Cots are crowded side by side like so many stalls. It is frequently necessary for a patient to crawl over half a dozen cots before he gets to his place in the sleeping line.

Such crowding of sleeping rooms is inhumane, unhealthy, unsanitary, disturbing to those who want to rest because of those who don't and can't rest, permits of absolutely no privacy among patients

so placed, and is both physically and mentally the more detrimental to patients individually and as a whole. This crowded condition is no criticism on the superintendents, nor the state Board of Control. It is simply a case of many more patients than there are now accommodations for.

If in its wisdom the legislature is of the opinion that only one new institution can be established at this time, "preferably the new institution for alleviation of this crowded condition should be an asylum, that is a custodial institution for the chronic insane. The present hospitals are greatly in need of relief. There are a sufficient number of chronic cases in the excess population of the present institutions for insane to at once more than fill to proper capacity an institution like that at Hastings or Anoka. The establishment of two new asylums at the coming session of the legislature, much as they are needed and especially when the future is planned as well as the present, seems out of the question. With pressing demands in other directions made on the state treasury, this could hardly be done. But the establishment of one new asylum at the coming session would greatly relieve the extreme crowding that exists and which should be at once alleviated."

The following table speaks for its self, and shows an excess of 924 patients than there is capacity for, in our institutions for the insane as of August 1st, last (1912):

	Capacity			Population			Excess Population over Capacity		
	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women	Total
Anoka Asylum...	200	240	440	299	240	539	99	...	99
Hastings Asylum...	400	...	410	543	...	543	103	...	103
Fergus Falls Hospital...	772	672	1,444	897	761	1,658	125	89	214
St. Peter Hospital	400	400	800	549	524	1,073	149	124	273
St. Peter Dangerous...	60	...	60	64	...	64	4	...	4
Rochester Hospital...	511	555	1,066	619	648	1,267	138	93	231
Totals, Aug. 1, 1912.....	2,383	1,867	4,250	3,001	2,173	5,174	628	306	924
Totals, Sept. 1, 1910.....	2,150	1,730	3,880	2,852	2,016	4,868	702	286	988
Increase.....	233	137	370	149	157	306	...	40	...
Decrease.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	51	...	44

## COUNTY SUPPORT OF INSANE COMMENDED.

In this connection we wish to call attention to the unfairness of the present system of supporting the insane by general taxation. If each respective county were made to pay at least half of the per capita cost each year of insane patients sent therefrom to a state hospital, not only would this cost be fairly distributed through the various sections of the state, but authorities would be in no haste to make commitments, remembering that each commitment would mean an increase in the local tax. In Missouri the system of having each respective county pay the state for the insane from such county, has been in effect some years. A superintendent of a Missouri institution for the insane informed us during the attendance of a delegation from our Board to the National Conference of Charities and Corrections in St. Louis, that the state institutions were always behind financially because there was no way to make the counties settle up on time and many of them were always behind, thus making the state institution suffer. If the county system of supporting the insane is to be adopted by Minnesota in whole or in part, the new law should be so drafted as to steer clear of the Missouri difficulty, by having the counties share of cost of the insane included in the tax levy budget, collected with the general taxes, and with a fitting penalty for failure to pay the institution money over to the state on time.

## PRIVATE HOSPITALS FOR THE INSANE AND COMMITMENTS THERETO.

We believe the state altogether too lax in its supervision of, and requirements for, private hospitals for the insane. Not only have we found buildings used for this purpose which are unfit and unsafe for the use to which they were put, but insane patients committed to all private hospitals may be confined solely by authority of friends or relatives. This is wrong. We do not charge that this loose method has led to illegal confinement of individuals who are not insane, but we do charge that the system is open at any time to such serious abuse.

We visited one institution in Minneapolis, an old two story frame structure with other frame buildings close by on each side, which was used as a private asylum and hospital for the insane. On visiting this remodeled house, we found patients were locked in their rooms at night with padlocks in the doors, and with windows heavily screened to pre-

vent exit therefrom. If this building had ever caught fire at night, a horrible catastrophe might have resulted. The proprietors were prosecuted as not living up to the requirements of the Minneapolis fire ordinance, but the hospital won out in the courts. When a city fails to regulate such a place and furnish needed safeguards for the actual protection of life, we believe it time for prompt action by the state.

We recommend: That the use be prohibited of any and all buildings of frame exterior and interior construction as private hospitals for the care and treatment of the insane. That unless a building be of fireproof construction, that the state prohibit the locking of patients in their respective rooms at night by the use of padlocks, ordinary door locks, or any form of door fastenings requiring a key to manipulate. That the only form of door fastenings permitted be exterior bolts which may be easily operated from outside the respective rooms.

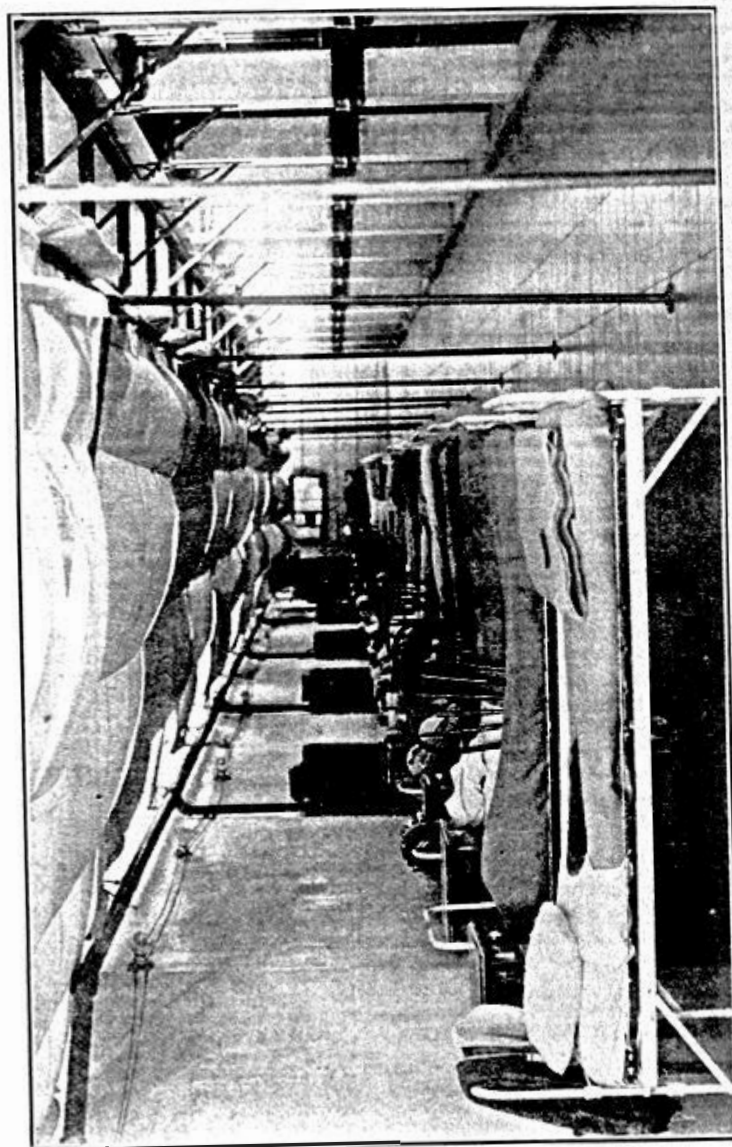
That no insane or alleged insane person be confined in any private institution without first being examined by at least three physicians in said patient's home county of residence, and that said patient may only be so confined in a private institution when all three physicians give their unanimous opinion in writing that the patient is insane, and file such written and signed opinion with the probate judge of such county.

## STATE REFORMATORY AT ST. CLOUD.

We believe the State of Minnesota will suffer a distinct loss in the departure of Frank L. Randall from the State Reformatory at St. Cloud, where he has served as superintendent for nearly thirteen years past, never tiring of long hours of service, and making every effort to reach and reform each individual in his charge. Mr. Randall's voluntary and generally regretted resignation takes effect May 31st, 1913. Only a man of experience and merit should be considered in selecting Mr. Randall's successor.

The institution is much overcrowded, necessitating the placing of a number of cots in the corridors of the cell house. This should be alleviated by legislative appropriation for an additional cell wing.

Mr. Randall in his final report, we understand, is making a number of recommendations. Such of these as he has discussed with us we thoroughly endorse and hope they will be granted by the legislature. Among these are his comprehensive plans for necessary enlargement.



Corridor in Cell House, State Reformatory at St. Cloud. These It is Represent Excess of Population Over Cell Capacity. The Overhead Curtains Are But Little Protection from Drafts from Windows Above.

of the institution, the recommendation for an industrial building, and plans for extending the work in farming and experimental agriculture.

During the last biennial period we have conducted several investigations of complaints at the reformatory, including the taking of considerable testimony, which is on file at our office. In all of these, our findings have been in favor of Mr. Randall and the management of the institution, the complaints coming largely from mal-contented who have withdrawn their charges and admitted their lack of truth and foundation. For this reason we do not believe these cases require any further discussion here.

#### DISCONTINUANCE OF VISITS TO THE MINNESOTA HOME SCHOOL FOR GIRLS AT SAUK CENTER.

The legislature of 1911 enacted a law changing the name of the State Training School for Girls to "Minnesota Home School for Girls." This is now known as Chapter 282, General Laws of 1911. It merely sustains Sections 1 and 6 of the 1907 Law (Chapter 282) establishing the institution, re-enacted word for word, except that where the former name of the school occurs, the new name is substituted. The name of the women's visiting board created by Section 6 is changed accordingly to "Board of Women Visitors of the Minnesota Home School for Girls," and the board re-established.

This re-establishment of the "Board of Women Visitors" recalled to our attention that so far as the Minnesota Home School for Girls was concerned, there were two state boards for exactly the same work.

Mr. George R. O'Reilly, attorney, and secretary of our State Board of Visitors for Public Institutions, gave it as his opinion that the re-enactment of Chapter 3, Laws of 1911, in legal effect repealed the law of 1907 governing the State Board of Visitors so far as the new Sauk Center Home School for Girls is concerned; that it was not the intent of the legislature to create two state boards for the same work, and that the more recent enactment would be the one to hold. This question, at Mr. O'Reilly's request was put up to the attorney general by our executive secretary, and Mr. O'Reilly's opinion sustained in the following letter:

J. C. MATCHITT, Esq.,

May 8, 1911.

State Board of Visitors.

Dear Sir:

In reply to your letter of May 3rd, I have to say that after a thorough consideration of the question, this office is of the opinion that the new law creating a Board of Visitors for the Girl's Training School, is intended to create a successor to your Board so far as that institution is concerned.

Yours truly,

LYNDON A. SMITH,

Assistant Attorney General.

The State Board of Visitors for Public Institutions has accordingly refrained from any further visits following the date of the above letter, to the Minnesota Home School for Girls, the only public institution over which we have no supervision. If it is desired we should resume visits of inspection to the Sauk Center institution, amendment of the existing law on the subject is necessary. We make no recommendation in the matter.

#### A STATE REFORMATORY AND HOSPITAL FOR WOMEN.

We recommend the establishment of a state reformatory and hospital for women.

Minnesota has a reformatory for men, but there is no step between the Minnesota State Home for Girls (formerly known as the Girls' Training School) and the state prison. We understand the Sauk Center school (which is the only state institution not under our visiting jurisdiction) is very badly crowded and that there are a number of girls and women there who belong in a reformatory, not in a home training school; a class of inmates who should in no way be permitted to be with or in the same institution as young girls who have gone wrong but who are not hardened to more or less confirmed lives of crime.

The proposed new institution would not only relieve the congestion at the Sauk Center institution, but would lighten the work of reforming such girls as are sent to the Home, and raise the per cent of those who after leaving the institution would lead commendable lives.

We believe there is an important place to be filled by, and at present entirely vacant for want of, a state reformatory and hospital for women. Women criminals, those who practice shop-lifting, petty theft, and prostitution, are generally sent by the city judges to the work-

house. Even the best workhouse is a poor place to commit a woman with any view to reforming her character, much less restoring her from disease and broken health to normal physical strength. And where a woman commits a more serious crime, such as forgery or grand larceny, the jail or workhouse is out of the question, and she goes directly to the place for the confirmed criminal—state's prison. The state should give the women first offenders as much of a chance as the young man who is guilty of a like offense. The state is manifestly unjust in sending a young woman forger to prison and a young man forger to the state reformatory.

There is a large class of women offenders arrested for prostitution. The larger number of arrests among women are on this charge. Little is done for them by the authorities. In the cities they are fined or go to the workhouse. In the smaller cities it is generally a fine with a jail alternative. They are friendless, and shunned by all but those who would drag them down still further. The young girl is frequently pitied, given a helping hand, and the state supplies her with a state home and every aid and protection. But the adult woman prostitute is given no show. She generally pays her fine with her own money or that of some one else, sometimes serves her time, but only to at once return to the same old life. In fact, so sadly and notoriously true is this in the larger cities, that it has become the custom of police authorities to arrest these unfortunate women at regular intervals and have them fined, and these fines being in set, even understood amounts, are looked upon by both the authorities and the women as license money.

We believe this is all wrong. And it is largely because there seems to be no suitable place to commit such women. A women's reformatory would fill the gap and in operation doubtless work out to much general social good as well as to that of the individuals committed.

Those women of the more or less confirmed prostitute class, are frequently diseased. Some eminent authorities who have investigated the social evil and written thereon, contend that practically every woman who has been a public prostitute for three years is diseased. And it is this class of unfortunates who for generations have spread disease with responsible society standing aloof and shutting its eyes to the truth and refusing alleviation even in its legislative halls. This is the condition of affairs in Minnesota today. And the crying heretofore unvoiced need for a state general hospital for diseased, unfortunate and homeless women, is one that a legislature should no longer pass without heed and definite action. It is a need that should brook no delay. It is a vital need not only of our day, but that the sooner

met will be an untold blessing to generations to come. It will do much toward cutting down the per cent of future increase in population of our institutions for feeble minded, blind, insane and criminal, and thus be a real financial as well as social betterment. It is a social demand not to be walled aside with prudish intolerance, but to be bravely faced as an all-important, existing, though lamentable need; that should be responded to by legislators in a full execution of their duty to society, whose representatives they are.

The late Mrs. Perry Starkweather, head of the women's department in the state labor bureau, just two days prior to her sudden taking away, spent several hours in the offices of the Board of Visitors at the Old Capitol, and at that time fully discussed her plans for a women's state reformatory and hospital, and endorsed those of the Board of Visitors. She was most ardent in her assertion that this institution is the greatest need of the state for alleviation of social conditions which for the legislature longer to pass over, is criminal neglect. She stated this was the great desire of her life, so far as her public work was concerned; that she would bend every effort at the next legislative session, first and above all other things, to secure the establishment of such an institution.

Mrs. Starkweather has gone to her reward. She cannot now urge this request upon the legislature, a request backed on her part by years of experience in giving the helping hand to hundreds of needy, neglected women. In her they found a true Christian friend. She gave many temporary shelter under her own home roof when they had no other place to go. Her request for this proposed institution had its root in the heart experience of a woman who, backed by her state position, never tired of long hours in hard work, lifting and cheering her unfortunate sisters.

On the night of her sudden death, she was about to take a train on a tour, the object of which was a series of addresses to awaken sentiment to the great need of social uplift and especially of this new institution. Her enthusiasm and overwork for the needy, brought about her untimely end. Thus she left the great accomplishment at which she aimed, unfinished. But let us hope the seed has not been sown in vain. We herewith ardently recommend the establishment of the proposed state reformatory and hospital for women, with the hope and belief that many others will join with us and that the legislature will be helpful of the importance of this recommendation. And we further recommend that the great work of Mrs. Starkweather along this line may be kept green in the memory of generations to come by

having this new institution named after the woman who surrendered her life in the cause of neglected and suffering women of Minnesota.

### COUNTY POOR HOUSES.

The average county poor house probably receives about as little attention from the public at large, as any class of institutions. The poor house is generally a farm located several miles from the nearest town. Everybody knows where it is, but few take the trouble to visit it unless on business. The institution as a rule is a rambling frame building, ill ventilated, with the greater per cent of the inmates aged people, too old to support themselves and without relatives or friends to furnish them with private homes in their declining years.

The finances of these institutions are generally so poorly kept and so mixed with different county funds that any attempt to ascertain their individual cost of maintenance is a practically impossible task. We tried it, and found that in most instances the institution superintendents and county authorities as well were unable to furnish figures which were at all reliable for purposes of comparison.

In our state the dependent poor are cared for under two systems, the county poor house or farm, and the township system. In the township system each town cares for its own poor, and they are generally boarded at town expense at some farmer's residence, and without any trouble or details in the way of records. It is therefore impossible to get accurate statement of conditions relative to the care of the poor throughout the state. We have secured an interesting statement, however, from superintendents of poor houses of 38 counties of the state.

Duluth and Minneapolis have special public hospitals for the dependent poor who are tubercular patients. At Minneapolis, this institution is city property, and independent of and at a different location from the county poor house. At Duluth, however, the poor house and tubercular hospital are under one superintendent and merely divided between hospital and main building. During 1911 this institution cared for a total of 639 men, of whom 101 were in the hospital and 538 in the main building; 46 women, of whom 18 were in the hospital and 46 in the main building. There were 119 treated during the year as tubercular and 61 deaths from this disease. A tabulation of interesting statistics relating to poor houses in the state, is as follows:



County	Town	Consumptives	Deaths	Feeble Minded or Insane	Men	Women	Total
Atkin	Atkin	0	0	1	6	2	8
Atkin	Anoka	0	0	2	5	4	9
Blue Earth	Mankato	1	1	6	27	8	35
Brown	New Ulm	0	0	2	21	8	29
Chippewa	Montevideo	0	0	0	3	2	5
Chicago	North Branch	1	0	0	13	2	15
Crow Wing	Brainerd	2	2	1	8	5	13
Dodge	Maud orville	0	0	0	8	1	9
Fairbault	Wells	0	0	1	10	5	15
Fillmore	Canton	0	0	2	16	4	20
Freeborn	Albert Lea	1	0	5	39	13	52
Goodhue	Red Wing	0	0	2	55	12	67
Hennepin	Hopkins	2	0	2	18	4	22
Houston	Caledonia	0	0	2	10	10	20
Hulthard	Park Rapids	0	0	2	28	1	29
Kassia	Grand Rapids	1	0	0	9	1	10
Kittson	Hailock	0	0	2	5	4	9
Lac Qui Parle	Madison	0	0	0	5	1	6
Lyon	Marshall	1	1	0	6	1	7
Murray	Stavton	0	0	0	7	1	8
Nicollet	Nicollet	0	0	0	7	2	9
Noddes	Worthington	0	0	1	22	2	24
Olmed	Rochester	1	1	2	11	6	17
Otter Tail	Fergus Falls	0	0	4	11	5	16
Pine	Hinckley	2	2	0	10	1	11
Pipestone	Pipestone	0	0	0	2	1	3
Ramsey	Gladstone	4	1	4	150	22	172
Redwood	Redwood Falls	0	0	0	3	1	4
Rice	Fairbault	0	0	0	11	3	14
Rock	Luverne	0	0	2	16	6	22
Stevens	Morris	0	0	0	6	1	7
Traverse	Wheaton	0	0	0	1	2	3
Washington	Stillwater	0	0	1	26	5	31
Wilkin	Brackendale	0	0	1	1	2	3
Winona	Winona	0	0	4	20	6	26
Wright	Buffalo	0	0	0	19	8	27
Yellow Medicine	Woodlake	1	0	4	12	7	19
Totals		18	10	62	617	168	785

The Duluth institution figures are not included in the above, as it has special facilities for caring for tubercular patients in connection with the poor house. But of the other institutions listed it will be noted there were one or more tubercular patients in 12 of the 37 institutions, and 10 deaths during the year. And in these 12 county homes where there were consumptives, practically no special facilities are at

hand for battling with the disease or properly segregating the patients. The result is, the death rate is very large and the 429 inmates of these 12 poor houses were directly exposed, and are today, to infection.

County commissioners have no business to commit a consumptive to the poor house. It is certain death for the patient, and constant, inexcusable exposure to all other inmates. The state law provides that county authorities may send incipient tubercular patients to the state sanatorium at Watker, and this is the commissioner's plain humanitarian duty. By sending a consumptive to the poor house, a small financial saving to the county is made in comparison with sending the patient to the state sanatorium. But a county commissioner who will vote to save the county a few dollars in such an inhuman way is unworthy of holding any public office and a disgrace to the community. We recommend the enactment of a law to make it a misdemeanor and punishable further by removal from office, for any county commissioner to vote for commitment of any individual to the county poor house when possessed of knowledge that such individual is afflicted with tuberculosis, and in acceptable condition as a patient in the state sanatorium.

Where the poor patient is advanced in the disease, and not acceptable at the sanatorium, the best must be made of a bad state of affairs for which most counties are totally unprepared. For such instances there should be a law requiring the segregation and separation of such cases in the county home from the other residents thereof.

We would further recommend a law granting a certain proportion of state aid to counties which will erect sanatoria and hospitals for care of their tubercular patients. Until these tubercular cases of the dependent poor are properly cared for, the battle against the great white plague will be the less arduous as time goes on and our population increases.

We also call attention that in the above statistics, of a total of 785 unfortunates in county poor houses, 62, or nearly 8 per cent, are either feeble minded or insane. A large proportion of these are doubtless senile dementia cases. They cannot be properly, humanely cared for in county poor houses, and are a constant annoyance, even menace, to the sane inmates. Their presence in these county institutions is but another argument for the need of a state home for senile dementia cases.

Charitable organizations and individuals interested in relieving the need and suffering of the poor, list those who are committed to the county homes as cared for and no longer in need of their helpful and philanthropic services. This is not true. We have found residents of county homes to be a disheartened, melancholy lot. They are always

glad to see visitors who show any interest in them, and are very abbe-  
ciative of such help as additional reading matter, occasional dainties  
to eat, etc. We suggest these social workers visit the poor houses and  
bring their sunshine into these darkened lives.

### JAILS AND LOCK-UPS.

Inspection of each county jail takes place at least theoretically by  
the Grand Jury. And all lock-ups are supposed to be inspected by the  
local health officer. In addition a special inspector was employed by  
the Board of Control, beginning January 1, 1908, to inspect jails, lock-  
ups, poor houses and hospitals.

One member of the Board of Control at that time wrote a dissenting  
opinion explaining his vote and non-employment of such an inspector,  
which opinion was published in the 1908 report of the Board. Therein  
he argued that the Board had no authorization to make such an ap-  
pointment as regards jails and lock-ups and that in his opinion hos-  
pitals and poor houses should be inspected by Board members. The  
matter, however, has never been tested in the courts.

Although a large number of lock-ups and some jails have been con-  
demned by the Board of Control (in cases of jails the district judge  
must also agree for condemnation) we believe from those we have seen,  
there is still room for much improvement of these institutions. There  
are also instances where condemnations have flowed off the institutions  
condemned and the authorities who should be concerned, like water  
from a duck's back. For instance, the Winona county jail at Winona  
has been condemned by Grand Juries off and on for 15 years past and  
still does business at the old stand. On a recent visit we found two  
third-story attic rooms each with a small barred window, used to lock  
up women and children—a veritable fire trap.

Lock-ups used in the city of Minneapolis and in the city of St. Paul  
are both more or less make-shift and temporary affairs and should in  
these large, wealthy cities be replaced by modern structures, built for  
the special purpose. Minneapolis should also have a new modern  
county jail.

We would recommend the stricter enforcement of the law relative  
to jails and lock-ups that their material betterment which is so much  
needed in many places may be promptly secured and that inspection  
may have results worth while.

### WORKHOUSES.

The workhouse problem is one relating solely to the large cities.  
In the small places the so-called "works" are generally merely stone  
piles where tramps who decline to "move on" break stone during their  
enforced stay in town. Perhaps the best equipped and managed work-  
house in the state is that at Minneapolis, which during the past biennial  
period has been materially enlarged. Electric power and light and  
steam heat are secured from burning the city garbage at a crematory  
nearby, which is also a power house. And on the same grounds is  
the new Hopewell Hospital belonging to the city, for tubercular pa-  
tients.

The main industry is the manufacture of bricks, a large clay bank  
being on the workhouse grounds. Supt. Frank McDonald has been in  
charge many years, and has endeavored to make a study of the individ-  
uals committed with a result that a number of reformations are on  
record to his material credit.

Mr. McDonald for some time operated a free liquor cure at the  
workhouse. The medical formula used was a secret one given him by  
a physician who had sold it for a snug sum to a "cure" sanitarium.  
Mr. McDonald was given the prescription on the agreement that he  
would not disclose it and would only use it in his free cures at the  
workhouse. All went well for a time, until the city physician stating  
he was responsible for the health of inmates of the workhouse, formally  
objected to having a liquor cure medicine of which he knew nothing  
given to workhouse inmates by a man who was not a physician. The  
objection was sustained by the board having the workhouse in charge,  
and the cure was "cut out."

We believe this was a mistake. The cure given by Mr. McDonald  
helped many a "rounder" to brace up and become a man. A consid-  
erable per cent of workhouse individuals go there because of abuse of  
the use of liquor. They sober up while imprisoned, but as soon as  
released the first money obtained goes into a combination celebration  
and appetite satisfying drunk, ending in a return to the "works." And  
so the cycle is completed and repeated. These rounders are social  
parasites, no good to themselves, a burden instead of help to their  
families, relatives and friends. We cordially recommend the establish-  
ment of liquor cures in all large city workhouses. The cost would be  
very slight, and the benefit beyond estimate.

At the St. Paul workhouse there are two leading industries, one  
is the "saw pit" where work is done for street betterments, and the  
other is the broom factory. The men with longer sentences are the  
ones put to work making brooms, for this is a trade which it requires  
some time to learn before the operator is at all efficient.

Both the St. Paul and the Minneapolis workhouses, taken all in all, are more than self-sustaining. The Minneapolis institution is especially profitable.

The workhouse inmate is, as above mentioned, frequently a drunkard and a good-for-nothing. His best and most efficient labor is done while he is an inmate of the institution, and the city profits thereby to the extent of an actual return (in Minneapolis and St. Paul) over expense of operation. At the same time the city is financially gaining by the inmate's punishment. It is not infrequently the case that the inmate has a destitute family which is actually suffering for want of food, clothing, necessities of life and perhaps even a roof over their heads.

We therefore recommend the enactment of a law providing that in cases where a family is left dependent and destitute through the commitment of its bread-winner to the workhouse, the city poor department after thorough investigation and at their discretion, may pay to said needy family from the workhouse earnings, not to exceed one dollar a day during the period of said commitment.

#### THE HOME OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD.

The Home of the Good Shepherd, St. Paul, is a Catholic institution, situated in St. Paul's midway district.

It is operated by the Sisters of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd, who for years have been doing a most commendable, good work. June 29th, 1912, there were 190 charges in the Home. Of these, 65 were in the Preservation class, children who are being given a home, having been taken from defective or immoral surroundings, or who are orphaned; 87 were in the Reformatory class, unfortunate girls who are more or less custodial charges, and with whom a work of reform is being carried on; and 48 in the Magdalen class, those who are reformed and who have a home there as long as they so desire.

Although this is purely a Catholic institution in its management and support, its good offices are not confined to the needs of that great church. Girls of all degrees and conditions and of all faiths are received.

Within the institution are carried on various industries—sewing, making of aprons, skirts, shirtwaists, fancy work, etc., crocheting and laundry work. In the reformatory class a small per cent of the charges are committed from the courts. Charges, when ready to leave the Home, are frequently placed with private families—the home and its surroundings first always being investigated as to fitness to receive and

care for a charge. There are no fees connected with the caring for any of the girls. It is all a work of charity.

The building itself is of brick exterior, frame interior. It is sublined with fire escapes a leach side, fire hose on stands, and fire extinguishers. Where the reformatory wards open on to the fire escapes, iron screen doors are fastened with a set of padlocks. We were informed that the Sisters in charge of these wards were sublined with keys for the padlocks and that they kept these keys with them at night so they could be had at a moment's notice. Yet we feared the possibility in the event of a panic or general rush during a night fire, of the keys being lost, or the individuals having them being unable to use them because of the disorder and jam. We suggested that these fire escape doors should be unlocked at night for general safety, and that the resultant possibility of escapes from the reformatory department might be overcome by having the bed of one of the Sisters in charge at night placed at the fire escape door so that attempt to use the door could not be made without awakening her; or an electric alarm attachment be installed which would sound if the doors were used. It is undoubtedly true that if the building once caught fire the flames might spread with great rapidity because of its inflammable construction, and every care should accordingly be taken not only for fire fighting, but for easy means of escape from the flames. We were informed our suggestions would be followed.

Beyond this one suggestion, we have only words of praise. The institution is spotlessly clean. It is evidently excellently managed. Every effort is being made for the betterment and uplift of its needy charges. The Sisters are doing their work in an unostentatious way, but effectively, finding homes for and morally and religiously uplifting scores of girls who would otherwise be neglected by the world, and allowed to go wrong. Of this institution and its noble work, St. Paul and the state may well be proud.

#### MINNESOTA CHILDREN'S HOME.

Our latest visit to the Minnesota Children's Home (not a state institution) at St. Anthony Park, was on June 25th, 1912. We were shown about the building by Rev. Mr. Dickinson, superintendent. During the previous quarter 42 children had been received, 26 boys, 16 girls, averaging from a month to 10 years of age. The 1909 law, making probate courts throughout the state practically juvenile courts, raises the age to 17 in which this institution may receive children, but it is seldom older children are presented for admission.

This is a temporary home. The superintendent reports it is seldom they keep children six months. The prospective home is visited and conditions have to be satisfactory before a child is ever placed therein. The home is then visited at least once a year, frequently oftener, until the child is legally adopted or until the child is 16 years of age if a girl, or 18 if a boy. The superintendent of the home during this interval remains the child's guardian. The work of placing children is much aided by co-operation of so-called "local boards," auxiliary to the Home, and scattered in 400 towns throughout the state.

Children are not infrequently given temporary care at this Home, until a parent or other relative is in a position to take them back. Mr. Dickinson says that over half the charges of the Home are infants, and more than half of these are of illegitimate parentage.

Seventy-five to eighty per cent of the motherhood of these illegitimate children are girls of only 13 to 18 years of age. In heart-to-heart talks with these unfortunate girls they have with hardly an exception stated to Supt. Dickinson they had been brought up in ignorance of the laws of sex, and had never had any instruction in sex hygiene. The error of these girls, in the opinion of Mr. Dickinson, should therefore be looked upon with great charity, in that they are more sinned against than sinning.

The Home is supported by the income from a \$35,000 endowment and from private contributions.

We asked particularly about the old custom of sending an agent out with a child to a church; of having the child appear before the congregation and an appeal made that some one receive the child into their home. This is the most trying position into which to force a child, and one of which we disapprove. Mr. Dickinson assured us, however, that this is no longer done, the child's feelings being accordingly spared.

The Home building is satisfactory and fairly well equipped. It has ample grounds, but on these grounds are no amusements for children. To those interested in the Home who desire to make donations of needy things, we would suggest swings under the trees, sand boxes, and playground apparatus.

#### STATE SOLDIERS' HOME AT MINNEHAHA FALLS.

We made a number of visits during the past biennial period to the State Soldiers' Home at Minnehaha Falls, perhaps the most beautifully located of all our state institutions, on a high point where Minnehaha Creek flows into the Mississippi.

May 16th, 1912, the population was 338 men present, 114 absent, 83 women present, 8 absent; a total of 541.

The past summer of 1912, the Fort Snelling band visited the Home the second Wednesday of each month and gave afternoon concerts which were much appreciated by the old veterans.

The greenhouse, which has been little used of late years, has been repaired and restored to advantageous use.

At the hospital a training school for nurses has been established. Twelve young ladies were taking the course at the time of a recent visit. A schedule of the lectures for October, November, and December, 1911, and January, February and March, 1912, is on file at our office. The faculty consists of the hospital surgeons, augmented by other well known physicians and surgeons, as follows:

O. S. Pine, M. D., Surgeon, M. S. H., Denn.  
W. J. Burnes, M. D.  
Arthur J. Mann, M. D., Minneapolis.  
Harry P. Ritchie, M. D., St. Paul.  
Charles D. Ball, M. D.  
Auten Pine, M. D.  
Jeanette M. McLaren, M. D.  
Adolph A. Passer, Asst. Surgeon, M. S. H.  
Irene Monk, Supt. of Nurses, M. S. H.

Relative to the establishment of the nurses' training school, Dr. O. S. Pine, the efficient surgeon in charge of the hospital, says:

"The object of establishing this course for both our female and male nurses was principally to elevate the standard of our nursing staff, giving our Old Comrades the benefit of better and more intelligent care. The results of our first year have been highly satisfactory and encourage us to make it a permanent feature of the Medical Department of this Home.

"We have furthermore been enabled to file our bond in Washington and take advantage of this educational feature to obtain alcohol for our chemical and pharmaceutical purposes free of duty, which will effect of saving to the state of some hundreds of dollars yearly."

The hospital has accommodations for 78. At one time the past winter it contained 102. Some of the patients are accommodated in the basement rooms, but they are made as comfortable as possible and seem satisfied.

We have inspected all the cottages and talked with a number of the old soldiers, and found conditions satisfactory.

New flooring of a composition, artificial wood, is being put in some of the cottages to material advantage.

The new wing of the Women's building has been completed during the past biennial period, and contains 48 rooms, which will accommodate 60 people. This does away with the old waiting list of those entitled to admission, but who could not be received for lack of room.

The so-called "women's laundry" in the Women's building, located in the basement, is inadequate for the ever increasing amount of work done there. We were told such articles as handkerchiefs and socks from the Women's building are refused at the regular laundry of the institution, and we suggested that if soiled clothing of all kinds from the Women's building were accepted at the laundry it would relieve the congestion of work in inadequate quarters at the so-called laundry of the Women's building.

A fruit room is one of the much appreciated additions in the basement of the new wing of the Women's building. Heretofore the canned fruits, jellies, etc., brought by women of the relief corps, G. A. R. societies, etc., have been taken to the hospital at the far end of the grounds from the Women's building, and residents in the Women's building have complained of not getting back dainties which were intended for them.

A smoking room for the men of the building is also located in the basement of the wing, well patronized and appreciated by the men.

In the main dining hall for the men, Mexican silver spoons and glass syrup jugs have replaced ware of tin. Curtains have been hung at the windows, making the apartment more homelike. The new ground floor bakery, and new oven therein, adjoining the kitchen, are great improvements on the old bakery, which was in the cellar beneath the kitchen. A new bread mixer has been ordered. Electricity is soon to be substituted for steam power in running washers and other kitchen equipment.

Several years ago, among other material improvements brought about under former Commandant Barnard, the fire hose in the various buildings was tested. Much of it was found worthless and was discarded. Some about 50 per cent efficiency was continued. We have suggested that this hose be tested at least annually. The buildings are not fireproof, and fire protection apparatus should be in efficient condition for use in time of need.

During the past biennial period, Commandant F. H. Barnard changed places with W. H. Harries, secretary of the Board of Trustees. Quartermaster William of the Home also retired and was succeeded by A. W. Guild. It is with much sadness we chronicle the recent death in November of the Post Adjutant, F. L. McKusick, who had been in failing health for some time prior to his decease. He was a genial, cultured gentleman and an efficient officer, beloved by one and all at the Home.

During the past autumn, the Board of Visitors received a letter from Gov. A. O. Eberhart requesting us to investigate an anonymous complaint he had received from an inmate of the Soldiers' Home, the complaint being aimed against the food served, particularly the potatoes. A member of our Board had also received an anonymous complaint of like character at about the same time, and apparently written by the same individual. On the Governor's order, an investigation was duly made and the following report made thereon.

#### Report to Governor on Investigation.

Hon. A. O. Eberhart, Governor of Minnesota,

The Capitol, St. Paul, Minn.

Dear Sir:

On July 24th, 1912, I accompanied President J. T. Schain of our Board to the Soldiers' Home to investigate the complaint made in the anonymous letter referred by you to our Board on the 15th ult. At noon we ate dinner in the main dining hall with the old soldiers. The dinner consisted of ham, sausage, boiled potatoes, stewed tomatoes, bread and butter, coffee and bread pudding. President Schain addressed the old soldiers in the dining hall. He told them of the complaint, that it was unsigned, and that following the meal, he would like the writer to remain and meet him, and any and all others who had any just complaint of any sort.

Not a complainant remained. Instead, a number came to us and stated there was no just ground of complaint of any kind, that they were never better treated, that the food was good, and that they wished to condemn the anonymous letter of complaint.

Said anonymous letter of complaint stated the potatoes served were not fit to eat; that the good potatoes were sorted out for the officers and the bad ones left for the old soldiers.

We found the potatoes now served to be new and all right. It is admitted that when the tail end of the winter's supply were being used, they were below grade, but as soon as new potatoes were available they were served.

The root cellar for the keeping of the winter's supply of vegetables is not good. Last winter oil stoves had to be used in it for a while to prevent destruction of the supply on hand. The potatoes did not keep, many rotted. We would suggest the improvement of the root cellar before the winter's supply is laid in next fall.



## STATE SANITARIUM FOR CONSUMPTIVES.

Probably the most urgent needs at the State Sanitarium for Consumptives, at Walker, are a central heating and power plant, and service and domestic buildings. The lack of facilities for cooking and service is lamentable. The long needed service building should contain dining room, main kitchen, diet kitchen, cold storage plant, larder, pantry room, built-in oven, laundry and store room, and a modern fumigating plant. It would of course be better to have the domestic quarters separate, but if they are to be combined under one roof with the service building this structure should have sleeping rooms and separate parlors for the employees of each sex. By right, there should be individual cottages for the married employees. As it is now, no married man can well take a place at the institution, or if he does he generally remains but a short time; nor can he be blamed considering the institution is in lonely woods several miles away from the nearest town, Walker. Married help is more dependable. As it is now, the institution must depend upon young, irresponsible help, constantly shifting.

A lot of *Angora* goats during the past year have been doing their share toward reducing the underbrush on the seven hundred odd acres belonging to the institution, but these grounds are still in very crude form. A landscape survey should be made and the land laid out with a view to eventually parking, with roads and walks so planned as to preserve the natural beauty and contour of the ground. A road and walk with an easier grade from the institution to the lake is much needed. But few patients are able to go to and from the lake up and down the hill as it now is.

The present residence of the superintendent is an old remodeled farm house, small and inadequate. A new residence for the superintendent is needed, and the one at present used could be turned over to the steward for himself and family that it may be more worth while for the same man to continue in this position. The water mains should also be extended to all the buildings, where they do not already reach.

The farm needs betterments. There should be a horse barn, also, and a material increase in the present small herd of cattle, with accommodations for them. More land needs clearing for the raising of feed for stock. A bus is needed to take the patients to and from the lake, and a sufficient appropriation for a suitable lunch that the patients may enjoy outings on the water during the summer months. The Walker institution is a lonely place. The patients find life very monotonous. Their condition prohibits them from exercising much. Any change in their daily routine and in their long-drawn-out battle for

life is most welcome. A big, commodious launch would be welcomed as almost a God-send.

We are of the opinion it is a mistake to have but the one state institution for consumptives. There are many drawbacks to having but the Walker institution. It is far from town, and it is several hundreds of miles from the state's great centers of population. It is not generally understood that by law it can accept only incipient cases. There are many, many instances of patients far advanced in the disease being taken the long journey to the sanitarium with great effort and with much resultant harm and exhaustion, who arrive only to find they must return home again. This is cruelly wrong. We do not advocate the material enlargement of the Walker sanitarium, but that instead another institution be established for white plague patients, this time in Southern Minnesota.

A large hennery would seem to be a desirable proposition. A tremendous quantity of eggs is consumed, these being a principal part of the prescribed diet. It would be a material saving to the state as well as assuring of fresh eggs for the patients, to have a large number of hens at the institution.

During the past biennial period we have received several minor complaints from patients relative to food, etc. We believe with the inadequate facilities for cooking and service and the trouble sometimes of getting supplies that the superintendent has done as well as could be expected. Special diet is part of the treatment and cannot be varied though it may become monotonous. The eggs and milk (large quantities being used) seem satisfactory. We do believe, however, it would be well to have an especially efficient steward at the Walker institution who may also act as a general business manager and relieve the superintendent of this work. The superintendent must pay individual attention daily to every patient. Unlike state hospitals for insane, there are no physically strong custodial cases at Walker. Every case deserves, needs, and should have (if benefit is expected) that constant medical care and supervision so essential in battling with the white plague. The superintendent has his hands full each day as the expert physician without having his time largely taken up with business details of institution management.

During the past biennial period we received energetic complaint from Walker merchants against a so-called store conducted at the sanitarium by one of the employees in his room. He carried a small stock of notions, dry goods, fruit, etc., and ordered for patients what he did not have on hand. This was doubtless a convenience for patients, but in view of the fact that the state paid the owner a salary as an employee and supplied store rooms, heat and light free, and no

taxes were paid on the stock, and that no institution store in competition with neighboring merchants established a questionable precedent at a state institution, we condemned it and the stock was ordered disposed of, not to be replaced, on a ruling to this effect by the Board of Control.

#### MINNESOTA STATE PRISON.

We have made a number of visits to the old Minnesota State Prison at Stillwater, and the new State Prison at South Stillwater, during the past biennial period. As every one knows, the old prison is antiquated, is dark and dingy and far from what we would all have it—so far as the buildings are concerned. In fact, its out-of-date condition and inadequate size are the reasons for erecting the new institution at South Stillwater. Material progress is being made toward its completion, and a constantly increasing number of men are being transferred from the old to the new. Since our last report, the new prison, plans, site and buildings, have been carefully inspected and studied by a federal government expert on prisons, who has visited and studied prisons not only in this country but abroad as well. His report to the government at Washington was to the effect that the new Minnesota prison will be the finest in the world. Warden Henry Volker has a copy of this report on file at his office in Stillwater—and as the new prison was planned according to his ideas, we believe the state owes that most efficient and esteemed official a debt of appreciation.

We have always found conditions at both the old and new prisons as good as we could ask. The best is made of antiquated conditions, lack of sanitary cell equipment, etc., in the old prison. Absolute cleanliness is the enforced rule, together with a system of discipline and business management for which Mr. Volker is famous and in a class by himself.

Through Mr. Volker's efficiency and successful battle against the binding twine trust (the details of which must be known to be fully realized and appreciated) the Minnesota prison has for years furnished Minnesota farmers with excellent binding twine below the market price, and in addition yielded a handsome profit for prison operation. This twine making is the principal industry of the prison. It has steadily grown through demand for the twine, and indications are that it will develop to still greater proportions. We believe, however, there is one criticism in permitting it to reach too great proportions.

Reformation of the criminal is today recognized as a primary desire and aim, which a few years ago was practically overlooked, but which now is placed ahead of the mere need of inflicting punishment for crime. To secure reformation which will have staying qualities when the prisoner once more gets his freedom, it is recognized as essential the prisoner be capable of earning his living at some honest line of industry. Advanced criminology therefore calls for the trade training of the prisoner during incarceration, preferably in some skilled industry, that on his discharge he may be prepared to earn good wages and thus help wean him away from not only the necessity but even the desire to again indulge in a life of crime.

Among the criminal class, there are a number who have no liking or even ability for learning a skilled industry. Such men, after being fully tried and sifted out following commitment, may as well be placed in the manual labor and machine-tending work of making binding twine as anything else. But with so many men employed in this work in our state prison, there are without doubt a number capable of better things; of learning a skilled trade. And if they are trade-trained and do later earn an honest living instead of returning to crime, there is no question but that it means an actual financial gain to the state as well as to society generally. They thus become producers instead of social parasites. And it is worth bending every effort to make the change.

We would therefore suggest the advisability of seriously considering the establishment of more industries at the prison which in their operation tend to create skilled tradesmen of the prisoners engaged therein. We believe the move in recent years in the introduction of machinery manufacturing is to be most commended along this line, as the prisoners engaged in this work tend to become skilled machinists and iron workers. What other industries might be further developed or established that would be both profitable to the state and trade-educational to the prisoners is a matter that requires investigation and study, and is worthy thereof. We do not pretend to tell a man like Warden Volker just what should be done along these lines, but merely make the suggestion that the subject may be practically developed, keeping this in mind by the building and equipment at least partially to this end of structures at the new prison.

It may be timely also to suggest with the work of completing the new prison, the establishment of one of those modern and interesting off-shoots of a prison, a convict farm. There are several convict farms in successful operation in different parts of the country, farms whereon short-timers, the physically weak, and men with worthy prison records and but a short time of their sentences yet to serve (say under two

years, as is generally the rule) are allowed to work. These farms are not walled in, nor are the windows of the sleeping apartments barred. They constitute a healthful employment, they respond to the effort of the man to reform by in return placing a trust in him, they build up the weak, they advance the work of reformation and establish new heart and courage by leaving behind the prison walls and their grim, disheartening associations. Such a farm could be established adjacent to or near the new prison and men placed thereon at the discretion of the prison warden. Its establishment we believe would be a step in advance penology and humanitarianism.

#### YOUTH OF THE STREETS.

The law establishing the State Board of Visitors for Public Institutions provides the Board "shall study the whole subject of the care and management of charitable and correctional institutions—it seems accordingly meet and proper to consider some of the prominent causes of delinquency which help to fill such institutions.

The strenuousness and the constant temptations ever connected with city life have a lamentable effect on the youth of every city. The cheap pool room, the improperly-run public dance hall, the nickel and dime theater, these and many other things are evening attractions which tend to keep children away from their homes nights, where they belong, and take them into the business centers of the cities at late hours. Where the home control is lax, the youth of the city, both boys and girls, are yielding to the temptation by the hundred and spending night hours "down town." Where they have not the small change to get admission to places of entertainment, they parade the streets where they are open to many temptations and evil influences. That this is sadly true no one who has made any pretense of investigation will attempt to deny. Would that it were otherwise. The school authorities know of it in cases of truancy and failure of boy and girl students who are capable mentally of doing good work. The juvenile courts are aware of it through scores of boys and girls who are arraigned. Church and social workers know it, for wayward young people constantly add weight to the troubles these kindly people seek to alleviate. And the worst phase of the whole thing is, that from force of circumstances the work of betterment is being aimed at a cure rather than prevention of this social complaint. "An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure."

The place for boys and girls at night is the home, and not the public street. In this we may be considered Puritanical; yet we believe we are absolutely right and that it is time to call a halt. And strange to say, it is the small town in Minnesota, rather than the larger cities, which have come to this realization, and where in many places curfew ordinances are in effect with excellent results—for they are generally enforced.

Minneapolis and St. Paul, the two largest cities in the state, are in most need of curfew law relief. A half hour spent walking along the principal business streets of either one of these cities when the evening is well advanced will show how scores of the city youth are spending their time. And it will surprise many to know that the number of girls will greatly exceed that of the young boys.

And in most instances their personal appearance and make-up will tell the story of their waywardness. In their behalf especially, and for public good generally, we hereby recommend the passage by the legislature of a state curfew law, prohibiting either girls or boys under 16 years of age from being on the public streets of any city in the state after 9 P. M. unaccompanied by an adult.

Violation of this law should be made a misdemeanor for the parent or guardian as well as the offending minor; and if such parent or guardian pleads inability to control the child, such child should be placed under court probation and eventually given into other and more efficient custody if the discretion of the court finds such drastic action necessary.

#### PUBLIC DANCE HALLS.

The public dance hall is an institution of city life of long standing, yet in recent years one that has been greatly developed, and today represents large investments of capital.

We have made inspections of numerous dance halls and regret to say that in many instances the local police supervision is very slack, far from what it should be, and permits in such cases an immoral atmosphere injurious to patrons and against public welfare. The unwholesome dance halls are generally those located in out-of-the-way places, on second and third floors of buildings, and in undesirable localities of their respective cities.

The evil-breeding dance hall may safely be said to be confined to our large centers of population. The so-called "country dance" knows little or nothing of the immoral tendencies and temptations of some city dance halls.

The young girl is the individual at the dance hall needing protection. She should be protected not only at the dance hall but from the temptations which assail her after the dance. The "chop suey" house and cafes where liquor is served after legal hours are a menace which should be abolished by a strict enforcement of law.

In some instances we have found liquor being used in dance halls, not sold, but in the form of treating by patrons who bring liquor.

It is customary at some dance halls to give out "pass-out checks," which give dancers the opportunity to visit neighboring saloons between dances. This "pass-out" check system we believe to be a demoralizing practice.

In justice to the better class of proprietors we wish to say we have found public dance halls so operated as to demonstrate that a public dance hall can be properly as well as profitably conducted. The proprietors of such places join with us in condemning evil methods in vogue in some places, and express their wish to co-operate in raising the standard for the benefit of their own properly conducted places of amusement.

At the better class of dance halls, incomers are watched and improper individuals barred from admission as much as possible, and improper behavior of individuals within such halls is at once followed by a request that they leave,—all of which is commendable and as it should be.

In connection with our investigation of the social (using the word in its broad sense) influence of the public dance hall on the community, we would make several recommendations for legislative enactment.

First.—That the state law prohibiting girls under 21 years of age attending dance halls be amended to give permission to girls of 18 (legal age) and over. Youth demands amusement and entertainment at 18 as well as at 21. The class patronizing the public dance hall does so largely from necessity of so doing or not dancing at all. Many are employed during the day time and the evening is their only time for recreation. And a large proportion of these workers are without homes in the city of their employment. A boarding house and the proverbial "hall-room" have no attractions of an evening, and present no means

of amusement. The dance hall with its small individual cost, bright music and lively companionship, of other young people, is not to be listed under the circumstances, whether it should be or not. There are also thousands of those who have homes and who desire to dance but cannot afford to give private dances. It is the public dance hall for them, or no dance at all.

The question is not one to be solved by Puritanical "blue-laws," and an attempt to prohibit these young people from dancing and social pleasure; we do not believe a law on this subject which is really oppressive, is in fact oppressive. It is better to bring the public dance halls up to a higher standard and then let the young people patronize them than to ignore the dance halls, with the inevitable result that in many instances young people shut out will find more harmful amusement elsewhere. If not allowed in public dance halls which are under regulation and supervision, they will dance elsewhere without supervision (the evasive so-called "private club" dance where liquor may be served being less desirable in every way). We believe, therefore, that these young people should be permitted to patronize the public dance halls. But ALL IMPORTANT with such permission, must go the assurance that these halls are morally and otherwise all that they should be, cleanly, well ventilated, properly heated in winter, etc. Every care should be taken to keep them up to a standard sufficiently high to make them harmless to patrons.

Second.—No liquor should be sold or served, free or at any price, in connection with any public dance hall; nor any person be permitted to bring liquor into a public dance hall. No dance hall should be licensed that has any connection in management or by doors, passageways or other private means of access to an adjoining saloon. The "pass-out" check system should be abolished by statute, that the drinking in neighboring saloons between dances be made a practice of the undesirable past; that any individual leaving a dance hall be obliged to pay a full price of admission again before being readmitted; that no person under the influence of liquor be permitted to enter a dance hall. Violation of any of these state requirements should be punishable as a misdemeanor on the part of both the dance hall proprietor, or proprietors, and the dance hall patron or patrons.

Third.—That no public dance hall be permitted or maintained in a place where there are adjoining furnished rooms in connection. That so-called "private apartments" or "private rooms" apparently furnished, other than for office or legitimate business purposes, which adjoin a hall, or the stairs or passageways leading to such hall, shall constitute a positive prohibition for the use of such hall for public dance purposes.

Fourth.—That at all times while in use for dancing, every public dance hall must be brightly illuminated and that what are termed "moonlight dances," with the lights low or the place dimmed by use of an inadequate number of colored lights to give imperfect illumination, be prohibited as a misdemeanor on the part of both proprietors and dancers.

Fifth.—That all forms of immoral dancing be punishable as a misdemeanor on the part of both proprietors and such individual or individuals so dancing.

Sixth.—That with the above provisions in effect as a state law regulating dance halls, there would doubtless be efforts to avoid the penalties by declaring what are generally known as public dances to be "club" or "private" dances; and accordingly to prevent such evasion it should be declared that any dance where a general admission is charged or price for dancing, and where individuals attend other than by special invitation, shall come under the legal definition of a public dance.

An issue of the public dance problem which is hard to correct, is that of the moonlight excursions. During the summer months public excursions starting from the St. Paul levee, are frequent. Some of these are all right—and others are all wrong. And those that are wrong, according to reports, have gone from bad to worse instead of improving. Beer and liquors have been freely dispensed after the steamer and barge have left the city, and the behavior on board has been such as should not be tolerated. These excursions are open to one and all who desire to go and who have the price. The Humane Society officer has at times interfered and prevented young girls from going on board the boat, and also protested against the stocking of the boat with liquors. But the Humane Society is not equipped to right this evil, and the local police not having jurisdiction on the boat after it has left the city, have apparently not interfered in any way.

Where liquor is dispensed, the excursion boat becomes virtually a wide-open "blind pig." We believe it would be a step in the right direction to prohibit by law any public excursion boat to leave Minnesota soil carrying a supply of liquor at the same time as a public excursion. As the liquor is not sold until the excursions are under way and the boat is possibly other than Minnesota waters, to prosecute for selling liquor without a license would probably not stand the test of the courts.

We questioned the legality of permitting public dance halls to operate Sunday, and put the matter up to the attorney general. That gentleman's reply seems in effect to be that the law says "No," but the courts have recently said "Yes."

### THE NEWSBOY.

It is strange with so many children on our city streets selling papers, that the little newsboy is not given more thought, more care and consideration by the public in general and those officers and officials in particular whose business it is to look after unfortunate minors.

The little newsboy is ever in evidence. In rain or sunshine, heat or cold, he is busy from morning 'til night making his penny sales. Some of these boys are above the age where they can be compelled to go to school. But many are the little fellows of tender years whose only education seems to be the city streets. Even late at night it is not an uncommon thing to be accosted in the street by a small boy with the familiar story of "Please, mister, will you buy a paper? I got only this one left."

One of our Board members was told by a Minneapolis social worker a short time ago, that she found such a little fellow selling papers on the streets late at night. After a talk with him, she accompanied the lad to his home in a cheap tenement. There was a tallow candle left burning in a dark hallway that he might see his way. The rest of the family had retired. The boy told the social worker that this was a nightly occurrence and that if he were unlucky enough to come home without any money, he received a whipping.

In its details, this is an individual case. But in that the parents and not the child are responsible for his appearance on the streets, the case is typical of all. We have a parental responsibility law already on our statute books, excellent in its provisions, but faulty in its enforcement.

Part of Sec. 1804, Revised Laws of 1905, provides:

"No child under sixteen shall be employed at any time in an occupation dangerous to life, health or morals, or at any labor, outside of the family, in which he resides, before 6 o'clock A. M. or after 7 P. M."

Sec. 1811 makes it a misdemeanor on the part of parent or guardian to permit violation of this provision.

The legislative session of 1911 made the matter even more definite in enactment of Chapter 356, providing in Sec. 1, that,—

"Every child between 8 and 16 years of age shall attend a public school or a private school in each year during the entire time the public schools of the district in which the child resides are in session.—"

The only excuse from such attendance is bodily or mental difficulty, completion of eighth grade work, or schools being located an unreasonable distance from the child's home. Violation of this 1911 statute is punishable on the parent or guardian by a fine of not to exceed \$10.00 or not to exceed 10 days in jail.

We ardently recommend the better enforcement of the above excellent provision of law.



## NO FUNDS TO BRING HOME STATE'S NEEDY CITIZENS.

When an insane non-resident of Minnesota is "picked up" within the state, a state deportment agent promptly sees to it that such individual is taken back to the place of his legal residence. There is, and has been for some years, a special state fund to defray expenses in such event. But suppose a legal resident of Minnesota becomes insane in some other and distant state; if his friends or relatives have money to bring him back to Minnesota, he has a chance to get home, but if he is without funds and without relatives or friends who have money to provide, he is very likely to stay where he is.

A few months ago a woman came to the office of the Board of Visitors with a sad story. Her husband had been discharged from a Minnesota institution for insane some months before and was a legal resident of the state. He had a wife and family in St. Paul. He was a locomotive engineer, and was offered temporary employment in New Mexico. He went there. A few months later, he started home, and had proceeded but a few miles when he suddenly became insane. He was removed from the train and confined in a little jail in the small town where he was taken off. The wife in St. Paul was notified. She came to us. And we, in turn, after finding her story true, took it up with other state authorities. We then found there was no way for the state to send an officer to bring the unfortunate man back to his Minnesota home, except at solely at private expense. And his wife and family had no money. The woman was broken hearted, but all we could do was to refer her to charitable organizations. We wrote to her later to ascertain if she had found aid to bring her husband home, but she did not reply.

It is not fair for a great state like Minnesota to let such a condition exist. If it provides a special fund for the sending of insane who are non-residents, out of the state, it should be humanitarian enough to let some of those funds be available for the bringing back of insane cases outside this state, if such cases are still residents of this state. It is a poor rule that doesn't work both ways. The man who was temporarily working in New Mexico and went insane should have been brought back to Minnesota and returned to a state hospital for treatment instead of being a long time confined in a small-town jail in a state which disowned him and where he could not get the treatment his mental illness demanded.

We would recommend that funds which are available for deportation of non-resident insane be also made available for the bringing home of legal residents of the state who have become insane at points outside of the state, such expenses to be incurred at the discretion of, and after due investigation by, the agents of the state Board of Control who have in charge deportation matters.

## MEDICAL CERTIFICATES A REQUIREMENT FOR MARRIAGE.

We recommend the enactment of a state law requiring a physician's certificate of health to be presented by both contracting parties to the minister, priest, or official who is to perform the ceremony, and that it be punishable by a fine of \$10 to \$50 for any such person to marry a couple who fail to present such a certificate, or to marry any couple if such certificate does not state in each case that each individual is free from all forms of contagious or infectious disease including consumption, is not and never has been declared insane or feeble minded, or of maternal or paternal insane or feeble-minded parentage, and has never served more than one term in any prison.

Marriage of the physically and mentally unfit, has done much toward bringing crime and suffering into the world. Its abolition is not a tad of over-critical fancies. It is a long felt need which has been scientifically demonstrated, has been long practiced in the breeding and betterment of all kinds of live stock, but which is ridiculed without reason in many quarters for the human race just because it has never been applied. And it is unquestionably true that for the same reason—its inapplication—there are thousands of criminals, insane, and pitifully diseased persons in the world today who would not have been born if such a law had applied, and whose places would be taken by morally upright and physically strong individuals. It is lack of public knowledge of amazing facts that causes any ridicule. A trite example of the terrible results of not limiting the marriage and breeding of the morally and physically unfit, is the history of the famous "Lute family" of eastern New York. From a single notorious couple, the mother being known now in scientific manuals as "Margaret, the mother of criminals," 1,200 descendants have been traced. Of these nearly 1,000 have been criminals, prostitutes, huffers, or insane. These degenerates cost the state of New York \$1,300,000; which incidentally was the price paid for permitting the one marriage of "Margaret the mother of criminals" and her equally bad husband.

Lydston, in his "Diseases of Society," says:

"Rev. O. McCulloch has traced the life histories of 1,750 degenerate, criminal and pauper descendants of one 'Ben Ishmael,' who lived in Kentucky in 1790. Among this brood of criminals and paupers there were 121 prostitutes.

"The Rev. Dr. Stocker of Berlin, traced 334 descendants of two sisters who died in 1823. Among them were 76 who had served 116 years in prison, 164 prostitutes, 106 illegitimate children, 17 pimps, 142 beggars, and 64 paupers.

"It has been estimated by Sichert, director of prisons in Wurtemberg, that over 25 per cent of the German prison population comes from a degenerate ancestry. Vergills claims 32 per cent for Italian criminals."

This is the reliable testimony relative to unfit ancestry. It doesn't seem necessary for us to here enter into any argument to sustain the well known fact that those afflicted with certain severe diseases, beget weak, frequently mentally and morally defective children.

The securing of the proposed certificate of health as a requirement for marriage should appeal to people who reason. Nor should it be repulsive to the contracting parties. It need not be made a public record at any place. It need only be seen by the one who "ties the knot."

We believe the adoption of such a law would be a great step in advance for future betterment of the human race.

In this connection it is most important to note the sad result in our own state of permitting marriages of the unfit. The information at hand is but fractional revelation of the lamentable truth, yet beyond dispute in accuracy and the important result so far of the work of the new State Department of Psychological Research. On our request, Dr. A. C. Rogers, superintendent of the School for Feeble Minded and Colony for Epileptics, sums up the work of the new department (which has started its endeavors at his institution) in part by saying:

"There is a well founded belief at the present time upon the part of those who have given the matter close attention that OVER FIFTY PER CENT OF THE CASES OF FEEBLE-MINDEDNESS ARE THE RESULT OF HEREDITARY INFLUENCES.

"It is for the purpose of determining if possible the larger sources of defectiveness from heredity that special studies of family histories have been taken up under the Department of Research at this institution.

"This is done by trained investigators who confer with parents, relatives and acquaintances of inmates of the institution, and thus secure data for preparing family histories, such data being treated as confidential material, the scientific deductions alone being given publicity. Miss Sadie E. Oeritt has had personal charge of this during the year.

"From Oct. 1, 1911, to Aug. 15, 1912, there have been more or less complete studies made of 65 families, representing 99 inmates of this institution. In these there have been found among the 4,755 individuals involved, 281 feeble-minded or an average of 4.37 to each family; 50 epileptics, 61 insane, 220 alcoholics, 83 migrabous, 9 paralitics or apoplectics and 11 syphilitics; 300 died in infancy, 134 died while young;

then there were histories given of 55 miscarriages and 7 still births. One hundred and five were sex offenders, 22 showed marked criminalistic tendencies. There were 21 tubercular cases, 11 blind, 11 deaf, 3 tramps and 4 suicides. There were only 532, or 17.8%, known to be normal, though there were 2,255 individuals whose status is yet to be investigated.

"It is not our purpose to make hasty deductions from data obtained in our field work, but so far as it has progressed, OUR STUDY CONFIRMS THAT OF GODHARD AND OTHER INVESTIGATORS THAT IN A GENERAL WAY FEEBLE-MINDED MATINGS PRODUCE FEEBLE-MINDED PROGENY AND THAT THERE ARE FAMILIES IN WHICH THERE IS A DEFECTIVE STRAIN IN THE BLOOD SO THAT ALMOST ANY MEMBER OF SUCH A FAMILY MATING WITH A MEMBER OF A CORRESPONDINGLY DEFECTIVE STRAIN, EVEN THOUGH THE INDIVIDUALS MAY BE NORMAL, ARE VERY LIABLE TO PRODUCE SOME PROGENY WHO ARE DEFECTIVE.—"

#### STERILIZATION OF CRIMINALS AND DEFECTIVES.

With this report, we are issuing a pamphlet by an eminent authority on the sterilization of habitual criminals and defectives. Such a law is now in effect in several states, and we recommend it for enactment in Minnesota. By special permission of its author we republish this pamphlet and believe it speaks more eloquently, scientifically and practically than we could, and we do not attempt to add any further to the subject.

#### STATE CONFERENCE OF CHARITIES AND CORRECTION.

We wish to repeat our recommendations of two years ago relative to the state conference of Charities and Correction.

For many years past, there has been held annually in Minnesota, as is the practice in practically all other states, a Charities and Corrections Conference. This conference has ever been encouraging to all workers and others interested in charities and correctional work. It is unfor-

\*For further discussion along this line, see section of report relative to State School for Feeble-Minded.

fortunately true that as a rule those engaged along these lines are financially the least able to afford the expense of attending such conference. These conferences are for social, public good, and to promote no private or individual end. It would therefore seem that they are fully worthy of greater state support. At present the expense of the annual conference is met by a special appropriation paid through the State Board of Control of \$500.00 a year. The cause is certainly worthy, and in great need of a fixed state appropriation of at least \$1,000 a year.

We also recommend that the existing law be so amended that the mayor of each municipality throughout the state be authorized to appoint delegates to this annual conference and that payment of the actual expenses of such delegates be made out of the respective funds of the municipalities. This would give municipalities an opportunity to receive enlightenment in handling charitable and correctional problems, an education which is badly needed. They could then proceed with knowledge of the best and most scientific methods, of ways and means adopted in other places, and putting to practical use the advice of experts and the combined experience of others throughout the entire state.

At present the law authorizes county commissioners to send delegates to these conferences and pay their expenses. There is no reason why city authorities should not have the same privilege.

#### COURT FINE SYSTEM IS DISCRIMINATION.

We recommend that the state law be so changed relative to the exactions of fines by municipal and district courts, that where a fine is pronounced as a sentence that the prisoner without money be allowed a reasonable time under court probation to make the payment; and if the fine eventually remains unpaid without reasonable excuse, then the prisoner be punished by imprisonment for contempt.

Imprisonment of the man without money who receives a sentence of "so many dollars or so many days" is virtually imprisonment for debt. Years ago imprisonment for debt was wiped off the statutes and is now a historical relic of dark days gone by, except its survival in the courts where a man either pays his fine or goes to prison for the debt. The present fine-or-imprisonment system is radically in favor of the man of means. To such an individual, a fine may mean but very little or possibly no inconvenience; and to the man without means the same sentence may be a most severe punishment. The rule of "so many dollars or so many days" is one of unfair discrimination against the man who has nothing.

#### NEED OF FIRE-PROOFING.

We believe the state should establish the policy of building only fire-proof buildings. This should be done not only as eventually a financially saving proposition, but to prevent actual loss of life. In this regard, the state has so far been exceedingly fortunate. There was a time when large sections of the buildings for the insane and elsewhere, were of inflammable construction. Mott Hall (now about to be abandoned) at the State School for the Deaf, has during all the years of its use been a menace to the young life it housed. Successive legislatures for a number of sessions past have made generous appropriations for fire-proofing of state buildings. We earnestly recommend that the legislature of 1913 grant the requests that will be made by all interested parties, for the fire-proofing of such state buildings, especially schools and custodial institutions, that are still of inflammable construction.

#### BURIAL OF THE DEAD AT STATE INSTITUTIONS.

It seems to be a generally established rule that when an inmate of a state institution dies, the body is turned over to relatives or friends for interment, or if unclaimed, is buried by the state in a cemetery on institution grounds.

Roughly speaking, in about half the cases the bodies are claimed for burial, and in the remainder of cases in each instance, the state supplies a cheap casket, and the body is buried at the institution. Institution funerals seem to vary unceremonious. As a rule the burial is without any semblance of a funeral service or the presence of a priest or minister to hold Christian ceremony for the interment.

We believe this is wrong. The dead interred on state institution grounds at state expense, deserve decent Christian burial in a Christian land. It is perhaps too much to ask clergy at institution towns to attend numerous interments with no remuneration for their time and trouble. But it is also true that Minnesota is a great rich state, and there seems little excuse and much state shame in such unnecessary economy as making no appropriation for the slight expense of Christian service for interment of the dead at state institutions. With even a small fee allowed clergy for this purpose, the superintendent of an institution would feel free to call a minister or priest to officiate whenever this was necessary.

## IN RE THE OLD CAPITOL.

The law creating the State Board of Visitors for Public Institutions provides that it shall have an office in the State Capitol. Our office is in the Old State Capitol. On this ground we would have no complaint if the Old Capitol were in any kind of repair for office use.

Little has been done to it since the new capitol was occupied. It should not be forgotten that when the legislature met in the old capitol which considered appropriations for the new, reports were filed from various engineers supposed to know their business, asserting the old capitol was ready to be condemned; that the great tower with its surmounting heroic figure of Justice, was unsafe, and that "Justice" was in danger of falling, of crashing through the roof, killing and mauling alike the just and the unjust. The ceiling and roofs of the house and senate chambers of the old capitol were also condemned; were reported to be sagging and in danger of collapsing. And with this stir, the appropriations were hustled through that the lawmakers and elective officers might "look out below." They went. We came. And "henry, heavy, hangs over our heads."

With the exodus from the old state house to the marble palace on the hill, arose the question, "What shall be done with the old capitol?" But the question soon answered itself. The new capitol was too small, and the overflow was forced into the previously condemned old capitol. In addition, there now are many semi-official organizations, and some with absolutely no official connection or affiliation with the state government, which have been given free offices or use of the old capitol chambers. The result is, the old capitol is now actually overcrowded as well as the new.

We who occupy the old building want some consideration. If all who ask are to be given quarters in the old capitol as well as those connected with the state government, then the building should not only be remodeled, but materially enlarged. And if it is to be continued in use for state offices (as is evidently necessary) then it should be repaired and renovated. Floors and joists are rotten. Whenever we shut off one steam radiator in our office, it turns itself into an irrepressible geyser of the "Old Faithful" class. Whenever our friends on the floor above do the same thing, water pours through the ceiling and we have to suspend work and clear out until the shower is over. There are no fly screens for the windows in summer, and we are obliged to everlastingly "swat 'em" an all summer job that, like hay-fever, sees no rest 'till the first severe frost. The ceiling plaster where we is loose from its frequent soakings and liable to fall on our devoted heads. The plaster on a large area of our office wall is also in danger of collapsing any day and necessitating a call for help to dig us out.

Considering all the above, we believe it is the duty of the legislature to at least make such appropriation for remodeling of the old capitol, that the friends of every man employed therein may continue in a position to say "there he goes," instead of "how natural he looks."

## CHANGE DATES OF AVAILABILITY OF APPROPRIATIONS.

Legislative appropriations for new buildings at state institutions are practically all made available with the first of the state fiscal year, August 1st. This is doubtless to allow leeway following the date after which state taxes become delinquent, June 1st, for the collection of all tax money there is to be had before the date of its actual expenditure. But by making building appropriations available so late in the year, is pretty nearly equivalent to saying the work of erecting the building for which the money is appropriated must be delayed a year. If the money were available in the spring, then ground could be broken as soon as the cold weather breaks, the entire building season of spring, summer and fall would be available for work, and suffice in most cases to get buildings enclosed so interior work could be carried on in the winter. This would mean a great saving in time without additional expense, and a great accommodation to the respective state institutions as appropriations for buildings are generally not secured--with perhaps the exception of the state university--until they are greatly needed for actual immediate use.

In order to make this desired change in appropriations, it may be deemed necessary to change the date after which real estate taxes are delinquent, from June 1st to early in the spring, say March 1, which we do not believe would create any great hardship on the majority of the taxpayers.

If, however, such a change in the matter of availability of appropriations and of the law relative to tax collections is considered too radical for the desired end, then we would suggest a general law providing that where an appropriation is made available August 1st of any year for building work at any state institution, the state board in charge of the financial government of such institution be authorized at its discretion to issue certificates of indebtedness six months or less previous to this date, and that such money thereby secured be available immediately for the purpose indicated by the appropriation. These certificates could be issued as were the so-called state capitol certificates of indebtedness.

The state always has money on hand in some of its funds to take up its own certificates of indebtedness, has done so heretofore, and would doubtless always be in a position to do this with the proposed issues. Thus the rate in interest could be made low, a nominal figure, and the state would merely be accommodating itself by taking money out of one pocket and putting it into another.

#### LIBRARY WORK AT INSTITUTIONS.

Effectively, but without publicity, the Minnesota Library Commission is doing a good work at practically all our public institutions, supervising and advising work of librarians where there are libraries, and introducing their "travelling libraries" where they are needed. They send these "travelling libraries" to the State Home for Crippled Children, St. Paul; Fergus Falls, Rochester, and St. Peter Hospitals, Anoka and Hastings Asylums.

The per cent of those in state institutions who are patrons of libraries is surprising. The Minnesota Library Commission says this percentage is as follows: State School for Blind, 92% of all in the school; State School for Deaf, 63%; School for Feeble-Minded, 36%; Owatonna State Public School, 79%; Boys' Training School, Red Wing, 62%; St. Cloud State Reformatory, 94%; State Prison, 87%.

We believe legislative encouragement and further aid to the Minnesota Library Commission, and institutional libraries, means not only adding to the pleasure of institution residents, but materially adds to their education, general uplift and social betterment at the same time.

#### ENLARGEMENT OF POWERS OF BOARD OF VISITORS.

We wish to repeat our recommendations of two years ago relative to enlargement of the powers of the State Board of Visitor for Public Institutions.

Under the law governing the State Board of Visitors for Public Institutions, it has no power except to report to the governor. The board is, in other words, an investigating and advisory department of the state government acting under appointment of and reporting to, the state's chief executive. It has made various reports to the governor

of matters and conditions at several state institutions which in the estimation of its members, required immediate adjustment and betterment. These reports were in each case referred by the governor to the Board of Control. The Board of Control, receiving these reports from the governor, is under no special obligation to in turn report on its action or reason for not acting on such recommendations, to the Board of Visitors. Thus it is that the Board of Visitors, after spending much time, effort, and in some instances considerable state money, on completion of its work knows nothing in the way of direct information from the authorities in charge of the institutions criticised, whether its work is of any avail. It would seem but a fair proposition that the law be amended to require a report to be made the Board of Visitors of such action as is taken on its recommendation, by the authorities to whom the Board of Visitors' reports have been referred by the governor.

It would appear to this board that in order to avoid confusion or conflict in investigations of charges against these institutions, that the sole power and authority to officially investigate charges and report findings based on investigations of humanitarian matters, should be vested in an independent state board. And as the act creating the State Board of Visitors makes it an investigating body, with power to administer oaths to witnesses, and compel their attendance, it would naturally follow that the State Board of Visitors should be entrusted with exclusive authority to make such investigations and report thereon.

A complaint against a state institution is at least indirectly one against the Board of Control which has charge of all state institutions. Without criticising the Board of Control in the least, it is manifestly a wrong principle for the state to so legislate that any state board or department shall be the court to investigate and adjudicate complaints and charges against itself.

#### CO-OPERATION NEEDED WITH THE BOARD OF CONTROL.

We are firmly convinced that co-operation between the State Board of Visitors and the State Board of Control is most desirable for further advancement of the interests of your institutions. The Board of Control has general management of these institutions, while a large part of the work of the Board of Visitors is their humanitarian supervision. Under the law establishing the Board of Visitors, this Board makes its reports containing suggestions and criticisms to the Governor. We



understand it is the practice of the Governor to refer these to the Board of Control. That is the last the Board of Visitors hears of them. We do not know if our suggestions are to be carried out. If they are approved or disapproved, if they are given consideration or merely filed away, unceremoniously buried, without any chance of life hereafter. We should like to know, and feel that we are entitled to information as to how far our recommendations, criticisms and commendations are received. An explanatory reply would not only be appreciated as a courteous acknowledgment but as of real value for our future work. There may be some good reasons of which we have no knowledge why certain of our suggestions could not be carried out. It would be helpful and of value for us to know them. The members of the Board of Visitors spend their time without remuneration for the benefit of the state. The state is entitled to this benefit, and cannot receive it unless the Board's reports are to have proper consideration. We have not had a single reply from the Board of Control relative to our reports forwarded to said Board by the Governor. This lack of co-operation is deeply regretted on our part.

At a meeting of the Board of Visitors March 13, 1912 (quoting from the minutes thereof) "a motion by Mr. O'Reilly was carried that the executive secretary arrange for a joint meeting of the Board of Visitors and the Board of Control, and that the Governor be invited to be present for discussion of plans for further co-operation between the two boards in the future and for mutual approval of such changes in the law as are at that time deemed best."

The executive secretary, J. C. Matchitt, after getting Governor Eberhart's approval of the plan, communicated verbally a few days later with Mr. C. E. Vasaly, member of the Board of Control. Mr. Vasaly expressed his willingness for such a meeting and said he would put the matter before the other members of his board and notify the Board of Visitors as to a convenient date for such a meeting. A brief typewritten statement was left with the Board of Control at that time in the way of suggestions for matters to be considered. This was as follows:

"Suggestions to be considered at a joint meeting of the State Board of Visitors and the State Board of Control with the Governor.

"Amend existing law so that:—

"1.—The inspector of poor houses work under the Board of Visitors and that approval of plans for new buildings of this character be made by the Board of Visitors instead of the Board of Control.

"2.—The same recommendation in regard to the Inspector of Jails and lockups, and approval of plans for such structures.

"3.—That investigation of conditions at all public institutions along humanitarian lines be in the hands of the Board of Visitors. That such investigations be made at request of the Governor, the Board of Control, or through specific complaint in writing by a private citizen.

"The above changes in the law would relieve the Board of Control of much detail work, and would permit it to devote its time practically entirely to the main purpose for which it was created, the financial management of state institutions, and would place state humanitarian work entirely in the hands of the Board of Visitors, for which purpose the Board of Visitors was primarily created; would also do away with duplication of work by the two Boards.

"That steps be taken for means of co-operation between the Board of Visitors and the Board of Control, for a better understanding between the two Boards, and for greater and more satisfactory results.

"For consideration of any other matters of mutual interest that may be brought up by members of the Board of Control, the Board of Visitors, or the Governor.

"A recommendation for legislation to prohibit private commitment of patients to private institutions for the insane, in that such practice is open to abuses.

"Co-operation, with recommendation for legislation if needed, to get rid of housing feeble-minded, insane and tubercular persons in county homes or poor houses."

No word being received by the middle of May, two months after the matter was put up to the Board of Control, Mr. Vasaly was reminded of the matter by Mr. Matchitt. He stated that the Board of Control had been very busy, that the proposed joint meeting of the two Boards was not forgotten, that the Board of Visitors would be notified as soon as the Board of Control could get any spare time.

The Board of Control has apparently remained too busy for the needed conference, while the Board of Visitors is still, as it were, "waiting at the church."

#### REPORT OF LIBRARIAN.

The modest beginning of the library of the Board of Visitors was a collection of state reports and bulletins, supplemented by files of the Proceedings of the National Conference of Charities and Correction, National Prison Congresses, and other conventions of social workers, at

which subjects relating to work of this character are considered. This collection comprised 100 publications of these various sorts, in June, 1910, when it was deemed advisable to devote certain sums, from time to time, from the resources at hand, to the purchase of books; that this study of charities and correction as applied to institutional management might be aided by the best thought of the day.

The present library, selected with scrupulous care, from rigidly pruned lists, that there might be realized the greatest value from the smallest expenditure, has been commended by library experts and social workers, as a choice collection of works on sociology. It consists of some 3,000 books and pamphlets, which the Board plans to make the nucleus of a sociological library, which shall adequately assist their work, and afford aid as well, to the social work of the state in general.

For the Board, realizing and enjoying the value and worth of this special collection, a year ago offered it for general circulation. At that time special invitations to use the library were issued in the form of circular letters, some hundreds of such letters having been sent to clergymen, teachers and students, club women, etc. Many expressions of appreciation have been given by patrons availing themselves of the privileges extended to them by the courtesy of the Board of Visitors, who also provided a well equipped reference room, and tendered the services of their librarian. To extend the scope of usefulness of our books, the state press will now be made the medium of invitations to the public to use the library. For it has become evident that there is need of a sociological library to support and expand the social and welfare work throughout the state; and to promote a better understanding of needs and remedies along these lines, and of modern methods of dealing with the various problems met with in social effort, through study and research of trained workers, and scientific investigation. It is doubtless true in a measure, that legislation represents the mind of the electorate, and that it is useless to put advanced laws on the statute books until there exists an intelligent appreciation of conditions, and an insistent demand for improvement. It thus becomes apparent that the function of a sociological library would be indispensable in the work of educating sentiment for legislation along humanitarian lines, and in the larger development of our state system of charities and correction.

Corrective measures as existing more especially for the sake of reformation, and including vocational and industrial training; "the individualization of punishment," involving not only the weighing of evidence regarding each individual case as presented to judge and jury, but a review of the history of the subject, and an acquaintance with his temperament, tastes, tendencies and aptitudes; indeterminate and

suspended sentences; leniency to first offenders; juvenile courts; these are all developments of the modern humanitarian methods of dealing with those unfortunates whom society has found it needful to restrain; and their application to institutional management requires serious thought and study. The state in assuming the position of guardian to the wayward, the outcast, the dependent, the defective, the sick and insane, has a duty of great magnitude to perform, in the effort to restore to useful lives, one class, misled by injurious influences, perhaps wrecked by evil tendencies; to build up into efficiency and independence, another class, handicapped so sadly that they cannot cope with the normal worker; to train and educate into good citizenship a third, deprived of training and nurture in the formative years, and probably taken from an environment which has deeply marred young lives; to provide treatment and care for still another class, mentally or physically afflicted.

Besides the aid which the library has offered to our members in their study of these problems, it has brought them into association with other social workers whom it has attracted; and should be a factor in co-ordinating the various lines of social and welfare work. The need for this is realized in framing suggestions for legislation. The convict, the which is a part of the work of the Board of Visitors. The convict, the pauper, the delinquent boy or girl, the inebriate, cannot be dealt with without taking into account their relation to society at large, and the family in especial. And to this end it is requisite to unify the efforts of all classes of social workers, to review each case from every standpoint. Changes and innovations must be carefully considered, and underlying principles studied, that humanitarian labors may be productive of the good results hoped for, that progress may be continuous.

Our books are catalogued according to the Dewey system, with numbering by Cutter, a method adopted by leading libraries everywhere. Analytics, or catalog cards giving special topics treated in books but not indicated in the titles, are a feature especially emphasized, as indispensable aids to reference work.

During the past biennial period the Board has appropriated from slender resources, the sum of \$500.00 for the library. A yearly income of \$500.00 would enable us to collect a sociological library, of the greatest value to the Board in their study of Charities and Correction.

JESSIE V. RHODES,  
Librarian.