

**THIRTY-FIRST ANNUAL  
REPORT - STATE  
BOARD OF HEALTH,  
STATE OF FLORIDA, 1920**

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Thirty-first Annual report - State Board of Health, State of Florida, 1920 by Various

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**VARIOUS**

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STATE OF FLORIDA, 1920**



**THIRTY-FIRST**

**ANNUAL REPORT**

of the

**STATE BOARD OF HEALTH**

**OF FLORIDA**

**1920**

Office of the Secretary and Main Laboratory  
State Board of Health Building  
Springfield Boulevard  
Jacksonville

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## STATE BOARD OF HEALTH OF FLORIDA

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West Palm Beach

HON. ED. M. EARNEST  
Palatka

HON. J. E. GRAVES  
Quincy

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Secretary and State Health Officer

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Auditor

MISS FLORENCE SMITH  
Secretary to State Health Officer

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*Multigraph Department*

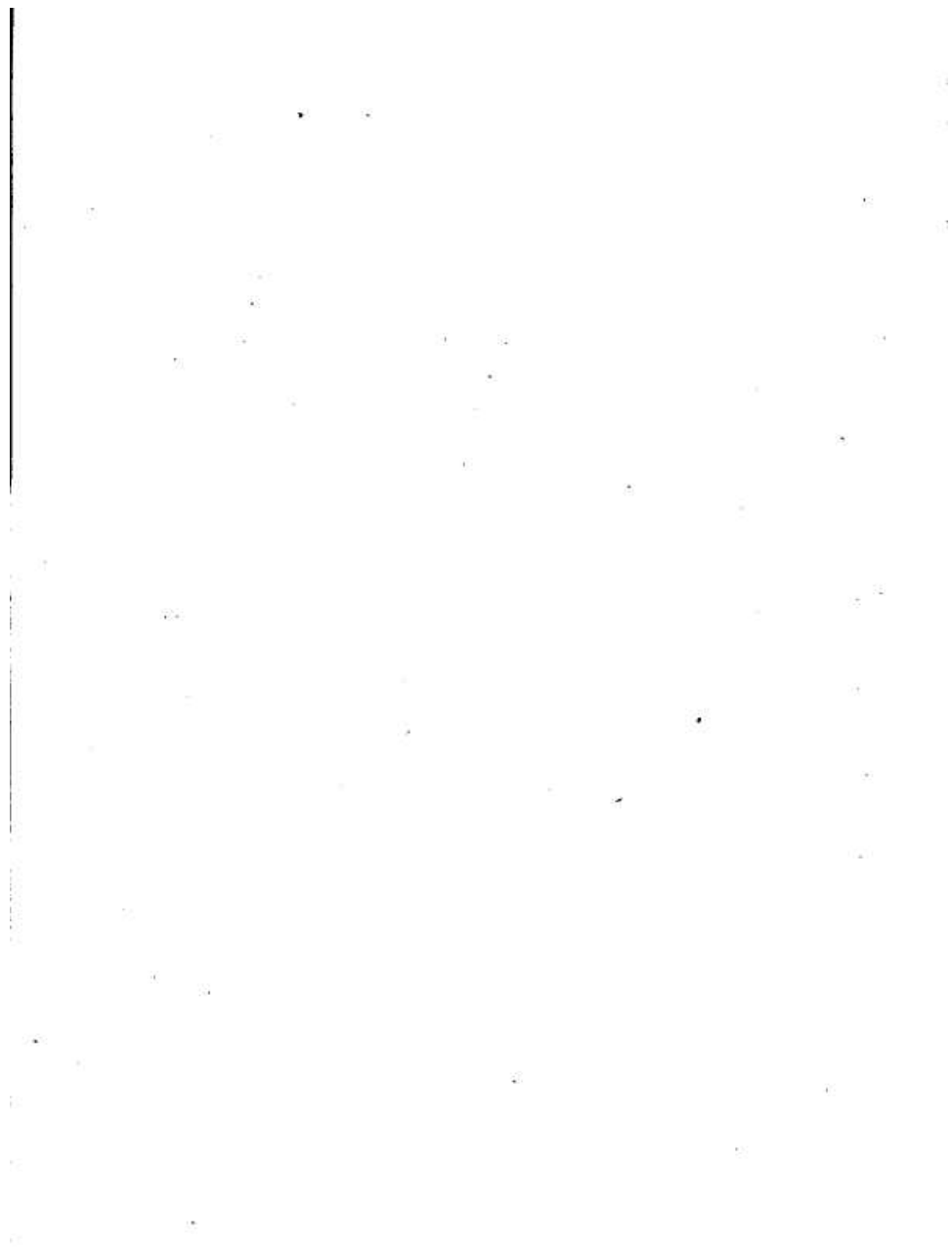
MR. ERNEST GANTON, Director

DISTRICT HEALTH OFFICERS

DR. GEORGE A. DAME  
West Palm Beach

DR. F. L. TATOM  
DeFuniak Springs

DR. A. C. HAMBLIN  
Tampa





## LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL

West Palm Beach, Florida, December 6th, 1920.

*To His Excellency, Sidney J. Catts, Governor of Florida, Tallahassee, Florida.*

SIR:

Herewith, is attached annual report of the State Board of Health of Florida.

It is requested that you submit same to the Legislature.

Respectfully,

STATE BOARD OF HEALTH,  
By JOE L. EARMAN, President.

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## REPORT OF THE STATE HEALTH OFFICER

Jacksonville, Florida, December Sixth, Nineteen Twenty.

*Honorable Joe L. Earman, President, State Board of Health,  
West Palm Beach, Florida.*

DEAR SIR:

I beg to submit, herewith, report of the activities of the State Board of Health of Florida, same to constitute the thirty-first annual report of the State Board of Health.

Attention is respectfully invited to the fact that the report for 1919 which was in order any time after February, 1919, was not published by my predecessor.

I became State Health Officer of Florida in July 1919.

Because of the necessary temporary disorganization incident to changing of administration I was not in position to offer opinions, advice, or reports during the year 1919.

### GENERAL CONSIDERATION

Attached, herewith, you will find brief reports from the heads of the different departments comprising the headquarters of the State Board of Health which are self-explanatory.

In a general way it has been the attitude of your executive officer to advocate only such programs and innovations as appeared to be constructive and of such nature as to warrant the expenditure of public funds with reasonable assurance of constructive results.

### LEPROSY

It became evident soon after I assumed the duties of State Health Officer of Florida that it was necessary for the State Board of Health to express an opinion as to the advisability of locating a national leprosy colony in the State of Florida.

The State Board of Health, upon being consulted by representatives of the United States Public Health Service, who comprised a Board to select a location for the colony, expressed the official opinion that upon medical grounds alone there could be no objections to the establishment of this colony within the confines of the State of Florida.

There was, however, a state-wide protest against the establishment of the colony because it was believed, and in which opinion the State Board of Health concurred, that the establishment of a hospital for the care of all the lepers in the United States,