

**TWELFTH ANNUAL REPORT OF
THE DEPARTMENT OF
CHARITIES AND CORRECTIONS;
1916 STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

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Twelfth Annual Report

OF THE

Department of Charities and
Corrections

1916

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

TRENTON, N. J.
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1917

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REPORT.

TRENTON, October 31, 1916.

Hon. James F. Fielder, Governor of New Jersey:

SIR—It is with extreme gratification that I beg to report to your Excellency that the charitable and correctional institutions of the State of New Jersey are in a generally satisfactory condition. Further, it may be said that every possible step has been taken through this past fiscal year in the direction of their betterment consistent with the means at hand for such purposes. This condition—promising at it is—does not fully meet the very deeply rooted wish of this Department for a still more comprehensive plan through which a greater unification may be inaugurated, establishing more clearly the co-ordination of the State's work in charitable and correctional lines. That the value of such an undertaking should be given deep consideration I respectfully submit.

Under the original act creating this Department—Revised Statutes, page 453, section 2—the Commissioner was required to visit all institutions at least once a year. Under Chapter 167, Laws of 1916, "An Act relative to the government and management of hospitals for the insane, owned by the State of New Jersey," he is required to visit all hospitals for the insane twice each year instead. However, the marked efforts at improvement throughout the entire system, completed and contemplated, were so manifest to the Commissioner as to make his visits even more frequent, each succeeding one becoming more interesting as the advances made in the direction of thoroughness of the onward movement conspicuously developed.

To the list of State, county and private institutions to be visited must now be added the State Colony for Feeble-Minded Males at New Lisbon and the Atlantic County Hospital for Tuberculous Diseases at Northfield.

THE STATE COLONY FOR FEEBLE-MINDED MALES.

The Colony for Feeble-Minded Males (formerly known as the Burlington County Colony, under the direction of the Train-

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ing School at Vineland) was taken over by the State with an equipment providing for the accommodation of 45 inmates at a cost to the State of \$2,000, or \$44.44 per inmate bed. This equipment was deficient in the following respects:

- Laundry and Laundry Equipment.
- Heating and Lighting.
- Sewerage and Sewage Disposal.
- Fire Protection.

The improvements and extensions immediately contemplated at the Colony embrace the following items:

	<i>Estimated Cost.</i>
Extension and completion of Laundry and Power House,...	\$650 00
Equipment of Laundry and Power House,	4,000 00
Distributing system for steam,	3,500 00
Heating of present buildings,	500 00
Distribution system for electricity,	350 00
Lighting of present buildings,	500 00
Extension of water system with additional Fire Hydrants, ..	250 00
Extension and development of sewers and Disposal Plant, ..	750 00
Addition to Dining Hall,	2,000 00
An Additional Cottage to house 48 inmates,	6,500 00
	<hr/>
An estimated total of,	\$19,000 00

or \$395.83 for each additional patient bed above the original 45 beds, including the correction of the deficiencies noted above, and making a total investment of \$225.81 per patient bed for an institution of 93 capacity, exclusive of land.

The further development of the institution up to a capacity of approximately 200 inmates can, it is estimated, be accomplished for the additional sum of \$22,000, itemized as follows:

	<i>Estimated Cost.</i>
Distributing system for steam,	\$1,850 00
" " " electricity,	150 00
" " " water,	500 00
Additional sewers,	500 00
Additions to Dining Hall and Kitchen,	4,500 00
Additional Cottages,	14,500 00

Thus making a total investment, exclusive of land, of \$43,000, or an investment of \$215 per inmate bed in an institution of 200, which is a very reasonable figure at any time, and particularly so now when prices for building material and labor are so high.

It is as yet impossible to replace these estimates by actual costs, and, it is equally impossible to forecast how successful the State will be in its effort to produce these improvements through the purchase of material and the employment of such labor as cannot be supplied by inmates, an experiment which must of necessity be rendered difficult both by the extreme inaccessibility of the site and the lack of suitable equipment and organization.

It is natural to assume that the Legislature will not hesitate to properly appropriate for the continued development and maintenance of this valuable addition to the State's institution. \$107,400 has been asked by the Board of Managers for the further development of this Colony, \$40,000 of which provides for the "custodial" cases hereinafter recommended.

The Atlantic County Hospital for Tuberculous Diseases at Northfield was opened in April, 1916. It is co-operating with this Department and has filed its enrollment reports from the time of its opening.

STATE PRISON.

Deep consideration has been given the manifest disadvantage still existing at the New Jersey State Prison with the hope of finding a practical remedy for the lack of exercising space. Since my last report, due to the diligent effort and personal interest of the principal keeper, all possible general improvements have been established, the details of which I shall not touch upon, as they are already before you in various other reports. However, there still remains a lack of outdoor space, no provision being made for giving the prisoners the opportunity of obtaining that most essential commodity—fresh air.

The suggestions contemplating the acquirement of the portion of Third street between the prison proper and the State's property opposite; also acquiring the arsenal property—while

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profitable and advisable under certain conditions—would be useless if the talked-of change in location of the New Jersey State Prison be developed. The length of time necessary to change over the present prison population to a properly equipped institution for such purpose, either now built or to be built, must be considered. If it is to be but a question of a few months, it might suffice to take over the arsenal property, which would afford enough space for reasonable exercise and recreation. This, of course, would require but a comparatively small investment. If the State's property opposite the prison is to be permanently enclosed, the cost would reach upward of \$100,000, too considerable an expense for a makeshift. The suggested "stockade," to be of effective service, would necessitate the expenditure of approximately from \$20,000 to \$30,000, which for a temporary construction seems too large an amount. I am, therefore, firmly convinced that the practicability of removing the present institution should be first thoroughly developed and determined upon before the method of gaining the very desirable increase of space facility be decided upon.

ARCHITECTURAL WORK.

The State Architect has submitted a report of the year's work in his bureau. In part, it says:

"During the past year in addition to the direction, supervision and detailing of the entire work of the year before, contracts for which were not awarded till the close of the year, the architectural staff of your Department has prepared plans and specifications for 56 separate operations, aggregating in value \$300,000.

"In addition, a very large amount of field work, urgently needed for many years, has been done. This work includes survey of the property of the State Home for Boys at Jamesburg; the location and plotting of the underground service works at the State Home for Girls at Trenton; similar work for the State Village for Epileptics at Skillman; a survey of the property and a development study for the School for the Deaf at Trenton and a similar survey and study for the Manual Training and Industrial School for Colored Youth at Bordentown. In addition, a report on the water supply at Skillman involving much field work and similar reports on the sewerage and drainage conditions at the New Jersey State Hospital at Morris Plains and the State Home for Boys at Jamesburg, with recommendations and estimates, have been prepared."

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TABLE OF WORK DESIGNED.

<i>Institution.</i>	<i>Work.</i>	<i>Appropriation.</i>	<i>Contract.</i>
Hospital, Morris Plains.	1. Addition to Fire House, ..	\$10,000 00	\$9,975 00
	2. Alterations Fourth Floor,	10,000 00	9,840 00
	3. Fence and Gate,	2,000 00	1,922 00
	4. Elevator, Dormitory Bldg.,	2,500 00	2,340 00
	5. Roof, Tuberculosis Bldg.,	800 00	800 00
	6. Slate Roof, Kitchen,	950 00	950 00
Hospital, Trenton.	7. Fire Escapes, etc.,	25,000 00	24,504 25
	8. Addition, Power House,	85,000 00	63,736 21
	9. Pointing of Main Bldg.,	1,000 00	999 97
	10. Wall, Criminal Insane Bldg.,	3,500 00	3,239 00
	11. Painting of Annex,	5,000 00	4,822 00
Village for Epileptics, Skillman.	12. Reconstruction, repair and enlargement of sewers, etc.,	45,011 72	42,513 80
	13. Cottages,	8,300 00	8,060 00
Manual Training and In- dustrial School.	14. Fire System Water Sup- ply,	3,000 00 ¹
	15. Domestic Water Supply, ..	1,500 00 ²
	16. Porch,	12,000 00	612 00
17. Toilets,	550 00		
Normal School, Trenton.	18. Fireproof Hall and Stairs,	7,000 00	4,346 00
	19. Addition to Laundry,	1,000 00	997 00
Deaf-Mute School.	20. Repair to Hospital,	2,810 00	2,810 00
	21. Alteration of Fire House,	9,582 00	9,582 00
Sanatorium, Glen Gard- ner.	22. Barn and Stable,	1,000 00	1,000 00 [*]
	23. Pumping System,	1,800 00	1,800 00
	24. Milk House,	1,500 00	1,487 50
	25. Cattle Sheds,	1,500 00	1,487 50
	26. Alterations and Repairs, Main Bldg.,	5,500 00	2,564 00
27. Sewer to Hospital Bldg.,	312 00		
28. Repairs, Barn, Storeroom, etc.,	4,000 00		3,811 00
Home for Girls, Trenton.	29. Extension Stokes Cottage,	1,500 00	1,397 00
	30. Boiler in Engine House,	3,500 00	3,055 00
	31. Barn and Piggery,	1,150 00	1,150 00
	32. Cottage,	800 00 [*]
	33. Greenhouse,	1,500 00	1,327 00
Agricultural College. Reformatory for Men.	34. Materials for Disciplinary Bldg.,	5,000 00	5,000 00