

**FIFTH BIENNIAL REPORT, OF THE
TRUSTEES, SUPERINTENDENT AND
TREASURER OF THE ILLINOIS
WESTERN HOSPITAL FOR THE INSANE
AT WATERTOWN, JULY 1, 1906**

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Fifth Biennial Report, of the trustees, superintendent and treasurer of the Illinois Western Hospital for the Insane at Watertown, July 1, 1906 by Various

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VARIOUS

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OFFICERS OF THE HOSPITAL.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES.

President,

FRANK W. GOULD, Moline.

Trustees,

FRANK W. GOULD, Moline.
ALLAN M. CLEMENT, Chicago.
WILLIAM TREMBOB, Freeport.

Superintendent,

WARREN E. TAYLOR, M. D.



REPORT OF TRUSTEES.

Hon. CHARLES S. DENEEN, Governor of Illinois, Springfield, Illinois.

SIR—We have the honor to submit herewith for your consideration the fifth biennial report of the Trustees, Superintendent, and Treasurer of the Illinois Western Hospital for the Insane.

The report of Superintendent Taylor, covering in detail all important transactions of the past two years, is so complete that it is unnecessary for the trustees to add anything in the matter of history or statistics.

We endorse most heartily his recommendations for another ward building, or sanitarium, and additional land for farm purposes. There remains for sale but one tract of farm land within several miles of the institution, and it can be secured at much less price at present than will be possible a few years later, as all farm lands in our vicinity have more than doubled in value since the C. R. I. & P. Ry. purchased nearly one thousand acres adjoining the State property, upon which have been erected repair shops, giving employment to twelve hundred men.

Tract of land above referred to as available consists of about 150 acres, and can be purchased for approximately \$25,000.00.

You will note in the treasurer's report that there is an unexpended balance remaining in our ordinary fund of \$38,259.07, and by continuing the careful and economical management for another year, this amount will probably be increased to at least \$50,000.00. So that by re-appropriating the total surplus and \$50,000.00 additional, a new ward building, or sanitarium, could be erected at very small actual cost to the State, and the need of such a building is self evident.

Aside from above named amounts, the following are absolutely necessary for maintenance of the institution at its present standard of efficiency, and we, therefore, urge appropriations, which we trust will meet your approval:

Revised estimate of the appropriation requested for two years beginning July 1st, 1907.

Ordinary expenses.....	\$ 350,000.
Improvement and repairs.....	20,000.
Improvement on Grounds and Farm.....	20,000.
To purchase additional land.....	40,000.
To make changes in heating, and ventilation provide additional water supply and mains, ad- ditional power and fire escapes.....	40,000.
Superintendent's residence.....	15,000.
New Building.....	100,000.

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT.

To the Board of Trustees of the Illinois Western Hospital for Insane.

GENTLEMEN—I respectfully submit the biennial report of the Illinois Western Hospital for the Insane for the two years ending June 30th, 1906.

POPULATION.

July 1st, 1904, there were 766 patients present, 420 of whom were men and 346 women; on parole 43, 22 men and 21 women. Since then 983 patients have been admitted, 540 were men, 443 women. 49 patients have been re-admitted, 25 men and 24 women, making a total of 1,841, 1,007 men and 834 women.

We have discharged 360 patients since June 30th, 1904, 201 men and 159 women. Of those discharged, 139 (74 men and 65 women) were transferred to the asylum for incurable insane. 152 patients have died during the two years, 98 men and 54 women. We had on parole June 30, 1906, 100 patients, 55 men and 45 women. June 30th, 1906, there were present 1,229 patients, 653 men and 576 women. 806 of the patients admitted were suffering from their first attack, 166 from the second attack, 23 from the third, 7 from the fourth, 3 from the fifth, 1 from the seventh, 1 from the eighth and 25 unknown.

GENERAL HEALTH.

The health of the patients has been most excellent, owing largely to the fact that they are given a great deal of exercise in the open air during the day, have splendid ventilation in the house, and pure artesian water to drink.

Radical changes have been made in the bath rooms and closets. New fixtures have been added, the plumbing overhauled, and the ventilation increased, thereby making the wards very sanitary.

POWER HOUSE.

All of our boilers have been equipped with automatic chain grate stokers, automatic ash carriers and induced draft. The new arrangement has lessened the consumption of coal to such an extent that for the past year it amounts to but \$7.36 per capita.

WATER SUPPLY AND FIRE PROTECTION.

Our water supply is abundant, the well is 1,391 feet deep. The water is pure and remarkably free from organic salts.

Fire protection has been extended to all the outside buildings and the system is controlled by a separate pump which carries steam at all times, and when the fire pump is in operation, the house system, by an automatic arrangement, is not affected by the additional pressure. We have added 500 feet of standard hose and an additional hose cart and a number of extra ladders to our equipment.

BUILDING IMPROVEMENTS.

We have constructed an amusement hall, approximately 200 feet long and 100 feet wide. This hall has a seating capacity of 1,500; is equipped with three bowling alleys, billiard and pool tables, has a stage for theatrical performance, and a main floor, where weekly dances are held. This building has proven a source of great comfort and recreation to both patients and employes. Two cottages for consumptive patients, each with a capacity for 20 people, have been erected. Each cottage has a wide porch around it, where the patients can sleep when thought advisable, during not only the warm weather but the cold weather. Between the two cottages, a violet glass house 16x24 feet has been built, where the patients are placed several hours each day. The effect of the violet ray has been beneficial, far beyond our expectations.

The band stand in front of the main building, having a floor space of 900 square feet, was built during the past summer. Tile floors, with marble wainscoting have taken the place of the wooden floors in all of the bath rooms and water closets. On wards No. 6 and No. 12, a number of rooms where untidy patients sleep, have been remodeled. Tile floors and marble walls being used in place of plaster and wood, thereby making them perfectly sanitary. The wooden floor on No. 8, the untidy ward for male patients, has been replaced with tile and marble base at a cost of \$1,600.00. This was done for the purpose of being able to keep the ward clean and free from odor.

A camp in the grove was established last spring, where we have kept approximately 100 untidy and violent patients during the summer. This camp is equipped with 13 tents, a large dining room, screened on all sides, closet, bath rooms, sitting rooms and cooking tent. The experiment has proven successful, and I heartily recommend that it not only be continued, but carried on to a greater extent. Approximately one mile of cement sidewalk has been laid, and considerable hard road built. Many shade trees and shrubs have been set out, and the grounds beautified in many ways.

Our old amusement hall has been remodeled and converted into a chapel, and will in the future be used exclusively for that purpose.

Owing to the increase of our institution, we were obliged to construct a larger and more effective septic tank. The new tank has a capacity of 125,000 gallons of sewage, and is doing excellent work. A new

drain was placed from the tank direct to the river, thus obviating the possibility of contaminating wells adjacent to the small stream formerly used for an outlet.

FARM.

During the past year, approximately two miles of deep drain tile have been placed in the low land, thus making it very productive. The crops have been good. The garden has given an abundant yield, but there is not sufficient land to provide the institution with all it should have during the year. I, therefore, recommend that additional lands be purchased, as I believe it is economy to raise all the vegetables consumed in the house during the year.

Another important feature is the opportunity given patients to do light work, thereby diverting their minds and stimulating their physical condition. I am convinced that moderate, outdoor employment does more to restore confused minds than medicine. We have approximately 200 old men and women who are not very insane, but are very feeble both mentally and physically. They, in my judgment, should be isolated from the more pronounced insane and placed in an infirmary or a building where they can enjoy quiet, be specially nourished, allowed to retire and arise at such times as best suit old people, and not be governed by the usual strict hospital rules.

I earnestly recommend that an appropriation be asked for sufficient, together with our surplus, to erect and equip a building for the accommodation of this class of unfortunate ones, who especially appeal to our sympathies, and deserve the best care a generous people can give them.

CIVIL SERVICE.

Civil service is a success in this institution. The board has exercised discretion and good judgment in making the rules and construing the law.

New blood has been infused in the ranks of the employés. Hospital tramps are ignored; migration from one institution to another is prohibited; rational rules made by superintendents have been adopted by the Civil Service Commission, and employés, discharged for cause, find no consolation in appeal. The secretary is untiring in his efforts to be just to all, but extremely mindful of the welfare of the institution. The Governor and Board of Charities have displayed unusual interest in the charitable institutions. They have not been fault finding or cynical (do not understand me to say former ones were); they are considerate in their recommendations, and extremely conscientious in their efforts to raise the standard of employés and better the condition of the unfortunate ones, and I believe with the guarantee of non-political interference which civil service contemplates, the establishing of training schools, and the hearty, moral support of the Chief Executive and the controlling board, that all of our charitable institutions will cease to be detention asylums, but become what they should be, sanitariums.



South Wing.