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BIENNIAL REPORT
OF THE
Supervisors of the Insane
OF THE
STATE OF VERMONT
FOR THE TWO YEARS ENDING
JUNE 30, 1932



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REPORT OF THE SUPERVISORS OF THE INSANE FOR THE
STATE OF VERMONT

Montpelier, Vermont, June 30, 1932

William H. Dyer,

Commissioner of Public Welfare.

Dear Sir:

The Board of Supervisors of the Insane, in accordance with the requirements of Statute, submit the following report of their activities and services to the insane for the biennial period ending June 30, 1932.

Once each month the Board has visited the State Hospital at Waterbury and the Brattleboro Retreat at Brattleboro; and at least once a year has visited the Lake View Sanatorium and the Green Mountain Sanatorium at Burlington.

These visits give the patients an opportunity to consult the Supervisors about any grievance, or for advice upon any matter whatever, and this opportunity is freely exercised so that the interests of the patient are safeguarded as well as the interests of the State in that no patient is retained if their discharge can be made without injustice to the patient or menace to the community or family where they would go.

In preparing the appended tables the part-pay patients are included with those supported wholly by the State. They are of some expense to the State in any event, but as a matter of fact many are wholly supported by the State, as the ones ordered by the Probate Court to pay, cannot, or at least do not, make the payments. It is probably true that if they cannot afford to pay more than two, three, or four dollars a week, they cannot afford to pay at all.

You will observe from the tables that there are at the State Hospital 44 more patients, both State and private, than there were two years ago. At the Brattleboro Retreat, not taking into account the private patients, there are 16 more State patients than two years ago; making an increase of 60 in the two hospitals during the biennium. This increase of 30 patients a year is somewhat larger than the average yearly increase during the past ten years.

This increase has occurred notwithstanding the efforts of the Board to discharge every case than can be safely cared for at home or which does not properly belong in a hospital for the insane.

You will observe from the tables that the Board has discharged 238 patients during the biennial term of which 215 were conditional discharges, and that 77, discharged during this or some previous bien-

nial term, have been returned upon revocation of the conditional discharge by our Board; or about one revocation for every three discharges. This proportion is about the same as in former years.

It seems best to allow these patients to go home, even if they have to be returned in a few months or a few years. They have a right to be freed from detention and besides it keeps the hospital population at a minimum.

It seemed some years ago that the peak of our hospital population was near at hand, yet the increase still goes on as friends and relatives realize more the advisability of hospital treatment for persons who are actually insane, rather than home care with all its burden and trials. They realize such a course is better for the patient as well as better for the family.

The hospital conditions and facilities are very good at the Lake View Sanatorium and the Green Mountain Sanatorium, both at Burlington. These two institutions are licensed by the Board of Supervisors to receive and care for insane patients.

The Brattleboro Retreat, in its wards, buildings, and appointments, is in better condition as a hospital for the insane than it has ever been before. During the biennium there has been completed, and now occupied, the Ripley Nurses Home, a commodious and modern structure, four stories high, with accommodations for seventy-five female employees.

Two cottages have been completed and two more are in process of construction.

There is also under construction an infirmary with a capacity of ninety patients.

Altogether the Retreat is a model institution under the efficient management of its superintendent, Dr. Horace G. Ripley.

At the State Hospital, automatic sprinklers have been installed which not only safeguard the patients but more efficiently protect the property.

From the appropriation made by the last legislature there has been completed and now about to be occupied, a new building with accommodations for one hundred patients. This added rooming space comes just in time as the hospital capacity had become practically occupied.

This building is equipped with facilities for hydro-thermic and hydro-electric treatment which, with all the other well ordered wards and dormitories, make the State Hospital compare favorably with other institutions of its class wherever located.

Under the efficient management of the superintendent, Dr. E. A. Stanley, friends and relatives may be assured that the patients committed there will have the best of care and every consideration given to their comfort and improvement.

VERMONT STATE HOSPITAL FOR THE INSANE
Waterbury, Vermont

MEDICAL STAFF

Dr. E. A. Stanley, Superintendent
Dr. J. C. O'Neil, First Assistant
Dr. H. A. Ladd, Second Assistant
Dr. L. P. Forest, Third Assistant
Dr. Evelyn B. Fisk, Fourth Assistant

The following shows the movement of population and other data for the biennial period:

Number of patients remaining June 30, 1930	Part Pay & State	*811
	Private	113
Number of patients admitted in two years	Part Pay & State	337
	Private	277
Number of patients discharged as Recovered	Part Pay & State	75
	Private	36
Number of patients discharged as Improved	Part Pay & State	48
	Private	60
Number of patients discharged as Unimproved	Part Pay & State	28
	Private	28
Number of patients discharged as Not Insane	Part Pay & State	112
	Private	20
Number of patients discharged as Undetermined	Part Pay & State	1
	Private	1
Number of patients died	Part Pay & State	120
	Private	41
Number of patients remaining June 30, 1932	Part Pay & State	880
	Private	88
Number of conditional discharged by Supervisors of State and Part Pay Patients		183
Number of absolute discharges by Supervisors of State and Part Pay Patients		22
Number of conditionally discharged patients returned by revocation of discharge by Supervisors		67
Number of epileptic State Patients admitted in two years		19
Number of epileptic State Patients remaining June 30, 1932		74
Number of Nurses		111
Percentage of nurses to patients		8.51
Number of drug cases committed at the expense of the State in two years		23
Number of drug cases (State) discharged		25
Number of drug cases (State) remaining		0
Number of alcoholic cases (State) admitted in two years		49
Number of alcoholic cases (State) discharged		50
Number of alcoholic cases (State) remaining		6

*Includes patients on visit and elopement.

BRATTLEBORO RETREAT
Brattleboro, Vermont

The Medical Staff is as follows:

Horace G. Ripley, M. D., Superintendent
Freeman A. Tower, M. D., Assistant Superintendent
Arthur V. Goss, M. D., Senior Assistant Physician
Marius Peladeau, M. D., Senior Assistant Physician
John R. Andrews, M. D., Assistant Physician
Feiga Gross, M. D., Interne

The following table shows the movement of population for the biennial period, together with other pertinent data:

Number of patients remaining June 30, 1930	Part Pay & State	354
	Private	253
Number of patients admitted in two years	Part Pay & State	99
	Private	397
Of the above 99 Part Pay & State patients, 11 were first admitted as Private patients prior to June 30, 1930.		
Number of patients discharged as recovered	Part Pay & State	6
	Private	44
Number of patients discharged as improved	Part Pay & State	18
	Private	176
Number of patients discharged as unimproved	Part Pay & State	2
	Private	37
Number of patients discharged as not insane	Part Pay & State	4
	Private	49
Number of patients died	Part Pay & State	48
	Private	62
Of the private patients remaining there are 69 who are residents of the State of Vermont. Of the private patients remaining there are 204 who are residents of other States and Provinces.		
Number of patients remaining June 30, 1932	Part Pay & State	370
	Private	273
Number of conditional discharges by the Supervisors of State Patients	Male	18
	Female	14
Number of absolute discharges by the Supervisors of State Patients	Male	1
	Female	0
Number of absolutely discharged State patients returned	Male	0
	Female	0
Number of conditionally discharged State patients returned by revocation of discharge by Supervisors	Male	6
	Female	4
Number of voluntary State patients admitted in two years		0
Number of epileptic State patients admitted in two years		2
Number of epileptic State patients remaining June 30, 1932		21
Number of nurses		68
Percentage of nurses to patients		1 to 9.5
Number of drug cases committed at the expense of the State in two years		0
Number of drug cases (State) discharged		0
Number of drug cases (State) remaining		0
Number of alcoholic cases (State) admitted		11
Number of alcoholic cases (State) discharged		5
Number of alcoholic cases (State) remaining June 30, 1932		7

LAKEVIEW SANATORIUM, INC.

Dr. Waldo J. Upton, Medical Director

Burlington, Vermont

Number of patients remaining June 30, 1930	10
Number of patients admitted in two years	64
	<hr/> 74
Number of patients discharged as recovered	21
Number of patients discharged as improved	26
Number of patients discharged as unimproved	8
Number of patients died	9
Number of patients remaining June 30, 1932	10
	<hr/> 74
Epileptics	0
Patients residents of Vermont	5

GREEN MOUNTAIN SANATORIUM

T. E. Hays, M. D., Medical Director

Burlington, Vermont

Number of insane patients remaining June 30, 1930	2
Number of patients admitted in two years	17
Number of patients discharged in two years	18
Number of patients died	1
Number of patients remaining June 30, 1932	0
Of those remaining there were:	
Epileptics	0
Residents of Vermont, remaining	0

The following table shows the population and status in all of the hospitals for care of the insane in the State:

State Hospital:

State and Part Pay patients	880	
Private patients	88	968
		<u> </u>

Brattleboro Retreat:

State and Part Pay patients	370	
Private patients	273	643
		<u> </u>

Lakeview Sanatorium:

All private patients	10	10
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Green Mountain Sanatorium:

All private patients	0	0
		<u> </u>

Whole number of patients in our hospitals, residents, non-residents, and transients 1621

Of these there are private patients, non-residents:

State Hospital	0	
Brattleboro Retreat	204	
Lakeview Sanatorium	5	
Green Mountain Sanatorium	0	
		<u> </u>
		209
		<u> </u>
		1412

Of these there were private patients, residents of Vermont:

State Hospital (not including part pay)	88	
Brattleboro Retreat	69	
Lakeview Sanatorium	5	
Green Mountain Sanatorium	0	
		<u> </u>
		162
		<u> </u>
		1250

Of this number there were supported by the State at the

State Hospital:

Probate Court Drug Cases	0
Probate Court Alcoholic Cases	6

Brattleboro Retreat:

Probate Court Drug Cases	0
Probate Court Alcoholic Cases	7
	<u> </u>
	13

Leaving the actual number of insane residents or transients in our hospitals at the expense of the State on June 30, 1932 1237

Of this number there were 16 patients absent from the hospital either on a 30 or 60 day visit permit or elopement.

To the superintendents and medical staff of each of the institutions to which our official duties have called us, we take this opportunity to express our appreciation of their uniform courtesy and helpfulness.

And we thank you, Commissioner Dyer, for your timely suggestions and aid in the prosecution of our work in supervising the care of the insane of the State, the discharges from the hospitals, and recommendations for the transfer of patients from one institution to another when the interests of the State and the patient requires such transfer.

Respectfully submitted,

R. M. PELTON, M. D., Richford
F. L. OSGOOD, M. D., Saxtons River
F. E. STEELE, M. D., Secretary, Montpelier

Supervisors of the Insane

Montpelier, Vermont
June 30, 1932