

## PHYSICIAN'S REPORT.

*To the Superintendent of the Vermont State Prison:*

I have the pleasure of submitting to you the following report for the past biennial term. During the past two years the number of inmates has been nearly as large as at any time during the eleven years I have been prison physician, yet the amount of serious sickness during this time has been much less than has been the case for the same time in the past.

This improvement has been brought about to a great extent by the improved hygienic and mental treatment of the inmates. The food served to the inmates is clean and well cooked, each person having all he wants, as the food is not rationed out, and is served to them in a clean, light dining-room where they are allowed to converse and feel at ease while eating. All of these factors go to making a meal a pleasure as well as a necessity.

Most of our cases of sickness which have required much attention have been those which originated outside of the Institution, for at no time, aside from a small number of cases of measles, have we had any epidemic of any kind. There have been several cases admitted to the Institution who were suffering from specific disease in the late stages. All of these cases have had the benefit of the most improved treatment, regardless of the expense it has made the state, as the Officials have very generously supplied both apparatus and medicine for these cases. Very few of those who have been treated have received any treatment previous to their coming here.

One case of pulmonary tuberculosis has been transferred to the Hospital at Waterbury, but this case was without doubt tubercular when admitted to this Institution, though not in an advanced stage. One female inmate has also been transferred to Waterbury, suffering from epilepsy. Owing to the crowded condition of the women's department we have no facilities for caring for these cases.

There has been one death during the past two years, Fred E. Eastwood, a life inmate, from chronic nephritis and valvular heart disease. He had served many years in the Institution and at the time of his death was 77 years of age.

I wish to take this opportunity to thank you and the other officers of the Institution for the many kindnesses and the way they have assisted me in my work as Prison Physician, for the past two years.

Respectfully submitted,

S. H. McKEWEN, M.D.