

## Patients At Morganton Insane Hospital Show Alarming Gains

Instruct Superintendent To Hold For Consideration Of Governing Body, May Be Illegal.

(By R. R. Clark.)

Morganton.—At the quarterly meeting of the board of directors of the State hospital the report of Superintendent McCampbell, for the quarter ending, September 30, showed 2310 patients on the roll, 1107 men and 1203 women. The admission rate continues high, the report stated. One hundred and eighty-one patients were admitted during the quarter, an average of more than two per day. During that period the enrolled population was increased by 124. "The resident population," the report continues, "owing to death and the exercise of a most liberal parole system, has only increased to the number of 26 patients" during the quarter. But this rate, if it continues, as is probable, "will give an average of approximately 100 residual patients yearly, this being the uniform rate of increase during the past three or four years."

From the foregoing it will be understood that the permanent population of the institution is increasing at the rate of 100 per year. With that number added each year it can be seen how quickly additional dormitory space provided by legislative appropriation is taken up. "This alarming rate of increase," continues Supt. McCampbell, "can be checked by a more rigid restriction in the admission of unsuitable patients, and, in my opinion, such steps will be necessary unless the state see fit to make more generous appropriations for both permanent improvement and maintenance; and pending such action by the legislature restriction to urgent cases will have already reached the limit as outlined by the budget bureau as to population and the amount appropriated per capita for maintenance. Any other alternative will result in a lowered standard of care, and the present standard can not be lowered with due consideration to our unfortunate wards and the exacting demands of the public."

### Action Of The Board.

In view of the superintendent's report as to available room the board adopted the following: "It being apparent that space in the institution must be conserved, the superintendent is instructed to hold for the consideration of the board all cases of doubtful eligibility."

Room in state institutions for the insane becomes more pressing with each passing year on account of the enlarged demand. Epileptics, the feeble minded, idiots, drug addicts and inebriates, and persons charged with crime or convicted of crime, are not legally admissible to the Morganton institution. Provision is made for some of these elsewhere and for others there is no provision, and all provision is inadequate for the number asking admission. As a result numbers of the classes mentioned get in the Morganton institution from time to time because they are committed as insane and the real character of their trouble may not be discovered until after they are patients. Then they must be kept, they can't be turned out until their condition admits of their going at large, and it is usually impossible to transfer those for whom quarters are provided elsewhere because of the lack of space.

That is what Dr. McCampbell had in mind when he declared that "restriction to urgent cases will have to commence at once." Of course to friends and kin of applicants all cases are urgent. Even the inebriates who have become a nuisance and are headed toward the jail on account of misconduct; also the embezzlers and other crooks, frequently become insane and urger cases in consideration of the alternative. It is the same as to epileptics, drug addicts and morons, the idiots who become a nuisance or a burden at home, and those responsible for them are detected and kept out. But many of the "unsuitable" cases do get by because the examining physicians really believe them proper subjects, or feel that they should be sent somewhere, and promptly certify that they are proper subjects for the state institution at Morganton. Also clerks of the superior court who pass the final word by signing papers for admissions, more than often sign whatever appears to be in proper form on its face, without thought as to final results.

### The Old And Senile.

Another class that figures more largely than either of those named are the old and senile, those who become troublesome in second childhood. Most of these people are mentally off, but most of them are sent to the state institution because the family desires to sidestep the burden and the counties refuse to provide for them in county homes. All this class needs is care.

They are beyond expert treatment and only await death as a relief. They get into the Morganton institution as the others mentioned, because they are certified as insane and dangerous or troublesome. Some of them have no people to care for them and must be sent somewhere. Others could be cared for at home, but the burden is shifted to the state. It is admitted that the state can care for these people, give them better care and at less cost than can be done by the counties or even the families, in most instances. But

If the state is to provide homes for old people, infirmaries for the sick and the helpless, it would be better to go at it directly. The classes mentioned should not be put into the institutions for the insane under the guise of insanity. Of course, all of them—the epileptics, the morons, idiots, the inebriates and the criminals whose minds become much affected when punishment looms; the dopesters and all the others—all these cases, or near all, have their appeal and somebody to push their application with assurance that they are simply insane and belong in the Morganton institution.

But the result is that the classes mentioned gradually take up space that should be occupied by the insane, those for whom the institution is intended and many of whom could be and are helped by expert treatment. Therefore unless what is called "unsuitable" are rigidly excluded presently the "innocent" insane will be held in county jails awaiting room. And some of the people who have helped crowd the Morganton institution with people who do not belong there, will raise a mighty yell about the situation.

This matter has been gone into here for public information; especially to get the exact situation before all persons who may be interested in applicants for admission to the State hospital at Morganton; and more especially for the consideration of clerks of court and examining physicians. All should remember that pressure for unsuitable cases may mean for some time to come, the exclusion of suitable cases who really belong.

### A Growing Fair.

From The Concord Tribune.

Six years ago when 10,000 or 15,000 persons visited the Cabarrus Fair in a single day much was made of the fact. It was a tremendous crowd for those days and many persons predicted that no such crowd would ever be seen again at the fair.

And the folly of these predictions was never more forcibly shown than during the past week, when about 150,000 persons visited the fair in five days. In a single day 47,205 persons paid to enter the gates, and in addition there were several hundred others who gained admission through the medium of complimentary passes. Next year the fair officials will have 50,000 as their goal for a single day, and who is there to predict that the goal cannot be reached?

### Try Star Want Ads.

## Spartanburg Fair Plans Much Larger

Last Two Days Of October And First Three Days Of November. Various Days Set.

(Special To The Fair.)

Spartanburg, Oct. 18.—Things are rapidly taking shape at the Spartanburg county fair grounds for the greatest fair ever staged at this famous fair ground. This year's event will be held on October 30-31, November 1, 2, and 3, five big days and five big nights of wholesome amusement for the people of this and surrounding sections.

The exhibits will be unusually fine and will consist of agricultural, livestock, poultry, swine, sheep, pure bred dairy cattle, farm products and community exhibits. There will be horse races each

day, trotting, pacing, and running. There will also be greyhound races, motorcycles and on Saturday, November 3, A. A. A. official automobile races.

There will be a football game between Wofford and Presbyterian colleges on Thursday, Nov. 1.

High Class Amusements. Rubin and Cherry shows will furnish the midway attractions this year. This show is said to be the largest of its kind in the world.

There will be a number of free acts daily between the races and at night in front of the grandstand. These will consist of the Clarion Trumpeters, English Steppers (dancing act), Phunny Phord, Na-

gle's educated dogs, the Harrisons, and greyhound races.

Free School Tickets. Friday, November 2, is school day for Spartanburg county. Every white child in the public schools of the county will be given a free ticket. Distribution of tickets made thru teachers. Teachers will please call upon the superintendent of education for tickets at least ten days before the fair.

Other features of the fair will include an athletic meet on Friday, Nov. 2, band concert and fire works on each of the five nights.

Special excursion fares to the Spartanburg county fair are being offered by the Southern railway.

Report of the condition of the FARMERS & MERCHANTS BANK at Mooresboro, Boiling Springs, N. C., to the Corporation Commission at the close of business on the 3rd day of October, 1928.

### Resources.

Loans and discounts	.....\$208,613.25
Overdrafts	.....62.41
All other stocks and bonds	.....20.00
Banking house	.....4,483.27
Furniture and fixtures	.....4,346.95
Cash in vault and amounts due from approved depository banks	.....23,377.66
Other real estate	.....2,604.93
Expense	.....7,349.99
<b>Total</b>	<b>.....250,858.36</b>

### Liabilities.

Capital stock paid in	.....26,500.00
Surplus fund	.....5,800.00
Demand deposits due banks	.....8,339.62
Other deposits subject to check	.....51,504.19
Cashiers checks outstanding	.....246.60
Time certificates of deposit (due on or after 30 days)	.....123,467.95
Bills payable	.....35,000.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>.....250,858.36</b>

State of North Carolina, County of Cleveland.

Y. L. McCARDWELL, cashier, A. I. JOLLEY, director, and M. M. GREENE, director of the above named bank, each personally appeared before me this day, and, being duly sworn, each for himself, says that the foregoing report is true to the best of his knowledge and belief.

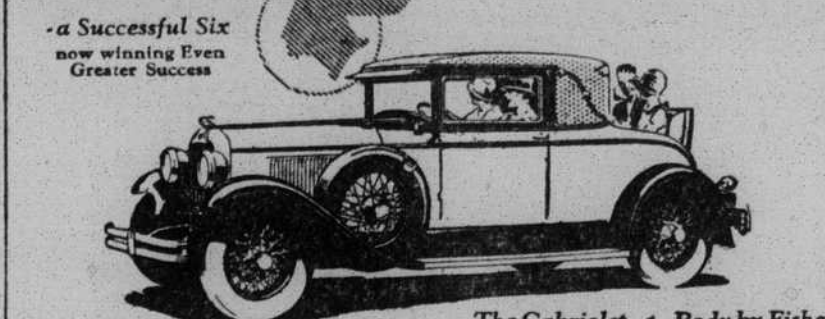
Sworn to and subscribed before me this 15th day of October, 1928.

WILLIE V. GREENE, Notary Public (My commission expires April 27, 1930.)

Y. L. McCARDWELL, A. I. JOLLEY, M. M. GREENE.

gle's educated dogs, the Harrisons, and greyhound races.

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