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A SHORT HISTORY  
 of  
 ARIZONA STATE HOSPITAL  
 by  
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 Personnel Director

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## THE NINETEENTH CENTURY

Eight years after Arizona became a separate Territory the concept that Mental Health is a state activity was first recognized by the Territorial Legislature. Upon February 17, 1871, legislation was enacted which stated the various Boards of Supervisors of the Counties must provide for the confinement of all insane persons, "either in the County jail or in such other manner and place as shall in their judgment be best for the safety of said insane person and of the community."

Then, as now, there was no easy solution to the problem of the mentally ill and it was soon discovered the solution given by the Legislature of 1871 could not be successfully implemented.

The Arizona Citizen of March 23, 1872, reported, "Judge C. A. Tweed has been at Stockton, California, working up an arrangement for the care of the insane of this Territory, and has obtained a proposition from Drs. Langdon & Clark, proprietors of a private institution, in which the insane of the State of Nevada are received and treated. Following is a copy of Langdon & Clark's proposition:

' We will provide for such insane persons as may be delivered to us by the authorities of Arizona, and furnish them with

suitable board, clothing and medical attendance for the sum of \$10.50 per week, payable monthly. In the event of the death of a patient, the necessary funeral expenses to be refunded to us. In the event of the discharge of a patient, the authorities of Arizona are to allow a sum not to exceed thirty dollars, except by special direction by said authorities.'."

A Territorial Legislative Act of February 13, 1873, authorized the Governor of the Territory to ~~contract~~ with the State of California, or any hospital in California, to care for the insane persons of the Territory of Arizona. In this legislation are the following words: "The expense of sending such person to such hospital shall be borne in all cases by the respective counties from which such persons are sent, but their expenses and all charges for their care, treatment and maintenance while at such hospital, as well as expenses incident to their discharge therefrom or death, shall be chargeable to the Territory."

To insure that mental patients from Arizona received proper care it is to be noted that upon January 20, 1877, the Governor signed an act of the Legislature which provided \$40.00 per year to pay some one living near the asylum of Landgon and Clark to visit same once each three months to determine if the patients

were properly cared for, examine the patients and direct the physicians in charge of the asylum to discharge patients if sufficiently restored to reason.

It would appear as though the cost of caring for the mentally ill was reduced in 1881 when the Territorial Legislature passed a joint resolution authorizing the Governor to contract with Drs. Langdon and Clark, of Stockton, California, for the care of the insane patients of the Territory at the rate of \$6.00 per week for each patient.

In passing, it is interesting to note the importance of mental health to the citizens of the Territory of Arizona as reflected in the yearly budget of the twelfth Territorial Legislature which met January 8, 1883.

For Penitentiary	\$36,000
For Insane	12,000
For General Expense	25,000
For Interest	<u>27,500</u>
Total	\$100,500

The Thirteenth Territorial Legislature which met in Prescott during the winter of 1885 (probably January) did much to shape the future development of the State. It passed an act to pay for the expense attending the examination of the Territorial

Insane at Stockton, California. Further, it enacted a law to aid in the construction of a railroad between the City of Phoenix and the Southern Pacific Railroad. Also, it appropriated \$25,000 for Arizona University, \$5,000 for the Normal School at Tempe and \$100,000 for the Arizona Insane Asylum at Phoenix. This latter appropriation was bitterly opposed at the time as an unnecessary burden.

In addition, this Legislative Assembly authorized and instructed the Board of Supervisors of Maricopa County to issue county bonds to the amount of thirty-five hundred dollars for the purpose of purchasing one hundred and sixty acres of land upon which to build the Territorial Insane Asylum. It also directed the Boards of Supervisors of the counties to contract with the lowest responsible bidder for the transportation of Insane persons of their respective counties to the Insane Asylum designated by the Territory of Arizona.

Lest we think this Assembly was entirely concerned with higher learning and the Mentally ill it is to be remembered it also established the Public School system of the Territory, specifying among other things:

"Sec. 80. All schools must be taught in the English language.

Sec. 81. Instruction must be given in the following branches,

viz.: Reading, Writing, Orthography, Arithmetic, Geography, Grammar, History of the United States, Elements of Physiology, Elements of Book-keeping, Industrial Drawing, and such other studies as the Territorial Board of Education may prescribe, but no such studies can be pursued to the neglect or exclusion of the studies enumerated.

Sec. 82. Instruction must be given during the entire school course in manners and morals."

March 9, 1885, the following act of the Territorial Legislature was approved by Governor Trible and became a portion of the laws of the Territory.

"No. 58.

AN ACT

To establish, maintain and provide for the Government of an  
Insane Asylum.

Be it enacted by the Legislative Assembly of the Territory of  
Arizona:

Section 1. There shall be established within and for the Territory of Arizona, an asylum for the insane, which shall be known by the name of the Insane Asylum of Arizona, and all buildings used therefor shall be erected upon the lands to be hereafter obtained by the Directors hereinafter provided for, at or near the City of Phoenix, in the County of Maricopa, Territory of Arizona, and said Insane Asylum shall be constructed

by and be, and remain under the control of said Directors of said Asylum, to be hereafter appointed in accordance with the provisions of this Act; provided, however, that said County of Maricopa, or said City of Phoenix, or some private person or persons, on or before the 1st day of January, 1886, shall first have conveyed, or cause to be conveyed to the said Board of Directors, as hereinafter provided for, and their successors in office, for the use and benefit of the Territory of Arizona and for said Asylum, not less than eighty acres of land, with sufficient water to irrigate the same, available for the purposes of such Asylum, and free from all incumbrances; and, if such land be not so donated on or before the 1st day of January, 1886, this Act shall be void and of no further force or effect.

Sec. 2. There shall be a Board of Directors of the Insane Asylum of Arizona, which shall consist of three persons, \*\*\*\*\*  
\*\*\*\*\*. Said Board shall adopt a common seal, and shall be known and designated as 'The Directors of the Insane Asylum of Arizona,' \*\*\*\*\*.

Sec. 4. The said Board of Directors shall have full power and authority to manage the affairs of said asylum. \*\*\*\*\*.

Sec. 5. That for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this Act, a loan of one hundred thousand dollars is hereby authorized to be negotiated and made, on the faith and credit of the Territory of Arizona, and to bear interest at the rate of seven per cent per annum. \*\*\*\*\*.

Sec. 12. Before the sale of any of said bonds, the said Board of Directors shall cause notice of such sale to be published, for the space of one month, in four daily newspapers published in English - one in the City of New York, State of New York, one in the City of San Francisco, state of California, one at the Territorial Capital, and one in the City of Phoenix, in said Territory. \*\*\*\*\*.

Sec. 19. The compensation of the members of said Board shall be ten dollars per day each, for each day's actual attendance upon the said Board and in traveling to and from the place of meeting; provided, that no member of said Board shall receive compensation in any one year exceeding the sum of one hundred and fifty dollars, \*\*\*\*\*.

Sec. 20. The said Board of Directors shall employ and maintain in charge of said Asylum a resident physician, who must be a college graduate in medicine and surgery, and have practiced his profession as such for not less than four years, \*\*\*\*\*.

Sec. 21. The resident physician, who shall also be the superintendent, shall be the chief executive officer of the Asylum; \*\*\*\*\*.

Sec. 25. The Governor of the Territory, the Chief Justice of the Territorial Supreme Court, the Secretary of the Territory, the Superintendent of Public Instruction, and the County Physician of Maricopa County shall, ex officio, constitute an Honorary Board of Directors for said Insane Asylum. The Duties of said Honorary Board shall be to inspect said Insane Asylum, to investigate the books, accounts and doings of the Board of Directors and all officers of said Asylum \*\*\*\*\*. Each

of said Honorary Board of Directors shall receive a salary of fifty dollars per annum, \*\*\*\*\*.

Sec. 27. This Act shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage.

Approved March 9, 1885."

The notice of the sale of bonds to be published outside the Territory was probably most necessary as we note in the material placed in the cornerstone of the first building erected for the Asylum a card which states, "Valley Bank of Phoenix. March 13", 1886 Capital \$50000.00."

Following the actions of the Territorial Legislature of 1885 events connected with the State Hospital moved rather rapidly.

The Arizona Gazette of May 21, 1885, reported:

"The Board of supervisors today purchased a tract of 160 acres, 2½ miles east of town, from C. H. Veil, for the uses and purposes of the proposed territorial insane asylum. A water right belongs to the land, and the price paid, \$3,500 in county bonds, makes the property the cheapest transferred in the county for a number of years. The location is certainly a very desirable one and the board of supervisors has done well in this purchase."

Upon the day of purchase the Board of Supervisors of Maricopa submitted this property to the Hospital as evidenced by the following handwritten document now on file in the office of the Hospital Business Manager.

"To the Hon. the Directors of the Insane Asylum of Arizona

Gentlemen

You are hereby notified

That the Board of Supervisors of Maricopa County did on the 21st day of May 1885 selectea the South West quarter of section two (2) in Township (1) North of Range three (3) East Salt River and Gila Meridian and containing one hundred and sixty acres of land with one water right in the Grand Canal Company to irrigate the said land for the construction and erection of the Insane Asylum thereon all of which is respectfully submitted for your acceptance.

By order of the Board                    )  
of supervisors of Maricopa            )  
County made May 21 1885                )

J. L. B. Alexander  
Clerk of the Board  
of Supervisors of  
Maricopa Co A.T."

The deed conveying this one hundred and sixty acres of land, with water rights, was executed October 8, 1885, and recorded October 12, 1885. The original, hand written deed is now on file in the office of the Hospital Business Manager.

Upon October 12, 1885, the Grand Canal Company issued share number fifteen of its stock to the Directors of the Insane Asylum of Arizona. This share of stock has included on it the following words, "Location of the Canal, Salt River Valley, Maricopa County, Arizona. Capital Stock \$25,000. 100 Shares, \$250 Each".

The Phoenix West <sup>H</sup>erald of October 1 and 22, 1885, reported upon plans and bids for the buildings to be constructed. The same newspaper reported that upon March 13, 1886, a cornerstone had been laid.

The initial construction of the Hospital was financed by a bond issue. This financial transaction seemed to have caused some difficulties. Following a lengthy investigation we note the Territorial Governor removed from office the Honorary Board of Directors of the Insane Asylum of Arizona with these remarks to each member.

"

Prescott, May 15, 1886.

Sir: You are notified that by an executive order made this

day by me, as Governor of the Territory of Arizona, you are removed from the office of Insane Asylum Director, and discharged from all powers, duties and responsibilities in any manner connected with said office, on account of neglect of duty and official misconduct.

Very Respectfully

C. MEYER ZULICK, Governor"

As noted previously, the Territorial Governor was a member of the Honorary Board of Governors.

The Phoenix Herald of July 6, 1886, reported that the building now known as the "D" Building had been completed, turned over to the Directors, accepted and paid for. This same newspaper report stated that bids for this building had ranged from \$44,150 to \$62,825, the lowest bid was accepted and the contract awarded to Carle, Croly & Abernerty of Stockton. Then, as now, there were modifications in the specifications as work progressed, the principal modification being the raising of the basement walls three feet, making the building three stories instead of two and increasing its capacity over fifty per cent. Concerning this modification the newspaper report states, "It was found that there would be an abundance of funds on hand to accomplish this and that it would be done

much cheaper during the construction of the building than at any subsequent time and further-more it was believed that the lower story would be the most comfortable of all during the summer months which proves to be the case."

This newspaper report further gives a rather lengthy description of the building. It states the center portion of the building was the Executive Department, with wings on each side of this area to accommodate patients. The second story of the center portion of the building contained the parlors and living rooms for the Superintendent's family.

Further, this article stated the walls are hard-finished, "in Cave Creek lime which proves to be nearly equal to Portland cement".

The following will be noted in this same report: "In the attic of the main building is placed a huge galvanized iron tank which will be kept constantly filled by means of a steam pump, and one similar tank is to be found in the attic of each wing. The roof itself is of corrugated galvanized iron with tin deck on the main building and the towers on the wings and main building are covered by tin shingles.

The height of the front elevation of the main building to top of tower is about 90 feet. In the rear of each wing is a walled area about 100 X 100 feet for the open air exercise of

the patients, and between these two areas, behind the main building, is a one-story building about 30 X 40, built of brick, containing the laundry which is supplied with the necessary machinery, the engine room, and a bakery. The building is covered by iron and entirely detached.

The main building, wings, laundry, etc., are drained into a cesspool in the rear, some 300 feet distant, and which is about 20 feet in diameter and 15 feet deep, with made stone bottom and is brick lined and arched with a brick ventilating flue.

The building, as finished, can be made to accommodate, readily, about 280 patients, and is so designed and constructed that additions can be made at any time and the convenience and appearance of the present structure will be in no way impaired.

The construction of the building required upwards of eight months and occupied all the men that could conveniently work upon it during that time, the number ranging from 40 to 100 men, at times. In the walls of the building, and accessory structures, have been laid upwards of a million and a half of brick. More than 4,000 barrels of lime have been used in the walls and in plastering all of which was Cave Creek Lime, and of the very best quality, setting like stone in the walls of the building and finished by Messrs. Goldberg."

Also in this report is stated, "The attention of the Directors has however, not been confined entirely to the erection of the building. By direction of the Board, Director Hatch has had the entire 160 acres cleared of brush, plowed, harrowed and seeded down to grain and alfalfa, except such portion as has been reserved for a vegetable garden and orchard, in the latter of which upwards of 2,000 vines and trees have been set out and are growing nicely. A hedge has been planted along the entire front of the grounds."

Upon December 27, 1886, the Board of Directors of the Insane Asylum of Arizona issued to J. L. Ward and J. H. Behan of Phoenix a contract "for the removal of the insane of the Territory of Arizona, now at the asylum of Dr. Isa Clark, at Stockton, in the State of California, to the Territorial Insane Asylum at Phoenix Arizona Territory, and to convey said insane in emigrant sleeping cars from Stockton, California, to Maricopa Station, Arizona, and in comfortable conveyances from said Maricopa Station to the Asylum at Phoenix, Arizona, and to furnish suitable food to said insane from Stockton to the Asylum at Phoenix, and all the necessary attendance during the journey:\*\*\*\*\* at the price of \$42 per capita for each and everyone of the insane removed. \*\*\*\*\* and that said parties of the first part will receive the said insane at the Asylum of Dr. Isa Clark, at Stockton, California, on or before the 10th day of January A.D. 1887,\*\*\*\*\* ,

and that Dr. O. L. Mahoney, Superintendent of the Insane Asylum of Arizona, shall have the entire supervision of the management of said insane persons during their removal."

Mr. Louis Ludwick, who has been an employee of the Santa Fe Railroad for over 35 years, has stated that an emigrant sleeping car was an ordinary box car with a layer of straw in it.

upon January 15, 1887, the Arizona Gazette reported that shortly after six PM., January 14th, a procession of six, four horse coaches was seen going down Washington Street to the new Hospital. In the procession were 61 mental patients, guards and the Hospital Superintendent. Further, this article stated that Dr. O. L. Mahoney, the Hospital Superintendent, had gone to Stockton to accompany the patients, there had been little difficulty upon the trip and only one patient had escaped. This patient was found at the home of a Phoenix resident. Further, this article stated Mr. J. L. Ward had the contract to transport 70 patients from stockton but the authorities at Stockton could produce only 61 patients.

Probably as a sequel to the story of January 15th, and for the information of the citizens of the Territory, the same newspaper upon January 17th published a list of the names of the patients in the new Arizona Insane Asylum.

During the first decade the Hospital showed a steady increase as evidenced by the First Biennial Report of the Board of Control 1895-96. The following excerpts from this report indicate this condition.

Inmates, average 1893 and 1894	107
Inmates now in the Asylum	154
Cost for two years	\$54,355.88
Cost for preceding two years	\$51,579.61

"A comparison shows but little increase in cost during 1895 and 1896 over the preceding two years, although the number of patients is greatly in excess of what it was then."

## THE TWENTIETH CENTURY

At the turn of the century we note from data in the State Library that the Territory of Arizona had a population of 122,931, while that of Phoenix was 5,544. The Biennial Report of the Board of Control of Arizona for 1897/98 - 1902/04 states that at the beginning of 1900 the Hospital had 135 male and 40 female, a total of 175 patients. It would seem the Hospital had grown considerably during the period from its activation to the end of the century, realizing it started with 61 patients. The population of the territory in 1887 was about 60,000, and that of Phoenix about 2,000.

In this same Biennial Report is to be noted the following:  
"Upon our assuming charge of the Insane Asylum a few months prior to the beginning of the biennial period, we found that one of the most urgent needs was a uniform system of reports and accounts."

"Four wards in use are badly overcrowded, owing to the fact that the two basement wards had never been finished."

The Board of Control was organized March 25, 1895, and began to function upon April 1, 1895. It replaced the Insane Asylum Board, the Territorial Prison Board and the Reforms School Board.

This Board estimated repairs were needed, at a cost of \$18,000.



## SOFT MENU

Breakfast = Lasco Orange Juice, Oatmeal, Soft Cooked Egg,  
Toast and Butter, Coffee and Milk.

Lunch = Ground Beef and Gravy, Mashed Potatoes, Mashed Turnips,  
Cranberry Sauce, Bread and Butter, Ice Cream and Milk.

Dinner = Beef-Noodle Soup, Spanish Rice, Pea Puree, Bread and  
Butter, Bread Pudding with Lemon Sauce, Milk."

During the fiscal year 1899-1900, the cost of operation of the Hospital was \$32,555.48 as shown in the Board's Report. Of this sum \$389.30 was spent for medical supplies and \$14,112.42 for salaries of employees.

The General Assembly of 1902 changed the name of the Hospital from "Insane Asylum of Arizona" to the "Territorial Asylum for the Insane".

The 22nd Legislative Assembly that met January 19, 1903, did much to influence the operation of the Hospital. This Assembly authorized the Board of Control "to prepare and adopt forms of complaint, certificate of lunacy, and commitment and any and all rules and regulations they may deem necessary for the proper commitment of insane persons to the asylum and adjudged by competent courts and tribunals to be insane and to be removed to and kept and confined in said Asylum all persons who have been adjudged insane and who are now and who shall hereafter be adjudged insane."

This Assembly also stated the Superintendent of the Hospital could release a patient upon parole, while the Board of Control could order the discharge of a patient when he was not insane.

There appears to be no longer in existence a compilation of the laws passed by the 22nd Legislative Assembly which met in 1903, but we do read in the Journal of this Assembly that House Bill number 92 was passed by the House upon March 6, 1903, and approved by the Governor upon March 19, 1903. This House Bill was an act to provide for the issuance of \$100,000.00 in bonds for the purpose of making improvements to the Territorial Asylum for the Insane, and other purposes.

It would appear that the credit of the Territory of Arizona was not as good in 1903 as it had been in 1885 when it issued bonds for \$100,000.00 to establish the Hospital.

Report Number 1038 to the Congress of the United States urged the passage of H.R. 6494, an act to approve Arizona's bonds for \$100,000.00 for improvements to the Territorial Asylum for Insane, Arizona. This report stated there were almost 300 patients in the asylum, in one building adequate for about 150. There was no separation by classes of patients, and the Warden could not give the necessary aid and attention to the inmates.

In the report of the Board of Control for 1903-1904 it is stated that a well had been sunk and cased upon the Hospital grounds at a cost of \$1,144.50. Further, that when approved by Congress, bonds in the amount of \$100,000 would be issued to erect buildings to overcome crowding. These bonds were to be issued during several years. \$20,000 in bonds were to be issued by June 30, 1904, thereafter \$10,000 in bonds were to be issued each year until the approved action had been completed.

Upon May 28, 1904, \$10,000 in 5% Territorial Bonds were sold for \$10,876.80, the "highest premium ever received on Territorial Bonds". With this latter sum available the Board let a contract to build a cottage to house 50 patients.

In passing, it might be interesting to read the following item in the report of the Board of Control covering the period July 1, 1902 to June 30, 1904.

"CASUALTIES. A coincidence rather remarkable occurred during the first fiscal year of this period in the demise of the first two patients committed to an Asylum from the Territory of Arizona.

Originally these were sent to Stockton, California. They died within a few days of each other. One of these, Mollie Monroe, or Mollie Sawyer, was quite a character in the pioneer days of the West. She was, perhaps, better known to more 'Old Timers' than any other woman in the Territory, while her caprices,

mad acts and adventures on the frontier in the early sixties were realities that to most of us, seem to have existed only in romance and fiction. She carried the proverbial six-shooter and was the wildest roisterer at many midnight escapades. She was the discoverer of the famous Castle Creek Hot Springs, of Arizona."

The accuracy of the above report is questionable. It was written about 25 years after the first patient was sent to Steckton. Records in the Hospital Record Room show Westley Wicketts, Hospital Number 1, was admitted May 12, 1876, and died November 26, 1902. Mollie Monroe, Hospital Number 2, was admitted May 18, 1877, and died November 20, 1902.

The report of the Medical Superintendent of the Hospital stated to the Board of Control that upon July 1, 1903, there were 188 male patients and 38 female patients in the Hospital.

However, the Biennial Report of the Board of Control dated July 17, 1908, states that during the period 1906 - 1907 the Hospital had an average of 252.86 patients that cost the state 45.5 cents each per day. During the period 1907 - 1908 the average number of patients had risen to 289.4 while the daily cost had jumped to 50.5 cents per patient.

A report of the Board of Control dated January 8, 1909, has the following remarks concerning the "D" Building.

"but the main building is approaching, if it has not already reached, a condition of unsafety, that will not permit of its occupancy many more years \*\*\*\*\*", so that with the best

of care, under the most favorable conditions it cannot be considered other than a hazardous place to house over three hundred of the Territory's unfortunate dependents."

This same report stated the "C" Building was under construction and further "In lieu of buying land for sewerage ~~\*\*\*\*\*~~ the sewer line was extended a half mile to the river bed." Also, this report stated that for the Biennial period ending June 30, 1908, the cost of operating the Hospital was \$109,354.51, and that it was estimated the number of inmates would increase 50 during the next two years.

The report of June 30, 1909, stated 127 patients had been admitted during the year, giving the patient population upon this latter date as 256 males and 69 females, a total of 325. In this same report it was stated the death rate had been 9.3% during the year, explaining this high rate was due to the over crowded condition of the Hospital.

During this same period the dairy herd was sold and a new herd of Holstein cows and a good Holstein Bull were purchased. Among other accomplishments the Board stated, "cleared, leveled, fenced and have ready to plant the ten acre place one half miles south of the Asylum".

During the Fiscal Year 1910-1911, the Medical Superintendent included in his report the following sentence. "There have been no suicides or homicides, but I regret to report the accidental drowning of an inmate while swimming in the lake."

September 5, 1911, a fire started in the "D" Building which caused considerable damage to the structure. The Arizona Gazette of that date has included in its story of the fire the following remarks:

"Flames discovered at 9:30 o'clock this morning in the old administration building of the Territorial Asylum for the Insane located about three miles east of Phoenix, on the Tempe road, practically destroyed that structure, and for more than an hour menaced the cottages in the immediate vicinity of the main structure. Despite the harrowing possibilities of panic among violent patients or the overlooking of the infirm, not a life was lost nor a patient injured. Defective wiring is believed to have been responsible for the starting of the blaze which for a time threatened the destruction of the entire group of buildings comprising the asylum."

"The asylum fire department made up of employees of the institution, quickly manned a number of streams while the in charge nurses ordered the patients into marching formation and quickly vacated the big building."

"Five minutes after the first flames were seen leaping from the cupola the entire second floor of the main portion of the structure was a roaring furnace."

"Shortly after 10 o'clock the fire engine drawn by a big automobile, arrived at the grounds and was stationed beside the

lake at the rear of the building. Four streams were immediately put into play and the control of the fire from then on was simply a matter of endurance.

A strong wind blowing from the west drove the flames to the east wing and a few minutes warm work on the part of the fire fighters sufficed to put out the flames which were creeping along the wooden piazzas and attacking the copings and window frames. The firemen were then ordered into the east wing and with several streams at work managed to confine the flames to that portion.

When it was apparent that it would be futile to attempt to save the east wing and fearing that the flames would leap across to the east cottage, a hurry call was sent to Phoenix for dynamite with which to blow out the central portion of the wing, hoping thereby to confine the flames to that structure. By the time the dynamite arrived, the firemen had the blaze under complete control and stringent measures were not necessary."

"The real danger of loss of life came from the fact that in the infirmary ward were located about forty-five patients in various stages of helplessness. Many of these were able to walk out, but the greater part required assistance. A shortage of attendants at a critical moment necessitated the pressing into service of a number of patients from the convalescent ward and from the working force.

With little or no manifestation of excitement the stronger patients assisted the weaker ones to places of safety and then placed themselves in readiness to be of further service if necessary."

"Governor Sloan, realizing that the regular force of nurses and attendants at the asylum would be inadequate to protect the patients and the property, issued an order calling out both local companies of the National Guard."

"In the burned building were four wards, known as the convalescent ward, or No. 1; violent ward, or No. 2; working patients' ward, or No. 3; and the infirmary, or No. 6. A portion of the basement was given over to sleeping quarters for the night nurses and attendants."

"While the fire was at its height and fear was expressed that the flames would leap to the adjoining buildings, a call was sent to Tempe asking for aid. Before the Tempe department was able to board a special train, it was found that the fire was practically under control, and they were so notified."

"There were times when the fire fighters were in dire peril from being cut off from escape, especially when they entered the east wing and attempted to fight back the flames while standing on the porches on the south side of the building. They had but one means of retreat and the flames for a time effectually shut off the door through which the firemen had made their way to the piazza."

Their efforts were unavailing, however, as the flames were making their way along the blind attic and soon leaped out at the extreme east end of the building. The men were then obliged to beat a retreat and none too soon, for the roof fell in a few minutes later, while the piazza on which they had been standing crumpled like so much pasteboard."

"Had it not been for the effective work of the Phoenix fire department and especially of the fire engine which gave the much needed pressure, it is certain that the property loss would have been much greater."

"Some idea of the excellent construction of the walls may be gained from the fact that despite the terrific heat of the flames and their continued onslaught on the central portion of the building, not a wall fell."

"Contrary to the general impression of probably panic among the patients, it seemed that the patients were the least disturbed of those on the grounds during the progress of the flames. Two patients had been placed at work earlier in the morning running mowing machines over the north lawns. Although they had to lift their machines over lines of hose, these men kept at their work as unconcerned as though a picnic were in progress. Another patient emerged from the building carrying an armful of hand fire extinguishers, which he carefully deposited at a distance from the building. Two patients were detailed to wheel coal to the fire engine. They would wheel a

barrowful of coal to the engine and then sit down and watch Ollie Bellas shovel it into the furnace box."

"There was no effort made to escape by any of the patients. A count was taken at noon and all the patients accounted for."

The Board of Control in its report dated June 30, 1911, stated the fire was caused by plumbers dropping hot solder into the dust of an air shaft. It further stated the building was composed of two four-inch brick walls with a four-inch air space between.

\$25,000 insurance was collected upon the building, and the board had a problem deciding whether it was best to repair the building or erect a new one. It was decided to repair the building, filling the air spaces with concrete and making all floors and stairways of the same material. This board stated the work would produce a very substantial fire-proof structure at a cost of about \$60,000.

Governor George W.P. Hunt in his message to the First State Legislature, Third Session, February 3, 1913, includes the following statements concerning the Hospital:

"At the State Insane Asylum great strides have been made toward the development of a modern hospital for the scientific and expert treatment of the mentally diseased, and most gratifying results are being secured.

Two new buildings have been completed, to replace those lost by fire, and they are far better adapted to the institution's needs than the old ones."

"There are a great many chronic insane and other patients who could, with profit to themselves and to the State, be employed at farming, if the asylum had the land to farm, and I recommend that steps to secure it be authorized."

"At the present time twenty-five cows furnish about one-fourth of the milk required for the institution. Since it could be done for little additional expense except as it will require an initial outlay, I recommend that steps to taken to make the milk production equal the demand."

"If the practice of receiving at the asylum all classes of insane is hereafter to be followed, extensive enlargements will have to be provided almost immediately."

"A separate institution might, and of right ought to be, provided for epileptic patients. This is a form of insanity of a distinctive character, and one which can, with proper treatment, be cured in a very large percentage of cases. A hospital for epileptics could easily and with little expense be established at Fort Grant, where a large number of entirely suitable buildings are available, and land may be had for farming purposes."

As an indication of the operation of the Hospital during the early part of the twentieth century the following items are to be seen in an eight page, printed, undated and unsigned pamphlet entitled, "Rules and Regulations Arizona State Hospital", placed in the cornerstone of the "D" Building about 2:30 PM., April 23, 1913.

"In consideration of the fact that Attendants receive board and quarters their whole time must belong to the State.

While the public service is not military in its character it resembles it to the extent that its first law is 'O-B-E-Y!!'."

"Employees assigned to the domestic department will not consider their services ended with the completion of the day's tasks. They are subject to the rules of the institution in every respect and their entire time belongs to the State. They are liable to be called upon to relieve upon the wards or perform additional duty when not otherwise engaged."

"Violent inmates are better and easier controlled by kindness than force."

"Epileptic inmates are always in need of careful attention; they are liable at any time to fall during convulsions and sustain injuries."

"Destructive inmates are a reflection upon an institution."

"Mechanical restraint of all kinds is to be abolished and is never to be used without permission of the Superintendent or Assistant Physician."

"Seclusion is abolished in this institution and all bedroom doors must remain unlocked during the day and at all times accessible."

VISITORS. "They will be conducted through the wards every Tuesday and Friday afternoon of the year and the Attendant will explain every feature of the work."

"In general all employees, excepting Head Attendants, will be expected to take a tour of night duty each year."

"Every part of the Hospital must be prepared for inspection at 9:30 every morning."

"Patients' clothes are to be thoroughly searched once every two weeks - every second Tuesday - such search to be made after patient retires."

"Attendants will immediately present themselves and conduct officers when they appear on the wards."

Whether these Rules and Regulations were formulated as a result of the fire of 1911, or were in force at that time, is unknown at the present date.

Also in 1913, in the Revised Statutes of Arizona, Civil Code, the name of the Hospital was changed to "State Asylum for the Insane": the salary of the Superintendent was established at \$3,000.00 per year, payable semi-monthly;

with the issuance of bonds and interest on same as provided for in 1885 to remain in force. Further, "The Board of Control shall have power to make by-laws for the government of the Asylum, and shall cause to be kept a record of the proceedings, which shall at all times be open to the inspection of any citizen of the state." Also, the "Board to prepare and adopt forms of complaint, certificate of lunacy and commitment, and any and all other rules and regulations that they may deem necessary".

As of June 30, 1913, the Medical Superintendent, among other things, reported to the Board of Control: "The test made for syphilis on those admitted, during the year, shows that ~~44~~ 91-100 per cent were afflicted with that disease, and that in a majority of the cases it was the sole cause of the mental derangement.".

From Board of Control reports we see the start of the Hydro-Therapy department. The following is given in the report of June 30, 1914.

"Hydro-Therapy. During the portion of the year since the installation of the hydro-therapeutic appliances, this department has been in daily use. The application of water in the treatment of disease is almost as old as the practice of medicine, but its use in a rational way in the treatment of the insane is of comparatively recent date. \*\*\*\*\* It has almost supplanted the use of sedative drugs as a means of quieting noisy patients, and of mechanical restraint as a method of controlling

violent ones. Especially is it applicable to acute cases, many of whom by this means are brought to recovery in a short time. \*\*\*\*\* Salvarson. In the treatment of Paresis and other Syphilitic conditions, Salvarson has been administered intravenously, often in conjunction with the use of other remedies. Its results would indicate its continued use in this class of cases."

In this same report we note that the Auditorium, the Dining Hall and Kitchen were finished during the fiscal year 1913-1914. A bronze plaque upon the Auditorium indicates most of the construction work of the building was done by patients.

Reports of 1915 and 1916 show the 1909 solution of the Hospital sewage problem was not satisfactory. In the report of June 30, 1915 are the following remarks:

"The sewer of the institution, which empties into a flood channel of the Salt River, has presented a difficult problem. The people of the Wilson district have objected strenuously to it and urged its removal. The Board has made several attempts to satisfy them, but thus far without success."

However, the report of June 30, 1916, does show a satisfactory solution to the sewage disposal problem when it states the Hospital sewer system had been connected to the sewage system of the City of Phoenix. This report gives the full text of a rather complicated contract between the Hospital and the city

covering this matter.

The Board of Control was abolished upon June 7, 1917. To take the place of this Board Section 13, Chapter 39 Session Laws of Arizona, 1917, created a Commission of State Institutions.

The first report of this Commission stated it was charged "with the duty of exercising oversight and general control of fourteen different Institutions and Departments, of supervising the construction of all public buildings and improvements thereon; of maintaining a uniform system of records and accounts for all institutions under its control, including the State Highway Department; of visiting as a body, every institution once in six months; of having one of its members inspect every part of every institution at least once in thirty days; of preparing estimates and budgets of needed appropriations and improvements for all institutions prior to every biennial session of the Legislature".

It would appear this was a rather large order for one Commission. The Commission appeared to be of the same opinion as it made the following remarks in its first report.

"These numerous responsibilities were made more difficult during the first year of the existence of the Commission by economic conditions resultant of the European War; the increased cost of all materials and supplies; the scarcity of trained workers in all employments; the frequent changes in the personnel of the Commission, and the epidemic of Spanish influenza."

"The farm purchased for the State Hospital for the Insane in the autumn of 1917, \*\*\*\*\*, has yielded a generous harvest this year."

There were also remarks in this report upon the recommended construction of buildings at the farm  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles from the main Hospital, and statements that the value of the Hospital was \$458,597.61, which included \$91,316.00 for farms equipment, machinery, live stock, furniture, etc.

The report, "Board of Directors of State Institutions 1919-1925" in an item dated March 17, 1919, makes the following statement: "A resident physician for the Hospital for the Insane, who must be a college graduate in medicine and surgery, and have practiced his profession as such for not less than four years ----- \$3,000.00."

As of June 30, 1919, the Hospital Superintendent reported the Hospital had 263 White Male patients, 115 Mexican Male patients, 102 White Female patients and 46 Mexican Female patients, a total of 526 Hospital patients. This same report stated the Hospital operating expenses for the fiscal year 1918-1919 was \$172,039.71.

At this period there seems to have been some belief that the incidence of poor mental health might be affected by race. The Superintendent in his report as of June 30, 1920, makes the following remark:

"On Table No. 7, the race of first admissions are classified with reference to the principal psychoses. From an economic standpoint as noted before, this table is significant to this state, in that it shows that of any individual race the Mexican race is responsible for the greatest number of commitments, and that a large percentage of these fall into the chronic classe."

Table No. 7 gave the race of patients upon first admission and classified these patients with reference to principal psychosis. During the fiscal year 1919-1920 there were 110 admissions.

As of September 30, 1922, the Board of Directors of State Institutions recommended the plot of ground south of the main grounds of the Hospital be sold. "We recommend that the ten acres known as the sewer farm south of the Asylum be sold as this piece of land is one mile from the Asylum and cannot be used to advantage for garden or farm purposes. When this property was purchased it was for the purpose of a septic tank to take care of Asylum sewerage but the sewerage is now being handled through the Phoenix city sewer."

In this same report we note that the patient population as of July 15, 1922 had risen to 568, while the cost of each patient per day was 66.1 cents.

During 1922-23 the Board had difficulty with the water and heating system of the Hospital.

"Special mention should be made with reference to the emergency that existed at the State Asylum with respect to domestic water and the heating, steam and hot water system. This Institution was confronted with facing a winter without heat, hot water or steam for treatment of patients, due to the utter breakdown of the system. This was caused by the complete clogging by precipitates in the hot water pipe lines, and the rusting out of these lines on account of the improper location of the cold water lines, which caused sweating to such an extent that the conduit tunnels were constantly wet. \*\*\*\*\* The only solution was to rebuild the system. \*\*\*\*\* This course has been followed.

It was the opinion of the Board that it would be a waste of money to rebuild the heating system, and still use the well water which caused the damage when city water containing much less solids was available. A contract was entered into with the City of Phoenix, providing for the repayment to the State for water service furnished by the city to users along the pipe line, installed by the Board to connect with the Hospital. This accomplished, the Board installed city water. \*\*\*\*\*."

This appeared to have been a rather satisfactory solution to this particular problem, as the following is in a report made two years later.

"The installation of the city water and the rebuilding of the heating system at this Institution has proved most satisfactory due to the improvement in the health and comfort of the inmates."

Should we believe that the Hospital was concerned only with the physical comfort of the patients we should remember that in a report dated December 1, 1924, the Hospital Superintendent recommended that the state laws be changed to permit admission of patients on emergency and voluntary commitments. Also he recommended that the Hospital name be changed from "State Asylum for the Insane" to "the popular and more appropriate name which has been in common usage for some time, 'Arizona State Hospital'". Further he recommended the passage of a bill making it possible "to return to other states their residents who have been in this state but a limited period of time before being committed to this institution".

In the Revised Code of Arizona, 1928, is to be noted that the Board of Directors of State Institutions consists of the Governor, the Treasurer and an elector of the state appointed by the Governor. This was the Board of Directors of State Institutions, which supervised, among other things, this Hospital. For this Board there was appointed a full time Secretary and Executive Office at a salary of \$4,800 per year.

Also was appointed a Purchasing Agent to purchase all supplies for institutions controlled by the board whose salary was the same as that of the Secretary.

In this same code is stated the Governor will appoint a resident physician who is the Hospital Superintendent. He must reside within, and at all times be in attendance. His salary was \$3,000 per year.

On June 30, 1934, the Board of Directors of State Institutions reported that the Hospital had 895 patients, having received 353 patients during the year and released 351. At this time the cost of each patient was 61.7 cents per day.

It might be interesting to note in this same report that the State Prison had 649 prisoners which cost 77.5 cents per day each.

As of June 30, 1935, the Superintendent reported to the Board of Control that the Hospital was about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles from the eastern city limits of Phoenix. He further reported that there was an average daily attendance of 10 students at the Hospital school for juvenile patients. In connection with this school he made the following remark. "While this was an innovation, we feel, after two years trial, that the effort is very well worth while."

It will be noted in the Budget Requirements of 1935-36 that the Hospital still owned the ten acres of land south of the Hospital, and that it appeared to not be in use. This report also states the salary of the Superintendent was \$3,600 per year.

Mr. R.A. Clelland, the current Business Manager, has stated that within the last decade he made a diligent search for the title of the ten acres of land south of the Hospital that the Hospital controlled, and discovered this piece of land was never owned by the Hospital. How the Hospital acquired the use of this land, and how it assumed it owned the land, is unknown at the present time.

Upon November 16, 1940, the following was reported by the Superintendent:

"The increase of our nursing staff from two nurses to eight has raised the standard of care of the hospital. It also raised the moral of the attendant staff. A course of basic nursing principles in the care of mental patients was introduced with good results. It is urged that such a practice be continued on a larger scale so that a well trained staff may be had."

At 10:00 AM., May 12, 1941, the present State Hospital Board met for the first time. In its first report to Governor Osborn (dated December 15th, 1942) there are the following remarks.

"\*\*\*\*\* your Board wishes to emphasize as a matter of record, as follows:

First - The Sharpe Bill, passed twice by a cooperative legislature conscious of its responsibilities created an independent Board of control. This resulted in relieving the hospital of the incubus of political patronage.

Second - After fifty-seven years of sordidness at the hospital it was your signature which inaugurated a new era at the institution. The citizens of Arizona today are determined to have a decent hospital for their mentally ill.

Third - The productivity of the hospital farm has reached a point under the comprehensive plan made by the College of Agriculture of the University of Arizona, where the present facilities of the hospital are not adequate for the efficient and economical utilization of the farm produce. \*\*\*\*\*

Fourth - During the past fiscal year more money has been collected from those patients able to pay by more than fifty percent. \*\*\*\*\*"

It is doubted if this report of the Board exaggerated conditions at the Hospital when we see the following in the report of the Superintendent for the period July 1, 1940, to June 30, 1941.

"The problem of employees has been and will continue to be difficult, \*\*\*\*\*, under the present budgetary allowances.

Desirable young men and women with some training and with good character, and apparently of healthy body and mind, will hardly work for \$60.00 a month, while the State Prison pays \$120.00 and private industries stimulated by the Defense Program are offering attractive positions. \*\*\*\*\* Conditions have been corrected as far as possible. Several employees were discharged for brutal and inhumane treatment of helpless patients, others for intoxication and severe neglect of duty."

"After this brutal treatment the patient showed many bruises and abrasions, both eyes were blood-shot, and his neck was injured, indicating that he must have been choked quite seriously."

"The plumbing has been, and will continue to be, in a most deplorable state. \*\*\*\*\* This condition must be held responsible for a recent outbreak of typhoid and paratyphoid at the hospital."

"\*\*\*\*\* water samples were taken at five points at the institution and one outside of the institution. \*\*\*\*\* All five samples taken at the institution were found positive for contamination, but the one taken outside of the grounds was found to be negative. This would seem to indicate that the City water was entering the institution free of contamination but that the faulty plumbing including numerous cross-connections was contaminating the supply."

Indirectly the Second World War had its effect upon the Hospital. Also from the Superintendent's report of 1942-43 we note it was difficult to secure employees. Further, the patient population had increased to 998. This increase in patients was attributed to the increased population in the state, the admission of Japanese patients from the War Relocation Centers and some war casualties.

From a Superintendent's report made in the early part of 1945 we note the patient population had jumped to about 1200. The following items are in this same report.

"The school for feeble minded children at the Hospital was discontinued and the work was included in the occupational therapy program. The formal teaching of the class-room seems so useless for the type of children who are patients. On the other hand, some type of manual training, such as given in the occupational therapy department, might give some of the children the means of livelihood if and when they leave the institution. The occupational therapy activities have been extended to include sports, with excellent reaction among the patients."

"The psychiatric training for nurses is a matter of serious consideration in connection with the various training schools for nurses throughout the state. The patients are available,

the nurses are available, the staff for teaching is available."

"Wages for employees, with few exceptions, are most inadequate. It is difficult to understand why, at the Penitentiary the wage for guards is \$133.00 and at the Hospital, the wage for attendants is \$105.00."

"There are some phases of hospital administration which naturally are not appreciated by the average citizen. When one considers the fact that the administration has to do (1) with the ordinary insane (2) with the criminal insane (3) with many perverts, as a matter of routine, and in addition, with the emergencies which arise out of suicides, escapes and the petty differences of our 235 employees, it is apparent that it adds up to a complex problem."

The problem of the feeble-minded children appears to have continued to plague the Hospital until November of 1954 when we see in the Patients' Records that 39 of these children were transferred to the Children's Colony at Randolph, Arizona.

The rapid increase in the number of patients following World War II lead to the establishing of a branch of the Hospital at Florence, Arizona, in what has been reported as an old Federal Prisoner of War Camp. In the report of the Superintendent, as of June 30, 1949, are the following comments.

"Some relief from over-crowding has been attained by the opening of the Florence Branch of the Hospital. By the end of the past fiscal year 278 patients had been transferred to that location where preparation had been made for their care by the renovation of certain buildings and the setting up of culinary facilities and the installation of all necessary services. Altogether 27 buildings are now occupied or are ready for occupancy. More patients can be accommodated than have been transferred but with the small units provided and in view of the present financial or budgetary situation an unbalanced patient to employee ratio results. The buildings already occupied are being more fully utilized by placing beds on porches thus increasing population without a corresponding increase in attendants."

The Florence Branch remained in operation until March 1, 1951, when the last employee of that installation, Mrs. Merrill Moore, presently the Coordinator for Remotivation, was transferred to the Hospital, at Phoenix.

In January of 1953 the Legislature enacted a law giving the City of Phoenix a small portion of land in the north-west corner of the Hospital grounds. In exchange for this land the city strengthened the fire protection of the Hospital. Upon this plot of ground the city erected a City Fire Station.

The name "Arizona State Hospital" was used for many years, but it was not legally the proper Hospital name until made this name by the Legislature in 1958.

Upon March 18, 1958, the mental health laws of the state were changed to conform with modern practices. This change stressed the fact that mental illness is a psychiatric disorder. Further it is unnecessary for all patients to be committed to the Hospital by court action. At the present time patients may enter the Hospital upon a volunteer basis, upon medical certification, emergency certification or by court commitment.

The farm belonging to the Hospital, and located  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles east of the main hospital grounds, was sold at public auction in October of 1960. Due to different patient treatments and the change in the social structure of the population of Arizona this land was of no further use to the Hospital. This sale was a cash transaction of \$1,550,000.00.

During the past few years the City of Phoenix has had a great expansion. As a result the road net of the city has been unable to adequately carry the automobile traffic. To aid the city to improve and widen the city streets, the Hospital Board during the latter part of 1961 gave the city an easement upon 14' of Hospital property along the western boundary of the grounds.

During the early part of 1962 the salary of the Superintendent was established by Legislature as a maximum of \$17,400 per year.

At the present time the Hospital, under the State Hospital Board of five members appointed by the Governor, is operated by the Superintendent (a Psychiatrist), and has five divisions. These are the Business Division, the Personnel Division, Nursing Service, the Southern Arizona Mental Health Clinic and the Medical Division.

As of this date there are 880 male patients, 877 female patients and a total of 670 employees.



Arizona State Hospital

2500 East Van Buren

Phoenix 8, Arizona

June 19, 1962

Much of the above information was secured through the courtesy and wonderful cooperation of Mrs. Marguerite Cooley; Director, State Library & Archives.