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BIENNIAL REPORT
OF THE
SUPERINTENDENT
AND
BOARD OF MANAGERS
OF THE
TEXAS CONFEDERATE HOME
FOR THE
TWO YEARS ENDING AUGUST 31, 1914



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AUSTIN, TEXAS:
VON BOECKMANN-JONES CO., PRINTERS
1914

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REPORT OF BOARD OF TRUSTEES.

AUSTIN, TEXAS, September 1, 1914.

To His Excellency, O. B. Colquitt, Governor, Austin, Texas.

DEAR SIR: The Board of Trustees of the Texas Confederate Home, having carefully examined the biennial report of Superintendent A. C. Oliver, approve the same and adopt it as our report to Your Excellency.

Respectfully,

(Signed) W. C. WALSH,
President.

REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT.

AUSTIN, TEXAS, September 1, 1914.

To the Board of Trustees of the Confederate Home, Austin, Texas.

GENTLEMEN: I submit to you the biennial report of the Superintendent of the Confederate Home, for the period beginning September 1, 1912, and ending August 31, 1914, which includes twelve months of the term of my predecessor.

The appropriations made by the Thirty-second Legislature at its first called session was as follows for the fiscal year ending August 31, 1913:

	Appropriated.	Expended.
Salary of Superintendent, with provisions for himself and family, not to exceed \$500 per year, and fuel, light, water and housing....	\$ 2,000 00	\$ 2,000 00
Support and maintenance	55,000 00	55,000 00
Salary of all other employees.....	17,750 00	17,627 10
Shoe repairing	400 00	249 26
Furniture and beds	1,200 00	783 84
Clothing, hats and shoes	11,000 00	10,727 62
Transportation	200 00	36 76
Platform scales	125 00	125 00
Books, newspapers and postage	500 00	500 00
Improvement grounds	800 00	740 31
One wagon	85 00	85 00
Medical supplies, etc.	1,800 00	1,800 00
Kitchen, dining room and laundry supplies..	500 00	500 00
Laundry mangle	293 00	252 00
Dental work	300 00	246 00
Notions	200 00	39 63
Meat slicer	55 00	50 00
Total	\$92,208 00	\$ 90,762 33

Monthly report of inmates, present and absent from August 31, 1913 to August 31, 1914:

August, 1913	396
September, 1913	395
October, 1913	391
November, 1913	386
December, 1913	381
January, 1914	378
February, 1914	374
March, 1914	361
April, 1914	360
May, 1914	359
June, 1914	357
July, 1914	354
August, 1914	361
Average, for the twelve months	371

Appropriations made by the Thirty-third Legislature at its first called session were as follows:

	Appropriated.	Expended.
Salary of Superintendent.....	\$ 2,000 00	\$ 2,000 00
Support and maintenance	55,000 00	55,000 00
Salary of all other employees.....	18,670 00	18,452 00
Shoe repairing	400 00	314 50
Furniture and beds	600 00	495 75
Dry goods and clothing	11,000 00	10,910 59
Transportation	200 00	11 55
Repairs and painting	800 00	327 88
Books, papers and postage	550 00	507 06
Improvement grounds	600 00	435 70
Medicine and hospital supplies	2,500 00	2,500 00
Kitchen, dining room and laundry	600 00	470 50
Dental work	300 00	170 00
Notions	200 00	4 70
Repairs and painting hospital.....	3,000 00	2,749 13
One horse	150 00	125 00
Total	\$ 96,770 00	\$ 94,474 86
Cost per capita, per year.....		\$265.64
Cost per capita, per month		21.22
Cost per capita, per day6814

In improvements we beg to report the following: Putting in hog chains in the Hospital wall at a cost of \$75; new water heater, piping, etc., complete in the hospital at a cost of \$769; laying water mains and installing two fire plugs near the hospital at a cost of \$332. There has also been some minor repairs at the hospital and the hospital attendants' building in the way of new floors, roof, painting, etc.

All the buildings in the Home have been screened at a cost of \$1320. The driveway from the front gate has been refilled with clay and gravel, graded and rolled at a cost of \$185. The Administration Building roof became very leaky and it was necessary to repair and paint same, which we have done at a cost of \$85.

We have also made some permanent repairs to the laundry building, in the way of new floors and repairs to roof, brick corners and cement covering for boiler, at a cost of \$36.65.

Respectfully submitted,

A. C. OLIVER,
Superintendent.

Approved. (Signed) W. C. WALSH,
President Board of Trustees.

REPORT OF SURGEON.

AUSTIN, TEXAS, September 1, 1914.

To the Superintendent and Honorable Board of Managers of the Texas Confederate Home.

GENTLEMEN: I have the honor to submit for your consideration the report of the Surgeon of the Confederate Home for the two years beginning September 1, 1912, and ending September 1, 1914, as follows: The hospital building has been repaired by the laying of new flooring in the hall of the basement floor. In the ward known as the blind ward, the plaster has fallen from a large part of the wall as a result of dampness, the ward being below the surface of the earth. This has been replaced with cement and the cement enameled. The walls of the interior of the hospital building were cleansed and a coat of impervious enamel put upon them. The porches in front of the building have been repaired by putting in new flooring and the porch painted. A new railing was placed about the upper porch to prevent inmates of the hospital from accidentally falling from the third floor to the pavement below. A cement porch was put down adjoining the kitchen. The roof of the hospital building was patched, and a coat of good paint put over the entire covering. All the guttering around the eaves of the hospital roof was mended and reanchored, and about fifty feet of new guttering put in. The southwest corner of the hospital building, which had cracked and the corner settled down a few inches, was repaired by the putting in of long rods running through the building its entire length from east to west, and by similar rods running from north to south. The crack in the wall was chinked with cement. The anchorage seems to be quite sufficient, as the cement is still holding and no further cracking has been noticed.

This work was done under the supervision of the State Inspector of Masonry, Mr. J. B. Nitschke, and Mr. Charles Page, a local architect.

The protection of the hospital from fire was inadequate, and a new four-inch water main was laid, extending from its connection with the main water line near the chapel building to a point south and west of the hospital building. On this line two fire plugs were placed, one in front of the building, and one in the rear near the kitchen. With these two new fire plugs, the hospital is reasonably well protected. A hose reel with about 200 feet of hose and two nozzles are badly needed, however, before the fire fighting equipment of the hospital is complete. I believe it would be advisable to build a small reel house near the hospital building so the reel and hose could be protected from the weather.

Last winter the boiler that furnished the steam for the heating of the hospital blew up, or rather cracked, rendering it unfit for use. A new and larger boiler and furnace has been installed. Six new radiators have been placed in the ward known as the blind ward. The entire heating system has been generally overhauled and repairs made where necessary. With the new plant and with the system otherwise repaired, there should be no difficulty in keeping the hospital comfortably warm, even during the coldest weather.

The above improvement was greatly needed, for the old plant did not furnish enough heat for the building, and on cold days it was impossible to keep the wards on the north side of the building warm enough to be comfortable for the patients occupying them.

The equipment of the hospital has been added to by the installation of a new examination chair, specialist's lamp, with stand, and many instruments and other appliances in the oculist's department, giving him a fairly well equipped department, and thus enabling him to render better service to those needing eye, ear, nose and throat attention. The old static machine in the electrical department was repaired and put in operation. A new vibrator was purchased to be used in the massage of patients needing this treatment.

All of the bedsteads in the hospital have been re-enameled and many sets of new wire springs have been put on beds that were in need of them. All the mattresses have been renovated and recovered. Two new invalid chairs have been added to the number used in taking the sick out into the fresh air. Two new chair commodes have been placed in the ward known as the sick ward. With the addition of these new chairs, the hospital is now supplied with fixtures of this kind.

The Hospital has a capacity of 100 beds, and at times these are all filled by patients, but the average daily population is about ninety. The hospital wards are under the supervision of two graduate nurses, Miss Lucy Clark and Miss Isola Appling. Under their supervision are eight attendants who take care of the wards and look after the patients.

The dining room and culinary department is under the supervision of Miss Nannie Vaughan, the hospital stewardess. In this department five assistants are employed who do the cooking, serve the tables, look after the dishes, etc. All the patients who are able to do so, go to the dining room and are served there, while the bed patients, which usually number from 50 to 60, are served with trays.

The drug store is under the care of Mr. C. S. Clarke. During the two years covered by this report, he has filled 11,823 prescriptions besides the compounding of many of the drugs used in filling them.

In all the departments of the hospital seventeen people are employed—eighteen including the physician. The work in each department is so systematized that each one attends to his own duties and everything is carried along in a harmonious and efficient way.

A large number of the inmates of the hospital are suffering from senile dementia, or senile mental decay, which renders them less responsible than small children. A larger number are suffering from beginning senile dementia and they are responsible only to a small extent. As long as they are not inclined to be violent we take care of them. Occasionally one becomes so violently insane as to render himself dangerous to himself and to his fellow inmates, and because we have no way to confine them where they can do themselves or others no bodily harm, we are forced to have them committed to the State Lunatic Asylum. Fortunately, we have but comparatively few of this kind.

When the physical health of the old men gives way, their mind deteriorates as well, and because of this enfeebled mental condition they are extremely hard to keep clean and tidy. They think nothing of cleanliness and will expectorate anywhere, soil their beds, upset cuspidors, and, in fact, do most everything else that they should not do if

the hospital is to be kept in as sanitary condition as it should be. Because of this carelessness of the patients of their own personal hygiene and of their indifference to cleanliness, it keeps the entire hospital corps busy all the time trying to keep the patients, beds, wards, etc., in a sanitary condition.

The general health of the inmates of the Home has been as good as could be expected considering their age and the fact that the law requires that before an applicant is eligible to admission he has to show proof that he is suffering from some disease or infirmity that renders him incapable of earning a living. Almost all of them are suffering from some chronic ailment, and require medical attention. The death rate has been remarkably small, everything considered. During the year from September 1, 1912, to September 1, 1913, fifty passed away. This was fifteen fewer than the year previous. During the year beginning September 1, 1913, and ending September 1, 1914, there occurred the same number of deaths as in the preceding year, thus maintaining a decrease of fifteen over the year 1911-12. The names of those dying with their age, assigned cause, and date of death is as follows:

1912-1913.

Date.	Name.	Age.	Cause of Death.
1912			
Sept. 19	L. H. Griffith.....	74	Cerebral embolism.
" 21	J. H. Glass.....	78	Purpura hemorrhagica.
Oct. 3	H. S. Calhoun.....	78	Uremia: nephritis.
Nov. 1	E. C. Haynes.....	67	Mitral regurgitation.
" 2	John D. Click.....	79	Chronic bronchitis.
" 12	G. W. Watlington.....	81	Chronic interstitial nephritis.
" 11	T. J. Richmond.....	79	Arteriosclerosis.
" 13	T. S. Gregory.....	80	Hemiplegia, exhaustion.
Dec. 1	C. C. Green.....	79	Arteriosclerosis.
" 8	H. H. Helton.....	79	Cancer of prostate.
" 10	J. M. Cogburn.....	75	Chronic morphine poisoning.
" 16	J. P. Sanders.....	82	Pulmonary tuberculosis.
" 24	A. B. McFaddin.....	67	Cancer of face.
" 31	N. J. Carson.....	72	La grippe.
1913			
Jan. 8	George Alexander.....	75	Chronic interstitial nephritis.
" 10	J. R. Holmy.....	79	Aortic insufficiency.
" 30	J. C. McDaniels.....	74	Exhaustion, senile dementia.
Feb. 1	J. W. O'Neal.....	84	Mucous colitis.
" 14	J. L. Gorman.....	68	Angina pectoris.
" 17	Wm. Wooldridge.....	84	Acute hemorrhagic nephritis.
" 17	J. L. Latham.....	69	Gastric carcinoma.
" 21	J. H. Vann.....	68	Apoplexy.
Mar. 1	Alexander.....	81	Aortic insufficiency.
" 2	F. H. McCollum.....	70	Gastric carcinoma.
" 14	J. E. McIntoch.....	80	Accidental bromidia poisoning.
April 3	James Gray.....	71	Cerebral tumor.
" 5	B. D. Lincecum.....	71	Chronic interstitial nephritis.
" 11	W. J. McBahan.....	80	Arteriosclerosis.
" 20	Hugh Armstrong.....	90	Arteriosclerosis.
" 30	J. M. Cameron.....	75	Amebic dysentery.
May 3	J. H. Stoner.....	82	Gastric carcinoma.
" 19	J. A. Jackson.....	81	Uraemia, nephritis.
" 19	William Ward.....	100	Tumor of scalp and cranium.
" 21	B. P. Sanderson.....	79	Pulmonary tuberculosis.
June 3	R. H. McGoldrick.....	78	Apoplexy.
" 10	W. C. Young.....	67	Suicide (cut throat).
" 11	Tillman Bass.....	79	Apoplexy.
" 19	J. B. Collier.....	88	Arteriosclerosis.
" 24	T. J. Duncan.....	83	Arteriosclerosis.
July 4	G. K. Williams.....	67	Pulmonary abscess.
" 9	A. B. Short.....	94	Died while on furlough.
Aug. 7	G. A. White.....	78	Arteriosclerosis.
" 14	H. Holley.....	69	Apoplexy.
" 14	John O'Byrne.....	81	Arteriosclerosis.
" 17	J. D. Sprott.....	71	Hepatic cirrhosis.
" 20	M. J. Turrentine.....	78	Arteriosclerosis.
" 23	George Allen.....	78	Uraemia.
" 28	George Conklin.....	73	Mitral insufficiency.
" 28	E. K. Kirby.....	70	Uraemia, nephritis.

1913-1914.

Date.	Name.	Age.	Cause of Death.
1913			
Sept. 3	T. F. Thrasher.....	65	Angina pectoris.
" 4	A. M. Ross.....	74	Chronic interstitial nephritis.
" 14	S. B. Adams.....	70	Acute alcoholism.
" 8	J. M. Pettus.....	76	Senile myelitis.
Oct. 22	W. W. Porter.....	70	Epilepsy, grand mal.
" 24	H. O. Rupe.....	78	Mitral insufficiency.
" 29	J. C. Connor.....	70	Gastric carcinoma.
Nov. 16	T. C. Gadtner.....	81	Arteriosclerosis.
" 19	J. A. Littleton.....	73	Acute diffuse nephritis.
" 19	Robt. H. Bailey.....	65	Mitral insufficiency.
" 22	R. W. Durrett.....	71	Exhaustion from bronchial asthma.
Dec. 4	W. C. Anderson.....	70	Mitral insufficiency.
" 15	J. C. Stuart.....	83	Acute parenchymatous nephritis.
" 15	J. N. Hammock.....	85	Arteriosclerosis.
" 23	M. D. Langston.....	70	Gastric carcinoma.
1914			
Jan. 20	R. H. Black.....	75	Epilepsy, grand mal.
" 22	J. H. Holmes.....	75	Acute diffuse nephritis.
Feb. 8	J. L. Washam.....	82	Found dead in room.
" 12	R. B. Harrison.....	74	Chronic interstitial nephritis.
" 12	J. A. Ashby.....	73	Cerebral embolism.
" 25	A. C. Daniels.....	81	Cerebral embolism.
Mar. 1	W. F. Brichard.....	86	Angina pectoris.
" 13	John Sherman.....	89	Arteriosclerosis.
" 18	Joab Williams.....	81	Mitral insufficiency.
" 26	J. L. Bruce.....	84	Locomotor ataxia.
" 27	W. L. Stevenson.....	78	Uremia nephritis.
April 7	J. F. Lewis.....	77	Nephritis uremia.
" 11	F. M. White.....	69	Atrophic hepatic cirrhosis.
" 18	R. S. Carr.....	70	Acute parenchymatous nephritis.
" 19	J. M. Troupe.....	73	Pulmonary tuberculosis.
" 26	J. M. Quinn.....	78	Arteriosclerosis.
May 3	Noah Boyles.....	84	Chronic parenchymatous nephritis.
" 5	C. E. Brodie.....	76	Exhaustion, following broken thigh.
" 12	B. F. Stafford.....	68	Angina pectoris.
" 14	Earnest Seidler.....	83	Mitral insufficiency.
" 28	D. M. Hart.....	74	Pulmonary tuberculosis.
June 3	D. S. Kaufman.....	69	Mitral insufficiency.
" 4	T. P. Covington.....	69	Arthritis deformans.
" 23	M. A. Terrell.....	76	Mitral insufficiency.
" 27	Chas. W. Baker.....	72	Diabetes mellitus.
" 24	D. D. Watson.....	85	Gastric carcinoma.
July 6	W. R. Jennings.....	72	Acute mania.
" 8	Oscar Vardy.....	71	Exhaustion from senile dementia.
" 9	J. A. Copeland.....	77	Locomotor ataxia.
" 14	D. H. Hughes.....	82	Mitral insufficiency.
" 22	Henry Rosenberger.....	77	Gastric carcinoma.
" 31	F. M. Youngblood.....	88	Senile dementia.
" 31	J. H. Wood.....	78	Arteriosclerosis.
Aug. 8	Thomas Wood.....	82	Chronic interstitial nephritis.

The average of those who passed away was 77 years.

Almost all the inmates of the Home are suffering from some chronic ailment, as the result of advanced age, and, of course, the death rate will rapidly increase because the incoming inmates being old themselves, do not reduce the average age of the inmates of the Home taken as a whole.

I hope the management of the Home will continue to be as considerate of the needs of the hospital in the future as they have been in the past, for it is in the hospital that the old men spend their last days on earth, and these should be made as happy, as bright and as cheerful as possible. Their bodily comforts should be considered, and they should be supplied with everything necessary to make conditions as homelike as possible.

The hospital, as a part of the Home, should be considered as a hospital for the sick, and food and clothing should be purchased for it with the fact in view that the inmates' needs are somewhat different from those who are enjoying good health. Food suitable for the sick, such as eggs, etc., adds to the per capita cost of the patients of the hospital as

compared to the per capita cost of those inmates of the Home who reside in the barracks.

For a more detailed account of the improvements made in the hospital and in the hospital service, I respectfully refer the Board to the report of the Surgeon submitted two years ago. With that report and this, some idea of the improvement of the hospital for the four years covering my administration as Surgeon of the Home can be made. While the hospital is not what I would like to have it, it is certainly better than it was when my term of service began, and all available funds have been used to improve conditions as much as possible.

In concluding this brief report, I wish to express my appreciation to the Board of Trustees for their interest in the hospital department of the institution and to assure them that their many words of encouragement and their many acts of assistance have contributed largely in making the hospital department compare favorably with the other departments of the institution. I shall always feel deeply grateful to you for you have made me feel that my efforts have been appreciated, and whatever has been accomplished during my term of service as Surgeon of the Home has been accomplished by the loyal support and interest of your honorable body. I wish also, to thank the Superintendent, Quartermaster, Nurses, Stewardess, Druggist and, in fact, all who have been associated with me in the work, for their valuable assistance. Co-operation by the Board, Superintendent, Quartermaster, and the Hospital corps has made my service as Surgeon to the Home both pleasant and harmonious and I shall always feel under deep obligations to them for their support.

Respectfully submitted,

T. F. MOORE,
Surgeon Confederate Home.

REPORT OF AURIST AND OCULIST.

I herewith submit a brief biennial report for the years ending August 31, 1913-14.

The cases coming under my observation are usually chronic and confined to the eye, ear, nose and throat. All received examination, local and constitutional treatment wherein indicated. Surgical measures instituted for removal of cataract, lid and lachrymal sac abscesses, ulcers of the septum of the nares, stenosis of the canaliculous and nasal ducts, hypertrophy of the conjunctiva, massage of the middle ear, epilation and refraction.

I have visited the hospital every Wednesday morning for a period of two hours and oftener, when necessary. The testing of eyes for glasses has been done at my private office, as also examination and treatment of those that consulted me during the interval of regular visits to the hospital. The results to be anticipated treating diseases in persons of advanced age is not encouraging, however, I am gratified to state that we have been painstaking, patient and polite, which in a great measure has been appreciated even when our efforts proved of no avail.

The nurses are important adjuncts in carrying out instructions and applying medicinal agents as instructed and directed. It is my opinion that they have been faithful to the responsibility imposed and performed their duties to the best of their ability. I appreciate the many acts of kindness and courtesies extended to me by Surgeon T. F. Moore. Our relationship could not be more harmonious and I feel that he is the right man for the professional position which he so eminently fills for the best interest of the State and welfare of those that require his professional service.

In conclusion, I desire to thank the Superintendent and his corps of officers for their good will, which is appreciated. I have no special recommendations to offer.

Yours truly,

J. R. NICHOLS, M. D.
Aurist and Oculist.