

average attendance for the year was 206,825 pupils, therefore the amount paid for each pupil was \$5.06. The total enrolment was 288,332, of which number 134,330 were white, and 154,002 were colored, showing an excess of 19,672 in favor of the colored pupils. Surely these figures alone should stimulate our white population and should cause parents to make every sacrifice for the education of their children. For further details regarding our common schools, I would respectfully refer you to the complete report which has been prepared by the State Superintendent of Education.

TWO SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS.

Our educational system, however, will never be complete until it shall include the education of the hands as well as that of the brain. In other words, the weakest part of our present system is the lack of schools of manual training. Is not the time propitious for this State to take up the important question of the education of our children in the several crafts? Could not our larger cities and towns begin the good work by starting schools in which boys may be taught these honorable pursuits? In addition to this the question of night schools has not yet received with us the attention it deserves, and the opportunity and need for their development seems to especially exist in our large and growing mill communities.

A number of our boys and young men are compelled each year to leave the State in order to learn useful trades, which cannot be taught them here, and many children in our mill districts frequently cannot go to school as long as they should, for the reason that night schools are not provided for them. Such conditions should no longer exist, and we should see that a remedy is provided.

OUR INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING.

Our common schools are the living foundations upon which rest our institutions of higher learning. There can be no antagonism between them, for each has its own indispensable work in our educational system. We can well afford to congratulate ourselves upon the number, condition and record of our various higher institutions of learning. These have faithfully and ably fostered a broad spirit of education throughout our State, which honor is equally shared by what are known as our sectarian colleges. No higher encomium can be paid their share in this work than is included in the statement that during the past year one of these institutions has added to its endowment by raising the sum of \$125,000.00 for educational purposes alone.

THE SOUTH CAROLINA COLLEGE.

This honored and historical institution is now in its ninety-ninth year. For practically one hundred years this institution of learning has contributed to the history of South Carolina, and among its alumni are to be found the names of many of the most distinguished men which the State has produced. Hoary with years, rich in the honors these years have brought, its doors still stand open for the youth of our State. The College is well managed, its faculty is a most efficient one, and from my own observation I am justified in saying that its affairs are wisely and economically administered. There are now upon the rolls the names of 226 students, and of this number thirty-seven have been received from the establishment by your body—at its last session—of a normal scholarship for each county. These scholarships were wisely created and are destined to do much good in advancing the educational interests of our State.

At your last session you appropriated \$7,500 for the perfecting of a sewerage system for this College. The Trustees will state to your body that though this amount has been judiciously expended, it has proved not to be enough, and they will ask "for an additional appropriation of \$8,500.00 to provide, in the cheapest and simplest manner, for the preservation of health among the students of the College." All of the State buildings should be connected with the city sewerage, and I recommend that this amount be appropriated for the purpose indicated. At your last session you appropriated for current expenses, \$29,400.00, and I recommend a similar appropriation this year.

It has been called to my attention by the faculty that in January, 1905, this College will have completed its one hundredth year of active usefulness, and it is their desire to celebrate, in appropriate manner, this centennial. Such an event marks an epoch, not only in the history of this College, but in the history of education throughout South Carolina and the South, and it is most appropriate that it should be fitly celebrated. In order to do this, some expense will be necessary, and the Trustees will ask from your honorable body an appropriation of \$500.00 for this purpose, and in this request I also join.

WINTHROP NORMAL AND INDUSTRIAL COLLEGE.

It has not been long since this College was organized, but it has rapidly taken a leading place among similar institutions throughout our entire country, and is doing a truly great work. The importance of sending forth such skilled, trained and educated teachers as are numbered among Winthrop graduates is of inestimable value to the cause of education in this State. Certainly, to an appreciable extent, the educational awakening in our State is due, in a great measure, to the splendid work of the graduates of this College. There is no higher mark of the civilization of a country than in the education of its women, and none which will tell more upon the future welfare of the State. President Johnson has had charge of this College since its organization, and, seconded by an able corps of assistants, he has steadily maintained its high standard and general excellence.

The session which has just closed has been a most successful one, every department running smoothly, with no friction. Five hundred and ninety-three students in all departments have been admitted during this session, and the new dormitory, which was so much needed, has been completely filled. The report of the Board of Trustees asks for an appropriation of \$56,982.66, which is \$2,301.54 less than was asked for last year. The carefully prepared report of the Board of Trustees furnishes all details necessary for the consideration of your honorable body, and reveals also the fact that strict economy will be necessary to properly manage its finances on the amount asked for.

The report further shows that the farm connected with the College is not of sufficient size to meet the requirements of larger growth, and they recommend that the sum of \$10,000.00 be appropriated, to be paid in three annual instalments, for the purchase of additional land for farming purposes. They also request that twelve or fifteen convicts be given to the College to be used on the farm, as was formerly done. In the amount of the appropriation asked for, and in the other two requests of the Board, I beg leave to heartily concur.

CLEMSON COLLEGE.

This educational institution, with reputation and influence extending throughout the South, is certainly a source of pride to our State. It is liberally supported by the State and is giving, in return, great and substantial benefits. It has only been organized a few years, but its scope and influence have developed a power that gives it a leading and prominent place among progressive educational institutions. Clemson College was primarily established with the intent of making it an agricultural college, devoted to the education of those looking forward to agricultural pursuits. In addition to this, it was also believed that through the instrumentality of this College substantial benefits would accrue to the agricultural inter-

ests of the State. I am glad to say that both of these most important objects are being rapidly accomplished.

In connection with the regular work of the College a most successful Farmers' Institute is held there each year, and in addition to this, a number of smaller institutes, under the auspices of this collegiate department, are held in various counties. Both of these tend to educate the farming classes and thus enable them to keep abreast with the advanced information of the times. The Clemson Board also, each year, have elaborate experiments conducted in different sections of the State, which cannot but result in great good. The building of an agricultural hall, which is to be accomplished this year, will be of inestimable benefit to this, one of the most important departments of this College.

Thorough courses in agriculture, biology, mechanical and electrical engineering, civil engineering, metallurgy and textile industry, are presented to the students, the military feature of the College adding materially to the complete training given. The report of the Trustees shows that 580 students matriculated this year, and the further fact is stated that the College could give comfortable quarters to not more than 570 students. There were 665 applications for admission, but 85 of these had to be refused, for the reason just stated. Sixty graduates were sent out from this institution last year, the largest number in its history. For further report of this College I would refer you to the very complete reports of the President and Board of Trustees.

THE SOUTH CAROLINA MILITARY ACADEMY.

This is one of the old and historic institutions of the State, with an honored, useful and patriotic career. It was established in 1842 and continued in operation until 1865, when, on account of the condition of affairs in the State, it was closed. It was reopened in 1882 and since then has again been doing efficient work. A number of its undergraduates have secured appointments at West Point and Annapolis, which is, in itself, the very best evidence of the careful training received both within its walls and upon its campus. A general order of the United States War Department annually admits, as an officer in the United States Army, one honor-graduate of this Academy, and this is a further tribute to the general excellence of this institution—as such appointments are awarded to few schools throughout the country.

The Academy opened this year with bright prospects and is, in attendance and management, in such condition as well guarantees a continuance of its useful career. The Board of Visitors, through their Chairman, ask for \$25,000.00 for the support of the Academy, \$1,000.00 for repair of buildings and \$250.00 for additions to library. They again renew their request for an appropriation of \$10,000.00, this to be used for improvements in heating and lighting the buildings. This latter seems to be very much needed and I concur in all the recommendations made by the Board.

THE SOUTH CAROLINA INSTITUTION FOR THE EDUCATION OF THE DEAF AND BLIND.

The fifty-fifth annual report of this institution will be presented to your honorable body through the report of the State Superintendent of Education. For more than a quarter of a century the State has recognized the great importance of the needs which this honored institution so well supplies. The work here accomplished has alleviated the afflictions of many, and has trained and sent them out to lives of usefulness. This report will show that there were enrolled during the past school year 181 pupils, of which 121 were deaf and 60 were blind, 127 of the total number being white. The report will also show that the health of the pupils is most excellent, the average annual expense for 28 years for medicines and medical attention having been only 67 cents per pupil.

The affairs of the institution, during its long years of usefulness, have always been well managed and have been marked by strict economy. The Board asks this year for \$24,000.00 for support and \$3,000.00 additional for repairs and improvements. I earnestly commend their recommendation to your consideration.

THE COLORED NORMAL, INDUSTRIAL, AGRICULTURAL AND MECHANICAL COLLEGE.

The report of this institution has also been filed, giving account of receipts, expenditures and the general condition of the College. The amount of appropriation requested this year is \$7,622.32. Of this amount \$2,500.00 is for the purpose of completing and equipping the new industrial building, which, in my judgment, is the most important feature of this college. It is the belief of the Board that after the completion of the building the institution can be run on an annual State appropriation of \$5,000.00. The Board recommends that their body be increased by the addition of the State Superintendent of Education and the chairmen of the committees on Education of the House and the Senate. I concur in this recommendation in regard to the appropriation asked for.

STATE HOSPITAL FOR THE INSANE.

To the report of the State Hospital there is appended a sketch of the institution, its origin and development. From this account it appears that public charity has been recognized in South Carolina—Province and State—for over two hundred years, and that the Hospital itself has been in existence over eighty years, and is therefore one of the pioneer institutions for the insane in the United States. Aside from other reasons, the care of the poor and unfortunate is enjoined upon us by our Constitution. There can be no doubt as to the purposes and intentions of our people in the proper bestowal of public charity.

The record of the State Hospital is an honorable one, but there is no doubt that at times the needs of the institution have been in excess of the ability of the State to supply them all at one time. The growth of the institution has, therefore, necessarily been the result of a slow process of evolution.

The methods of support for beneficiary patients have passed through several stages. For many years after its foundation indigent patients in the asylum were supported entirely by the districts or parishes through their commissioners of the poor. Then for a short time about the close of the war, the State paid one-fourth and the counties three-fourths of the annual expenses for maintenance, and finally about 1870, when the counties had fallen hopelessly in arrears for their quota, the State assumed the whole burden by adopting the method of "State Care." While this gradual tendency towards centralization is interesting in itself, it also raises the question whether the assumption by the State of the entire burden of support does not, in a large measure, explain why, in recent times, the admissions to the Hospital have comparatively become so excessive, now averaging five hundred annually. While in the last twenty-five years the population of the Hospital has nearly quadrupled, the expenses have not doubled, and the annual per capita cost has fallen from over \$200 to about \$100. For some years the General Assembly has granted all the appropriations asked for by the Regents and resident officers. Last year the appropriations for this purpose amounted to about \$140,000, and the same sum is again asked for, \$120,000 of the total being for support proper. To learn what neighboring States are paying for the support of their insane hospitals, I made official inquiries with the appended results: Virginia, \$345,000; Alabama, \$191,444; North Carolina, \$259,000; Kentucky, \$449,407; Georgia, \$325,000; Florida, \$85,000. The State of Kentucky also expends \$165,000 for boarding out harmless

lunatics and idiots, while in Tennessee the annual per capita allowed is \$135, and the number of patients to be admitted to each institution is absolutely fixed by law.

Today these figures make an interesting comparative study. It appears that the appropriations made in South Carolina are less than the amounts allowed for the same purpose by any other Southern State except Florida, while the per capita expense of our institution is lower than any other similar Southern institution. I find also that in other neighboring States the number of inmates in the insane hospitals is limited by law, and that when these fixed numbers are reached new patients cannot be received except when vacancies occur. With us no such law or custom exists. Consequently, our institution seems to serve as a receptacle for all classes of defectives and unfortunates, who are not otherwise provided for. It is the rare exception that applications for admission are refused, and these exceptions are only for non-residents of South Carolina.

The Regents and resident officers seem to take the broadest view of the purposes of the Hospital and the function it should perform to the public by fostering the idea of the greatest good to the greatest number and of restricting the number and classes of patients as little as possible. It hardly becomes the Executive to wish to curtail the usefulness of the Hospital, yet the question may well again be asked whether the institution is not frequently imposed upon in the class of individuals committed to it, and whether after all "State Care" is not attended with certain deficiencies. The Regents themselves ask whether greater care and local interest may not be secured by requiring the counties to pay a portion of the expenses for each patient sent to the Hospital. The present system seems rather to offer an inducement for each community to place upon the State burdens and responsibilities which they should assume themselves in part, at least. We cannot at this late date take a backward step in the care of the insane, but either our appropriations for that purpose must be greatly increased in the next few years, or we must devise methods of restricting admissions to the State Hospital. Furthermore, there seems little doubt as to the need of the separation of imbeciles and epileptics from the insane proper. But it is a question whether the State is at present in a financial condition to undertake the support of another separate charitable institution, with the prospect of others still later on. Such inmates should be placed in separate buildings upon the present property.

My deepest sympathies go out to those unfortunate ones among our fellow citizens to whom has been denied the blessings of life, and I have taken pains to bring the noble institution for their home before you in full detail. They are fortunate, at least in being under the faithful and gentle ministrations of the capable and thoughtful Superintendent of this institution, to whom our State owes a debt of gratitude. I need not add that I heartily concur in the recommendations which are included in this report.

THE STATE PENITENTIARY.

In conducting such an institution as this our object should be to care for its inmates with thoughtfulness and kindness, to keep it upon a plane where humanity and consideration, together with business judgment, are never lost sight of. The present management of the penitentiary and the condition of its affairs show that this can be accomplished, and I am sure you will agree with me that our thanks are due to the officers of this institution for the good work they have done. The report of the Superintendent and Board of Directors will show that affairs here are in excellent condition, and this report, with its wise suggestions, is commended to your careful consideration and favorable action.

The convict statement shows:

Prisoners in confinement Dec. 31, 1902	701
Received under new sentences	216
Recaptured	8
	925
Discharged	170
Pardoned	15
Escaped	14
Died	24
	228

In prison Dec. 31, 1903, 697. The health record, while exceptionally good, shows that 23 of the 29 deaths resulted from tuberculosis, and it is believed that it will be impossible to reduce the number of deaths from this cause until, through the erection of a suitable building, such patients can be isolated from the other prisoners. The Superintendent and Board of Directors request that they be allowed to erect such a building from their surplus funds, and I earnestly recommend that this be done at once.

The financial statement shows the following figures:

Balance cash on hand Dec. 31, 1902	\$17,112 14
Total receipts for the year 1903	73,908 43
	\$91,020 57
Current expenses for the year	\$56,396 44
Permanent improvements	5,000 00
Land bought for Lexington farm	800 00
	\$62,196 44
Cash in hand, Dec. 31, 1903	\$28,851 13
Cash in sight and available	7,500 00
	\$36,351 13

This amount, it appears, will be more than necessary for current expenses for this year, and it is further recommended that, after the erection of the building for consumptives, the balance be used for the erection of necessary guard rooms and offices. The present quarters are inadequate and I believe this to be a good suggestion. The Reformatory for young criminals established on the Lexington State Farm is well managed and is filling an absolutely indispensable need. I am glad to add that religious exercises are regularly conducted at the chapel, reformatory and on the convict farms, all of which services are well attended.

THE STATE BOARD OF HEALTH.

The report of the Chairman of the Executive Committee of this Board has been submitted to me, which, together with the annual report of the State Board will be submitted for your consideration. The report of the Chairman deals with several subjects of special interest, the most important being the consideration of the smallpox situation. This disease has prevailed to some extent, in certain sections, despite the prompt and efficient response which the State Board of Health has always given when called upon. The effective eradication of this disease is a difficult matter, and your careful attention is here necessary. The report makes a number of suggestions with this object in view.

Another subject treated is the uniform collection of vital statistics, it being the desire of the United States Government to treat these as they do the varied industries and resources of a State. A plan is suggested by which this may be accomplished, and it is desirable immigration in giving official figures regarding the health of our State.

The pure food law and its advantages are discussed, and so are