

"As at present, many of the local asylums (1918) afford accommodation not only for insane persons, but also for paupers. In some asylums a number of children are received. When such a variety of admissions is permitted it is very essential that facilities be provided for proper classification of the different types of inmates."

"Permission to establish institutions for the care and treatment of the harmless insane was granted by the Legislature to the various municipalities with the expectation that institutions thus established would be so constructed, equipped and maintained as to afford the inmates received therein a degree of comfort and care which would reflect credit upon the humanity of the communities supporting them. While not setting down any definite requirements, it is felt that the following should be observed as essentials, and that in no institution should anything less be considered as satisfactory.

(1) The building should be substantially constructed, and so designed as to permit of proper classification of patients. Day rooms should be provided for each sex and for each class of patients, so that sleeping rooms need not be occupied during the day. The air space in sleeping rooms must not be less than 800 cubic feet per individual. There must be ample provision for ventilation.

(2) The water supply must be pure and abundant, and piped through to building to supply kitchen, baths, and toilets. There must be at least one bathroom and one toilet for each sex. Where no sewerage system is available, the drainage must be carried into an approved sewage tank, the effluent from which must be disposed of in a manner satisfactory to the Medical Health Officer for the municipality.

(3) The building occupied by patients must be comfortably warmed, preferably by a central heating system. Especial care must be taken to ensure a comfortable degree of warmth in the day rooms and bathrooms.

(4) Care should be exercised in the placing of windows to ensure an abundance of sunlight to all apartments occupied by patients. Dark rooms for isolation of refractory cases cannot under any circumstances be countenanced. For artificial lighting, the electric light is advised. Small units, operated by gasoline, are obtainable at reasonable prices and are recommended for the institutions which are so situated that electric current cannot be obtained otherwise. When oil lamps are used, they must be so protected as to make them inaccessible to any but the employees of the institution.

(5) Suitable fire escapes must be provided for all floors above the ground floor. Exits to these must be by doors opening outward. Care must be taken to ensure that the locks controlling exit doors are always in good working order. Chemical fire extinguishers should be provided and