

BIENNIAL REPORT
OF THE
Officers of the Soldiers'
Home of Vermont



For the Two Years Beginning July 1, 1916,
and Ending June 30, 1918

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REPORT

To the Governor and General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

GENTLEMEN:—We herewith submit our sixteenth biennial report. Owing to the prescribed space now allowed us this report cannot contain all the details and information which our former reports have contained. The two years from July 1, 1916 to June 30, 1918, have been the most strenuous in our history chiefly owing to the constantly increasing price of everything going into the maintenance of the Home, but it is due to the great efficiency and wise economy of the present Superintendent and Matron, Mr. and Mrs. Martin, that the cost has not exceeded the amounts hereafter detailed. The productions of the farm for consumption in the Home have very materially increased as you will find by comparing the Superintendent's Report and Farm Account with the same items in former reports. The entire appropriations made by the State for maintaining the Home, including cost of buildings and support of inmates, had amounted June 30, 1918 to \$393,000, a sum less than most of the States had to expend in purchase and equipment of land and buildings before they could care for any inmates.

The number of inmates has not very materially changed in the past two years, there were on the roll June 30, 1916, sixty-six; June 30, 1917, seventy-one; June 30, 1918, sixty-seven. The whole number of inmates cared for since the Home was opened in 1887, to June 30, 1918, has been 852, the whole number of deaths during that period has been 355.

It has been our custom to recite in detail all bills incurred during the biennial period that the people might know exactly how we were expending their funds, but to conserve space we in this report give only the monthly totals. The bills are made in duplicate; besides entry in full on the books of the Home, a duplicate copy is retained in the files at the Home. Every bill is examined and endorsed "correct" by the Superintendent and approved by two Trustees before payment is made by the treasurer. Trustees Cushman and Henry have performed this service each month during the whole biennial period. The books and files of bills are always open to the inspection of any citizen of the State.

We have discharged the trust confided to us by you as economically and efficiently as we could and have still kept the idea of an actual Home for these decrepit old men.

Respectfully submitted,

HUGH HENRY,

President of the Board of Trustees.

Report of Superintendent

JUDGE HUGH HENRY,

President, Board of Trustees, Vermont Soldiers Home:

The report herewith submitted is for the two year period beginning July 1, 1916, and ending June 30, 1918, and includes inventory of stock and farm implements belonging to the Home, financial statement of farm, monthly totals of expenditures, and a statement of the Building Fund.

Since the Superintendent and Matron assumed the duties of their respective offices on February 1, 1917, they have been treated with fine courtesy and splendid cooperation by you and the members of the Board of Trustees, and take this opportunity of thanking you.

Very respectfully,

GEORGE P. MARTIN, Superintendent.

Inventory of Stock and Farm Implements

June 30, 1918.

4 work horses	1 horse rake
12 milch cows	1 tedder
1 two-year-old heifer	2 horse forks (hay)
6 yearling heifers	1 plow
2 heifer calves	1 sulky plow
2 bull calves	2 harrows
1 bull	1 potato hoe
8 shoats	2 cultivators
3 hogs	2 hand lawn mowers
1 boar	1 scrapper
145 hens	1 circular saw and table
115 chickens	1 corn planter
1 Concord buggy	1 threshing machine
1 canopy top surrey	Shovels, hoes, picks, bars, weeder, etc.
1 market wagon	1 gasoline engine
1 two-seated sleigh	1 ensilage cutter
2 traverse sleds	1 hose cart, 500 feet hose
1 dump cart	1 fanning mill
3 farm wagons	1 combination Empire drill
1 reaper	1 land roller
1 mowing machine	1 corn harvester
1 hand roller	
1 manure spreader	

Financial Statement

July 1, 1916, to June 30, 1918.

Amount requisitioned from the State	\$38,636 89
Amount of United States Aid	9,836 88
Amount received from farm sales	1,124 79
Amount received from pensions	3,339 25
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	\$52,937 81

Monthly totals of bills paid by the Treasurer.

1916	
July	\$1,752 67
August	1,978 63
September	1,789 05
October	1,702 77
November	1,950 54
December	1,984 82
1917	
January	2,349 61
February	2,212 45
March	2,142 16
April	2,229 83
May	1,804 38
June	1,797 25
July	2,250 32
August	2,104 05
September	1,951 66
October	3,274 97
November	2,127 34
December	2,626 04
1918	
January	2,758 63
February	2,363 32
March	2,180 48
April	2,276 68
May	2,130 54
June	2,628 76
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	\$52,366 95

Farm Account

July 1, 1916, to June 30, 1918.

Farm Products

Vegetables	\$435 50	
Hay	1,418 00	
Oats	348 00	
Straw	110 00	
Silo corn	770 00	
Millet	68 00	
Potatoes	986 25	
Beans	38 00	
Buckwheat	35 20	
Wood	224 00	
Veal	157 52	
Pork	1,019 98	
Beef	94 00	
Poultry and eggs	755 95	
Milk	2,561 95	
	<u>\$9,022 35</u>	
Farm sales	1,124 79	
		\$10,147 14
Farm implements, materials, grain, etc.....	\$3,742 72	
Farm labor	3,364 54	
	<u>7,107 26</u>	
Net balance on farm		\$3,039 88

AVERAGE PRESENT AND COST (per capita) FOR QUARTERS ENDING

Sept. 30, 1916.....	46	\$111 13
Dec. 31, 1916.....	52	102 64
Mar. 31, 1917.....	52	124 63
June 30, 1917.....	45	118 48
		<u>\$456 88</u>

Number present on State Roll, June 30, 1917..... 11

Sept. 30, 1917.....	45	\$125 99
Dec. 31, 1917.....	49	125 79
Mar. 31, 1918.....	53	124 47
June 30, 1918.....	44	134 22
		<u>\$510 47</u>

Number present on State Roll, June 30, 1918 12

Terms of Admission

Section 1. Until the Home is filled to the number therein to be supported, and thereafter when a vacancy exists, any soldier, or sailor, of the war of the rebellion, or who has served for the United States in any war, who is sick, or disabled, by wounds or old age, and who is destitute of other means of support, and who has been honorably discharged from the military or naval service of the United States (preference being given to those soldiers and sailors who helped to fill the quota of Vermont, or who can claim birth or citizenship in Vermont), may be admitted to the Home upon the recommendation in writing of any member of the Board of Trustees, addressed to the Superintendent. All admissions to the Home (except those temporarily made by the Superintendent) shall be probationary.

Section 2. The Board of Trustees at the annual meeting held July 9, 1913, passed a resolution authorizing the Committee on Admissions to admit Veterans who are receiving a pension from the U. S. Government of twenty dollars or more per month and who have no wife, child, parent or other person living that are dependent upon them, upon the agreement of such veterans to pay to the Home not less than one-half of such pension, said veteran to be cared for as are the regular members during their good behavior and prompt payment of said one-half of pension received.

Rules of Admission

Section 1. Applications for admission shall be made on forms provided by the Home. The applicant must have been a Vermont soldier or sailor, or have gained a residence in the State and hold an honorable discharge.

Section 2. Applicants may be admitted on approval of the application by the Superintendent and one member of the Committee on Admissions.

Section 3. In cases out of the ordinary the question whether the applicant should be admitted shall be passed upon by the entire committee and the applicant whose application has been disapproved of by the Superintendent and one member of the Committee on Admissions shall, on request, be entitled to have his application passed upon by the full Committee; the action of said committee shall be at all times subject to the approval of the Trustees.

Section 4. If the Home is not filled to its capacity, other honorably discharged soldiers or sailors than those named in paragraph one of this Section may be admitted if the Committee on Admissions find the man a suitable person to become a member of the Home.

Section 5. An applicant with any degree of insanity cannot be admitted. The Surgeon of the Home, on request of the Superintendent, shall examine applicants, and his findings shall be final and conclusive as to the question of applicant's sanity or insanity.

Section 6. An applicant having been a member of another Home cannot be admitted to this Home until the expiration of six months, without the approval of the President of the Board of Trustees.

Section 7. An applicant who has property, or means of support, will not be admitted without the vote of the Committee on Admissions.

Section 8. Soldiers or sailors who have been dishonorably discharged from any Home cannot be admitted, except by vote of the Committee on Admissions.

Donations and Gifts

July 1, 1916, to June 30, 1918.

Redfield Proctor, \$100 for Thanksgiving
 Mrs. Colgate, magazines and books
 Dept. Vt. W. R. C., \$10
 Gen. Baxter W. R. C., blankets
 Leavenworth W. R. C., jelly, candy, bandages, etc.
 A. R. Hurlburt W. R. C., rugs and towels
 Sedgwick W. R. C., \$10
 Woodstock W. R. C., \$5
 Morrisville W. R. C., \$5
 Stannard W. R. C., \$2
 Burnside W. R. C., box of oranges
 Preston W. R. C., \$2
 Kearney W. R. C., blankets, fruit, jelly, grapejuice, candy, tobacco, books, neckties, and comb
 Bailey W. R. C., quilt, sheets, and jelly
 Custer W. R. C., box of cigars
 Greenwood W. R. C., \$5
 Roberts W. R. C., \$3
 Miss Lucy Cutting, magazines
 Bethel W. R. C., blanket
 Geo. E. Hamblin, bandage roller
 Redfield Proctor, \$100 for Thanksgiving
 Kearney W. R. C., quilt
 Custer W. R. C., rugs
 Bennington Club, magazines and playing cards
 Dept. Vt. W. R. C., silk flag
 Mrs. Alice Jones, oil painting
 North Troy W. R. C., bed puff
 Chamberlain W. R. C., \$5
 Sedgwick W. R. C., \$10
 Roberts W. R. C., \$5
 Dr. Martin, flowers
 Washburn W. R. C., rugs
 E. H. Stoughton W. R. C., rugs, bath towels, and face towels

Money Donated for Renovating Rooms in Dormitory.

Dept. Vt. W. R. C.	\$193 80
Island Pond W. R. C.	20 00
Stannard W. R. C.	10 00
A. R. Hurlburt W. R. C.	6 00
Custer W. R. C.	10 00
Bellows Falls W. R. C.	5 00
St. Johnsbury W. R. C.	5 90
Henry W. R. C.	8 50
Bradford W. R. C.	10 00
Brattleboro W. R. C.	5 00
Rutland W. R. C.	10 00
Springfield W. R. C.	8 00
Morrisville W. R. C.	5 00
Mrs. W. E. Hawks	10 00
Geo. P. Martin	5 13
	\$311 43

LIST OF NEWSPAPERS FURNISHED THE HOME BY THE PUBLISHERS, FREE.

Dailies.

Burlington Daily News, St. Albans Messenger.

Weeklies.

Morrisville News & Citizen, Montpelier Argus & Patriot, Bellows Falls Times, Ludlow Tribune, Brandon Union, Bradford Opinion, St. Johnsbury Caledonian, St. Johnsbury Republican, Springfield Reporter, Fair Haven Era, Poultney Journal, Windsor Journal, Brattleboro Reformer, Middlebury Record, Vergennes Enterprise and Vermonter, Manchester Journal, Middlebury Register, Rutland Herald, Rutland News.

Building Fund, Vermont Soldiers' Home, Bennington, Vermont, 1917

February 18, 1917, the main barn and some of the connecting buildings were destroyed by fire. We give the cost of replacing the old by a new modern barn.

Receipts.

Insurance received	\$3,314 06
Special appropriation by Legislature	4,000 00
Credit of Loudon Machinery Co., material returned	43 15
	\$7,357 21

Disbursements, consolidated.

Labor, clearing away old barn, temporary repairs	\$209 68
Advertising bids	8 78
Lumber, temporary repairs	99 24
Expenses of committee to Albany	7 14
James S. Silk, figuring fire loss	10 00
H. W. Myers & Son, harrow, plow	32 00
Loudon Machinery Co., plans	37 00
Loudon Machinery Co., hog pen equipment	276 17
Loudon Machinery Co., barn equipment	1,236 11
Freight on equipment	53 10
Express on material	6 12
A. H. Winslow, slate	278 32
Adams Hardware Co., nails, paint and pulleys	66 15
Wm. Dey Ermand Co., paint	48 13
Telephone tolls	2 20
Shakshober & Barber, lumber	827 19
A. J. Dewey, lumber	189 68
Eagle Square Mfg. Co., lumber	211 51
Thomas Hannon, superintending construction	100 00
Interest on note	20 00
Extra labor	149 73
H. W. Myers & Son, tile	30 35
F. A. Wahlquist, bolt	1 25
A. H. Winslow, hardware	205 61

Joseph B. Bingham, windows, doors and lumber.....	\$273 71
Nichols & Warren Elec. Co., wiring barn	67 75
L. J. Blakeley, painting	10 05
Edward E. Dewey, painting	123 70
Lambert & Burrington, labor and material, cement work..	1,502 42
Lambert & Burrington, moving silo	75 00
Lambert & Burrington, silo foundation.....	175 00
Walter E. Dunham, carpenter labor	1,024 12
	<hr/> \$7,357 21

Surgeon's Report

To the Hon. Hugh Henry,

President of the Board of Trustees:

As physician to the Vermont Soldiers' Home I herewith submit my report covering the two years ending June 30, 1918.

At the time of my last report, June 30, 1916, there were seventeen patients in the hospital. During the two years covered by this report fifty-three new patients have been admitted, making a total of seventy that have been cared for during the past two years.

Of this number, twenty-one have been discharged as cured or relieved, thirty-four have died, and fifteen are still in the hospital.

The causes of the thirty-four deaths were as follows: arteriosclerosis 11, heart disease 7, pneumonia 2, alcoholism 2, nephritis 2, toxemia 2, apoplexy 2, hemorrhage from ulcer of the stomach 1, alcoholic neuritis 1, paralysis 1, tuberculosis 1, cancer 1, poisoning 1.

Of the patients now in the hospital, one has catarrh of the stomach, one has senile debility, one is blind, one has paralysis as a result of apoplexy, two have cystitis, two are crippled from fractured legs, two have rheumatism, and five are there because of general debility due to age.

Respectfully submitted,

LUCRETIVS H. ROSS, M. D.,

Physician in Charge.

Summary of Payments to Indigent Veterans and Widows of Veterans under Act 111, 1917

For the Two Years From July 1, 1916, to June 30, 1918.

Paid to indigent veterans and widows in July, 1916	\$495 00
Paid to indigent veterans and widows in August, 1916 ..	485 00
Paid to indigent veterans and widows in September, 1916	485 00
Paid to indigent veterans and widows in October, 1916 ..	505 00
Paid to indigent veterans and widows in November, 1916.	485 00
Paid to indigent veterans and widows in December, 1916.	485 00
Paid to indigent veterans and widows in January, 1917...	480 00
Paid to indigent veterans and widows in February, 1917..	480 00
Paid to indigent veterans and widows in March, 1917....	490 00
Paid to indigent veterans and widows in April, 1917	485 00
Paid to indigent veterans and widows in May, 1917.....	500 00
Paid to indigent veterans and widows in June, 1917.....	505 00
Paid to indigent veterans and widows in July, 1917.....	550 00
Paid to indigent veterans and widows in August, 1917...	550 00
Paid to indigent veterans and widows in September, 1917	595 00
Paid to indigent veterans and widows in October, 1917...	605 00
Paid to indigent veterans and widows in November, 1917.	610 00
Paid to indigent veterans and widows in December, 1917.	615 00
Paid to indigent veterans and widows in January, 1918..	650 00
Paid to indigent veterans and widows in February, 1918....	655 00
Paid to indigent veterans and widows in March, 1918....	650 00
Paid to indigent veterans and widows in April, 1918.....	655 00
Paid to indigent veterans and widows in May, 1918.....	690 00
Paid to indigent veterans and widows in June, 1918.....	710 00

Total payments for the two years \$13,415 00

During the biennial period thirty-four names were dropped from the roll as follows:

Dropped for various reasons	5
Dropped because of death	29
	<hr/> 34

Of those who have died twenty-seven were veterans and two were widows of veterans.

Respectfully submitted,

HUGH HENRY,

Treasurer of Committee.

