

BIENNIAL REPORT

OF THE

Officers of the Vermont  
Soldiers' Home

BENNINGTON

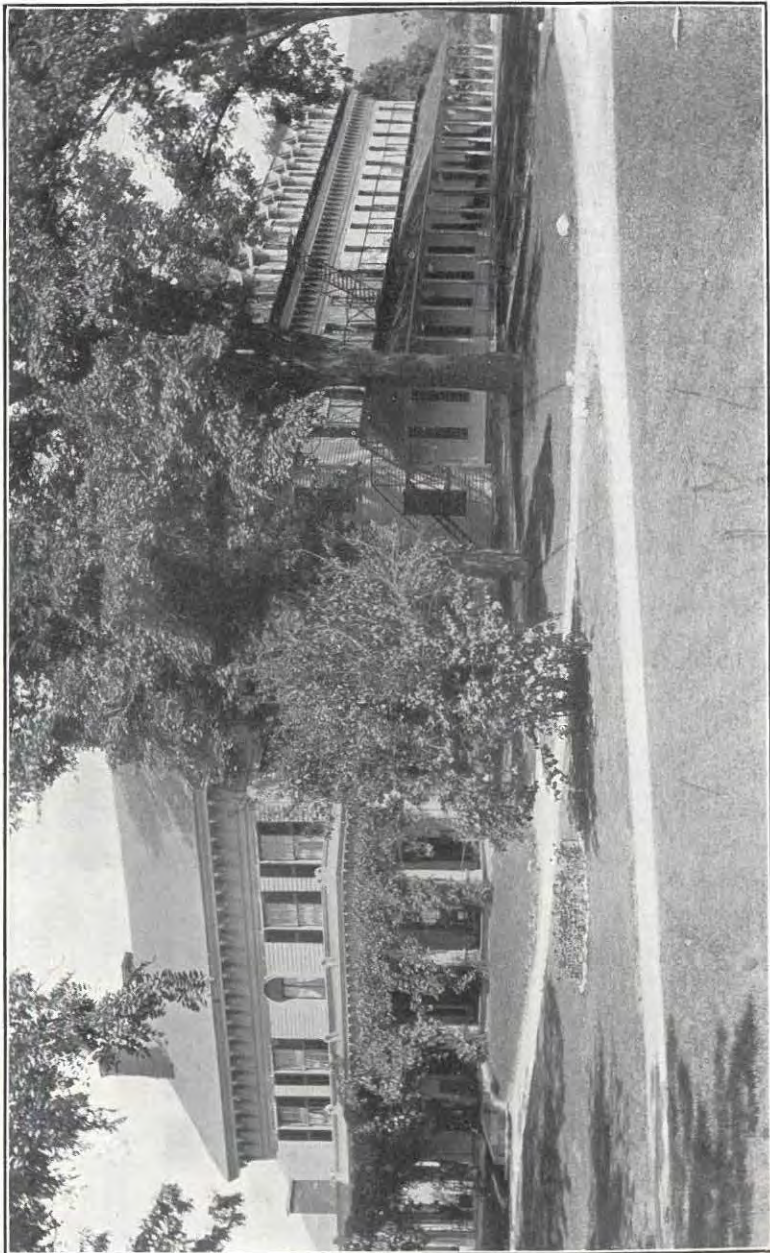
For the Two Years Beginning July 1, 1924,  
and Ending June 30, 1926.



THE TUTTLE COMPANY  
MARBLE CITY PRESS  
PUBLISHERS VT. PUBLIC DOCUMENTS  
RUTLAND, VERMONT  
1926



*Insert*



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## Board of Trustees

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HENRY O. CARPENTER, President  
 WILLIAM C. H. CUSHMAN, Secretary and Treasurer  
 GEORGE W. KENNEY, Auditor

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Charles N. Barber	H. Nelson Jackson
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Pearl T. Clapp	Robert W. McCuen
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Frank L. Greene	Edward A. Tobin

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George P. Martin, Superintendent  
 Arthur S. Martin, Assistant Superintendent  
 Mrs. Etta K. Martin, Matron  
 Lucretius H. Ross, M. D., Surgeon  
 Rev. John Leonard Cole, Chaplain



## Report

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

GENTLEMEN:

I have the honor to submit herewith the twentieth biennial report of the Trustees of the Soldiers' Home in Vermont.

In many of the earlier reports, to which reference may be made if desired, details of the original gift of the Home property were given, but as these have been omitted from later reports, it may be of interest to state that in 1887 the Trustees of the Trenor W. Park Home for Destitute Children, and the heirs of Trenor W. Park, joined in the gift of the property known as the "Hunt Estate" containing approximately two hundred acres of land, with dwelling house and farm buildings, the whole to be used as a Soldiers' Home as long as the need should continue. One of the features of the property was, and still is, its independent water system, supplied from its own reservoir in the foothills east of Bennington, which furnishes water for all of the various buildings and the famous "highest" fountain in front of the Administration Building. This property is located on the northern edge of the village of Bennington.

The first soldier was admitted to the Home on May 18, 1887, and from that date to June 30, 1926, there have been 946 veterans admitted and cared for by this Home. During the same period there have been 441 deaths at the Home. On June 30, 1926, there were on the roll 35 members, of whom 24 were veterans of the Civil War, 8 were veterans of the War with Spain, 1 was a veteran of the World War, while 2 had military or naval service in time of peace. While for a number of years previous to 1924, the number of members of the Home had slowly decreased, on June 30, 1926, there were exactly the same number of members on the roll as on June 30, 1924.

The per capita cost for the past year was \$927, of which the United States paid \$120, making the cost to the State \$807. This cost has increased as the number of members has decreased, owing to the difficulty of reducing the overhead expense proportionately.

The Home farm produces the milk, poultry and eggs, and in part, the pork, veal, and potatoes, consumed, and a considerable surplus of milk and hay are sold. A large garden furnishes the vegetables.

On the following pages will be found the monthly totals of expenditures, the farm account, and the financial statement. All

invoices are in duplicate, one copy is retained at the Home, and all are entered in the books of the Home. Every bill is examined by the Superintendent, and approved by the Auditor and the President, representing the Auditing Committee and the Finance Committee.

For many years a deer park has been one of the attractions of the Home, but the wooden fence enclosing it has been in very poor condition for some time, and it was evident two years ago that a new fence was necessary if the park were to be continued. While the matter was under consideration, Ex-Governor Redfield Proctor generously offered to defray one half the cost of a new fence, provided the park should be somewhat enlarged and a modern fence erected. This offer was accepted and in the fall of 1924, a seven foot, chain link fabric, galvanized iron fence was constructed, which adds materially to the attractiveness of the deer park. We take this opportunity of publicly thanking Governor Proctor for his benefaction. At present there are two deer in the park, but we are endeavoring to secure one or two young does, thus far without success.

We thank the Woman's Relief Corps and other patriotic organizations, and individuals, for their generous remembrances, a list of their donations and gifts being printed in this report.

In conclusion, we ask from you the same generous treatment that we have had heretofore, assuring you that it is our endeavor to maintain a pleasant and comfortable Home for the disabled and feeble veterans in our care.

Respectfully submitted,

HENRY O. CARPENTER,  
President of the Board of Trustees.



## Report of Superintendent

Hon. Henry O. Carpenter,

President of the Board of Trustees:—

The report herewith submitted is for the two year period ending June 30, 1926, and includes financial statement, farm account, and statistical report.

Also included in the report is the list of donations to the Home, prominent among which are those of the Woman's Relief Corps. Especial thanks are due this organization for the gift last Christmas of an Orthophonic Victrola of the largest type. Thanks are also due Mr. E. T. Griswold of Bennington, who contributed to the fund for this gift. This victrola is a beautiful instrument and has given much pleasure to the members of the Home. Other patriotic organizations and individuals also were generous with gifts, among them Ex-Governor Redfield Proctor, who has continued his annual gift of a Thanksgiving dinner to the Home.

The Superintendent and Matron thank you and the other members of the Board of Trustees for the courtesy you have always shown them.

Very respectfully,

GEORGE P. MARTIN,

*Superintendent.*

## Statistical Report

July 1, 1924, to June 30, 1926

Number present, June 30, 1924 .....	31	
Number absent, June 30, 1924 .....	4	
Number present and absent, June 30, 1924 .....	—	35
Number admitted and readmitted, July 1, 1924, to June 30, 1926 .....		30
Number discharged and dropped, July 1, 1924, to June 30, 1926 .....		19
Number died July 1, 1924, to June 30, 1926:		
Absent on furlough .....	1	
At the Home .....	10	
	—	11
Total loss in membership .....	—	30
Number present, June 30, 1926 .....	32	
Number absent, June 30, 1926 .....	3	
Number present and absent, June 30, 1926 .....	—	35
Average number present during the two year period .....		28
Average number present and absent during the two year period .....		33
Cost per capita, year ending June 30, 1925 .....	\$941.61	
Cost per capita, year ending June 30, 1926 .....	\$927.00	
(Per Capita cost includes cost of all repairs)		
Number in Hospital, June 30, 1926. ....		10
On June 30, 1926, there were on the roll:		
24 members who served in the Civil War, their average age being 81.9 years.		
8 members who served in the Spanish American War, their average age being 60.9 years.		
1 member who served in the World War, age 32.3 years		
2 members who served in the army or navy in time of peace, their average age being 59.9 years.		
Age of oldest Civil War Veteran—85 years, 9 months.		
Age of youngest Civil War Veteran—77 years, 10 months.		
Age of oldest Spanish War Veteran—72 years, 7 months.		
Age of youngest Spanish War Veteran—50 years, 11 months.		
Number of admissions since the Home opened .....		946
Number of deaths since the Home opened .....		441
Home organized .....		1884
Home opened .....		1887



## Financial Statement

### RECEIPTS

July 1, 1924, to June 30, 1926.

Appropriation for two years .....	\$48,000.00
United States Aid .....	6,840.00
Farm sales and miscellaneous receipts .....	5,240.62
Refunds, insurance premiums, petty cash .....	17.88

\$60,098.50

Balance, July 1, 1924 ..... 2,858.04

\$62,956.54

### Monthly Totals of Bills Paid

1924	
July .....	\$1,846.55
August .....	4,754.67
September .....	2,340.59
October .....	2,039.58
November .....	1,737.06
December .....	2,040.47
1925	
January .....	3,013.44
February .....	2,080.88
March .....	2,118.47
April .....	2,133.70
May .....	2,531.09
June .....	5,365.13
July .....	1,890.68
August .....	2,412.87
September .....	2,188.89
October .....	2,048.27
November .....	2,387.45
December .....	2,027.07
1926	
January .....	2,276.76
February .....	2,524.90
March .....	2,151.91
April .....	2,189.74
May .....	2,333.58
June .....	4,924.44

\$61,358.19

Amount unused of two years appropriation ..... 1,591.99

Refund petty cash ..... 6.36

\$62,956.54

The National Government pays \$120 per year each, for the average number of members present during the year. This is shown as "United States Aid" above.

## Farm Account

July 1, 1924, to June 30, 1926

### Farm products used:

Vegetables .....	\$917.80
Hay .....	1,755.71
Oats .....	556.88
Straw .....	421.11
Silo Corn .....	1,700.00
Corn .....	404.00
Potatoes .....	647.00
Green Clover .....	75.00
Millet .....	15.00
Veal .....	107.65
Pork .....	821.46
Poultry and eggs .....	1,303.87
Milk .....	2,270.90
Wood .....	356.00

\$11,352.38

Farm Sales ..... 4,769.21

\$16,121.59

### Farm expenditures:

Farm implements, grain, etc. ....	\$4,000.93
Farm labor .....	5,152.91

\$9,153.84

Net balance on farm ..... \$6,967.75

### INVENTORY OF STOCK, JUNE 30, 1926.

5 work horses	6 shoats
15 milch cows	2 hogs
2 two-year-old heifers	1 boar
2 heifer calves	100 hens
1 bull calf	150 chickens
1 bull	



## 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 or 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.

### 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 Board of Admission.

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, 1924, to June 30, 1926.

Sons of Veterans Auxiliary, Rochester, \$75.  
 Hon. Redfield Proctor, Proctor, for Thanksgiving, \$100.  
 Mason W. R. C., Glover, bedquilt.  
 Col. Preston W. R. C., Wells River, individual Christmas gifts.  
 Kearney W. R. C., Wallingford, blanket, fruit, canned fruit, candy, individual Christmas gifts.  
 Mrs. Mattie Lunsden, Greensboro Bend, bedquilt.  
 Mrs. Mary Roberts, Springfield, individual Christmas gifts.  
 Jarvis W. R. C., Springfield, individual Christmas gifts.  
 Hon. Redfield Proctor, Proctor, check for one half the cost of a new fence for deer park, \$468.42.  
 A. E. Burnside W. R. C., Greensboro Bend, canned fruit.  
 Wm. H. Boynton Circle, Ladies of the G. A. R., Northfield Falls, magazines, jellies, individual Christmas gifts.  
 Col. J. B. Meade Circle, Ladies of the G. A. R., Barre, individual Christmas gifts.  
 Morrill W. R. C., Cabot, jelly, canned fruit, individual Christmas gifts.  
 A. E. Leavenworth W. R. C., Castleton, fruit, individual Christmas gifts.  
 Lucy A. Young Tent, Daughters of Veterans, St. Johnsbury, box cigars.  
 Gen. O. O. Howard Circle, Ladies of the G. A. R., Essex Junction, cigars and tobacco.  
 Mr. Henry A. Carpenter, Newfane, books.  
 Birchard W. R. C., Townshend, jellies, fruit, cigars, candy, socks, check for \$3.  
 Henry W. R. C., Chester handkerchiefs, cigars, tobacco, fruit, individual Christmas boxes of candy.  
 E. H. Stoughton W. R. C., Bellows Falls, bedquilt.  
 U. S. Grant W. R. C., Randolph, \$10.  
 H. H. Smith W. R. C., Stowe, \$10.  
 Department of Vermont W. R. C., \$112.  
 C. H. Stafford, Bennington, cigars, playing cards.  
 Walter C. Dunton W. R. C., Bristol, fruit, jellies, canned fruit, candy, cigars, books, magazines.  
 Mr. E. G. White, Cavendish, \$100.  
 W. C. T. U., Newbury, towels, wash cloths.  
 Roberts W. R. C., Rutland, \$10.  
 Jarvis W. R. C., Springfield, curtains.  
 Mrs. Marian Jones Davis, South Londonderry, wheel chair.  
 Mr. E. H. Everett, Bennington, vegetables.  
 Mrs. Louisa Downs, Newfane, framed picture.  
 Mrs. L. A. Hatch, Sharon, bedspread, blanket.  
 Hon. Redfield Proctor, Proctor, for Thanksgiving, \$100.  
 American Legion Post No. 13, Bennington, box cigars.  
 Kearney W. R. C., Wallingford, candy, jellies, box cigars, tobacco, blanket, individual Christmas gifts.  
 Lucy A. Young Tent, Daughters of Veterans, St. Johnsbury, box cigars.  
 Daniel Lillie W. R. C., Bethel, bedquilt.  
 Walter C. Dunton W. R. C., Bristol, jelly, candy, individual Christmas gifts.



E. H. Stoughton W. R. C., Bellows Falls, bedquilt.  
 Morrill W. R. C., Cabot, bedquilt.  
 Sons of Veterans Auxiliary, Saxtons River, candy, canned fruit, box cigars.  
 E. H. Stoughton W. R. C., Bellows Falls, individual Christmas gifts.  
 Ladies of the G. A. R.,—Col. J. B. Meade Circle, Barre, Wm. H. Bynton Circle, Northfield Falls, Gen. O. O. Howard Circle, Essex Junction—candy, fruit, jellies, pipes, tobacco, individual Christmas gifts.  
 Mrs. J. C. Brooks, Bristol, magazines.  
 Department of Vermont W. R. C., orthophonic victrola, Credenza model.  
 Mr. E. T. Griswold, Bennington, check toward purchase of orthophonic victrola, \$25.  
 Mrs. J. E. Bradish, Perkinsville, books.

#### LIST OF STATE NEWSPAPERS FURNISHED THE HOME BY THE PUBLISHERS, FREE

Daily Papers—Burlington Daily News, Rutland News.  
 Weekly Papers—Manchester Journal, Richford Gazette, Poultney Journal, Fair Haven Era, Brandon Union.

### Surgeon's Report

To the HON. HENRY O. CARPENTER,

President of the Board of Trustees:

As physician to the Vermont Soldiers' Home, I herewith submit my report covering the two years from July 1st, 1924, to July 1st, 1926.

At the time of my last report, July 1st, 1924, there were nine patients in the Hospital. During the two years following that date, and covered by this report, thirty-three patients have been admitted to the Hospital, making a total of forty-two that have received treatment during this time. Of this number, twenty-two have been discharged, because of recovery or improvement, and ten have died. The causes of death were, arteriosclerosis, four; myocarditis, two; grip, one; chronic nephritis, one; locomotor ataxia, one; thrombosis, one.

There are, at this time, in the Hospital, ten patients; four have arteriosclerosis, two have spinal paralysis, two have myocarditis, one is blind, and one is crippled.

The health of the members of the Home has been very good during the past two years, and there has been no epidemic present at any time. From the 31st of October, 1924, until the 22nd of May, 1925,—a period of seven months, lacking nine days—there was not a death at the Home. This is the longest period without a death in the history of the Home.

Respectfully submitted,

LUCRETIOUS H. ROSS,

Physician in Charge



## Report of the Committee Under Act III, 1917

Act to Provide State Aid to Indigent Veterans and Their Widows.

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

Summary of payments for the two years from July 1, 1924, to June 30, 1926.

Paid to indigent veterans and widows in	July, 1924	\$745.
" " " " " "	August, 1924	720.
" " " " " "	September, 1924	715.
" " " " " "	October, 1924	725.
" " " " " "	November, 1924	710.
" " " " " "	December, 1924	700.
" " " " " "	January, 1925	705.
" " " " " "	February, 1925	695.
" " " " " "	March, 1925	715.
" " " " " "	April, 1925	725.
" " " " " "	May, 1925	710.
" " " " " "	June, 1925	710.
" " " " " "	July, 1925	725.
" " " " " "	August, 1925	725.
" " " " " "	September, 1925	725.
" " " " " "	October, 1925	735.
" " " " " "	November, 1925	740.
" " " " " "	December, 1925	770.
" " " " " "	January, 1926	780.
" " " " " "	February, 1926	770.
" " " " " "	March, 1926	755.
" " " " " "	April, 1926	755.
" " " " " "	May, 1926	745.
" " " " " "	June, 1926	750.

\$17,550.

We respectfully submit the report of the Committee on State Aid.

We should be glad if the appropriation could remain at \$10,000.00 per annum for the ensuing two (2) years.

HENRY O. CARPENTER,

Clerk and Treasurer of the Committee on State Aid.