

DESERET EVENING NEWS.

Tuesday, December 28, 1897.

STATE INSANE ASYLUM.

Showing by the Medical Superintendent's Report.

WHAT HAS BEEN DONE IN THE YEAR 1897

An interesting Review of the Condition of an Important State Institution for the Year.

The medical superintendent of the State Insane Asylum has just completed his report for the year ending November 30, 1897. Unusual interest attaches to the results under this administration, because it is the first year since the late Governor's death that the asylum has been under the management of a man who has followed a well defined and vigorous policy of his own. A "New" representative recently called upon the doctor and was cordially permitted to call a few items of general interest in connection with the asylum, and the following are the results of his examination.

The following shows the movement of patients for the year ending November 30, 1897:

No. in custody December 1, 1897, males, 126; females, 118; total, 244. No. admitted during year, males, 41; females, 46; total, 87. Under care and treatment, males, 147; females, 150; total, 297. Discharged, males, 20; females, 20; total, 40. Died, males, 10; females, 10; total, 20. Remained, males, 122; females, 122; total, 244.

These statistics furnish an opportunity for interesting comparisons. The permanent increase during 1897 was only 12, as against 18 the previous year, and 27 the average for the previous years. The number discharged as cured equal 22 per cent of the number admitted, which is 5 per cent higher than the average for five years. Of the 22 discharges, 8 were in the hospital, and 14 were in the asylum.

This remarkably low expense rate is accounted for by the following reasons:

1.—The whole institution, including all its accessories down to the minutest details, has been under one management. This has led to an increase of farm, garden, orchard and dairy products, and has saved to check waste, economy labor and save money in things purchased.

2.—The use of coal and a more economical arrangement of the fuel. The superintendent's suggestions on these points have been adopted, and the cost of fuel has been reduced to the point of saving \$100,000 in the year.

3.—The new system of putting up the food has been put into operation, and the cost of food has been reduced to the point of saving \$100,000 in the year.

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county are hundred dollars. But if the year 1897, which represents the old system, be compared with 1897, which represents the new system, it will be found that the saving is \$20,000, or nearly 50 per cent. But in 1897 only new system has been put into operation, and the saving is \$20,000, or nearly 50 per cent.

This represents the money side of the change. There is another side. When the superintendent explained the changes effected, the reporter was obliged to confess that the asylum has been under the management of a man who has followed a well defined and vigorous policy of his own.

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CLASSIFIED WANT COLUMNS.

Ads. received after 2:30 P. M. will be found on page 2.

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