HISTORY OF WILLARD ASYLUM FOR THE INSANE AND THE WILLARD STATE HOSPITAL

Robert E. Doran, M.D.

1978

INTRODUCTION

The author of this little history of Willard lived there as a little boy when my father was First Assistant physician. Later, I made frequent visits to the place and became consulting surgeon there in 1934. My contacts with the Institution cover about two-thirds of its existence. I wish to express my thanks to Dr. Anthony Mustille who has been supportive of this history and made available the services of Mrs. Maurita Lind who has been most helpful in furnishing me with reports, articles, laws and other material. Mr. J. F. McCauley, Deputy Director for Administration, furnished me with a resume of the regulations pertaining to patient employment. Miss Helen B. Vincent, Principal of the School of Nursing, has given me information about it and its impending disestablishment.

THE HISTORY OF THE WILLARD STATE HOSPITAL

On October 13, 1869, the steamboat pulled up to the dock at Ovid Landing. Several men brought a deformed, demented woman down the gangplank. Her wrists were chained together. Mary Rote from the Columbia County poorhouse was the first of many thousands to arrive at the State Institution called the Willard Asylum. How did this come about and why was she taken to a beautiful but isolated part of the State?

The State Asylum for the Acute Insane had been opened in 1843 at Utica. Patients could only be kept there for two years. If not discharged cured in this period, they were returned to the institution from which they came. In the great majority of cases, this was the county poorhouse. Although a few counties had buildings for what were then called "lunatics," a term which originated from the idea that the rays of the moon could adversely affect the mind.

What kind of care and treatment was provided in the poorhouse? It took years for the public and State Legislature to learn that there was no treatment and that the care was poor to unspeakably terrible. Miss Dorothea Lynn Dix of Massachusetts had devoted her life to the alleviation of the lot of the mentally sick. She had found them often chained in poorhouses or kept in jails for years. In 1843, Miss Dix visited the poorhouses of New York State and the next year made a most eloquent and moving plea for the destitute insane. She outlined a plan for their relief, but no action was taken. In 1856, the Superintendents of the Poor asked the Legislature for help, but none was forthcoming even though the Senate made an investigation and report the next year. But the conscience of the office-holders was being aroused. Even with the Civil War going on, there was a growing feeling that action should be taken. On April 30, 1864, the Legislature passed an act authorizing Dr. Sylvester D. Willard "to investigate the condition of the insane poor in the various poorhouses, almshouses, insane asylums and institutions (jails) where the insane were kept." Dr. Willard was Surgeon General of the State and also Secretary of the New York State Medical Society. He made out a questionnaire. This was sent to each county judge. The judge, in turn, selected a

respected, capable member of the Medical profession to carry out a careful inspection and answer the questions which were then returned to Dr. Willard. It was found that in 55 counties, not counting New York and Kings County, there were 1,355 cases, nearly all of them chronic. Most of them were in a condition of neglect, abuse and suffering. In the words of Governor Fenton, their condition was "deplorable." As a result of this report, a bill was introduced to correct the abuse. This came to be known as the Willard Bill. It was drawn up in Canandaigua by Drs. Willard, Cook and Chapin. Senator Charles Folger of Geneva put it in proper form and helped it pass through the Senate. It had the Governor's strong backing and was signed into law April 8, 1865, just six days before Lincoln's assignation. The law authorized the establishment of the State Asylum for the Chronic Insane and for the better care of the insane poor, to be known as the Willard Asylum for the Insane. It had been planned to name it for Dr. Beck of Utica, but shortly before the act passed. Dr. Willard died of typhoid fever, and it was decided to honor his name.

The principle objects of what came to be called the Willard Law were:

1) The transfer of the chronic insane from the county almshouses to the Willard Asylum.

2) The transfer of all discharged chronic cases from the State Lunatic Asylum at Utica to Willard.

3) That all recent cases of less than one year duration be sent to the Utica Asylum.

Certain counties that had asylums approved by special act of the legislature were exempted from the act. Monroe was one of these. Its asylum later became the Rochester State Hospital.

The law provided for the appointment of three Commissioners by the Governor who would secure the site and proceed with the construction. Three physicians were chosen: Drs. John P. Gray of Utica, Julian P. Williams of Dunkirk, and John B. Chapin of Canandaigu formerly of Utica. Dr. Gray resigned the next year and was replaced by Dr. Lymond Congdon of Jacksonville. They were instructed to secure a site on land owned by the State or on which the State had a lien. Actually, the site had been selected behind the scenes. Buffalo was very anxious to have the asylum located there, even making an offer of free

land. The Commissioners went to look it over but were very noncommittal. The Buffalo officials felt that the Commissioners had already made up their minds to build the asylum in the middle of nowhere. The State had a lien in the form of a $40,000 mortgage on the farm and buildings of the New York State Agricultural College at Ovid which had been chartered in 1853. The College had been disrupted by the Civil War, and now Cornell wanted it to be in Ithaca. A number of private individuals had put money into the original project, and some of them hoped to acquire the farm. On the day of the sale in December, 1865, in Waterloo, the weather was foul. The Commissioners came by train from Canandaigua, beating those who came by boat or carriage. So the site was obtained, and what a site! Located on the east side of Seneca Lake at its widest point, the town line between Romulus and Ovid ran almost through the center. There had been a settlement there since the 1790's. Once known as Lancaster and then as Bailytown and also as Ovid Landing, it was and still is a beautiful location.

The Commissioners, having executed a bond for $10,000 for faithful performance of their duties, work was started on what became the main building in July, 1866. The plan was a modification of what was known as the Kirkbride Building. This was devised by Dr. Thomas S. Kirkbride, Superintendent of the Pennsylvania Hospital for the Insane, aided by a distinguished Philadelphia architect, Samuel Sloan. As modified by Dr. Chapin, it was in the style of the Second Empire. The center building was 70 x 84 feet, three stories high on a basement just below ground level. There was a large and high cupola. This Center, which contained the Administration and Medical offices, also had quarters for the Superintendent and Medical Officers; connected on curving corridors on each side were the wards. Three stories high, they extended outward and backward from the Center. The wards were 171 x 40 feet with a hall 12 feet wide running down the center. The rooms were 9 x 11 feet, separated by thick brick walls. Back of the Center was the East Wing, 311 feet long, which contained the kitchen with a chapel above. Back of these were the boilers, laundry and bakery. The architect was Mr. H. M. Wilcox of Buffalo. Selim Sears of Buffalo was the principle contractor, receiving $74,150 for executing the building. Burton and Van Nostrand of Romulus did the excavating, which must have been very extensive as there are sub-cellars under the building. The foundations were of limestone quarried

on the grounds, and the bricks were also made locally. The wards were to be classified according to the type of patient so that disturbed and violent cases would be segregated. The South Wing was for women, the North for men. Dr. Congdon is referred to as the Resident Commissioner, evidently staying close to the job and acting as Clerk of the Works.

By May, 1869, the building had progressed to the point that the Building Commissioner could be dissolved and a Board of Trustees appointed by the Governor with approval of the Senate. They were to serve for an eight year term. One of their first and most important decisions was to appoint a Medical Superintendent. Their unanimous choice was Dr. Chapin, who only accepted after considerable deliberation. Born in 1829 and died in 1918 and a graduate of William College and Jefferson Medical College in 1853, he had interned at the New York Hospital. He then served at the Utica Asylum before coming to Brigham Hall, Canandaigua.

By early fall, it was felt that patients could be received in October. Notices were sent to the Superintendents of the Poor of the various counties that they might start sending patients October 12th. As was to be expected, the first cases to be received were the very worst the poorhouse could produce. The same day that Mary Rote arrived, three men were brought in irons. One man, who had been transferred from Utica to the almshouse, had been at once placed in a cell with his legs and hands confined in irons. He received his food through a hole in the door. He had spent three years in that condition.

In referring to Mary Rote, the first admission, Dr. Hoyt, Secretary of the Board of State Charities, states, "She had been confined over ten years, and for most of that time had been in a nude state. She was found crouched in the corner of a cell partially covered with a blanket, but without any other clothing or even a bed." Dr. Chapin states that "Since her admission, she had been daily dressed and at all times presentable. Her general appearance and habits of cleanliness are much improved." Mary Rote died January 9, 1876, of tuberculosis.

A man who came the same day as Mary had been an inmate of a county home for 22 years, spending the greater part of that time in a room 5 x 6 feet and without a window. He

had completely lost the use of his legs.

An article in the New York Times, March 21, 1872, tells some real horror stories which were only too true. A young girl in a poorhouse was very disturbed and destructive. She had been kept naked, chained by a leg to the floor, in a room five feet square. The Superintendent of the Poor told Dr. Chapin that he had tried everything, flogging her with a whip and a strap and at last tried "pulleying" her, hanging her by the thumbs. This seemed to keep her in order. Earlier in her stay, she had had two children by fathers unknown. The same reporter tells of a man being brought aboard the steamboat and taken to Willard in what looked like a chicken crate 3½ feet square. He goes on to say that he had seen this man in one of the wards sitting quietly in a chair, clean and decently dressed. His legs were permanently deformed.

For a good many years, practically all admissions came by boat. The first thing that was done was to remove their irons and chains on the dock. They were admitted, bathed, examined, dressed and fed. Kindness, gentleness and understanding were substituted for indifference, neglect and, too often, brutality.

The North and South wings of three wards each held 125, but that was not enough. The 11-year-old abandoned Agricultural College building was pressed into service. The south part of this building was four stories, the north part three. Located up the hill a mile east of the main building, it was renovated to hold 200 women of the quiet type. This seemed a good solution at the time, but soon it was realized that it was really a fire trap. In 1886, it was reconstructed. The top two stories were removed and additions built to the north. The next year it was opened as the Women's Infirmary called the Branch. Its name was changed to Grandview early in the century. The oldest building on the grounds used for patients is still in use in 1978.

At the end of 1870, there were 125 men and 450 women. Three more wards had been added to the South Wing. Request was made to the Legislature to extend the North Wing and build a group of detached buildings "plain and substantial, adapted for the insane at less expense per capita than those now erected which will accommodate 200 male patients of the more quiet class." Also, the chapel over the main kitchen was to be finished, and docks and piers built to make a safe harbor for the reception of supplies and coal.

In addition, roads were to be made and waterpipes to be laid, all for the requested sum of $200,000.

The detached buildings were Dr. Chapin's idea, possible only because Willard was built on a farm instead of being confined to a city or town as were most asylums at that time. Occasionally referred to as cottages, they consisted of a group of five buildings in line. The center one had quarters for the Supervisor, dining rooms, kitchen and boiler rooms. The flanking buildings contained the patients, and for years the attendant slept there, too. At first separated, they were later connected to one building. Detached Building #1, always called DB-1 until the name was changed to the Maples, was opened in 1872. Four years later, DB-2, the Pines, was opened and was located south of the ravine. Access to it was by means of the Lake Road. The same year DB-3, Sunnycroft, was being built. The Steward's house was completed and later named Bleakhouse, and request was made to build DB-4, Edgemere. By 1877, there were 1,550 patients. Willard was the largest asylum in the country. The next year, the last of the detached buildings was opened.

It had been a period of great activity and struggle. Not everyone was in favor of an asylum for the chronically insane. To many, chronic meant "incurable" and that all hope should be abandoned if a patient went there. This was often true, but the idea was to empty the poorhouses, and this was being done inspite of resistence from many Supervisors of the Poor. Then there was the matter of cost. Each patient was a charge agains the county from which he or she came. In most cases, cost for care, if such it could be called, was cheaper in the almshouse. The cost was for board and shelter. In few cases was there any provision for clothing. There are a number of reports of studies made of Willard by county Boards of Supervisors.

A special Committee of the Ontario County Board of Supervisors made a report in 1882. They were charged with the duty to "take into consideration the expediency of erecting suitable buildings to accommodate and keep the chronic insane poor of the County and the probable cost of such buildings and the estimated saving to the County." They made a careful study of Willard and also the asylum at Wayne County and Chautaugua County. It was found that the per capita cost in the County Homes was somewhat lower

than Willard, but the care was much inferior. At Willard, the weekly per capita charge was $3.15 in 1872 and $2.67 in 1881. This included maintenance, fuel and light, farm expenses, employee wages, furniture and repairs, medicine, and improvements. Officers salaries were paid by the State. To the per capita charge was added a charge of $.27 a week for clothes. The recommendation of this extensive report was "Resolved, that in the opinion of the Board, it is inexpedient at this time for the County to erect suitable buildings to accommodate and keep the chronic insane poor of this County."

In an article in the Elmira Advertiser, December, 1883, headed "Among Raving Maniacs, the reporter tells of a visit made by County and City officials. They took the train at 6:00 A.M., had breakfast at the Fallbrook House in Watkins and then boarded the "Dunning" for Willard. It was rough and cold; some became seasick in the hot cabin. Arriving midmorning, they were given a three hour tour of the wards, seeing all and being greatly impressed by the kindly care given the patients and the total lack of physical restraints. The reporter hopes at a future date to give more information of the "grand good work accomplished at Willard."

In 1885, twelve in-coming members of the State Legislature visited the asylum and were very favorably impressed with their inspection.

The Auburn Dispatch of November 26, 1886, tells of the visit of the Cayuga County Supervisors. The weather was foul with high winds and pelting rain. Reaching Geneva, they found that the steamboat captain would not risk the trip, so they waited two hours for a train. One of their number "was very fortunate, inasmuch as he was the only one thoughtful enough to provide the chemicals so useful in weathering the tempest." They were given a hot dinner and a tour, visiting in particular the patients from Cayuga County. They were pleased with what they saw. Incidently, they were told that the census was 1,808 and that, since 1869 when the asylum opened, there had been 3,738 admissions of whom 133 had been discharged "recovered" and 332 as "improved."

The State Charities Aid Association of Erie County made an inspection in 1887. These were women appointed by a Supreme Court judge to make inspections of State Charitabl Institutions and report to the Legislature. It would seem that their inspection was thorough and their report objective. They drew a striking difference between Willard and

the Erie County Asylum. At Willard, "The whole atmosphere of the place was one of peace, quiet and contentment. The insane in the wards were clean, tidy, well-clothed, and quiet. Many of them were pleasantly occupied in bright, sunny sittingrooms, comfortably and appropriately furnished. They were reading, sewing or otherwise engaged. The bathrooms leading from the corridors had pretty tile floors and were perfectly free from unpleasant odors. The attendants were alert, attentive, on the look-out for their charges and averaging one for every eleven on the quiet wards and one to five for disturbed patients." The report goes on to emphasize their opinion that well trained supervision was of great importance in the proper care of the insane, a marked contrast to the Erie Asylum. They were impressed by the laundry and storerooms and the amount of clothing furnished the women patients. "The insane women at Willard are supplied with some four to five dresses, a nice one for entertainments, chapel etc., and some three to five full suits of underclothing, shoes, slippers, a double blanket, shawl, a hood and a hat." There are printed rules and regulations for the attendants which are strictly enforced. This is in marked contrast to Erie County where women are provided with two dresses, some underclothing and no outside clothing except in some cases a hat. There are no written rules and no instructions for attendants. "In passing from one to another of the buildings at Willard asylum, many of the patients were seen with attendants walking through the pretty groves bordering the lake, and the Committee could not but compare it all with the wretched conditions of the insane women at the Erie Asylum as they were last seen sitting on the ground in a small enclosed space between two houses with no shade except what was cast by the buildings, no covering for their heads, and in many cases without shoes or covering for their feet."

The per capita cost at Willard in 1885 was $2.20 a week while it was close to $3.00 at Buffalo. The Committee strongly infers that the Erie Asylum is only maintained for political purposes.

To return to Dr. Chapin, he served as Medical Superintendent from the creation of the Asylum to August, 1884, when he resigned to take a like position at the Pennsylvania Asylum in Philadelphia. He was the planner and builder of Willard as it remained for many years. The Institution was laid out in the form of a capital "L" with the main

building, later named for him, at the angle, the Branch, a mile to the east, and DB-4, Edgemere, along the lake one-half mile to the south. At the time he left, the Male Infirmary, Hermitage, was being built. No other patients building was built until a pavillion for tuberculous women was put up in 1905 and no major building until Elliot Hall in 1931. Dr. Chapin had laid out the roads, and, as he tells in a visit in 1908, he even ordered the planting of the trees and shrubs.

Early Treatment:. The form of treatment in the early days and for many years was referred to as "moral treatment." We would call it "custodial care." Patients were treated with kindness, given good but not fancy food, given clothes, exercised, and protected from the outside world. They were in a safe harbor, a place of refuge, an asylum. The physical shelter sometimes left something to be desired as we read of the inadequate heating in some of the wards during the winter storms. If physically and mentally able, they were urged, but not forced, to work.

The admissions in early days were naturally the poorest cases in the almshouses. No one wanted to send away a worker if it could be helped. Gradually a nucleus of useful patients built up. In 1883, there were 801 willing and able to work; 261 were able but wouldn't work in some cases because of delusions but usually because of laziness or stubborness. Then, there were 714 who were unable to work because of physical and/or mental illness. Almost every annual report emphasized the value of work to the patient, at the same time pointing out that while patients' work was of considerable value to the Institution, it was in most cases much inferior to the work of a normal person. Dr. Chapi in 1882 has this to say about patients' work: "The results of continued and planned occupation cannot be more strongly emphasized than by reiterating the statement made in the previous report; that the diversion of a large proportion of the insane from the mental state in which they are incapacitated for self-support or self-preservation to their own ordinary avocations is a result to be desired second only to recovery. The habits, sleep and physical condition are improved. Life is rendered more tolerable. Mental quietude is promoted, and paroxysmal excitement is lessened."

STATEMENT OF OCCUPATION OF PATIENTS - 1882

OCCUPATION	DAYS OF LABOR
Farm, gardens and barns	23,299
Grounds, railroad, grading	45,523
Laundry, kitchen and bakery	29,438
Shops - carpenter, paint, shoe, butcher	4,731
Tailor shop	5,256
Sewing room	48,743
Ward work	72,149

The number of patients taken out to walk on the grounds averaged 500 daily during the year. In the history of Willard, it was rare to have more than 50% of the patients working, probably 42% would be an average.

Communication and Transportation: At first, communication to the outside was entirely by mail picked up by the steamboats that called four times a day. On the grounds, messengers were used. As the Treasurer of the hospital lived at Ovid, a horse-and-buggy carried the messages back and forth. Before long, a telegraph line was run between the Steward's Office and that of Mr. Thomas, the Treasurer. The next improvement was to extend the telegraph to various buildings so that orders for supplies could be passed on and sent to the the storeroom for action. The telephone came in the 80's. At first it was quite primitive, but it improved every few years. In 1896, a line was run to Seneca Falls where it made contact with "long distance." This must have been quite an advance. Around 1900, a telephone line connected Gilbert Station with the hospital. Spot news of importance was first received by the wires of the railroad and then disseminated. For instance, the election news came that way and so did the word of the 1918 Armistice.

Transportation was of three kinds: walking, riding in a horse-drawn vehicle, or riding on the steamboats. Everyone walked to work. Doctors walked to the Medical Office located in the main building, and even if they lived at Grandview, a mile away, they walked back for dinner which, in those days, was at noon. The Superintendent and the Steward rode in a buggy or more often in a carriage drawn by a team. The Steward

particularly covered a lot of ground, visiting the farms which were miles apart. All supplies that were not bought from local farms came by boat. Heavy equipment like boilers, pumps, etc. came that way, and so did canal boats loaded with coal. Once the coal was unloaded at the dock, it was horsepower that moved it up the hill to the variou buildings. It was about a mile and a half haul to the Branch, and one can sympathize with the teams that had to do this day after day over soft roads in the spring, winter and fall, often with the teamster walking along side to lighten the load. In 1876, a request for $10,000 was made to the Legislature for the construction of a narrow gauge railroad of two and one-half miles. The next report states that grading had been done, and a three foot gauge rail laid at a cost of $9,443.23. The Trustees then requested a locomotive and some rolling stock. This reasonable request was granted. In another year, Locomotive #1 with six freight and coal cars arrived. It is to be remembered that these came by boat or barge and that the railroad was built from the lakeshore upward to the main building and ending at the Branch. We read, "The road has been ballasted and is now in good operation. With its sidetracks and turnouts, it is over two miles in length, and its cost, including construction and equipment, will not exceed $19,000, or a cost of $7,600 per mile.

There was no way of reaching the buildings south of the ravine except the County Road or the Lake Road. In 1879, the sum of $10,000 to make a fill across the ravine wide enough for a footpath and the railroad was requested. Two years later, this had been accomplished. A total of 33,000 cubic yards of dirt taken from back of the Pines and Edgemere were taken in wheelbarrows and dumpcars by 200 patients to form an embankment 300 feet long, 70 feet wide at the bottom and 16 feet wide at the top. This was accomplished under the supervision of Mr. Kitson who was in charge of the grounds. The embankment has been enlarged several times. The last time was after the great flood of 1935 which almost destroyed it.

The construction of the Fallbrook line from Corning to Geneva in 1877 had a devastating effect on the steamboat traffic. At once, Willard felt the pressure in receiving supplies. At about the same time, the Geneva-Ithaca-Sayre railroad was under construction. Its nearest point to Willard was Hayt's Corners. In 1881,

permission was granted by the Legislature to extend the Willard road a distance of four and one-third miles to connect with the Geneva-Ithaca line. The right-of-way was obtained by the Ovid Company which consisted of Mr. Jones and J. P. Thomas. The grading and clearing was done by patients, again under the guidance of Mr. Kitson. The ties and rails were laid by the Geneva-Ithaca-Sayre railroad. The Trustees report that "The work was not imposed on the patients, but was voluntary and cheerfully performed. Although occupied for over three months almost continually, they closed the work in better health improved in both mind and body, than when they commenced. No accident or casualty occurred to any of the 200 lunatics employed. No frays or disturbances took place. Nothing unusual save loud talk and erratic conduct was manifested. It required more effort to restrain overwork on the part of the industrious than to induce the labor in the others." The Geneva-Ithaca-Sayre railroad became part of the Lehigh Valley railroad, and Willard was on a branch line. Passenger trains were run twice a day to Hayt's Corners connecting with local trains to Geneva and Ithaca. On Sunday, special church trains were run to Ovid. In passing, it might be noted that the State Hospital built horse sheds at Ovid for the use of those who drove to church.

In 1887, surveyors for the Lehigh Valley railroad came through, laying out the course for the main line. They planned to run the road west of the knoll now occupied by Grandview and the new Administration Building, more-or-less on the line of the County Road. This would have meant at least two grade crossingsas well as crossing the Willard tracks. Evidently, pressure was exerted in the right place, and the new line ran through the rather deep cut east of Grandview. The Willard line crossed it on a bridge. After the main line was open in 1892, a spur was built from it to the Willard line near the Grange. This made it easier to deliver freight, but particularly coal. Reports speak in several places about changing to standard gauge with heavier rails and switches. Also a new locomotive was obtained. This was #3. There is something of a mystery in changing the gauge as there are several pictures that show rolling stock from the Geneva-Ithaca-Sayre railroad on the grounds and even the President's Car of the Lehigh Valley. These were taken before the standard gauge and heavy rails were laid Perhaps the Geneva-Ithaca line was a narrow gauge at that time.

Prior to the hook-up with the main line, the station on the grounds was named "Asylum." Afterwards, it was named "Willard," and the station on the main line was named "Gilbert" in honor of Capt. Morris Gilbert, the Steward. At that time and for a number of years, the crack passenger train, the "Black Diamond," used the main line, making no stops between Sayre and Geneva. There was an attendant whose name was Anna Gould, the same as one of the well-known Goulds who owned several railroads. She was to bring a patient to Willard and not wishing to take the long way around by way of Hayt's Corners sent a wire to the Lehigh Valley saying "Please stop Black Diamond at Gilbert Station" and signed her name. There was considerable astonishment of the train crew and the station agent when the train stopped and she got off with a patient. This was a good story and also a true one.

During the early years of this century, the locomotive was kept in an engine house south and a little west of the laundry. There was a large coal bin, a pit, and outside a water crane. In the morning, the engine took off for the station which was located on the north property line, north of the present Elliott Hall. The engine backed on the siding, coupled with the baggage car to which was attached the passenger car, and then proceded up the hill to Ovid and Hayt's Corners. The station had a ticket office, waiting room and baggage room. It could be entered from the hospital side and the street side, but only from the latter just before train time. There was a revolving set of iron bars which permitted exit to the street but not entrance. There was a barb-topped wire/fence running east and west of the station.

After returning from Hayt's Corners and leaving the cars at the station, the work of serving the hospital started. The laundry car, painted light blue, would be picked up. It had been loaded with clean clothes and linen the afternoon before. Garbage cars from Edgemere and Pines were picked up and left temporarily on a siding while the engine picked up the store car. This was red, had windows on the sides, and had a standing desk with pigeon holes above with the names of the buildings. The requisitions and receipts were placed there. Both cars were wooden boxcars considerably smaller than the standard car of today. The garbage car was a square steel box mounted on a single truck. One was placed on a siding back of each building. Garbage cans were wheeled

out from the kitchen, carried up the steps of the platform and dumped in the cars. Rats were often seen climbing in and out of the cars.

The train made its way up the hill delivering supplies and laundry and adding a garbage car at each stop. When it reached Grandview, there were seven, and they were taken to the piggery and left to be unloaded. In the afternoon, after being cleaned, they were picked up and spotted back of the various buildings. The distribution of coal was one of the main functions of the railroad, and then there were the ashes to be collected. In March, 1912, an event took place that was almost miraculous. A car loaded with ashes broke loose from the engine well above the power house. There were eight patients and an attendant on the car. Six patients jumped when told, two of them had to be shoved off by the attendant who also jumped after trying in vain to apply the brakes. The car rapidly gained speed, barely missed a party of patients at a road crossing and went to the end of the line, the coal trestle back of Edgemere. At least nine switches were set the right way. The car shot off the nine foot high trestle. It did not hit the ground for 60 feet and then embedded itself in an eight bed dormitory which was empty. No one was hurt.

Engine #3 finally wore out after 24 years of service. A new locomotive which cost $17,500, made by the Baldwin Locomotive Works, was put in service in 1925 and served until the railroad was given up in 1936, at which time central heating was put into effect. Almost at its last gasp, the engine took off by itself early on a December morning in 1935. The engine house at that time was back of the power house. It made its way with no one aboard up the hill, past Grandview, past Ovid, entered the Geneva-Ithaca road at Hayt's Corners, proceeded through Romulus and finally ran out of steam near MacDougall. There was no damage, but probably red faces on the train crew who were said to have been drinking coffee in the power house at the time.

There was another form of transportation which was unusual for a State Hospital -- the steamboat. Dr. Wise had a steam launch made by Cottington in Geneva, but of course this was for his own use. In 1889, we learn from a newspaper clipping that the State had bought the yacht, "Lon Sellen," together with a lighter. The Havana Journal had an item that Captain Gilbert was using this boat as a ferry between Willard and Dresden.

Another article refutes this and says it was used to bring sand from the sandbank bought by the State located north of Long Point. We don't know what became of "Lon Sellen." There is a newspaper item that it was being repaired in the drydock at Waterloo. In 1890. Dr. Pilgrim asked for a steam yacht to carry 60-75 passengers. It evidently arrived in '92 as the next year an appropriation of $1,000 was requested for a boathouse, pointing out that the boat, named the "Nautilus," must be protected from winter storms. She was 75 feet long, about 16 feet beam, and 50 tons burden. A steamboat built by the Springstedts of Geneva, a firm which had been building lake boats for years, she had many uses in her over 25 years of service. She often made trips to Dresden to pick up patients from Yates County, sometimes passengers were taken there so they could catch trains going south. Quite regularly, she made trips to Geneva, both for the purpose of picking up supplies and also taking employees and officers shopping. During the summer, groups of patients were regularly taken for pleasure trips and at times the employees band would play on the afterdeck as the boat slowly steamed back and forth in front of the grounds. Regular trips were made to the sandbank across the lake. A working party would be placed on the scow, their lunch packed in metal containers, and the "Nautilus" would take them over early in the morning and pick them up in the afternoon. The next day was spent unloading the scow. Once a year, the scow was towed to Watkins and a year's supply of barrel salt put aboard. The "Nautilus" was crowded on these trips as it was a chance to visit the Glen while the scow was being loaded.

When the Barge Canal locks were being built at Waterloo, the lake level was about 10 feet below normal for several years. This made it necessary to build a second boathouse in deeper water outside the original boathouse. When it was necessary to paint the hull, she was taken down the Canal to Point Byron and placed in drydock. The bridges were so low that everything had to be removed from the top deck, even the whistle. By 1913, she was in need of major overhaul. She spent from May to November in drydock. A new boiler had to be specially made and extensive woodwork installed. John Williams, who was also the Chief Electrician, had been the Captain up until 1914. After his retirement, she went ashore in a storm north of the dock. It was necessary to get a tug from Watkins to get her off. The rudder was injured, and as it was late in the season she couldn't

be taken to Port Byron. An "A-frame" was rigged in the boathouse, ballast shifted forward, and her stern raised for repairs. A few years later she was sold, as the automobile had taken over her major duties. Sadly, she came to a bad end. She was used for rum running on Lake Erie and was wrecked when driven ashore by the Coast Guard.

Entertainment: Willard was very isolated for years, and there are those who think it still is. However, right from the start, efforts were made to entertain and amuse patients and employees. The second floor of the East Wing over the main kitchen had been built as a chapel and also an auditorium. With money saved from the sale of hides, tallow, bones and rags, an organ was purchased. As the census grew, the room was inadequate. In 1883, a separate building was built with an auditorium on the first floor and rooms for men employees upstairs. This was later called the Lodge, and still later housed the schoolrooms for the Nurses Training School. This building, too, proved to be a poor arrangement because of the low ceiling, cramped space, and noise from upstairs. It was proposed to enlarge it, and appropriation was made. However, the Commission in Lunacy recommended holding the money, adding to it and building a really good amusement hall which would also be used for religious services. Ground was broken in April, 1892. The next year Hadley Hall was finished. It was named for the long-time Chairman of the Board, Judge Sterling G. Hadley of Waterloo. Its cost was $13,262.58, and over the years it has served its purpose well. The old chapel was made into quarters for women employees and the former amusement hall into more rooms for the men.

For the first twenty years or more, the entertainments were very largely home talent. There was a strong feeling that diversions, amusement, entertainment and instruction was very important as a form of treatment. It was good for the patients as well as the employees, and also for those that did the entertaining. Two amature dramatic clubs were formed within five years of the opening of the Asylum. In 1875, it is reported that "The entertainments have embraced concerts, theatrical representations, the exhibit of stereoscopic views, lectures, reading, and so forth. Three hundred and fifty pictures have been framed and hung on the walls of the wards." Ten years later, Dr. Wise writes that "Weekly social entertainments under the guidance of Dr. Nellis was in force. For example, January 5th, 6th and 7th "Down By The Sea," a drama in two acts, was put on with

a cast of nine, of whom five were officers. On January 29th, 30th and 31st, with a matinee, it was announced that positively the last and only presentation in this country of the thrill drama "Comrades" will be enacted." There was also a note, "Apply to the ushers for fans, bouquets and opera glasses. Poodles must be left in the Cloakrooms." The Ovid Independence, a newspaper, praised the performance and said, in part, "If the drama "Comrades" is a sample of the diversions provided for convalescent patients, overtaxed and isolated nurses and attendants, then too much praise cannot be lavished upon the present management of the Institution." Dr. Wise evidently had a good voice, as we find him taking part in many musical numbers. In a good many cases, patients had parts in plays and also instrumental parts. Every year, the Superintendent asked for donations to the Entertainment Fund. Mr. J. B. Thomas of Ovid was the most generous contributor, giving $200 a year for many years.

Looking at the subject down through the years, we find a continuing interest in giving the patients as much of this type of treatment as was practical. In 1895, it is reported, "There have been, on the average, once a week dances and other entertainments for the patients, concerts, elocutionary readings, theatrical performances by professional actors and amatures played by hospital employees followed each other in rapid succession. Baseball games, field day sports, picnics, rides on the "Nautilus," and outdoor band concerts are also to be enumerated in this connection. The daily school for patients had been continued."

Ten years later, there were weekly dances in Hadley Hall as well as theatrical entertainments and eleven ball games. For many years, the annual field day was a great occasion. It was held in September on the athletic field, now occupied by Elliot Hall. Booths were set up around the track exhibiting the articles made in the various shops. There was a parade with patients, each industry, farm horses and wagons, and the largest contingent was the fire department with its horse-drawn steam fire engine belching smoke. After the parade, there were races of various kinds and, of course, prizes to be distributed after they were over. Some 1,500 spectators were often present. One year, there was even a sham battle put on by the National Guard Company from Geneva.

Early in the century, two new forms of entertainment made their appearance. An

Edison phonograph with the cylindrical records was purchased, but soon Victrolas with flat disk records took its place. The other wonder to appear was moving pictures. Before long, there were regular movies, except during the summer months. By the late '20s, the radio was more and more in evidence in the wards of various buildings. Twenty years later, television had largely taken its place.

A continuing effort was made to occupy and interest that class of patients who were not disposed to do anything for themselves. Classes were held regularly in Hadley Hall. There were drills, marching, calesthenics, games, recitations and, for some, embroidering and basket-making. By 1925, Occupational Therapy was being emphasized, and this treatment has assumed a larger role as time went by. Also, there was more done in the way of outside games for patients, such as basketball, baseball, quoits, etc. This type of activity called Recreational Therapy was a well recognized modality. By the '60s, there was a Head Recreational Supervisor with a Staff. There were teams of employees playing basketball and softball for the entertainment of the patients. Bus trips were organized taking patients to such places as Roseland, Finger Lakes Racetrack, football games, State Parks, Shrine Circus and the Corning Glass Works. By 1965, it is reported that about 1,500 patients had gone swimming, some fishing, and many played golf on a course which had been laid out on part of the former farm. There were also holiday parties and picnics Of course, there continued to be plays, concerts and even ballet.

Attendants and Nurses: During the long history of Willard, there have been drastic changes in life-style of those caring for the patients.

During most of the last century, ward attendants slept on the wards with the patients They had their own rooms, of course, but it must have been unpleasant. There were no night attendants until 1884, only a night watchman who made rounds from time to time. The report for that year states, "For the purpose of giving patients with filthy habits equally as good care at night as they receive during the day, a service of night attendants has been instituted. Although confined to a single service containing 100 patients, it is hoped to expand the service." Two years later, a training school for attendants was organized with 45 students. Dr. Wise feels strongly that those who take the two year course should receive increased pay. He states, "The State Asylum should be an educator

any senses, but in none more than this - teaching the proper personal care of ne persons."

In 1890, the year the Asylum turned into a State Hospital, there was a training ol for nurses, the senior class taught by Dr. Nellis and the junior by Dr. Bishop. emphasis in the lectures was to be practical rather than too scientific. "Nurses, male and female, have to be neatly uniformed, much to their advantage as well as of the Institution." Dr. Pilgrim, the Superintendent, further states, "To my mind, crying need in a hospital this size is a separate facility for the use of nurses e they can go after the day's work is done and rest, free from responsibilities and until the next day's work begins." It was to be over twenty years before Nurses' was built. At the time, nurses and attendants were lumped together. The maximum ıly pay for men was $35, for women $22. The minimum rate was $16 for men and $10 vomen.

Soon the Nurses Training School came under the Commissioners in Lunacy, later changed :ate Hospitals Commissioners and then to the Department of Mental Hygiene. A Com- ıe of three Superintendents held an examination in January, 1896, for those who wished .assify under the new schedule as nurses. Seven men and four women passed. An ınce examination was required for entrance to the school, and the curriculum was ıded. The course was still two years. Three years later, the new Superintendent, lacy has a great deal to say about the working conditions and hours. Nurses and ıdants work from 6:00 A.M. to 7:00 P.M. one day and from 6:00 A.M. to 10:00 P.M. the

The State was going through one of its budget spasms and wished to cut down on ıumber of employees. He pointed out that, "Caring for mental cases who are noisy, :nt, filthy and otherwise troublesome is about as irksome as any work there is." If :mployees are overworked, it will result in poor care. To ensure good humane care, consideration must be given nurses and attendants. He recommends pleasant recreation , good quarters away from the noise and disturbance of the wards. At the same time, s a stickler for discipline. Male employees were required to salute Officers, not on the grounds but on the wards. The men wore a blue uniform of the same material by the police.

He tells us that from 1896 to and including 1902 there have been 87 graduates that received the "State Hospital Diploma." Thirty-two of the graduates are in-service, all but four are charge nurses. He feels that they are a great value to the Institution.

In 1904, married employees finally got a break when the old hotel by the lake shore was made over for their use. The hotel had been in existence at Ovid Landing before the Asylum was founded. The State acquired it in 1871 and leased it to a Mr. Dean so that there would be a place for visitors. Also, so that the sale of liquor could be controlled

The instructions given at the State Hospital Training School were the same as those given in general hospitals, but, because there were no Obstetrical or Pediatric service, the School was not approved by the State Education Department. In 1908, arrangements were made with the Hospital of the Good Shepard in Syracuse for affiliation in these subjects, and the Willard School became officially approved. At that time, a change was made in the uniforms. In order to decide on the pattern, several dolls were dressed in various styles. These were studied by Officers and particularly by the women members of the Board of Managers and selections made. At that time, there were six juniors and seventeen seniors in the school. The monthly pay had been increased. The pay for nurses was a maximum of $41.25 a month for men and $35.00 for women. If one was on night duty, he or she received $1.00 a month extra.

In 1909, with an average census of 2,345 patients, there were 500 employees of whom 272 were working on the wards. In 1911, the then Superintendent, Dr. Elliott, complains of the poor pay of those on ward service, kitchens and dining rooms. The turn-over due to resignations was around 36% annually. Twice the Legislature passed bills to increase the pay, and both times they were vetoed. The hours of the day force averaged over 84 a week. They got one day off in two weeks and every third Sunday and two weeks annual vacation. Relief came the next year when there was a pay raise of about 20%. This increased the Willard payroll by about $32,000 a year. In 1912, a retirement fund for employees was created which provided for retirement on half-pay after 25 years. The next year many retired.

The war years of 1917 to 1920 were difficult because of the shortage of help. The Training School was suspended until 1922 when it was re-opened as a three year course

with three students. Better times were at hand. Governor Alfred Smith had interest and understanding for the mentally ill and retarded and for the State Institutions which cared for them. In 1924, a $50,000,000 bond issue was passed to be expended for their improvement. Two years later, $425,000 was allotted to Willard for two employees' homes. The next year $600,000 was earmarked for a Reception and Hospital Building.

The Training School became affiliated with Bellevue and Fordum Hospitals in New York City. The admissions requirement was raised to the equivalent of 18 regents counts. Dr. Elliott felt that, because of this, the hospital was obtaining a better class of applicants and the Nursing Staff was more efficient. There were 75 graduate nurses on roll, 53 of them were R.N.'s.

In 1930, the old Isolation Building, northwest of Grandview, was made over for a Nurses' Residence. This was one of the original farmhouses, older even than Grandview. It was called the Rookery, but for many years referred to as the Pest House. Two years later, an old landmark disappeared when the old hotel, called Lakeview, was demolished and employees quarters for 72 and nurses' home for 50 were in the works.

Under Chapter 716, Laws of 1936, the term of duty of ward employees was fixed at not more than eight hours per day. That went into effect at Willard before the end of the year.

In addition to the Nurse Training School, there was a course of instruction for attendants who had to pass a written examination after taking 42 hours of instruction.

The Second World War years were very difficult for the employees who stayed on the job. In 1943, there were 95 male ward employees trying to perform the duties of 217. There was great temptation to take jobs on the outside at higher pay. The Legislature, realizing this, gave salary increases. The law was changed to permit pay for overtime and also for commutation in lieu of maintenance for those entitled to it. Because of this, many employees volunteered to work long hours when the hospital needed them most. Both Dr. Keil, the Superintendent, and the Board of Visitors speak very highly of those older employees who carried the heavy burden out of a sense of dedication to the care of the patients.

In 1945, the hospital entered into agreements with Keuka and Nazareth Colleges and

Syracuse and Alfred Universities to give students from their Schools of Nursing twelve weeks training in psychiatry. Of great importance to the School was the conversion of the Lodge into a school building which was named in honor of Dr. Jackson of the Board of Visitors who had taken a great interest in the nursing profession. The School itself was suspended during World War II and re-established in 1948. At that time, the third floor was made into a science laboratory. Affiliation was changed from New York to Syracuse, and students from the Gowanda State Hospital were given pre-clinical instruction During the next ten years, the School operated without any major change. There was some difficulty in obtaining instructors, but, by-and-large, there were enough graduates who stayed to maintain a high quality of care. In 1963, the School was re-registered for a five year period. The School for Attendants continued to operate. The next year, Mrs. Margaret McDonald retired after 55 years service, 38 of it as Assistant Principal. She was very interested in Willard's history and, with Dr. Keil's backing, set up a little museum.

School affiliation changed from time to time to Rochester, New York City, Syracuse, Mt. Morris and finally the Thompkins County Hospital. The graduates had a very good record of passing the Education Department's examinations. They stood high, not only in the regard of the public, but with their co-workers at other hospitals. There were in-service programs and annual refresher courses for graduate nurses. In 1972, arrangements were made to have the freshman year at the Auburn Community College. There, the students would receive instruction in basic sciences such as sociology, physical and biological science, and English. At the end of this period and during the summer term, the fundamentals of nursing were taught. The junior year was devoted to Medical, Surgical and Maternity nursing, 240 hours of theory and 480 hours of clinical experience. The senior year emphasized psychiatric nursing. This subject, of great importance in the care of the mentally afflicted, is not properly understood by the nursing profession on the State and national level. In their ignorance, psychiatric institutions are looked down upon. In 1977, the Governor decided to do away with the School and then gave it another year of life, whereupon the State Education Department refused to accredit it. The sad result is that the School which has served so many so well for about 90 years will graduat

its last class in June, 1978.

State Hospital: When the Willard Asylum became the Willard State Hospital upon the passage of the State Care Act, Chapter 126, Laws of 1890, the character of the Institution changed markedly. Now, instead of taking only chronic cases from all over the State, acute and chronic cases would be received from its own district. This comprised a large area including the counties of Cayuga, Wayne, Livingston, Alleghany, Steuben, Chemung, Schuyler, Thompkins, Ontario, Yates and Seneca. There had been little or no provision for acute cases; now it was a necessity. A combination Admission and Hospital Building would have been ideal, but because of finances a cheaper solution was sought. Changes were made in the main building with some of the dormitories made into day rooms or sitting rooms. There had been a dining room in each ward; this was changed with dining rooms being built so that there would be one dining room serving three wards. Women were to be put in charge of the dining rooms even on the Men's Wing. There were new floors and steel ceilings and much redecoration. New furniture was requested and every effort made to provide better living quarters for patients who, hopefully, would be cured. At the time, there was one physician for every 300 patients. It was felt that that was only half enough. In the next few years, a number of changes were made. A Hospital Building was asked for several times and, when not granted, Wards #7 on both North and South Wings were made into sick wards. There was an operating room at the end of each of these wards and instruments were carried about a quarter of a mile from one to the other. Wards #4 on either side were admission wards. Wards #8 and #9 were for the most disturbed cases with #5 and #6 coming next. The most hopeful cases were in Wards #3, #2, and #1, the highest grade being in the latter.

Up to 1896, there had been a Board of Trustees who reported annually to the State Legislature, transmitting the report of the Treasurer, Medical Superintendent and through him the Steward. The Treasurer reported receipts from the State Controller, County Treasuries and other sources such as cash received from the sale of hides, bones, tallow, rags, etc., and in one case the receipt of $190.08 for the care of an insane indian. The dispersements were also reported but not in detail, although the report of 1886 had a complete audit of every expenditure. This included 1,905 vouchers; the smallest was

made out to C. Jones, canary seed, for $2.40.

In 1896, the Board of Trustees became the Board of Managers who reported to the Commissioner in Lunacy instead of to the Legislature. This Commission was changed to the State Hospital Commission and later to the Commission of Mental Hygiene. The Board of Managers name was changed to become the Board of Visitors who still have some power, but not very much. Over the years, the powers and authority have shifted from the local level to Albany.

Physical Health: The physical health of patients and employees has been a constant concern. For a great many years, there was a 5-7% annual mortality of patients, pulmonary tuberculosis being the #1 cause of death. Apoplexy, pneumonia, general debility and syphillis of the nervous system were also high on the list. Tuberculosis was a continuing problem. Attempts to segregate the cases were not too successful. In 1902, tent treatment was instituted. Next year, $783.96 was expended for tents. This worked quite well from May to October, but then the poor patients were put back into wards which were less than ideal. Appropriation was requested for the erection of tuberculous pavillions, and in 1908 one was built for 36 women patients which was placed south of Grandview. A large porch on the Hermitage was enclosed and used for the male cases. It wasn't until 1923 that a pavillion for male patients was built.

There had been a debate during the 1870's and 80's about the possibility of bovine tuberculosis being transmitted to humans. More and more, it came to be realized that cows were a major source of infection. In 1883, the Willard herd was badly infected. A study was made, and a careful examination carried out by Professor Law of Cornell and Dr. Blane of the Medical Staff. The latter presented a paper before the New York Academy of Medicine on the subject. The herd was slaughtered and from time to time cows were culled from the herd and killed. But, inspite of this, bovine tuberculosis continued to be a major threat for a good many years. In 1921 a pasteurizing plant was installed, and in 1939 a team from the Brigg State Tuberculosis Hospital made a survey of Willard x-raying all the patients and the employees. This was carried out a number of times, but it wasn't until the advent of antibiotics that tuberculosis was finally brought under real control. In 1953, all tuberculous cases among patients were transferred to the Rochester State

Hospital where they received special treatment.

While tuberculosis was looked on as a fact of life, other communicable diseases were in a somewhat different category.

In February, 1879, one of Dr. Macy's children died of diphtheria. This was the start of an epidemic which waxed and waned for the next ten years with a particularly bad flare-up in 1899 when the whole hospital was quarantined. There were 49 cases that year and 25 the next with 19 cases among employees. Outside help was called in. Both the State Board of Health and the New York City Board of Health sent experts to study the epidemic and try to control it. By 1902, over 97,000 cultures had been taken and examined This can be compared with the number of cultures taken in the City of New York in the year 1901 which was not quite 25,000. At Willard, over 12,000 doses of diphtheria antitoxin had been given with good results as far as controlling the disease went, but not in preventing its infection since the antitoxin only gave passive immunity. Intensive studies were made including sanitary conditions of the wards, air circulation and water supply. One thing was brought out, that overcrowded wards had a higher percentage of cases. In the annual report for 1907 there are 70 pages devoted to studies made by various agents on diphtheria, the Massachusetts Board of Health, Cornell University and the New York State Department of Health. Inspite of all these, there continued to be sporadic cases until active immunization with toxin-antitoxin was made universal.

Another disease which was endemic during this period was typhoid fever. This serious intestinal disease was spread primarily by fecal contamination of the drinking water. The Willard water supply had been studied and criticized for years. Originally, the supply came from springs located west of Ovid and a brook which became Simpson's Creek. This source was not adequate, so a pump was installed near the dock and water pumped to a reservoir half way between the main building and the Branch. The buildings above this continued to be supplied from the springs which were contaminated with surface water. At the same time, sewage from these buildings was emptied into Simpson's Creek. Sewage from the lower buildings was emptied into shallow water of the lake south of the intake pipe. Next, the intake pipe was extended into deeper water. In a few more years, the upper buildings were provided with lake water and their sewage discharged into the lake

instead of the ravine. Everyone seemed to feel this was a fine solution until typhoid and diphtheria became endemic. Extensive studies were done and expensive recommendations put forward. One was to stop the use of lake water by driving deep wells along the hills to the east and use only well water. Another was to change the intake to the south in rather shallow water and the sewage into deep water north of the docks, the idea being that there was a south to north current. In the early years of this century, the lake water was so clear that the sewage pipes and their cloudy affluent could be clearly seen from the porch of the main building. After a number of requests, a sewage disposal plant was put into operation in 1913, but two years later there were 11 cases of typhoid with four deaths. Finally, the sewage affluent was chlorinated as well as the water intake, and patients and employees were immunized against typhoid. As late as 1941, there were 14 typhoid carriers among the patients, some of them were cleared up by removing the gallbladder.

Another infectious disease which assumed serious proportions was erysipelas, a Streptococcus infection of the skin and mucus membrane. In 1903, for instance, there were 51 cases with four deaths. In spite of isolation and sanitary precautions, this disease continued to be a problem until Penicillin did away with it.

Undoubtedly the most spectacular epidemic was that of influenza in late 1918 and early 1919. A total of 486 patients had the disease and 90 died. At the time, there was a severe shortage of help due to the war and, to add to the problem, 177 Officers and employees had the flu of which two died. These figures bring out the effect of the diseas on an overcrowded population, many of whom were debilitated. If Willard had only admitted patients from its own district, overcrowding would not have occurred, but for years it received transfers of carloads of patients from the even more overcrowded metropolitan hospitals. While these patients were not actually bed patients, they were, more often than not, feeble demented creatures with no relatives or friends in the world. The admission of senile patients was a long-term problem. Many of the old patients were not psychotic. Report after report complains of this type of admission. It is also pointed out that the rural areas produce more senile patients per capita than urban areas. On the other hand, cities had more cases of general paralysis, syphillis of the nervous system.

Treatment: Over the 100 or more years of Willard's existence, many forms of treatment have been tried and discarded. There was always the hope that some particular therap would be the answer to mental illness. Dr. Kellog, who succeeded Dr. Pilgrim as Superintendent, was a great advocate of hydrotherapy in form of Turkish baths. An appropriatio was requested several times, but not approved. Years later, when Elliott Hall was built, there was quite elaborate hydrotherapy equipment installed, but it didn't solve the problem. In the late '90s, thyroid extract was tried but with no success. Mental disease due to syphillis came to be treated with arsenicals and malaria with considerable benefit. After Penicillin was in general use, this disease was largely controlled. In 1937, Insulin shock treatment and Metrazol came into use. A few years later, electroshock was substituted. In spite of the shortage of help during the war years, this treatment was pushed. In 1942, for instance, 1,443 treatments were given. It is stated that, "Encouraging results have been obtained, especially in the maniac depressive and involutional psychosis. Early cases of dementia praecox have also responded well. Many of the patients treated have been in the hospital for years, and the treatment seemed to improve their hospital adjustment in regard to their habits, assaultiveness and cooperation." The same year, 1,451 patients received occupational therapy and 1,236 were employe in the Institution. Musical treatment was in vogue. There were classes on the wards and advanced classes in the Amusement Hall.

The treatment in 1948 is summed up by Dr. Keil. After ennumerating the various treatments, electric shock, occupational, recreational, hydrotherapy, physiotherapy and musical treatment, he goes on to say, "The outstanding treatment is the kindly and considerate care given by the Staff and employees and the good food preparation and service, all of these activities are simply preliminary to the basic psychotherapy. They tend to show the patient who has frequently been neglected or rejected that people in the hospital are interested in his welfare and thereby restore him to a frame of mind where he is willing and able to discuss his problems and his worries with the psychiatrist and receive suggestions and advice or more tangible assistance as needed."

Seven years later saw the introduction of drugs which have made a profound change in the care of mental diseases. Dr. Keil, in the 1955 report, states, "The various form of

treatment which have been used so successfully in the past continue to carry the weight in the fight against mental diseases. During the year, new drugs, commonly referred to as tranquilizing agents, received a prominent part in the mental program. The findings here are comparable to those reported in the literature, viz., that in some cases the results are spectacular and others quite disappointing. It should be noted that these new drugs are forms of treatment only and cannot be considered as cures, nor will they take the place of other well established modalities."

The next decade saw an intensive effort to reduce the patient population, and this has continued through to the present. The annual report ending March 31, 1965, describes treatment of patients, "The psychiatric treatment program is of the intensive type. Both individual and group psychotherapy are used extensively. The modern psychiatric drugs, both tranquilizers and anti-depressents, are frequently used and Anectine modified electroshock therapy is also given. There has been much expansion in activity during the year in ancillary programs including occupational therapy, recreational therapy, voluntary activities, religious programs, social service and psychological functions which are carried out in all major hospital services. The major services are reception and intensive treatment, geriatric admissions, intensive re-treatment, continued treatment male and female, medical, surgical and infirmary services, all well organized under the direction of an experienced psychiatrist."

Soon all patients were assigned to teams which were made up of persons from various Departments - Medical, Nursing, Dietetic, Pharmaceutical, Social Service, etc. Known as Multidisciplinary Teams, they planned and delivered the treatment of from one to two hundred patients.

Every effort was made to take care of patients outside the hospital. Rehabilitation became the order of the day, and Willard was the first hospital in the State to have a full-time functioning Rehabilitation Service. The Center is a complex designed to provide the services and activities which cannot be provided in the individual home county units. Their services concentrate in the physical, social and vocational areas. As an example, all patients from Ontario County would live in a certain building known as a home county unit but would receive rehabilitation in buildings which were also used by

other county units.

The Rehabilitation Program includes: 1) The "Little House" which was developed to simulate, as closely as possible, a home environment. This helped to motivate the patients towards leaving the hospital and also familiarized them with modern appliances. 2) The Circle Shop is a store managed by patients where customers may purchase "donated articles using chips." 3) Halfway House provides a transitional, semi-independent living area off the county units for those patients who will soon be returning to the community and hopefully to work. 4) Rehabilitation Recreation provides a year-around opportunity to have a change-off in environment from the county units for the purpose of evaluating and developing recreational interests and abilities on an individual and small group basis. 5) The Sheltered Workshop provides a realistic work situation. They can produce their own articles and find outlets. They are paid for piecework and are evaluated throug interest, skill and so forth. 6) An educational program for adolescent high school studen who are patients. 7) A few patients are employed by the hospital at regular rates of pay.

The care of patients outside the hospital is not exactly a new idea. In 1895, Dr. Kellog proposed that the State acquire Bailytown and use the employees homes as a cottage colony, "If once under hospital control and medical supervision, a large number of specially selected cases could be accommodated in these cottages with a certain enjoyment of family life," it would help overcrowding in the Institution "and quarters now actually occupied by hospital employees would be brought under medical inspection and discipline and bad features now existing in Baileytown would be abolished." One would wonder how the employees would like giving up their homes and freedom.

Medical Superintendents and Directors: In the preceeding pages, we have spoken of various Superintendents. As they played a big role in Willard's history, we may ennumerat them and their period of service.

Dr. John B. Chapin was the planner, founder and builder. He set the tone of the Institution with his great emphasis on kindness, understanding and protection in the care of patients.

Dr. Peter Wise succeeded him in 1884, serving six years during which time there was consolidation and physical improvement. A house for the Steward had been built; now a house for the Superintendent was started. Morrison and Bowen of Geneva were the contractors. Prior to its completion, the second floor of the main building had been the quarters for the Superintendent. When he moved out, the apartment was used by the First Assistant until the latter 1930's. It was during Dr. Wise's administration that we first hear of great numbers of sightseers who came in boatloads to have picnics on the grounds and be amused by the patients. The Asylum had been advertised as a sort of tourist attraction. These people sometimes overran the place, forcing patients out of their own recreational areas. Dr. Wise asked for the appointment of a constable who would help control this nuisance. It was about ten years later that a strong fence with barbwire at the top was put along the north border of the property. This fence also had the effect of preventing stealing from the vegetable gardens. Stone posts for gates were installed at the intersection of the main hospital road and the county road. At night, all the gates were locked so that it was very difficult to gain access to the grounds. This was true until about 1930.

Dr. Wise left to become the first Superintendent of the St. Lawrence State Hospital. Later, he came a Commissioner in Lunacy but resigned after some sort of trouble with Governor Theodore Roosevelt.

In 1890, Dr. Charles Pilgrim took over. He came from the Utica State Hospital. He was a fine administrator and is reputed to have done good work in changing Willard from an Asylum to a State Hospital. During his time, Hadley Hall was built, the railroad was improved, and the Nautilus ~~was~~ acquired. He resigned in 1893 to take a like position at the Hudson River State Hospital. Later, he became a Commissioner but had some disagreeme

with Governor Whitman in 1921. The largest State Hospital was named for him.

He was followed by Dr. Theodore Kellog of the New York County Hospital. In one of his reports, he has a good article, "The Value of Useful Work as a Treatment for Patients." There is a story about him that during a winter storm which was damaging the seawall, he proposed protecting it with rubber sheets. The quite large willow trees which now, in 1978, protect the seawall were planted as posts three inches in diameter in 1905.

In 1895, Dr. William Mabin came and departed in less than a year for the St. Lawrence State Hospital. Later, he too became a Commissioner.

Dr. William A. Macy served from 1896 to 1904, a period that was clouded by the diphtheria epidemic as well as problems with other diseases. He ran a "tight ship" but had the welfare of the patients very much at heart. During his last year, the names of the buildings were changed. The rather Victorian names of Sunnycroft and Edgemere were proposed by one of the women on the Board. It took years for the new names to stick. In the case of Chapin House, there are those who still refer to it as the main building.

The Medical Staff at that time consisted of eleven physicians. The Medical Supervisor and First Assistant were engaged almost entirely in administrative and executive duties. There were two interns who, normally didn't have a service but were under training This left seven doctors to care for the patients, to be responsible for the buildings to which they were assigned and the employees under them. Three men cared for over 1,000 male patients and three men and one woman physician cared for about 1,200 women. Besides the mental and physical care of the patients, there was considerable paperwork - reports to the Superintendent, letters to relatives which the Superintendent signed, and regular notes on all their patients which were handwritten.

It was during this period that post-graduate training came to the fore. Dr. Adolf Meyer, the foremost psychiatrist of his day, became Director of the New York State Pathological Institute in 1902. Medical Officers from Willard were sent to study under him. The writer's father spent six months at the Institute.

The first woman physician was appointed in 1885, and the Institution has had at least one ever since. Her duties originally were gynecological examinations and care of the women employees. She had quarters in the third floor of the main building as did

junior physicians and interns. There were quarters at Grandview and three or four of the Detached Buildings. The Second Assistant had quarters on the second floor of the main building. All the physicians living in this building, except the First Assistant, ate in the Staff Dining Room on the second floor. The Matron sat at one end of the table and the Second Assistant at the other.

Dr. Macy left to become Superintendent of Kings Park State Hospital, taking his favorite team of horses with him. This created some unpleasantness when his successor had to acquire a new team. Dr. Macy was interested in Seneca County. Shortly before he left, he started a Seneca County Historical Society. He is buried in the Ovid Cemetery.

Dr. Robert M. Elliot had the longest term of service of any administrator, from 1904 to 1934. He had served in the Rochester State Hospital and then became the Superintendent of the Long Island State Hospital in Brooklyn. During his long term, there were many changes. A TB pavillion was built, a cold storage plant with ice-making equipment put into operation, and Employees Home, Nurses Home and Officers Quarters built. The most important building built since 1884 was put in use in 1931. This was Elliot Hall, the admitting and hospital building. Hillside, Buttonwood and Vinelands were farmhouses made over for male patients who were farm workers. These buildings were torn down in later years. Hillside was north of Grandview and east of the railroad. Buttonwood was on the lake farm which was taken over by the Navy, and Vinelands was southeast of Edgemere.

Dr. Elliot took great pride in the hospital and grounds. Almost everyday, George Helas, his coachman, would drive to the main building, pull up to the large square carriage block and take Dr. Elliot to some part of the Institution for inspection. He checked on everything - from the condition of the cowbarns to the neatness of the wards. Probably about 1912 the grounds were at their best and buildings in good shape. It was a time when there was good patient help. Gangs of patients were manning lawnmowers, caring for flower beds and cleaning the roads. It was a time when practically everyone walked to work. There were very few cars and certainly no parking lots. Twenty years later, many employees lived at a distance and drove to work. Parking lots became a necessity, but to Dr. Elliot they were an eyesore.

During his administration an After Care Committee was formed and was quite active. Also, Mental Clinics were held in the cities of the district. For the first time, we read of Social Workers.

Dr. Elliot retired after 44½ years of State service, 31 years of which were spent at Willard. He was succeeded by Dr. Harry J. Worthing who served for two years, 1935 to 1937. During this term, there was increased activity in the Mental Clinics and Social Service came into its own. Family care started in 1937. Patient's clothing improved; a beauty shop opened; Staff houses were completed as was the new Infirmary; an expanded power plant was put in operation. However, the big event was the Great Flood of July 8, 1935.

For four days there had been very heavy rains in the Finger Lakes region, culminating in an absolute torrential downpour on the 8th. Water poured off the fields in sheets. Ditches became large streams and creeks became raging torrents. Water filled the basement of Edgemere and part of the Pines. The patients were evacuated and Edgemere saved by driving holes through the west side of the basement to let out the water. Simpson's Creek rose rapidly, washing out three bridges. The beautiful stone bridge on the Lake Road vanished into the lake. Timber from the bridge at the stone quarry and the County Road bridge, together with trees and debris, partially plugged the large culvert under the fill which carried the railroad, steam tunnel and power lines to the laundry, cold storage plant, Pines and Edgemere. In no time, there was 25 feet of water and the fill began to disappear. The large section of the steam tunnel collapsed into the whirlpool and the power lines ruptured. For a time, it was feared that the entire causeway would be swept into the lake, but then the flood gradually subsided. The grounds were an absolute disaster - roads washed out, trees uprooted and topsoil gone. An emergency power line was run to the cold storage plant in time to save the food. Until a steam line could be run to the laundry, the Rochester State Hospital took care of Willard's needs. It was months before the culvert and fill were repaired by the State Department of Public Works. The lower part of the ravine had been named the Dell by Mrs. Macy. There was a tennis court and pretty flower gardens. All this and much more were destroye

Dr. Worthing left to be Superintendent of the Pilgrim State Hospital. He was succeeded by Dr. John Travis January 1, 1938, who came from Creedmore. In 1941, he transferred to the Manhatten State Hospital and was followed by Dr. Kenneth Keil who had been First Assistant at Pilgrim.

Eight months after his arrival, the country was in the Second World War. This imposed many problems, the chief being the shortage of help. There was also rationing which created difficulties for some of the employees. There was no actual food shortage mainly due to the increased production of the farm and gardens. The Navy established the Sampson Naval Training Station taking 200 acres from Willard. The Naval Hospital was built on part of this. After the war, it was turned over to the Veterans Administration just long enough for them to strip the place. In 1948, the hospital complex was taken over by the State, the idea being to use it for 1,000 elderly patients. The next year, when there were 400 patients there, the Air Force took the buildings away from the State. The patients were transferred to several hospitals, many of them going to Willowbrook on Staten Island. After the Korean War, the Air Force moved out and on September 24, 1958, the State formally took over, appropriating $650,000 for rehabilitatic and equipment. It became the Sampson Division of the Willard State Hospital; used in part for mildly psychotic elderly patients as well as the mental retarded from overcrowded State schools.

In 1946, with the end of World War II, there was a grandiose plan to completely make over Willard. All the old buildings were to be demolished and new ones built. A total of $5,600,000 was set aside for this, but with inflation it was soon realized that the sum was completely unrealistic. The great plan was given up.

In 1952, a new building for 300 patients was built. Three years later, the Samuel H. Peltz Storehouse was put in use. In 1944, the title of the Administrator was changed to that of Medical Director and the old and honorable name of Steward became Business Officer.

After several months illness due, in part, to a wound received in the Canadian Army in the First World War, Dr. Keil died January 7, 1962. Dr. James Murphy served as Acting Director until the appointment of Dr. Anthony M. Mustille on May 25, 1962.

In that year the census at Willard was 2,582 and at Sampson 855. During the next fifteen years there was a continuing effort to move mental cases, both psychotic and retarded out of institutions. This has been accomplished by placing them in foster homes, on family care, welfare homes and nursing homes. Sampson was completely phased out in 1969. On December 31, 1977, the census at Willard was 890.

Farms and Industries: For a great many years, the Institution tried to be as near self-supporting as possible. The first report of the Trustees dated February 18, 1868, states that the sum of $1,000 had been received from the State Controller. Of this, $916.66 had been expended in preparing the ground, procuring the seed and sewing sixty acres of wheat. They hoped for a good crop. By the time the Asylum opened, there were 475 acres under cultivation. A Steward had been appointed and a Matron. The former was an ancient title for one who managed a feudal estate. His duties at Willard were many and important. For about the first fifty years, he did all the purchasing, supervised the farm and garden operations, the upkeep of the buildings and grounds, the distribution of supplies, and the overseeing of the various industries. The Matron was in charge of housekeeping, the sewing room, and, in the early days, the care of the sick. As early as 1870, 3,429 pieces of clothing were made, and, up until 1912 when the position was abolished, she was in charge of the kitchens and dining rooms.

The farm and gardens were never able to completely supply the needs of the Institutio but they made a very large contribution. The garden extended from east of the Maples to the Hermitage with berry bushes and strawberries where the golf course was later laid out. The land was not particularly good but was gradually improved. When Captain Morris Gilbert was appointed Steward in 1873, he asked for more land as there was not enough for hay and pastures. Four years later, 258 acres were acquired at $105 an acre. Beside the farm and gardens, there were other uses for the land. The bricks for the early buildings were made on the grounds at a yard located at the site of the reservoir. Lime was made and stone quarried. It so happened that there was an outcropping of Tully limestone in Simpson's Creek ravine. The stone was used for lime, foundations and later as crushed stone for the roads. At first, only the main road was of this material. Seconda roads were of shale which outcropped above and below the limestone. It was many years before all road were made hard. At one time, a roadroller was borrowed from the Binghamton State Hospital, but this didn't work out as both Institutions needed it at the same time. A steam roadroller was acquired which served several uses. It powered the rock crusher which stood in the ravine south of the reservoir. There was a little brick house near it where dynamite was kept for blasting. The roadroller also powered the

threshing machine and a portable sawmill. For years, fallen timber and diseased trees were sawed, the lumber being used for various repairs and construction. Enough black walnut stock was built up to swap it for pine and maple boards. The slabs from the mill were made into bushel crates for potatoes and other vegetables. The sawdust was used in the icehouses and sometimes in the pigpens.

Ice was supplied from the upper reservoir and pond. This was drawn in wagons and sleds to the icehouses. There was one just west of the present Elliot Hall which was also used for cold storage. Another later became the tinsmith shop, below and south of Hadley Hall. There were icehouses in the vicinity of the barns, and we hear of new ones being built of hollow concrete blocks. In 1917, there were four of these icehouses. Ice was harvested long after the plant for artificial ice was in use. There were a couple of poor years, but in the winter of 1919 the ice was 30-34 inches thick and 1,200 tons was cut. Needless to say, this ice could only be used for cooling in refrigerators or cold rooms and not for consumption.

The piggery was an important resource. As early as 1870, 4,400 pounds of pork was produced. Ten years later, 50,750 pounds at 6¢ a pound was worth $3,045. This was not without its drawback. The piggery and slaughterhouse was located near where the County Road crosses the creek and not far from Sunnycroft. It was also near the Simpson's house to the south. Between the pigs, the slaughterhouse, the tallow rendering plant and the fact that sewage was being dumped into the creek, the Simpson's were unhappy. In 1884, the farm of 135 acres along the south side of the creek with three dwelling houses was bought for $10,298.40. Appropriately enough, this sum had been accumulated by the sale of hides, bones, tallow and rags. In 1893, request was made to move the pigerry and slaughterhouse; the lake farm was suggested as a site, but this was impractical because no railroad track was available to take the garbage there. Four years later, the pigs were moved east of the railroad cut, far enough away not to be a nuisance. While swine seemed to be freer of disease than cattle, there was a serious outbreak of swine flu or hog cholera in 1915 when 200 pigs were lost. Pork continued to be an important product. In 1960, 91,221 pounds was reported as worth $27,366.30. The next year the farm came to an end.

The dairy herd was the backbone of the farm. Starting with 1,800 quarts of milk in 1870, we find over ten times that much ten years later. In 1873, the entire herd had to be slaughtered because of tuberculosis and in 1883 50% were killed. It was during this decade that it was proved that bovine tuberculosis could infect human beings. The cows that formed the herd had been bought locally from various farms. It was now decided to breed their own stock from hopefully healthy animals. This seemed to work well for twenty years or more, but in 1908 sixty cows reacted to the tuberculin test. The cows were Holstein but not thoroughbreds. In 1915, the thoroughbred herd was started. All was not well as five years later out of 134 cows, 124 were positive, and out of 91 heifers, 30 were positive. The managers felt that part of this was due to improper supervision which was probably true during the war years. They asked an appropriation of $20,000 to build a new herd. By 1925, milking machines were being introduced. The pasteurizing plant had been installed previously. In 1937, the New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets gave the following figures for milk produced: The average production in the years from 1923 to 1935 was 8,334 pounds per cow. In the year 1936, it jumped up to 10,733. By 1940, the value of milk produced was $44,579. It was a good thing that it was high and that the farm as a whole was extending itself to the utmost. The next five years were war years with rationing and food shortages. Thanks very largely to the farm, the patients were well cared for. In 1945, the milk production was 727,571 quarts and the next year the average per cow was 12,000 pounds per year. Dr. Keil was proud of the herd and states that the State average was 6,000 pounds per year. Four years later he reports that there were 275 cows, that 15 of them gave better than 15,000 pounds a year and that one gave 18,950 pounds a year.

There was much sadness when the Department of Mental Hygiene, on order it is understood from the Governor, announced late in 1960 the closing down of the farm. The Board of Visitors unanimously opposed the idea and so did almost everyone else. For over 90 years the herd fully supplied the Institutional needs for milk. This was not true of butter and cheese. The audit of 1886 shows that butter was bought from dozens of people in small amounts. To a lesser extent, this was true of cheese.

Much of the work at the farm was to support the dairy herd. There was good pasture in season. The cows grazed in fields each side of the road running to Grandview above the County Road. Much corn was raised for ensilage, and we read from time to time of the need for more silos. Mangel-wurtzel was raised by the thousands of bushels. Alfalfa was introduced early in the century and was considered a wonder crop. The wheat raised was sent by rail to a mill and the flour returned was used in the bakery and bran fed to the stock.

Considerable beef was produced. For instance, in 1890 there was 4,714 pounds of dressed beef, and in 1934 there was 28,510 pounds. Hay and oats were raised for the horses of which at the turn of the century there were 27 plus 9 colts and one mule. There were also 24 sheep, 11 lambs; 60 turkeys, 7 geese, 30 ducks, and 260 foul completed the bird census. Sometimes there were peafowl, and for a long time there was a span of oxen. Up until 1926, there were driving horses which were called "administration horses." They numbered a dozen or more, but in that year the automobiles took over. Farm horses hung on much longer. A Holt caterpillar tractor was bought in 1915. Mr. Warren, the Steward, was very pleased with it, stating that it could do the work of from eight to ten teams. Two years later, he again tells of it and states that, even with gasolene at the very high price of 25¢ a gallon, it was an economy.

On going over the annual reports of the Steward, one learns of the good weather and the bad, of the droughts, floods, hailstorms and tempests that occur. The latter two were particularly hard on the orchards of which there were about 120 acres. From the very start, apples had been a good crop and supplied the cider and all the vinegar for the hospital. Grapes became a big crop, large enough to give all the patients grapes everyday during the season. Some years, the grapes were exchanged on the market for oranges so that the patients could have them at Christmas time. Concords, Niagaras, Delawares and Catawbas were grown, mostly east of Edgemere or around Vinelands. The orchards also were in this general vicinity, but there were fruit trees on the lake farm back of Buttonwood.

The poultry was concentrated near Vinelands to the south, but there were some at Hillside. In 1937, there were 2,324 pounds of dressed chicken and 1,503 dozen eggs.

in 1941, the egg output was reported at an all time high of 8,156 dozen.

The garden produced all the vegetables with the exception of onions and potatoes, the soil not being suitable for the former and not too good for the latter. Even so, there were years when there was a respectable potato crop. For instance, 3,850 bushels were produced in 1933.

In the early years of the century, there was a canning plant in the old warehouse located on the steamboat dock. The reports often mentioning canning and evaporating as important activities. In the 1917 report, it is broken down into categories: Canned apples 1,043 gallons, plums 914 gallons, pears 2,329 gallons, peaches 1,962 gallons and tomatoes 1,584 gallons. The evaporating apparatus was in the old pump house near the State dock. That year, 225 pounds of raspberries were dried and the dried weight of sweet corn was 1,935 pounds. This was put up in empty sugar and cracker barrels.

The garden grew everything from asparagus to vegetable oysters of which there were over six tons in 1931. The demands of the Institution at that time were for over 3,000 people.

The farm and garden always made profit a/ - sometimes more, sometimes less - depending on the weather and the amount of supervisory help available. As most of the work was done by the patients, good supervision was necessary.

Willard not only raised food, but also manufactured articles for the care and maintenance of the patients. There were a number of shops where a large part of the work was done by the patients, to their great benefit. A look at the figures from year to year is most instructive. The shoe shop at first spent most of its energy repairing shoes and making and repairing harness. This shop was also responsible for making and repairing mattresses. In 1895, the bulk of the articles made were mattresses, hair pill and harness, with boots, shoes and slippers repaired in quantity. By 1912, after shoe-making machinery had been acquired, 2,579 pairs of boots and shoes were made. In 1932, the shoe and mattress shop made 4,682 articles and repaired 3,286. Twenty years later, the shop wasn't making as many shoes but it was still very busy. Seventy years ago, there were canaries in cages on many of the wards. For some reason, the shoe shop had many cages of them. Perhaps, they took the place of piped-in music. The shop was

located on the second floor of the storehouse on the east side. The mattress shop was adjoining.

The sewing room was probably the first industry. It turned out articles by the thousands, as did the tailor shop which was adjoining. In 1885, the sewing room turned out over 20,000 articles and the tailor shop 5,841. Besides this, there were almost 9,000 sheets, towels and pillow covers made. In 1893, over 4,000 wrappers or aprons were made and 4,000 dresses, and almost as many skirts. For some reason, there were over 3,000 collars made, which seems like a strange item. The tailor shop in the same year made about 1,500 coats and over 2,000 pants, and 1,500 vests which must have been in the style at the time. In 1926, they were still going strong, making nightgowns by the thousands, 2,500 chemises; in other words, they were making practically all the clothes for the patients. It was a time when male employees, nurses and attendants, wore blue uniforms made from Metropolitan Police blue cloth. These were made in the tailor shop and sold at cost. In 1953, the sewing room made over 50,000 articles and repaired 10,000 the tailor shop made about 11,500.

Another busy industry was the broom shop which made brooms by the thousands as well as brushes, baskets, crates, doormats and floor polishers. Chairs were caned and furniture repaired. Floor polishers were an important item as the floors all over the hospita were kept polished to the "nth" degree. An attendant would spread wax on the floor by scraping a block of paraffin with a metal comb. The patients would shove the polishers back and forth by the hour. At the Hermitage, the day room was so large that a polisher about four feet square was pulled back and forth by ropes. It was weighted down by a patient sitting in a chair on top of it.

The tin shop was another busy place; probably not as many patients were employed here as in other shops. The number of different articles made here is astonishing. Some years, over 75 different categories are listed - everything from bird cages to a two foot ventilator with hood for the Nautilus boathouse, boxes, basins, boilers, cups, chamber pots, cans, dippers, measures, pails, pots, pans, strainers, trays, etc. They also made yards and yards of eaves troughs and conductor pipe.

Taking a typical year, we might look at the value of articles made by patients. In 1955, the value was $50,427.28; in the same year the value of farm and garden produce used for food was $173,303.70.

Until very recently, the bakeries at Willard made all the bread for the Institution. During the late 1940's, a new type of bread was developed at Willard in conjunction with nutritional experts from Cornell. This came to be called Willard Bread. It was a rich protein type of bread to which soy bean flour was added and also vitamins.

Of the Stewards who served Willard, three stand out for their length of service and ability. Captain Morris Gilbert was in office from 1873 until his death in 1901. During that time he was totally responsible for all purchasing as well as overseeing the farm and maintenance work. Report after report by different Superintendents and various Boards of Trustees or Managers speak very highly of his ability and integrity. When he died, Dr. Macy had to take a man from Civil Service who had had no experience with a farm. After a short term, he resigned, frankly stating that he didn't have what it took. Mr. Frank Warne was appointed in 1902, serving with great ability until his retirement in 1934. His annual reports are of considerable interest in recording the various trials and triumphs of the farm. Mr. Samuel Peltz was appointed in January, 1936, and served until his untimely end September, 1954; he was highly regarded and well liked. It was fitting that the new storehouse building was named in his memory. These three men served a total of 75 years.

Fire Department: Willard has been most fortunate in regards to fires. There is no record of any patient or employee that died from that cause. This is remarkable, particularly in the early days when gas was used for lighting. The possibility has always been very much in the minds of those responsible for the care of the patients. In the inventory of 1872, we find that there is a steam fire engine with 1,500 feet hose. The Branch, later called Grandview, was a constant worry because of its height and internal construction. Repeated requests were made for its reconstruction. An outside brick fire escape was erected, and standpipes with hose attached were placed on every ward. Only friction matches were permitted, and these were specially guarded.

The fire engine was kept in the boiler room at the Branch, but the horses that drew it were in a barn one-third of a mile away and where the driver slept doesn't appear. By 1890, outside fire escapes were required on all buildings of more than one story. There were fire pails and fire grenades in the wards. At night, bathtubs were filled and pails placed beside them. The grenades were glass balls about six inches in diameter kept in racks. In case of fire, they were to be thrown at the base of the flames. Dr. Pilgrim was very anxious to do away with gas for lighting, pointing out how much safer electricity would be.

Willard had a well-trained fire fighting force which was proved by their good work in a serious fire in Ovid in February, 1885. Seven buildings were burned, and for a time it was feared that the whole village would be lost. The Village Trustees sent a formal acknowledgement to the Asylum for their prompt response and good work in containing the fire. That same year, an electric alarm system was installed between all the buildings.

When the power house was built, an extension was added on the east side. In this central location, the Silsby fire engine was housed. There was a stable for the powerful team of horses, and the driver and firemen slept upstairs. There was a brass sliding pole for emergency use. In 1896, the building was enlarged to make room for the hook-and-ladde This was drawn by manpower as were two hose carts kept beside it. Later, the hook-and-ladder truck was converted to horsepower and finally motorized. It was replaced in 1951 by a motor-driven, three section, 75 foot extention ladder. In 1910, a gasolene Westinghouse fire engine, costing $6,600, arrived, but the steam engine was kept as a standby.

Three years later, it was reported that the hospital has a well-organized fire briga consisting of three marshalls, three executive officers, three engineers, salvage and life-saving corps, one chemical and one hook-and-ladder company, besides the two fire engines. "There are chemical extinguishers on the wards as well as standpipes and fire pails. The hose company are drilled once a week, and there are fire drills from time to time when patients are evacuated from the building by fire escape. A siren at the power plant blow the alarm." By 1937, there were two gasolene pumpers and a full-time fire inspector. Automatic sprinkler systems have been installed in the attics of Chapin House, Grandview and Hadley Hall. The equipment continued to be up-dated and was considered adequate,

except that there wasn't enough personnel. There are now sprinkler systems in all patient buildings.

There have been fires at Willard, some of them quite destructive. In 1895, the laundry, adjacent shops and sewing room were destroyed. There have been at least three other laundry fires, a major one in May, 1962. The Hermitage caught on fire early in the morning in March, 1917. It destroyed part of the floor of the day room. The building was filled with smoke, and patients were evacuated with considerable difficulty. Employee on the third floor escaped down a newly erected, but not completed, fire escape. There have been at least two barn fires, one that destroyed a barn on the lake farm with the loss of several horses and another which burned down a barn on the county road south of the ravine where a number of sheep were lost. This occurred about 12:30 A.M. January 1, 1909 and broke up a New Year's party and dance. Some of the doctors arrived at the scene in tuxedos.

Conclusion: When the Centennial History of Seneca County was published in 1876, Willard was an up-and-coming asylum. Its mission of caring for the chronic poor insane by removing them from county poorhouses was being carried out. It was a great humanitarian step forward. The Asylum became a State Hospital in 1890, caring for both acute and chronic cases of mental illness. The census continued to grow and the expense of the care to rise. After the Second World War, fewer American physicians were drawn into institutional psychiatry. There was over-crowding and, some felt, under-treatment. This was nation-wide. In 1915, Congress established the Joint Commission on Mental Illness and Health. This was just at the time when tranquilizers and other anti-psychotic drugs came into wide use. The Commission made a report in 1960 which led to the passage of the Mental Retardation Facilities and Community Mental Health Construction Act of 1963. Federal funding was promised for the establishment of community mental health centers which would provide for in-patient and out-patient care, emergency treatment, partial hospitalization and consultation and education. The aims were to reduce the institutional census by 50% in twenty years and the improvement of mental health by preventive programs in the centers. This deinstitutionalization became and continues to be the watchword.

At the same time, there were many changes in the philosophy of treatment and care.

A plan of care for each patient had to be written out, and the patient was to be consulted and his approval obtained. Treatment such as electroshock became hedged with so many safeguards as to almost preclude its use. While more and more patients were discharg there were more and more re-admissions.

Ever since the founding of Willard, there has been a feeling that employment of patients is one of the keystones of treatment. This was drastically changed on January 1, 1973, with the new Mental Hygiene Law which, while encouraging employment of patients, states in Section B, "A patient employed by a facility shall receive compensation for his services in accordance with applicable State and Federal labor laws." This has been somewhat modified in that patients working in Sheltered Workshops solely for their rehabilitation may be paid less than the Federal minimum wage. There is money in the budget to employ only a very few patients in useful institutional work.

On May 23, 1974, 27 State Hospitals became by law Psychiatric Centers. It so happens that the two oldest, Utica and Willard, are at the end of the list.

What of the future? Not everyone agrees that treatment outside the Institution is the ideal solution. Patients living in fosterhomes, welfare hotels or nursing homes may be worse off than they were in a hospital that protected them, looked out for their physical needs, social requirements and gave psychiatric care.

Willard has a large plant with some excellent modern buildings. Mental illness will be with mankind for a long, long time. Patients will require continual care. The population is growing older. Nursing homes are close to 100% occupied. Those in nursing homes with decayed minds might well be cared for in Geriatric Mental Centers.

Whatever comes to pass, it is to be hoped that the spirit of Willard as set forth in the first report of the Trustees will continue.

It would be a home "for those people who have neither home nor friends and who are without the means financially or the capacity intellectually to provide for themselves. with the intellect shattered, minds darkened, living amid delusions, constant prey to unrest, haunted by unreal fantasies and wild imagining. They now have, in their sore misfortune, a safe refuge, kindly care, constant watching and are as comfortable as their circumstances will allow. This is the result over which every humane and Christian citize of the State will rejoice."

NOTES

The main sources are the annual reports of the Willard Asylum and the Willard State ospital from 1867 to 1972. Dr. John B. Chapin's scrapbook is in the Cornell Archives. ewspaper clippings tell of the disappointment of the Buffalo officials over the site election. Figures on the construction of the main building are from the same source. scrapbook in the writer's possession made by Mrs. Anna Maycock Hopkins gives much nformation on entertainment during the 1880's. It also gives the reports of visitations f County Supervisors as well as others. There is a description of the Ovid fire of 1885.

The story of Dr. Kellog's proposal to protect the breakwater with rubber sheets was old to me by Dr. Thomas Currie who was on the Medical Staff at the time. The plan of he main building known as the Kirkbride plan was taken from the Journal of the American sychiatric Association, Volume 27, Number 7, Page 473.

The details of the Willard railroad are, in part, personal recollections. The solo rip of the engine is taken from newspaper article and recollection of a former employee.