MINUTES OF THE QUARTERLY CONFERENCE

Dr. PARSONS: patients; however, this number includes a large percentage of alcoholic patients, which the psychiatric hospital is now caring for.

On June 11, the committee visited the Rockland State Hospital and inspected the new assembly hall and community store; both are now in use. They also visited the new 800-bed infirmary unit which is practically completed except for the installation of equipment for the kitchen. They also visited the new married couples' home, which is built on standard plan, and also the children's unit, which is now completed. The superintendent has already admitted a small number of children to one of the units.

Wm. C. Garvin.
Chairman.

Dr. PARSONS: We will have the report of the Committee on Nursing.

Dr. TADDIKEN: We have had no meeting since the last conference.

Dr. PARSONS: Anything under the head of unfinished business? New business?

Since the last meeting death has visited our group and removed an important and distinguished administrative officer of one of our institutions. It is customary to take some note of such passing and I call upon Dr. Storrs to present a brief memorial on the life of Dr. Charles S. Little.

MEMORIAL TO CHARLES S. LITTLE, M. D.

BY HARRY C. STORRS, M. D.,
SUPERINTENDENT, WASSAIC STATE SCHOOL

Dr. Charles S. Little was born in Webster, New Hampshire, on February 12, 1869. His ancestors were of Puritan New England stock who pioneered into the rugged hill country of New Hampshire, cleared the land and established their homes. The house on Little Hill in which he was born is on one of the highest farms in the township.

He was one of eight children and at an early age he assumed the responsibilities of a man in the family circle. He has told of being sent by his father, at the age of 12, into the wood lot with a yoke of oxen and a sled to bring down a load of wood. The load tipped over and the sled was broken. His early training in self-reliance had been such that he could not think of going for help. He unloaded, cut a tree, hewed a part for the sled, fitted it, loaded and brought his wood to the house.

From the district schools at Webster he entered Franconia Academy, working his way and preparing himself for college. Here he was in the heart of the White Mountains, which he loved so dearly, and almost under the Great Stone Face. Graduating from academy, he entered Dartmouth
College, again working his way. He was often short of funds and several times left for a few weeks to teach some district school. He was particularly sought in a district where a bully had put out the teacher. In college he was a star lineman on the football team and a hammer thrower on the track and field team.

After graduation he worked for a year as an engineer and returned to Dartmouth to take up the study of medicine receiving his degree of Doctor of Medicine in 1896. He then was on the staffs of the Tewkesbury Hospital, Taunton State Hospital and the McLean Hospital, the latter the outstanding private hospital for the insane in New England.

His boyhood training and the experiences he passed through in his struggle to obtain an education had developed in him a character and personality quite unique. Coupled with an almost superhuman energy was a determination and fighting spirit making it possible for him to carry through to completion any task assigned him. These qualities were tempered by a kindness of heart for every honest person, no matter what his station in life, and a genuine love of his fellow-men.

He could not help being noticed, and was selected as the man to establish and construct an institution for the feebleminded in his native state of New Hampshire. In the face of opposition on the part of many voters who were not in sympathy with the building of such a school, and in spite of the most meagre of appropriations, in eight years he developed a small institution which was so efficiently organized and managed that it attracted the attention of all the northeastern states.

It was therefore natural that he was selected by New York State to become superintendent of the then contemplated Letchworth Village. His accomplishment during the 26 years of his superintendency, of visioning, planning and bringing to completion the most outstanding institution for the feebleminded in the world, is known to all.

During the period of his superintendency of Letchworth he served one term as president of the American Association for the Study of the Feebleminded.

He was commissioned a captain during the World War, and served in camps in this country and in France.

"In recognition of his leadership in the betterment of conditions for handicapped groups of humanity," Dartmouth College conferred upon him the degree of Doctor of Science at its commencement exercises of June, 1933.

Looking back to that beautiful day, July 1, 1935, when so many of Dr. Little's friends gathered at Letchworth for the observance of the twenty-fifth anniversary of his appointment as superintendent, the occasion seems