

were ready for occupancy at the end of March, 1915. The mess hall, called buildings 1 and 2 today, was designed to contain the dining rooms, kitchen, employees quarters and a day or amusement room for 1,000 patients. When it opened, the first floor was divided into two wings—one for men and one for women. Each wing contained three dining rooms, one of which was converted into offices for the Superintendent and staff and a drug store. The second floor contained living quarters for the staff, and four day rooms which were converted to dormitories for the patients. These units made up the hospital until 1928 when the Administration Building was opened.

It is significant that the construction of the hospital on the Eastern Shore was in keeping with the advanced concepts of the day regarding the treatment of the mentally ill, notably that patients should be treated as near to their homes as possible. On May 18, 1915 (fifty years ago tomorrow) 177 Eastern Shore patients of Spring Grove and Springfield hospitals were transferred here. Twenty-six others were added from an almshouse near Cambridge. Twenty-four patients had come here with the Superintendent in December, 1913, to clean meadows, build roads and to maintain and operate the farm.

The transfer of patients from the Western Shore hospitals is an intriguing episode in the history of this hospital. Under the personal supervision of the Superintendent, they were moved by train to Baltimore. There they boarded a steamer, with wiring around the railings for protection. There was music and dancing aboard. They arrived in Cambridge four hours later without mishap.

In other ways the hospital reflected the tenets and the teachings of such persons as Dr. Meyer and Dr. William H. Welch who were providing the leadership in the field of mental health during the early part of this century. Dr. Charles J. Carey, the first Superintendent, had been an assistant superintendent at Springfield State Hospital, where the open-door policy had been in existence for some years. Naturally, as many of the patients as possible were given freedom of the grounds at Eastern Shore. Many went boating, fishing and crabbing. Those requiring a greater degree of supervision were taken to a nearby grove for croquet or softball. Dances were held frequently. What we call today industrial therapy was practiced widely. Men did farm and garden work; women sewed, laundered and did house-hold chores. A school for nurses was founded in 1915, and in 1917 its first graduating class, of three women, received their diplomas.

The hospital went through a period of adversity during the first World War. The nursing school had to close. Badly needed repairs and main-