The Times-Dispatch

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SATURDAY, OCTOBER 13, 1906.

Charities and Correction.

At the Virginia State Conference of Charities held recently at Mineral, Superintendent Whittaker, of the State Reformatory, made a strong plea for decent treatment of paupers at poor farms.

Mr. Whittaker says that the physical condition of many of the poor asylums of the State is a disgrace to the counties where they are situated, and a disgrace that must be shared by the entire population of the State.

How is it in Virginia? Who knows? We have a Commissioner of State Hospitals, but there is no State officer whose duty it is to inspect the county jails and county almshouses. Some of the almshouses in the Virginia counties are well conducted, as, for example, the county of Henrico, but we are informed by an official who is in a position to know that others are in a deplorable condition, and so also, doubtless, are many of the county jails. Yet the State seems to be the different to the subject.

The fact is Virginia should by all means have a State Board of Charities. This has been advocated and urged from time to time by the State Conference of Charities and Correction, and by The Times-Dispatch. Several years ago the subject was brought to the attention of the Legislature by that organization and The newspaper, and a distinguished gentleman who had given his life to such work came to Richmond by invitation and addressed a committee of the Legislature. But while he received respectful attention, no action was taken. If Virginia had had a State Board of Charities, there had been no occasion for the investigation of the Williamsburg Hospital by a committee of the Legislature, which seem disposed from the two witnesses it has seen and heard from the testimony in hand, to do this question in home as has taken place so far.

How can the State hope to get an impartial report when a responsible State organization exists?

The Times-Dispatch does not advocate a State Board of Charities with power to interfere with private institutions. But there should be such a board with a close relationship to the Legislature and capable of giving to the Governor and the Legislature information in regard to the condition of the institutions in the State and the nature of a successor. Other States have established such a board, notably in Ohio and Texas, and just information has led to the correction of abuses and to the enactment of wise laws. The charities in the State as well as the business of reformatories and prisons. Moreover, of jails and lockups, who do not only suffer wrongs, but ventilation and be treated by more recommendations. Change to improvement in management, and so will abuses be done their duty should be reported and disciplined.

The school should be disciplined and assisted from time to time, and when the Legislature meets, presence should be brought to bear upon it to deal with all such parts which are in need of correction. Hence a State Board of Charities is imperative.

Funston's Recall.

The news of the recall of Funston and a recall from the Philippines, coming with a surprise which Mr. Taft's recent visit to Manila and his conference with Funston had not led us to expect, has been a surprise to the country. Not long after the recall there is very good cause for the General's Franklin and, would not be a transaction inserted at his request. Now, it was the strange illness that is so much talked of, attributed and report of that character.

To recall a general in such a way is a crushing blow, and it is not to be expected that Mr. Taft would do it except for the most weighty reasons. The President is a man of great kindness of heart, and he is not the man to do a cruel thing. He is a man of great courage, and he is not the man to do a cowardly thing. He is a man of great sagacity, and he is not the man to do a foolish thing. He is a man of great patriotism, and he is not the man to do a thing that he thinks will do his country harm.

Hence, we say, he must have had weighty reasons for what he has done. We do not know what they are, and we do not care to speculate. We do not care to speculate because we have the greatest confidence in the President's wisdom and patriotism, and we know that he will do what he thinks is best for the country.

General Funston has been a very popular man with the people of this country. He has been a very active man in the service of his country, and he has been a very brave man in the service of his country. He has been a very patriotic man in the service of his country. He has been a very loyal man in the service of his country. He has been a very faithful man in the service of his country. He has been a very good man in the service of his country. He has been a very great man in the service of his country. He has been a very great man in the service of his country. He has been a very great