

Board Asks Estimates For New Ward At County Home

Additional Quarters For Insane Sorely Needed, Epperson Says—Plans And Specifications To Be Submitted At May Meeting

Herald

4/8/36

The board of county commissioners yesterday authorized County Manager D. W. Newsom and Superintendent J. H. Epperson of the health department to draw tentative plans and specifications for the projected new ward for the insane at the county home. The plans will be presented at the May meeting of the board.

Due to overcrowded conditions in the present quarters for the incurably insane at the county home, and the fact that Raleigh authorities have requested Durham county to take care of its own overflow of insane patients, a new ward is an urgent necessity, according to Superintendent Epperson. Four insane persons are lodged in the county jail at present because there is no room for them at the county home.

Superintendent Epperson said that he will have one more conference with Superintendent Ashby of the Raleigh state hospital in an endeavor to have the state wards opened for commitment of Durham county's surplus patients.

Claiming that he had been ejected from the county home without cause, Sam Daniels, an inmate recently ejected for having a quantity of liquor in his room, demanded "justice" from the county board of commissioners yesterday, and asked that Superintendent E. T. Mangum be removed as an improper person to conduct the home. It was his second appearance before the board.

The board listened to the testimony of Daniels and several witnesses he brought with him, but took no action in the matter. Watson Poe, prosecuting attorney of the recorder's court, appeared in behalf of Daniels. He allegedly appeared before Judge Marshall T. Spears with Daniels' complaint some time ago.

Poe asked Commissioner R. E. Hurst why he had accompanied Superintendent Mangum to confer with Poe's father, a member of the grand jury, about the matter instead of coming directly to him, and was told by the commissioner that it was "because you are not as reasonable to talk with as your father."

After Daniels was ejected, the county board appropriated \$10 a month toward his support.

The board approved the routine reports of the following county officials: Rose E. Bryan, T. A. Hamme, E. T. Mangum, Mrs. F. L. Walker, R. E. Suggs, Goldie Roberts, S. O. Riley, and E. T. Nixon. The report of the Duke hospital also was accepted.

On motion of Commissioner King, a free peddler's license was granted to G. W. Holloway, a World war veteran.