THE report is current here that the Houston Negro Hospital, which was "presented" to the Negroes of Houston and Harris County several years ago by J. S. Cullinan, Houston philanthropist and oil magnet, has drifted upon dull days and that the institution's future is literally hanging in the balance.

It seems that the depression and hospital management are the con-tributing factors to the institution's present dilemma, and that if the number of daily patients is not maintained at ten, certain financial support will be withdrawn and the hospital closed.

The nurses' home was closed several days ago without any previous notice to the young women who were pursuing the course of study there, leaving some of them in a rather embarrassing and humiliating situa-

The Defender would regret to see this hospital closed and possibly lost to the race, but no institution can thrive and enjoy public support and confidence when those in charge so administer its affairs as to destroy goodwill and alienate the people from it; for no cause or institution can succeed without the moral and material backing of the public, and those who think and act otherwise are simply inviting doom and disaster.

Whether the Houston Negro Hos-

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pital does or does not close, the fact remains that there is something defective with the administrative machinery, and this trouble has been apparent since the institution was originally thrown open to the public.