

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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SEVENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE

HOUSE

NO. 655

House of Representatives, March 21, 1913.

*Reported by Mr. Mitchell from Committee on Appropriations
and Financial Affairs, and ordered printed under joint rules.*

W. R. ROIX, Clerk.

STATE OF MAINE

RESOLVE in favor of the Eastern Maine General Hospital.

Resolved, That there be and is hereby appropriated the
2 sum of six thousand five hundred dollars to be paid to the
3 Eastern Maine General Hospital for the use of said insti-
4 tution for the year nineteen hundred thirteen, and six thou-
5 sand five hundred dollars for the use of said institution for
6 the year nineteen hundred and fourteen, for maintenance.

STATEMENT OF FACTS.

The Eastern Maine General Hospital situated at Bangor, county of Penobscot, State of Maine, was opened on June 7, 1892, and incorporated December 16, 1892. By special act of the legislature of 1897, chapter 388, the corporation received a special charter and its organization was ratified and confirmed.

The original lot and buildings were purchased through private subscriptions of citizens of Bangor, on October 8, 1894, for about \$8000, though the value of the land and the original buildings is very much greater. The lot contained about two and three-quarters acres, and extended from State street, on which it measured 260 feet, to the location of the Maine Central Railroad along the banks of the Penobscot river. Subsequently a lot adjoining the original lot measuring 344 feet on State street, containing about five acres, was purchased for \$5000, and during the past year a lot adjoining the last mentioned lot on State street, measuring practically 700 feet on State street, was purchased for \$10,000. It is situated approximately a mile from the postoffice of Bangor.

The original buildings consisting of a large stone house and ell, cost originally to erect over \$40,000. From time to time there has been added a new ell, a power house, laundry, contagious ward (separate building), a large ward building constructed of brick, which has now become the surgical ward of the hospital, the old building being used mainly for administrative work and for the accommodation of employees, a large new fire-proof building thoroughly up to date in every particular used as a children's and medical ward, and a large new extension for domestic purposes.

There has been expended on the land, buildings and equipment, not including any money expended for maintenance, considerably over \$350,000, and approximately \$200,000 during the last four years. Of this amount expended for permanent improvements, etc., the State has paid only \$55,000. The rest has been raised by private subscription and legacies. The endowment fund of the hospital, amounting to approximately \$120,000, has also been entirely raised by subscription and legacies.

The work of the institution is entirely non-sectarian, Protestants and Catholics being represented both on the board of trustees and the staff. It is a distinctly charitable institution, there being no stock or stockholders, no trustee receiving any compensation for his services, no member of the staff being paid for his work at the hospital (except of course for his private patients), and without an appropriation from the State the work of the Eastern Maine General Hospital would have to be greatly curtailed and to a great extent its free work eliminated.

For a number of years the State appropriated \$5000 a year, and in spite of the fact that at the last session of the legislature few institutions received increased appropriations, the claim of this institution was so pressing that the annual appropriation was increased to \$6500 a year. The present indebtedness of the corporation is \$44,000. During the past year the corporation has purchased, as above stated, a large lot of land necessary for the future growth of the institution, which they were able to obtain at a reasonable figure. Through gifts for endowment and other purposes approximately \$25,000 has been given by residents or former residents of Bangor during the past year, showing that the local community is doing its share towards the maintenance of the institution.

The following table showing the residence of the patients at the hospital during the past fiscal year, clearly demonstrates that this is a state institution in the scope of its work.

Residences of patients classified by counties, etc.:

Androscoggin	1
Aroostook	204
Cumberland	7
Franklin	2
Hancock	97
Kennebec	23
Knox	4
Oxford	1
Penobscot	1181
Piscataquis	139
Sagadahoc	3
Somerset	36
Waldo	40

Washington	167
York	2
Non-residents of Maine	78
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Total	1985
Again of whole number of patients:	
Bangor furnished	460
Other places in Penobscot county	721
Other counties in Maine	726
Non-residents of Maine	78
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Total	1985

The growth of the institution is shown by the following table:

	1893	1912
Cost of each patient per week.....	\$12.00	\$12.35
Number of patients during the year	150	1985
Free patients	68	504
Partly free patients.....		988
Patients outside of Bangor.....	99	1525
Received from patients.....	\$2059.33	\$46,728.38
Expenditures	\$7954.42	\$58,196.85

The following figures are of interest: The number of patients since the appropriation was last granted by the last legislature has increased from 1447 to 1985; the number of free patients from 259 to 504; the number of partly free patients from 291 to 988; the number of days of free treatment from 7358 to 9951.

In order to show that the request for continuation of the same appropriation is not unreasonable, a rough comparison with the Maine General Hospital and the Central Maine General Hospital may be made. The number of patients treated in the Maine General Hospital and the Eastern Maine General Hospital are practically the same, yet the Maine General has received \$9000 a year appropriation during the last two years and the Eastern Maine \$6500. The endowment fund of the Maine General is practically three times as great as the Eastern Maine. During the last twenty years the Maine General has received \$215,000 from the state and the Eastern Maine only \$128,000.

The number of patients treated at the Central Maine is approximately two-thirds of those treated at the Eastern Maine, yet their appropriation is the same, and in the last twenty years **the Central Maine** has received \$188,500 and the Eastern Maine as above stated only received \$128,000.

In addition, in both of the localities of the Maine General and Central Maine General Hospitals there are other hospital institutions receiving state aid, while in Bangor there is no other such institution.

The geographical situation of the Eastern Maine General Hospital, the localities from which its patients are drawn, the amount of free or partly free work done, the support given it by the local community, its present financial condition, and its comparison with the other large hospitals of the State all seem to justify the request for a continuance of an annual appropriation of \$6500.

Eastern Maine General Hospital,

By JOHN WILSON, *Secretary*.