

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# FIFTIETH LEGISLATURE.

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HOUSE.

No. 58.

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## STATE OF MAINE.

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The Committee on State Prison, to which was referred the Annual Reports of the Warden, Inspectors, Physician and Chaplain of the State Prison, have had the same under consideration, and ask leave to report the following suggestions, with the resolve and bill herewith submitted, and that the same ought to pass.

By the authority of an order of the Legislature the committee visited the prison on the 27th day of January last. The short time spent there precluded anything but a cursory examination; such examination, however, led to the belief that the affairs of the prison are in a healthy condition. For details, reference is made to the reports above named, which the committee believe to be substantially correct.

The committee desire to call special attention to the representations made in the reports of the Warden, Inspectors and Chaplain, respecting the appointment of a permanent resident Chaplain, and most cordially and earnestly approve their recommendation in this regard. We believe the State cannot longer afford to neglect this duty, and accordingly present herewith a bill providing for such appointment, and represent that it ought to pass.

Consultation with the Warden, develops the fact, that among the subordinate officers are several men with families, whose services from long experience have become most valuable. It is desirable—yes, important, that these men have rents near by the prison, so that in case of fire, an *emeute*, or other alarm by night, they can be surely and speedily called to render assistance. Such rents cannot now be readily obtained. We recommend that seven thousand dollars (\$7,000) be placed at the disposal of the Warden and Inspectors with which to build or purchase some

houses of moderate cost for the convenience of the employees of the prison.

The repairs needed the present year are as follows, to wit:

The west wall of the prison yard to be raised and a stone and iron walk upon its top constructed; fences around the State land outside the yard to be repaired; carriage shop to be shingled; a wood-shed near wash-room to be built; and some repairs upon dwelling-houses, all estimated at \$2,500.

The salary of the Inspectors, fixed at \$100 some years ago, seems an inadequate compensation for the duties performed. The committee recommend that until otherwise ordered, the salary be fixed at two hundred dollars each.

Per order.

ELIJAH WYMAN, *Chairman.*

# STATE OF MAINE.

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IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD ONE THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED AND SEVENTY-ONE.

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AN ACT additional to chapter one hundred and forty of the revised statutes, relating to the state prison.

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*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in Legislature assembled, as follows :*

SECTION 1. The governor, on the recommendation of  
2 the warden and inspectors, and with the approval of  
3 the council, may appoint and commission to hold office  
4 during the pleasure of the executive, but not more  
5 than two years under one appointment, a suitable per-  
6 son for chaplain of the state prison ; who shall, in  
7 accordance with the rules of the prison, perform relig-  
8 ious services in the chapel every Sunday, visit the sick,  
9 labor diligently and faithfully for the mental, moral  
10 and religious improvement of the convicts, and aid  
11 them when practicable in obtaining employment after  
12 being discharged from prison.

SECT. 2. The annual salary of the chaplain who  
2 may be appointed under this act, shall be established

3 by the inspectors and warden, but shall not exceed  
4 fifteen hundred dollars, which amount shall be annually  
5 appropriated for that purpose by the legislature.

SECT. 3. The annual salary of the inspectors of the  
2 prison shall be two hundred dollars to each, which  
3 amount shall be annually appropriated for that purpose  
4 by the legislature.

SECT. 4. All acts and parts of acts inconsistent  
2 with the provisions of this act are hereby repealed.

SECT. 5. This act shall take effect when approved.

# STATE OF MAINE.

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RESOLVE in favor of the state prison.

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*Resolved,* That the sum of five hundred fifty dollars  
2 and twelve cents, to cover deficit of last year ; also  
3 two thousand four hundred forty-two dollars and  
4 eighty-eight cents, for general repairs and construc-  
5 tion ; also seven thousand dollars, for the purchase or  
6 building of dwelling-houses ; making in all ten thou-  
7 sand dollars, be and hereby appropriated for the benefit  
8 of the state prison.

*Resolved,* That the warden of the state prison, with  
2 the advice of the inspectors and approval of the gover-  
3 nor and council, is authorized to purchase land and  
4 dwelling-houses for the subordinate officers of the  
5 prison.

STATE OF MAINE.

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IN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, }  
February 16, 1871. }

*Ordered*, That the Report of the Committee on State Prison,  
with accompanying Bill and Resolves, be printed.

S. J. CHADBOURNE, *Clerk*.