

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# FIFTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE.

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SENATE.

No. 56.

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*To the Senate and House of Representatives :*

The Committee on Reform School, having made an official visit to the institution, ask leave to report :

Every facility was given us by the Superintendent and Instructors to make the most thorough examination of each and all the departments of the School. The buildings are in fair condition, although some repairs are deemed proper in the way of painting during the coming season. The work-shops are very well adapted to the purposes for which they are at present used.

The boys are well disciplined, and this has been secured by kind treatment with a view to elevate to a higher grade of moral standing. The boys are graded into three classes. The first class consists of those who are trustworthy, the second of those who are trying to become so, the third are such as do not manifest a desire to improve. They are all well fed with wholesome food, and appear to be in the enjoyment of excellent health. They go to their tasks cheerfully, and are very attentive and diligent in the performance of their duties. We consider the work-shops connected with the School almost indispensable.

By the report of the Superintendent, we find that "the Sunday School has been continued regularly throughout the year." This we believe is as it should be, as the religious training of the boys should never be neglected ; we trust, therefore, that it may be continued.

The committee were favorably impressed with the department of instruction. The manner in which the teachers discharged their several duties was conclusive evidence of their efficiency to discharge the responsibilities resting upon them as teachers in a manner satisfactory to the friends of the institution and highly creditable to themselves.

Next in importance to the prevention of crime, is the reformation of the criminal; especially is this the fact if he is a juvenile offender. The deep interest which Maine now manifests in the success and prosperity of the Reform School, as a means of saving our youth from a fearful end, and securing to them honorable places among their fellows, will largely atone for any mismanagement in the past, and bring about the best results in time to come. Those familiar with the working of this Institution, cannot fail to perceive that under the direction and management of a faithful and competent Board of Trustees, and an able and trustworthy Superintendent, the object in view will be accomplished.

We recommend an appropriation of thirteen thousand dollars to meet the current expenses of the year. We also recommend an appropriation of two thousand dollars to make necessary repairs and to paint the buildings, believing that any neglect in keeping buildings properly painted, causes in the end a very much larger expenditure of money to accomplish the desired object.

Respectfully submitted.

C. B. JORDAN, *Chairman.*

## STATE OF MAINE.

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[S. 35.] RESOLVE in favor of the state reform school

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*Resolved,* That there be, and hereby is appropriated  
2 the sum of thirteen thousand dollars, for the use of the  
3 state reform school, to meet the current expenses of  
4 the ensuing year, and two thousand dollars for repairs  
5 and painting.

## STATE OF MAINE.

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IN SENATE, February 5, 1877.

Submitted by Mr. JORDAN of Androscoggin, from the Committee on Reform School, and on his motion, laid on the table and ordered to be printed with accompanying resolve.

SAMUEL W. LANE, *Secretary*