

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# Sixty-Eighth Legislature.

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SENATE.

No. 84.

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## STATE OF MAINE.

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RESOLVE in favor of the Trustees of the State College of  
Agriculture and Mechanic Arts, with a statement of facts.

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*Resolved,* That there be paid to the trustees of the State  
2 College of Agriculture and the Mechanic Arts, the sum of  
3 thirty thousand dollars (\$30,000) for the year one thousand  
4 eight hundred and ninety-seven (1897), and the same sum  
5 annually thereafter, for the term of ten years, to provide for  
6 the current expenses of the Maine State College.

*Resolved,* That there be paid to the trustees of the State  
2 College of Agriculture and the Mechanic Arts the sum of  
3 .....dollars, one-third in  
4 1897, and two-thirds in 1898, for the erection of a shop build-  
5 ing, to contain wood-working rooms, iron-working rooms,

6 forge rooms, coal rooms, dynamo rooms, recitation rooms,

7 etc.

## STATEMENT OF FACTS.

The Maine State College consists of two parts, the Experiment Station, and the instruction departments. The Experiment Station receives an annual appropriation from the United States, which pays its expenses, and no part of which can be used for the expenses of the instruction departments.

The annual income of the college for instruction expenses, is as follows:

The endowment fund, resulting from the sale of land given by the United States, and invested in State bonds at 5 per cent.....	\$5,915.00
The U. S. Annuity, under the Morrill act.....	22,000.00
Rents.....	757.50
The Coburn fund.....	4,000.00
	\$32,672.50

During the last two years the college has also received \$20,000 annually from the State. This sum has not been sufficient and the equipment of several departments is in arrears, and some expenses for repairs to buildings are yet unpaid. The corresponding expenses for the next two years must be larger than for the last two. The number of students has increased 57 per cent in two years, and is likely to further increase, notwithstanding the fact that the entrance requirements have been greatly raised. Unless the State make an appropriation, the college will have no funds at its disposal for current expenses,—including the care, repair, and insurance of its buildings, the maintenance of its laboratories, etc.

The buildings of the college are inadequate to the demands upon them. The committee of the Council, appointed under authority of the last legislature to investigate the college, stated: “We find that while the buildings are for the most part well planned and constructed, they are insufficient for the 300 and more students now in attendance, and hopelessly inade-

quate to the accommodation of the number, which, with a continuance of the present conditions, may reasonably be expected during the next two years." Several buildings are needed, but the most pressing need is a shop building for the departments of mechanical and electrical engineering. The present building is a cheap shell, whose floors are saturated with oil, making it a constant danger to the very costly apparatus and machinery which it shelters. It is hopelessly too small. There are 45 students using 19 forges; 30 using 10 places in the iron working room; 43 using 19 places in the carpenter shops. Next year it is reasonable to expect 122 students in the shop courses, against 61 three years ago, and during that time no increase whatever has been made in the size of the shop building. The erection of this building will release the rooms in Wingate Hall now occupied by these departments, and give other departments new recitation rooms for which there is a great demand.

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## STATE OF MAINE.

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IN SENATE, February 17, 1897.

Pending reference in concurrence to Committee on State College of Agriculture and the Mechanic Arts, laid on table to be printed, on motion by Mr. CLASON of Kennebec.

KENDALL M. DUNBAR, *Secretary.*