

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Seventieth Legislature.

SENATE.

No. 150

STATE OF MAINE.

MAJORITY REPORT.

The Committee on Financial Affairs, to which was recommitted the "Resolve in favor of the Maine Eye and Ear Infirmary," and before whom, by order of the legislature, a hearing was had for the purpose of investigating certain charges made on the floor of the house against the institution, would report that they have attended to their duty and find that, while the charges of maltreatment have not been proven strictly as alleged, it is apparent, from the admission of the officers of the institution and the undisputed evidence of witnesses, that the charges were substantially true and evidence a laxity of management that should be corrected.

No satisfactory proof was offered to show that charity patients were knowingly diverted from the infirmary to the office of the executive surgeon, but there was abundant evidence that such patients often found their way there and honestly believed the treatment they were receiving was to be free, and some regulation should be adopted that would render these mistakes impossible.

The management of the free clinic appears to have been left largely to young and inexperienced physicians who cannot be supposed to possess that special training and ability which should be at the disposal of such an institution, nor does the practice of allowing unprofessional men to prescribe for patients meet the approval of the committee.

Neither the evidence of the treasurer nor the reports of the institution give satisfactory information as to its financial standing; but, from all evidence obtainable, it does not appear that state aid is necessary, and it is the opinion of the majority of the committee that the resolve ought not to pass.

Per order,

FREEMAN E. RANKIN,
E. C. BRYANT,
ED. P. PAGE,
J. F. BODWELL,
H. I. HIX,
D. E. MOULTON,

MINORITY REPORT.

The minority of the Committee on Financial Affairs to which was referred "Resolve in favor of the Maine Eye and Ear Infirmary," have had the same under consideration and ask leave to report that the same ought to pass.

Per order,

T. S. BURNS,
F. O. BEAL,
WALDO PETTINGILL.

STATE OF MAINE.

IN SENATE, March 20, 1901.

Ordered printed on motion by Mr. BURLEIGH of Aroostook, pending acceptance of either report.

KENDALL M. DUNBAR, *Secretary*.