

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# Seventy-first Legislature.

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HOUSE.

No. 345

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## STATE OF MAINE.

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RESOLVE in favor of the Maine General Hospital.

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*Resolved,* That there be and is hereby appropriated the sum  
2 of seven thousand five hundred dollars to be paid to the Maine  
3 General Hospital for the use of said institution for the year  
4 one thousand nine hundred and three, and seven thousand  
5 five hundred dollars to be paid to said institution for the year  
6 one thousand nine hundred and four.

## STATEMENT OF FACTS.

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of  
Maine:

In appealing to the Legislature for an appropriation to aid it in carrying on its work, the Maine General Hospital would make the following statement of facts, showing the way in which the appropriations made two years ago have been expended and to what extent it merits public support as an agency for ministering to the suffering poor of the state.

Of the patients admitted to the Hospital during the past year 337 were absolutely free, receiving for longer or shorter times, medical and surgical treatment, lodging, board, medical supplies and nursing, without the payment of any fee whatever. The average cost of maintaining each patient was \$11.76 per week. The free patients received 2,482 6-7 weeks' board and treatment, which at the average cost per week represented an expenditure of \$29,210.35.

Five hundred eighty-eight patients were treated in the wards at a rate of \$1.25 per day, but as that payment does not cover the average cost of maintenance, it is obvious that \$3.00 per week was expended for such patients for which no return was received. For the treatment of free patients there was expended during the past year the excess of the receipts from all paying patients above the cost of their maintenance, the sums received from annual free bed subscriptions, the entire income from invested funds, and the appropriation from the state.

The income of the Hospital did not meet the expenses of maintenance during the past year by \$7,302.37.

The residences of the 1,072 patients from the state, classified according to counties, were as follows:

Androscoggin, 3; Aroostook, 20; Cumberland, 482; Franklin, 16; Hancock, 40; Kennebec, 75; Knox, 32; Lincoln, 36; Oxford, 56; Penobscot, 17; Piscataquis, 11; Sagadahoc, 40; Somerset, 24; Waldo, 22; Washington, 60; York, 138.

The large deficit for the past year was caused by a great increase in the purely gratuitous work of the Hospital and the higher cost of almost all food supplies and fuel. During the

past winter the expense for heating, lighting and power has more than doubled, and the Hospital must curtail its free service, and turn away many needy, poor patients who require hospital treatment unless the appropriation of the Legislature can be increased.

SIDNEY W. THAXTER,  
WM. W. BROWN,  
WM. H. MOULTON,  
CHARLES H. PAYSON,  
ELIAS THOMAS,  
FRANKLIN A. WILSON,  
NATHANIEL HOBBS,  
JOSEPH W. SYMONDS,  
THOMAS L. TALBOT,

Directors Maine General Hospital.

STATE OF MAINE.

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IN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

AUGUSTA, March 12, 1903.

Reported by Mr. SWETT of Portland, from Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs, and ordered printed under joint rules.

W. S. COTTON, *Clerk.*