

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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NEW DRAFT.

SEVENTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE

SENATE.

No. 74

STATE OF MAINE.

RESOLVE in favor of the Children's Hospital.

Resolved, That the sum of forty thousand dollars for the
2 year nineteen hundred nine be and hereby is appropriated
3 for the equipment of the Children's Hospital at Portland,
4 Maine, and the building of an addition thereto;

And that the further sum of five thousand dollars for the
6 year nineteen hundred nine, and ten thousand dollars for the
7 year nineteen hundred ten, be and hereby is appropriated
8 for the maintenance and support of the said institution.

STATEMENT OF FACTS.

The Children's Hospital was organized at Portland, Maine, on the 1st day of October, 1908. Upwards of \$17,000 was subscribed by private individuals from Portland and other sections of the State. With this money the old colonial house known as the Mussey house, situated at the corner of High and Danforth Streets, in the city of Portland, was purchased and temporarily equipped as a hospital. The purposes of the institution are:

The establishment and operation of a hospital in Portland, Maine, for the treatment of physical deformities, to give instruction in such treatment, and more especially to furnish free of charge mechanical and surgical treatment of the disabled and deformed children among the poor, but this shall not exclude adults or infants from the service. The corporation may own real and personal estate and may receive bequests or gifts of any nature or description.

At the present time there are twenty in-patients, that is to say boarders at the Hospital. These in-patients are treated free of charge, while a slight charge for board is made for those who can afford to pay. The majority pay nothing. With the present facilities the Hospital cannot properly take care of over ten in-patients without crowding and a number of patients have had to be turned away. The Hospital also has an out-patient department which gives free treatment to patients who do not board at the institution. The facilities for this out-patient department at the present time are entirely inadequate. The number of patients treated in the out-patient department runs up as high as three hundred and fifty or four hundred. It is desired to thoroughly renovate the present building and to build additions which shall include accommodation for seventy-five or more in-patients, operating and exercising room and machine-shop and an adequate equipment for the out-patient department. For this purpose an architect has been consulted and plans have

been drawn, which at a conservative estimate call for the expenditure of the sum of \$55,000. To maintain the institution it is estimated that \$10,000 a year will be required in addition to the amount which will be received from the in-patients for their board and this amount is asked for from the State for a period of two years. The work which is now being done by the Children's Hospital was formerly done in connection with the Maine General Hospital. It was found, however, that the accommodations there were not sufficient for the purpose and a suggestion was made that the Hospital make the necessary improvements. This was found to be impracticable and one of the Directors of the Maine General Hospital, the late Sidney W. Thaxter, was largely instrumental in starting the movement for the Children's Hospital. This is the only institution of the kind in the State of Maine and the patients come now and are expected to come from all parts of the State. The services of the medical staff of the Hospital are given entirely free of charge.

STATE OF MAINE.

IN SENATE,

January 28, 1909.

Reported by Mr. OSGOOD from Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs, and laid on table to be printed under joint rules.

■ F. G. FARRINGTON, *Secretary*.