

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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SEVENTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE

SENATE.

No. 142

STATE OF MAINE.

RESOLVE, in favor of the St. Marie's General Hospital.

Resolved: That there be and hereby is appropriated the
2 sum of five thousand dollars for the year nineteen hundred
3 and nine and the sum of five thousand dollars for the year
4 nineteen hundred and ten to be paid to said institution for
5 maintenance. Also the further sum of five thousand dollars
6 for the year nineteen hundred and nine and five thousand
7 dollars for the year nineteen hundred and ten for the build-
8 ing fund of said institution.

STATEMENT OF FACTS.

This institution was established in 1888, has been conducted as General Hospital from that date to the present date. Starting as a small and humble institution (caring for 40 patients) the first year of its operation, and has grown every year to the present until the enrollment of 1307 of in-patients and 1458 of out-door patients, amounting to 2765 patients treated in the year 1908. It received its first State appropriation in 1896, and every succeeding Legislature has recognized the work and worth of this institution with financial aid. The needs of the institution has grown with its ever increasing patronage, (a patronage that comes from the poor and needy very largely.)

To illustrate this point, attention is directed to the annual report of the institution. Wherein it is shown that the major item of expense of our institution in the year 1908 was the care of 388 patients gratis, representing 3860 days of free medical or surgical attendance in one year, and the second greatest item the care of 380 patients paying part board, which represent 1608 days of attendance in the year.

The expense of maintaining the gratis patients was \$5,514.28, and the part board patients \$2,297.15, which amounts to \$7,811.43 for the past year.

An unusual expense confronts the institution at the present time in the way of numerous changes necessary to convenience the increasing work of the institution. Our pharmacy is much too small and we need more space for it and in order to get this extra space it will be necessary to tear down some walls and build some. In connection with this repairing it will also be necessary to have some plumbing done to supply suitable tanks. Ever since our laboratory has been established we have noticed that it has been very cold and in a very inconvenient location and so it is absolutely necessary to change its location to a warmer and more convenient part of the building. This change will necessitate the cutting of two windows and the necessary

plumbing and lighting and tiling for the floor. The room which we used for plaster paris work being given up for the chemical laboratory it will be necessary to supply a room for this purpose. To do this we will have to cut two doors and build a wall the upper part of which should be glass and here also we should use tiling for the floor and install lights for night work.

We need to install a bath, two closets, a wash bowl and a slop in the basement in the old Gentlemen's quarters and in this room which adjoins the plaster room we need also a tile floor and lights and in both of these rooms we should have a steel ceiling. We also need a smoking room here, the ceiling of which should also be steel. We intend to divide our morgue into two compartments by a wall, one of these to be used as the smoking room mentioned above and the other as the morgue. On the third floor we need to install a bath, three closets, a slop and six washbowls and tile floor for the old ladies' ward, also wardrobe closets. The floor of the porch over the western entrance needs to be replaced. In the boiler room we need to replace the 500-gallon hot water boiler which is in very bad condition with a new 800-gallon copper boiler. We are very much in need of a large and commodious safe in our office. The renewal of the range in kitchen is a pressing necessity. A refrigerator adjoining to the kitchen is another pressing want. The shrinking of the window casings and the wood work around the same, since the construction of the building, calls for a very large expense to render the windows tight, thereby causing a big economy in fuel.

STATE OF MAINE.

IN SENATE,

February 5, 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*.