

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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NEW DRAFT.

SEVENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE

HOUSE

NO. 381

House of Representatives, March 2, 1911.

Reported by Mr. Kelleher from Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs and ordered printed under joint rules.

C. C. HARVEY, Clerk.

STATE OF MAINE

RESOLVE in favor of the Androscoggin Anti-Tuberculosis Association.

Resolved, That the sum of five hundred dollars (\$500) be
2 and hereby is appropriated to be paid to the Androscoggin
3 Anti-Tuberculosis Association for the year nineteen hun-
4 dred eleven and five hundred dollars (\$500) for the year
5 nineteen hundred twelve, to be used in the charitable work
6 of said association.

STATEMENT OF FACTS.

The Androscoggin Anti-Tuberculosis Association is a corporation which succeeds the voluntary organization known as the Lewiston and Auburn Anti-Tuberculosis Association which came into existence January 24, 1910.

At that time general interest was aroused in the subject and the organization has received the hearty co-operation of citizens since it began its work.

It started in with a small fund raised by the Red Cross Society. The need of something of the sort was apparent and great. It was necessary to start from the foundation to bring people to understand the work and to co-operate, and to create a system of work.

This has been done, something over a thousand dollars has been raised, and in the summer of 1910 work was commenced upon a definite plan corresponding to the means at hand.

Generally speaking, the work is as follows:

There is a regular class or clinic held twice a week, to which all who are in any way subject to tuberculosis are invited. Physicians, who give their services meet and examine all patients and advise as to proper treatment. Medicines are given where needed, free.

The main requirements are, "rest, proper food and fresh air."

There are certain well recognized precautions to be observed in houses where tuberculosis exists, not only with respect to the cure of those infected, but to fight the spread of the disease.

The association provides a district nurse who visits, advises and assists in every way possible without charge to the individuals. This nurse is the only person receiving compensation. The work is entirely benevolent and for the public welfare.

The services of citizens of all classes, occupations and professions have been given in promoting this work. Over one hundred organizations in the two cities have taken direct interest and by contributions, and otherwise, have aided very largely. These associations are represented on the advisory council of the association.

The work is carried into the schools and unquestionably by reason of the knowledge of simple facts concerning the disease

and the proper conditions with respect to food and air, imparted to the children, very important results are to be expected.

The association has not only recommended proper food, but by generous contributions has been able to see that the people who are otherwise unable to obtain it were supplied.

The need of work of this kind is great and as it is better understood the field is enlarging and the work is becoming more valuable.

In a community like Lewiston and Auburn, large manufacturing centers, and in the surrounding country as well, there are large numbers of people who should have within their reach the information, assistance and opportunities which this organization aims to provide.

There should be a place where those who are suffering from this disease can live under proper conditions of care, food and fresh air, such as can generally be provided only by something corresponding to what is known as a tuberculosis camp.

It is the aim of the association to provide some such place which shall be open to the use of the people of Androscoggin county at a minimum expense for those who are able to pay, and free to those who are without means.

This can be accomplished at a small expense, and to enable the association to do their work and to provide this, a request is made for an appropriation from the State.

It is believed that in no other way can so much suffering, disease and mortality be prevented at so small an expense as by assistance in the work of this association, one important feature being that it obtains the co-operation of a very large number of persons, entirely without charge.