

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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NEW DRAFT.

SEVENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE

HOUSE

NO. 618

House of Representatives, March 21, 1913.

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

W. R. ROIX, Clerk.

STATE OF MAINE

RESOLVE in favor of Woman's Christian Temperance Union,
Temporary Home for Children, Gardiner.

*Resolved, That there be and hereby is appropriated the sum
2 of seven hundred and fifty dollars to be paid to the Wo-
3 man's Christian Temperance Union, Temporary Home for
4 Children, Gardiner, for the year nineteen hundred and thir-
5 teen and seven hundred and fifty dollars for the year nine-
6 teen hundred and fourteen, for maintenance.*

A STATEMENT OF FACTS RELATIVE TO THE RESOLVE IN FAVOR OF THE WOMEN'S CHRISTIAN TEMPERANCE UNION TEMPORARY HOME FOR CHILDREN.

The Women's Christian Temperance Union Temporary Home for Children is a corporation organized under Chapter 57 of the Revised Statutes of Maine. The corporation was organized in January 1909, and its membership is made up of citizens of Augusta, Hallowell and Gardiner, numbering about eighty. The object of the Home is to provide a temporary home for children until permanent homes can be found for them, either in institutions or in private homes.

The Legislature of 1909, before the Home had acquired any real estate, and while it occupied temporary quarters in the home of one of its members, granted the sum of \$750 for the year 1909 and a like sum for the year 1910. The Legislature of 1911 granted like sums for the years 1911 and 1912.

In 1909 the corporation purchased a large two-story house with a barn and about ten acres of land on High street in Gardiner, from funds donated by citizens of Gardiner, Hallowell and Augusta. Since that time many improvements have been made, so that the Home is now a fairly well equipped house, and has cared for many children since the house was acquired. About twenty-five children were cared for last year. The Home is constantly receiving applications which it cannot fill on account of lack of funds.

The Home has the moral support, and to some extent, the financial support, so far as they are able, of the local Women's Christian Temperance Unions in Augusta, Hallowell and Gardiner. The directors serve without pay and are soliciting funds from the public as much as possible, but cannot secure enough funds to carry on the work without aid from the State. Unfortunately the mortgage of \$1000 placed on the house at the time of its purchase has not yet been paid. Every dollar that

could be raised has been necessary to carry on the work of the home. The Home fills a want, not filled by any other institution of a similar nature, in that it takes infants and children up to ten years of age, and also in providing a temporary home where many institutions will not take children unless a release of custody is first given.

The Home has also performed useful work in providing a temporary home for children where the father or mother or both are at work and do not wish to relinquish entirely the custody of the children, and are yet unable to furnish a home for them. In such cases, the parent or parents contribute what they can until they are able to care entirely for the children, and thus the family is kept together.