

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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NEW DRAFT.

SEVENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE

SENATE

NO. 570

In Senate, March 21, 1913.

Reported by Senator Emery from Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs, and ordered printed under joint rules.

W. E. LAWRY, Secretary.

STATE OF MAINE

RESOLVE in favor of Augusta General Hospital.

Resolved, That there be and hereby is appropriated the
2 sum of five thousand five hundred dollars to be paid to the
3 Augusta General Hospital for the use of the said institution
4 for the year nineteen hundred and thirteen and five thou-
5 sand five hundred dollars for the year nineteen hundred and
6 fourteen for maintenance.

STATEMENT OF FACTS.

The Augusta General Hospital has been incorporated over sixteen years and has grown from a small local institution to a good sized general hospital, accommodating during the last year 682 patients from practically every county in the state, an average of thirty patients daily. It is admirably located with extensive grounds affording plenty of sunshine and fresh air, with very little noise. It has a modern operating room finely equipped and maintains a special department for eye, ear, nose and throat cases. Three free beds are afforded for use at all times, and the Ladies' Aid Society, which is rendering great assistance in the way of contributing linen and necessary supplies, are rapidly raising the money for another. A few years ago, through the kindness of J. Manchester Haynes and his wife, a fine brick Nurses' Home capable of accommodating twenty-five nurses was erected, a much needed institution, for the hospital maintains a training school for nurses, graduates of which may be found all over the state. Twenty-three nurses have been connected with the hospital during the past year, one of whom devotes her entire time to district nursing, a work of which there has been great need, and has made during that time 1572 visits to families too poor to pay for such attendance. Although helped by the state each year, and having considerable income from paying patients, yet there have been no large contributions and the increased cost of supplies and help and the large and constantly increasing amount of charitable work done has occasioned a deficit of over \$2000 this year. The great majority of patients treated are ward patients and the hospital has made no increase in the price charged for ward service believing there are many people who can afford to pay something for treatment but not the rates charged for private rooms and that it is better to place the rates within the means of such even at a loss. The hospital also treats each year a number of patients from the Industrial Schools for Girls at Hallowell and the Children's Home at Augusta, free of charge; in fact, its charity work each year amounts to more than the appropriation received from the state. Five years ago a substantial brick building was erected for a boiler house with a room above for

the installation of a laundry, but the hospital has never had the necessary funds for installing such department. The laundry bills amount to over \$2000 a year and there is no doubt that a considerable saving could be effected if a suitable laundry plant were owned by the hospital. Appropriations for that purpose is therefore requested.