

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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EIGHTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE

H. P. No. 14

H. D. No. 10

House of Representatives, Jan. 15, 1925.

Referred to Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs and 1000 copies ordered printed. Sent up for concurrence.

CLYDE R. CHAPMAN, Clerk.

Presented by Mr. Wing of Auburn.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD ONE THOUSAND NINE
HUNDRED AND TWENTY-FIVE

RESOLVE, in Favor of the Knox Academy of Arts and Sciences, a Corporation Organized and Existing Under the Laws of the State of Maine, Located in Warren, in Said State.

Resolved: That the sum of eight thousand three hundred 2 dollars be and hereby is appropriated for the following purposes: 3

Seven thousand three hundred dollars to assist in the erection of a suitable building, to hold and preserve its various 2 valuable collections and future collections in the interest of 3 the state, on its sixty-acre property, located at Warren, 4 Maine, and known as the Knox Arboretum; 5

One thousand dollars; five hundred for the year nineteen
2 hundred and twenty-five and five hundred for the year nine-
3 teen hundred and twenty-six, to assist in the maintenance
4 of the Arboretum.

A BRIEF STATEMENT OF FACTS IN EXPLANATION OF THE RESOLVE IN FAVOR OF THE KNOX ACADEMY OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

The Knox Academy of Arts and Sciences was organized in 1913 and incorporated in 1914, having for its object the carrying on of research work in all branches of the natural sciences, the fostering and promoting of art and the disseminating among the people of the State, especially the students of our schools and colleges, the results of such research work and scientific knowledge in general. To that end the Society plans to erect a suitable fireproof science and art building for the housing of study collections of natural history, a library of works on science and art and laboratories for students.

The building of fireproof material, 40x90 feet, two stories high, when completed calls for an expenditure of \$50,000.00 to \$75,000.00; the foundations and basement of the first unit, 40 feet square, have already been built at a cost of \$3,400.00, paid for by private donations. The Academy now proposes to raise \$20,000.00 or \$25,000.00 and complete this first unit, that it may have a suitable science building in which to conduct a summer school and for specialists to carry on systematic research work. It will be a preparatory school for nature and science teachers in our public schools, and will supplement and carry forward the biological and zoological courses of our colleges.

Last September the summer residents of Knox County subscribed \$2,700.00, and promised more if the State would aid, to resume building of the first unit next (this coming) spring. Whatever amount is raised by private subscription and Legislative appropriation, one of the "Foundations"—Carnegie or Rockefeller—will be asked to double the amount.

THE ARBORETUM, BOTANIC GARDEN AND BIRD SANCTUARY

The Society now has possession, under a title deed, of sixty acres of land, known as the "Knox Arboretum." This tract has been developing for twenty-seven years into a park, wild life preserve and arboretum. It is the first and only arboretum in Maine and already contains a fine collection of such trees, shrubs, and plants as will grow in our latitude, of considerable value. One hundred and twenty-four species of trees and 114 species of shrubs are growing there now.

The Arboretum is a beautiful place, finely located in the southern part of Warren between the Georges and Oyster Rivers, easily accessible, adequate, and peculiarly fitted for nature study by the summer classes and by the school children and teachers of the State.

It will be of great value to the State as an experimental tract of land, on which to test new species of trees, shrubs, vines and plants, many new importations of which are being received from foreign countries, especially China, Japan and Siberia, through the U. S. Agricultural Department, at Washington. Dr. Sargent of the Arnold Arboretum has offered to assist in developing this Maine Arboretum by furnishing trees, shrubs, etc., gratis.

An additional forty acres, adjoining the sixty, have recently been deeded to the Academy, thus providing for expansion in years to come.

SUMMER SCHOOL

Following the completion of the first unit of the Museum building, a summer school for nature and science students, especially for botanists, ornithologists and entomologists, and students of marine biology, will be held during the months of July and August of each year.

The Audubon Societies, Campfire Girls and Boy Scouts of the State are planning to hold field and camp meetings in the Arboretum the coming season. At the sessions the Academy will furnish science and nature teachers to instruct and guide them.

SCIENTIFIC AND EDUCATIONAL PUBLICATIONS

As a medium through which to disseminate a knowledge of the fauna, flora and geology of Maine, and in which to publish the results of special research work in the several branches of natural history, the Academy is arranging to publish, circulate and distribute to the various colleges, academies, normal and high schools of the State, bulletins and educational publications to be used in said institutions as a part of their regular curriculum, and is at this time publishing the "Maine Naturalist" which is the only journal available on the fauna, flora and geology of Maine. This journal is issued quarterly and contains departments of botany, ornithology, entomology, marine biology, geology and nature study, with an editor for

each department. The following well known authorities in their several departments are serving as editors: Dr. Edith M. Patch, Entomologist at the State Experiment Station at Orono; Professor Edward H. Perkins of Colby College, Department of Geology; Arthur H. Norton of the Portland Society of Natural History and Professor Alfred O. Gross of Bowdoin College, Department of Ornithology; Professor Ulric Dahlgren of the Harpswell Laboratories, Bar Harbor, Department of Marine Biology; E. W. Gould, M. D., of Rockland, Maine, Department of Amphibia, Reptilia and Fishes; Alton H. Pope of Waterville, Department of Mammalogy; Professor C. W. L. Chapman of University of Maine, Department of Forestry; Miss Louise H. Colburn of Skowhegan, Department of Botany; and Mrs. Sarah Rideout Abbott of Saco, Department of Nature Studies.

Nature teachers in our public schools and naturalists of the State have long felt the need of a publication treating exclusively of the fauna, flora and geology of their own State, and the Knox Academy is now supplying this urgent demand.

AIDS

In addition to our own forces, including the Board of Regents, Governing Council and more than five hundred members from all parts of the State, all four of the leading colleges of the State, State Librarian, State Department of Education, the Departments of Sea and Shore Fisheries, Agriculture and Forestry, are represented either on our Board of Regents, editorial staff or as contributors to the literary work and otherwise.

REGENTS OF THE ACADEMY

Hon. Elmer S. Bird, Rockland; Hon. George Walker, Warren; Hon. Reuel Robinson, Camden; Hon. Obadiah Gardner, Rockland; J. H. Montgomery, Esq., Camden; Mr. William D. Talbot, Rockland; Mr. C. W. Babb, Camden; Mr. Israel Snow, Sr., Rockland; Mr. George B. Wood, Rockland, W. O. Fuller, Esq., Rockland; Prof. F. D. Tubbs of Bates College, Lewiston; Rev. Henry E. Dunnack, State Librarian, Augusta; Dr. Augustus O. Thomas, State Supt. of Schools; Prof. W. J. Morse, Director of Maine Agricultural Experiment Station, Orono; Prof. Alfred O. Gross of Bowdoin College.

GOVERNING COUNCIL

President, Prof. Edward H. Perkins, Waterville, Maine; First Vice President, Prof. Wm. H. Sawyer, Lewiston, Maine; Second Vice President, Mr. Jesse A. Tolman, Rockland, Maine; Treasurer, Mr. Ensign Otis, Rockland, Maine; Curator-Librarian, Mr. N. W. Lermond, Thomaston, Maine; Mr. Niven C. Kalloch, Warren, Maine; Secretary, Miss Ada C. Burpee, Rockland, Maine; Dr. H. V. Tweedie, Rockland, Maine; Mrs. M. Wasgatt, Rockland, Maine; Mr. Wilber P. Strong, Thomaston, Maine; Mr. John H. Brubaker, Rockland, Maine.

CONCLUSION

It is now generally recognized by educators, professional and business men and women of Maine that this Knox Academy, with its limited means, is already doing valuable nature and scientific educational work for the benefit of students, teachers and the general public, and that if the Legislature, in its wisdom and for the best interests of the State, will appropriate the small amount asked for in their Resolve, *not as a gift but as an investment that in years to come will repay the State many times over*, the Academy will be placed in a position to really function, as a State institution—an institution that has long been needed—and do much more valuable educational work and enrich the State with the results of its investigations, research, explorations, lectures and publications.