

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# LEGISLATIVE RECORD

OF THE

# Seventieth Legislature

OF THE

# STATE OF MAINE.

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1901.

tion.

**PASSED TO BE ENACTED.**

An act to amend Section 55 of Chapter 6 of the Revised Statutes, as amended by Chapter 235 of the Public Laws of the year 1893, relating to taxation of express companies.

An act to incorporate the trustees of Springfield Normal school.

**FINALLY PASSED.**

Resolve in favor of Maine State library.

**ORDERS OF THE DAY.**

Resolve favoring legislation by Congress to equalize extra pay of United States Volunteers.

This resolve was introduced by Mr. Morrison of York, and on his motion the same received its two several readings and was passed to be engrossed, under suspension of the rules.

On motion by Mr. Prince of Oxford, the Senate adjourned.

**HOUSE.**

Thursday, Feb. 21.

Prayer by Rev. Mr. Newbert of Augusta.

Papers from the Senate disposed of in concurrence.

An act to provide for returns of telegraph and telephone companies to the State, came from the Senate referred in non-concurrence to the committee on taxation. In the House on motion by Mr. Plummer of Portland, it was laid on the table.

The following petitions, bills, etc., were presented and referred:

**JUDICIARY.**

By Mr. Harris of Auburn—Bill, an act to amend Section 17 of Chapter 17 of the Revised Statutes relating to stationary engines. (Received under a suspension of the rules.)

By Mr. Beal of Bangor—Bill, an act to amend Section 10 of Chapter 157 of the Private Laws of 1895, relating to title by descent. (Received under a suspension of the rules.)

**LEGAL AFFAIRS.**

By Mr. Smith of Waterboro—Bill, an act restricting the rights of the Saco Water Power Co. (Received under a suspension of the rules.)

By Mr. Staples of York—Bill, an act to ratify, confirm and define the character of the York Water Co. (Received under a suspension of the rules.)

By Mr. Hill of Belfast—Petition of C. F. Ginn and 480 others, voters and tax payers of the city of Belfast, in favor of the repeal of the State constabulary law. (Received under a suspension of the rules.)

**MILITARY AFFAIRS.**

By Mr. Dudley of Augusta—Resolve in favor of the city of Augusta for aid rendered to soldiers in the war with Spain.

By Mr. Brewster of Lisbon—Resolve in favor of the town of Lisbon. (Received under a suspension of the rules.)

**INLAND FISHERIES AND GAME.**

By Mr. Mead of Bridgton—Petition of J. P. Burrill of Westbrook and 29 others favoring the screening of the outlet of Sebago lake; of Leroy B. Nason and 41 others; of Frank Gibbs and 63 others, all for same.

**WAYS AND BRIDGES.**

By Mr. Adams of Lagrange—Petition in favor of towns at their option assessing a highway tax to be worked or paid in money.

**TEMPERANCE.**

By Mr. Allen of Portland—Remonstrance of the Cumberland district lodge of Good Templars against resubmission; of M. E. Moulton and 50 others against same.

By Mr. Foster of Oakland—110 remonstrances against the same.

By Mr. Thompson of China—Remonstrance against resubmission.

By Mr. Kelley of Lewiston—Petition of A. W. Miller and 40 others of Hartland in favor of resubmission.

**KNOX COUNTY DELEGATION.**

By Mr. Bird of Rockland—Bill, an act regulating the salary of the board of county commissioners of Knox county.

**SAGADAHOC COUNTY DELEGATION.**

By Mr. Moulton of Bowdoinham—Remonstrance of Noble Maxwell and 41 others of Richmond, against the county of Sagadahoc issuing bonds for the purpose of building a jail; of R. J. Young and 34 others of Richmond against same.

**REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.**

Mr. Thompson, from the committee on agriculture, reported legislation expedient on order to inquire into the feasibility of having the State, under the direction of the Governor and Council, supply the farmers of the State with fertilizers at cost price from the manufacturers.

Pending acceptance the report was tabled on motion of Mr. Adams of Lagrange, and Thursday, Feb. 23, assigned for its consideration.

Mr. Bird, from the committee on railroads, telegraphs and expresses, reported ought to pass in new draft under same title bill, an act to grant a charter to the Union Telephone Co.

Mr. Deering, from same committee, reported ought to pass on bill, an act to establish the Hancock County Railway Co.

Mr. Cushman, from the committee on agriculture, on bill, an act amendatory of Chapter 33 of the Public Laws of 1899 relating to the better protection of

sheep, reported ought to pass in new draft bill, an act amendatory of Chapter 23 of the Public Laws of 1899, and Section 6 of Chapter 287 of the Public Laws of 1893, relating to the better protection of sheep.

Mr. Daigle, from the committee on ways and bridges, reported ought to pass in new draft under same title, bill an act to authorize the construction of a foot bridge over the tide waters in Boothbay Harbor.

Mr. Dunn, from the committee on University of Maine, reported ought to pass on resolve in favor of the University of Maine for a central steam heating and power plant.

**READ AND ASSIGNED.**

Bill, an act to amend the charter of the city of Portland.

Resolve in favor of Melinda B. Davis, admx.

**PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED.**

Resolve in favor of Benjamin Smith of Appleton, in the county of Knox.

Resolve granting a pension to Nellie Flanders of Liberty.

Bill, an act to increase the authority of the judge of probate in Kennebec county, for a certain purpose.

Bill, an act to amend Section 9 of Chapter 106 of the Revised Statutes relating to the draft of jurors.

Bill, an act to authorize the town of Roque Bluffs to maintain a wharf.

Bill, an act relating to Sheridan plantation.

**PASSED TO BE ENACTED.**

An act to set off Calf Island and West Black island from the plantation of Long Island in the county of Hancock and annex the same to the town of Swan's Island.

An act to incorporate the trustees of Springfield Normal School.

**FINALLY PASSED.**

Resolve in favor of the town of Waterboro.

Resolve in favor of O. B. Clason of Gardiner, Me.

Resolve in favor of Saint Elizabeth's Roman Catholic Orphan Asylum of Portland.

Resolves in favor of the Eastern Maine General Hospital.

**ORDERS OF THE DAY.**

Resolve in favor of the hospital of the Society of the Sisters of Charity of Lewiston, Me.

Came up as a special assignment, was read the second time, passed to be engrossed and sent to the Senate.

Resolve in favor of the Young Woman's Home at Lewiston.

Came up as a special assignment, was read a second time, passed to be engrossed and sent to the Senate.

Resolve in favor of the Society of the Sisters of Charity for the use of the Healy Asylum of Lewiston, Me.

Came up as a special assignment, was read the second time, passed to be engrossed and sent to the Senate.

On motion of Mr. Plummer of Portland, the following communications were taken from the table:

Communication from superintendent of public buildings relative to the collection and disbursement of all fees, money received, collected, charged and uncollected during the past year.

Communication from land agent transmitting report of fees connected with said office, amount of salary received, and certified copies furnished. House Doc. No. 119.

Communication from S. W. Matthews, commissioner of bureau industrial and labor statistics, transmitting report relative to fees collected by said office for the year 1900. House Doc. No. 120.

Communication from adjutant-general reporting that the office of adjutant-general receives no fees, and that it has no personal expense account or contingent fund. House Doc. No. 121.

Communication from E. C. Farrington, clerk, board of railroad commissioners of Maine, transmitting report as to salary and fees of said office. House Doc. No. 122.

Communication from William C. Marshall transmitting report of traveling expenses incurred as State assessor for the year 1900. House Doc. No. 123.

Communication from Otis Hayford, State assessor, transmitting account of expenses incurred as member of said board, for the year 1900. House Doc. No. 124.

Communication from George Pottle, State assessor, transmitting report of ex-

penses incurred as a member of said board for the year 1900. House Doc. No. 125.

Communication from State treasurer transmitting a statement of the fees collected and money received by treasury department and the expenditures by the State for contingent expenses of said office for the year 1900. House Doc. No. 126.

Communication from insurance commissioner transmitting report of fees collected and amount paid the State treasurer by said office for the year ending December 31, 1900. Also an account of all bills paid from the appropriation for "expenses of insurance commissioner" and from the appropriation for "investigation of fires." House Doc. No. 127.

Communication from secretary of State transmitting report of his department in response to order of January 23, 1901. House Doc. No. 128.

Communication from attorney general transmitting a true account of all fees or money received, or collected, or charged or uncollected in said office for the year 1900. House Doc. No. 129.

Communication from Joseph B. Peaks, chairman board of railroad commissioners of Maine, transmitting report of fees or moneys received or collected, or charged or uncollected for the year 1900. House Doc. No. 130.

Communication from A. G. Young, secretary State board of health, transmitting report relative to fees received and expenditures made during the year 1900. House Doc. No. 131.

Communication from bank examiner transmitting report of all fees or money received, or collected, or charged and uncollected by said department during the official year ending December 1, 1900. Also a statement of all charges, expenditures and disbursements made on account of the State for the year ending December 31, 1900. House Doc. No. 132.

Communication from L. T. Carleton, chairman commissioners of inland fisheries and game, transmitting report of money received or collected, or charged and uncollected by said department for the year 1900. Also an account of all expenditures on account of said office. House Doc. No. 133.

Communication from State liquor commissioner transmitting report of receipts

and expenditures of that office for the year 1900. House Doc. No. 145.

Were referred to the joint select committee on salaries.

Communication from the reporter of decisions transmitting report of the receipts of that office and expenditures made by him during the year 1900. House Doc. No. 144.

Was referred to the joint select committee on salaries. Subsequently on motion of Mr. Plummer of Portland, the vote whereby the communication was referred to the joint select committee on salaries, was reconsidered, and communication referred to the committee on the judiciary.

On motion of Mr. Pettengill of Rumford, Resolve in favor of Howard Whittier for an increase in State pension.

Was taken from the table, passed to be engrossed and sent to the Senate.

On motion of Mr. Haskill of Windham, Resolve to provide means for examination of claims for State pension.

Was taken from the table, read the second time, passed to be engrossed and sent to the Senate.

On Motion of Mr. Powers of Fort Fairfield, Resolve providing for the expenses of Company M, 1st Infantry, Company C, 2d Infantry, and the Signal Corps, National Guard State of Maine, while attending the ceremonies incident to the inauguration of President-elect, William McKinley, in Washington, March 4, 1901. Was taken from the table.

Mr. COOK of Vassalboro: Mr. Speaker, it seems to me that we may spend the State's money in some better way, or withhold it and not take it from the tax payers. Those two companies won't make very much of a stir in Washington. (Laughter). I have some sympathy for them, I am afraid if they get there they might get in the way. I move that this resolve be indefinitely postponed.

Mr. WALLS of Vinalhaven: Mr. Speaker, this matter came before the committee on military affairs, and before we decided to bring in a resolve we talked with a great many relative to this matter, and the general feeling seemed to be one of approval of it. As I understand from the statement of facts these companies and the Signal

Corps have been at work and have raised a certain amount of money towards paying their expenses to Washington to participate in the inauguration ceremonies of the President. We felt that it was no more than fair and right that the State should assist them, at the beginning of this 20th century we feel that it would not be against the interests of Maine that we should be represented there in the lines. These men that belong to these companies are not salaried officers of this State. They are giving their time—the State is liberal with them in one sense—they are giving their time to prepare themselves for the duties that they may be called upon to perform. There isn't a man in this House who would not be glad of their aid in times of trouble in this country, and to have our soldiers ready to defend us. We do not forget two years ago when the boys stood ready to stand between their country and a foreign foe—we don't forget that. Do not forget back years ago when this country had its defenders. Can the gentleman from Vassalboro (Mr. Cook) get up here and allude with his facetious remarks to these soldiers who stand ready to defend our rights and government? Can we allow them to be ignored? I want you to understand that these men are to have our sympathy and our support, and we should stand by them, and if we refuse them this small pittance of a thousand dollars from the State of Maine that they may go there and see the capital that was defended in '61 and '65, and see the President of this country, and see what is to be seen there, it looks to me as though we are getting small. I tell you, gentlemen, that to say to those men that we are not willing to assist them in a laudable undertaking like this, is mean. Here we are today appropriating large sums for these various things, and some things that might just as well have been stopped. Here are the fish commissioners—they are calling upon the State day after day for laws to suppress a man from fishing in mud puddles and catching eels. (Applause). Here are all these various departments asking that money be expended by the State for some little minor thing, and when these men who stand ready to

defend this country when it needs a defender ask for a small pittance of a thousand dollars, they are sneered at and brought into contempt. Now when we get so small and so mean that we cannot recognize that class of men, let us take something off from something else. (Applause.)

Mr. WILLIAMS of Sangerville: Mr. Speaker, I am glad that my friend, who can talk better than I can, has spoken as he has: I think if two companies of men were animated by the same spirit would not have made much of a show in '63 and '64. (Applause.) Now, gentlemen, I hope that this same spirit won't animate the rest of the members of this House. If it does, my friend Walls and myself and a few others here will call upon the Grand Army and see if they wouldn't respond. (Applause.)

Mr. CARLETON of Winthrop: Mr. Speaker, I don't really understand the gentleman from Vinalhaven (Mr. Walls). I suppose he meant his remarks facetiously in alluding to the fish commissioners—

Mr. WALLS: I did.

Mr. CARLETON: As the fish commissioner has not introduced a single bill or resolve pertaining to that subject throughout the entire session. Now I am earnestly in favor of the passage of this resolve. I won't trespass upon the patience of the House to state my reasons. I saw Washington several years ago. I saw President Lincoln, saw the Capitol, saw the sights that were to be seen there, and saw down a piece further in the South. Now our State militia is worthy of encouragement, and I certainly am in favor of giving them this encouragement. They do not get anything for their services to amount to anything; they are patriotic citizens, and the State of Maine is proud today of its militia, and I certainly hope that the resolve will have a passage.

Mr. COOK of Vassalboro: Mr. Speaker, I yield to no man in honoring the army of the United States, but I did not know that there was any war in Washington; and I think if you are going to do anything for the soldiers, why single out those two companies? The gentleman from Vinalhaven (Mr. Walls) speaks of this as a small mat-

ter. That is why I am opposed to it. Send them all, but don't single out these few soldiers for a junket at the expense of the people of Maine.

Mr. SWETT of Kittery: Mr. Speaker, this matter was brought before the committee and was laid on the table for one week for consideration. These companies have already raised among themselves from \$500 to \$600 each to defray their expenses. They appeal to this Legislature for the balance to take them through. I presume our illustrious Governor will attend the inauguration, and the companies of Maine I believe should be represented at that inauguration. I hope you will stand by this resolve and pass it and give it a unanimous vote and send the boys who have worked so hard to get five or six hundred dollars and who now appeal to this Legislature for the simple sum of a thousand dollars to defray their expenses. They are figuring today on going by water and cutting down their expenses as low as possible.

Now do your duty and vote for this thousand dollars. We are voting away our money to all these institutions—read the report and see what we are giving away to institutions that ought to be able to take care of themselves, and the report shows that if we keep on in giving to the institutions which are able to take care of themselves we will bankrupt our treasury in a few years. The passage of this resolve isn't going to bankrupt anybody. It is a small sum. Give the boys a chance. You wanted them in '61 to '65 to go to Washington—it didn't make any difference whether it was three or 20 or 50 companies. I am proud to say that I am one of those who went there. Make this a unanimous thing.

Mr. DAVIS of Waterville: Mr. Speaker, during the greater part of this session, having been between the devil and the deep sea (aplause) I feel perhaps that I can be tolerated in just a word in regard to this matter. I object to it and I believe fifty or sixty thousand people object to such a move, not on the grounds of patriotism or want of patriotism, but because it is establishing a bad precedent. You might just as well, gentlemen, pay the expenses of your delegations to your

national conventions as to pay such bills as this; and while I have not been here to protest against the eel fishing and bounties on bears, etc., I am here to protest against what I believe and my constituents believe is bad legislation, and I sincerely hope that the matter will not pass. (Aplause.)

The question being on the indefinite postponement of the resolve, a division was had and on motion was lost by a vote of 42 to 65.

On motion of Mr. Walls of Vinal Haven, the rules were then suspended, the resolve was read a second time and was passed to be engrossed.

On motion of Mr. Williams of Somerville,  
Adjourned.

The following is the speech of Mr. Haskell of Windham, in support of his motion to indefinitely postpone resolve in favor of the Maine Eye and Ear Infirmary, delivered in the House on Wednesday, Feb. 20:

Mr. HASKELL said:

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen—Thus far during the session I have retained from trespassing upon the time of the House with any extended remarks. I therefore trust that the privilege will be generally accorded me of explaining my position relative to this resolve appropriating the sum of ten thousand dollars to the Maine Eye and Ear Infirmary. In doing so I do not want a single member of the House to understand that I am opposed to or am in any way trying to belittle the Maine Eye and Ear Infirmary as an institution. Far be it from me to do it the slightest injury or injustice. I believe that under proper management it is capable of conferring greater benefits upon the poor and unfortunate than any other institution in the whole State but its endowment has become so large, its management has become so execrable and the methods of treatment and care of patients have become so questionable that the people of western Maine must emphatically protest against any further appropriation by the State.

Now Mr. Speaker, this institution was incorporated in 1886, under the general law for the foundation of cor-

porations, and is located in the city of Portland. In 1885 it applied to the Legislature of this State for assistance and received an appropriation of \$5000 for two years. It continued to receive this amount till 1893, when it asked for and received an appropriation of \$5000 a year for the next two years. Since that time it has received that amount from the State up to the present time, amounting to more than \$50,000. In the meantime it has received many thousands of dollars from the city of Portland from various bequests and donations, besides the very generous gift to which I now wish to call your attention.

In 1894, one of Portland's wealthiest and philanthropic citizens died, leaving a will by which the Maine Eye and Ear Infirmary was bequeathed two-thirds of the residue of his estate, after payment of certain other bequests. A legal problem confronted it. The relatives of the deceased sought to prevent the infirmary from holding this very generous bequest, and brought a bill of equity alleging that by the general law under which the institution was incorporated, the amount of real and personal property which it could hold was limited to \$100,000; that it already held that amount and the bequest was void. To this bill a general demurrer was filed admitting the allegations to be true. The case went to the law court of this State for decision, and that tribunal reaffirmed that principle of law to which it always has adhered in such cases, viz: that this question could only be raised against the corporation by and in behalf of the State by whose authority it held its charter and the Maine Eye and Ear Infirmary was thereby made secure in its bequest. Of this bequest the modest sum of \$195,732.66 had been paid over to it by its trustees and still there is more to follow. On page 15 of the last annual report will be found a balance sheet of the institution. On the debit side is charged construction, \$141,612.05; stocks and bonds, \$79,017.87, part of Farrington fund on deposit, awaiting investment, \$23,290.82, and cash \$49.25. Add to this the amount of Farrington fund in Mr. Larrabee's hands as trustee, \$106,666, and we have the total amount of resources as dis-



closed by the report, \$350,635.99. Of the stocks and bonds listed \$30,000 worth have been acquired by purchase and it is not to be supposed that their actual worth is less than the figures quoted. Among the remaining \$19,107.87 worth appears stocks of the Casco, Canal, and National Traders' Bank of Portland, the stock of the Portland Gas Light Co., and the bonds of many well known water companies, and although the valuation of a few may be excessive, the amount of shrinkage cannot be considerable. Deducting, however, from the total resources \$94,666 for the notes of the infirmary outstanding and we have left as the net resources of the corporation on which today it is receiving an annual income, the sum of \$255,969.99.

Oow, Mr. Speaker, I desire to submit a few comparisons, showing the manner in which this income and the State's appropriation are expended, and the amount of free treatment that is thus given. And in order that there may be no cause for saying that the comparison is unfair, I will cite you to one of our own institutions, the Central Maine Hospital at Lewiston, where the eye, ear, nose and throat as well as all other diseases are treated the same as at the infirmary. During the past year the Lewiston hospital had 563 in-patients, the infirmary 538, 15 less. Of these the former treated 248 absolutely free, the latter 54; the former had 40 part paying patients, the latter 19. Of all paying patients the former had 275, the latter 465. In other words the Lewiston hospital treated almost five times as many free patients as the Infirmary and a little more than half as many full paying patients. The Lewiston hospital has given 7084 free days board, the Infirmary has given 2340, less than one-third as many. It is not difficult to see from these comparisons that the Maine Eye and Ear Infirmary is not an institution for the gratuitous treatment of patients in the sense in which the Central Maine General hospital is, but merely a quasi-public institution masquerading under the cloak of a free State institution.

Mr. Spaker, I might go on making comparisons with other institutions

with fully as unfavorable results to the Infirmary. I will not take the time of this House to do so.

Let us now compare expenses: The pay roll of the Lewiston hospital with 15 more patients than the Infirmary was \$1130.61 less than that of the Portland institution. The cost of subsistence was \$1873.04 less. Fuel, lights, water and ice, \$1724.26 less. The charge for printing and stationery in the Portland institution was \$369.02 in the Lewiston institution \$145.06. Now I ask you with all fairness, Mr. Speaker, and gentlemen, as professional men, as men of business, do these figures and comparisons indicate anything other than the most wretched financial management or else that some one connected with the institution is profiting by its expenditures.

I do not believe that this Legislature desires to appropriate any more money until this excessive expenditure is satisfactorily explained. But gentlemen the mismanagement of this institution is not confined to its finances. Two years ago a well known specialist of the eye and ear, who had for four years previous been connected with the institution became convinced that the executive surgeon at that institution was making use of its patronage to increase his own private practice. He brought the matter to the attention of the board of trustees and made specific charges, one of which was that patients were being turned away from the Infirmary and directed to go for treatment to the private office of Dr. Holt. That board appointed a time for hearing at which Dr. Bowers submitted evidence in support of his charges, which was utterly ignored. One of that judicial tribunal was a well known lawyer of Portland, who after having made an impassioned plea for Dr. Holt went with the rest of the board into executive session and reported a resolution exonerating Dr. Holt from all the charges preferred. Having in mind this specific charge I went to work on last Saturday, to find if possible a case entirely distinct from any Dr. Bowers had presented to the trustees substantiating this charge. In a short time my efforts were rewarded with success. A poor girl who was at the time working as a domestic in the city of Portland went with another lady to the Infirmary

for treatment for her eyes. After a superficial examination by the physician in charge she was told that they had not the apparatus at the institution for treating her particular case, but that she would have to go to the office of Dr. Holt for treatment. Knowing of others who had been turned from there before her upon this or some other slight pretext, she decided not to go to the office of Dr. Holt. She did go, however, to an oculist in the city, who informed her that her's was a trouble of common occurrence, was fitted for glasses and has since experienced no difficulty. Out of respect for the wishes of this young lady I will not make public her name at this time, but after this House adjourns if any member of the House or if any member of the board of trustees of the Maine Eye and Ear Infirmary desires to know, I will gladly tell them her name and residence, as well as the name and residence of the lady who went to the Infirmary with her. I am also prepared to give the name and residence of each and every one of the persons by whom the charges of Dr. Bowers can be proven. I can cite other cases to substantiate this charge, but I will not take the time of the House in doing so. Sufficient to say that from the investigation I have made I am firmly convinced that the charge is true. And I respectfully submit to this House that a board of trustees which will not hold an investigation upon such a serious charge worthy of that name, an investigation that was ridiculed and cooped at by the entire press of New England, an investigation at which the public were so utterly disgusted, is wholly incompetent to have charge of any institution whether public or private.

But a more recent occurrence at the institution has still further demonstrated their incompetence. Some three months ago the Infirmary received as a patient a little boy of 4 years. He was at the institution seven weeks, when in dressing the wound one day, from some cause I am not able to state, the attending surgeon of six months' experience, having graduated from the Maine Medical School last June, administered corporal punishment, and not satisfied with the result, placed adhesive plaster over the little fellow's mouth and kept him all day in bed without food. The matter was in due time brought to the attention of the board of trustees and to Dr. Holt, who tried in every manner possible to prevent the facts from becoming known, and to shield this man in his shame. One emissary who was sent to use his influence to this end even went so far as to accuse of blackmail the attorney who was interested in the case in behalf of the boy's father, and than whom no attorney in the city of Portland stands higher in his profession, and it was not until the facts had become notoriously known in the city of Portland and the young doctor was threatened with criminal prosecution for assault and battery that this noted investigating board of trustees could be in-

duced to ask for and accept the resignation of that young surgeon. This little boy, gentlemen, had been in that institution seven weeks and during that time had not been given a bath, because the nurse said it had not been ordered. Think of it, gentlemen, the nurse of a hospital allowing a patient to be under her care seven weeks without a bath because it had not been ordered, and furthermore, gentlemen, sending the boy to his home, his hair filled with vermin. Is this the kind of an institution to which the State will appropriate \$5000 a year for the next two years? Now, gentlemen, these are actual facts. I am personally acquainted with the father of this boy. I have seen and talked with him and two other gentlemen in Portland who will tell you the facts of this case exactly as I have related them to you here.

Now, Mr. Speaker, let us glance for a moment at the personnel of the staff of this institution. The institution was established for the especial treatment of the eye and ear. There are four medical men in Portland who are recognized as specialists in that line, and the best in the State. At different times all have been connected with the institution. Today, three of those men absolutely refuse to visit the institution because of the reflection which is cast upon them by being identified with it. Since last August the only house surgeons have been two graduates of the Maine Medical School of last June. Men of no practice, men of no experience. And yet the public are cordially invited to come to that institution for treatment and trust their sight, yea, oftentimes their lives, in the hands of those inexperienced physicians, and the State of Maine in appropriating money still further invites confidence and says: Come, come.

Now, Mr. Speaker and gentlemen, I desire to submit to you the question of who is benefited by the State's appropriation to this institution. Is it the poor and needy of the State, when we have seen that only one-fifth of all the in-patients have been treated free, and when they could have received that same treatment at the Maine General Hospital, only 40 rods away, and which is strictly a State institution. I think you will agree with me in saying so.

Is it the medical fraternity of the State, when only 11 physicians, according to the last report, out of the many hundreds in the State have been connected with it during the past year? I think you will say no. Is it the Infirmary corporation, when people are turned away from it and told to go for treatment to the office of the executive surgeon? No.

Who, then, is it? Let us see. The Lincoln Club of Portland had a banquet a few evenings ago at which the genial ex-Speaker of the House was present and made a speech. He commenced by saying: "I have been drafted at the last minute to speak in the absence of the distinguished men from Augusta, who are trying to devise a bill to increase the tax

of the Portland Street Railroad so that Dr. Holt's Maine Eye and Ear Infirmary may have an appropriation."

Dr. Holt's Maine Eye and Ear Infirmary. Does that name sound familiar to any member of this House? Well, let us see how well the ex-Speaker's appellation applies. There has recently been put in charge of the institution as general superintendent or manager a Mr. C. O. Holt, a brother of Dr. E. F. Holt. The last report states that the matron is Mrs. C. O. Holt. Miss Holt is a clerk at the Infirmary. I will leave it to you, gentlemen, to say whether the ex-Speaker's name for the institution is applicable to it.

Now, gentlemen, for whom do I speak in opposing this appropriation? I speak for the people of the district which I have the honor to represent; I voice the almost unanimous sentiment of the country towns of Cumberland county; I voice the sentiment of nine-tenths of the citizens of the city of Portland; and lastly, Mr. Speaker, I speak for the citizens and tax payers of the State of Maine, who demand that we as their representatives shall not appropriate a single dollar of their hard-earned money which will not be wisely, judiciously and beneficially expended. I therefore ask you in behalf of the sovereign State to support this motion to indefinitely postpone this resolve. (Applause.)