

REPORT  
OF THE  
JOINT COMMITTEE  
OF THE  
TWENTY-FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
OF THE  
STATE OF IOWA,  
APPOINTED TO VISIT THE  
STATE UNIVERSITY  
LOCATED AT  
IOWA CITY.

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## REPORT.

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*To the Twenty-first General Assembly of Iowa:*

Your committee, appointed under the provision of House Concurrent Resolution No. 9, to visit the State University of Iowa, state that they have performed that duty, and beg leave to submit their report.

This Institution, unlike most others sustained in whole or in part by our State, is one in the growth of which every liberal minded citizen takes pride. That it steadily outgrows the capacity of buildings, appliances and income should be, and we believe generally is, to our citizens a patriotic pleasure.

Most other State institutions are the outgrowth of necessity, for society's protection from criminals, or in humanity's name to care for the State's unfortunate. The growth of Penitentiaries, Reform Schools, and Benedict Homes, are evidences of crime committed; that of Hospitals for Insane, Blind, Deaf and Dumb, Feeble-Minded, and for Orphans, evidences the fact that charity yearly makes larger demands. That these are well built and conducted evidences the civilization and humanity of the State. In the necessity for them however no one can take pride nor find pleasure.

That the requirements of the University shall each year, as the State grows more populous and wealthy, make legitimately larger demands for the liberal education of our youths and for the promotion of knowledge, is a hope shared by your committee. That it has so far supplied so fully the ambition of the people for an Iowa institution for higher education is a just cause of pride.

To it the young of the State should be enabled to look as the place wherein to obtain, as well at least as at any other institution, liberal education and efficient professional training.

While the support of the Institutes is necessary for the present, and must of necessity be provided for, the support of the University ap-



peals to our pride, patriotism; ambition for the future of the State in the training at home, with Iowa attachments, of its liberally educated sons and daughters. The present necessity for liberal treatment of the University is not brought to our attention so urgently as the needs of enlarged Penitentiaries by our crowded jails, or for enlarged Hospitals for the unfortunates around us.

An intelligent, thoughtful view of the subject, however, would seem to demand that in the urgent present necessities for the one, the less observed necessities of the other should not be overlooked nor neglected.

The method of managing and governing the University through the Board of Regents is familiar to you, and no suggestion with reference thereto is deemed necessary other than to suggest to the Regents, rather than to the General Assembly, the propriety of holding each department and the head thereof more directly responsible to the Board of Regents, as such departments increase in distinctive importance.

The report of the Board of Regents to the Superintendent of Public Instruction, and of the President to the Board of Regents, for the biennial period ending August, 1885, already before you, embraces a statement of the names and number of persons employed, and the salaries paid. Reference is here made to the same as a part of this report.

We find this report upon these subjects correct at the present time, excepting that after the date of said report the University and State suffered great loss by death of David F. Call, Professor of Greek language and literature. He was a young man of merit, scholarship, exemplary christian character, and unbounded ambition in his chosen profession. The vacancy caused by his death is now acceptably filled by Miss Leona Call.

With the statement here that none of those employed receive anything in addition to their salaries, the fifth question submitted by the resolution is answered.

1. Reporting on the first question submitted in the resolution, we would say that in our judgment the appropriations made by the last General Assembly have been wisely and economically expended, so far as the same has been used.

Specific reports of expenditures of the several appropriations made by the Twentieth General Assembly are appended hereto as a part of this report.

For a new building for the School of Science, \$45,000 was appropriated, and for heating, plumbing and gas fitting in the same, \$5,600.

This building is completed, and on a thorough examination your committee feel warranted in reporting that it is well adapted to the purpose designed; it is large, commodious and thoroughly substantial. That in construction and fittings the State has secured a full equivalent for the appropriation. It adds very greatly to the facilities of the University for doing efficient work.

In answer to the second inquiry in the resolution, your committee report:

That the appropriation "for water closet, building, sewerage, water and heating connected therewith" of \$1,500 was for that purpose expended, and in addition thereto the sum of \$139.48. As is well known to members of your committee the old appliances of this character were wholly unfit for use. A substantial brick building adequate and convenient has been erected and apparently good sewerage and water supply furnished. In addition a water closet greatly needed for females was put in the basement of the old brick building with sewer and water connections. All this was most urgently needed, and has been obtained at a very moderate price. The excess of cost over the \$1,500 appropriation was paid as follows:

From unexpended balance from appropriation for refrigerator for medical department.....	\$ 73.08
From appropriation for supplying water connection .....	66 40
Making total of .....	\$ 139.48

From the appropriations for water connections there was also used in payment of furniture for the collegiate department the sum of \$19.95.

With the exception of the sums named we find that the money used has been applied to the purposes for which the appropriations were made. The division of these small sums aggregating \$159.43 would be justified on the ground of urgent necessity, excepting for the prohibition contained in section 2 of chapter 67 of the acts of the Seventeenth General Assembly.

The eminent citizens comprising the Board of Regents in the faithful discharge of their duty to the State are met with such embarrassment from limited means at their command that your committee would not add to it by noticing this, excepting for the necessity of so doing under our instructions and the law.



### Answering the third inquiry:

Your committee state that no indebtedness in excess of the appropriations has been incurred except the slight excess over the specific appropriations paid from the others as first stated.

In answering specifically the fourth inquiry reference is made to the answers to second and third hereinbefore given.

The fifth inquiry has been answered in the general statements preceding specific enumerations of questions and answers.

*Sixth.* There are no mechanical appliances for fire escape, and your committee would recommend that authority be given the Board of Regents to provide means (if deemed necessary) for this purpose.

*Seventh.* The sanitary conditions are good. The site is on high ground with steep descent immediately in the rear, affording good drainage. The water supply is abundant, the buildings are well warmed and generally well ventilated and the buildings and grounds are in good condition.

We take pleasure in stating that the president, secretary, treasurer and members of the faculty afforded to your committee every opportunity to investigate and examine. We are happy to say too that almost without exception they were pleased and took commendable pride in showing their departments in the minutest detail. This pride and interest indicate, on their part, honest and earnest effort in their several departments and in the University.

Coming to the financial requirements of the Institution present and for the next biennial period, we find:

*First.* That provision must be made for supplying the deficiency reported by the Board of Regents in order to keep it running until the end of this school year; and,

*Second.* That there is an imperative demand for a somewhat more liberal provision for the future than has been allowed in the past.

It must be borne in mind that the addition of each new building and department adds materially to the expense of maintainance.

That the addition of new professors to the faculty requires additional funds also.

The deficiency referred to was particularly and carefully inquired into and is principally accounted for as follows:

*First.* By increased expense occasioned by the erection and use of the new building.

*Second.* On the erection of the new building, contrary to expectations the boiler for heating was found to be wholly insufficient, and

an expenditure of near \$3,000 became an absolute necessity for the purchase and putting in of new ones of larger capacity.

*Third.* The new boiler being larger, required an addition to the boiler house at an expense of almost \$600.

*Fourth.* The rapid growth of the Dental Department necessitated an outlay of \$1,800 in fitting up rooms with very meager appliances in the basement of the old brick building for use of that department.

*Fifth.* The legislation of the Twentieth General Assembly in doubling the time required in the law course, while doubtlessly wise and economical to the State in giving better training to those who are to be the lawyers of the State, occasioned a loss of tuition for the year 1884-5 in that department of \$3,316.67.

The addition of a year to the medical course by the regents occasioned a loss from tuitions of \$1,468.00; a loss in graduation fees of \$151.23; in incidental items of \$146.25.

A large attendance in any one or more departments naturally brings greater number to the others. So a falling off in attendance, caused by legislation, from the Law Department and by regulation from the Medical Department, has doubtless helped to lessen the number for the past year in the Collegiate Department.

In this department there was a falling off the past year, of income from tuitions, \$506.50. To these causes may be added the existence of general business depression as effecting the attendance in all departments.

In the judgment of your committee the foregoing reasons account for the great part, if not all, of the deficiency now existing, and we may say that the capacity and usefulness of the University must be cut down, or appropriations for its support be enlarged from this time forward. Criticism upon the management of the University have been in public print, and about the time of your committees' visit, were laid upon the desks of members of the General Assembly.

We are glad to find, however, that for the current year the attendance at the Law Department including senior and junior classes is nearly double that of last year. So that the legislation of 1884 will prove no permanent loss to the revenue.

Your committee find that the great weight of opinion so far as they can learn from graduates of the several departments sustain the regents and faculty and commend the control and management of the University.

This commendation we also find with few exceptions to be true by



the intelligent good people of Iowa City, where the internal workings and influence are best known.

The Board of Regents, to whom the control of the University is committed, are gentlemen of such known ability, candor and integrity, that it is only reasonable to believe that they have heretofore done those things deemed necessary for the good of the Institution. If action on matters seriously affecting the composition of the faculty or courses of study, were adopted by a divided Board; if partisanship or prejudice, political, religious, or other kind, on the part of Regents was disclosed in factions, then a basis might be found on which to rest the charges and criticisms made.

Your committee find and are pleased to report that harmony and practical unanimity has prevailed among the honorable gentlemen comprising the Board of Regents. That important matters have been put in effect by unanimous vote of the Board.

These gentlemen—most of them—have for a long term of years been associated together in the same capacity, and have been intimately acquainted with the entire internal workings of the Institution. They are, and have been also, well acquainted with the relations of members of the faculty and the various departments to each other.

That their action in making changes heretofore in faculty and departments, has been taken after mature reflection, and as the result of intelligent, conscientious judgment, we find no reason to doubt.

In conclusion, we will call especial attention to the fact that the Medical Department is in great need of a clinical amphitheater. This department has become a great credit to the State and pride to the University. Patients from all parts of Iowa suffering from diseases and injuries of the most serious and complicated nature, come to the hospital, and the surgical operations are performed in the amphitheater in the presence of the classes, by as skillful surgeons as can probably be found in any medical school in the country. This department has outgrown its old hospital and amphitheater. The beneficent and humane order of Sisters of Charity have, at great expense, for God's service and charity's sake, bought and fitted up a commodious hospital in which to confine the patients. An amphitheater near this is desired, so that the greatest benefit may be obtained, both for the patients and the students.

The Dental Department needs an appropriation for apparatus. Though a new department, this has been of very rapid growth. It is

working at a disadvantage at present, and can at slight expense be put upon a much better footing.

Additional apparatus for the Scientific Department is also greatly needed. This to add new and improved instruments and to replace obsolete and worn out ones and to supply materials. The Library also needs addition to keep up with the growth of this and other kindred institutions.

In the opinion of your committee, aside from the erection of the clinical amphitheater, the requirements of the University at present are in the direction of employment and working funds, rather than for new buildings. To make good use of the buildings already there, is better than to spend more money in brick and mortar.

Equipments are needed in many departments. The same appropriation for support requires the practice of economy in many respects approaching pinching poverty. We believe that a visit to this Institution by each member of the General Assembly would convince them that in the matter of requirements and furnishing, the University has been very wrongly dealt with.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

J. H. SWENEY,  
*On part of the Senate.*

R. G. COUSINS,  
N. B. HOLBROOK,  
*On part of the House.*



## STATE UNIVERSITY.

*Report of the Expenditures of the State appropriations made by the Twentieth General Assembly for the State University of Iowa. Prepared at the request of the Visiting Committee of the Twenty-first General Assembly.*

APPROPRIATIONS MADE BY THE 20TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA IN AID AND SUPPORT OF THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA. CHAPTER 112, PAGE 114, LAWS 1884:

1. For one new building for the better accommodation of said University in the School of Science, the sum of.....	\$ 45,000.00
Steam heating and plumbing and gas fitting in same, etc., the sum of.....	5,600.00
New building, total.....	\$ 50,600.00
Paid for said purpose, and the building, etc., exhibited to the committee, the sum of.....	50,597.60
By grading, etc., sum as estimated to balance.....	2.40
Total.....	\$ 50,600.00

This work was done by contract, and was in the main the cheapest and best work ever done in this place.

2. For operating tables, with fixtures for students, etc., the sum of.....	\$ 2,000.00
This appropriation was expended for purpose named. The short tables with slate tops were made by contract on competitive bids, and the longer tables, that could not well be shipped, or carried, were made in the building. Total expended.....	
2,000.00	
3. For cases for apparatus and for collection of specimens; appropriation.....	2,000.00
This appropriation was all expended for the purpose named. The cases are mainly built against the walls, and were of necessity made in the building. Expended.....	
2,000.00	
4. For working apparatus and special appliances, the sum of.....	5,000.00
Under this head there has been expended for scientific material the sum of.....	
\$ 3,764.65	
Balance on hand and retained for said purpose ...	1,235.35
Total.....	\$ 5,000.00— 5,000.00

The scientific material is purchased from time to time, as may be best, and the balance is being husbanded, to place it where it will do the most good, as fast as required.

5. For one refrigerator for medical department, [constructed in the basement, etc., the sum of ....	\$ 1,000.00
Expended for said purpose .....	\$ 926.92
Balance transferred to water closet appropriation.....	73.08
Total .....	1,000.00

This appropriation was examined by Committee, and is a useful and profitable investment. At date of reporting in August last, the bills were not all paid, and proved to be a little less than the sum estimated for work yet to be done.

6. Water closet appropriation, sewerage, and heating same, the sum of.....	\$ 1,500.00
This building was erected and all work done at the lowest possible price, and yet it cost the sum of .....	
\$ 1,639.48	
Balance of \$139.48 was made up from unused portions of—	
Refrigerator appropriation .....	73.08
Water pipes appropriation .....	66.40
Total balance.....	\$ 139.48

7. Furniture for collegiate department, etc., the sum of.....	\$ 1,500.00
Expended for furniture, exhibited to Visiting Committee, the sum of .....	\$ 1,519.95
The excess of \$19.95 is made up from unused portion of water pipes appropriation .....	
19.95	

This appropriation was economically expended in chairs, tables, desks, etc., and the same are distributed in the following rooms:

South hall.....	10 rooms.
Central hall .....	6 rooms.
North hall .....	4 rooms.
Science hall .....	12 rooms.
Total.....	32 rooms.

This furniture is all good, and much more could have been used; and we think it will be conceded that no very extravagant amount of



furniture could, with this appropriation, be found in any one room of the thirty-two.

8. For purpose of supplying water connections with the mains, etc., appropriation.....	\$	400.00
Expended for supply pipes .....	\$	313.65
Transferred to—		
Water closet appropriation.....	66.40	
Furniture appropriation.....	19.95	
		<hr/> 400.00

This money was expended, as shown, in laying water pipes from Clinton street to two buildings, and from Washington street to five buildings, including water closet and boiler-house. The balance was applied, as shown, to supplement other short appropriations.

9. For better equipment of the dental department,		
the sum of.....	\$	500.00
This sum was paid out for fitting at once.		
Total .....		500.00

This appropriation for dentals was so limited and meager as to amount to a mere recognition of the department. Still the money was something, as far as it went, but that was not far.

#### RECAPITULATION.

	Appropriation.	Expended.
New building, etc.....	\$50,600.00	\$50,600.00
Tables.....	2,000.00	2,000.00
Cases.....	2,000.00	2,000.00
Apparatus .....	5,000.00	3,764.65
Refrigerator.....	1,000.00	926.92
Water closet .....	1,500.00	1,639.48
Furniture .....	1,500.00	1,519.95
Water pipes.....	400.00	313.65
Dental .....	500.00	500.00
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$64,500.00	\$63,264.65
On hand, balance of apparatus fund .....		1,235.35
		<hr/>
Total.....		\$64,500.00