

REPORT
OF THE
JOINT COMMITTEE
OF THE
SEVENTEENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OF THE
STATE OF IOWA,
APPOINTED TO VISIT THE
ASYLUM FOR FEEBLE MINDED CHILDREN.
LOCATED AT
GLENWOOD.

DES MOINES:
R. P. CLARKSON, STATE PRINTER.
1873

REPORT.

To the Seventeenth General Assembly of the State of Iowa:

Your Joint Committee appointed to visit the Asylum for Feeble Minded Children, have discharged that duty, and have the honor to submit the following report :

Your committee met at the Asylum, near Glenwood, on the 6th day of February, 1878, and proceeded to make a careful examination of the buildings, and inspection of its management. We found the building situated on a beautiful elevation overlooking the town of Glenwood, Mills county, Iowa, and in a cleanly and healthful condition.

Your committee is of the opinion, that the money appropriated by the Sixteenth General Assembly, to repair the old building formerly occupied as an Asylum for Soldiers' Orphans', has been judiciously expended, and that the management of the Institution under the care of Dr. O. W. Archibald and his able assistants, has been eminently successful, when we consider their limited means, and great lack of necessary room, school apparatus, &c.

We would therefore recommend that the legislature grant them the much needed appropriation for which they ask, for the erection of temporary buildings, to the end that they may have better facilities for instruction, and especially that they may have room for a nursery department, the better to provide for the wants of their feeble children.

Your committee consider the present and unavoidable crowded condition of the sleeping compartments much to be deplored, and recommend that as soon as practicable they be supplied with additional room for dormitories, in order to secure to that unfortunate class of feeble minded children greater security from disease, on account of the too crowded condition of their rooms at night. Your committee would further recommend that means be furnished with which to purchase and provide for the keeping of twelve milch cows for the benefit of the children in the asylum, to the end that they may have the advantage of a pure, nutritious, and cheap diet.

Your committee further beg leave to report that they have examined the expenditures as set forth by the report of the manager and trustees, and the vouchers for the same, and that we find them correct and reasonable, and that upon examination we find an error in the printed report, which does injustice to Dr. Archibald. From the printed report it would seem that between three and four hundred dollars had been expended for medicine, while the fact is that not more than thirty dollars have been so expended. In all cases except one in the printed report where the word medicine occurs, it should read merchandise.

Your committee are not only convinced of the necessity, but deeply impressed with the obligation resting upon the State, to more fitly care for this most pitiable and unfortunate class of her wards, by the erection of permanent and commodious buildings for that purpose; but owing to the unsatisfactory condition of state, as well as private finances, we decline to recommend any appropriations at the present time, further than are actually necessary for temporary improvements, to prevent actual inhumanity to the unfortunate inmates, and injustice to the (as we believe) able and efficient manager and his worthy assistants.

It might not be out of place for your committee to say for the benefit of those who have not had an opportunity of witnessing the good effects of the teaching and training of the inmates of this institution, that it must be seen to be fully realized. Suffice it to say, that your committee were agreeably disappointed to find many of the inmates, who before their admission into the Asylum, had been supposed to be entirely incapable of mental or moral culture, now able to read, and converse with some degree of intelligence, and with a remarkable degree of pride of personal cleanliness, courteous to strangers, mannerly and genteel toward all with whom they come in contact; while even the lowest grade of pupils have, in a marked degree, learned habits of order and cleanliness.

Your committee are thoroughly convinced that the appropriation of ten dollars per month per capita is inadequate for the purpose mentioned under that section of the law, and recommend an appropriation of fourteen dollars per month for support fund, and that the parents or guardians of children who are able to do so be required to pay to the treasurer of the institution the sum of fourteen dollars per month for their support.

Your committee recommend the following appropriations for the next biennial period, to-wit:

Salaries for Superintendent, Teachers and Attendants.....	\$10,000.00
Furnishing fund.....	3,500.00
School apparatus and piano.....	800.00
Laundry and apparatus.....	1,000.00
Barn, and fence for sixteen acres.....	1,000.00
Building for school room, dormitory, etc	3,700.00
Water supply and repairs on old building.....	1,000.00
Deficiency	2,500.00
Total	\$23,500.00

The answers to questions as per concurrent resolution are hereunto attached.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

JOSHUA MILLER,

On part of the Senate.

B. PARKINSON,

GEORGE PAUL,

On part of the House.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

Q. 1 and 2. What were the total receipts of your institution during last biennial period? From what sources were they obtained?

A. \$13,820.82. Support Fund, State, \$9,028.32; support from private pupils, \$592.50; school apparatus, \$200.00; Furnishing Fund, \$3,000.00; repairing building, \$1,000.00.

Q. 3. What amount of appropriations by the state?

A. \$13,228.32.

Q. 4. What amount from any and all other sources?

A. \$592.50.

Q. 5. What number of acres belong to the institution?

A. Fifteen acres.

Q. 6. How many acres of same are under cultivation?

A. About nine acres.

Q. 7. What kind of produce was raised? What its quantity? What its value?

A. Potatoes, beans, peas, beets, cabbages, cucumbers, corn, sweet-corn, pork, potatoes, squashes, turnips, tomatoes and sweet-potatoes. Value, \$609.75.

Q. 8. What kinds of stock are kept on the premises? How many of each and every kind?

A. Four horses, two cows and thirty hogs and pigs.

Q. 9. State the number of horses and their value?

A. No horses furnished by the State for want of funds.

Q. 10. State number of cattle and their kind; also the value of each; number of milch cows and their product?

A. Two milch cows, \$40.00.

Q. 11. Number of vehicles; their kind and value of each?

A. One spring wagon, \$145.00; one lumber wagon, \$10.00.

Q. 12. Number of hogs and their value?

A. Four thoroughbred sows, \$60.00; five fat hogs, \$75.00; twenty-one pigs, \$105.00.

Q. 13. What farm machinery, and its value?

A. Harrow and hoes, \$10.00.

Q. 14. State all other articles or items not herein mentioned from which the institution does or should derive a revenue or benefit?

A. None.

Q. 15. What amount of stock has been slaughtered and consumed by the institution, and what its value?

A. None.

Q. 16. What the kind of stock sold? What is the value of same?

A. None.

Q. 17. What produce; the amount and value of same raised on farm and consumed by the institution?

A. Is answered in question No. 7.

Q. 18. What produce, what amount, and what the value thereof sold by the institution?

A. None.

Q. 19. What amount of labor is let by contract, and what are the proceeds therefor?

A. None.

Q. 20. What amount of labor is employed by the institution; for what purpose and what its value?

A. Three teachers, 1 assistant teacher, matron, 1 assistant matron, superintendent, steward, 2 female attendants, 3 male attendants, 2 women in laundry, 1 lady baker, 1 cook, 1 dining room manager, 1 night watch, 1 seamstress, 1 outside man to cut wood and do all kinds of work. The man acting steward drives team to draw all the water used in the institution. \$399.33. The above is the amount now for 100 feeble children each month.

Q. 21. Have you any surplus labor; if so, in what way could it be utilized?

A. None.

Q. 22. What amount has been derived from labor performed by the inmates outside of the institution, and not otherwise accounted for?

A. A number of our boys do chores, but cannot estimate value.

Q. 23. What amount of waste from table and kitchen; how is it disposed of, and what its value?

A. All waste from tables is given to hogs belonging to institution.

Q. 24. Is such waste sold, and how much is derived therefrom?

A. Is answered in question 23.

Q. 25. How are boxes, barrels, sacks and old garments disposed of?

A. Sacks and garments are used for cleaning purposes and carpets.

Q. 27. How is the clothing of the inmates obtained; is it made in the institution?

A. Some is furnished by parents, and the largest part by counties and institution.

Q. 28. If not made in the institution, is it practicable to do so?

A. All are manufactured in the institution that accommodation will allow.

Q. 29. What school facilities, and what moral and religious training is afforded?

A. Three teachers engaged about eight hours daily. Sabbath school twice on Sunday, and morning and evening prayers and song.

Q. 30. What was the number of inmates at the close of the last biennial period?

A. Seventy-eight inmates.

Q. 31. What is the capacity of the institution?

A. One hundred now in the institution, which number over-crowd every department. Dormitories and school-rooms too few.

Q. 32. What is the number of students enrolled, and what is the average attendance?

A. One hundred. The average attendance for seventeen months is 56.2.

Q. 36 and 37. State number and names of officers and teachers of the institution? The salary of each per month?

A. O. W. and Mrs. S. A. Archibald, Superintendent and Matron; R. W. Steven, Steward; Miss Jennie Van Dorin, Maud M. Archibald, Sobrina J. Archibald, Teachers; and Carrie Haydin, Assistant teacher. Superintendent, \$83.33; Matron, \$25.00; Teachers, \$30.00; Assistant Teacher, \$12.00; Steward, \$25.00.

Q. 38. The services rendered and time employed by each?

A. Their whole time is devoted to the interests of the institution.

Q. 39 and 40. Give the number and names of guards, their salaries, and length of time employed? Give number and names of employees of all kinds not before enumerated; describe their service and length of time employed, and what amount paid to each person?

A. None.

Q. 41. What amount has been expended for furniture, beds and bedding during the past two years, and what is the quality of the same.

A. All the furniture, beds and bedding in institution was furnished during the past two years. For all purposes, to the present time, it mounts to \$3,500.00. Cheap in quality.

Q. 42. What officers, employes or members of either families or other persons, not inmates of the institution, board or dwell therein, and for what length of time has each person done so?

A. None; except a sister who has remained in institution for the past three months, having lost her husband with small pox in Colorado last fall, and being on her way home in Nova Scotia, was in a condition unable to travel farther. She expects to leave as soon as she is sufficiently convalescent to enable her to travel.

Q. 43. Have you vouchers for all your disbursements?

A. Yes.

Q. 44. What amount of funds are now on hand?

A. None.

Q. 45. How and where are your supplies furnished?

A. Mostly in Glenwood; and in quantities to last a month.

Q. 46. What kind and what amount of fuel has been used?

A. Wood.

Q. 47. How are your buildings lighted and what has been expended for that purpose.

A. Coal oil and lamps.

Q. 48. What are the real necessities of this institution for this biennial period?

A. \$24,000.00, and a monthly allowance of \$16.00 per capita. The public demands urgently an appropriation for the accommodation of at least one hundred and fifty other children who are pressing admission into our institution, and certainly will be provided for. The Honorable committee will estimate the amounts necessary for more room, out-buildings, laundry, barn, and water supply.

O. W. ARCHIBALD, *Superintendent.*

REPORT
THE
COMMITTEE
ON
PUBLIC BUILDINGS,
TO THE
Seventeenth General Assembly.
OF THE
STATE OF IOWA.

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