

REPORT
OF THE
SPECIAL COMMITTEE

OF THE
NINETEENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

OF THE
STATE OF IOWA,

APPOINTED TO VISIT THE
ASYLUM FOR FEEBLE-MINDED CHILDREN

LOCATED AT
GLENWOOD.

PRINTED BY ORDER OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

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REPORT.

To the Nineteenth General Assembly:

YOUR committee appointed to visit the Asylum for Feeble-Minded Children, present the following report:

On the 30th and 31st ultimo we visited the above named institution and made as careful an examination of the buildings, grounds, accounts and general management of the same as time would permit, giving attention to the questions we were required to answer by concurrent resolution of this General Assembly.

We found that, in the opinion of your committee, the appropriations have been wisely and economically expended.

The following table shows the names of all persons employed, the kind of service they severally perform, and the price paid each per month. All of these persons have their board, fuel, lights and washing at the expense of the State. A child of the Superintendent, about four years old, also boards in the institution. Aside from this child, no one not in the employ of the institution is receiving anything, excepting those for whose benefit the institution is maintained.

OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE IOWA ASYLUM FOR FEEBLE-MINDED
CHILDREN, JANUARY 30, 1882.

NAME.	EMPLOYMENT.	SALARY.
O. W. Archibald.....	Superintendent.....	\$1,400.00 per year.
Mrs. S. A. Archibald.....	Matron.....	400.00 per year.
A. C. Rogers.....	Clerk.....	500.00 per year.
Miss Emma Brown.....	Assistant Matron.....	240.00 per year.
Miss Jennie Van Dorin.....	Teacher.....	400.00 per year.
Miss Laura Baker.....	Teacher.....	350.00 per year.
Miss Lucy Russell.....	Teacher.....	350.00 per year.
Miss Phoebe Coffin.....	Teacher.....	250.00 per year.
Miss Mattie McLean.....	Lady Supervisor.....	20.00 per month.
Miss Phoenix Helton.....	Housekeeper.....	15.00 per month.
J. J. Jackson.....	Attendant.....	22.00 per month.
E. W. Durk.....	Attendant.....	20.00 per month.
Joe Hicks.....	Attendant.....	20.00 per month.
Harry Carnahan.....	Attendant.....	20.00 per month.
Miss Mamie DeVore.....	Attendant.....	15.00 per month.
Miss Sarah Minitt.....	Attendant.....	15.00 per month.

LIST OF OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES—CONTINUED.

NAME.	EMPLOYMENT.	SALARY.
Miss Maggie Helton	Attendant	15.00 per month.
Miss Sadie Wells	Attendant	15.00 per month.
James Forney	Night watch	20.00 per month.
George Lambert	General work	20.00 per month.
Charles Poole	Engineer	30.00 per month.
T. R. Carnahan	House fireman	18.00 per month.
Scott Ragsdale	Carpenter	18.00 per month.
Bert. Fair	Stable and outside man ..	20.00 per month.
Mrs. Kerl	Night watch	12.00 per month.
Miss L. Carter	Cook	15.00 per month.
Miss Tillie Helton	Ironer	12.00 per month.
Spencer Stout	Laundress	18.00 per month.
Mrs. M. E. Martin	Seamstress	15.00 per month.
Miss Nettie Martin	Seamstress	12.00 per month.
Miss Mary Wells	Seamstress	15.00 per month.

These officers and employes all receive board, lights, fuel and such rooms as the asylum affords. They receive nothing else at the expense of the State.

Your committee feel that there is a great work being done by those in the employ of the State at this hospital, each teacher and attendant vieing with the Superintendent and Matron in the work of qualifying, as nearly as possible, the unfortunate under their care for the battle of life, after reaching that age at which the more fortunate enter the arena of profitable existence.

There is little doubt in our minds that if the State is not too illiberal with this institution it can, in a very few years, be made almost self-sustaining and self-supporting.

One thing, however, is assured in our minds: The facilities for the improvement and accommodation of the children that could be profitably and rapidly made are inadequate.

The children are necessarily crowded almost to the endangerment of health, both in the school-room, at the dining tables, and in the sleeping chambers. These things are caused by a lack of room in each department, and cannot be avoided by the Superintendent, Matron, teachers or attendants, although they do all they can for the comfort of the waifs under their charge.

The above facts bring us to the consideration that more land should be procured, which has been offered the State at a very reasonable figure, and the erection of a separate building for school-rooms, gymnasium exercises and chapel, the present buildings to be used for dining-rooms.

sleeping apartments, and such other purposes as the Trustees may deem necessary.

We cheerfully admit the fact that a farm should be used in connection with the institute, but the pressing necessity for a building and other improvements necessary to the comfort, for which it was founded, and the appeals of other State institutions of equal merit, require us to forego the request of the Superintendent asking for an appropriation for this purpose, although in our judgment it would be a profitable investment for the State, and a great benefit to the male portion of the patients.

We have therefore concluded to request the purchase of twenty-four (24) acres additional, which will make forty acres owned by the State for this Asylum.

On this forty acres about all the vegetables used by the inmates can be raised, a small corral for the cows set off, and a proper road graded leading from the buildings to the nearest public street. It will also furnish a play-ground for the children, of which they are now deprived.

Pure water and cleanliness should always be considered in institutions of this character. The latter cannot possibly be expected without the former; yet we have no complaints to make, from the fact that the water now used is taken from a well the bottom of which is on a level with the Missouri River, and the quicksand frequently obstructs the pipe.

Near the institute is a stream of pure, never-failing water, and from it good water, and an abundant supply, with the aid of an engine, can be procured and forced into a large tank erected for the purpose, adjacent to the main buildings.

We would therefore recommend the amount set forth in the exhibit for this purpose.

A large out-oven, to be used for baking the bread consumed by the inmates, as well as roasting meats, is badly needed, as the profits now paid for bread purchased of a baker, of which they use about four hundred pounds per day, is sufficient to pay the first cost of such an oven within one year after its completion. A new range is also needed in the kitchen, the present one being rendered almost useless by the recent explosion of one of the water-pipes leading into the reservoir.

Your committee would therefore recommend the requests made for these purposes in the schedule to be found on another page of this report.

The water-closets now used are also insufficient and wholly inadequate for the large number of inmates of the institute; and we recommend the amount requested for this purpose, to be found in the schedule. We also recommend the amount asked for sewerage, as it is much needed for the promotion of health and cleanliness.

We, therefore, having carefully examined the work of the instructors, who are under the management of the Superintendent, having witnessed the different exercises of children that entered the institute unable to either walk, speak, or feed themselves, but can now intelligently perform all these acts; having heard others read and recite who entered the institution imbeciles; also the reading, writing, and physical exercises of those who four years since were a burden to those responsible for bringing them into existence; as well as scores of other almost phenomenal wonders performed upon those most unfortunate of all the unfortunate of our race, cheerfully recommend your honorable body to appropriate the following amounts for the purposes asked:

Additional grounds	\$ 960.00
Oven	700.00
Barn	800.00
Sewerage	2,000.00
Water-closets	800.00
Water supply	3,000.00
School furniture and piano	850.00
Repairs on present buildings	1,500.00
Fire protection	1,000.00
Fencing	1,000.00
Additional building	3,500.00
Furniture	2,500.00
New range	100.00
Steam heating	1,500.00
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	\$51,710.00

In closing this report, your committee cannot refrain from again speaking in the highest terms of the management, and especially do we feel that the work of the teachers is more difficult than that of any other institution within the State. They are kind and attentive to the wants of their pupils. This is much to their credit, and is highly beneficial to the scholars under their charge.

We therefore recommend that the institution receive favorable consideration at your hands.

T. M. C. LOGAN,
On the part of the Senate.
 C. C. PLATTER,
 J. C. MORGAN,
On the part of the House.