

REPORT
OF THE
JOINT COMMITTEE

OF THE
TWENTIETH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

OF THE
STATE OF IOWA,

APPOINTED TO VISIT THE
INSTITUTION FOR THE BLIND

LOCATED AT
VINTON.

PRINTED BY ORDER OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

DES MOINES:
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REPORT.

To the Twentieth General Assembly:

Your committee appointed by the Twentieth General Assembly to visit the College for the Blind, at Vinton, most respectfully report:

We find the Institution in a most satisfactory condition, and every facility was cheerfully accorded your committee for a close examination of the accounts and the details of the College work.

The building is substantial and well adapted for the use for which it was designed, but the roof is leaky on account of imperfect construction, and we recommend that it be either repaired thoroughly or rebuilt at once.

We find that the employment of experienced oculists during the past two years has been productive of substantial good, and recommend a continuance of this practice.

Your committee are pleased to find that the able principal of the College, Mr. McCune, has, during the past year, made successful efforts to bring the young blind people of the State under the influences of the adequate provisions that have been made for their education.

We approve the course of study pursued at the College, and are especially pleased to note the advance made by the pupils in the mechanical arts, whereby many of them are lifted from a state of dependence and fitted to earn their own living.

In regard to the special instructions issued by the General Assembly to your committees, we have duly examined, and find—

First. That the appropriations made by the last General Assembly have been wisely and economically expended.

Second. That they have been expended for the object appropriated.

Third. That chapter 67, of the Acts of the Seventeenth General Assembly, has been complied with in not contracting indebtedness in excess of the appropriations.

Fourth. That there has been no diversion of the money from the specific purpose for which it was drawn from the State treasury.

We also report the persons employed in the institution, and the salary received by the same, to-wit:

NAME.	POSITION.	PLACE OF BOARDING.	SALARY PER ANNUM.
Thomas F. McCune....	Principal.....	Institution.....	\$ 1,000.00
James A. Brown.....	Steward.....	Institution.....	1,000.00
Mrs. Homer James....	Matron.....	Institution.....	480.00
Miss Sadie E. Waychoff	Assistant Principal..	Institution.....	450.00
Miss Hortense McCrory	Teacher, Acad. Dep't..	Institution.....	350.00
Geo. W. Tannehill....	Teacher, Acad. Dep't..	Out of Institution	700.00
Miss L. Mattice.....	Teacher, Prim. Dep't..	Institution.....	300.00
Miss A. Sidwell.....	Teacher, Prim. Dep't..	Institution.....	300.00
Miss M. A. Davis.....	Teacher, Prim. Dep't..	Institution.....	350.00
T. S. Slaughter.....	Musical Director.....	Out of Institution	1,000.00
Mrs. Jno. Cisna.....	Teacher, Musical Dep't	Institution.....	250.00
Miss Millie Downs....	Teacher, Musical Dep't	Institution.....	150.00
John Cisna.....	Teacher, Work Dep't..	Institution.....	350.00
A. C. Ferreby.....	Teacher, Mattress Shop	Institution.....	150.00
C. C. Griffin, M. D*....	Physician.....	Institution.....	300.00
			PER MON.
F. S. Bendert†.....	Engineer.....	Institution.....	75.00
De Smock†.....	Fireman.....	Institution.....	25.00
James Sawyer.....	Assistant Steward....	B. & S. in building	40.00
Robert Squires.....	Porter.....	Institution.....	25.00
Lizzie Linderman....	Nurse.....	Institution.....	20.00
Amy Herriott.....	Seamstress.....	Institution.....	20.00
Maria Pratt.....	Cook.....	Institution.....	20.00
Ella Brink.....	Pastry cook.....	Institution.....	16.50
Phoebe Bales.....	Assistant cook.....	Institution.....	12.00
Bessie Rice.....	Laundry work.....	Institution.....	15.00
Kate Healy.....	Laundry work.....	Institution.....	15.00
Carrie Dunaway.....	Laundry work.....	Institution.....	15.00
Ida Speak.....	Chamber work.....	Institution.....	12.00
Jennie Berry.....	Chamber work.....	Institution.....	12.00
Lizzie Niermeyer....	Chamber work.....	Institution.....	12.00
Agnes Lawson.....	Dining-room.....	Institution.....	12.00
Nellie Lawson.....	Dining-room.....	Institution.....	12.00
Annie Niermyer.....	Dining-room.....	Institution.....	12.00
Mary O'Connell.....	Visitors' attendant...	Institution.....	12.00
Simon Niermeyer.....	General work.....	Institution.....	15.00
Joseph Hartley (blind)	Kitchen work.....	Institution.....	5.00

*And furnishes medicine.

†Seventy-five dollars per month during winter and \$65 per month during summer.

‡Not employed during warm weather.

|And one suit of clothes per year, about \$15 or \$18.

We also examined carefully the means at hand for protection against fire and of opportunity of escape, and find abundant stair cases to furnish means of exit, but would recommend that the hose and water apparatus be at once put in full and complete repair, and that a night watchman be employed to give alarm and assist the pupils in their escape in case of fire.

Your committee are also led to believe that the present Board of Trustees is too expensive, and recommend that if the number be not reduced they be selected in the future as follows: two from the county of Benton and the remainder from a locality not over one hundred miles from the College.

Your committee cannot close this report without expressing their sense of the high value of the services of Secretary James A. Brown in organizing his admirable system of accounts, and also of Principal McCune for the fine state of discipline and general progress of the College; and they cheerfully recommend that the appropriation asked for be granted.

Signed:

C. A. MARSHALL,

On behalf of the Senate.

G. W. HAYZLETT,

W. B. CULBERTSON,

On behalf of the House.