

per month, and out of this fund salaries, current expenses as above, and support of inmates are all paid. Salaries and expenses will not grow less, so it is easy to see that there is a minimum number of inmates, whose presence in the school is absolutely necessary to preserve its very life. And should the number be lessened at any time by death, or escape of very bad girls, or by the discharge or release of reformed ones, just to the extent that this vital number is so lessened will the condition of those remaining tend toward absolute want or starvation.

Again, we believe girls, when reformed, should graduate out of this school, and there should be no obstacles in the way, however slight.

But if the life of the Institution and the support of the other inmates at that very time should depend upon their longer stay, may it not happen that the reformatory period of the life of some poor Iowa girl, committed to the school, may extend far beyond the reformatory period and assume the form of involuntary servitude, or indeed imprisonment? If so, the system of support is wrong. And while there may never have been any abuses of this kind (and we distinctly aver that we know of none), yet your committee feel that this Institution to which our girls may be sent for a period of eleven years of their young lives, should in its system of support be at once put upon the most humane and liberal basis.

BEN. MCCOY,
Committee on part of Senate.

C. W. FILLMORE,
E. W. LUCAS,
Committee on part of House.

REPORT

OF THE

JOINT COMMITTEE

OF THE

TWENTIETH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

OF THE

STATE OF IOWA,

APPOINTED TO VISIT THE

REFORM SCHOOL FOR BOYS

LOCATED AT

ELDORA.

PRINTED BY ORDER OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

DES MOINES:
GEO. E. ROBERTS, STATE PRINTER.
1884.

REPORT.

To the Twentieth General Assembly of the State of Iowa:

Your committee appointed to visit the Reform School at Eldora, would respectfully report:

First. That we did, in pursuance of the Concurrent Resolution, visit said institution on the 6th and 7th days of February, 1884.

Second. We found in said school 255 boys, all in good state of discipline and of orderly deportment, resulting, as we believe, from kind treatment rather than from undue punishment.

Of the boys, five were in the hospital, receiving the care necessary for their comfort and restoration; 250 were in good state of health, one half of whom attend school in the forenoon and are engaged at work in the afternoon, the other half work during the forenoon and are in school in the afternoon. We found all the inmates cleanly in their person as well as in their clothing, and general cleanliness seemed to prevail in all the departments of the institution.

Third. From observations made during our brief sojourn at the school we were led to conclude that the general management of the institution in all its departments merits our warm commendation.

Fourth. Yet in what we believe to be for the interest of the State and School, we beg leave to make the following suggestions:

(a) That a *farm and stock* account be kept, in order that it may be at least *approximately* ascertained the profit and loss in operating the farm and raising and feeding the stock thereon.

(b) In the judgment of your committee, the State farm and the improvements thereon afford the proper facilities and advantages for raising and feeding all the cattle, hogs and poultry necessary to supply the School with meat, and we recommend that this be done.

(c) That there be procured and kept at each family building, and the main building, a good and substantial ladder, long enough to reach any of the windows in case of fire.

(d) That a special appropriation of \$1,200 be made for the purpose of procuring a Sunday suit of clothes for each of the boys.

(e) Your committee recommend the sale of the eighty acre tract of the State farm lying about two and a half miles southwest of the main farm, and the purchase of the eighty acre tract that lies between and separates two eighty acre tracts of the main farm.

(f) Your committee further wish to call attention to the fact that boys are being committed to said school that are under the age of seven years and over the age of sixteen years, and would suggest that further legislation is necessary to prevent such commitments.

Fifth. In compliance with the Concurrent Resolution of the Senate and House of this Assembly, we would state—

1st. We believe that the appropriations made by the last General Assembly have been wisely and economically expended, as set forth in the Trustees' report.

2d. To the extent these appropriations have been used they have been for the purposes for which they were appropriated.

3d. That chapter 67 of the acts of the Seventeenth General Assembly have been complied with.

4th. There has been no diversion of funds from the specific objects of the various appropriations.

5th. The names of the employes of the School are as follows, with monthly salaries attached:

EMPLOYES' SALARIES.

	PER MONTH.
B. J. Miles, superintendent }	\$ 125.00
Mrs. B. J. Miles, matron, }	
D. M. Crouse, assistant superintendent.....	50.00
W. F. Hewitt, teacher.....	40.00
Wm. Marshall, family manager.....	40.00
Wm. E. Whitney, family manager.....	35.00
T. F. Evans, family manager.....	35.00
J. O. Floyd, engineer.....	40.00
J. S. Shaffer, farmer.....	30.00
W. K. Shaffer, night watchman.....	30.00
Solt Karn, assistant manager.....	25.00
Mrs. D. M. Crouse, assistant matron.....	25.00
Mrs. W. F. Hewitt, teacher.....	20.00
Mrs. Wm. J. Marshall, teacher.....	20.00
Mrs. Helen Dimick, teacher.....	20.00
Miss Ella Stewart, tailor.....	20.00
Miss S. J. Weigh, laundress.....	20.00

Miss Lizzie Patterson, bake-shop and music.....	23.00
Miss Cora Cook, dining-hall.....	15.00
Miss Anna Cross, dining-hall.....	15.00
Mrs. Mary Anna Kain, dining-hall.....	12.00
Mrs. Mary Lusch, kitchen.....	15.00
Miss Blanch Henckman, kitchen.....	15.00
Mrs. Wm. Whitney, sewing-room.....	15.00
O. A. McDonald, shoe-maker.....	25.00

All these employes receive in addition to the above salaries their rooms, board, fuel, lights and washing.

Sixth. Your committee would further recommend that there be made the following appropriations for the following purposes:

For a family building.....	\$8,500.00
For changing mansard roof to hip roof on main building.....	2,000.00
For contingent and repair fund.....	2,500.00
For library fund.....	200.00
For chaplain fund.....	500.00
For raising the roof and building a second story upon the engine building, and for new engine and for machinery and tools to be used therein.....	2,000.00
For Sunday suits for boys.....	1,200.00
For fund to pay difference in price of two 80 acre tracts.....	240.00
For fund to build fence around 240 acres for pasture.....	400.00
For fund to build fence in front of main building.....	150.00

We find that the hospital privileges, while adequate for all ordinary use, are still wholly insufficient for the proper care of the inmates in case of an epidemic.

We would therefor call the attention of the General Assembly to the necessity for providing for the erection of a hospital building, to be detached and located at a suitable distance from all other buildings.

We would further recommend that provision be made for the better ventilation of the family buildings, and that in the erection of all new buildings ample provision be made therefor.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

JOHN D. GLASS,

Committeeman on part of Senate.

E. W. WILBUR,

C. S. RANCK,

Committee on part of House.