

REPORT  
OF THE  
JOINT COMMITTEE

OF THE  
TWENTY-SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY

OF THE  
STATE OF IOWA,

APPOINTED TO VISIT THE  
Hospital for the Insane

LOCATED AT  
INDEPENDENCE.

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PRINTED BY ORDER OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

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## REPORT.

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*To the Twenty-second General Assembly of the State of Iowa:*

Your Joint Committee appointed to visit the Hospital for the Insane at Independence have discharged that duty, and herewith submit the following report, to wit :

We find the property and the Institution in good condition and well cared for. All parts of the building containing the inmates were visited by us, as well as the outbuildings connected therewith, and in our opinion they are properly cared for and in good condition. Nothing that we could discover is left undone to make the unfortunate inmates as cheerful and comfortable as the circumstances will allow. The wards and all the clothing and beds were clean. The food furnished the inmates was wholesome, well cooked and plentifully provided so far as we could see. The employes are efficient and attentive to their duties, and no more of them are now in the employ of said institution than are necessary to properly care for the large number of patients now in the Hospital, and we consider the compensation received by the officers and employes of the Institution only fair for the services rendered, as shown by the exhibit hereafter attached and made a part of this report.

We include in our report : First, that the appropriations made by the last General Assembly have been wisely and economically expended.

Second, that they have been expended only for the objects 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, and that the money has been used for the specific purpose for which it was appropriated, and in our opinion the sanitary condition of the whole Institution is excellent.

Fourth, In reference to fire escapes, we beg leave to report that, although the Institution contains more than nine hundred and fifty

persons, not one is permitted to smoke in or about any of the buildings, or even on the Hospital farm. Safety matches are used almost exclusively, and but few employes carry them. The gas burners in the wards and elsewhere are ignited by percussion lighters. The basement story in the main building and cottage is lathed overhead with wire and plastered. Fire-proof doors have been made, and are in constant use in the openings between the wards and at the stair-cases. Brick walls have been put up on the sides of the attic wards in the north wing, which makes these wards more nearly fire-proof. In each wing of the main building there are three stairways extending from the attics to the outside doors on the ground floor, and with which the wards in each story connect. These stair-cases are thoroughly fire-proof, and make most excellent fire escapes. There are also fire-proof stairs from the wards in the upper stories of the administration building to the third floor, and wide stair-cases down to the second and first floors.

The cottages are two stories in height. The upper story is used only at meal time and night. The windows in these cottages are not guarded. Two twenty-five foot ladders and a long extension ladder are kept in readiness for fire purposes; besides, patients can be released from the second story of the cottages by getting out of some of the windows upon the roofs of the porticoes. The new cottage is well supplied with fire escapes from the second story by means of three fire-proof stairways, one at each end and one in the middle of the building. This central stairway is six feet in width, and the doors open outward at the bottom of the stairs; the outside doors near at hand also open outward.

The Institution is supplied with one thousand feet of the best steam fire-engine two and one-half inch hose, five hundred feet of which are kept on a reel near the stationary steam pumps, and the other five hundred feet are kept on a hose cart in a detached building. A water main extends under ground from one of the pumps to a hydrant situated in front of one of the cottages. At convenient distance in the main Institution and in both cottages there are water pipes with one hundred feet of one and one-half inch hose connected in the basement and each floor above; besides, Star Hand Grenades for extinguishing fires at the outset, are distributed in the different buildings.

At the present time there are five thousand barrels of water kept

on hand in a reservoir near the Institution, which can be used for fire purposes without delay.

The by-laws of the Institution contain explicit instructions concerning the duties of each employe in case of fire.

It is proper to state that the entire Institution is to a great extent fire-proof.

#### REAR CENTER BUILDING.

There are two reasons why it has cost much to erect this structure. The under-ground air ducts leading out from a tower near by had to be torn out and changed in order to make room for the foundation. It is to be a thoroughly fire proof building; consequently almost \$3,000 have been expended for iron joists and columns. All of the partitions are brick, and brick arches will need to be placed between the joists for ceilings in each story. Of the \$5,000 asked of the Twenty-second General Assembly, more than \$1,000 will be required for a new bake oven with a rotary bottom, and about \$500 more in order to furnish a fire proof stair case from bottom to top, since at present there are no such stair cases in this part of the institution. The balance of the appropriation will be required for plastering the entire building, for floors and other wood work, and for furniture.

#### CAST IRON WATER MAIN.

In 1886 the city of Independence constructed an extensive system of water works, so that it is now possible for the Hospital to supply itself with an unlimited quantity of pure water at far less expense than ever before. This water works cost the city \$40,000. Two compound, condensing, duplex pumps, and two boilers to run them, with connections, cost more than \$7,000. The Hospital pumps are duplex, direct, high pressure pumps; therefore they require much more fuel and steam to do a given amount of work than the city pumps. On an average 52,000 gallons of water are used per day, besides 15,000 or 20,000 obtained from the old system, and used in the laundry and for other purposes.

The city charges *ten cents per thousand gallons* for placing water in the tanks in the upper story of the administration building.

This water is conveyed from town to the Hospital through a three inch, wrought iron pipe. The Institution can only be furnished this amount of water by sending it through this pipe constantly day and night, with high pressure upon the pumps.

The city council agrees to furnish for *seven cents per thousand gallons* through a six inch cast iron pipe. This the city could well afford to do from the fact that the friction in the larger pipe would be much less; consequently much less fuel would be required to deliver the water.

By this change in pipes there would be a saving to the Institution in the cost of water of from \$300 to \$400 per year. Besides, the supply from town would be inexhaustible in case of a long continued fire at the Hospital.

#### FARM LAND.

A hospital for the insane in an agricultural state where most of the patients are accustomed to manual labor and tilling the soil before they became insane, should have a farm containing as many acres as the Institution has patients.

This Institution now owns 400 acres. In the past the male patients have been occupied to a considerable extent in making excavations for new buildings, in carrying and handling building materials, and in digging ditches for pipes. Since the work of construction is nearly finished, other industries must be provided for them. Thus far they have raised about all the vegetables consumed in the institution; also the hay required for the horses and cattle, but they have never raised much corn. There is no good reason why they should not raise all the corn and oats that are required by the animals belonging to the Institution, if they plow land enough for this purpose.

One hundred and eighty acres of land can now be purchased for the State, located very conveniently, for \$6,000. Certainly this land can never be obtained at a lower figure, and in all probability it will cost more to secure it at any time in the future.

#### IMPROVEMENT OF GROUND.

With all the money appropriated for the establishment of this Institution, not a cent has been furnished by the General Assembly to lay out or fit up the grounds in front of the building. It is now high time that a small appropriation should be made with which to employ a skillful landscape architect to make a complete and permanent plot of the grounds. Drives, walks, flower beds and trees should be located on a well matured plan. Grade stakes should be set throughout the entire extent; then the labor of patients can be used fitting

up the grounds, a part at a time, until a tract of at least forty acres is finished into a pleasure park. The plot of the grounds about the building should also show the location of cisterns, pipes and air ducts which lay beneath the surface.

In the summer time, also in favorable weather at other seasons, almost all of the patients are out of doors some part of the day. The men who are unfit for work and the women go walking. On this account much space is required; also numerous walks, seats and an abundance of shade. The beneficial results of such exercise depend in no little degree upon the attractiveness of the grounds about the Institution.

#### ENLARGING THE CHAPEL.

This should be done as soon as possible in order to furnish space and facilities for accommodating a large number at the religious services on Sunday afternoons; also to furnish space and facilities for amusing a family of nearly one thousand persons during the inclement weather and long winter evenings. No repairs have been made upon this room since it was finished twelve years ago. Theatrical entertainments cannot be successfully furnished without a suitable stage for the purpose. The small amount asked for to accomplish this end will prove of very great value as a source of cheer and comfort to the unfortunate persons who are compelled to spend their time in this institution.

#### GREEN-HOUSE.

It is hardly necessary to state that a good sized green-house would prove of great advantage to the institution as a place to be visited by the better class of female patients during the winter time; besides, from it they would supply the wards and grounds with a greater abundance and variety of flowers.

#### PIANOS, BILLIARD TABLE AND PRINTING PRESS.

These are much needed to amuse and occupy the patients, especially evenings and when the weather will not permit them to be out of doors. The only piano owned by the institution is an old one, which cost thirty dollars. They also have two old billiard tables, which were bought very cheap. They have used for over a year a little printing press, which cost thirty dollars. With it they have printed programmes for the entertainments every week, and done a

good deal of job work, which is of pecuniary value to the institution. It is hardly proper for them to purchase a press worth two or three hundred dollars without an appropriation for this purpose. These things undoubtedly contribute toward regulating the minds of convalescent patients and promoting their recovery.

#### AN ELEVATOR.

In the administration building there is a ward on the fourth and another on the fifth floor, at present occupied by female patients. Although these patients are none of them sick or very feeble, yet it is a hardship for some of them to go up and down so many flights of stairs whenever they come out to work in the kitchen or ironing room, or to the chapel on the second floor for entertainment, or walking out of doors.

#### LAUNDRY MACHINERY.

The last General Assembly appropriated money to enlarge the laundry building. It is now finished and occupied. In order to utilize the space and to do the work to the best advantage, it should be supplied with two new washing machines, which will cost five hundred dollars each. It should also be furnished with a new steam ironing machine, and a new centrifugal wringer. These machines, including freight, will cost at least two thousand dollars.

#### COAL HOUSE.

The Hospital has never had a permanent structure for a coal-house; a wooden shed made of rough boards is still used for the storage of coal. It is weak, it looks badly, and requires repairs every season. Last summer and the summer before, during hot weather, spontaneous combustion occurred in the bottom of the shed underneath the coal, causing some danger from fire, filling the shed and the atmosphere about the institution with coal smoke, and making it necessary to shovel all of the coal out of the shed upon the ground around it. This occurrence is likely to be repeated every summer unless they have something better in which to store coal; besides, the present one is not nearly large enough to enable the institution to lay in a sufficient surplus in order to insure against a shortage during strikes at the mines, or during blockades in the winter time.

It is proposed to erect a house of stone and brick, two stories high, besides an underground space, and cover the same with slate, so that

it may be not only durable, but respectable in appearance. It is also proposed to provide rooms in the upper story for the storage of worn out machinery, together with various odds and ends which need to be preserved to be used in making repairs. It is expected that there will also be placed in this building when erected rooms for a blacksmith's shop and a paint shop, both of which are very much needed.

#### A FAN FOR VENTILATION.

In the sixth biennial report of the Hospital the Superintendent makes the following statements with regard to ventilation: "Our ventilation is tolerably good and we can distribute the heat pretty well except in very windy weather. Then we experience the same trouble that is common to all large buildings. The rooms exposed get less and those protected from the wind get more than their share of the heat. This hospital is on high ground, and has little shelter of any kind; we always get the full force of wind. I believe a large fan in motion at the entrance of the air ducts would to a great extent, counteract the opposition of high winds, and make our heating apparatus much more reliable in stormy weather."

#### CISTERN.

The Institution now has two cisterns, one in the rear of the north wing and the other in the rear of the south wing, each with a capacity of two thousand barrels. Even though the Institution has an abundance of well water or river water, still it is good economy to save all the rain water which falls upon the roofs of the various buildings. This rain water is likely to wash the grading away from the building if emptied by the conductors upon the surface; furthermore it makes the ground muddy and disagreeable. The chief reason for running this water into cisterns is that it may be utilized. It is much more desirable for steam purposes because it prevents the formation of lime upon the inside of the boilers and around the tubes. It is also more valuable in the laundry, since better work can be done with it than with hard water, and less soap is required.

#### DRAIN TILE.

Considerable of the land belonging to this Hospital is low and wet. It cannot be plowed, it has never been subdued, and only yields coarse, wild grass, which is not valuable for hay and hardly fit for grazing purposes except in the early part of the season, while it is young and

tender. These parts of the farm would be rendered much more productive if drained with tile. The appropriation asked for is only to be used in purchasing the pipe; all the work of laying the same, of course, will be done by patients.

#### LOW PRESSURE STEAM HEATING.

In 1882, when the smoke stack was blown down by the gale, it fell upon the roof of the boiler-house and broke the building down and damaged the boilers within very much. When this building was reconstructed and the boilers reset, they were placed four feet lower or deeper down than before in order to bring the water level of the boilers lower than the bottom of the radiators in the basement of the Hospital. This was the first step toward change to low pressure since, on this account, the condensed steam, by the force of gravity, returns to the boilers without being pumped. The next step was to connect a large steam main with these boilers, conducting steam into the basement of the Hospital. With the three thousand dollars asked for, it is proposed to take out the small steam pipes which connect this main with the radiators, and introduce new pipes with larger caliber so that the steam will flow through all the pipes and radiators without carrying so many pounds of steam in the boilers. This, of course, when properly accomplished, will result in the saving of fuel, with less wear and tear to the boilers and other heating apparatus.

#### REPAIR AND CONTINGENT FUND.

In a large institution which is in constant use in every part and occupied by a family of nine hundred and fifty persons, there is constant need of repairs and of keeping all parts in constant working order. Besides, accidents are liable to happen, or machinery to become disabled, or buildings to be injured by fire or lightning or wind; therefore, an appropriation of ten thousand dollars is asked to be used during the biennial period in making repairs, and in meeting whatever contingencies may arise, so that these unusual and large expenses need not be met with current expense funds.

All of which we herewith submit.

(Signed)

L. B. MATTOON,

*on the part of the Senate.*

J. DORON,

C. W. FILLMORE,

*on the part of the House.*

### OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES, IOWA HOSPITAL FOR INSANE AT INDEPENDENCE.

All of the officers and employes occupy rooms in the Institution, heated with steam and lighted with gas, unless excepted below.

NAME.	HOW EMPLOYED.	SALARY PER ANNUM.
6 OFFICERS.		
Gershom H. Hill, M. D.....	Superintendent.....	\$ 2,000.00
E. B. Thompson, M. D.....	First Assistant Physician.....	1,000.00
H. S. Williams, M. D.....	Second Assistant Physician.....	720.00
M. N. Volding, M. D.....	Third Assistant Physician.....	600.00
Mrs. L. M. Gray.....	Matron.....	800.00
Wm. C. Hamilton.....	Steward.....	800.00
138 EMPLOYEES.		
A. D. Guernsey.....	Engineer.....	PR. MO.
W. S. Young.....	Assistant Engineer.....	100.00
Geo. Beaman.....	Fireman.....	40.00
L. Muxlow.....	Fireman.....	27.00
D. Mundell.....	Fireman.....	26.00
H. A. Cramer.....	Carpenter.....	25.00
T. M. Hull.....	Butcher.....	45.00
Geo. Breidenbach.....	Baker.....	40.00
Henry Hilberg.....	Assistant Baker.....	50.00
H. E. Markham.....	Apothecary.....	21.00
W. J. Warr.....	Stenographer.....	30.00
C. A. Curtis.....	Bookkeeper.....	37.50
Jas. Netcott.....	Storekeeper.....	40.00
Jas. McDonald.....	Carman.....	40.00
Wm. Youngerman.....	Carman.....	25.00
John Geist.....	Kitchenman.....	18.00
Minnie McDonald.....	Cook.....	17.00
Hannah Warner.....	Cook.....	20.00
Johanna McDonald.....	Assistant Cook.....	18.00
Magda McGuire.....	Order Cook.....	13.00
Hattie McDonald.....	Kitchen Girl.....	12.00
Mary Wippe.....	Kitchen Girl.....	12.00
Fredrica Suhr.....	Kitchen Girl.....	11.00
Anna Ferguson.....	Kitchen Girl.....	10.00
Julia Herrick.....	Kitchen Girl.....	10.00
Bertha Bowman.....	Waitress.....	10.00
Emma Bohan.....	Waitress.....	12.00
Ella Bohan.....	Waitress.....	11.00
Emma Meister.....	Waitress.....	10.00
Jennie Thomas.....	Kitchen Girl.....	11.00
Emma Kaltenbach.....	Head Laundress.....	20.00
Ella Finn.....	Laundress.....	12.00
Belle Egerton.....	Laundress.....	11.00
Augusta Mischale.....	Laundress.....	11.00
Bertha Mischale.....	Laundress.....	10.00
Alta Burrington.....	Laundress.....	10.00
Carrie Suhr.....	Laundress.....	10.00
Mary O'Toole.....	Head Ironer.....	9.00
		16.00

## OFFICERS AND EMPLOYES—CONTINUED.

NAME.	SERVICE.	SALARY PER MONTH.
Annie Burns	Ironer	\$ 12.00
Kate Finlay	Ironer	11.00
Jeannette Orr	Ironer	11.00
Mary Stringer	Ironer	11.00
Anna Kuhlman	Ironer	10.00
Ada Burrington	Ironer	9.00
Kate McGuire	Office girl	10.00
Cevilla Roth	Chambermaid	10.00
Lucy Dodge	Seamstress	20.00
Josephine Hull	Seamstress	17.00
Tillie Funk	Seamstress	15.00
H. Wilson	Hackman	26.00
E. Cameron	Barn man	20.00
Wm. Henderson	Teamster	20.00
A. F. Harris	Teamster	19.00
J. H. Martin	Teamster	19.00
D. O'Brien	Milkman	28.00
John Galbraith	Milkman	22.00
C. L. Thomas	Gardener	40.00
James Nieth	Assistant gardener	27.00
W. J. Martin	Farmer	35.00
D. H. Feister		135.00
Charles Thomas	Watchman	35.00
C. W. Rahe	Outside watchman	*27.00
Martha Boyack	Watch girl	20.00
Maggie O'Connor	Watch girl	20.00
Amelia Fox	Night nurse	19.00
G. H. Lyon	Night nurse	27.00
H. B. Ackley	Special nurse	30.00
Miriam Libby	Special nurse	18.00
Emma Wiggin	Supervisress	25.00
Agnes Lynch	Assistant Supervisress	20.00
Sarah Ellis	Attendant	20.00
Jennie Palmer	Attendant	20.00
Jane Foreman	Attendant	20.00
Ella Stafford	Attendant	20.00
Mary Finlay	Attendant	20.00
Marietta Winsor	Attendant	18.00
Mary McSweeney	Attendant	18.00
Ella O'Brien	Attendant	18.00
Mary Meredith	Attendant	17.00
Belle Nichols	Attendant	16.00
Anna Lenz	Attendant	15.00
Kate Meigs	Attendant	15.00
Allie Johnston	Attendant	15.00
Alice Randolph	Attendant	15.00
Kate Morrissy	Attendant	14.00
Anna Skelley	Attendant	14.00
Della Curtess	Attendant	14.00
Tillie Riede	Attendant	13.00

‡Without room.

\*Without board or rooms.

## OFFICERS AND EMPLOYES—CONTINUED.

NAME.	SERVICE.	SALARY PER MONTH.
Emma Mendenhall	Attendant	\$ 13.00
Mary Cray	Attendant	13.00
Sarah Browne	Attendant	13.00
Emma Braden	Attendant	13.00
Estella Beadle	Attendant	13.00
Emma Evans	Attendant	12.00
Lizzie Gleason	Attendant	12.00
Julia Evans	Attendant	12.00
Hattie Madison	Attendant	12.00
Eva Alcorn	Attendant	12.00
Sophie Moore	Attendant	12.00
W. W. Fiester	Supervisor	40.00
P. F. Hefen	Attendant	27.00
W. L. Parker	Attendant	27.00
D. A. Laurence	Attendant	25.00
W. T. O'Brien	Attendant	25.00
F. Hohenstein	Attendant	25.00
J. L. Morgan	Attendant	25.00
W. C. Melick	Attendant	24.00
O. S. Beaman	Attendant	24.00
H. Price	Attendant	24.00
F. Robinson	Attendant	22.00
T. Cavanagh	Attendant	21.00
G. C. Murphy	Attendant	20.00
A. T. Parker	Attendant	20.00
S. B. Boardman	Attendant	20.00
G. M. Rogers	Attendant	20.00
T. Momen	Attendant	20.00
H. G. Haskins	Attendant	20.00
Wm Shine	Attendant	20.00
J. Berne	Attendant	19.00
T. E. Colloton	Attendant	19.00
D. Riede	Attendant	19.00
W. Horan	Attendant	19.00
E. V. Tiffany	Attendant	19.00
E. Weart	Attendant	19.00
J. Quirk	Attendant	18.00
F. I. Kimball	Attendant, Grove Hall	27.00
Maggie Kimball	Cook, Grove Hall	20.00
Chas Council	Cook, Grove Hall	18.00
E. Williams	Watchman, Grove Hall	18.00
M. B. Griffith	Attendant, Cottage	27.00
H. Ballentine	Attendant, Cottage	27.00
C. A. Penoyer	Cook, Cottage	20.00
Nettie Penoyer	Cook, Cottage	11.00
D. Merrihew	Watchman, Cottage	27.00
L. M. Stevens	Gas Maker	† 2.00
Chas. Muunings	Upholsterer	33.33
A. Monshaw	Carpenter	† 2.50
E. S. Wilcox	Carpenter	† 2.50

†Per day without board or room.