

REPORT

OF THE

JOINT COMMITTEE

OF THE

TWENTY-SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

OF THE

STATE OF IOWA,

APPOINTED TO VISIT THE

HOSPITAL FOR THE INSANE

LOCATED AT

MOUNT PLEASANT.

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REPORT.

To the Twenty-sixth General Assembly of the State of Iowa:

Your joint committee, appointed to visit the Hospital for the Insane at Mount Pleasant and investigate as to its condition, management, etc., beg leave to report that they have made such visit and submit the following report as a result of their investigations:

Your committee met at the hospital buildings at Mount Pleasant, Thursday morning, January 23d, and proceeded to organize by electing J. R. Gorrell of the Senate as President and J. J. Lowry of the House of Representatives as Secretary.

So organized, we proceeded at once to investigate, as required by your concurrent resolutions.

First.—We find that the improvements and repairs for which appropriations were made by the Twenty-fifth General Assembly, have been made. All moneys which have been appropriated have been expended for the objects for which they were appropriated, and the improvements made are satisfactory evidence to your committee that the appropriations were wisely and economically expended.

We find for the sum appropriated for fire protection a Deane steam fire pump, connecting with a line of fire pipes around the entire building, connecting with the reservoir; 500 feet of hose for outside fire plugs and about 4,000 feet of inside hose, which is placed in lengths of 100 feet on racks in each ward. The wards are supplied with hand grenades and fire extinguishers.

There is a new elevator in the central building. The horse and carriage barn is a model building for which it was intended.

The industrial building for men is completed and is a good, substantial building for the money it cost.

The repair and contingent fund was properly expended and economically, as were also the painting and furniture appropriations.

Second.—No indebtedness has been contracted in excess of the appropriations.

Third.—Your committee made thorough investigations of the condition and needs of the institution. By going through and investigating the different wards we noted the excellent ventilation and heating appliances (which are creations of the superintendent); we found the institution as we believe it is each day of the year, well equipped, and in excellent condition; the sanitary condition is all that could be desired, pure air, pure water, wholesome and nourishing food.

The inmates seem well nourished, being tidy and clean in person, quiet and contented.

The food supply in quantity is amply sufficient, is of the very best nourishing character and is well cooked.

We find the entire management and administration eminently satisfactory, the superintendent with his able corps of assistants are an industrious and faithful body of medical gentlemen, well qualified to discharge the responsible duties devolved upon them; it is the laudable ambition of Dr. Gilman, the superintendent, to keep fully abreast of the age in his care and treatment of the insane, and we believe in this he has fully succeeded.

We also find that the steward, matron, clerks, attendants and employes are an industrious, intelligent and earnest class of men and women.

We find the live stock kept on the farm belonging with the hospital in the most excellent condition in every particular, the tools and implements well housed and cared for.

We especially commend the excellent power engine and boilers, and the excellent condition in which they are kept.

We find abundant reasons for congratulation in the construction of so many fine improvements.

We commend the management of the institution for the good judgment in planting and growing an abundant supply of small fruit and vegetables. We find that there are fifteen acres in grapes, twenty-five acres in raspberries and strawberries and twenty-five acres in vegetable garden.

Fourth.—We find that there has been no diversion of any money from the specific purpose for which it was appropriated.

Fifth.—We find that the law relating to the drawing of money from the State Treasurer has been complied with in making purchases for the use of the hospital.

The principle of competitive bids so far as practicable has been applied in such manner as to conserve the best interest of the state and ninety per cent of the supplies were purchased in this state.

NEEDS—WATER SUPPLY.

Your committee's attention was called to the necessity for a more permanent and pure supply of water for the hospital. It requires nearly 100,000 gallons of pure water daily for all purposes, viz: drinking, cooking, bathing, scrubbing and cleaning, and the only storage capacity now is a defective and leaky reservoir, which holds but twenty days' supply and the leakage is a great loss. This should be thoroughly overhauled and repaired, which cannot be accomplished for less than three thousand dollars (\$3,000).

Sometimes, from three to six months, there is not enough rainfall to raise the creek from which the water works supply is obtained, and during the droughts of the last three years the institution has been so short of water that general bathing has been suspended for weeks and months, and not enough water could be obtained for ordinary cleaning purposes. The quality when the creek is so low, makes the water unfit for potable or culinary purposes, and considerable sickness has resulted. A large reservoir holding ten million (10,000,000) gallons of water, a quantity which will place the hospital beyond the menace mentioned during any protracted drought, in our opinion, is at once demanded there, as has been requested by the trustees and superintendent of the institution; and this, with a proper system of filtration will furnish a never-failing supply of pure water.

The danger of fire with no water stored or held in reserve is a constant menace to the institution, and great loss of property and life might result at any time unless this provision is made. We recommend the entire amount asked for water supply for this institution, which is thirteen thousand dollars (\$13,000).

INFIRMARY BUILDINGS.

There has never been connected with this institution infirmary or hospital buildings, separate from the main structure where patients that may be sick with any contagious or infectious

disease can be removed and cared for. This is a very important matter to prevent epidemics of any character spreading through the wards of the main building, and an infirmary for each sex should be provided for without delay. When they are not in use for the class mentioned, they will be constantly filled with sick, feeble and infirm patients, and thus 100 more insane will be provided for at this place at a minimum cost per capita.

It being proposed to provide for fifty of each sex, or 100 in all, at a cost of four hundred dollars (\$400) per capita; a less sum than any hospital building has ever been constructed for in the west. For the completion of the two infirmary buildings the sum of forty thousand dollars (\$40,000) is required, and your committee recommend that the amount be appropriated for that purpose.

CEMENT WALKS.

From the hospital buildings to the street is a distance of half a mile, and there has never been a sidewalk since the institution was constructed, and no opportunity for foot passengers except in the middle of the drive way. It is important that there should be a walk at least six feet wide made of broken stone, concrete, sand and Portland cement sufficiently deep that it may not be affected by frost. The patients can here, during damp and muddy weather, have an opportunity to exercise, and even in winter by shoveling off the snow, it will enable the 140 employes connected with the hospital to go to town without wading in snow or getting their feet soaked with water and mud during wet weather. A survey has been made and a plan drawn, showing the topography of the ground and a cross-section of the walk proposed; also an estimate has been made amounting to two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500), which amount your committee would recommend be appropriated.

IMPROVEMENT OF GROUNDS AND FENCES.

There is need for further appropriations for walks and summer houses for the patients' recreation, and for the repair and rebuilding of fences around the 580 acres belonging to the state in connection with this institution, and we would recommend the small amount requested for these purposes for the next two years, which is two thousand dollars (\$2,000).

FOR PAINTING.

With the funds that have been appropriated the wards have, as far as possible, been painted and decorated so as to make

them cheerful and bright. In contrast, those that have not thus been improved look comparatively cheerless, and we would recommend the appropriation asked for by the trustees and superintendent for the following biennial period. This will include considerable outside painting to prevent the deterioration of the wood work. The sum needed for the next two years is four thousand dollars (\$4,000).

FOR FURNITURE.

Since the institution was first furnished, when completed in 1860, even when the new wings for the accommodation of four hundred more patients were erected and occupied, there has been but one thousand dollars (\$1,000) appropriated for furniture for this purpose for this hospital. On account of the destructive tendency of the patients much is constantly broken, and nearly all is old and worn, and requires renewal and much added. We would recommend the two thousand dollars asked for this purpose for the next two years.

REPAIR AND CONTINGENT FUND.

This appropriation is certainly among the most important under our consideration. The magnitude of the plant located at Mt. Pleasant cannot be appreciated by any one who has never visited the hospital there, but when it is understood that in traversing the thirty-four wards of the institution the visitor must travel a mile, some idea of the size of the main building can be estimated, besides this, all of the out buildings for the necessary domestic and farm purposes are commensurate in size, and all of this large property must be kept in repair every year to prevent the deterioration and decay, and there is a much greater loss if neglected and not properly repaired promptly as may be required. It must be borne in mind that nearly nine hundred insane persons are cared for and treated in this building with all of their destructive tendencies, and on this account repairs are constantly needed; not a day passing without this necessity. It does not seem possible that all this can be accomplished with less than the amount asked for, which is six thousand dollars per annum or twelve thousand (\$12,000) for the two years. This will certainly be less in proportion than the amount expended by any thrifty and successful farmer in annual repairs, and it is to cover all the possible contingencies of the biennial period with such a destructive

element to deal with. Your committee would recommend the above amount.

SLATE ROOF.

The material used in constructing the old part of the hospital building was iron. For years this has been rusting out and leaking, causing hundreds of dollars to be expended every year in repairs, never satisfactory, and the roof grows worse each year, and serious damage to plastering and walls in the wards below has resulted. It is proposed to gradually renew this old roof by sections, by a substantial slate roof, which will be permanent and the most economical in the end. We recommend two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500), the amount required for the renewal of one section.

REPAIRING WALLS OF OLD BUILDING.

The material that was originally used for the foundation and sub-basement of this building was defective, and years ago was a menace to the structure by causing cracked and bulging walls, and long since the sub-basement was so deteriorated and rapidly decaying that it was renewed. Now the section with these cracked walls demands prompt attention, as they are a menace to the patients occupying these apartments, and an estimate carefully made of repairing the worst damaged section is \$5,600, which your committee emphatically recommend be made before further damage occurs or loss of life results.

LIBRARY, PICTURES AND DIVERSIONS.

The state has provided no means for supplying the libraries of this institution with new books, the walls with pictures or any appropriation for diversions for fifteen years at least, and we would recommend an annual appropriation of \$1,000 for these purposes, as your committee feels the importance of these agencies in the care, treatment and comfort of the unfortunates who are tenderly and skillfully cared for at this institution.

LAND.

The Twenty-fifth General Assembly appropriated one thousand five hundred dollars (\$1,500) for fifteen acres of land lying directly in front of the hospital, and between it and the street. Another party made an attempt to secure this strip which was so important to the hospital, and the court finally decided against the party who thought he had made the purchase for

the institution. The outside party is holding the land, and it can be secured by paying five hundred dollars (\$500) in addition to the appropriation already made, and we would recommend that this small amount be added to the appropriation already made in order to secure it. If lost to the hospital *now* it *never* can be secured.

CODE REVISION.

The Commission for Revising the Code has for some reason recommended an increase of one in the number of trustees of the hospital, making six in number in place of five, which we do not approve of. Five is a good parliamentary body, and it seems to us unwise and uncalled for to increase it. Neither do we approve making it mandatory that the treasurer of the hospital should be a member of the board of trustees. It should be left as at present in the Code.

FINANCIAL SUGGESTIONS.

As the law now states, the quarterly requisition for current expenses is a deficiency in the funds for such expenses, a period of three months, or, in other words, the hospital is in debt for all of its current expenses for that period, and the quarterly requisition which is drawn by the trustees at each quarterly meeting is for the bills made during the previous quarter. This prevents taking bids on many articles and taking advantage of cash discounts, which is certainly not good economy, as any good business man can see at a glance. Your committee would recommend that a quarter's requisition be appropriated, say thirty thousand dollars (\$30,000), for the deficiency existing for the quarter ending March 31, 1896, so that the regular quarterly requisition for April be in advance, and thereafter all transactions be for cash when the articles necessary for maintenance is procured. By this means at least ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) per annum can be saved to the state by each of our State Hospitals for the Insane.

We desire to commend the management of the institution and the energy, devotion and skill of Dr. H. A. Gilman, the superintendent, in stimulating, developing and caring for the unfortunates committed to his charge.

We recommend the liberal consideration of the merits and demands of this institution, and ask that it stand among the first in appropriations, not only for current necessity, but also for enlarging its capacity for good to our people.

We append herewith a list of all employes, with the monthly salary of each (with room and board), marked schedule "A."

We have no recommendations to make in regard to salaries.

Respectfully submitted,

J. R. GORRELL,

Committee on part of Senate.

J. J. LOWRY,

N. A. WELLS,

Committee on part of House.

SCHEDULE "A."

H. A. Gilman, superintendent.....	\$ 333.33
Max E. Witte, first assistant physician.....	141.66
F. T. Stephens, second assistant physician.....	100.00
R. H. Moffit, third assistant physician.....	83.33
F. O. Jackman, fourth assistant physician.....	83.33
Geo. G. Wells, steward.....	133.33
F. V. Cole, matron.....	66.00
Minnie Bartlet, clerk.....	45.00
Elnora Bartlet, stenographer.....	40.00
E. H. House, apothecary.....	40.00
S. H. Anderson, supervisor.....	50.00
Milton Weaver, assistant supervisor.....	40.00
D. O. Woodson, watchman.....	30.00
J. H. Hamlin, watchman.....	30.00
A. E. Anderson, attendant.....	29.00
F. H. Givan, attendant.....	29.00
C. M. Wilson, attendant.....	29.00
Jas. Hennhan, attendant.....	29.00
G. A. Lightle, attendant.....	28.00
W. A. Van Pelt, attendant.....	26.13
C. G. Barnes, attendant.....	26.00
A. J. Smith, attendant.....	27.00
D. L. Sage, attendant.....	27.00
O. D. Gragen, attendant.....	26.00
J. H. Teter, attendant.....	26.00
C. U. Johnson, attendant.....	25.00
T. J. Thompson, attendant.....	25.00
William Bell, attendant.....	25.00
A. H. Sellers, attendant.....	26.00
T. R. Loer, attendant.....	17.33
F. P. Munyon, attendant.....	27.00
V. D. Morris, attendant.....	26.00
E. E. Harden, attendant.....	25.00
D. S. Jameson, attendant.....	25.00
Ralph Hullings, attendant.....	26.00
J. Moreland, attendant.....	26.00
J. E. Schooler, attendant.....	25.00
Chas. Jones, attendant.....	25.00
N. C. Crouch, attendant.....	24.00
N. A. Baldwin, attendant.....	25.00
Geo. McFadden, attendant.....	26.00
John Jones, attendant.....	24.00
J. E. Crouch, attendant.....	27.00
G. E. Williams, attendant.....	28.00
F. J. Hamlin, attendant.....	24.00
B. A. Whelan, supervisoress.....	40.00
Sadie Kearns, assistant supervisoress.....	26.00

Carrie Bogert, watch woman.....	\$ 24.53
Allie Chamberlan, attendant.....	21.00
Minnie Crawford, attendant.....	17.00
Stella Anderson, attendant.....	19.00
Ida Clarke, attendant.....	18.00
B. Donahue, attendant.....	22.00
Amanda Rivey, attendant.....	16.00
Ida DeVoe, attendant.....	20.00
May Hall, attendant.....	16.00
Georgie Reed, attendant.....	22.00
Stella Wisewell, attendant.....	15.00
H. L. Snyder, attendant.....	18.53
Alice Thatcher, attendant.....	16.00
Frank Anderson, attendant.....	26.00
Belle Mileson, attendant.....	17.07
Nellie Whichello, attendant.....	26.00
Mattie Peer, attendant.....	16.00
Fannie Woodburn, attendant.....	20.00
S. Madsen, attendant.....	13.33
Lizzie Waters, attendant.....	23.00
Maggie Horsey, attendant.....	20.00
Anna Johnson, attendant.....	16.07
Julia Smith, attendant.....	27.00
Ida Howell, attendant.....	27.00
Carrie Hall, attendant.....	20.00
Ella Fitzgerald, attendant.....	25.00
Nannie Radcliff, attendant.....	17.00
Jessie Gryder, attendant.....	19.00
Hattie Dallner, attendant.....	15.00
Lama Anderson, attendant.....	21.00
Mamie Morroe, attendant.....	16.47
Kate Fischer, attendant.....	27.00
Febie Starlie, attendant.....	18.40
Selma Linderlung, attendant.....	19.00
Ella Culligan, attendant.....	20.25
Mary Culligan, attendant.....	16.50
Nellie Seaton, cook.....	33.00
Jane Hogg, assistant cook.....	12.00
Mary O'Connor, assistant cook.....	15.00
Della Sweet, kitchen girl.....	11.00
Birdie Moran, kitchen girl.....	11.00
Katie O'Hare, kitchen girl.....	11.00
Henry Swanson, car man.....	25.00
J. G. Rouse, kitchen boy.....	15.20
Ellis Bell, kitchen boy.....	19.00
Fred Hamlin, kitchen boy.....	18.00
Guy Loomis, kitchen boy.....	18.00
M. F. Creme, waiter girl.....	15.00
L. Henne, waiter girl.....	15.00
J. P. Fischer, baker.....	50.00
Allie Moran, assistant baker.....	15.00
Otto Nest, washman.....	25.00
E. Snyder, washwoman.....	20.00
Maggie O'Hern, washwoman.....	15.00
Maggie Salmon, washwoman.....	15.00
M. F. Anderson, washwoman.....	15.00
Mary Ready, cook.....	20.00
Flora Millighan, assistant cook.....	15.00
Mary Warble, chambermaid.....	15.00
M. Folkland, chambermaid.....	12.00
Nellie Fagan, chambermaid.....	15.00
Sophie Hippe, chambermaid.....	11.00
Susie Jessup, ironer.....	15.00

Nellie Risser, ironer.....	\$ 13.00
Rose Donahue, ironer.....	11.00
Mary Fagan, ironer.....	11.00
Lidia Moran, ironer.....	11.00
Anna Shults, assorter.....	10.40
Mary Morony, seamstress.....	20.00
Kate Morony, seamstress.....	16.00
A. Larson, seamstress.....	16.00
Jennie Silen, seamstress.....	11.00
J. G. Crawford, porter.....	23.00
R. H. Stearns, farmer.....	40.00
J. W. Thompson, florist.....	60.00
H. R. Rouse, butcher.....	50.00
C. Short, laborer.....	20.00
Mrs. C. Short, kitchen girl.....	15.00
E. E. Gray, driver.....	22.00
Tom Scott, teamster.....	20.00
John Cott, teamster.....	20.00
F. Spangler, teamster.....	18.00
L. H. Sunkin, teamster.....	20.00
O. LeMaster, teamster.....	25.00
E. Kellerhals, milk boy.....	23.00
P. C. Campbell, milk boy.....	18.00
A. Zlinder, milk boy.....	18.00
J. McLaughlin, laborer.....	25.00
L. H. Fenton, laborer.....	30.00
John Hart, engineer.....	63 00
S. C. Follanshee, assistant engineer.....	60.00
W. Connell, fireman.....	30.00
B. Keegan, fireman.....	30.00

