

REPORT
OF THE
JOINT COMMITTEE
OF THE
TWENTY-FIRST 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 first General Assembly:

Your joint committee who were appointed to examine into the management of the Iowa Hospital for the Insane at Mt. Pleasant, beg leave to submit the following report:

We met as committee at the Hospital, January 20, 1886, and organized by electing a chairman and secretary. We then proceeded to make a thorough examination of the different departments of the Hospital, going through the different wards, and inspecting carefully the beds, bedding, water closets, clothes rooms, dining rooms, bath rooms, character of food, also kind of clothing, cleanliness of clothing and person of the inmates.

Your committee especially examined the means of ventilation and the temperature of the wards, also means of fire escape, all of which we found in a most satisfactory condition. The entire building being thoroughly ventilated, the air pure and free from unpleasant odor. The inmates were well nourished, and were cleanly and tidy in appearance.

MEANS OF FIRE ESCAPE.

The fire escapes consisted of stairways at both ends of each of the wings, in addition to the stairways leading to the rotunda of the Hospital. Appliances for putting out fire steam pumps with hose in each ward on each floor of the building. In addition to these there has been added during the past year a system of thermostats, and an electric fire alarm. Iron doors, and fire wall between wings and sections of hospital are an additional protection.

Your committee found the officers and employes, an especially courteous and obliging corps of ladies and gentlemen, willing at all times to give information when called upon. Each one seeming to thoroughly understand his or her duties. In the opinion of your committee the medical staff of the hospital, headed by Dr. Gilman, the Superintendent, are an able and efficient corps of medical gentle-

men, each of whom seemed to have their heart in their work, endeavoring by all means in their power to make the lives of those committed to their care as comfortable as possible under the circumstances.

Your committee would especially call the attention of the General Assembly to the Pathological Report of the Superintendent, beginning on page 28 of said report, and ending on page 49, inclusive.

In the opinion of your committee that portion of the report of the Superintendent is entitled to special commendation.

Your committee further find that the appropriations of the Twentieth General Assembly have been economically and wisely expended for the purposes for which they were appropriated, and that chapter 67 of the acts of the Seventeenth General Assembly has been complied with, in not contracting indebtedness in excess of the appropriations; that there has been no diversion of any money from the specific purposes for which it was appropriated.

Your committee also find the sanitary condition of the institution eminently satisfactory.

Your committee visited the minor buildings connected with the hospital and farm, the barn, slaughter-house, wagon-house, shelter for hogs, house for drying lumber, ice-house, smoke-house, house for fresh meats, eggs, butter and fresh vegetables. We found all sufficient for the wants of the hospital and farm, except the slaughter-house, shelter for hogs, ice-house, and house for fresh meats, butter, eggs and vegetables.

Your committee herewith present Exhibit "A," which contains the names of the persons employed in the institution, for what purposes employed, and at what salary, what has been received in addition to the salary in the way of board, rooms, lights, fuel or clothing, or anything else at the expense of the State.

Your committee would recommend the following appropriations:

For refrigerating building for cold storage	\$ 7,000
For ice-house.....	3,000
For slaughter-house and piggery	1,500
For building for ironing, assorting, sewing and mending room, and for matron's store room	8,000
For repairs and contingent fund, per annum, for two years	6,000
For improvement of grounds.....	2,000
For erecting an additional wing, heating, lighting, and furnishing the same for 200 female patients.....	100,000

We have carefully examined the necessity for the several appropriations and repairs requested by the trustees and superintendent, and believe that each request is an absolute necessity, therefore we recommend as follows:

FOR REFRIGERATING BUILDING FOR COLD STORAGE, \$7,000.

This hospital has no suitable place for properly or economically storing the large supply of butter, eggs, apples, meats, fish, etc., annually needed for the patients' use. About 25,000 pounds of butter are required per annum, and to furnish this it must be purchased in June, and stored for the year in a place where the temperature can be kept low enough to prevent its being spoiled. The other articles needed are proportionally large, and the beef and mutton killed on the place require a cool room to prevent becoming tainted. The superintendent has presented a plan for a building with compartments for all these purposes, with estimates for construction of the same amounting to \$7,000. This amount is less than buildings of this size and character are usually constructed for, and we recommend the sum asked for, believing it to be a very necessary expenditure. Not only as an economical measure for the State, but as a means of a better dietary system for the patients.

FOR ICE-HOUSE, \$3,000.

An ice-house is required sufficiently large to store eight hundred tons of ice, the amount necessary for the annual supply of this institution, with its seven hundred inmates. Hitherto it has been put up as far as possible in temporary sheds which have fallen down and been removed, and in the midst of the hot weather of the summer, it has been necessary to purchase an additional supply from neighboring towns at a large expense comparatively. In the hospital, ice is an important element of treatment in brain and other diseases, as well as in the domestic economy of the household. To construct a building of sufficient capacity for the use of the hospital, erected in a substantial manner we recommend the amount estimated.

FOR SLAUGHTER-HOUSE AND PIGGERY, \$1,500.

The present slaughter-house is insufficient in capacity for the purpose it was intended for, is old and much out of repair, and so near the ward buildings that the offensive affluvia is a great nuisance, and

deleterious to health, especially in hot weather. The three hundred hogs fed here, and butchered for the use of the hospital have no shelter during the winter months, and are kept in pens near the slaughterhouse, and protected from cold and storm, also too near the wards, from a sanitary point of view. We consider the plan to remove both to a more remote point, a good one, and important for the health of the Institution and good management of this department and recommend the amount asked.

FOR BUILDING FOR IRONING, ASSORTING, SEWING AND MENDING ROOMS
AND FOR MATRONS STORE ROOMS, \$8,000.

The importance of this building, as demonstrated to your committee by actual observation of the conditions and surroundings of the place, compels us to emphasize the request made for this purpose. The present ironing room is little better than a fire trap, and the only place about the institution now existing that causes any special anxiety in regard to fire; connected as it is with the other building, it is unsafe, and another biennial period should not pass without a change being made as a matter of safety. All of the female patients employed in the domestic department are obliged to pass from their wards through the rotunda and center building, by the public offices traversing a dark passage way, to and from their work twice daily which is very objectionable, and a large number of persons who are somewhat careless in person, and irregular in conduct, are debarred from the exercise and healthful influence of such occupation, by the present location of the department. A number of persons who are compelled to travel through this part of the building outside of the wards, throwing open the doors in winter and producing general disturbance is about one thousand per week, or fifty-two thousand per year. With the present system hugh baskets of clothing, after being laundried and assorted, must be carried daily over this track, and men must enter the female wards for the purpose of thus distributing it. This will all be remedied by the new industrial building proposed. The present room can be refitted at small expense for apartments for female domestics, and is much needed for that purpose. We heartily endorse the recommendation of the Superintendent and recommend that the amount of the estimate made, be appropriated for this purpose.

FOR REPAIR AND CONTINGENT FUND, \$6,000 PER ANNUM FOR TWO YEARS.

In inspecting the hospital no change was more marked than the wards that have been remodeled, replastered, painted and decorated, compared with the portions of the building that have not been reached on account of the lack of funds to complete the work. The amount appropriated for this purpose has been economically expended and the cheerful surroundings of the patients and comfortable apartments provided, with the perfect system of heating and ventilating, give abundant testimony of the changes already made, and indicate the necessity for continuing the repairs as rapidly as possible during the next two years. The main sewer of the hospital was originally constructed of brick, and with ordinary lime mortar, and it is now causing a nuisance by caving in frequently and stopping the sewerage, which must be remedied by laying new sewer pipes, as soon as possible. Several more wards require new floors, replastering, and repainting should be continued here, and in front and rear center, where nothing has been done, and the renovation of the main kitchen with added furniture should be completed this season. Your committee have thoroughly examined all the wards and departments where these improvements are required and cannot be done for less than the amount estimated and recommend that the sum of \$6,000 per annum for two years, be appropriated for the various needs of the hospital as specified.

FOR IMPROVEMENT OF GROUNDS, \$2,000.

The fences and grounds about the building were examined by your committee and considerable grading is necessary, and the fences should be re-arranged, being removed from the front of the building, so as to give a better view of the wards windows in the lower story, and as far as possible relieve the class of patients in these wards of the impression of anything of a prison-like character. Walks and summer houses should be laid out and constructed for the female patients so that more liberty about the grounds can be afforded. We believe the sum asked for this purpose for the next two years can be properly expended, and is needed for the purposes enumerated above, and we commend this item for your favorable consideration, in appropriating the amount specified.

FOR ERECTING AN ADDITIONAL WING, HEATING, LIGHTING AND FURNISHING THE SAME, FOR TWO HUNDRED FEMALE PATIENTS, \$100,000.

In making our investigations of the manner in which the appropriations made by the last General Assembly for the hospital, according to your instructions your committee desire to state that while all the appropriations made have been economically expended, a remarkable showing appears in the one for the construction of a wing for the accommodation of two hundred female patients. When this was asked of the last General Assembly, double the amount appropriated was requested for the construction of both wings at that time, which would have completed the original plan of the hospital, but owing to the demands from other sources being so many, it was deemed impossible to appropriate means for the construction of but one wing, the other being delayed for further appropriations. One hundred thousand dollars was appropriated for the construction of a building for the accommodation of two hundred patients, for five hundred dollars capita. A most substantial stone structure has been erected under the supervision of the superintendent, and by the careful and economical use of the funds placed in his hands for this purpose, has not only been entirely completed for the specified sum, but sufficient amount saved, in the progress of construction, to put in heating apparatus, including two new boilers fifteen feet long, with forty-eight four inch flues, gas fixtures for the wing, and furnished it throughout with chairs, seats, bedsteads, bedding, tables, dining-room furniture, and all the appliances necessary, all within the appropriation made for the construction alone.

The promptness with which the accommodation has been provided for the unfortunate of this class, needing care, demands commendation, as the law requires that it should be ready for occupancy January 1, 1886; while in fact, persons were received in June, six months prior to the time specified, and it is now filled, and mostly for patients that have been in county houses and that class that have been previously returned for the want of room to the several counties, thus providing for the incurable insane to that extent. We present a more exhaustive description of this work from the fact that a similar appropriation for the other wing of the hospital is asked for by the trustees and superintendent, to be used for the accommodation of female patients (the one completed being filled with men)

We find there are in the county houses, jails and under private care,

outside the hospital, within a radius of one hundred miles of its doors, nearly four hundred insane persons, and in this hospital district at least one thousand, about one half being females. We know that most of these counties have no suitable accommodation for this afflicted class, and the demand of humanity calls loudly upon us to make the necessary provision without delay. We believe that every right-minded person will concede this. The question which arises is, what is the most prompt and economical plan for us to adopt, at the same time guaranteeing the most substantial, comfortable and cheerful surroundings, with proper scientific care and treatment? The new hospital must be completed at as early a day as possible, but it will not accommodate one half of the insane in the State outside of the two present hospitals. We believe that while that is being constructed, the most prompt, substantial and economical provision that can be made, is to grant the appropriation asked for by the authorities of Mt. Pleasant Hospital, who agree to construct, heat, light and furnish the remaining wing, necessary for the completion of the plan of this hospital, and receive two hundred patients from county houses and other places throughout the State, where they are now suffering for want of proper care, before the close of this biennial period. We cordially endorse this plan, approve the amount requested to carry it out, and earnestly recommend it for your consideration and adoption.

INSANE CRIMINALS.

We have about thirty of this class in the hospital who have been sent from the State penitentiary. Justice to the innocent but afflicted, cared for here, protests against this enforced association with criminals, and the accommodation provided for by last General Assembly for this class at the penitentiary at Anamosa, should be pushed forward to completion as early as practicable.

NON-RESIDENT INSANE.

There are more than one hundred patients in the hospital who have no legal settlement in Iowa, but who are found insane and sent to the institution by the commissioners of insanity of the various counties. A bill has been introduced at the request of the trustees and superintendent providing for transportation of such of this class as have a home to it, but amount to be paid from the State treasury.

We recommend this matter for your favorable consideration as an economical measure for the State, thus being relieved of an unjust burden for the term of their natural life, as most of them are chronic cases, and at the same time providing so much room for the bona fide citizens of Iowa.

PAYMENT OF VISITING COMMITTEE.

A bill has been introduced providing for the payment of the per diem and mileage of the State Board of Visitors in the same manner as the trustees of various institutions, namely, directly from the State treasury, instead of the current funds of the hospital. We believe this is right, and in justice to the hospital they should be relieved from this expense.

T. J. CALDWELL,
On part of Senate.

D. A. LAFORCE,
JOHN COLEMAN,
On part of House.

OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES.

Names, compensation and kind of service of the employes in the Iowa Hospital for the Insane at Mt. Pleasant, January 20, 1886.

NAME.	SERVICE.	AMOUNT.
H. A. Gilman.....	Superintendent . . .	\$3,000.00 per year.
H. M. Bassett.....	1st ass't physician .	1,000.00 per year.
M. E. Witte.....	2d ass't physician .	900.00 per year.
E. N. Nelson.....	Steward.....	1,000.00 per year.
F. V. Cole.....	Matron.....	500.00 per year.
L. M. Crawford.....	Clerk.....	25.00 per month.
Cornelia Miller.....	Stenographer.....	25.00 per month.
Severin Miller.....	Apothecary.....	20.00 per month.
G. H. Lyons.....	Supervisor.....	40.00 per month.
Meno Trope.....	Supervisoreess.....	30.00 per month.
Carrie Bogert.....	Ass't supervisoreess	22.00 per month.
Emma Brown.....	Watchman.....	22.00 per month.
Clark Langhery.....	Watchman.....	29.00 per month.
Kate Fisher.....	Attendant.....	20.00 per month.
Phena Swanson.....	Attendant.....	17.00 per month.
Nellie Witchelow.....	Attendant.....	16.00 per month.
Mary Igo.....	Attendant.....	18.00 per month.
Lucy Cook.....	Attendant.....	18.00 per month.
Clara Farnsworth.....	Attendant.....	17.00 per month.
Stella Inscore.....	Attendant.....	17.00 per month.
Vergie Green.....	Attendant.....	17.00 per month.
Mollie Cox.....	Attendant.....	20.00 per month.
L. Johnson.....	Attendant.....	24.00 per month.
Lovia Bevans.....	Attendant.....	18.00 per month.
Ida Howell.....	Attendant.....	18.00 per month.
Anna Igo.....	Attendant.....	18.00 per month.
Juha Smith.....	Attendant.....	20.00 per month.
Mollie Dickerson.....	Attendant.....	17.00 per month.
Clara Strong.....	Attendant.....	22.00 per month.
Laura Fell.....	Attendant.....	17.00 per month.
Lucy Scott.....	Attendant.....	18.00 per month.
Ed Clodfelter.....	Attendant.....	28.00 per month.
Wallie Cobb.....	Attendant.....	26.00 per month.
Charles Morrison.....	Attendant.....	24.00 per month.
Gust Johnson.....	Attendant.....	25.00 per month.
A. M. Ruby.....	Attendant.....	25.00 per month.
John Rask.....	Attendant.....	26.00 per month.
Charles Smith.....	Attendant.....	24.00 per month.
R. T. Keys.....	Attendant.....	24.00 per month.
W. A. Baldwin.....	Attendant.....	24.00 per month.
Sam Plank.....	Attendant.....	24.00 per month.
James Holt.....	Attendant.....	25.00 per month.
B. C. Kelly.....	Attendant.....	24.00 per month.

OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES—CONTINUED.

NAME.	SERVICE.	AMOUNT.
John Cook	Attendant	\$25.00 per month.
W. C. Storey	Attendant	25.00 per month.
J. F. Watkins	Attendant	25.00 per month.
W. K. Dillon	Attendant	25.00 per month.
John Bootman	Attendant	24.00 per month.
Sophia Fagerstrom	Cook	15.00 per month.
Amelia Wilson	Kitchen girl	11.00 per month.
Amelia Eymann	Kitchen girl	11.00 per month.
Effa Welday	Kitchen girl	11.00 per month.
E. P. Lingren	Carman	25.00 per month.
Alfred Swanson	Carman	23.00 per month.
Nannie Sellers	Kitchen girl	11.00 per month.
A. G. Ackerman	Baker	40.00 per month.
Helma Carlson	Assistant baker	15.00 per month.
Laura Barnard	Ironer	16.00 per month.
Mary Carrigan	Ironer	10.00 per month.
Viola Fenton	Ironer	10.00 per month.
Catharine Plato	Ironer	10.00 per month.
Mary Stubblefield	Waiter girl	15.00 per month.
Viria Lyons	Seamstress	11.00 per month.
Lou Robb	Seamstress	16.00 per month.
A. Larson	Porter	18.00 per month.
Jessie Thomas	Washerwoman	20.00 per month.
Belle Raphs	Washerwoman	12.00 per month.
Mary McGowen	Washerwoman	11.00 per month.
Maggie Calhoun	Cook	18.00 per month.
Anna Gustafson	Assistant cook	12.00 per month.
Lou E. Graham	Waiter girl	10.00 per month.
Nellie Daniels	Chambermaid	11.00 per month.
Hattie Merwin	Chambermaid	11.00 per month.
Lizzie Short	Chambermaid	11.00 per month.
R. H. Stearns	Farmer	35.00 per month.
Wm. Baldwin	Teamster	20.00 per month.
John Hurley	Teamster	22.00 per month.
E. Rouse	Teamster	20.00 per month.
Chas. Stearns	Milkman	18.00 per month.
Con Hurley	Milkman	18.00 per month.
Henry Rouse	Butcher	40.00 per month.
S. B. Sidebotham	Florist	45.00 per month.
S. Hernbaugh	Gardener	35.00 per month.
Frank McCormack	Laborer	25.00 per month.
John McLaughlin	Laborer	25.00 per month.
L. H. Fenton	Laborer	1 25 per day.
Martin McLaughlin	Hostler	20.00 per month.
John Thomas	Engineer	66.00 per month.
Pat. O'Connell	Fireman	40.00 per month.
John Hart	Fireman	28.00 per month.
Wilber Connel	Fireman	28.00 per month.
Timothy Mount	Carpenter	2.50 per day.
Noah Shriver	Carpenter	2.00 per day.
James Wilson	Painter	2.25 per day.
Bell Chalfant	Organist	2.00 per day.