

HOUSE No. 1739

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE TRUSTEES OF THE MASSACHUSETTS SCHOOL FOR THE FEEBLE-MINDED, UNDER CHAPTER 452, ACTS OF 1910.

COTTAGE FOR FARM FOREMAN, \$4,000.

We have no house for foreman farmer at Waverley and have been compelled to employ unmarried men. This has meant frequent changes and is very unsatisfactory. The kind of men who make good foremen are always settled men with families, and we cannot employ such men unless we have a house provided for them.

COTTAGE FOR ASSISTANT PHYSICIAN, \$5,000.

We have five assistant physicians. One is married and lives in a cottage on the place. The proposed cottage is similar to the one so occupied. Another of our assistant physicians is married and has two children. They now live in two small rooms on the third floor of the office building. This is very uncomfortable for them and these rooms are much needed for other officers. While the institution has grown, the rooms for officers have not been increased, and we very much need these extra rooms. It is very difficult to employ a physician who has a family unless he can live in a separate house.

BUILDINGS FOR PATIENTS' VISITORS AND FOR RECREATION
PURPOSES OF EMPLOYEES, \$25,000.

We have at Waverley over 250 employees, mostly young women. These women live in comfortable houses, but have no place for recreation, and the result is that when they get through their work, they go in town and are there exposed to the temptations of the city. We feel that we owe something in the way of social service to these young people and that, if we are to make the nursing service here more attractive to the right class of people, we must give them proper facilities for rest and recreation, such as are furnished by modern department stores and by settlements and other civic social centers. We have a very large moral responsibility towards these young women who are in the service of the school.

The building as proposed will furnish a room for the matron, who will really be a social service worker for the special class of young impressionable girls who make our most desirable attendants; a reading room and library for all the employees; a recreation hall where dancing and singing might be indulged in, and with certain semi-secluded alcoves where young women might meet their young men friends with the proper amount of privacy, but without the dangers in the present method of meeting them in the roads and groves. On the other side of the recreation hall would be a smoking and billiard room for the male employees, and a small kitchen where simple suppers and other refreshments could be prepared.

In the day time it is proposed to use this building for the reception of the parents and friends of the patients. Relatively, 80 per cent. of our patients come from within a 5-cent fare limit of the school, and on pleasant visiting days, especially on Sundays, we often have 50 or 60 patients who have visitors. The present reception rooms are very small, not having been enlarged since we had a population of 400, and the visitors are at present very inadequately cared for. The recreation hall, with its alcoves, would furnish an opportunity for the amount of privacy the parents desire with their children.

STEEL WATER TOWER TO SUPPLEMENT AND REPLACE PRESENT TOWER AT WALTHAM, \$4,500.

The present water tower at Waltham was built for a population of 600 and we now have at the school over 1,200 patients and employees. The water supply is from the city supply, and the territory between the city and the school has been built up very much in the last few years, so that a large population now uses the water main that supplies the school. In case of fire we could depend upon but a limited supply. The estimated cost covers a steel tower 20 feet in diameter, 75 feet high, with an estimated capacity of 175,000 gallons.

COTTAGE FOR 15 ADDITIONAL PATIENTS AT TEMPLETON COLONY, \$3,500.

This cottage would closely resemble the present dormitories at Templeton, except that under one roof we would have sleeping room for 15 boys, sitting room for 15 boys, attendants' room, toilet room and clothes room. This would be a one-story building and would be largely constructed by the boys themselves.

WALTER E. FERNALD, *Supt.*

For the Trustees.

