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Date: Sept. 17, 1909
Description: Brief history of Maine Sanatorium

BELL TELEPHONE Maine Sanatorium, Greenwood Mountain
TELEGRAPH CONNECTION Hebron, Maine.

RAILROAD STATION, WEST MINOT

DR. ESTES NICHOLS,
MEDICAL DIRECTOR

September 17th. 1909.

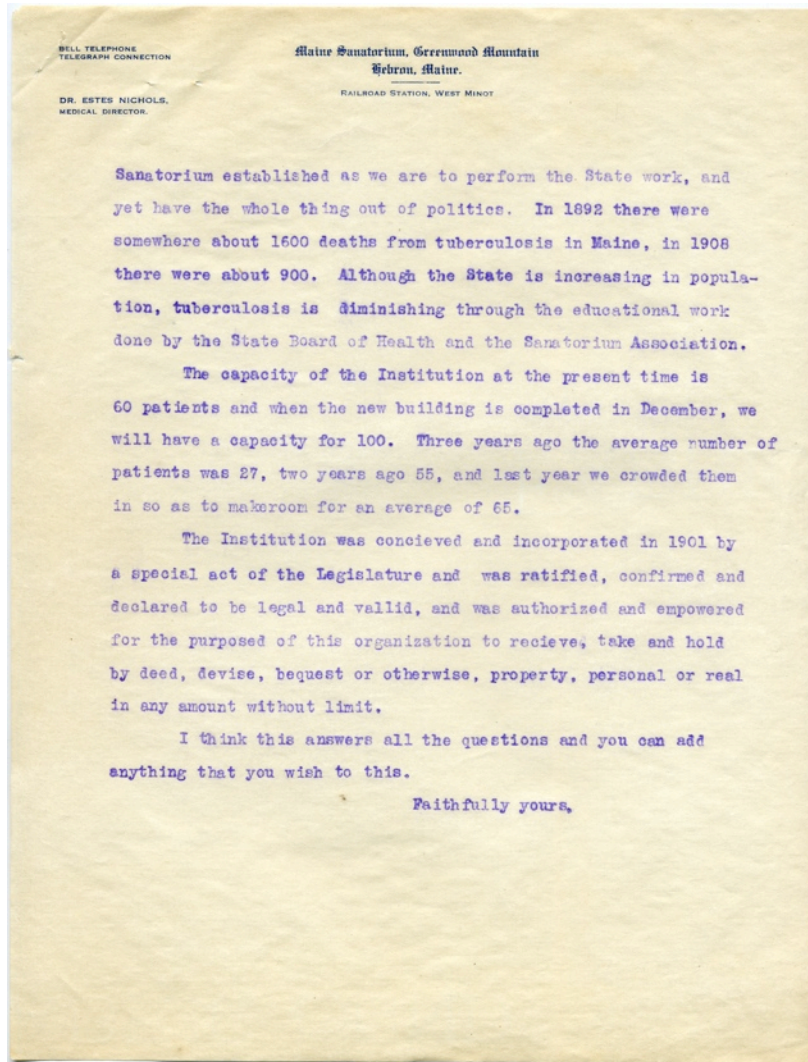
Hon. Hiram W. Ricker,
So. Poland, Maine.

My dear Mr. Ricker:- I am very glad to answer some questions in reply to Mr. J. Putnam Steven's letter to you.

We have about 400 acres of land and up to the present time we have expended \$165,152.87. This of course does not include our new cottage and water system. Our liabilities are \$50,292.56, and there is a mortgage held by the Union Mutual of Portland for \$29,000.

There have been raised by subscription \$90,472.48 and by State appropriation \$54,331.17. The State is now appropriating \$7500. a year for the assistance of poor patients; this will undoubtedly be increased at the next session of the Legislature. This of course, does not mean anything for the Institution, it is for the poor. The charge for treatment per week is Fourteen Dollars. The money appropriated by the State for the poor is disbursed by the Medical Director and the Executive Committee, upon receipt of three certificates from reliable persons in the town from which the patient comes, certifying that the patient is in need of financial help.

This Institution was the fourth Institution to open its doors really in the capacity of a State Sanatorium, that is, we do the work of a State Sanatorium. Since that time however, nearly every State has established either a State Sanatorium, or a



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Sanatorium established as we are to perform the State work, and yet have the whole thing out of politics. In 1892 there were somewhere about 1600 deaths from tuberculosis in Maine, in 1908 there were about 900. Although the State is increasing in population, tuberculosis is diminishing through the educational work done by the State Board of Health and the Sanatorium Association.

The capacity of the Institution at the present time is 60 patients and when the new building is completed in December, we will have a capacity for 100. Three years ago the the average number of patients was 27, two years ago 55, and last year we crowded them in so as to make room for an average of 65.

The Institution was conceived and incorporated in 1901 by a special act of the Legislature and was ratified, confirmed and declared to be legal and valid, and was authorized and empowered for the purpose of this organization to receive, take and hold by deed, devise, bequest or otherwise, property, personal or real in any amount without limit.

I think this answers all the questions and you can add anything you wish to this.

Faithfully yours,