

**PUBLIC DOCUMENT NO. 23:
EIGHTY-FIFTH ANNUAL REPORT OF
THE TRUSTEES OF THE WORCESTER
STATE HOSPITAL, FOR THE YEAR
ENDING NOVEMBER 30, 1917**

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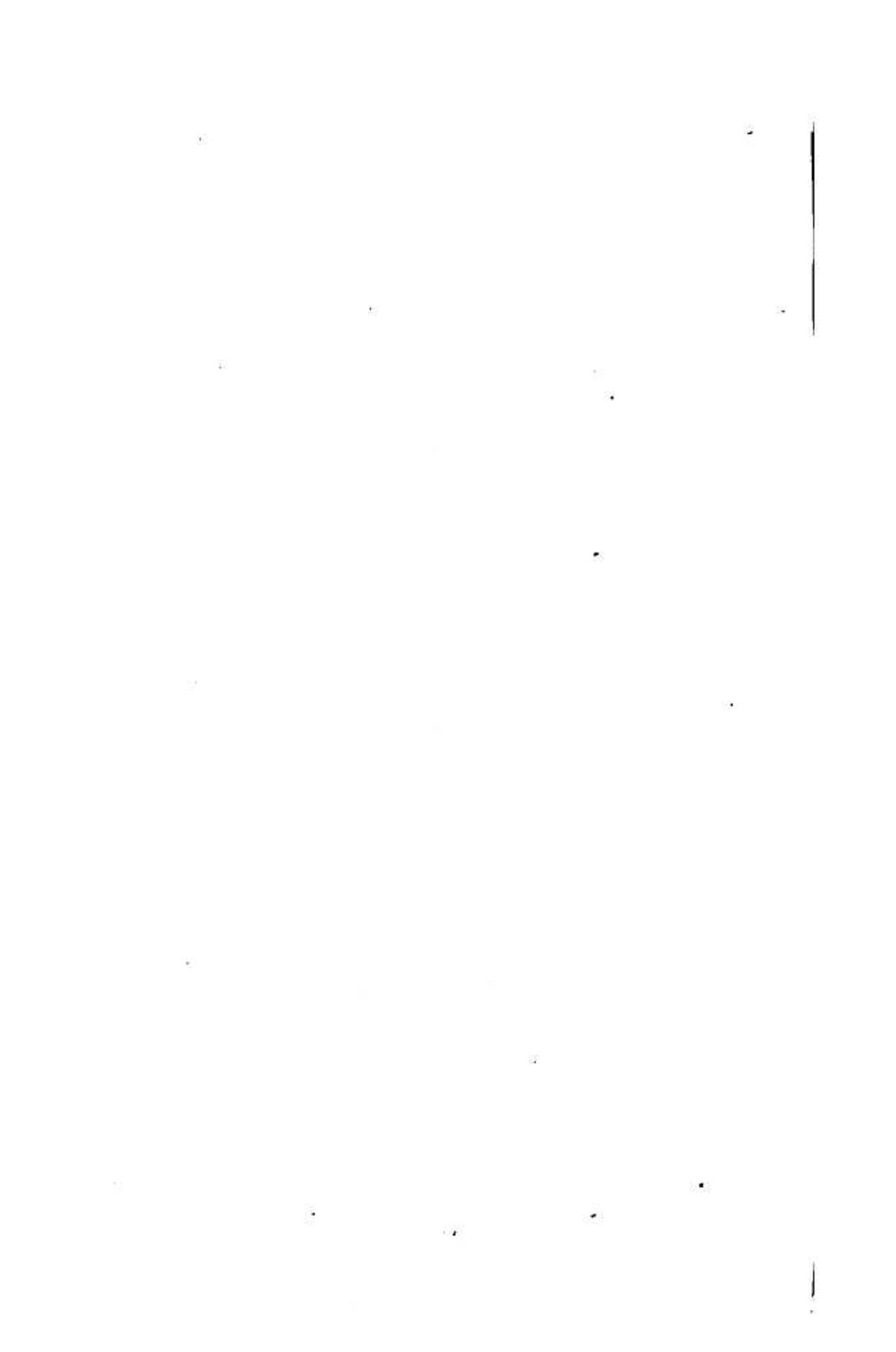


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JAMES DICKISON, Jr.,	<i>Clerk.</i>
	<i>Engineer.</i>

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The Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

TRUSTEES' REPORT.

To His Excellency the Governor and the Honorable Council.

The trustees of the Worcester State Hospital respectfully submit their eighty-fifth annual report and solicit your careful consideration of the reports of the superintendent and treasurer which are appended.

The year's record shows few accomplishments by way of repairs and improvements, the Legislature having granted appropriations to meet only one of the institution's needs, — its sewage disposal.

After years of agitation the hospital's sewage is now a part of that of the city of Worcester, and all possible menace to the health of the adjacent community has been averted.

We earnestly call your attention to the needs of the hospital as outlined in last year's report, the most immediate being the construction of a laundry and industrial building, the installation of a cold-storage plant, the renewal of plumbing in the main building, and sufficient means for an increase in wages and salaries.

The first — the construction of a laundry and industrial building — is a vital need in these days of conservation, inasmuch as the present laundry could then be converted into a congregate dining room. Numerous ward dining rooms, as now exist, are conducive to waste of material and energy. A congregate dining room tends to better supervision, more efficient service and greater economy in the distribution and use of food.

The second — the installation of a cold-storage plant — is another conservation measure. It would allow larger purchases of supplies at low cost and promote more intensive farming.