

No. 4, S.]

[Published June 9, 1920.]

CHAPTER 17.

AN ACT to create sections 1417a—1, 1417a—2, 1417a—3, 1417a—4, 1417a—5, 1417a—6, 1417a—7, 1417a—8, 1417a—9, 1417a—10, 1417a—11, 46.115 and subsection (7) of section 20.40 of the statutes, relating to the treatment of county and state patients in the State of Wisconsin General Hospital, providing for payment therefor by the several counties, and making appropriations.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. There are added to the statutes twelve new sections and to section 20.40 a new subsection, to be numbered and to read:

Section 1417a—1. The State of Wisconsin General Hospital at Madison is hereby designated as the proper place of treatment for persons who are legal residents of this state, and who are afflicted with any disease, malady, deformity or ailment, which can probably be remedied, or which can be advantageously treated by proper medical or surgical care, in all cases where such person, or in the case of a minor, the parent, guardian, trustee or other person having lawful custody of his person, as the case may be, is financially unable to provide such care and treatment.

Section 1417a—2. Whenever the existence of a case described in section 1417a—1 shall come to the notice of the sheriff, any county supervisor, public official, town clerk, public health officer, public health nurse, poor commissioner, policeman, physician, or surgeon, it shall be his duty to, and any teacher, priest or minister may, file with the county judge of the county of the legal residence of such person, an application for the treatment of such person at the state of Wisconsin General Hospital.

Section 1417a—3. Such application shall be in such form as the county judge shall direct, and shall contain a full statement of the financial situation of the person sought to be treated and a general statement of his physical condition, and shall be verified. Upon the filing of such application, the county judge shall make investigation in such manner as he shall deem advisable, and it shall be the duty of the supervisor for the town, village or ward of the residence of the person sought to be treated to supply to the court, on request thereof, all information within his knowledge relative to the financial situation of the person sought to be treated; and if, after such investiga-

tion, said judge shall be satisfied that the person on whose behalf the application is made is not financially able to provide himself with such treatment, or, in the case of a minor, that his parents, guardian or trustee, in representative capacity, or the person having legal custody over him or legally responsible for his support and maintenance, is not financially able to provide such treatment, then said judge shall appoint a physician of said county whose duty it shall be personally to make an examination of the person on whose behalf said application for treatment has been filed. Said physician shall thereupon make and file with the county court a verified report in writing, setting forth the nature and history of the case, and such other information as will be likely to aid in the medical or surgical treatment of the disease, malady, deformity or ailment affecting said person, and shall also state in said report whether or not, in his opinion, the condition of such person can probably be remedied, or should be treated, at a hospital. The report of such physician shall be made within such time as the court may direct, and upon blanks to be furnished for that purpose. Said report shall include any information within the knowledge of said physician relative to the financial situation of the person proposed to be treated.

Section 1417a—4. If, upon the filing of said report, the court shall be satisfied that the case is one which should be treated at the State of Wisconsin General Hospital, and that the person to be treated, or his parent, guardian, trustee or other person having legal custody of his person in case of a minor, is not financially able to provide himself with proper treatment, he shall enter an order finding such facts. In case the court is not so satisfied, he may take additional testimony, or make such further investigation as to him shall seem proper. The court may reject any application not found meritorious. Upon the entry of the order of the court approving said application, he shall communicate with the superintendent of the State of Wisconsin General Hospital and ascertain whether or not the applicant can be received as a patient. If the State of Wisconsin General Hospital can receive such applicant, the court shall thereupon certify his approval of such application to said hospital, and to the chairman of the county board.

Section 1417a—5. Upon the approval of said application, if the patient is unable to travel alone, the court may appoint a suitable officer or person to take him to said hospital, and such person shall receive his actual and necessary expenses, and, if not a salaried officer of the state or any subdivision

thereof, shall receive in addition a per diem of three dollars per day for the time actually and necessarily consumed in transporting said patient to said hospital and returning. Such per diem and expenses shall be paid by the county of the residence of said patient, and it shall be the duty of the county board of each county to provide for such payment. The physician appointed to make said examination shall receive five dollars for making said examination and his actual and necessary expenses, which shall also be paid by the county of the residence of said patient, and it shall be the duty of the county board of each county to provide for such payment.

Section 1417a—6. The State of Wisconsin General Hospital shall treat patients admitted on certificate of the county court of any county at rates based on actual cost as determined by the board of regents of the University. Any legal resident of the state, upon a proper showing to the board of regents of the university, that he is unable to pay the full charges of said hospital for care, may be received upon paying the same rate as charged against the county for county patients. It shall be the duty of the board of regents to investigate applications made for such treatment under this section and, if satisfied of the truth of the allegations made, and of the necessity for treatment, shall admit such patient whenever there is room in said hospital.

Section 1417a—7. No compensation shall be charged or received by any officer of the State of Wisconsin General Hospital, or by any physician or surgeon or nurse in its employment, who shall treat or care for any patients, other than the compensation provided for them by the board of regents of the university.

Section 1417a—8. The board of regents of the university shall file a verified monthly report with the secretary of state, containing an itemized statement of the expense charged against each patient received on certification of any county court, together with the name of the county from which said patient was certified, and a statement of any sum or sums paid by the patient, his guardian, trustee or parents, or by any person in his behalf. The secretary of state shall audit such monthly report, and, upon finding the same correct, he shall issue a warrant against the state treasurer for the net amount so certified. The state treasurer shall thereupon transfer such amount from the general fund to the appropriation from the university fund income provided in subsection (7) of section 20.40.

Section 1417a—9. On or before the first day of October in each year the board of regents of the university shall file with the secretary of state a statement setting forth the name of each patient cared for at the State of Wisconsin General Hospital at any time during the fiscal year ended on the thirtieth day of June next preceding, and for whose support any county is legally chargeable, either in whole or in part; the length of time for which such support is charged, and the net amount due to the state from such county for the care and maintenance of said patient. The secretary of state shall thereupon certify to each county the net amount due from it to the state for each such patient, and the net total amount due from such county for all such patients for which it is chargeable, which last amount shall be equal to one-half the sum certified by the board of regents of the university, and shall be a special charge against such county, and shall be certified, levied and collected with the general state taxes and paid into the state treasury.

Section 1417a—10. Whenever, in the opinion of the superintendent of the State of Wisconsin General Hospital, any county patient should be discharged therefrom as cured, or as no longer needing treatment, or for the reason that treatment cannot benefit his case, said superintendent shall discharge said patient. If the patient is unable to return to his place of residence alone, said superintendent shall notify the county judge of said county, who shall appoint some suitable person to bring said patient back from said hospital. Such person shall receive his actual and necessary expenses, and, if not a salaried officer of the state or any political subdivision thereof, shall receive in addition a per diem of three dollars per day for the actual time necessarily consumed. Such per diem and expenses shall be paid by the county of the residence of said patient, and it shall be the duty of the county board of each county to make proper provision therefor.

Section 1417a—11. The faculty of the medical school of the university shall prepare proper blanks containing such questions and requiring such information relative to the physical condition of the applicant as may be necessary to be obtained by the physician examining a patient under order of the county court. Such blanks shall be printed by the university, and shall be mailed to the clerk of each county court upon request. Physicians making such examination shall make a verified report to the court in duplicate on said blanks, answering all the questions therein contained, and giving such infor-

mation as is therein required. One copy of said report shall be filed with the court, and the other sent to the State of Wisconsin General Hospital when said patient is admitted.

(46.115) The board of control of the state of Wisconsin shall make application to the board of regents of the university, for the admission to the State of Wisconsin General Hospital of any inmate of any state institution under the board of control, or of any person committed to or applying for admission thereto, who is afflicted with any disease, malady, deformity or ailment, which can probably be remedied, or which can be advantageously treated by proper medical or surgical care, at the State of Wisconsin General Hospital, in all cases where such person cannot receive proper care at the institution to which he has been committed or to which he has made application for admission. Said application shall be accompanied by the report of the physician of said institution or by a physician appointed by the board of control, in the same form as reports of other physicians for admission to patients to said hospital. The board of control shall pay to the regents of the university for the treatment of such patients at the same rates charged the county for county patients, and the expense of such treatment and of transporting such patient to and from the hospital shall be paid out of the appropriation for operation of the institution from which said patient is sent. Said board may, when necessary, send an attendant with such patient and pay his traveling expenses in like manner.

(20.40) (7) From time to time, such sums as may be necessary, to meet the certifications of the secretary of state, as provided in section 1417a—8, to be added to the appropriation made by paragraph (a) of subsection (10) of section 20.41.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon July 1, 1920.

Approved June 3, 1920.

No. 5, S.]

[Published June 9, 1920.

CHAPTER 18.

AN ACT to amend paragraph (L) of subsection (3) of section 20.41 of the statutes, relating to land clearing demonstrations, and making appropriations.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. Paragraph (L) of subsection (3) of section 20.41 of the statutes is amended to read: (20.41) (3) (L) On July 1, 1919, seven thousand five hundred dollars, *on June 1, 1920,*