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Castle ON THE Cumberland

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February 15, 1963

"This, Too, Shall Pass"

Volume II

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IN THIS MONTH'S CASTLE:

Deputy Warden's Page	1
Castle News	2
The Editorial Side	6
<u>Articles & Fiction</u>	
Criminals Can Be Rehabilitated	7
Letter to a Reader	10
<u>Departments & Features</u>	
Exchange Page	13
Tall Tales	14
Department Reports	15
Poetry & Miscellaneous	17
Late News	18
Pages From the Past	20
Nightkeeper's Report 1886	22
Statistics & Movies	23
The Last Word	23

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THE DEPUTY'S PAGE

By Lloyd T. Armstrong, Deputy Warden

The following are some questions that have been asked me during the past few months, and I thought I would take this opportunity to answer them:

Q. Why are there more white than colored inmates in the Kentucky State Penitentiary?

A. Because in the population of Kentucky there are quite a few more white than colored residents.

Q. Why is it that there are fewer colored inmates in your institution today than there were ten years ago?

A. Because more colored people have moved north and to other states seeking factory work etc.

Q. Do we have proportionately more escapes among the white than among the colored population?

A. Yes, I think so.

Q. In which population, colored or white, do you have more prison violations?

A. About the same according to population.

Q. Which are the easier to handle, colored or white inmates?

A. I would say about the same, except that the colored seem to have a tendency to be noisier.

Q. Which do better work, white or colored inmates?

A. I would say about the same. But a lot depends on the type of work involved.

Q. Which participate more in athletics?

A. Colored.

Q. Among which race do you have the most illiteracy?

A. I would say about 50-50 according to the population.

Q. Which learn faster in your school?

A. I would say the whites learn a little faster than the colored.

Q. In which population do you have the most disease?

A. I would say about 50-50 according to the population.

Q. What about the dental problem?

A. I would say the whites have a tendency to take care of their teeth better than the colored.

Q. Why is it that most colored people have a tendency to have bad feet?

A. I do not know how to answer this question, but I do agree that there are more problems with bad feet in the colored population than among the whites.

Q. Do you have any trouble with your white inmates and colored getting along with each other?

A. No, we do not.

Q. Are they permitted to associate with each other?

A. Yes, they are.

(Continued on Page 19)

CASTLE NEWS

SIXTH ANNUAL A. A. BANQUET -- A PERSONAL REPORT

In convict parlance, a "civilian" is any person who doesn't wear a number on his shirt. To a member of Alcoholics Anonymous, the word means anyone who doesn't wear the monkey of alcoholism on his back. Last month, your editor had the privilege of being a "civilian" at an A. A. banquet. If you'll pardon a bad pun, the experience was an eye-opener.

Like most other civilians, I had a private picture of A. A. as a worthwhile but rather dreary and sordid organization that was doing a laudable job of keeping ex-stumblebums off the jug. I also had the usual doubts about the effectiveness of an Alcoholics Anonymous program within a prison -- where, after all, booze is the scarcest of commodities. The KSP Hopeful Group's Sixth Anniversary Banquet knocked a hole in that picture. I'll even go so far as to admit that before the meeting was over I was half wishing I were an alcoholic so I could join the group myself.

The picture was torn a little when I walked into the chapel, where the meeting was being held, and looked around the room. The thirty or so outside members who had braved icy streets and near zero weather to be here -- and many of them drove from far corners of the state to be here -- certainly didn't fit the frame. Well dressed, well groomed, prosperous looking, they mingled with the inmates freely and naturally, without a trace of the false heartiness and condescension that prisoners have learned to expect from many visitors.

Warden Luther Thomas and Deputy Warden Lloyd Armstrong were present for the opening of the banquet, and they both welcomed the guests. They, too, seemed to be impressed with the job A. A. is doing. The Deputy Warden came back just before lunch to tell a story on himself that got a good reception from the group. Chaplain Jagers, sponsor of the prison group, was there too. He offered

a short prayer which, with the exception of a closing benediction, was the only religious aspect of the affair.

Normand S., an inmate, emceed the program, and did a fine job of it. So did the three inmate speakers -- Wayne S., who co-founded the Hopeful Group six years ago, and John P. and Commoneal B.

But the real high point of the banquet was the talks given by the outsiders. These weren't the usual before-dinner speeches. They weren't at all sordid or dreary -- in spite of the sordidness of the subject matter -- and they were anything but dull. The group's outside sponsor, a man who has given a lot of time and energy to the inmate chapter, sticking with it even when membership was down to practically zero, spoke briefly. Then he introduced the principal speakers, both Louisville executives.

Those talks finished tearing down that picture of A. A. I had been carrying around. Both of the men were gifted speakers as well as talented and successful members of their community. They told their stories sincerely and honestly. Their talks were dramatic without melodrama, tragic without self-castigation or sob-sisterishness, and inspirational without mawkishness.

Following the speeches a guard came in -- and incidentally there had been no guards present before this -- and escorted the visitors to the washrooms in the administration building across the yard. The inmates wandered back to the shops to wash up. When everyone returned, Steward Henry Griffin and some of the fellows from the kitchen brought in a buffet luncheon.

Money for the food had been provided in part from the Hopeful Group's slim treasury and in part by Joe Rose, the non-alcoholic Hopkinsville businessman

who has devoted so much of his time to the state prisons and mental institutions. There were ham sandwiches and baked beans, potato salad and cake, pickles and coffee, and after everyone had lined up to fill his plate, we all sat around the chapel balancing plates on our knees, visitors and inmates alike. It was a really enjoyable luncheon and no one spoiled it by asking why the menu didn't include green beans and stewed potatoes.

I talked for a while with one of the speakers, a fellow named Bill K. Bill's talk had been sprinkled with bar-room and convict expressions (following his long bout with the bottle he did considerable work in the California penal institutions), but it also had displayed the depth and simplicity you would expect from a truly educated man, which he is.

During his speech, I had the distinct impression that all his story needed to make it apply to most of us in here was to substitute the word "thief" for "alcoholic," and that was what I wanted to discuss with him. We talked for a time about compulsive behavior of all kinds, whether it's in a drunkard or a gambler or a thief or whatever. Without any hocus-pocus or psychiatric jargon, Bill told me how the same basic emotions -- fear and resentment and hatred, but especially the kind of fear that is commonly identified as an inadequacy or inferiority complex -- seem to be behind it all.

"You've never seen a man who was truly self-confident, who really believed in himself, commit any anti-social acts," he said. "Fear makes us feel inadequate and inadequacy leads to resentment and hatred."

I asked him if he didn't think the same principles that are helping alcoholics stay sober would keep thieves from stealing. He replied that there was no doubt of it.

Later, one of the visitors got up and suggested that the hat be passed for the Hopeful Group's treasury. There was a clinking of silver and a rustling of paper money as the collection was taken. Soon after that, the meeting broke up. The guard came in again to escort the visitors to the gate. They looked around for their coats and hats, said their goodbyes, and the banquet was over.

A. A. PROVED EFFECTIVE IN PRISON

Alcoholics who go to prison -- and it has been said that as many as 90 percent of all convicts are in prison as a direct or indirect result of excessive drinking -- have to stay dry whether they want to or not. But, according to Normand S., who served as Master of Ceremonies at last month's A. A. Anniversary Banquet, the Alcoholics Anonymous program works almost as well for prisoners as it does for free drunks.

Normand backed up his contention with figures showing that alcoholics who were released from San Quentin before Warden Clinton Duffy's reign returned at the rate of 80 percent. When Duffy brought in the first A. A. prison chapter at San Quentin, however, the number of returnees among alcoholics dropped to 20 percent.

SOMETHING WRONG WITH HIS ARGUMENT

A Wilmington, Delaware police sergeant's was one of the strongest voices urging that Delaware restore the death penalty, abolished in that state in 1958. The sergeant, who had been in police work for 20 years, testified that he knew the death penalty puts fear into the hearts of would-be killers and deters them from murder. His voice was heeded, and the electric chair returned to Delaware.

Ten days after the death penalty went into effect, the sergeant killed his wife!

TWO LAYMEN SPEAK AT CHAPEL SERVICES

Two area laymen visited the prison on successive weeks last month to speak at Chapel services. Both men drew large numbers of inmates into the small brick building that doubles as a library.

Executive News Editor Bill Powell of the PADUCAH SUN DEMOCRAT was scheduled to speak at the Christmas services, but illness postponed his appearance until January. The CASTLE staff was not notified of his visit in time to cover the talk, but reports from inmates who were present were enthusiastic.

Bill Russell, a young Baptist from Hopkinsville, visited Chapel services the following week as a guest of Joe Rose, also of Hopkinsville. Speaking for approximately an hour, Russell kept his audience engrossed with a delivery that reminded some of the style of comedian Andy Griffith. Both Russell and Rose stayed for the A. A. Banquet held after services.

LUCAS COMPLETES CARVING OF LAST SUPPER

A double-lifer -- a man serving two life sentences -- recently completed a large wood-carving of the Last Supper. Alvin Lucas, employed in the Cabinet Shop, spent more than three weeks carving the scene from a sheet of poplar.

The carving is recessed with details of the room, the traditional thirteen figures, and the table standing out in bas-relief. The impression of depth is heightened by a large frame painstakingly made in blond wood by Jack Ingram, another Cabinet Shop employee.

The highly realistic scene is finished in two shades of stain, with a final coat of varnish to bring out the gloss and grain of the wood. Lucas completed the project with the blessings of his superior, Officer in Charge H. Hillyard.

Other projects recently completed by

Lucas, who took up carving as a hobby only months ago, include the figures on a large pendulum clock. The clock attracted a great deal of favorable comment around the prison.

Lucas said he had nothing definite planned for his next woodcarving project, but he usually gets ideas for other scenes while working with the carving tools.

COUNTRY BAND REORGANIZED, NAMED

Jack Belcher, leader of the country and Western band, announced last month that a general reorganization has taken place. The band has also been given a name -- the Kentucky Playboys, a title borrowed from Jack's outside band.

Belcher said the band has been reformed around the steel guitarist, Curly Bruce. Ray Stone and Gene Kirby will do the vocals, Garvin Shappard will be on the fiddle, and Grant Roark will thump the big bass fiddle. Belcher strums the lead guitar for the group.

The Kentucky Playboys are using the toolroom near the pumphouse for rehearsals. Their plans include making tapes for the prison's Sunday-afternoon broadcast on WCBL (See Page 23), and by the time this magazine is out, a variety show staged in the gymnasium.

SURRENDER CALL NETS EXTRA FUGITIVES

(From The LOUISVILLE TIMES)

(AP) -- Phoenix police surrounded a motel and over a loudspeaker demanded that Walter Lewis Hefner, 33, surrender. Hefner was wanted on a robbery charge.

Officers were surprised when Hefner walked out of a cabin to surrender, then two other men came out of a different unit with their hands raised.

The other two were wanted in a Holtville, California burglary.

NEW FEDERAL PRISON ATTRACTIVE, SECURE

According to an AP dispatch in the PADUCAH SUN DEMOCRAT, the new Federal prison being built at Marion, Illinois was designed with the psychological wellbeing of its inmates in mind. But security in the new prison, erected partly to house some of the inmates of the condemned prison on Alcatraz Island, will be tight.

Built at a cost of \$15,000 per inmate (it will house 700), the prison features cheerful colors, a new arrangement of bars, and no wall at all. Double fences guarded by gun towers at strategic points will make the institution virtually escape proof. Guarded tunnels lead in and out of the compound, and TV cameras scan the halls. In the windows, vertical bars of aluminum conceal special steel bars, and walls of the buildings are from five to eight feet thick.

A view of the surrounding countryside and outside air circulating through the cells will make conditions a little more pleasant. The grounds are landscaped. Ultramodern industrial facilities will provide plenty of work for the inmates confined there.

A classroom for students of criminology will be provided near the prison, and a special training program has been set up for prison employees. The prison is the 32nd in the Federal system.

ARCHITECT CASNER OLD HAND AT THE GAME

Lawrence Casner, who designed the new education-recreation building under construction in the prison, is no new comer to architecture. A native of Providence Kentucky, he took his training at the Georgia Institute of Technology and emerged a licensed architect and civil engineer. He set up his business in Madisonville in 1934. Now 29 years later, he still maintains the same office.

The building he designed for the prison,

a two-story masonry structure with clean simple lines, will house the institution library and academic school on its first floor. A gymnasium-auditorium, complete with stage and movie facilities, will occupy the second floor. The 20,000 square foot structure will cost the state about half of its actual value through the use of inmate labor and used materials.

Mr. Casner was in the prison last month to check on the progress of the building's foundation, now almost completed.

COLD WEATHER CUTS YARD CREW TO 55

The arrival of winter has cut the size of the yard maintenance crew to approximately 55 men, according to Alford Cunningham, clerk in the Yard Office. Normally, some 80 or more men are kept on the payroll. Their responsibilities include caring for the flowers and lawns in the 10-acre compound, whitewashing buildings and walks, and generally keeping the yard clean, as well as carrying food and water to the guards in the gun towers spotted around the walls.

The Yard Office, located under the laundry and situated just below the main level of the compound, serves as headquarters for the guards whose duty it is to maintain order and oversee work and maintenance details within the walls. The domain of Lieutenant W. O. Long and Sergeant W. G. Herndon, the Yard Office is also responsible for escorting outside details out the back gate every morning, assigning tasks to men on extra duty status, supervising equipment checkouts, and the hundred and one other miscellaneous but important tasks involved in operating the inside of a prison. All necessary records are kept by Cunningham, and Ray Forsting serves as Runner. Another inmate who performs an important but unsung job is B. G. Lee, whose duty it is to keep the shower room clean and supplied with soap and towels.

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THE EDITORIAL SIDE

TODAY: A MEDITATION FOR OUR TIMES

The material reprinted on our editorial page this month does not originate with us. It was printed on the back of an advertising card from an Ohio manufacturing company and was passed on to us by one of those rare individuals who practice their faith and their philosophy 24 hours a day. With apologies to Joe Rose, who will never blow his own horn, we present the thoughts he sent to us.

JUST FOR TODAY I will try to live through this day only, not to tackle my whole life problem at once. I can do things for 24 hours that would appall me if I had to keep them up for a life time.

JUST FOR TODAY I will be happy. This assumes what Abraham Lincoln said is true, that "Most folks are about as happy as they make up their minds to be." Happiness is from within; it is not a matter of externals.

JUST FOR TODAY I will try to adapt myself to the present, and not attempt to adjust everything to my own desires. I will take my family, my business, and my licks as they come and fit myself to them.

JUST FOR TODAY I will take care of my body. I will exercise it, care for it, nourish it, not abuse it nor neglect it, so that it will be a perfect machine for my bidding.

JUST FOR TODAY I will try to strengthen my mind. I will learn something useful. I will not be a mental loafer; I will read something that requires effort, thought and concentration.

JUST FOR TODAY I will exercise my soul in three ways: I will help somebody by a good turn and not get found out; I will do at least two things I don't want to do, as William James suggests -- "just for exercise."

JUST FOR TODAY I will be agreeable. I will appear as well as I can, dress as becomingly as possible, talk low, act courteously, be liberal with praise, criticize not at all, nor find fault with anything and not try to regulate nor improve anyone.

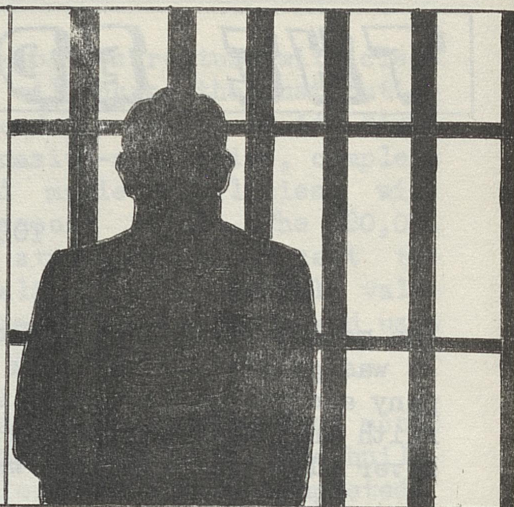
JUST FOR TODAY I will have a program. I will write down what I expect to do. I may not follow it exactly, but I will have it. It will eliminate two pests -- hurry and indecision.

JUST FOR TODAY I will be unafraid, especially I will not be afraid to be happy, to enjoy what is beautiful, to love, and to believe that those I love, love me.

CRIMINALS CAN BE REHABILITATED

By Milton G. Rector

Director, National Council on Crime and Delinquency



Reprinted from CONCERN Magazine's Special Issue on Crime and Rehabilitation

As a sinner can be redeemed, so a criminal can be rehabilitated. While redemption and rehabilitation are synonymous in the language of the church, they are not so considered in the language of our social institutions, of which the church is but one. Man and the law of man never forgive. The civil and social disabilities follow a convicted criminal to his grave even though he has been rehabilitated.

It has not been many years since we treated the mentally ill, then called insane, as we treat criminals today. They were chained and received regular corporal punishment and other severe forms of discipline for their misbehavior. Offenders and the mentally ill were held in the same penal institutions.

This was the system supported by the general public, which always considers that which is done under public authority is that which needs to be done. In fact, when such enlightened persons as Dr. Pinel in France and Dorothea Dix in the United States fought to remove the chains from the insane and to separate them from penal institutions, they did so against the opposition of an enraged public and a distrustful and dubious officialdom. Efforts to change the social institutions and systems which

attempt to rehabilitate offenders are still undergoing the same kinds of opposition and distrust.

CHURCH LEAD NECESSARY

Unless the church takes the lead in helping to change public attitudes toward the offender to one of belief that behavior can be changed for the better -- that a child or man who violates the law deserves redemption and forgiveness from his fellowman, at least as much as he does from his God -- the evolution of progressive change in the administration of justice will be needlessly prolonged.

Criminality and delinquency are defined as any form of behavior which violates the law. In this society few of those who violate the law are apprehended, and even fewer are convicted and referred to correctional agencies for rehabilitation.

In the absence of comprehensive criminal statistics for the nation, those of California offer the most complete reporting system of the few states which collect such data. In 1960, 250,000 serious (felony) crimes were reported to the police in California. There were 98,000 persons arrested for felonies against whom 42,000 complaints were filed. There were 24,000 persons con-

victed, accounting for less than 10 per cent of the number of crimes reported. Of these, 10,000 were placed on probation and 7,000 were committed to prison.

If a person continues his criminal behavior the chances of his arrest increase proportionately. Thus, with the vast majority of criminals going unapprehended, it can be assumed that a preponderance of criminal behavior in America changes for the better without the intervention of police, courts, and correctional agencies such as probation, institutions, and parole.

It can also be assumed that crime does pay -- and so does the public. Toward those offenders who are arrested and convicted, the public is terribly conflicted and, therefore, as might be expected, the agencies established to combat crime and to treat offenders are also conflicted.

Law enforcement agencies deeply resent the pre-court release from detention homes of those youngsters whom probation staff screen out as being neither dangerous nor apt to run away. On the other hand, the police raise no protest when an armed robber or accused rapist is released on bail with no pre-release investigation.

Leading law enforcement journals decry the youthful offender as the most serious crime problem in the country and demand more severe court sentences for these offenders. But they are largely silent on the insidious threat posed by organized crime in America and the extent to which political and law enforcement protection and public patronage permit criminal syndicates to thrive.

A robbery in which a few individuals succeed in stealing over a million dollars captures the headlines and, in the minds of many, confirms the need to deal more harshly with convicted offenders. But the public is generally apathetic when the executives of several corpora-

tions connive to fix prices and to control competitive bidding to the end that countless millions of dollars are stolen through needlessly inflated prices.

New outbreaks of vandalism by delinquent youngsters cause the public to look with doubt upon the juvenile court as though its efforts to understand the cause of such behavior are not in fact condonation of delinquency, when at the same time in the same city known racketeers remain immune from arrest and prosecution. Heavier sentences are demanded for sex offenders, few of whom are dangerous persons, when at the same time known racketeers in court for income tax violation receive lighter sentences than those imposed on tax violators engaged in legitimate business and professions.

CONVICTED A MINORITY

It should be clear then that when we discuss the question of rehabilitating the criminal from a penological viewpoint we are discussing only those offenders who are caught and convicted -- a minority among the number of persons who commit crimes.

Generally speaking they are persons of limited economic means whom society rejected even before a delinquent act was committed. They are from the low-income groups which are disproportionately vulnerable to arrest, to jail detention, to conviction, and to incarceration. Few are truly dangerous in the sense of severe personality disorders or assaultive behavior. Many are from ethnic groups which are denied equal opportunities for education and employment and which, because they are not assimilated among the general population, are not organized to protect themselves politically while they strive for better skills, income and education.

If justice were administered equally for all economic levels of our society, tens of thousands of persons who now inhabit our jails and prisons would not be there.

If our misdemeanor courts were staffed, as less than five per cent are, to screen out the mentally and physically ill and the non-dangerous offenders immediately after arrest, the populations of our city and county jails would be dramatically reduced. The scandalous bail bond practices existing in so many cities would dry up. Millions of dollars in tax funds to be spent for increased jail capacity would be saved.

TRAINED PERSONNEL REQUIRED

If our criminal courts were staffed with trained probation officers and supplemented by clinical diagnostic services to apply what we now know to aid in sentencing the criminal on the basis of his propensity for further crime rather than for the particular offense, thousands of persons in our prisons today would not be there. About 70 per cent would find the help necessary for rehabilitation on probation rather than the 20 to 40 per cent which receive such assistance in most states.

If the penal laws were reformed to prescribe the long sentences for the racketeers and other dangerous offenders who prey on children and viciously assault other people (no more than 10 per cent of the convicted offenders) and shorter sentences for the nondangerous offenders, correctional institutions could be built to hold populations of no more than 200-300 prisoners. Only then could correctional institutions become true rehabilitation centers to specialize in treating those we have had little success in rehabilitating to date.

If more parole boards were staffed with trained and experienced persons rather than patronage appointments, the process of selecting prisoners for parole release at the point of rehabilitative readiness would reduce our prison populations even more.

If parole officers were available in sufficient number and training, far few-

er released prisoners would commit new crimes.

These are the "ifs" to the answer that criminals can be rehabilitated in far greater number and at far less than the cost of the rehabilitative efforts underway in most states today. Human behavior is more complex than the atom. To solve its complexities will require better application of scientific knowledge now available and greatly expanded efforts to increase this knowledge. Only a few million dollars a year are being spent on research into the crime problem that costs our people over \$20 billion a year.

It must be understood that the best efforts of law enforcement, courts, and correctional agencies can not eliminate crime. They do not cause crime. They must be re-tooled to serve as the centers for research, for improved methods of treatment and prevention, but in the end, the answer lies with a better informed and activated public.

While there can be little doubt that many commit crimes because they are mentally and emotionally ill, the great majority who come into the courts do so because they are denied equal opportunities for employment, decent housing, education, medical care, and social welfare services. The current high crime rate and heavy overload on law enforcement, court, and correctional agencies will continue until society learns how to solve these more basic problems.

ERUDITE IGNORANCE?

Associate Editor to Editor following a stupid remark by the latter: "How can you be so ignorant in such an intelligent manner?"

MISNOMER -- Wonder what would happen --/
Would everybody hop --/ If there was a
convict/ Who had the nickname "Cop."
-- Bob Fain in the LEXINGTON HERALD --

LETTER TO A READER

Eddyville Prison
February 15, 1963

Dear Friend,

A little more than two years have passed since I was transferred from the Reformatory at LaGrange to the maximum-security facility here. The time has passed reasonably fast. For a while, I taught in the school, trying without much success to interest the pupils in the structure and grammar of their language. But for the past year and a half, I have spent most of my time seated before this typewriter, writing and editing copy for the magazine.

How has the time passed? How will the years to come pass? What do I feel, what do I miss, and what, to me as an individual, is the hardest part of a prison sentence? These are some of the questions you have been wondering about, I think, and I think that so far I haven't really answered them.

One of the reasons is that it's hard to be really objective about something so close to home. Another is that no two people react exactly alike to any situation. Any answers I might give could be unfair to the next man, who may really be suffering -- we call it "doing hard time" -- or who may not feel any hardship at all. Both extremes are possible. So let's tackle these questions remembering that my answers are just that -- my personal reactions to whatever it is that is different or difficult about confinement.

The years ahead are easy to dispense with. They are a road, clearly defined for a short distance, but growing hazier and hazier until the converging lines vanish in the fog. We are just not equipped to see very far ahead. Although making "plans" for the future may be a favorite pastime in institutions, most of us know that the plans are in actuality daydreams that we don't really expect to come true. When a man begins to believe in his daydreams, when he speaks of the future in concrete terms as he would of the past, he's fooling himself -- he's been here too long.

As I said, the years behind have gone by fast enough. But there is also the phenomenon every prisoner who has served any period of time is familiar with -- the haziness of the past. Like the future, the past is veiled in mist. Sooner or later, it is as if you have been here forever, and the free world outside the walls takes on a dreamlike quality, becomes something not really to be believed in. Our only link to the past is memory, which dims very quickly. Just as it is hard to relate yourself to the boy you were a number of years ago, it is hard for us to relate ourselves to the free individual we were a number of years ago.

A lot has been said about the monotony of the institutional routine. It is true that there is an awful sameness about each day behind walls. There is no break in the routine. Lights go out and come on again on the same schedule day after day, month after month, year after year. The diet varies but little, the surroundings not at all. This is something every serviceman will know about. The difference is that even a soldier can usually get away from the base on weekends.

Much worse than the routine is the intellectual sameness found in every institution. To an even greater degree than can be found in the narrowest of small towns, what has been called the "tyranny of public opinion" makes itself felt in a prison. Inmates of institutions demand that other inmates cast themselves into a mold, share every attitude and dislike. The prisoner finds himself in the uncomfortable position of having to conform to a double standard, of wearing two masks, neither of which may be his real face. He must maintain one attitude in the presence of officials, another for his fellow prisoners. Everywhere he turns he runs into walls of hate and fear and bigotry. Freedom of thought is possible under such conditions, but freedom of expression is not. How wearing this is may be measured by the eagerness most inmates show to talk to someone from the outside world: A family member on a visit, a speaker at the chapel or auditorium, anyone at all so long as he is neither a prisoner nor an official.

Almost everyone who inquires into prison life gets around to the question of sex. How difficult is celibacy? My personal answer would be that it is extremely difficult -- at times. But let me say that I don't subscribe to the popular theory that enforced celibacy brutalizes men. Some of the most worthwhile and sensitive people in the world are celibate by choice. It is the absence of the non-physical side of sex -- tenderness, warmth and affection -- that have a brutalizing effect on confined men.

There can also be an almost overwhelming sense of futility at times. Newspapers, radio and television tell us that the world is still turning outside the walls. We read of events in which we can take no part, of opportunities we can't share, of new developments that are meaningless to us. We hear about people we may have known who are climbing ladders we have lost the right to climb, marrying, raising families, taking part in community affairs, writing books, earning degrees, or joining the Peace Corps. We think then of our own lives, wasted standing in lines that lead nowhere or working at jobs that have no meaning; and the comparison is cruel.

The almost complete lack of privacy, the necessity to be under the almost continuous scrutiny of the guard force or your fellow prisoners, is also difficult. People who have not been in prison often believe that prisoners have a matchless opportunity to complete great tasks by virtue of being locked away from the world. This just isn't true. Study and creative effort require long stretches of unbroken privacy, but a really private and uninterrupted hour in a penitentiary is all but out of the question. Even in the cell, only a thin partition of concrete separates a prisoner from his comrades. The barred front of the cell admits even the subdued noises of conversation and radios permissible in a cellblock. Guards and keyboys are on the walks at frequent intervals. And outside of the cell, there is no privacy whatever. I can easily understand, but not agree with, the attitude of a long-term prisoner who once told me that he wouldn't mind at all being deaf and blind if he could be totally deaf and blind.

Equally as unpleasant as the lack of privacy and the typical institutional suppression of expression is the loss of freedom of choice, which is what freedom really amounts to. There is no freedom of choice when the consequences of making a "wrong" decision are disproportionately drastic. A free citizen in a democracy faces certain consequences when he decides to quit a job or change his place of

residence, but they are not so drastic that he has a choice in name only. This is what makes the difference between a democracy and a totalitarian state. It is also the difference between a normal life outside and life in an institution. By our actions in violating the law, we have deprived ourselves of the choices that ordinary people take for granted. This is the factor that makes institutional life unpleasant, no matter how pleasant the buildings or the grounds or the official attitude may be.

Finally, there is the loss of the right to be productive, to care for our own needs or to have someone else to care for. In an institution, there is no need to work to live. There is usually not even enough work to go around. What work exists is likely to be the kind of routine, non-demanding work that is all but impossible to take pride in. The effect this has is hard to measure, but anyone who has lived in the West is familiar with the degenerating effect that government patronage has had on many of the Indian tribes. Men with no purpose left in life usually have little life left in them.

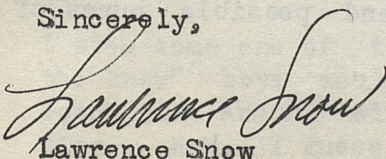
All of these factors may brutalize a man, they may be terribly oppressive, and they may even, in time, drive him over the brink of insanity. A more typical result, however, is that men leave prison outwardly sane and rational, but inwardly maladjusted emotional wrecks.

This doesn't have to be. As a recent visitor to the prison reminded me, this is one area in which we do have freedom of choice. The most "successful" prisoners soon learn the secret of living each day for what can be squeezed out of it and of taking the unpleasant aspects of institutional life the same way -- one day at a time. A man who makes the right choice, who learns the secret of imperviousness to outward conditions, can leave an institution changed not for the worse but for the better. Some men -- Nathan Leopold is an outstanding example, Caryl Chessman no doubt would have been if he had lived -- have demonstrated this very well.

There is nothing especially original about this. Most philosophers from the time of ancient Greece have said it in various ways. In the New Testament, Jesus of Nazareth put it, "Take no thought for the morrow, for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself." Today's Alcoholics Anonymous groups urge their members to live for "just this day ... this 24 hours." Dale Carnegie instructors advise their pupils to live in "daytight compartments." Old timers in prisons advise younger inmates to pull today's time and let tomorrow's look out for itself. Given such an attitude, it is not necessary to put off living. It is even possible to live a fairly satisfying, reasonably rewarding life within the confines of a prison compound. If a man can do it in prison, he can do it anywhere. On the other hand, if he can't do it in prison, the chances are he won't be able to do it in the free world.

I hope this has answered some of your questions. I would be interested in hearing your comments on the subject.

Sincerely,



Lawrence Snow

THE EXCHANGE PAGE

by Leonard Rule

INDIANA GUARDS ATTEND COLLEGE CLASSES -- Via the ENCOURAGER, Indiana

Twenty-five officers from the Indiana State Penitentiary at Michigan City are enrolled in a Purdue extension course in penology. As far as is known, it is the first such class to be taught.

The instruction covers aspects of prison work not covered in the institution's training course for officers. The course is voluntary and tuition fees are paid by the guards.

OHIO TV STATION FILMS INSIDE OF PRISON -- Via the OP NEWS, Ohio

WBNS-TV, a Columbus, Ohio station, received permission from Governor Michael V. DiSalle to visit and film the Ohio Penitentiary last month. The film showed the crowded shops and cells, inadequate laundry facilities, and other conditions needing improvement in the old prison.

MINNESOTA GETS HALFWAY HOUSE -- Via the REFORMATORY PILLAR, Minnesota

A halfway house where parolees can readjust to life outside prison is ready in Minneapolis. Dr. J. P. Spano, Board Chairman of the House of Charity, Incorporated announced that the halfway house began operation September 9, 1962 with a group of former inmates from Stillwater State Prison. Eight Franciscan brothers operate the house, which has room for eight guests at a time. Among the ex-inmates now in the house is a former lifer who had been in prison for 23 years.

"Now he finds that street cars are gone, and he is afraid of traffic and afraid to use a telephone," Spano said.

REFORMATORY INMATES SERVE AS SANTA'S HELPERS -- Via EVERGREEN NEWS, Washington

The inmates of the Washington State Reformatory believe in Santa Claus. This year, as in the past five years, they volunteered their services to repair and refinish hundreds of toys for underprivileged children. To date, "Operation Toys" has been responsible for the repairing of over 10,000 toys.

MISSOURI PRISONERS, COLLEGE STUDENTS, MEET IN FORUM -- Via the JEFFTOWN JOURNAL

First year graduates from the University of Missouri got a close-up glimpse into prison life during a round-table discussion with inmates of the Missouri State Prison at Jefferson City. Associate Warden H. H. Schubert hosted the event, in which prisoners and students discussed prison life and causes and possible cures of crime.

TALE TALES



Elmer Fitzpatrick has undertaken a nursemaid's job. Yes, sir, they moved Fitz in a cell with old man Blackie Leffew, and Fitz even has to lace up the old boy's shoes.

Once again Ray Lewis has exchanged his gas-station uniform for a runner's khaki suit. Seems Ray became hooked on his runner's job and had to return. But don't worry, Ray, the Lemon will look after things until you get out.

I don't know what I'd do if I didn't have Louis Addison and Big George Baker in here. Every time I've added a carving to my clock, these boys come up to look it over. And they say the nicest of nice things. During a period of five days, Nobel Reed lost eleven pounds, hung on the pill window all day long, and drank black coffee spiked with aspirins. Yet no doctor could diagnose his illness or offer cure. Nobel, you know all you actually needed was a voodoo man to cure you.

Junior Coots has fallen in love with Mr. Magoo on TV. At least that's all he can talk about. Ray Hammer eyeballed a Monopoly game and became hypnotized on that little spinner going round and round. Ever since, Ray has been busy as a bee manufacturing those old spinners under the instruction of Big Jim Mourning. Alvino Lucas, that master craftsman imported from the mountains of Italy specifically to carve figurines on clock cases, has surpassed himself. Lucas may not be the best carver in the world, but he's the best I've ever seen, and, Alvino, the clock says the same.

I wish some one of these so-called "in the know" boys would tell me why Red Gooch runs around with a smile all the time. Red, I guess you got a right to

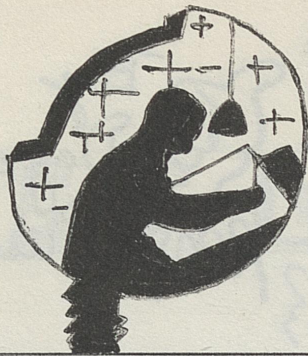
smile, for it's your world, lucky one.

This D. C. course is one of the most amazing deals I've encountered. Do you know, they took one of those share-croppin', cotton-pickin' Alabama boys and made him into a regular lambie pie. They gave Gene H. three little statues, Mary and her little lamb, and I don't know what that little kitten is for, but Gene sure is a lovely looking little lamb. D. C., D. C., that's all I hear. What with Black Eye Patterson, Dickie Ray Brandenburg and Olive Oil practicing their orations on me, I now even count differently -- run, zoo, tree, door. It's easier to say one, two, three, four!

Albert "Happy Jack" Walker has decided his name doesn't suit his personality or his newly acquired habits. Yes, sir, Hap, I would volunteer to stay here indefinitely if I were in your shoes. How can you do those things and walk around so nonchalantly?

James "Sniffer" Fultz has a little sputnik which he proudly calls a coffee urn. He offered to let me sample his coffee one day. James, the coffee tasted fine, but I can't figure out where that tobacco, tree bark, and corn husks in my cup came from. Big Rudy Jones, the all-time Eddyville athlete, and a wrestler of great skill and ability, grim determination and fortitude, why, my lad, do you tremble with fear every evening when it is time to retire? Rudy, you should never have told me about it, but I'm not going to mention to a soul anything about those little poison-pen notes.

Thomas "Shotgun" McNutt, Eddyville's Number One Playboy, has had many a difficult role to play, but none to match his present one -- watching fireplugs!



SCHOOL DAZE

by Kenny Clinton & Ed Johnson

Since the last edition we have started the second GED high school class with a full class of 16 students. This class seems very much interested in bettering themselves for the day they are to be released.

The primary class for the older inmates who are learning to read and write has increased to 8. We encourage all those who cannot read and write to enroll in the primary class for an hour each day.

The student showing the most progress this month, Bobby Neace, is a transfer from LaGrange who has been down here less than 3 months.

We have started a typing class for the students in the 7th and 8th grades in the afternoons. They all seem very enthusiastic about learning to type.

Anyone who wishes to further his education, see either Mr. Cowan or Mr. Egbert at the school and sign up for one of the opportunities that the school has to offer.

GARMENT FACTORY NEWS

By David "Shotgun" Smith

Hi, folks. During the past month we have had very little to do since we had completed all our contracts for the last period. But by the time we go to press we will be back in full production again and we'll have our hands full.

Almer "77" Carden is back with us again after a short vacation with Maggie. What's wrong, 77, can't you find your way around?

During the past month we have lost one of our biggest nuts from the garment factory, none other than Robert Cockrell. It seems he likes the leather shop more than he does us. Well, I'll miss him, because I won't have anyone to argue with anymore. Guess I'll have to find someone else. Watch out, Gee!

We have four new men with us so far this month: Robert Jones, James Crews, Charles Taylor and Ed Simpson. They're all good workers, except Crews, who works so slow it's hard to see him move.

We made a mistake in the last issue. We said that "Moon Man" had received a new pair of shoes for Christmas. Seems what he actually received was a peppermint stick wrapped in five newspapers and stuffed in a shoe box. I wonder who would do a trick like that?

R. C. Hayes, who runs a coffee stand here in the garment factory, makes the best coffee on the hill. Every once in a while he gives out free samples. What's wrong, R. C. -- is it too strong to sell?

David Higbee says he has worn out a pair of shoes putting snaps on the gripper shorts we made last month. I can't see how -- he only had to work the lever 14,400 times with his foot to get the job done.

One more bit of news. We've changed Snow's name to "Beanpole" since he lost so much weight. How do you do it, Buddy? (Dear Shotgun: If you would

lose that ugly fat/ It isn't necessary that/ You spend your dough on crazy fads/ Or steam and weights and such do-dads/ Or nibble carrots and tomatoes/ 'Tis only necessary that/ When you check your coat and hat/ You are in a restaurant that/ Serves -- green beans and stewed potatoes! -- The Editor

CABINET SHOP REPORT

By H. Hillyard

Shop Officer

For the month of February, we are considering a new service to be provided by the shop -- handwashing for the painting crew. Also along this line, there has been suggested a therapy class for occupational enjoyment. This, along with wood carving, would bring about many interesting what-nots (and possible cures) around the shop.

Missing from our midst is Bill McMahan, who should be home by now. Also soon to join the ranks of the outside world is Kenny White and Bobby Brewer.

The upholstering department has come into its own. John Fields is really doing some fine work.

Ted Lewis keeps up the usual busy pace in the paint and sign shop. We compliment him, and feel sure you will go along with us on the fine job he did in the messhall at Christmas time.

Kenny Etherton and the crew stay busy in the refinishing department and keep turning out fine work.

Jack Ingram, Joe Goff, and Freddie Ballard stay busy in the cabinet making department, and the work there is tops.

So, all in all, we are rather proud of our crew, and the work which we perform. We feel that each of you will agree with

us if you will but note the work we turn out.

SWING BAND REPORT

The Rhythm Kings, the prison's swing and jazz group, continues to make with the cool notes under the leadership of Chuck Soules, an old hand at music-making. Otis Montgomery is doing a fine job on the vocals, with Clark Jones coming out smooth and easy on the sax.

In case you're a new reader, the Rhythm Kings, as well as the Negro Spiritual Quartet and, from time to time, the Hillbilly Band, can be heard on the air every second Sunday from 2:00 until 2:30 P. M. Representative Shelby McCallum, the genial owner of Benton's WCBL Radio, does the honors most Sundays, and there are interviews as well as music. February 10th is the date of the next broadcast, with the next one after that scheduled for February 24th. The number to dial is 1290, and we think you'll enjoy the show.

We're planning still more activities for the inmate body, although no definite dates have been set as yet for future variety shows and so on. But stick around -- we'll work up a real treat for you one of these days!

FAIR EXCHANGE

Two sportsmen were shooting at a clump of trees near a wall. Suddenly a face popped over the wall.

"Hey, you almost hit my wife?" said one.

"Did I?" said the other. "I'm sorry. Have a shot at mine."

SOUL'S BAROMETER

You don't have to tell how you live
each day,
You don't have to say if you work or
you play.
A tried, true barometer
Serves in its place,
However you live
It will show in your face.

The faults, the deceit that you bear in
your heart,
Will not stay inside where they got
their first start.
For sinew and blood are a thin veil of
lace,
What you wear in your heart you wear in
your face.

If your life is unselfish,
If for others you live,
For not what you get, but how much you
can give,
If you live close to God in His
infinite grace,
You don't have to tell it, it shows in
your face.

-- Author Unknown

CONFUSED COPPER

Frank A. Searight of Fullerton, California, writes in the READER'S DIGEST "Life in These United States" feature: "Driving home from work, I went through an intersection after only a slight hesitation. An instant later I heard a police siren and pulled over to the curb. The officer, with ticket book in hand, said to me sternly, "You went through a stop sign."

Astonished, I asked, "What stop sign? I don't see any there."

The officer turned to point it out, stopped and scratched his head. "My gosh," he said, "I'm on the wrong street!"

TIME -- by Gene Harrison

I've reached the eleventh hour
Of my life, as the State deemed it be.
In con talk, I almost have whipped it;
In truth, it has nearly whipped me.

Way back when I started this sentence,
I was young, my step full of bounce.
A thought of mine then weighed a ton,
Right now it weighs an ounce.

I had a chip on my shoulder then --
Get near and I'd shove you away.
Since then, so many have left me.
I've grown old, my hair has gone gray.

I've lined up till my face is blue;
Here lines go everywhere.
To eat, show, cell, gym, everywhere,
Why, I even have lines in my face.

And counts -- I've stood 'bout a million
Been counted that much, maybe more.
One this is for sure, I'm safe and secure
With all sorts of locks on my door.

All in all I guess I've lived through it,
No -- existed is more what I mean.
This much I can say, I'll relish the day
When I'm no longer part of the scene.

THE FIRES OF YOUTH

"What kind of husband do you have?"
asked one old girl of another at a class
reunion.

"Well," the second replied, "if he men-
tions Daisy in his sleep, he's talking
about flowers."

-- The READER'S DIGEST

The game of marbles is 5000 years old,
but it's only recently that everyone has
started to lose them.

Professor: "Time is money. Prove it."

Student: "Well, if you give a quarter
to two bums, that's a quarter to two."

LATE NEWS SECTION

FIRST CARNEGIE CLASS ALMOST FINISHED

Forty chanting convicts popped up and down in their chairs, following the lead of an imposing looking man in a neat business suit and tie. The 11th session of the prison's Dale Carnegie course had begun.

Joe Prince, a rural mail carrier from Benton, Kentucky who looks like he could be a high school football coach, was moderating the first half of the session. Joe is a graduate assistant, which means that he was chosen from a Dale Carnegie class to work with qualified Carnegie instructors at other sessions. Like all the other instructors and assistants who come here, he volunteered his time to give the inmates an opportunity to take the \$150 course free of charge.

After the warmup, Joe called the names of the first three student speakers. The theme of the talks was supposed to be an incident in which the students had applied one of the nine Carnegie principles for changing people without giving offense. One man told how he had persuaded his cellmate to help him keep the cell clean. Another said he had actually made a new friend by using one of the rules to correct a false statement made on the walk of another cellhouse. Most of the men talked with an ease and confidence that would surprise many of their friends in this closed world where men tend to draw into themselves. Some of them should develop into very good speakers -- although self-confidence and poise, not public speaking, are the real goals of the course.

Several guests were present at the meeting. Carl Foushee, a tobacco grader from Winston-Salem, North Carolina was there, as was another tobacco grader, Bob Cone of Benton, Kentucky. Jim Owens, the Benton City Electrician, and George Lathram, service manager for the Benton

Mercury dealer, came along too. Later, Don Davis and Don Johann, visiting from the Evansville, Indiana class, dropped in. They were favorably impressed with the enthusiasm shown by the KSP students.

The Dale Carnegie association was well represented at the eleventh session, too. In addition to Prince, another graduate assistant, C. C. Miller, a plumbing and heating contractor from Symsonia, took a hand in the instruction. The three instructors (a Dale Carnegie instructor is not only a graduate, but a man who has taken an intensive training course as well) were Gene Cook, district manager from Evansville, Indiana; Don Deffendall of Princeton, Indiana; and Jim Rudd, a Madisonville, Kentucky insurance agent.

Gene Cook filled us in on class procedure. He said that the emphasis is on participation. "A student might sit through every session," he said, "but if he doesn't participate, he is counted absent."

By participation he meant not only making the assigned talks -- each student speaks twice during a session -- but also taking an active part as a member of the audience. The warmup at the beginning of the class is a traditional part of the activities, and Gene said that any time the classes lagged, another warmup would be staged.

After we left (the classes run past the normal lock-up time) Gene and the other instructors took over the second section. During this half of the instruction, known as "Crashing Through," the students act out some skits in which they take silly roles -- a little girl, the village idiot, and so on -- for the purpose of, as Gene explained it, removing the natural inhibitions all of us

(Continued on Inside Back Cover)

DEPUTY WARDEN'S PAGE (CON'T)

Q. Are there proportionately more colored than whites working?

A. I would say we do have a few more colored working than whites, according to population.

QUESTIONS CONCERNING THE OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES AND THE OPERATION OF THE INSTITUTION

Q. What is the standard of education in your custodial force?

A. The way I understand it, our I.Q. tests are based on an eighth grade education.

Q. From what age group do the better security officers come?

A. I would say the age group between 35-50. However, there are exceptions.

Q. Do you have better success with employees with a lot of experience or with fairly new employees?

A. Of course, I think that experience is a big factor in any job. However, new employees have a tendency to be more cautious than older ones.

Q. Do you have better success with married or single employees?

A. I would say that married employees are more steady and reliable.

Q. Do you furnish your officers' uniforms?

A. We furnish most of the uniforms.

Q. Do you have any trouble with your employees getting their paychecks attached?

A. Very little.

Q. As a whole, do you think your em-

ployees have good morals?

A. Yes, I do, in general.

Q. Do you think your employees have good morale?

A. I would say that it is fair.

Q. Do you have any difficulty with your employees "jumping the gun" or failing to carry out orders?

A. We do not have much difficulty with our employees "jumping the gun," but we do have some trouble with officers failing to carry out orders.

Q. Do you have any difficulty with officers being "conned" by the inmates?

A. Yes. What penitentiary doesn't?

Q. Do you have any trouble with employees not doing their own jobs correctly, but trying to nose around and do the other employees' jobs?

A. Yes.

Q. Do you have any difficulty with new officers who learn too fast?

A. Well, they do not learn too fast -- they just think they do.

Q. How many years of service do you think it takes to become a good security officer?

A. I would say it all depends on the individual. Some grasp it a lot faster than others, while others think they grasp it faster than they do.

Q. What type of person do you think it takes to be a good security officer or employee at an institution?

A. First, I think it takes a person with the ability to learn his job fast, but not too fast. He should be a person
(Continued on Inside Back Cover)

PAGES FROM THE PAST

PAGES FROM THE PAST is a new series by the CASTLE editors, presented in the belief that fast-moving current events can best be understood with a sound background in the events of the American past that led up to happenings today.

INSTALLMENT I

WAR WITHOUT A CAUSE: THE FIRST CUBAN CRISIS

There was trouble in the Western Hemisphere. Oppressive anti-revolutionary measures by a foreign power in Cuba had brought starvation, disease and death to the island. Guerilla bands roamed the hills, fighting pitched battles with government forces and burning and pillaging loyalist sugar plantations. In the United States, a Cuban "revolutionary government" agitated for American intervention and held mass meetings among Cuban nationals for the purpose of raising arms, money and volunteers to aid the rebel army. U. S. newsmen ejected from the island brought back lurid tales of atrocities by the foreign government, and public opinion was aroused in favor of the rebels. Then, just as war seemed inevitable, the foreign power backed down, granting most of the demands of the American public, and tensions, for the moment, were eased.

The story has a familiar ring, but the foreign power was Spain and the time was 1897 -- the year before one of the most short-lived and needless wars ever fought in modern times.

Spain, a once great power now rapidly failing, still had a foothold in the West Indies, but it had been for decades a precarious one. Revolts against Spanish rule kept Cuba unsettled during much of the first half of the 19th century, an unrest that quieted for a time when an expanded sugar industry brought general prosperity to the island. Then, in 1894, a revised American tariff policy ended easy times in Cuba and discon-

tent began to spread again. In 1895, Cuban independence leaders initiated a fresh series of rebellions, an uprising that was to culminate three years later in the Spanish American War.

Spain reacted to the rebellion with a get-tough policy. Captain General Valeriano Weyler y Nicolau, better known to Cubans as "The Butcher," was sent to the island as military governor, with full authority to crack down on the independence fighters. The policies he initiated, however, only added fuel to the fire. Civilians were ordered to concentrate near the military bases. Persons failing to comply with the order for any reason were branded as revolutionaries and dealt with accordingly. Imprisonment in the filthy Cuban jails, banishment to African penal colonies, and the firing squad were employed for relatively minor offenses. In the cities, food was scarce and disease raged among the jam-packed public brought together by Weyler's reconcentrado policy.

News of the independence movement and the Spanish atrocities reached the United States at an opportune time for the revolutionists. It was a time when the nation was feeling its muscles and looking eagerly about for room in which to grow. The catch-phrase "manifest destiny" was on everyone's lips in those days, and a vigorous, often sensational press helped to fan the flames. Exaggerated stories of events in Cuba were given front-page coverage by such yellow

journals as William Randolph Hearst's New York JOURNAL and, to a lesser degree, by Pulitzer's WORLD, among other major American newspapers of the day. Journalists sent to cover the Cuban crisis often took an active part in aiding the rebels. Most of them ignored the outrages committed by the independence forces while playing up the brutality of the Spanish. Weyler sent the more flagrant violators home, but their stories had their effect on the American people. Money flowed into the Cuban junta's coffers, and at one point an American ship manned by American citizens was caught running guns into the island. Public sympathy for an active intervention policy ran high.

Then in 1897 the liberal Práxedes Mateo Sagasta came into power in Spain. Realizing that his country could ill afford a war with the United States, Sagasta withdrew Weyler and replaced him with General Ramon Blanco, a less harsh commander. Several reforms were instituted on the island and Sagasta even promised a limited autonomy for the Cuban people.

Sagasta's conciliatory measures eliminated any justification for intervention that may have existed, but they left the American people restless and vaguely dissatisfied. Psychologically prepared for war by the press and their own expansionist feelings, they were setups for what happened next -- the explosion of the battleship MAINE in Havana harbor on February 15, 1898.

The MAINE's explosion killed 266 Americans and set off a second press campaign against the Spanish. Hearst's JOURNAL offered a \$50,000 reward for the detection of the agents responsible for the explosion, and the JOURNAL and other papers openly campaigned for war. More responsible journalists, realizing that it would have been a blunder of the first water for Spain to commit such an act of aggression on the heels of a con-

ciliation program, urged calm and reason but were largely ignored. Fuel was added to the flame when a naval court of inquiry declared the explosion the result of a submarine mine. In spite of the fact that no real evidence existed to prove that Spanish agents had touched off the blast, pressure for an open declaration of war was brought to bear on President McKinley, who was among those favoring a more rational policy. The younger Republicans in the government, led by Theodore Roosevelt, took up the war cry, and the country prepared for battle.

Finally, on April 11, 1898, McKinley requested authority of Congress to end the Cuban civil war, and Congress passed resolutions demanding Spain's withdrawal from the island and authorizing the use of U. S. armed forces. Spain severed diplomatic relations soon afterward, and on April 24, Congress declared war.

The war lasted less than four months and cost only 5000 American lives, most of these the result of disease rather than wounds. It also made at least two national heroes -- George Dewey, whose naval victories in the Far East won Spain's Asiatic colonies for the U. S., and Theodore Roosevelt, whose actions at Las Guasimas and San Juan Hill are legendary. When it was over, the West Indies, the Philippines, Hawaii and other former Spanish possessions were in American hands, making the U. S. a colonial nation and a power in Asia for the first time in her history. The war also finished Spain as a world power.

As far as United States interests were concerned, the Spanish American War was highly profitable; yet it is undeniable that it was one of the most unnecessary wars ever fought. Theodore Roosevelt himself summed up the mood of the public that brought about the war when he said, years later: "It wasn't much of a war, but it was the best war we had."

NIGHTKEEPER'S REPORT 1886

EDITOR'S NOTE: "Nightkeeper's Report 1886" is taken from old records of the state prison at Jackson, Michigan, and is reprinted here from the SPECTATOR, inmate publication of that prison. We feel that these unique reports give considerable insight into penal methods of the past as contrasted with those of the present, and we wish to thank the SPECTATOR for making them available.

JANUARY 25 -- All had been quiet during the early part of the night until one of the convicts who attended the fire behind the cigar shop informed the guards that someone had hissed at him when he went to replenish the fire.

Although the search for Murray has been relaxed, this news created quite a flurry among the searchers. The cigar shop was gone over from top to bottom and even sections of the floor were torn up, but to no avail. I am still convinced that Murray is on the premises but I do not think he is stupid enough to be hissing at anyone who happened to be passing by.

JANUARY 26 -- The night passed quietly. There is still no sign of the missing prisoner. A light snow fell during the night, which made it difficult to keep the wall fires burning in spite of an abundance of fuel which was left for the purpose yesterday. The sweeper from solitary row says Hannibal the Bear wants to be released and will find the missing convict as a reward. Such gall! I can well imagine the kind of assistance we could expect from Hannibal.

JANUARY 29 -- Shortly after ten o'clock cell-check I came upon Guard Chase in the ward room reading a newspaper. I asked him why he wasn't on his patrol beat as instructed. He said no one told him what his duties would be for the evening, and said that he had not consulted the bulletin board for his assignment.

I must assume full responsibility for this idiot's neglect of duty, since I should give him his orders verbally.

Because of this, I did not reprimand him, but gave him special instructions to wait at the desk until his duties were outlined to him in detail. The night passed without further incident.

JANUARY 30 -- There was quite a disturbance on the second gallery of West Wing, just as the supper lines were forming. Jackson, No. 3056, began shouting and cursing at the convicts nearby. Someone had stolen his shoes near the grillwork while he was sleeping and he was incensed. Jackson works at the blacksmith shop and said it was his custom to place his shoes near the grillwork at the front of his cell. I procured a pair of moccasins from the harness room and sent the convict to eat on the special detail line.

While Jackson was gone, I questioned the prisoners in adjoining cells and they told me enough to know why the shoes disappeared. Jackson never washes his feet and those malodorous shoes permeate the gallery with a stench unbearable.

JANUARY 31 -- This has been a quiet night in the prison. The cranks, strangely enough, have done little complaining or carrying on during the past few nights.

Isaac Vernon, No. 435, wants to know how he can obtain permission for a visit from a very nice young lady who he claims was his betrothed before his incarceration. He has a tintype of the lady reposing on his cell table.

I am not a failure -- I have merely continued not to succeed.

KENTUCKY STATE PENITENTIARY STATISTICS
(January, 1963)

Escapes	0
Death Row	7
Admitted by Commitment	7
Transfers from KSR	24
Transfers to KSR	4
Released by Expiration	28
Released by Parole	19
Released by Death	0
Total Population	1069
High Number	24151
Low Number	5240

MOVIES FOR THE NEXT 30 DAYS

February 15	SPACE MASTER Bill Williams & Lynn Thomas: SF
February 22	RIDE THE HIGH COUNTRY Randolph Scott and Joel McCrea: Western
March 1	ALL HANDS ON DECK Pat Boone & Barbara Eden: Musical
March 8	IT STARTED WITH A KISS Glen Ford & Debby Reynolds: Comedy
March 15	THE SHEEPMEN Glen Ford & Shirley MacLaine: Western

CLOSED WORLD BROADCASTS

February 24, March 10, 2:00 PM on WCBL
Radio, 1290 kilocycles, Benton, Kentucky

THE LAST WORD

David "Shotgun" Smith, who writes the report from the garment factory, wants it known that he made a spectacular speech in Dale Carnegie the other day. Just to make sure it would be in the CASTLE, he bribed us with a peppermint stick. Bud Hurt and Jack Henry are hardy souls. They walk the hill regardless of weather, jobs and Jack's pinochle playing permitting. Gordon Head of the leathershop has taken up foreign languages. His partner, Joe, says he (Joe) is a second Hemingway. We're willing to believe that, but we'd like to see some of his writing in the CASTLE to prove it. By the way, that goes for anyone else who would like to try his hand at knocking out short stories or articles, even poems. Remember that it has to be material that will pass censorship. It also has to be fairly well written, of interest to inmates and outside readers, and in reasonably good taste.

While we're on the subject, we'd like to find some department reporters. Especially needed are regular reports from the kitchen, the hospital and the other major departments. If anyone from the front offices has time to knock out a column every month, we'd like to have that, too. From 300 to 500 words on department reports, newsy, even gossipy, and be sure to mention lots of names. Anyone who doesn't want his name printed is free to go to the reporters or to the editors, and we'll try to see that the name doesn't get in print. And please remember that the reports are due on the 15th of the month before publication.

Isaac Storms is planning to go into the real estate business upon his release. Jack Cavender is studying to be a pediatric technician, of all things. And Billy Clifton is planning a book of his own on winning friends and influencing people. The title will be "How to Develop a Crushing Grip and a Smashing Backslap."

DEPUTY WARDEN'S PAGE (CON'T)

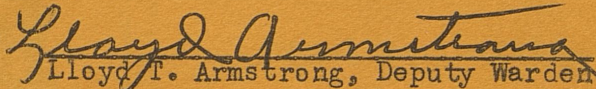
who can listen to reason, who is willing to learn his job and be interested in it. One main factor is accepting the fact that he is new and being willing to give his fellow workers credit for their ability, to have the ability to cope with the problems of inmates, to teach himself to treat all inmates as nearly alike as possible, and to be in a position to give an inmate a yes or no answer. Above everything, he should have honesty, integrity and character. From my experience with inmates I know that they appreciate an answer even though a lot of the time it is no. But they know where they stand. One other thing I have learned about inmates is that they know when they have broken the rules and they know they are being punished for it, and they respect the man who is giving the orders if he is honest. One other thing that inmates respect in an employee, even if he is a little tough, is fairness.

Q. How do you go about having personal interviews with inmates? Do you think personal interviews are beneficial in an institution?

A. Inmates securing a pass from their officer in charge and coming to my window may see me at any time. If an inmate writes me a letter requesting an interview, I call him to my office and talk with him. Yes, I think interviews are important, if you can accomplish anything by them. I do not think that the word "interview" accomplishes anything, but I think that in a lot of cases you accomplish a great deal with personal interviews. However, personal interviews can be overdone just like anything else. First, if an interview is by letter, if the inmate would state his reason for wanting an interview, in many cases a yes or no answer could accomplish the same thing as an interview, saving a lot of time and confusion.

I hope this answers at least part of the

questions that have been asked me in the past few months concerning the institution.


Lloyd T. Armstrong, Deputy Warden

DALE CARNEGIE (Con't)

have before a group of people. Gene Herring broke up the class with his characterization of a ten-year-old girl in this section, and Denver Gregory, a normally shy individual, won the prize for improvement.

This cycle, the first in the Kentucky State Penitentiary, is scheduled to last 14 weeks, which means the cycle will be ending just about the time the CASTLE comes out. Classes have been held every Sunday afternoon from 12:00 to 4:30. Another cycle will begin when this one is ended.

THIS WEEK IS EYE BANK WEEK -- PLEDGE!

February 11-16 has been designated as Eye Bank Week, according to the Lions Eye Bank of Louisville. Since the bank has been in existence, more than 14,000 residents of Kentucky and Southern Indiana have pledged their eyes. In that time, also, 104 successful corneal transplants (the cornea is the covering of the eye) have been made. No charge is made to needy blind, of course.

More than 50 men from this prison have already pledged their eyes. Pledging means simply willing your eyes at death -- after you have no further use for them -- to be used to restore sight to the blind or for research into the causes of blindness. Anyone wishing to pledge may do so at the CASTLE office.

The removal of the eyes after death has no effect on the appearance of the body.

CASTLE ON THE CUMBERLAND
Box 128
Eddyville, Kentucky



TO: Mr. Lawrence Thompson
The Margaret I. King Library
University of Kentucky
Lexington, Kentucky

February 15, 1961