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Castle on the Cumberland



May, 1964

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The Castle on the Cumberland is published on the second Monday of every month by the inmates of the Kentucky State Penitentiary, Eddyville. Subscriptions.. One dollar a year. Opinions expressed in this magazine do not necessarily reflect those of the administration. Permission to reprint any part of this magazine is granted, provided credit is given author and source.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Once again we are printing a letter of thanks on the behalf of the City of Smithland who wish to let all the men who participated in the voluntary flood-control work there know their gratitude. This letter was passed on to the office of the Castle on the Cumberland by Warden Luther Thomas who feels that the men should know that their labors were appreciated.

Smithland, Kentucky

April 7, 1964

Mr. Luther Thomas, Warden
Eddyville State Penitentiary
Eddyville, Kentucky

Dear Mr. Thomas;

We appreciate your sending the laborers from the penitentiary to work in Smithland during the flood threat last month. Also, we are conveying our thanks to each one of the prisoners that worked.

With the generous donations of both materials and labors the town once again was able to avert being flooded.

Sincerely Yours,

Board of Trustees
Town of Smithland

Marble Champion
City Clerk

EDITORIAL

As you read this issue of the Castle, you will probably discover that the news section of the magazine is missing, and that this issue contains only twenty pages instead of the usual twenty four. This was not an oversight on our part, and all future issues of the Castle will contain twenty four pages.

The reason for the change this month was brought about by the fact that the competent Editor, Lawrence Snow, resigned during the month. Needless to say the smooth routine that characterized the news office was disrupted. Larry is now in the process of becoming a leather tycoon, having been employed at the leather shop.

In the three years that Lawrence was Editor, he proved himself to be a most efficient and capable worker. Possessing a pleasing personality, he made many friends while on this job, and his experience will be missed around the office.

Credit is certainly due the capable Associate Editor, who was instrumental in getting this issue ready to go to press. In the short time this Editor has been on the job, Harold has been a cooperative and valuable associate.

In all future issues James McKinney will continue as our Art Editor. He is of invaluable assistance in his illustrative drawings plus the fact that he has taken on the added job of lettering the heads of our different departments. I am sure that our readers are aware of the fact that we here at the Castle office are limited in our efforts publication-wise. As has been mentioned in past issues, here in the Editorial office of the Castle, we compile all material, edit and justify to out the papermasters from which the magazine is printed. Our equipment is one typewriter, a ruler and a ball-point pen. In all future issues we will endeavor to bring to you, the readers of the Castle, the very best reading material that is available to us.

We would like to ask that you keep in mind our limitations (over which we have no control) and where ever possible, grant us B for effort.

A HELPING HAND FOR EX-CONVICTS -- by Carl Apone, Staff Writer, The Pittsburgh Press

ON THE FIRST FRIDAY of each month, 29 Pittsburgh gamblers hold a meeting in St. Joseph's House of Hospitality in the Hill District, a residence for homeless men. But rather than contesting for money, the gamblers take risks for human beings...

The 29 are members of the Penal Committee of the St. Vincent de Paul Society, and they gamble that murderers, thieves, strong-arm men and other convicts will go straight upon release from prison.

The committee takes a risk in providing a parole plan to guide parolees through the rugged days they face in the transfer from prison to the life outside the walls. The plan includes a sponsor, job and residence. And just about any prison inmate eligible for parole, who asks for help, gets it.

DISMAS HOUSE in St. Louis, founded by the late Father Dismas Clark -- "The Hoodlum Priest" -- in the late 1950s, is regarded as the first halfway house in the nation. But this institution was highly selective in the type of ex-convict it would accept. The Penal Committee is different. With few exceptions, it takes on all who ask for help.

In practically every case during the two years of the committee's existence, the inmates who ask for help are those abandoned by family and friends. Thus, in contrast to the high type of parolee at Dismas House, the Penal Committee takes ones that nobody wants.

THE FAITH of the Committee has been rewarded. Of the 59 convicts for whom the Committee has provided parole plans, only six have been returned to prison.

The work of the penal group has not gone unnoticed. The Pittsburgh Foundation gave them \$5,000 and private individuals have added \$2,000 more. At present, however, these funds are nearly gone and the committee is seeking help.

THE PENAL COMMITTEE has its origin in the St. Vincent de Paul Society, a 150-year-old world-wide organization of Roman Catholic laymen dedicated to ministering to the needs of the poor. And the society has had considerable dealings with ex-convicts, who most often, are from the ranks of the poor. However, the Penal Committee is the first group in the Society dedicated exclusively to helping ex-convicts.

The seeds planted by the Pittsburgh group is expected to bear fruit elsewhere. Members of the Penal Committee reported on their work at the recent national convention of the Society in Atlantic City and many groups expressed interest in establishing similar groups.

ALTHOUGH THE St. Vincent de Paul Society is a Catholic organization, six of the most valuable workers of the Penal Committee are not Catholics. Among them are Dr. Herbert Thomas, a psychiatrist, and Robert G. Meiners, professor of law at the University of Pittsburgh. The non-Catholics heard about the accomplishments of the committee and asked to join.

Professor Meiners said, "God knows this work needs to be done. Yet, except for religious work, no one seems interested."

IN ADDITION TO Professor Meiners and Dr. Thomas, members of the committee include

priests, lawyers, parole officers, Judge Joseph Ridge, State Legislator, Thomas Lamb, Physician Emil Trellis, an architect, and even a prison guard. Each man acts as an advisor to a parolee and meets with him twice a month.

FATHER PAUL BASSOMPIERE, diocesan director of the St. Vincent de Paul Society, is spiritual advisor to the committee. Attorney Frank Pohl, founder of the committee, is its chairman; and Thomas O'Brien, an ex-convict and committee member, manages the House of Hospitality.

Professor Meiners says of Mr. Pohl: "He does three times the work the rest of us do and if it were not for him we would be in real trouble." Of Mr. O'Brien, the Pitt professor reports: "He is an intelligent, articulate and dedicated man who can identify himself with both sides of the street."

ATTORNEY POHL, a white-haired organizer who gets things done with a minimum of fuss and fanfare, got many of his early recruits for the committee by keeping an eye out for the business and professional men who attended the noon mass at the Uptown Epiphany Church. He reasoned that any man who thought enough of his faith to attend daily mass would lend a hand in helping God's bad men.

Mr. O'Brien, 45, former Boston businessman and combat pilot with an excellent war record in World War II, got into trouble in Pittsburgh on bad check charges involving local hotels. He served two years on a $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 3 year sentence before being released on parole.

Upon release from prison, Mr. O'Brien made plans to enter a Trappist monastery in a Western state. However, his parole plan would not permit him to be leaving Pennsylvania. So the prison chaplain persuaded him to manage the House of Hospitality for the Pittsburgh Catholic Diocese until his time had expired.

He took the job and soon had the house, which is home for about 100 men (35 of the paroles), operating in the black for the first time in its history. He excels in scrounging free food and clothing and in seeing that the home is operated efficiently. But more important, he took an interest in the men, and because they like him was able to maintain discipline.

AND HE FREQUENTLY goes out of his way to stop a parolee from frequenting his old haunts or avoiding a bout with demon rum.

MR. O'BRIEN'S PAROLE TIME is up but Bishop John J. Wright, who has a deep interest in the work of the Penal Committee, has persuaded him to remain at the House one more year.

Says Mr. O'Brien, "I don't like this work, but I know that I should do it. This is, after all, living for God in others. I'd like to be a contemplative, but God may not think that this is best for me. What we want is not always best for us."

The House of Hospitality is not a pretty place. The three-story brick building, is dark, dingy and dilapidated, a perfect companion for its shoddy neighbors. But the house does fulfill the parole board's requirement of a place of residence. And the site is being used until such time as the Penal Committee is able to build the home to serve exclusively as a halfway house for parolees.

BECAUSE THE HOUSE OF Hospitality and the surroundings aren't any kind of prize package, the Penal Committee will not assign men under 35 to the house. The younger parolees are usually sent to a local YMCA or a rooming house.

Employment provides the most difficult problem for the committee. Even during periods of high employment, an ex-convict is handicapped in finding a job. Despite this handicap and the high unemployment rate in Pittsburgh, the committee has found jobs ranging from baker to store manager for parolees. Members of the committees provide most of the leads for jobs.

In many cases, the jobs are of temporary nature, such as working on pickup trucks for the Society or working as cook, handyman or office help at the House of Hospitality. St. Barnabas Free Home, a residence for homeless men operated in Pittsburgh by the Episcopalians, has hired several of the parolees.

ONE BUSINESSMAN WAS so pleased with the work of a parolee that he hired several others. One of the men he hired, a convict who had served time for murdering his wife, did so well as a stock room worker that his weekly pay went from \$30 to \$100 in a period of three months.

A 21-year-old parolee with an IQ of 132 did so well in a bargain store here that the firm made him a manager of a branch store in Buffalo.

A CARPENTER whom the committee gave \$80 to purchase tools has done well enough to pay back \$30 of the loan. And a 48-year-old convict with a long prison record for breaking and entering and assault is now a valuable worker in the service force of a local college.

The requests for parole plans usually originate with the chaplains of all faiths in the various prisons. The chaplains determine which prison inmates eligible for parole deserve a chance and forward such requests to the committee. Thus far the committee has provided parole plans for inmates of Michigan, West Virginia and North Carolina as well as Pennsylvania prisons.

ONE OF THE local prison chaplains says, "People can't understand convicts. They generally think of them only as wicked and rough men. But these men are human beings who have the same fears and weaknesses as the rest of us, yes, even more fears and weaknesses.

"Those who come out of prison need encouragement. They don't have a friend in the world. You have no idea of how difficult it is to make the transfer from prison to the life outside. These men are so insecure and fidgety there is almost a compulsion to go back to the safe pattern of prison life. The Penal Committee makes the transfer easier for them. Because of the committee these men aren't thrown back into the jungle without anyone to help them."

THE FIRST 60 DAYS out of prison seem to be the most difficult. The experience is much like getting over a heart attack. Those who survive gather strength day by day. But the pull toward their former habits is great and many are so shocked by freedom they want to drink themselves stupid or take dope to escape reality.

Many of these men have been in penal institutions since childhood and simply releasing them and telling them to sin no more is not enough. They need continuing help. And Dr. Thomas frequently comes in the middle of the night to provide this continuing help.

HE DISPENSES the medicines or words necessary to prevent a parolee from plunging back into the alcoholic bucket or from returning to his former life of violence. Mr. O'Brien, who has often called Dr. Thomas to Hospitality House in the wee hour of the morning, said of the psychiatrist's help for one parolee: "If it had not been for Dr. Thomas, that man had no more chance of going straight than a bull has of going across thin ice."

Attorney Pohl says that if there is one quality the parolees have in common it is that they are the most gentle people he has ever met. "And because they are gentle, we try to give them tenderness without sentimentality," he said.

THE APPRECIATION shown by the former prison inmates bears out Mr. Pohl's observation that the parolees are gentle people. One murderer has shown his appreciation by coming to the House of Hospitality once a month to help with the many chores there. And the committee receives frequent letters and personal calls to express thanks.

One parolee, who received numerous cards, letters and spiritual bouquets when he was ill, tearfully told the Committee: "No one ever paid any attention to me before."

FATHER THOMAS JACKSON, chaplain of a local prison, said of the Committee: "They look on all persons as Jesus Christ in great and dire need. And they are not so sophisticated as to exclude alcoholics or homosexuals. Truly they follow the words of Christ, "I am a stranger and you took me in."

SOME THOUGHTS ON FRIENDSHIP

by Perry Joseph

It is axiomatic but often forgotten that a man who is to have friends must show himself friendly. A friend is a gift, a sacred reality. Ambition has no friends, and Greed wants none.

Friends appear early to us as representatives of fixed ideas which they never exceed.

A man who seeks to make friends simply for personal gain will never know the meaning of friendship. The best way to attract and gain friends is to be one. If you are merely polite, you are simply following the usages of society. Politeness is an artificial polish:

Courtesy is the basis of that polish. To cultivate polish, guard against letting your actions become mechanical and make it a habit to do one good and kindly thing each day. Don't expect courteous treatment in return and don't use discourtesy as an excuse for lack of courtesy in yourself.

Remember that in the deepest sense, it is impossible to be insulted. A gentleman will never insult you and no one else can. Be courteous for your own sake. As your actions are, so are you. You can expect a grunt from a pig, but why should you grunt in reply?

Chaplains' Corner

REV. HOUSTON INMAN, PROTESTANT CHAPLAIN

FATHER THOMAS CLARK, CATHOLIC CHAPLAIN

This column in the main has been limited to a discussion of religious topics. Actually, this is the one area in which I am qualified to write. However, I would like to digress for this one and discuss a subject which I would love to be qualified to talk about and work toward and this is the subject regarding treatment.

My personal feeling is that society is not getting the protection it requires by our present system, and neither is the prisoner getting the helps he needs. Figures show that 67 percent of Federal prisoners have previously been incarcerated. In California, the percentage is even higher -- 88 percent. Obviously punishment is not a deterrent to criminals. What is the cause of this failure? The answer to this question is very simple: Our punishment is based on whether a man has committed a crime, and tends to disregard why. Before we can take even the first steps toward rehabilitation, we must discover why a man committed a criminal act. A doctor cures his patients not only from the standpoint of the symptoms but also from the standpoint of the cause of the disease. In other words he doesn't prescribe an aspirin for a brain tumor even though the patient may suffer from severe headaches.

The important thing is that society should seek to aid the offender, not reject him. When we punish children, we tell them, "I love you, but I hate what you did." Does our society really say "You are a failure as a human being -- and we are going to make you feel it."

Erle Stanley Gardner has offered some "Good Advice" concerning the attitude of most people toward criminals:
(Please turn to page 18)

It was the morning of the tenth day after Christ had ascended into Heaven. The Apostles, were continuing their vigil, waiting for the coming of the Holy Spirit as Christ had directed them to do. How long they would have to wait -- and exactly what was going to happen -- no one really knew. And as one day had given way to the next, the Apostles had done some very serious thinking and discussing, as well as praying. The general outline of God's awesome salvation plan, brought to light by Christ, was clear to them now. Yet many details, even prominent details, were not very clear. So they talked about things that Christ had said and done, sharing their thoughts with one another. Christ had said: "But when the Advocate has come, Whom I will send you from the Father, He will bear witness concerning me."

We can see then, that the Apostles had a fairly accurate concept of the Holy Spirit before the moment of His descent on Pentecost Sunday. They also recognized the sign of the Holy Spirit's permanent descent upon them: "And there appeared to be parted tongues as of fire, which settled upon each of them." Christ's promise was fulfilled: "They were all filled with the Holy Spirit." (Acts 2:2-4.)

The transformation worked by the Holy Spirit in these men was astounding. The fullness of Christ's truth broke upon their minds like dawn upon a clear sky, dispelling the last traces of darkness. Their hearts were changed too. The fear that had prompted them to remain behind locked doors, even after seeing the risen Master, disappeared. Heedless of the consequences, they burst forth into the streets of Jerusalem.
(Please turn to page 18)

THE UMPIRE'S CORNER

By Bill Burton

As I wrote this article for the coming issue in May, I was told by Mr. Cherry that at a meeting of Board Members yesterday, (consisting of Warden Thomas, Deputy Warden Armstrong, Dr. Black, Dr. Wysocki, Mr. Cowan, Mr. Cherry, Rev. Inman and Father Clark) it was unanimously voted NOT to have baseball this year. This decision was made in order that there could be more room for other sports activities. Such sports as softball (two diamonds) a volley ball court, a shuffle board court, a shot put pit, a horse shoe court and a place for the field and track team. However, there will be a fast pitch Softball League consisting of at least 4 teams who will be playing on the big diamond. A slow pitch 'choose up teams' will be using the alternate diamond. Whenever possible, outside teams will come in to play.

Now I know that a lot of you baseball players will be disappointed to read this, but I also know that most all of you fellows are very good softball players, so instead of grumbling about it, lets all go out and have as good a team in softball as we did in baseball. I do know that for the first time in two years I'll have something to do this summer besides work and set in the shop all day, and believe me I'm going to use it. Anytime I see an opportunity to better myself I'm going to take advantage of it. Let me say here and now that whenever they call yard, if at all possible, I will be there to go out. I hope that the rest will feel the same way.

Say fellows, if you are ever in doubt, (whenever a certain manager is playing),

just go ask Grandpa Riis and I'll bet a dollar to a cup of coffee that he will say 17 to 3 even before the game starts. How come old man, do they always spot you all them runs?

For the past three weeks I have had more fun watching the youngsters learn how to play ball, and I might add, some old fellows trying to act young. It has been like a three ring circus. However, I have also seen some really good fast pitch games that would make anyone sit up and take notice. I'll predict that this institution will have a team that will be hard to beat.

The laugh of the month occurred last week, when with two men on base, the batter hit a high fly into center field which wasn't caught. All three runners ended up on third base. Seeing this the umpire walked over and called all three of them out. When asked why he did so, he remarked that he called one man out for not running, another one out for running, and the batter out for causing all the confusion in the first place. Keep that up Goat, and you'll be carrying water the next game.

The most improved player out back is a tall lanky guy by the name of Spud. He didn't even know where left field was when he came out. Now he is getting balls that some fellows who have been playing for years couldn't get. Keep up the good work Spud, and some day you will be playing with the big team.

Well that is about all the news for this issue. In closing, I wish to say, "Don't find too much fault with the umpires, you can't expect them to be as perfect as you are".

REFORMATORY RENEWAL JOB FADING OUT ** EDDYVILLE WORK ALSO DELAYED

ACCORDING TO AN article published by The Louisville Times, renovation of prison housing units at the La Grange Reformatory is ending far short of completion because the money has almost run out.

Lack of money also has delayed starting work on honor farm complexes at Eddyville Penitentiary and at La Grange.

The scheduled \$2,094,591 remodeling of the nine dormitories at La Grange Reformatory began last September after an investigation showed the buildings were "in a shocking state of deterioration and disrepair."

About \$98,600 has been spent so far and the renovation of one dormitory building, housing some 200 prisoners, has been completed.

State Finance Commissioner Felix Joyner said it is "doubtful that we can continue" the project. He said the Corrections Department's budget for the next two years is "so tight" that he doubts "we can do more than repair the first building." Corrections Commissioner Joseph Cannon said continuation of the repair program "is pretty much out the window."

The Finance Department's budget division said that \$827,000 will have been spent during the two-year budget period ending next June 30 for construction and renovation of buildings at La Grange and the Eddyville Penitentiary.

In the new two-year budget, ending June 30, 1966, there has been set up \$380,000. This, however, has been ear-marked for maintenance and deferred maintenance.

Joyner said he and Cannon plan to see if a small amount of capital construction can be done by using a portion of the maintenance money. This might include construction of a prison forestry camp, perhaps two, in the next two years. One has been built so far. It cost \$77,500.

An Executive Task Force on Corrections, appointed by former Gov. Bert Combs, recommended last November that the State spend \$11.2 million over four to five years for prison construction and renovation.

Joyner said that the investigating group's recommendations -- in the main -- "are just out, at least for a two-year period."

Another top priority prison-improvement project -- construction of honor farm dormitory complexes at Eddyville and La Grange -- has been delayed for two years and perhaps longer.

The Eddyville complex would have cost \$700,000 and housed 250 men. The units at La Grange carried a price tag of \$800,000 and would have provided room for 300 men.

There is no money for the construction of the farm units. It will be available, however, if a proposed \$176-million bond issue is approved by the voters in November, 1965.

The penitentiary was opened in 1888 and "continually needs attention," Cannon said. The reformatory opened in 1938, is "very run down" because of a lack of maintenance over the years, he said.

TIME -- SERVANT OR MASTER by Ronald Cook

Every man while serving his sentence, has a fateful decision to make. He has time on his hands. To what use, if any, is he to put it?

Time can bear down on one as an awful burden. To sit, day after day, brooding over one's imprisonment, can lead only to frustration, despair and eventually to mental illness. Even if one keeps his sanity, he is apt to become a hater of society, which on his release, can only lead to more trouble.

Counting the hours, days, months and years already served (and those yet to be served) is a poor pastime. There is nothing to be done for the time one has already served. It is gone. But the decision of what to do with your remaining time is yours to make. If you do nothing, except count the days as they slowly pass, you have become a slave - a slave to your time. Thus time has become your master.

Time, a poor master, if used properly, can be a good and valuable servant. Time can be put to use by the individual to render benefits to that individual. Was your education disrupted in time past? take advantage of the Academic School. A grade school diploma may be obtained and you can later study for High School Equivalency Certificate.

Do you have a trade? If not, the vocational school offers training in masonry, barbering, wood-working, mechanics and others. This training not only prepares you to hold a job upon your release, but like Academic School, gives you a means of better passing your time.

If your difficulty is personality adjustment, there are classes that offer group counseling. By understanding ourselves and others, we learn our feelings, and how we may correct them. Thus we learn to live successfully on the

adult level with others. This will help us, when released, to live successfully outside. We learn citizenship, self control and a more sensible adjustment to authority. It is now time to make your decision. Your choice is yours alone to make. Is your time to be Master or Servant?

A FATHERS PRAYER, by Gen. MacArthur
via Hill Top News

Build me a son, O Lord, who will be strong enough to know when he is weak, and brave enough to face himself when he is afraid; one who will be proud and unbending in honest defeat, and humble and gentle in victory.

Build me a son whose wishbone will not be where his backbone should be; a son who will know Thee -- and that to know himself is the foundation stone that is knowledge.

Lead him, I pray, not in the path of ease and comfort but under stress and spur of difficulties and challenge.. Here let him learn to stand up in the storm; here let him learn compassion for those who fail.

Build me a son whose heart will be clear whose goal will be high; a son who will master himself before he seeks to master other men; one who will learn to laugh, yet never forget how to weep; one who will reach into the future, yet never forget the past. And after all these things are his, add, I pray, enough of a sense of humor, so that he may always be serious, yet never take himself too seriously. Give him humility, so that he may always remember the simplicity of true greatness, the open mind of true wisdom, the meekness of true strength.

Then, I his father, will dare to wisper,
"I have not lived in vain."

THEME ON REHABILITATION -- James Fox

Today in our Penal System the emphasis is on a rehabilitation program. We read and hear this almost everyday, but what does this really mean to those concerned? There are several theories on the subject of rehabilitation. Some do not even believe in a rehabilitation program at all. I would think first-off that one theory would be to change the individual (whatever be the problem) to such a state as he may be rendered useful once again. All this requires a planned program in which step by step the person is gradually processed to such a state. However there is a more involved theory in which, although the person goes through basically the same procedure, such concepts as personality, moral responsibility, and virtue are developed to a higher standing. This procedure is not based on changing the individual to a point whereas he is not the same person. Or in plainer words, not to be made someone he is not qualified to become. To remold an individual's character to such a degree would possibly create a different, perhaps, even worse situation than the original situation encountered. However, if the individual's character can be handled in such away as that he is given a more liberal outlook of his situation, he can realize that there must have been a problem somewhere in his past. So with added confidence, a sensible, educated and open minded individual is not going to pursue the same path that got him confined to start with.

Often we have heard this familiar quotation, "You can help only those who wish to help themselves." Certainly this is true, but what is to be done with the individuals who haven't really given it a thought one way or the other? This is where a special program dedicated towards such achievement as to include these persons into a rehabilitation program who are not the present time concerned could be developed.. Those who desire to help themselves certainly will pursue such measures as to obtain that status. But certainly, at least half of the others can be inspired into a rehabilitative attitude through such a program designed for this purpose. And of those made through a specific interest or motivated by such a program many could be put on the road leading to a normal life. A great majority of this group are not really "hard-core" criminals, and thus do not deserve to remain in confinement beyond the period of time than that they, or we, may have been given a better attitude.

History and literature are full of examples of the miracle of changing. Do you know the Persian story of the hunchback prince who became straight and tall by standing each day before a statue of himself made straight?

I wonder just how many persons could be released successfully and return to society as an ordinary individual?

Let us live so our lives are one progressive step in the right direction to an honest and happy future while here and after we are released from this respective institution at which time the eyes of society and the people residing in the community will be evaluating our own individual habits once again.

MY LOVELY HOME

It wouldn't do a man much good
To have a home without love
It would be just like the stars
Without the Heavens above.

A home is something to cherish
For a family with love at heart
There is only one way possible
To keep it from falling apart.

A man should do his very best
For the ones that he loves so
Even though love is there to stay
He should always let them know.

Every night he goes to bed
He should be on his knees in prayer
When he wakes every morning
He should thank God for being there.

A DREAM OF YOU

I had a dream my darling
About me, Diane and you
It seemed so very real to me
I thought it must be true.

I thought sure we were together
On a picnic out somewhere
I was so very happy
Because we all were there.

Then suddenly I came awake
And my dream was gone
It made me feel so terribly sad
When I realized that I wasn't home.

YOUR TENDER LOVE

It was so very easy Dear
To fall in love with you
Like metal drawn to a magnet
There was nothing I could do.

My Darling, I'm so happy
You fell in love with me
You showed me many things
That I was too blind to see.

It never ceases to amaze me
The way you really care
Everything you have and do
You want us both to share.

Life is now worth living
Knowing what its all about
Knowing what true love really is
When there is none of it left out.

FOR MY MOTHER

Mother, I am so proud to say
That I belong to you
You've given me much devotion
Your love has been so true.

I know I am not the best son
That a mother has ever had
I've done so many things
That hurt both you and Dad.

I thank God for giving me Dad
Two sisters and two brothers
But most of all I thank Him
For making you my mother.

DEPARTMENT
REPORTS

GARMENT FACTORY -- David Smith, Jr.

We have measured all the guards and have ordered the material necessary to make their new uniforms. The summer uniform is to consist of light blue trousers with black stripes down the outside seams, and blue shirts with short sleeves. The winter uniform is to be ordered from an outside manufacturer and at the present time we do not know just what type of uniform it will be. We do expect it to be about the same color as the summer uniform and, of course, made from a warmer material.

As of this writing we have not received the blue chambray shirting we have been expecting. We still have 1800 shirts to be made from it. We can only manufacture 15 dozen work-hose a day, and we have orders for 1275 dozen to be made between now and June 30. It will take 85 working days to complete these orders and we have 57 working days left before June 30. However, we expect to have two more machines in operation within the next week or so; this will increase our production to 25 dozen a day, and should make our orders come out.

We haven't received any new men in the garment factory since last month, and we've only lost one. Our roster now shows 99 men assigned to the garment factory and knitting mill.

Lee Maypray has been trying to teach me to operate a knitting machine. I've never seen anyone with so little patience. He also has a new helper, Paul Towery has been reassigned to work with him. He was formerly assigned to a sewing machine.

My old buddy R. C. Hayes is getting real friendly these days except for a few threats about my printing lies about him. As most of the fellows who work here have noticed, he has started using a smaller spoon in the sugar bowl at his coffee stand. I guess he thinks he can save on sugar that way.

CABINET SHOP NEWS

Things are rocking along in the Cabinet Shop as usual, for we are still snowed under with both private and State orders. Our cabinet makers have become so professional in their work that the orders roll in faster than they can be filled.

As many of you know, Ted Lewis has been confined to the hospital for several weeks, and we have Jimmy Lumpkins in the Sign Shop pinch-hitting for Ted while he is ill, and so far, Jimmy is doing fine. Our best to Ted at this time, and we hope he will be back with us soon.

We also have John Noffsinger with us now as a general carpenter and handyman. He is helping Leonard Gann with his spray work in his spare time, and seemingly likes his new job fine.

Joe Goff is on the April Parole List and by the time this is published will know the verdict. Everyone in the shop feels pretty certain that this is Joe's lucky Board.

Jack Ingram is still in there pitching; trying hard to make a cabinet maker of Raymond Eaton. By the way, Jack, what is that we hear about you loosing your teeth in a cow pasture? You should tell your home guys not to talk so loud.

In your next issue, Bill Miller will be the reporter, as this writer will not be around. This long pull is finally at an end, so, good luck to all of you.

See Page 16 and 17 For More Department Reports.

TALL TALES

BY FLOYD "DAGO" RIIIS

Sure will be difficult to low rate anybody this month, for much to my sorrow, I'll be gone when you read this. No more will I be able to boast of the fact that my home is a castle. But then they tell me that La Grange is where all us YOUNGSTERS belong. Seriously, Dr. Black graciously transferred me so that I would be able to see my prospective employer and really become a parolee. THANKS DOC.

Did you know that Silly Willy Kessinger asked Mr. Parker to let him use the "pants stretchers"? Seemed Willy's pants were too tight and someone told him they could be stretched. That's my Willy.

"Cootsie Coo" tried to get me to call Chuck Evans "Zeke", but Chuck I won't insult you that much.

Darrel Issaics has really let pitching soft ball go to his head. But Darrel don't use your head to catch with anymore, Babe.

Red Estep is the first man I ever knew of to wind up on crutches for too big a load of air. (Air-tanks, that is).

Cook Shack Casey sure did make me a strange sounding deal the other day.

Old Buck Penn will really talk about me now that I'm gone, but when you do Buck, please mention why they used to call you the \$50.00 kid. . .

Little Bully Bentley is always crying and looking sad since Sylvester left him. Clarence Underwood makes a good cell-buddy, except all night long all I hear is "Aunt Stella", and it has progressed to far that I wait for the mailman to see if "Aunt Stella" wrote today.

Believe it or not, but haven't missed church since December. Unusual for me, as have never gone in the past. Must be the influence of Rev. Inman. He is above most prison preachers in my poor estimation.

Buford "Spud" McGinnis sure looks like a pro when he puts on those spike shoes to play ball, but when he starts playing the shoes just don't seem to be on the right feet.

Ernestine "Ape" Cisco was elected "biggest bum" by the complete mess-hall staff. Quit that begging Ape.

No one ever reads this old column anyway, so I think I'll just throw the pencil over the wall, Pack my little bag and get ready to ride that blue goose.. Just for your information the next stop is Louisville. So grab your broom, and see if you can help me back real soon -- for naturally you children will be lost without having me around to criticize.--

And thats that, so ta-ta, dig-dig and all that jive. I'm Gone! !

SCHOOL DAZE -- by D. Trodglen

Looking ahead we see a brighter future for the school program. It is expected that in the fall of this year, the new academic school will be completed. This school building will consist of the administration office, library, and 8 class rooms. The office and class rooms will be connected by the use of an intercom system; the rooms will be partitioned with a framework of glass windows. This will eliminate the confusion caused by the open, warehouse type building now in use. The classes will be separated by the same window-wall as the outside walls of the building. The intercom system will allow the supervisor not only to talk to the classes, but listen in on the goings-on in the various rooms merely by the flick of the switch. The window-walls will allow the supervisor to sit in his office and yet observe the classes in session.

Also for the new school we are expecting such new equipment as: Map-sets for the pertinent classes, globes of the world, new blackboards, table-desks for the teacher's use, shelves for class rooms and library, more new books for the various classes, and whatever training aids the institution can purchase for the use of the related classes.

OPERATION ALPHABET, a TV training program, is now, as of this writing, in the 6th week of classes. Mr. Cowan, School Supervisor, is well pleased with the progress shown by many of the students. Some of the students in the class could not read or write their own names when they were enrolled in the class. Many of the men can now. Progress has certainly been made. The supervisors are encouraged by the enthusiasm shown by some of the men in this literacy program.

Due to the number of men in the institution who can not read and write, another

program similar to OPERATION ALPHABET, has been initiated in the institution. This program is sponsored by the BEHRWOOD FOUNDATION, INC. Similar to the OPERATION ALPHABET, this program is also a literacy program developed by the foundation in an effort to reduce illiteracy in the U.S. This program consists of; 1 hour school a day, $\frac{1}{2}$ hour training film, $\frac{1}{2}$ hour class work. The class work will be made up of reading and writing, and application of the work learned during the film.

Mid-term examinations have been administered to the academic grades, marking the half way point of the semester. This test is considered for $\frac{1}{4}$ of the deciding average for the semester, thus making it an important step in the school semester. Classes are now resumed for the last half of the semester.

Vocational classes are still in progress in Barbering, Barbering science, Auto Mechanics, Vocational Wood Working and related studies, Typewriter Repair, Typing classes, Business Class and Book-keeping, and on the job training for the men of the masonry class. The on the job training consists of bricklaying for construction of the new school building.

At the present time there are over 300 men of the institution either student or instructors working actively in the academic or vocational school program. This is one out of four men of the institution involved in some sort of furtherance of their education. More classes are being planned for the men here which will allow several more men to take part in the program. At that time about one of every three men of the population will be taking part in the activities offered.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES FOR THE CASTLE
ONE DOLLAR PER YEAR.

LAUNDRY BITS -- by Buck Penn

Its that time again, and for once the CHUBBY LITTLE EDITOR hasn't been around bothering me. I couldn't figure where he had gone or what had happened to him. Seems he decided to go to the leather shop and let someone else worry about the Mag. I'm sure we will miss him. I know it sounds corny, but I kinda liked worrying him about this column. Luck to you down there, Chubby.

Hard Time caused quite a stir here at the laundry last month. We had all thought he was too old to get around much. As all he ever does is eat and sleep. But when Mr. Baker set down to eat his dinner old Hard Time was hidden under the folding table watching every bite. When the telephone rang, Mr. Baker looked around but couldn't see Hard Time. Yeah, You guessed it,-- Hard Time had stole his dinner. Now when the phone rings, he always asks where Hard Time is.

I'm going to leave out the laundry Inmate of The Month, and pass on some gossip. My boy Jerry did it again. . . After being assigned to the middle tub the other day, he had to ask someone the following morning where he worked. What about that?

Stanley Holcomb just won't lose a cup of coffee. Just don't have any faith in yourself, huh Stan? Henry his counterpart will bet against anything though, so I keep in coffee.

Pete has gone 'back yard silly', he thinks he is a soft ball player. By the way, there is an old gentleman that I can't mention by name, who thinks he can out play these youngsters. Can't be done Gramps.

Santa Claus wants to know why I think he is a wrestler. Maybe it's a ballplayer I mean. I know he's good at one of these sports.

Before I close I would like to tell the truth why Dago and I quit betting. The guy is such a bad loser, he quit paying me when he lost. Why, he even went to LaGrange owing me. His cell buddy and I begged him to be nice, but he just won't be a good boy. Anyway, good-bye Whiskers, and lots of luck in the Flat Lands.

So long 'till next month.

AREA MAN DONATES TV TO PRISON SCHOOL

The "Operation Alphabet" class in KSP's school has a second TV set now, thanks to Charles Eastland of Hopkinsville.

Eastland donated the 23-inch set to the class when he learned that prison officials were taking advantage of the televised reading and writing courses to combat illiteracy in the institution. The students, now more than 60, strong, were all viewing a single TV set purchased by the inmate welfare fund before Mr. Eastland's gift arrived.

Eastland is a social worker employed by the Hopkinsville office of the Department of Welfare's Old Age Assistance program. He is one of many Hopkinsville area men who have shown an active interest in the prisoners in recent years.

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P. O. Box 128
Eddyville, Kentucky
42038

PROTESTANT CHAPLAIN (Continued)

"Somewhere in the world I wish there were human beings who could realize that characters grow and are capable of growing. I know of nothing more discouraging to an individual than to have rehabilitation and growth completely discounted by red ink marks on the debt of times ledger, made many years ago.

The idea that the man of today should be evaluated in terms of crime committed twenty years ago makes a mockery of penology. Frankly, I don't know why society expects to encourage rehabilitation if it doesn't give credit to individuals who by dint of long, hard work and careful thinking, have rehabilitated themselves.

I think we should encourage it by giving a pat on the back to the guy who takes off his coat, and goes to work rehabilitating himself. If human beings can't grow, if they can't change, if they can't develop; and if hard constructive work can't blot out the mistakes of the past, then life is a mockery."

SCHEDULE OF CHAPEL ACTIVITIES

SUNDAY: Protestant Services, 7:30 AM; Catholic Mass, 12:30 PM; Alcoholics Anonymous, 1:30 PM.

MONDAY: Interviews with Catholic Chaplain, 10:30 - 1:00. (Interviews with Protestant Chaplain, daily.)

TUESDAY: Choir practice, 12:30 PM.

WEDNESDAY: Mid-week prayer service, 12:30 PM.

THURSDAY: Interviews with Catholic Chaplain, 10:30 AM -- 1:00 PM; Group therapy (AA), 3:00 PM.

FRIDAY: Group therapy (AA), 3:00 PM.

Chaplains not in on Saturday.

CATHOLIC CHAPLAIN (Continued)

power became manifest in them in a spectacular way: each person heard the good news of salvation in his own tongue.

Peter went on to proclaim that Jesus Christ, the Man Whom they had crucified, was the Messia. He bore witness to Christ's resurrection and pointed to the miracle which all had just observed, to confirm the truth of his words. He instructed all to repent of their sins, and to be baptized, that they, too, might receive the Holy Spirit and be ushered into the age of a new creation.

From that day to this, the Church has been an established fact in world history. In every age, in every nation, the Holy Spirit has breathed upon men the gift of faith, and through the life-giving waters of Baptism, has taken up His abode within men's souls, uniting them to Christ, to God the Father, and to one another. As the Church continues growing, she steadily draws nearer the completion. Her eyes and heart are ever on the future -- the day when Christ returns, when the growing pains of the earthly kingdom will be over and her eternal state of happy fulfillment will begin.

You and I have also experienced Pentecost, first in Baptism. In our case there wasn't the fanfare that took place on the first Pentecost; that was needed then to get things off to a good start. But the very same Holy Spirit Who descended upon the Apostles has descended upon us, and lives in us just as truly as he did in the Apostles.

Our situation as individual Christians is not unlike that of the Church to whom we belong. We are in battle; we must struggle against Satan, sin and death.

"If the Spirit of Him Who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, then he Who raised Jesus Christ from the dead will also bring to life your mortal bodies because of His Spirit Who dwells in you."

(Romans 8:11.)

KENTUCKY STATE PENITENTIARY STATISTICS

THE CASTLE LAUGHS

(April, 1964)

Escapes	1	"JUDGE," Complained the defendant, "I just don't know what to do."
Death Row	7	"What's the trouble, son?" the judge asked.
Admitted by Commitment	10	"Well, Your Honor, I swore to tell the truth -- but every time I try, some lawyer objects."
Transferred from KSR	24	
Transferred to KSR	11	
Released by Expiration	20	"LENNIE," the father told his son, "you're a pig. Now do you know what pig is?"
Released by Parole	19	
Released by Death	1	"Sure," said Lennie. "A pig is a hogs little boy."
High Number	24850	
Low Number	11349	"I THINK it's time we thought about our daughter getting married" said the wife to her husband.
Total Population	1190	

MOVIES FOR THE NEXT 30 DAYS

May 8 - WALK ON THE WILD SIDE
Lawrence Harvey & Barbara
Stanwyck: Dr., 114 m.

"Oh, let her wait until the right man comes along" suggested the husband.

"Why wait?" said the wife. "I didn't."

"HEY," cried Satan to the new arrival, "you act as if you owned the place."

May 15 - STAGECOACH TO DANCER'S ROCK
Warren Stevens & Jody
Lawrence: West., 82 m.

"I do," came the reply. "My wife gave it to me before I died."

May 22 - A YANK IN VIET NAM
Marshall Thompson & Mario
Barri: W Dr., 80 m.

EVER HEAR of the street cleaner who was fired from the department? He couldn't keep his mind in the gutter.

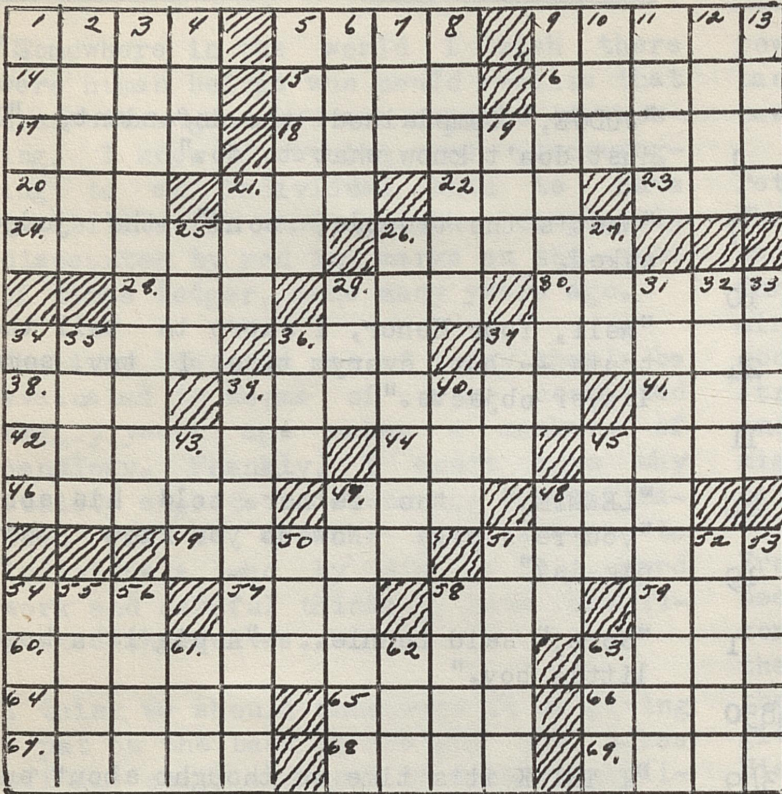
May 29 - THE MAIN ATTRACTION
Pat Boone & Nancy Kwan:
Dr., 85 m.

A HEN must get pretty frustrated. She is always putting something down and someone is always picking it up.

June 5 - SWORDMAN OF SIENA
Stewart Granger &
Kristine Kaufman:
Adv., 92 m.

DID YOU KNOW that with the divorce rate so high, some dress manufacturers are planning a line of drip-dry wedding gowns?

Also Selected Short Subjects



DOWN (Continued)

- 10. Strain
- 11. British bastille
- 12. Volcano
- 13. Abound
- 19. Title
- 21. Large amount
- 25. Poker stake
- 26. Gas
- 27. Wilt
- 29. For
- 31. Type of warfare
- 32. Girl's name
- 33. _____ off
- 34. Beverage
- 35. Seldom seen
- 36. Marry
- 37. Tree
- 39. Military headquarters
- 40. Abet
- 43. Coming
- 45. Immense
- 47. Publishing official
- 48. Man's name

ACROSS

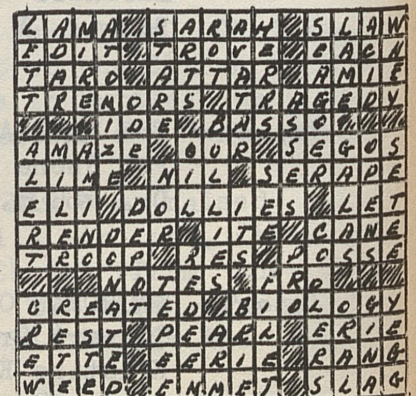
- 1. South sea's port
- 5. Strain for breathe
- 9. Cause to be
- 14. Pine for
- 15. Love God
- 16. Out of patience
- 17. Girl's name
- 18. Thick soup
- 20. Turncoat
- 21. Preceded
- 22. Fruit seed
- 23. Take it on the duffy
- 24. Three-legged stool
- 26. Peels
- 28. Obtained
- 29. Sing the blues
- 30. Capital of Morocco
- 34. Urchin
- 36. Bay suit
- 37. Essential to an auto
- 38. Ingest
- 39. Correspondents
- 41. Digit
- 42. Wasted away
- 44. Sight
- 45. Hemorrhage

- 46. Stale T.V. show
- 47. Finish
- 48. River (Sp.)
- 49. Musical experience
- 51. Draped, as slacks
- 54. Once around
- 57. Blackbird
- 58. Burden
- 59. Man's name
- 60. Assertion
- 63. Go over lightly
- 64. Adult insect
- 65. Man's name
- 66. Gone by
- 67. Synthetic fabric
- 68. Communists
- 69. Sheltered

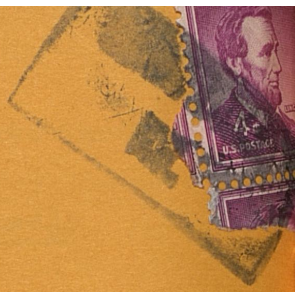
ANSWERS TO LAST MONTH'S PUZZLE:

DOWN

- 1. Wide awake
- 2. Of a pole
- 3. Obnoxious person
- 4. Most important Khan
- 5. Gambled
- 6. In the midst of
- 7. Offspring
- 8. Recompense in advance
- 9. Kind of heron (pl.)



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VOLUME III, NUMBER XI

MAY, 1964

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