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Colorado State Penitentiary —
Past, Present, and Projected Planning

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COLORADO STATE PENITENTIARY



FOREWORD

We are glad that you have taken an opportunity to visit the Colorado State Penitentiary. While the tours themselves are brief, and for obvious reasons cannot encompass the entire prison grounds or operations, we hope that it has given you a better insight into modern prison operation.

In our tours we try to show visitors a cross section of today's modern penal institution. By showing you some of our shops and industries, you have some idea of how an institution of this sort tries to be as self sustaining as possible. We have given you a glimpse of our housing facilities and you have observed the general housekeeping and grounds maintenance that goes on all the time.

Modern prisons, though, are more than buildings, they are being utilized for something more than detention and punishment. We are concerned too with the rehabilitation of those sent here by our courts. While confined to penal institution, the inmates are repaying a debt to society; but in some cases it is because of some malfunction of society that they are here. Some are from broken homes, others have never had educational or occupational advantages and have been drawn into a life of crime.

We operate on the basis that many of the men sent to us have some rehabilitation qualities and one of our functions is to try and develop these to the extent that the individual can go out of prison to a better life, one in which he can adjust to living and working with his fellow man. If we have done a good job while he is entrusted to our care he does not return to a life of crime. It is to that end we are working.

We hope this booklet will give you a better understanding of the prison of today and the functions we are trying to fulfill for the State of Colorado.



Harry C. Finley
Warden
COLORADO STATE PENITENTIARY

WARDENS

Clockwise
from
Bottom Center

1870 -74

Albert Walters

Jan.17,1874

David Prosser

1874 A. Rudd

1876 B.F. Allen

1876-80 M.N. Megrue

1880-82 W.B. Felton

1882-84 C.P. Hoyt

1884-86 R.A. Cameron

1886-88 C.P. Hoyt

1888-90 J.A. Lamping

1890-92 William A. Smith

1892-94 Frank A. McLister



C.P. HOYT



R.A. CAMERON



W.H. FELTON



W.A. SMITH



A. RUDD



ALBERT WALTERS



FRANK A. MCLISTER

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365
E

COIN
CS
CSP
745

WARDENS

Clockwise
from
Bottom Center

1894-98 John Cleghorn

1898-1900 C.P. Hoyt

1900-02 E.H. Martin

1902-09 John Cleghorn

1909-27 Thomas J. Tynan

Feb. 1927 Boone Best

Sept. 1927 Samuel J. Burris
(PROVISIONAL APPOINTEE)

Dec. 1927 F.E. Crawford

Oct. 1931 John Allen
(DIED AUG. 6, 1932)

Aug. 12, 1932 Roy Best

1955 Harry Tinsley
(PHOTO IN PRESENT SECTION)



BOONE BEST



SAMUEL BURRIS



THOMAS J. TYNAN



F.E. CRAWFORD



E.H. MARTIN



JOHN CLEGHORN



ROY BEST

COLORADO STATE PENITENTIARY'S

PAST

A Historical Sketch of Colorado's Oldest Penal Institution



First Colorado Penitentiary

This was the original Territorial Prison. Built in 1870 this forty cell unit was ready for the reception of prisoners in June the following year. The prison was under the jurisdiction of Mark Shaffenburg, U. S. Marshal for Colorado Territory. The building, constructed of native stone, quarried on the site, was located in the middle of the twenty-five acre site which had been donated by Jothan Draper. It soon had to be supplemented by other buildings as the convict population grew, and walls were constructed around the prison enclosure in 1875.

"The Territory Needs A Jail"

The penitentiary at Canon City antedates the State of Colorado by half a dozen years. Citizens of the lusty, brawling frontier that was Colorado Territory, had petitioned both the Federal and Territorial governments for some sort of institution to incarcerate the more hardened criminals who were preying on the comparatively law abiding citizenry of the region. According to pioneer law enforcement officers, "A sentence doesn't mean a thing. We don't have a place to put them after the judges pass sentence on them. The only sentence that can be carried out is hanging."

Frontier jails ranged from small log cabins to more ornate cut stone affairs, some of which even had steel bars. In most cases they were adequate more for letting the saloon customers sober up than they were for holding criminals for any more than a day or two. Congress—the Thirty-Ninth—had concerned itself with the lawlessness of the region, and in June 1867, had approved an act providing that the net proceeds of Internal Revenue of the Territory of Colorado for the fiscal years ending June 30, 1866-67-68 be set aside for the construction of a penitentiary. The act further provided that location of the institution be left entirely up to the Legislature of the Territory. The amount proposed for the new prison was not to exceed \$40,000. Thus it was that the Seventh Session of the Legislative Assembly of the Territory of Colorado, meeting in 1868, memorialized the Congress of the United States: "Your memorialists, the Council and House of Representatives in the Territory of Colorado, would respectfully request that the sum of \$40,000.00 appropriated by Congress of the United States by an act approved June 22, 1867 for the purpose of erecting a penitentiary in the Territory of Colorado is hopelessly inadequate for the erection of any prison required by the wants of the Territory. A large majority of our counties are without a jail or prison of any kind and in these days a conviction amounts to an acquittal. - - -" No record can be found that Congress gave serious consideration to the pleas of the Territorial legislators and according to records available, the originally planned appropriation measure was passed on July 20, 1868.

Canon City Awarded Penitentiary

Thomas Macon of Canon City, an attorney who had reached the west only a short time before, had been elected to the Territorial Legislature and it was he who spearheaded

39299

the drive to locate the prison in Canon City. His support of Denver to receive designation as the state capital instead of Golden, the then seat of the state government, had earned him the backing of sufficient legislators from the northern part of the state to have Canon City selected as the prison site. The enabling legislation as passed by the Seventh Assembly was: "The penitentiary for Territory of Colorado shall be established at Canon City in the County of Fremont. The Governor of the Territory of Colorado, shall, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council of said Territory, appoint three persons Commissioners, to select a site not more than one half mile from the center of said city for the erection of a prison. The persons so appointed shall, within sixty days after the date of their appointment, proceed to select a site for a penitentiary, which site shall contain not less than twenty-five acres of land; the site so selected shall be conveyed to the Territory by the person or persons holding title thereto in fee simple absolutely without charge so as to vest title of same in the Territory. Said Commissioners shall make, or cause to be made, a plat of said site and its contiguous surroundings and report to the Governor of this Territory the nature of the soil, the character of the building material, and the feasibility of cultivation and irrigation of said soil; and upon the reception of the report of said commission by the Governor, it shall be his duty to transmit the plat of the land so selected by the said Commissioners, together with their report and a copy of this Act for the approval of the Secretary of the Interior and to Congress."

It is especially significant that Colorado, back in its formative years, drew a pattern for its penitentiary that in later years would cause trouble. The geographic location in the community, and the limitations of space to which the institution was to be confined, were both factors which in future years would multiply the problems that normally beset any penal institution.

Jothan Draper, one of the earliest settlers of Fremont County, was the donor of the land that became the prison site. Quite by accident, however, the civic minded and generous Draper had given more land than he had intended and it required an Act of the Legislature and subsequently congressional action in order to restore part of the land to him and set the record straight.

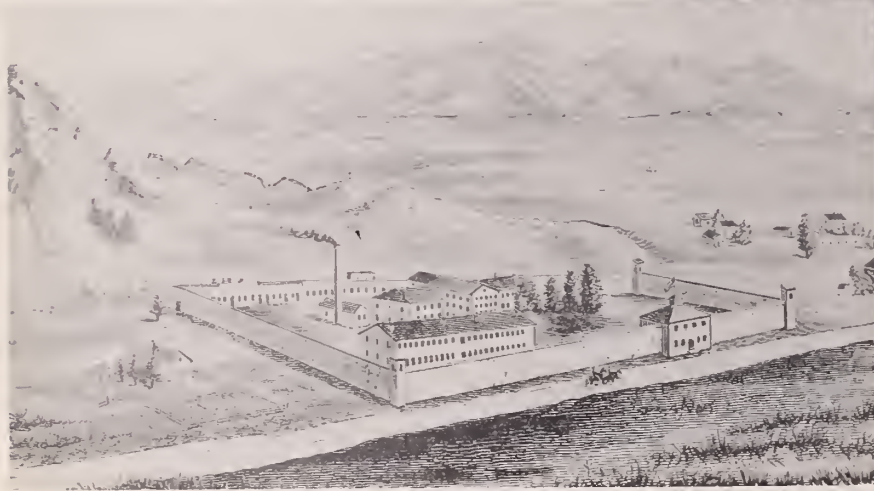
Records in the National Archives in Washington indicate that in April 1874, the prison was officially transferred to Territorial author-



HISTORY



FIRST PENITENTIARY
1/2 MILE FROM CANON CITY



#183 *Murder*
1876



#446
Larceny
1880



1890

ities. Mark Shaffenberg, U. S. Marshal of Colorado Territory had been nominal head of the institution during its first years and Albert Walters of Canon City had been the Chief Officer. It was at this time that Prosser, Rudd and Allen served as head of the institution.

Prison Crowded Frequently

Overcrowding was a frequent and recurring problem. In November 1873, a story in the Rocky Mountain News was headlined, "Canon City Pen Full." In 1877 the legislature approved enlargement of the prison and increased maintenance costs were approved from that year until 1900. Warden C. P. Hoyt made a report to the legislature in 1899 complaining that he had 582 men in residence at the prison and had cell room for only 400. At that time there were three cell houses which housed the male convicts and a separate building was under construction for the women prisoners.

The first prisoner received at the prison was John Shepler, who was committed to the institution Jan. 13, 1871 for larceny.

The first woman prisoner arrived at Canon City March 12, 1873. She was assigned No. 60 and was sentenced to 3 years for manslaughter. At the close of 1871, less than six months after receiving the initial prisoner, there were twenty-three inmates. The first escape occurred on Dec. 15, 1871. As indicated earlier, the first wall around the prison was not built until about four years after the prison was established. When completed the wall enclosed four and a half acres. When it was finished the administration planned to go ahead with construction of some buildings that could house prison industries, but this was not accomplished until several years later.

A reporter on one of the metropolitan publications in Denver, after inspecting the institution in Canon City and commenting on the treatment the men received, made the remark that the men were "attired in white woolen suits which were handsomely decorated with black stripes." The broad striped clothing was done away with years ago.

Prison Labor Eases Tax Burden

Records are sketchy as to the extent of early prison industry, however the usual institutional activities: carpentry, blacksmithing, shoe cobbling, clothing repair and general maintenance apparently offered the principal activity and labor outlets for prisoners in the first decade or two of prison operation in Colorado. Later on, brick manufacture, the

quarrying of limestone and burning it in kilns on the prison grounds offered both a work program as well as a revenue source for the institution. No record has been made of extracurricular activities, but there evidently was a convict choir as early as 1884. Another activity in the music field was the organization of a prison band, and appearing in ornate uniforms of the period rather than the conventional stripes, the first prison band made its appearance around the turn of the century.

From old bi-annual reports and special reports in governors' papers in the early years of Colorado's history, the following interesting figures have been gleaned which would indicate that considerable emphasis was placed on convict earnings early in the history of the institution.

	Total Expenditures	Maintenance	Convict Earnings
1883-84....	\$223,154.89	\$167,464.23	\$50,405.83
1885-86....	226,486.44	175,456.70	70,067.28
1887-88....	219,841.87	171,653.14	80,676.17
1889-90....	235,847.87	166,098.84	58,836.61
1891-92....	232,810.44	168,880.60	59,238.47
1893-94....	267,823.05	179,892.30	36,724.62
1895-96....	196,192.53	169,578.14	22,982.39
1897-98....	192,354.45	165,193.57	16,378.91
1899-1900	221,798.89	158,157.45	27,362.89

Guards At \$25 Per Month

Maintenance costs were held at an absolute minimum as can be observed when it is noted that in 1876 the custodial force of the Colorado State Penitentiary numbered four day guards and two night guards. Their salary was \$25.00—per month. From time to time there were significant economy moves designed to cut down the operational costs of the institution. One rather odd circumstance which would indicate a very strict economy regime was the fact that in June of 1879, one of the convicts was made to pay \$56.25 which figure represented the cost of his capture and return to the penitentiary. It is the only instance that has been found where a convict has been assessed in such a manner. It is remarkable, in light of other circumstances, that in those days a convict was possessed of sufficient capital to pay for such a venture.

The sale of lime and brick which were manufactured and burned on the prison grounds was one of the chief sources of revenue for the institution in its early days. Another source of revenue was the contracting of prison labor, and contracts are on record where in the Colorado State Prison Commission, formed of three individuals appointed

HISTORY



LOCK-STEP, MARCH !



REAR OF ADMINISTRATION BUILDING and EAST END of CELLHOUSE #4



HOSPITAL 1900 BUILDING STILL IN USE



MIDWAY AREA 1895

by the governor, had entered into a contract with a company to be known as the Colorado Shoe Co. This organization was to furnish the materials, machinery and supervision for the manufacture of boots and shoes. The prison was to furnish the labor, factory space, maintenance of labor and in return would receive thirty cents per man per day for the use of convict labor. This arrangement evidently was maintained for several years. It was also during this era that the Prison Commission authorized an appropriation for the Warden to make a trip "to the east" to try and line up a better industrial program within the prison.

The Prison Builds Roads

Parts of Colorado's highway network owe their beginning to a program of using convict labor on public roads and in road construction at about the turn of the century. Much of the original highway between Trinidad and Denver was constructed by convict labor. One of the most difficult bits of highway construction which could be imagined is the highway between Leadville and Pueblo. This was built largely by convict labor in about 1900 and Colorado U. S. Highway 50 today between those points still follows much of the original route which was hewn from the granite cliffs of the Arkansas River Canyon between Canon City and Salida. It can be said of this highway program that it achieved a dual purpose because it afforded both an excellent labor program for the penitentiary and gave the taxpayers of Colorado the beginnings of a highway network at a very minimum cost. Another feature of the program which was also quite important was the fact that prisoners who engaged in labor upon the highway were given additional time off for good behavior. Hundreds of them had their sentences materially reduced by dint of their labor on our early roads.

The original road to the top of the Royal Gorge, one of Colorado's scenic attractions, was built by convict labor. The Skyline Drive, a scenic excursion drive atop the hill which lies back of the prison, was built in 1903. Old records indicate that this project cost \$6,400.00. This was built entirely with convict labor and the money was expended principally for blasting powder and picks and shovels. Early experiences in utilization of convict labor in highway construction indicated that prison guards and officials got much better results than when the inmate laborers were turned over to independent contractors.

Early Buildings Still Serving

Several good stratas of building stone were found in the hill which forms the background for the prison, and extensive stone quarrying has been carried on in the past. Many of the present buildings of the prison as well as the walls were constructed from this stone. Some of the early buildings were also built from stone which was quarried, cut and dressed at the prison.

Still doing service are several buildings which have either neared or passed the half century mark at units in Colorado's penitentiary. All these are scheduled for considerable much needed modification within the next few years. While the buildings are still basically sound, they are quite inadequate for present needs and in some instances remodeling is needed to bring them up to adequate safety and fire resistant standards. A currently great need is for record storage facilities. This, it is felt, should be incorporated in plans for modification of the Administration Building.

Old personnel records are quite sketchy as illustrated by some of the inmate records. A photograph, on the back of which were a few sketchy facts was just about all the information that related to inmates in early days of the prison. It will be noted later the importance that adequate individual records play in the handling of penal affairs today.

Most executions at the prison were held inside the walls. Until 1933 hanging was the method used in executions. Colorado was one of the first western prisons to utilize a lethal gas chamber in the execution of prisoners and many other states modeled similar installations after the one at Canon City. After doing service for over 20 years, the gas chamber was demolished early in 1955 and the new edifice which replaced it was built atop the new maximum security building on the site of the building once occupied by the female department.

HISTORY



EARLY DAY PRISON BAND

ONE OF COLORADO'S MOST FAMOUS PRISONERS

Not by his number, which was 1389, but by the apocryphal sentence which has been handed down from Colorado's early history will Alfred Packer be known.

"Stand up, y' man-eatin' son-of-a-bitch, Stand up! They was siven Dimmycrats in Hinsdale County, and ye et five of them, God damn ye! I sentence you to be hanged by the neck till you are dead, dead, DEAD! as a warnin' agin reducin' the Dimmycratic popylashun in the State!"

The famous "Cannibal" was first sentenced to hang, but received a second trial, and in this he was again convicted, this time on five counts of man slaughter (one for each victim), eight years for each count. He entered the prison in 1886 and was freed in 1901.

EARLY DAY ROAD WORK CAMP

↑
Highway Construction West of Canon City on what is now Colorado U. S. Highway 50. About 1910.



→
NEWS MEN FROM "THE CHRONICLE" INSPECT A ROAD BUILDING CREW



HISTORY



LEFT:
DEDICATING
SKYLINE DRIVE



#177
Murder
1876



INFAMOUS AL PACKER,
MANSLAUGHTER



ABOVE: WEST GATE IN
1900

Outmoded for present operations. Rebuilding this facility is expected to cost \$40,000 and is high on our Priority List.



✦ BURNING LIME 1890

HISTORY



1890 CUSTODIAL FORCE



ABOVE: FIRST
ADMINISTRATION
BUILDING
AND WAGON NUMBER 1.



OLD BAKERY SHOP 1893
QUOTA: 1200 LBS. OF BREAD
PER DAY

HISTORY



750 LARCENY 1882 "I DINT DO IT !"



792 MANSLAUGHTER, 1882
"PEOPLE JUST DONT GET ALONG WITH ME !"



712 ASSAULT 1882-WINTER UNIFORM-"QUICK HENRY PASS THE FLIT!"



#474 LARCENY 1880-SUMMER UNIFORM

Colorado State Penitentiary Population by Races



956
WHITES



385
SPANISH
AMERICANS



106
NEGROES



10
INDIANS



3
PUERTO
RICANS



2
ORIENT-
ALS

STATE POPULATION BY RACES							
RACE	TOTAL	% of RACE IN PENITENTIARY					
WHITE	1,296,000	One out of every	1,355	.074%			
SPANISH	118,133	" " " "	307	.326			
NEGRO	20,177	" " " "	190	.525			
INDIAN	1,500	" " " "	150	.666			
JAP	5,400	}					
CHINESE	458				" " " "	1,336	.075
OTHER	822						

Total Colorado State Pen. Population 1,462 (6-30-55)

PRESENT



PRACTICES & PROCEDURES

PRESENT BUILDINGS...

This 1910 structure needs considerable remodeling to bring it up to modern standards. Houses administration and business staff as well as parole department and visiting room. 9,032 sq. ft. Cost \$125,000.00.



ADMINISTRATION BLDG.



INTERIOR, CELLHOUSE #1

One of the most recently built cellhouses at Canon City, this unit utilizes most modern facilities and furnishings for penal institutions. Like other cellhouses this has its own barber shop, staffed by inmate barbers, is cared for by three custodial officers, each shift.

BELOW: WOMEN'S SECTION



Women's Section. Built in 1935. Cost \$75,000.00. Present capacity 40. Could be expanded if necessary. 11,846 sq. ft.

PRESENT BUILDINGS...

Cellhouse 1, built in 1951
4 levels, 96 cells with
capacity of 384. Cost
when built \$661,765.00

Wing at right part of
Central Building.



CELLHOUSE #1



MAXIMUM SECURITY BUILDING

Penitentiary's newest building. Completed in 1955 at a cost of \$369,000. Capacity 100 including condemned row. Two floors and basement, 25,072 sq. ft. Execution chamber in penthouse structure on top of main building.

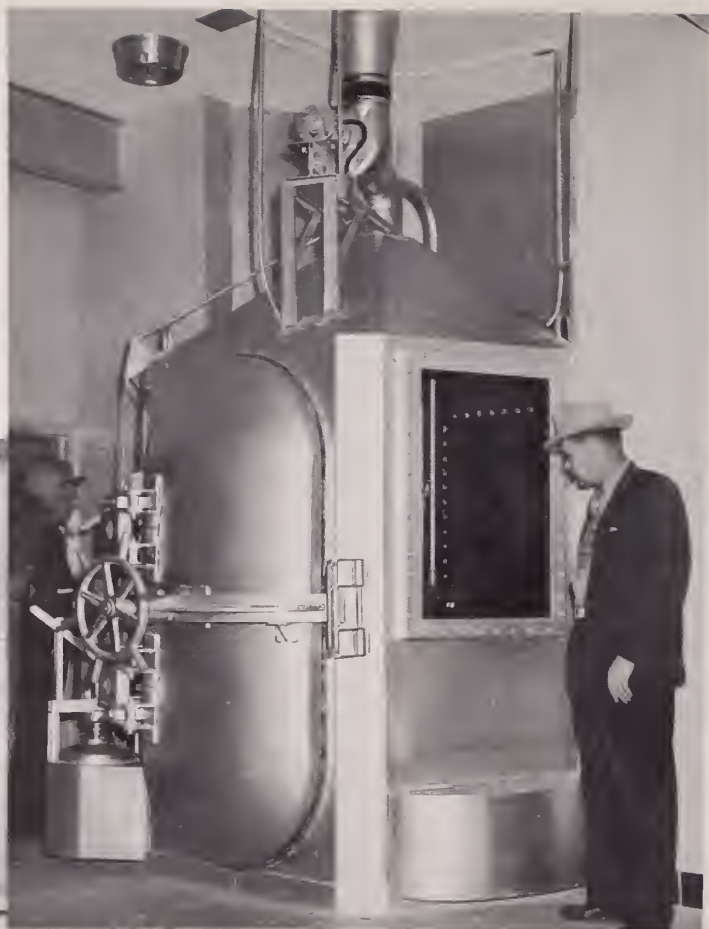
Left: Cellhouse 6, 4 levels,
58 cells, capacity 232 men.
Built in 1935, cost \$325,-
000.00, sq. ft. 10,262.
Right: Cellhouse 7, built in
1939, cost \$500,000.00,
capacity 512 inmates, 4
levels, 14,617 sq. ft.

CELLHOUSES #6 & #7



MAXIMUM SECURITY...

RIGHT: NEW
GAS CHAMBER



DEATH ROW CELL

RIGHT:
ISOLATION ROW
CELL



PRESENT PRACTICES AT THE PRISON

The State Penitentiary serves Colorado by keeping prisoners sentenced there in custody. To us is entrusted the job of safekeeping, punishment and rehabilitation of these individuals. The quality of our management and the success of our job will be marked by the percentage of men who do not return to the institution once they are processed by the parole organization and channeled back into society.

Not long ago the Federal Bureau of Prisons was asked to make a survey of Colorado's correctional institutions and to make recommendations and suggestions as to changes which should be made to raise them to maximum standards. A detailed report was forwarded to the executive department relative to this penal installation and in the months that have intervened since the report was received many of the suggestions have been followed and put into practice.

It would take a great many years to comply with all of the suggestions and place into effect the entire program as suggested by the Federal Bureau; economically some phases of the program would not fit the appropriations we have to work with. We do feel, however, that important steps have been taken in recent months and an excellent foundation has been established to produce a better overall prison program than Colorado has ever had. Command level officers and administrators of the prison have been observing programs which are in operation in similar institutions throughout the nation and have been cooperating with the Parole Department toward setting up a sound penal program. It is only by coordinating good prison practices with a well ordered and properly supervised parole system that our objectives can be realized.

Individual Instead Of Mass Treatment

Here we would like to show what happens to a man when he is sentenced to a term in Canon City and the steps that are followed by prison officials once he is housed behind the walls. The classification program as it is practiced in the Colorado State Penitentiary today is the basis of the rehabilitation of the prisoner as well as a guide to the Parole Department when he shall again be sent back into society. A prisoner, through our present classification procedure, is given individual treatment and consideration instead of mass treatment, it is thru such practice that we hope to strengthen the entire penal program.

When received, the inmate is photographed, fingerprinted and interviewed by

39299

classification personnel who start compiling records on the subject that will help in deciding into which custodial and rehabilitative categories he belongs. A great deal of time and effort goes into the establishment of a file of accurate factual information on each prisoner. Summaries reflect each individual's problems so that they can be dealt with by the proper authorities.

Importance Of Classification

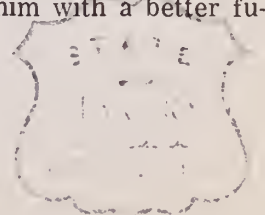
Classification today is one of the most important aspects of prison administration. In Colorado the whole program is new and we have tried to utilize the best systems we have been able to observe. I believe that we have gained a great deal of time in our program by eliminating those factors which have been found to be non-essential or unsuccessful in other states which have been following a detailed classification system for some time. While still in the formative stages in some respects, results thus far have been excellent.

Indicated by his crime, general attitude and past record is the custodial class into which the prisoner will be placed—Maximum, medium or minimum. We have a background on his family life, and personal situations which invariably have an influence on his adjustment to prison life. His medical history and the results of physical examination he receives will indicate whether he shall receive treatment while he is serving his sentence. We are finding increasing need of psychiatric counselling and for this service have been cooperating closely with the Colorado State Hospital. Quite often this is the basis of the rehabilitation program necessary for some individuals. One of our greatest staff needs at the present time is for a full time staff psychiatrist and psychological counsellors or consultants.

The work assignment of the prisoner is determined to a large extent by results of classification. His training and preference are taken into consideration as are his educational background and any acquired skills he may have. To some extent, of course, need for manpower in prison industries and maintenance departments are considered and the prisoner may be assigned to regular housekeeping and maintenance duties until there are openings in preferred jobs or the academic program.

Plans For Prisoner's Future

The prisoner's past, correlated with a well ordered present give us information which should help to provide him with a better fu-



ture. The overall aim of the classification program is to form a sound foundation for the rehabilitation of the individual. Every source of information is consulted; when completed we have a pretty good record of the man before he was ever committed to the prison. Any factual data which will enable the Parole Board and future supervisory officers to do a better job with the individual is placed in his records. These records are then continued after the man is paroled from the institution.

Included in the file of a man is information relating to how well he adapts himself to the various prison programs, what he does in his off hours. It is important to note how well he gets along with his fellow inmates and with officers and supervisors—this is one of the first inquiries of future employers. We try to indicate his correspondence activities and how he keeps up family ties since this is such an important element of his parole program.

We have enjoyed fine cooperation from law enforcement agencies, other institutions, the military and others from whom we have had to seek information on inmates from time to time to complete classification files. It is hoped that as time goes on we can receive further and more complete cooperation since the whole program depends on the completeness of the records we can obtain and keep on people committed to our penal institutions.

OFFICER TRAINING PROGRAM

Current with the classification program and some of the other practices which have recently been put into operation at the prison has been an officer training program. Obviously we cannot hope to operate an institution which endeavors to keep pace with the correctional programs of the rest of the nation unless the custodial personnel are trained in modern methods and practices which are necessary to carry out such a program.

During the summer of 1954 all the officer personnel of the institution were given a comprehensive and highly specialized training course which was concentrated into a few weeks. The excellent training manual and companion material of the entire course was prepared under the direction of the University of Colorado in collaboration with command level officers of the Colorado State Penitentiary. Regardless of tenure, every officer employed at the prison was given the training. The course itself consisted of 16 hours of class room instruction.

It is now standard practice for all beginning officers to complete this course of instruction, using the manual which was prepared by the University of Colorado. It is given during their first two years of service at the institution; frequent progress examinations are held and the course is being modified as needed to meet the present requirements and practices of the institution.

Both new and veteran officers are required to familiarize themselves with all weapons which are in use at the institution and they are further required to become proficient in their use. At regular intervals they use the firing range at the guards armory to check their accuracy standings. A rifle range is also maintained several miles north of Canon City and prison officers are required to make use of this facility at regular intervals to maintain their proficiency with rifles such as are used on some posts at the prison.

While skill in use of arms and weapons is one of the less important attributes of a custodial officer, it nevertheless is one of our requirements. We hope he will never have to exercise this skill. Should the occasion arise it is expected by the citizens of the state and the prison administration that he will be able to use the necessary weapons with reasonable skill and considered judgement.

Training Officer

It is planned to establish a position on our custodial staff for a training officer. He would be in charge of the entire training program. In the planned program each officer would be required at stated intervals to take a "brush up" course requiring a scheduled number of hours of instruction each year. I feel that each officer should have a broad working knowledge of the entire institutional program; it has been my experience that besides making for better personnel relations, when critical situations arise, they are better and more promptly handled when a broad knowledge of administrative detail has been made available to subordinate officers. The more understanding we have among our officers the greater co-operation we will have in doing the whole job better.

It is generally conceded that our officer training program has served to strengthen officer morale at the institution and it is significantly important that each man working there today has a better working knowledge of the entire institutional program than he ever had before. Much of the detail in the plans for the modification and required

changes within the present prison plant as well as the proposed Medium Security Institution have been suggested by the officer staff of the institution.

Reception Center

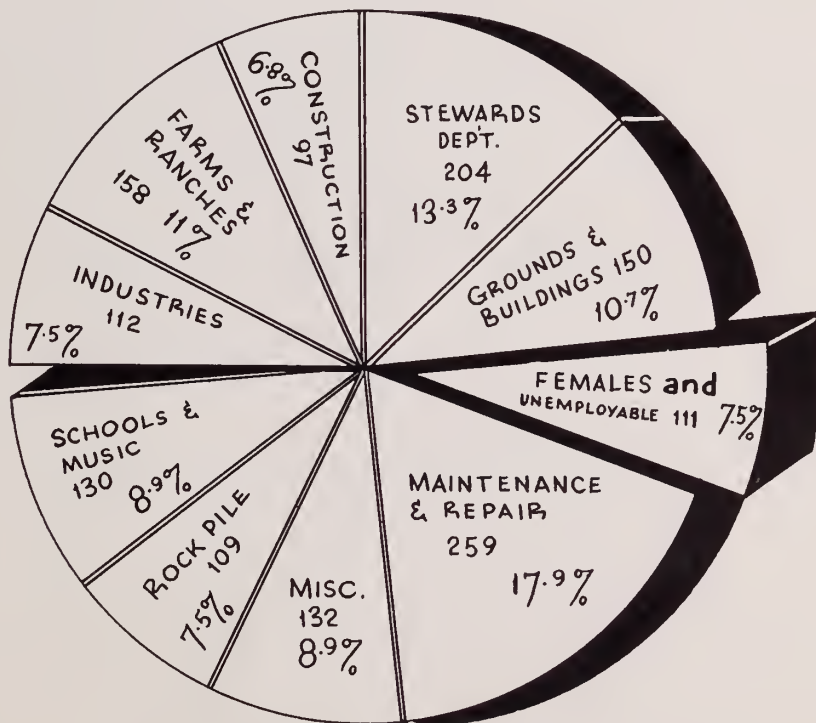
Our present agenda calls for the establishment of a receiving center and as this is being written the first inmates are being processed in a cellhouse which is being converted for this purpose. True, the accommodations are makeshift, but we have taken the important step of segregating the youthful and first offenders who are entering prison for the first time. Their indoctrination will be controlled and as proper as it is possible to make it. The early days of incarceration are important ones, and this departure from customary procedures in Colorado is one of the greatest forward steps we have made.

Colorado's penal system and outmoded penal code do not lend themselves too well to modern and accepted practices, but the step is going to have to be taken some time. Until such time as it is possible to incorporate a truly medium security institution into our present setup, the only steps toward segregation of offenders are ones like we have mentioned.

Medium Security Prison Vital

It is not my intent, and has never been, that we shall try to create here at the Canon City installation, a super prison. Over the years it has grown, or remained static because of population pressures. What we are trying to accomplish is to bring the present plant itself up to recognized modern standards, and to remove from the present prison risks which do not belong there and place them in an institution designed and built to accommodate that type of risk. With one prison, everything has to be designed to accommodate the maximum risk, this is expensive, it hampers the rehabilitative work which must of necessity play an important role if we are to have a successful program.

A separate institution for the medium and minimum risks is one of the musts for the future of Colorado's penal program. It is just common sense, I think, that it should be somewhere in the near vicinity of the other prison. Economy should dictate that there not be a duplicate administrative staff, and that if service of one institution could effect economies for the other it should be done. To that end we think we are working toward setting up the mechanics that will be required for the operation of such an installation whenever it is approved.



HOW INMATES ARE EMPLOYED

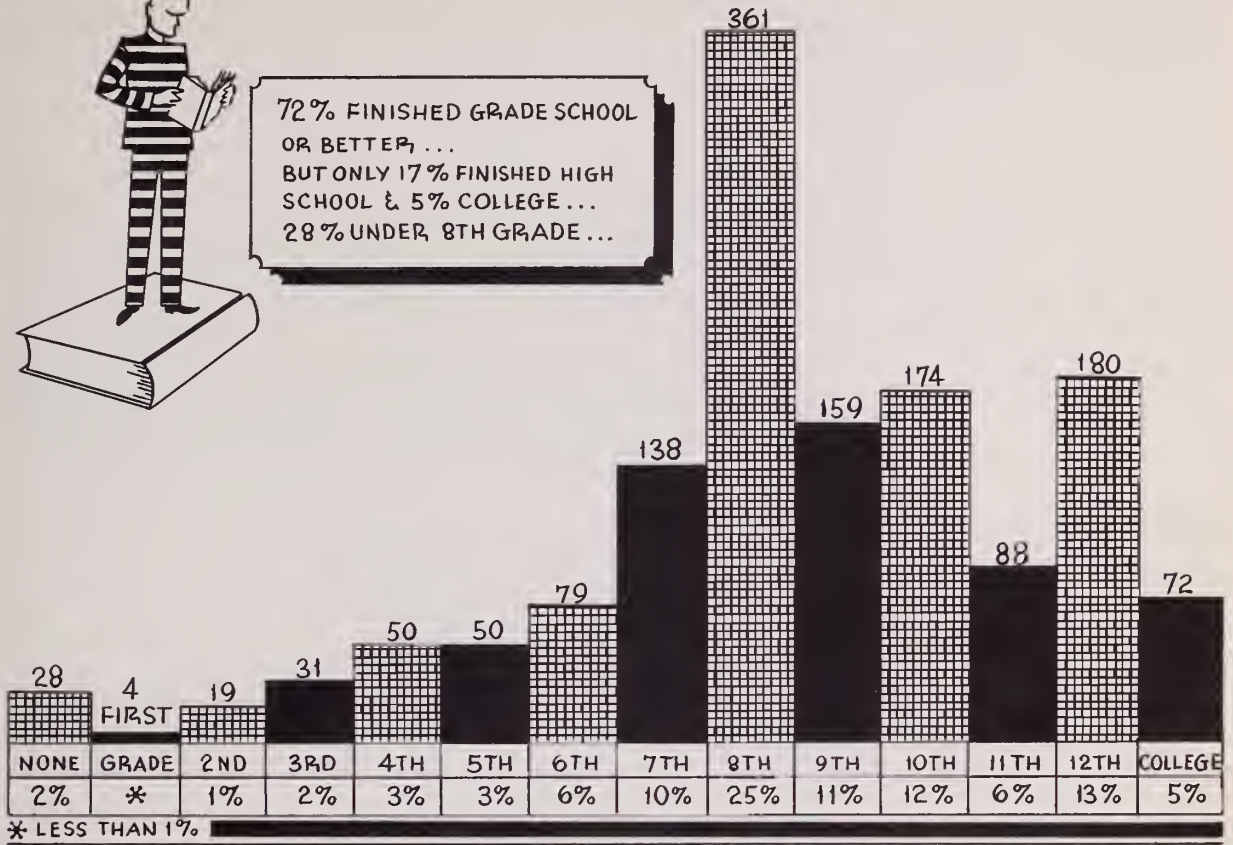
ANNUAL RECORDS

YEAR	Transfers IN	Out of State Boarders	Received By Court	TOTAL Received	Transfers OUT	Parole and Discharge	Executed	Died	TOTAL Releases	TOTAL Population as of 6/30	YEAR
7-1-34 TO 6-30-35							3	9		1194	1935
7-1-35 TO 6-30-36	0	4	538	542	0	487	1	10	498	1238	1936
7-1-36 TO 6-30-37	0	3	549	552	1	548	1	14	564	1226	1937
7-1-37 TO 6-30-38	0	6	659	665	7	518	0	11	536	1355	1938
7-1-38 TO 6-30-39	0	2	638	640	1	509	4	5	519	1476	1939
7-1-39 TO 6-30-40	0	3	551	554	1	579	0	5	585	1445	1940
7-1-40 TO 6-30-41	4	3	495	502	1	381	2	10	394	1553	1941
7-1-41 TO 6-30-42	4	1	492	497	8	691	2	6	707	1343	1942
7-1-42 TO 6-30-43	5	0	360	365	5	504	2	6	517	1191	1943
7-1-43 TO 6-30-44	1	5	318	324	5	400	0	12	417	1098	1944
7-1-44 TO 6-30-45	1	2	321	324	5	375	3	4	387	1035	1945
7-1-45 TO 6-30-46	2	10	396	408	2	337	0	6	345	1098	1946
7-1-46 TO 6-30-47	0	2	483	485	2	386	2	5	395	1188	1947
7-1-47 TO 6-30-48	0	2	522	524	1	451	0	12	464	1248	1948
7-1-48 TO 6-30-49	0	3	477	480	1	505	2	12	520	1208	1949
7-1-49 TO 6-30-50	10	11	557	578	1	511	0	8	520	1266	1950
7-1-50 TO 6-30-51	0	3	510	513	4	511	0	6	521	1258	1951
7-1-51 TO 6-30-52	14	4	489	507	3	515	1	6	525	1240	1952
7-1-52 TO 6-30-53	14	12	483	509	3	495	0	6	504	1245	1953
7-1-53 TO 6-30-54	4	14	675	693	2	494	0	6	502	1436	1954
7-1-54 TO 6-30-55	2	8	637	647	0	618	0	3	621	1462	1955

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND...



72% FINISHED GRADE SCHOOL OR BETTER...
 BUT ONLY 17% FINISHED HIGH SCHOOL & 5% COLLEGE...
 28% UNDER 8TH GRADE...



INMATES BY AGE GROUPS...

AGE	17	18	19	20	21	22-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60-65	OVER 65
TOTAL	3	14	25	32	54	171	317	259	173	121	108	70	40	15	31
	* (less than 1%)	1%	2%	2%	4%	12%	22%	18%	12%	8%	7%	5%	3%	1%	2%

* LESS THAN 1%

INCARCERATIONS RECORD...



FIRST OFFENSE	2ND	3RD	4TH	5TH	6TH	7TH	8TH	9TH	10TH	11TH	12TH	13TH
551	335	249	152	69	38	20	11	3	2	1	1	1
38%	23%	17%	11%	5%	3%	1%	1%	*	*	*	*	*

* LESS THAN 1%

CHAPEL, DINING ROOM & LIBRARY...

Auditorium and Chapel seats 1500. Balcony is for female inmates. Building completed in 1941. Cost \$175,000.00.



Inmate dining hall can handle one thousand men at a time. Average serving time per meal is 30 minutes. Located directly under auditorium. (16,000 sq. ft. floor space — each floor.)

Library presently located on second floor of Central Building. Contains over 5000 volumes of fiction, non-fiction, reference and technical works, as well as magazines and newspapers.



OFF HOUR ACTIVITIES

Hobbies and Crafts

Just as necessary in the successful operation of a penal institution as a good work program is a well organized and diversified recreational program. It bears repetition that idleness breeds trouble and we try to see to it that there are as few intervals of idleness during the sentence of a prisoner as possible.

Each prisoner, during his off hours, is allowed to pursue a hobby or take up some craft such as leather tooling, woodworking, jewelry manufacture. The display facilities of the prison curio shop are available to him, and here most such articles are retailed. Earnings from this source are used by the inmate to purchase items available in the prison canteen which are not ordinarily furnished by the State. Many of the inmates regularly send money to their families which they have earned by the pursuit of hobbies and crafts in their off hours. It tends to bolster the self respect of the men who do this for they consider they are still contributing to the support of their families. We encourage it, just as thrift, industry and strong family ties are encouraged in their normal lives after families are reunited. I should like to stress that these activities are purely voluntary and occupy only the time that an inmate gives it after he has completed his regular duties. It has been interesting to observe from time to time, that during general recreational periods, many of the inmates would prefer to remain in their cells and occupy their time with individual hobbies or crafts.

Many prisoners utilize their skills to the extent that they manage to earn considerable amounts of money. Any savings which a man can accumulate in his account serves as a further economic cushion when he leaves prison until such time as he can secure steady employment and reestablish himself in society.

Library and Canteen Important

Our prison canteen serves a well defined need and has also proven an important economic unit within the prison. Inmates are allowed to visit the canteen twice daily if they are in good standing and it serves to relieve the inmate of the feeling that he is entirely dependent of the bounty of the State for everything he has and uses. It also gives him moments of 'freedom' within the institution.

The library at the present time contains about five thousand volumes, and represents

an up-to-date selection of suitable books. The State Librarian assisted in culling out obsolete and unsuitable material. Well meaning donors from time to time used to 'clean out' their old books and give them to us. The result was a lot of fifty and sixty year old sets of reference books. Our present stacks contain good reading matter, well cataloged and fairly up to date technical and reference books. The inmate attendants have been given some fundamental training in library operation and assist in keeping the books in good repair. Inmates are allowed to draw two books from the library (one fiction and one non-fiction) twice a week. Books are generally loaned for a period of one week and may be renewed for an additional week. Special arrangements prevail on text or technical volumes.

Subscriptions are maintained for all the leading periodicals and more than 2500 magazines a month are delivered to the prison library. These are checked out in the same manner as books, a maximum of two per week.

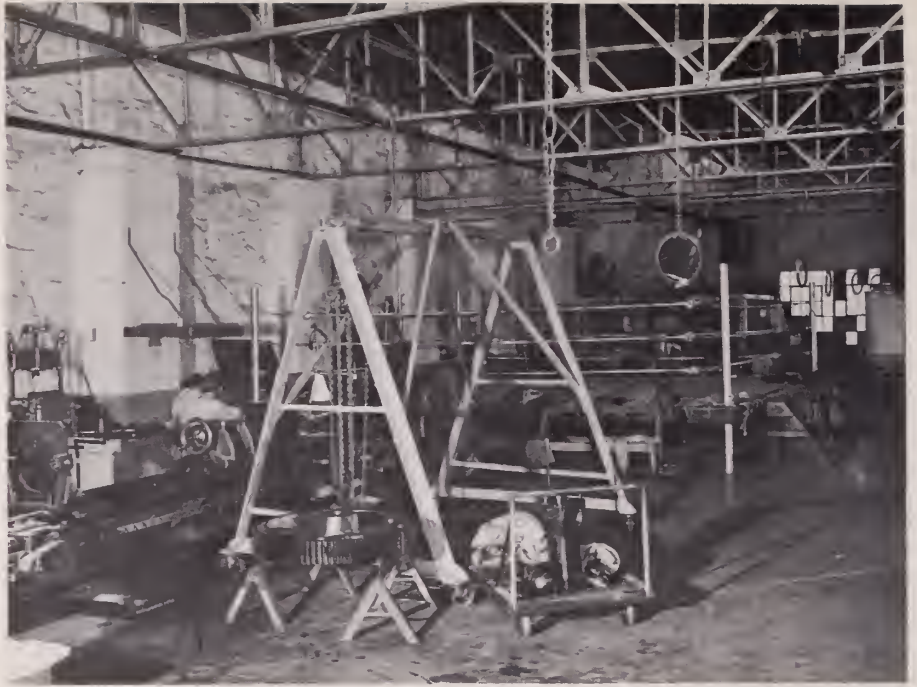
In our long range planning we have felt that the library facilities should be considerably expanded. The library in its present location is not as easy of access to the inmate population as it should be. It is generally felt that it would be advantageous to relocate this facility to grade level somewhere within the prison grounds. The space currently occupied by the library could then be given over to some other department.

Movies and Sports

Movies are shown each Sunday and legal holiday during eight months of the year in the prison theatre. The programs include a full feature length film, cartoon, news reel and generally some worth while short feature. Programs are generally well attended particularly during the winter months and periods of inclement weather which curtail the general outdoor recreational activities.

As much space as is possible to allot is given over to the recreational field. It is not unusual to see several different games in progress at the same time in the prison recreational enclosure. One of the highlights of the sport year is the occasion when the Denver Police Department baseball team comes to Canon City. A good natured rivalry between the prison squad and that of the Denver Police force has sprung up over the years and it is an event that is looked forward to by the entire inmate population.

RECREATION..



MAKE SHIFT GYMNASIUM IN BACK HALF OF MACHINE SHOP



**INMATE CROWD
AT BASEBALL GAME**



**WEST CLASS ROOM IN
WEST INDUSTRIAL UNIT**

We have a full time athletic director on the prison staff and he organizes a recreational program which sees teams from the various cell houses competing in a seasonal schedule for the various sports. It is occasionally possible to get outside teams to come in and play on weekends or holidays.

Track meets, boxing and wrestling matches and most games are held in the prison yard. The small gymnasium, which is quite inadequately equipped can accommodate only boxing matches. It is hoped that we can eventually provide a field house type of gym where a recreational and sports program can be carried out year round. Weather sometimes curtails exercise facilities since they are all out in the open.

Nearly every cell in the prison is equipped with ear phones which are connected to a central radio located in the Deputy Warden's office. A well rounded schedule of programs is followed and we try to include music, comedy, adventure, drama, mystery as well as frequent news programs. While it is impossible to please all of the inmates all of the time with our program selection, we think that sufficient variety is maintained that most of them enjoy and appreciate this facility.

Recreational Costs Low

Our recreational, library, film rentals, entertainment facilities and sports equipment are all paid for by funds which are received from admissions paid by visitors to the institution. The profits which accrue from the prison canteen also go into this fund. The not inconsiderable cost of maintaining a well rounded recreational program does not come from state allocated or tax supported measures. Early in 1955 the cost of visitor admissions was doubled; it has been very interesting to see that there has been very little change in the volume of traffic and there has been no complaint about the increase in prices.

Religious Needs Fulfilled

Prison life has a spiritual side, too. There are two regularly assigned chaplains on the prison staff, one Catholic, one Protestant. Each Sunday, both Catholic and Protestant services are held in the prison chapel and inmates may attend services of their choice. The Protestant chaplain frequently brings guest ministers from Canon City churches and those of nearby communities; as a consequence most denominations of the Protestant faith are generally represented over a several month period. We frequently have various

religious groups and choirs for special services and we try to accommodate these whenever possible. We make every effort to cater to the spiritual needs of the inmates and no one is ever deprived of the right or privilege to worship as he chooses, nor do we interfere with any of his spiritual beliefs.

Our religious services are held in the prison auditorium which is located on the second floor of the building which houses the mess hall. Our long range planning program contemplates the building, somewhere within the prison enclosure, of a small chapel which would be more readily accessible to the prison population. It is not felt that this would have to be a very large edifice, a seating capacity of two hundred and fifty would probably be adequate. Larger gatherings could always use the present auditorium. Offices for the chaplains would, of course, be included in any plans for a new building.

Alcoholics Anonymous At Work

Odd as it may seem, there is a strong chapter of Alcoholics Anonymous in the Colorado State Penitentiary. This has proven itself to be a very potent force in the rehabilitation of some of our inmates. Everything possible has been done to foster the fine work which has been done by this organization and we hope that it can continue. Any program which provides worth while counseling and guidance service for our inmate population is strongly encouraged.

The AA program extends beyond prison, parolees are urged to retain the connection after they leave prison. In many cases it is believed that the organization is an important factor in deterring members from returning to a life of crime. Well adjusted parolees are occasionally given permission to return to address the prison groups and have been a strong beneficial influence for those men affiliated with the program.

School Days

As has been previously indicated, educational facilities are available to inmates. Not infrequently a lack of education is in some ways responsible for people being thrust into a life of crime. Our educational facilities are very meager at the present time, we should like to expand them, but that is dependent to a large extent on additional space within the walls being suitably modified to accommodate classrooms. At the present time there are nearly seventy inmates who are attending daily classes under the guidance of one of the

custodial officers who has a good background in the teaching field. Classes are being conducted in the converted rug shop and the space is quite inadequate for the size of the classes.

Students can progress thru what would be the equivalent of the eighth grade. At the end of the course, examinations are conducted and if a satisfactory result is attained, a certificate is issued by the Fremont County Superintendent of Schools.

Some of the inmates before taking the course could not even read or write and we find for the most part they are eager and apt pupils. Occasionally it is found that someone wants into the school because they feel it would be a 'soft' assignment. These are generally discovered soon after their enrollment and are discharged to make room for someone who needs what education can be offered.

Many vocational opportunities are offered to the inmates and those who desire may avail themselves of the opportunities of association with prison maintenance duties which would afford training in the trade or job of their choice. Auto mechanical work, welding, plumbing, electrical work as well as various trades and skills in the construction industries afford opportunities to those inmates who have aptitudes that would qualify them for work in these fields.

FEMALE DEPARTMENT

The female department of the Colorado State Penitentiary is presently located east of the walled area of the main prison plant and housed 26 prisoners at the end of the fiscal year. Adequate for the present needs of the state, no additions or major improvements are scheduled for this section of the prison.

In the statistical information relating to this department it can be noted that a substantial portion of the population is made up of 'boarders' from other states. In the past, Colorado has quarters and maintenance for women prisoners for several other states other than Utah and South Dakota. Existing agreements were modified from time to time depending on the facilities for handling additional prisoners. The present forty cell unit built in 1935 we feel to be adequate for some time.

One of the biggest drawbacks in this department is the lack of a constructive work program. This has been occasioned by the small number of people involved and further

complicated by the fact that of this number, some are from other states whose laws in this respect differ from our own. Regular maintenance and housekeeping duties serve to keep the inmates occupied for a good portion of each day.

Recreational facilities are provided and the whole female department has been made as near self sufficient as possible. Laundry, dining, cooking and other facilities are housed within this department.

Regional Prison Indicated

I feel that the time will come when the sparsely settled western states may possibly pool their resources to handle the problem of female prisoners. At the present time in the mountain west, Colorado, New Mexico, Arizona, Idaho and Nevada maintain institutions that are capable of receiving female prisoners. According to statistics provided by the Federal Bureau of Prisons, the number of inmates housed in other prisons in the western states totals about the number currently being cared for in Colorado. In every state the population is small and the problems closely parallel our own. In order to establish a worthwhile work program and one which can work towards the end we try to achieve for the male prisoners, it takes a larger number of people and a population that holds at a fairly steady numerical level.

Perhaps with some Federal subsidy and a cooperative effort among several states, a program could be eventually worked out that would be of great service to the states in affording a proper penal institution for women that would meet maximum standards. It could be assumed, too, that a properly constructive rehabilitation program that would afford vocational or professional training to aid in returning inmates to society as useful productive units would be set up. Hospital workers, always in short supply, could conceivably receive fundamental training in an institution of this sort.

Present Quarters Adequate

The facilities at Canon City for women prisoners are well above the average of such institutions. Modern, well lighted, ventilated and supervised by a competent and well trained staff, it affords few custodial problems. Our chief concern has been a difficulty to integrate this portion of the institution into the over-all program. By modern prison standards this could be termed a medium security structure and will probably continue as one.

Should the need ever arise, the present structure could be modified to accommodate more prisoners. We do not anticipate such a need within the next ten years. The highest count we have had in the female department in the past decade was forty-three, and as has been previously indicated, part of this population has come from other states.

Commitments By State Or County

Denver	8	Boulder	1
Utah	5	La Plata	1
South Dakota	2	Las Animas	1
Lake	2	Otero	1
Routt	2	Pitkin	1
Douglas	1	Pueblo	1

Classification By Occupation

Housewife	8	Cook	1
Waitress	5	Bookkeeper	1
Steno	2	Laundress	1
Switchboard Opr.	1	Cannery	1
Cashier	1	Seamstress	1
Nurse	1	Musician	1
Housekeeper	1	Dietician	1

Age Table

18-20	5	40-45	3
20-25	8	45-50	1
25-30	3	50-60	1
30-35	2	Over 60	1
35-40	1		

Nationality

White	16	Mexican	5
Negro	4	Indian	1

Incidence Of Crimes

Grand Larceny	4	Uttering	1
False Pretenses	4	Aggravated	
Confidence Game	4	Robbery	1
2nd Degree Murder	3	Burglary	1
Larceny	3	Assault with	
Forgery	2	Deadly Weapon	1
Voluntary			
Manslaughter	2		

It is significant that in the female department, only three inmates had two previous convictions on their record, five had a record of one previous conviction while the rest were in prison for their first time.

COLORADO PLANS FOR THE FUTURE

The Fortieth General Assembly, meeting early in 1956, recognized the needs of Colorado's penal institutions, and approved a five-year building, renovation and repair program. As noted elsewhere in this booklet it can be observed that many of the buildings of the Colorado State Penitentiary date back to around the turn of the century, and are greatly outmoded for present needs and use. The Legislature, aware of the problems, and guided by the Colorado State Planning Commission, and the Prison Administration, supported a general outline which covered the immediate needs of the building program for Colorado's principal penal institution for the ensuing five years.

Changes Within the Walls

Within the walls of the State Penitentiary, most of the program is concerned with renovation, remodeling and the repair of existing buildings. One of the principal projects on new buildings is the construction of an entirely new canning factory, which will replace the canning factory now operated by the Prison, but which is located in metropolitan Canon City. It is expected that this building will be finished and ready for occupancy by early 1957. Another major project which will see completion in 1956 is expansion and modernization of the Prison heating and boiler plant. This facility is being greatly expanded and considerable new equipment is being added. Remodeling and modernization of the Prison Administration Building is another

project schedule to be completed in 1956. To be completely remodeled and brought up to modern standards is the Prison Hospital. This is one of the oldest structures within the Prison walls, and while high standards of efficiency and cleanliness are maintained, a great deal of modification of this unit will be necessary in order to bring it up to modern levels.

School and Chapel

Educational needs are recognized in the modern penal philosophy. The Prison School, less than two years old, has been overcrowded almost since its inception. Recommendations of the Planning Commission and the Prison Administration, as approved by the Legislature, call for the remodeling of the old Prison Chapel to accommodate additional class rooms so that this important rehabilitation facility can be expanded to meet present and future needs. This phase of the building program will be under way in 1956, and probably completed within a year.

In recognition of the religious needs and opportunities of the Prison population, plans have been approved for the construction of a Chapel to be centrally located in the Prison compound. This building will also house offices for the Protestant and Catholic Chaplains, who attend the spiritual needs of the prisoners.

Another major improvement on the construction schedule is the replacement of one of the important gates of the Prison, constructed during horse and wagon days, bring-

SHOPS ...

This section remodeled from old industrial section. Built about 1880. Part of it now houses school facilities – very inadequate for present and future needs. Remodeling of West Gate will necessitate changes in part of structure.

CURIO, ELECTRIC, MAINTENANCE SHOPS and SCHOOL



This section built in 1935. Houses soap factory, laundry, bath house, machine and blacksmith shop and gym in addition to Canteen. Centrally located in main prison enclosure. Contains 25,000 square feet. Cost \$55,000 when built.

← CANTEEN and INDUSTRIAL SECTION

Building at the extreme right is Central Building. It houses deputy warden's offices, cleaning and pressing shops, identification and classification section, officer's barber shop and library. Old chapel is located on second floor. It is planned that this section can be remodeled for better classroom space.

(DATES BACK TO 1900)



ing it up to modern security levels and designing it to meet the needs of modern transportation facilities.

MEDIUM SECURITY PRISON

Like most other penal institutions, a great many men are included in the prison population who could be classified as medium and minimum security risks. Much of this group is composed of youthful and first offenders. It has long been the thinking of penal authorities that the segregation of this type of criminal is an important step in his eventual rehabilitation. To this end, Colorado plans the construction of a Medium Security Unit, which would house such individuals.

Preliminary work is already underway in the construction of this facility and it is expected that within the next few years, it will be possible to transfer many of the inmates who are presently housed in the main prison to this unit.

The Medium Security Prison would serve as a base for the manpower in the State Prison Agriculture and Farm Program, and would be situated about five miles from metropolitan Canon City. Plans for this institution are patterned after those in other States which have had extremely good success with the minimum security type prison. When completed, Colorado should have one of the best penal institutions of the western States, and a complete well-rounded program which concerns itself with rehabilitation, as well as punishment and the confinement of Colorado's criminal offenders.

LABOR DEPLOYMENT

Work Program Important

One of the most difficult jobs of any prison administration, and one which is seemingly endless is the proper deployment of inmate personnel. In the interest of sound and economical management we must assign our inmates to make for the greatest efficiency and production. To the end that properly and sufficiently 'busy' inmates cause less trouble, we try to keep all employable inmates assigned to some useful task or duty. Insofar as it is possible, every effort is made to assign newly committed men to the trade or occupation to which they are best suited, or for which their training or background qualifies them.

In instances where inmates are committed to the institution with no trade or profession, they are given an opportunity to gain skill and experience in the trade or occupation of their choice.

Academic Opportunity Offered

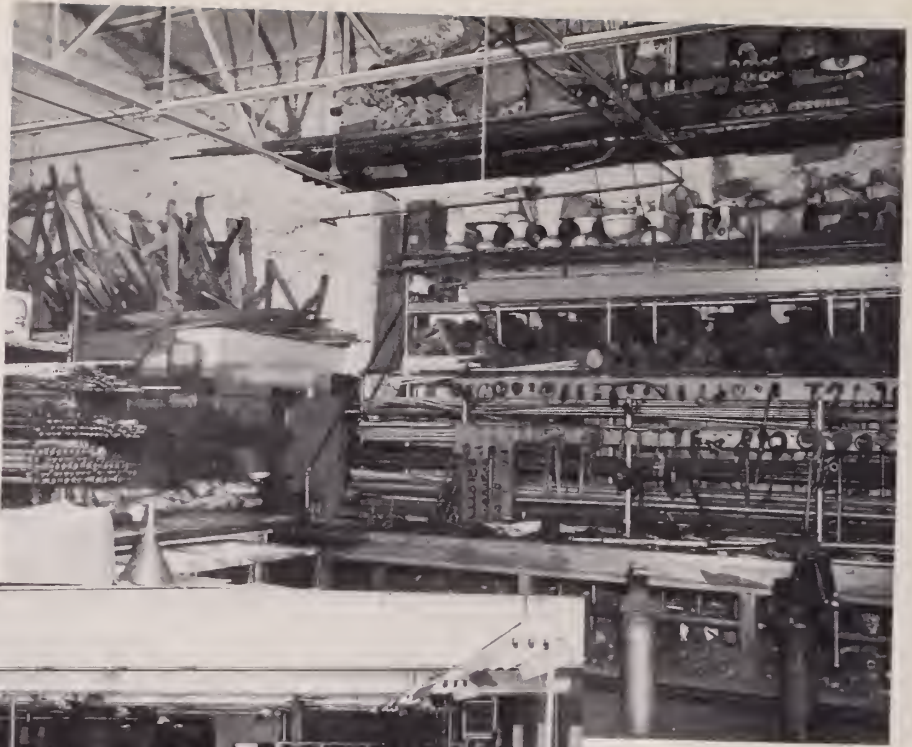
Educational backgrounds are taken into consideration, and where there has been no opportunity for the inmate to secure an education, he is given a chance during his sentence at Canon City to make up this deficiency under able and qualified teachers. Although the school was only recently established, already it is running at capacity and we need both additional room and additional personnel to carry on this work. With at least the fundamentals of an education, we feel that many of the men are less apt to return to a life of crime than if nothing were done to try and raise their educational status. So far the program has worked out very satisfactorily.

Another facet of the educational program is the band and orchestra department. Under the competent direction of a full time instructor, those men who have had some musical training, or those who have always wanted to learn music but never had the opportunity can go ahead with band or orchestra work, or receive individual instruction. At the present time about 70 men are in this department and the prison bands and orchestra represent some of the finest musical groups of their kind in the nation. During the summer months, regular concerts are given each week. Tape recordings are made and several radio stations in the state have utilized their facilities in broadcasting regular programs through this medium. The various musical groups, band, orchestra and a small novelty group have been in considerable demand in the nearby area. Our band performs each year at the Canon City Royal Gorge Roundup, both for the annual parade as well as at the grounds during the rodeo.

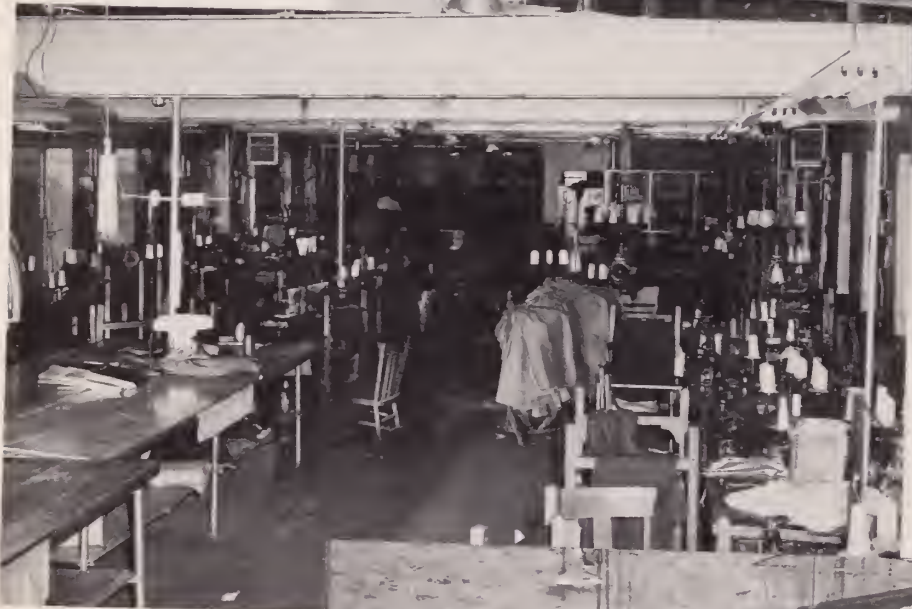
Skills In Construction Utilized

With a constantly fluctuating population it is difficult to always maintain an ideal staff level in the various categories of employment. We manage, however, to keep a well trained and experienced cadre of personnel in the most important departments, and trainees as apprentices are added as needed and available. With the current level of construction, our most serious shortage of men has been in the building trades. To some extent we have been handicapped in a shortage of proper custodial and supervisory personnel, to adequately handle all the construction projects that have been under way. We have several competent construction supervisors on our custodial force. Their services include overall supervision of the projects under way and those planned. With proper deployment of our trained personnel and the on the job

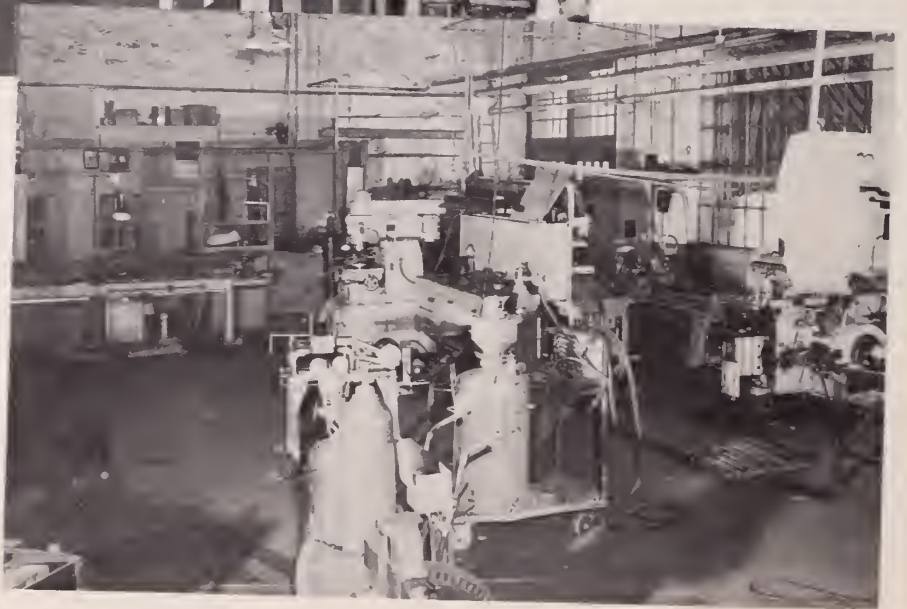
SHOPS...



PLUMBING and TIN SHOP



TAILOR, SHOP



RIGHT: BLACKSMITH
and MACHINE SHOP

training and apprentice program we should be able to keep pace with planned repair, alteration and construction.

Personnel Employed Where Needed

Our inmate count on June 30, 1955 was one thousand four hundred and sixty-two. An accompanying chart indicates the division by employment on the inmate population at that time. Eliminating the female department, twenty-six in number, we had 1436 to delegate to the different departments, trades and industries.

Some newly committed inmates, following classification, are consigned to the "hill gang" a common labor detail for their preliminary assignment. This period averages about three weeks after which time he may be assigned to other duties. Also making up the hill gang are inmates who have violated rules or have not adjusted to other assignments and they are assigned to the job as a disciplinary measure. The "hill gang" on June 30th accounted for about 10% of its population. A further reduction of the assignable personnel as of June 30, 1955 were the men in solitary confinement or condemned row, these were 17 in number. Forty-two other unassignables, made up of aged, those transferred to the State Hospital or confined to the prison hospital section devoted to mental patients further reduced our deployable manpower to 1242.

Prison industries—the canning factory, tag plant, soap plant and envelope manufacturing absorbed about 9 per cent of the total population. The canning factory, of course, is a seasonable operation and on June 30th only a skeleton maintenance crew was assigned to this department, the drop in personnel in this category was in some measure offset by the envelope manufacturing crew which is also a seasonal operation. Its normal complement of 25-30 men would be absorbed by the cannery during its regular operating season.

Farm Program Has Economic Importance

Farm and ranch operations which include both prison ranches, the gardens, dairy, swine, poultry and slaughterhouse took 158 men or about 11% of the total population. Much of the produce and agricultural products used by the prison and other state institutions is produced on the prison farms. Were it not for the dairy products, meat, poultry, eggs, and garden produce available from the prison farms and ranches, Colorado would not have the enviable record of being one of the most economical prisons in the nation in the cost per man per year.

Elsewhere in the book is a graphic

chart showing output of prison farms during the past year. It is striking evidence of the economic importance that the farms play in the prison's program. It is important, too, in that it gives good training and wholesome employment to those who are assigned to this program. The most modern methods and practices are followed and the program is coordinated with Colorado A & M as well as the Soil Conservation Service and the Grazing Service, so that the program can be kept as up to date as possible. Experience and training gained here will continue to benefit the men who are released and continue in the agricultural field.

Inmate 'Task Force' Maintains Prison

Seventeen per cent of the prison populace handle the general maintenance and repair of the plant itself. Included are: plumbing, heating, electrical work, painting, hydro-electric plant, pumping station, steam plant, laundry and tailor shop, carpenter shop, storerooms and other allied jobs. A little more than eleven per cent is assigned to the stewards department which is charged with the preparation and serving of food, baking, dishwashing, etc.

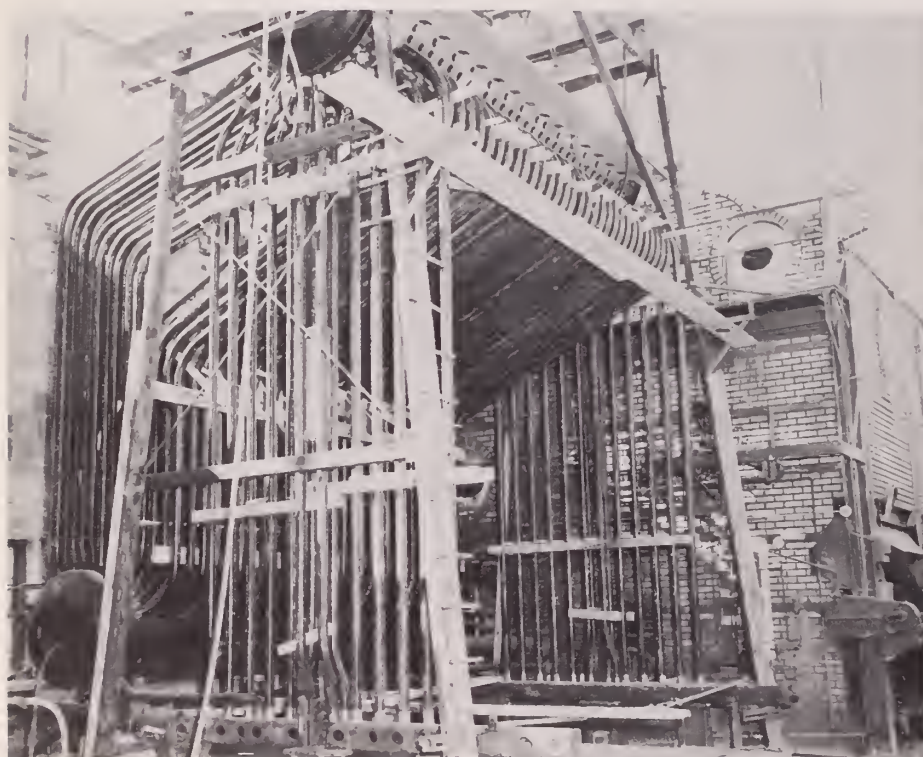
General housekeeping, consisting of cleaning up of buildings, grounds, maintaining parks, shrubs and lawns occupies about 6½% of the present population. An equal percentage was assigned to the four construction jobs which were underway on June 30th. They were: construction of new residence for Deputy Warden, 12 men; construction on new canning factory inside walls 61 men; alterations of boiler and remodeling boiler house 20 men; and remodeling of cellhouse No. 4 into temporary receiving center, 8 men.

Miscellaneous assignments occupied about 9 per cent of the total population.

Obviously, our inmate population is constantly screened. Not all of them can be assigned to jobs which take them outside the walls. Ours being the kind of prison that it is, we have to consider everything on the basis of maximum security since under the present system we are handling both maximum and medium security prisoners. It naturally follows, that any buildings constructed within the walls which are to house prisoners must receive the same consideration and be prepared to accommodate the maximum security prisoners.

It is hoped that we are making progress toward the eventual establishment of a medium security type institution which is built specifically for those prisoners, and at a much lower cost than it is possible to build the maximum security units.

GARAGE & BOILER PLANT



WORK...



CONSTRUCTION
CREW



LEFT: CARPENTER, SHOP

RIGHT: CARPENTER,
SHOP, TAILOR, SHOP
& TAG PLANT



PRODUCTION...

The following production figures are taken from the records of the store-room and are for the period July 1, 1954 thru June 30, 1955; except for the Canning which are for the 1954 growing season:

SOAP PLANT...

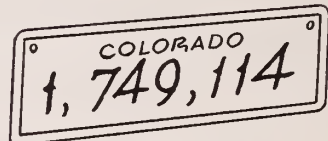


Solid Soaps, all kinds, bar,
powder, flakes, chips, etc. 129,820 lbs.
Sold to other State Institutions 62,075 "
Used at C. S. Prison 67,745 "

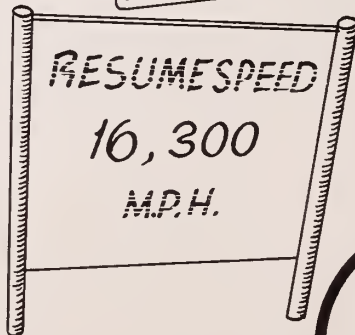
Liquid Soap	571 gal.
Sold to other State Institutions	490 "
Used at C. S. Prison	89 "
Disinfectants & Insecticides	1,394 "
Sold to other State Institutions	20 "
Used at C. S. Prison	1,374 "

TAG PLANT...

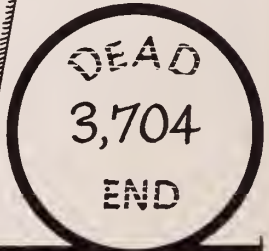
1954 Auto License Plates



Road Signs for State Highway Dept.



Misc. Road and Street Signs



PRISON PRODUCTION PROGRAM

The production, or industrial program of the penitentiary has a threefold purpose: It affords a worthwhile work program for the inmate population, it fulfills an important part of our rehabilitative obligation and it enables the prison to become at least partially self sufficient.

Because of its physical, vocational and economic importance, considerable stress is placed upon this phase of prison activity and management.

The absence of a work program, or one which does not utilize the energies and skills of the inmates, often causes trouble. Idleness can be dangerous, it is one of the latent causes of unrest and of riots. At Canon City every inmate who is able to work has an assignment in some industry or department where he is required to put in five full days per week. While many of the man hours of labor spent in the prison each day are consumed by general maintenance, a substantial section of the population is engaged in the various industries maintained and operated by the penitentiary.

Throughout our general rehabilitative program we have tried to utilize the skills and aptitudes of the inmates when known. The training and supervision received thru employment in the various departments often develops skills to the extent that the inmate can secure better employment when paroled or discharged from the institution. We follow prisoner preference as much as possible in our industrial assignments.

Economically the program is important to every taxpayer in Colorado because of the substantial portion of the financial burden which it carries. In the fiscal year just ended prison industries accounted for more than three quarters of a million dollars. Each year has seen a substantial growth in our industries; as plant efficiency and capacity are increased it follows that our current \$772,-669.72 figure should be substantially increased.

Tag and Sign Plant

Principal of the activities in the industrial program is the tag and sign plant. Here are produced all the license tags for the state (nearly two million in 1954). Road signs for state, federal and county highways are manufactured here as are many of the special signs used within the cities and towns of the state. Almost every political subdivision within the state that uses signs has at one time or another used the facilities of the tag plant.

Soap Factory

This plant supplies the sanitation supplies used by the prison. Soap, disinfectant and kindred supplies are also produced for many of the other state institutions. Up to date methods and equipment are featured in this department which has now been in operation 17 years. More than 40 different products are manufactured. As these items come into more general use by other state institutions, this facility could probably be expanded.

General Shops

The electrical shop besides handling wiring in general construction maintains the prison's communications and signal equipment as well as the motors and miscellaneous equipment used both inside the walls and prison installations on the outside. The blacksmith shop aids in steel fabrication, handles most of the welding and has the responsibility for construction, maintenance and repair of much of the prison machinery. The plumbing and sheet metal shop besides serving the daily needs of the prison also fabricates sheet metal products for other state institutions. In the carpenter shop many of the articles used by the penitentiary are manufactured and kept in repair. The skilled mechanics in this department are on call for any construction project which might be under way. The paint shop is maintained in conjunction with the carpenter shop. One of the newer industries behind the walls is the print shop. Many of the simple forms used by the institution are produced here and the manufacture and printing of envelopes used for license plates is one of the major functions of this department.

Tailor Shop

All inmate clothing is manufactured in our tailor shop. Included in the function of this department is the repair of inmate clothing. Cleaning and pressing services are also maintained. In addition to the vast quantities of work clothing manufactured are civilian garments, most of which are requisitioned by parolees when they leave the institution.

In an auxiliary department mattresses, cushions, pads and similar items are manufactured and repaired. All the prison needs are filled and some work is done for other institutions in this section.

Cannery

The canning factory from the standpoint of men employed and total product value is one of the principal industries we have. A

large portion of the total canned goods used by the prison are processed here, and the fruits and vegetables—as much as possible—are raised on the prison ranches. Besides our own produce utilized during the canning season we contract for considerable additional quantities from the nearby areas.

Other state institutions rely heavily on this prison department and last year nearly twenty thousand cases were supplied and consumed by other state establishments.

Farm Production

Our farm program, a major industry in itself, produces a wide variety of products. Hay and forage crops for our dairy, fresh garden truck crops during the summer season, a wide variety of vegetables for the cannery and much of the feed used for our swine and beef cattle come from our agricultural units. All the dairy and poultry products used by the prison are from our own production and we have enough left over to help furnish provender to other institutions. The pork consumed by the inmate population is produced on our own farms and the hundred and fifty-two tons of beef consumed last year was fattened and finished on prison farms.

We think that Colorado can be justifiably proud of its prison production program. The diversity of industry, together with the fundamental soundness of the entire program and the effective economic relief it affords the taxpayers combine to make it an all around worthwhile endeavor. At the very best, institutional operation is expensive. We think that costwise, Colorado has one of the most economical in the nation today. With continued support of the general program and effective long range planning we think that Colorado can continue to have a penal program that embodies minimum costs with maximum results.

FARMS AND RANCHES

The agriculture program of the Colorado State Penitentiary is important to the taxpayers of the state from an economic standpoint as well as the fact that it affords an excellent work program for the penitentiary. The agricultural program covers our dairy farm, our poultry and truck garden operation; Ranch Five which produces vegetables used in the cannery and some livestock feed and Ranch One which is our major farm operation.

The total land comprising Ranch One is 3113 acres. Of this, 1511 acres are owned outright by the Colorado State Penitentiary, 1602 acres are leased. Here are produced the

principle forage crops used by the prison dairy farm and a considerable portion of the vegetables used by the institution. Ranch Five as indicated produces considerable hay and feed and consists of 89 acres. The prison gardens located only about ½ mile from the prison property afford employment to about 30 inmates and furnishes a large portion of the fresh vegetables which are used by the institution. Adjacent to the garden area is the prison hog farm which furnishes the bulk of the pork which is used by the institution and a large part of the poultry program maintained by the prison is conducted at the prison garden area.

Economically the prison dairy is one of the most important links in our farm program. The dairy herd is one of the most outstanding in the state and we have a fine plant in which to accommodate it. The dairy operation, while it is maintained as a separate department, is located on Ranch One. Statistics covering which are shown above. There is ample land to adequately handle this operation although it is possible, we think, to develop additional pasture land to take care of young stock and dry cows.

Minimum Security Risks Employed

Our prison agricultural program affords us the principal labor program for our minimum security risks. Facilities for housing the men on the outlying farms and ranches are of the dormitory type which are standard with minimum security type installation. We have had very little trouble in the past with men escaping from the farms and ranches since the men are carefully screened before being assigned to jobs outside the prison. These are honor jobs and only the men who are deemed to be absolutely trustworthy are assigned to them.

During harvest season and those occasions when additional groups of men are needed for work in the farm and ranch program, so-called medium security risks from the main prison are transported to the locations where workers are needed by the prison trucks. They are hauled back again at the close of the day. This has not been too satisfactory an arrangement and has drawn considerable criticism from the community inasmuch as it does represent a threat to the peace and security of the community, inasmuch as the men being transported posed more of a threat than did the ones who are generally confined to the prison farms and ranches.

Continuous Reclamation Program

The total acreage owned, maintained or controlled by the Colorado State Penitentiary is 1830 acres, of this total, 25 acres comprises

the area which is the main plant, only a little over half of this is usable land, the remainder consists of a hill which is the back wall of the penitentiary. There is a small area totaling about one acre which comprises the area occupied by the prison hydro plant, the pumping station and the deputy warden's residence. The prison gardens are 190 acres in extent only part of which is arable land. Ranch Five as previously indicated contains 89 acres. Ranch One contains 1511 acres. The rest is pasture and sub-marginal land which is not presently under cultivation. Each year additional land is brought under irrigation on Ranch One, and additional land on this ranch is being reclaimed from eroded areas and certain amount of grading, filling and land leveling is a part of the year around program on this tract so that each year will see a few more acres under cultivation.

Additional Acreage Needed

Additional land from time to time will be required. We realize that it is impossible for the prison to ever become a fully self sustained unit. However, we make efforts to come as close to self sufficiency as is possible.

We have had to buy hay every year in order to have sufficient to carry our dairy herds. We hope eventually we will have sufficient land to provide all the forage crops and all the hay necessary for our dairy herd as well as for the beef cattle which are being handled by our slaughter house. We will need, of course, a considerable additional acreage in order to fulfill this program. Additional acreage will also be needed to provide all the pasture that will be needed to maintain our dairy herd and it is an eventual possibility that sufficient pasture can be reclaimed from the areas adjacent to Ranch One so that this would be possible.

It has been mentioned that considerable land adjacent to Ranch One has been under lease to the prison. Some of this is rich river bottom land which has proven highly productive. More of this land is being reclaimed each year and there is sufficient water with the land to carry out further development. In the concluding section of this book an outline will be presented whereby it may be possible for the state to acquire this land without the outlay of any additional capital. It is the thought of the administration that the acquisition of this land will be advantageous both from the standpoint of furnishing a useful unit in our agricultural program as well as affording a long range work program and providing a cushion of space between prison installations and those of the nearby suburban communities.

SPECIALISTS HEAD DEPARTMENTS

Colorado State Penitentiary employees are under State Civil Service and are graded according to experience, qualifications and length of service. We are proud of the record maintained by our custodial officers. Many have been on the staff for a score of years or more, and are eminently qualified for the positions held.

Institutional operation calls for many specialists. Not only must they be well qualified for the positions which they hold, but they must be able to impart their knowledge to others and have the ability to train people with whom they work. It is constantly our aim to train and educate the prisoners so that they will be prepared to follow some gainful means of employment when released from the penitentiary. With this in mind, we place men where their skills and aptitudes will be the best for everyone concerned.

Our industrial program is headed by an officer with considerable experience in almost every department of the industrial program. Like others in his department, he must not only be conversant with regular manufacturing procedures, but must have a good knowledge of sound buying practices, general management procedures, and an efficient maintenance program. The various department heads work closely with him and make for a smooth and well coordinated prison industrial program.

The same is true of the farm program, which is coordinated under one officer. The poultry, truck gardens, hog ranch, dairy farm and general farming projects are all coordinated through the general supervisor. We have one of the most effective and efficient agricultural operations to be found in institutions of this type.

Within the prison itself, the services of specialists are required. In the electrical and communication department, plumbing, boiler plant and business office, well trained and qualified personnel are in charge of the operations. With the exception of the business office, the staff of the various departments is made up largely of inmate personnel, who handle the regular duties required in these departments, and it can be observed that high standards of maintenance are maintained at all times.

The business manager of the prison has on his staff well qualified accountants, clerks and bookkeepers, who not only maintain all the necessary records for the institution, but also have the responsibility of servicing the accounts of all the inmates. The system maintained by this staff is recognized as one of the most efficient and outstanding of any of Colorado's institutions.

CANNING FACTORY...

New canning factory under construction, to be completed in '57. Here will be processed fruits and vegetables for prison and other state institutions



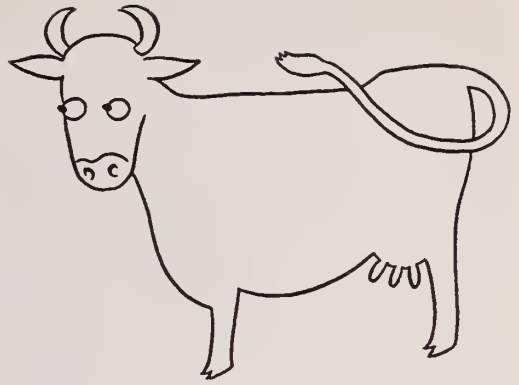
Adjacent to new canning factory is storeroom and warehouse. Built in 1948 at a cost of \$113,085.00. It is on two levels and contains 28,000 sq. ft. of floor space. Vegetable coolers and meat storing facilities are included.

Elementary school classes are under direction of officer Ira Sanger. The facilities being expanded so that larger classes can be accommodated.



RANCHES ...

Beef	304,182 lbs.
Pork	55,503 "
Bacon	4,495 "
Ham	5,585 "
Chicken	8,063 "
Sold to other Institutions	718 "
Used at C. S. Prison	7,345 "
Turkeys	10,504 "
Sold to other Institutions	4,604 "
Used at C. S. Prison	5,900 "
Milk	126,095 gal.
Skim Milk	8,120 "
Cream	806 "
Butter	2,818 lbs.
Eggs	38,190 doz.



CANNERY...

APPLES

APPLE BUTTER

APRICOTS

BEETS

GREEN BEANS

CATSUP

CHERRIES, all kinds

CORN

PEACHES

ITALIAN PRUNES

PUREE

PUMPKIN

PLUMS

SPINACH

TOMATOES

TOMATO JUICE

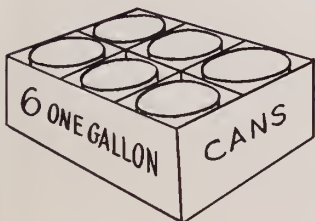
A TOTAL OF 25,572 cases, (6-1 gal. cans per case) were processed and canned, of the above named fruits and vegetables, and were used as follows:

Colorado State Penitentiary 6,494 cases

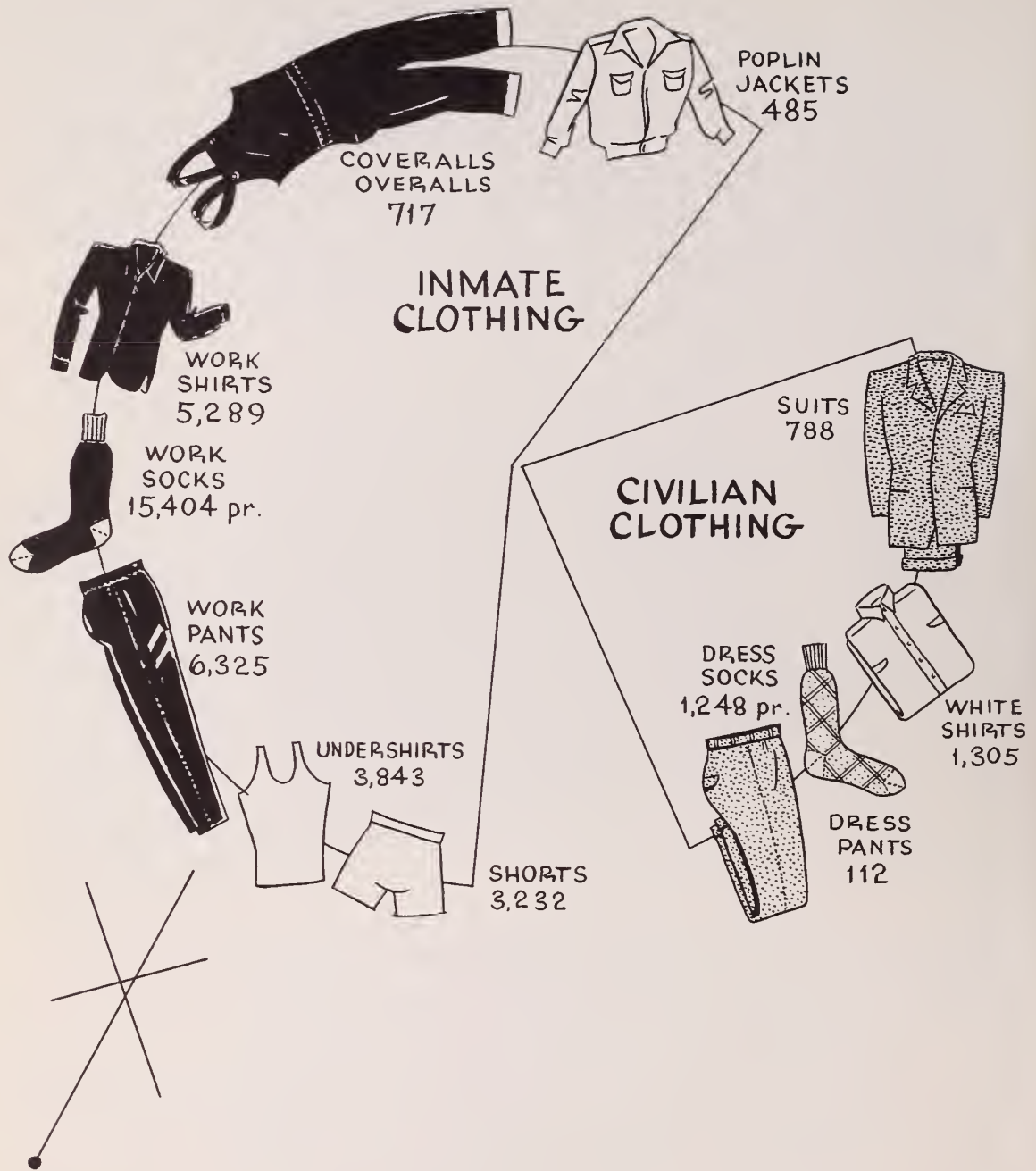
Other State Institutions 19,078 "

TOTAL 25,572 "

..... 153,432 gallons



TAILOR SHOP...



From the day inmates arrive at the penitentiary until they are paroled or discharged, they are clothed in institution-made garments. Besides the economy of the project, it affords a suitable work program for the inmates.

In addition to the articles above, the mattress factory, a companion industry, makes additional items. Mattresses, pads, cushions and all similar articles used by the institution are manufactured here, and many items are made for other state institutions.

WORK ...



MILKING TIME



HARVESTING BEANS



PREPARING BEANS FOR CANNING

FARM BUILDINGS...

Dairy Dormitory Completed in 1936. 4928 sq. ft. Cost \$20,000. Capacity 50 men



Ranch One dormitory. Built in 1935 at cost of \$20,000.00 Capacity 65 men. 7984 sq. ft.

Same site as above photo. Before property was developed.

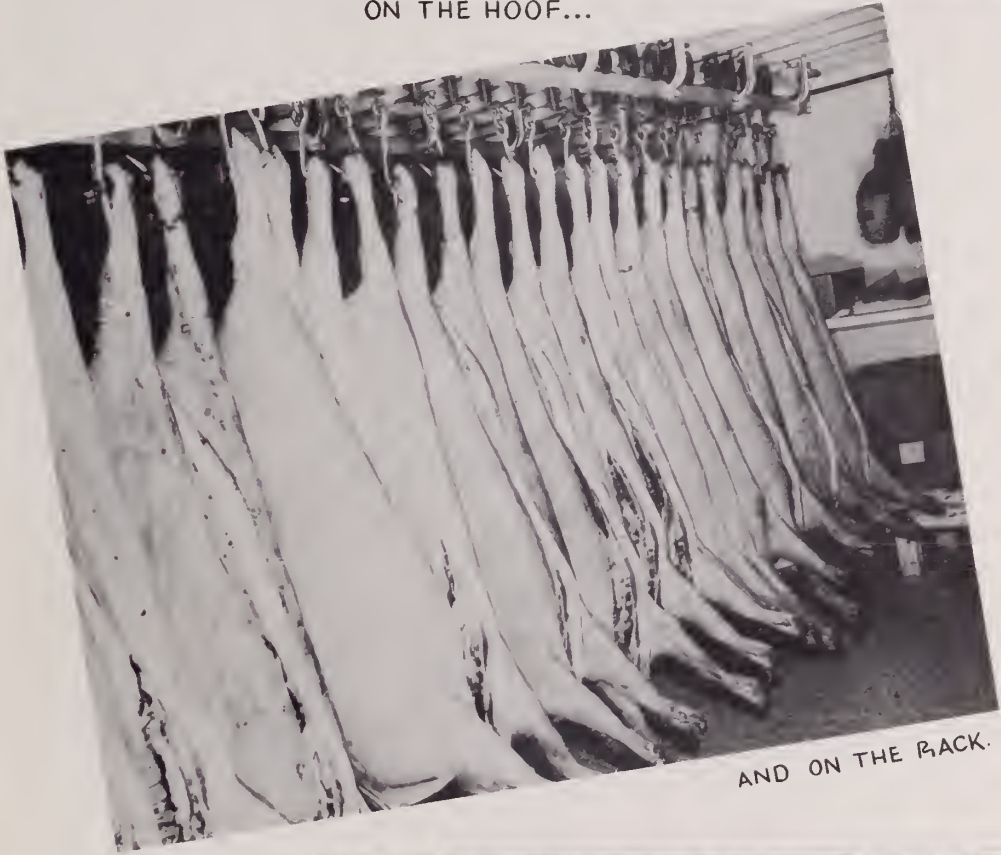


CARETAKER DWELLING
at
PRISON GARDENS
This is typical of such residences. Most of them have six rooms. This was built in 1910 at a cost of \$2,600.00 and contains 1696 sq. ft. of floor space.

BACON...



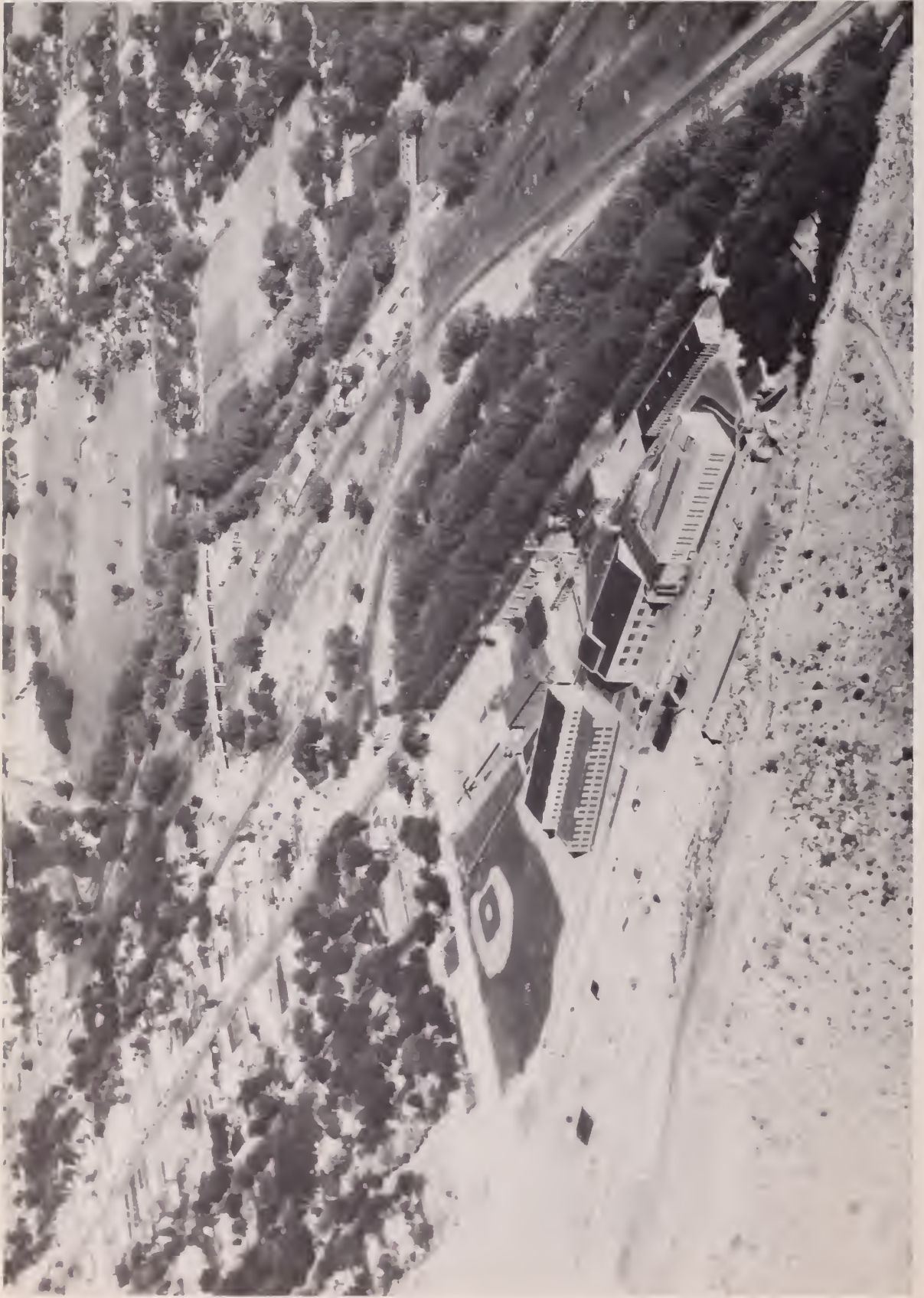
ON THE HOOF...



AND ON THE RACK.



TURKEYS



COLORADO STATE PENITENTIARY CANON CITY, COLORADO

Prison Staff Organization

As of June 30, 1955, there were 219 employees on the payroll of the Colorado State Penitentiary. All but sixteen of these were custodial, supervisory, executive or administrative officers. The remainder were employed in a professional or secretarial capacity.

The accompanying organizational chart indicates the accountability and distribution of officer personnel at the prison. It can be noted that deployment of officer personnel within the institution is carried out in considerable detail. At the same time we have carried it just a step further to show what the possible changes could be in the event that the medium security prison becomes a reality and is placed near Canon City. It can be readily understood that a second institution could be administered and staffed from the parent institution already at Canon City. A small cadre of trained personnel supervised by the present prison administration would serve to efficiently handle a medium security installation.

The savings to taxpayers in the course of time with this type of operation would be measured in hundreds of thousands of dollars. It naturally follows that a much smaller group of officers could handle the medium security prison if it were located adjacent to Canon City than if it were to be set up in another more removed part of the state.

Present Staff Could Be Supplemented For Medium Security Prison

Of course the present medical, dental, and chaplain staff of the prison could be easily augmented to service the needs of the medium security institution. Expansion of the custodial staff at the proposed prison could be handled as needed with the officer training program being integrated with that which is currently in operation at the Colorado State Penitentiary.

Our chart is merely an organizational outline of the prison staff. A conventional chart is inadequate for the purpose inasmuch as so many of our departments and functions offer both a custodial and policy problem. Your attention is called to our prison industry and regular maintenance setup. As a matter of functional policy and general coordination, these tie in directly with the Business Managers' office, thru which are handled sales and purchases. Our Superintendent of Industries is the chief link in this organization. There is, of course, the custodial care of the

inmates manning the various projects and industries and the accountability here is thru the Deputy Warden's office and the Captain of the day shift.

It can be seen that our greatest number of custodial officers in every grade is assigned to the day shift. Reasons for this are that this interval sees the greatest operational activity of our industrial and general house-keeping and maintenance program. Off hour shifts find the principal portion of the prison population locked in their cells and a much smaller custodial staff is required.

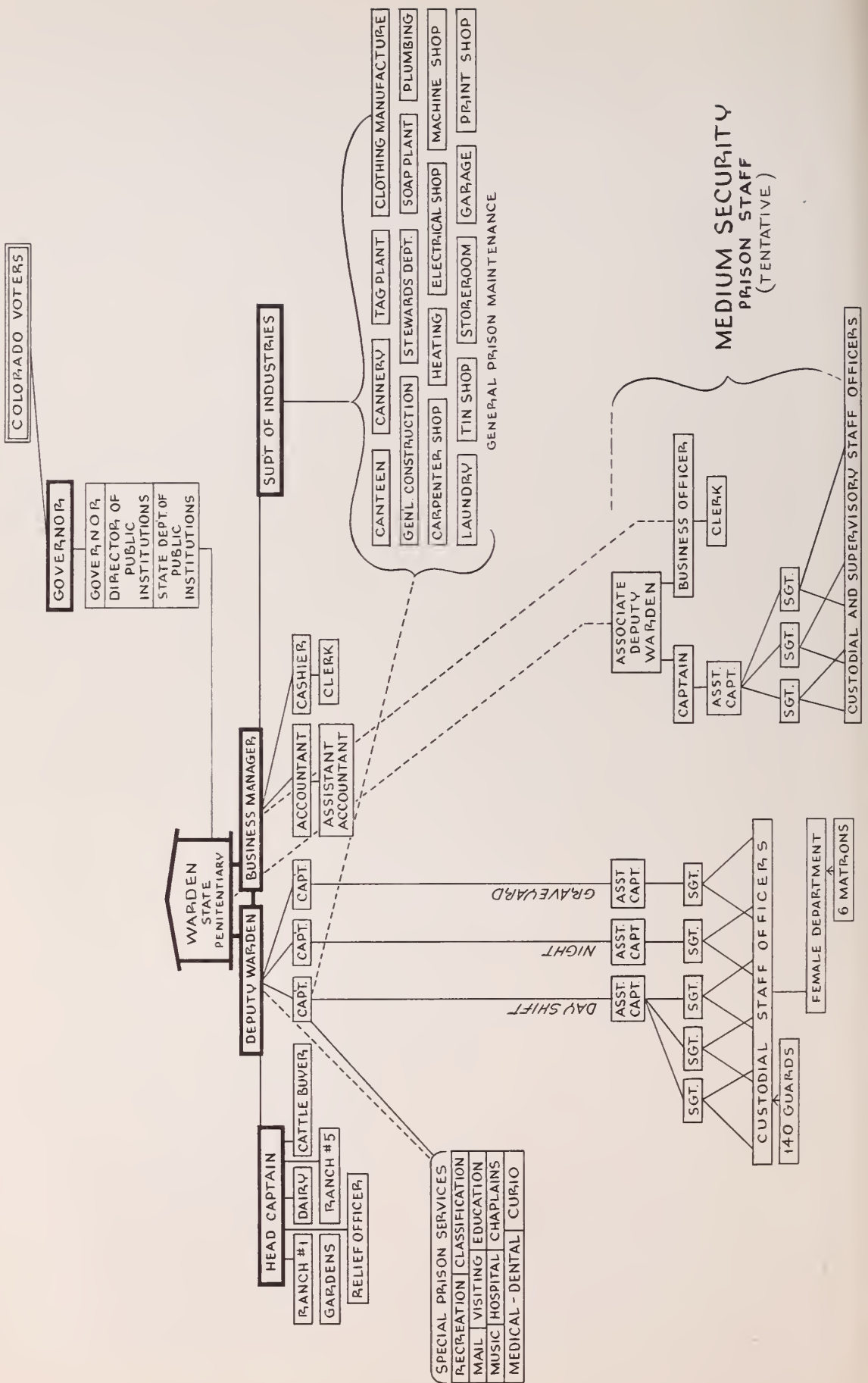
The agricultural program under the general supervision of the Head Captain, accounts for most of our minimum security risks. This consequentially requires the smallest custodial staff.

The ideal and eventual program, integrating the present prison and the medium security installation, would contemplate that the entire agricultural program would be handled from the medium security level. It can be seen that this would operate with fewer custodial people because we are dealing with risks that offer very little trouble. We would have eliminated our problem of transporting the inmates to and from the various farms, hence fewer supervisory officers in these categories would be needed.

Coordinated Penal Program Suggested

I look for the time to come when Colorado will follow the pattern set by some of the other states in establishing a broad and comprehensive program that would coordinate all the penal institutions of the state. The functions of one installation would be allied with the others without the overlapping and duplications that we have today. A directing Board or Commission with a well trained and qualified or experienced Director could authoritatively administer the whole program. Budgeting, appropriations distribution, organization of industrial programs, rehabilitation and educational programs, general institutional procedures and maintenance and final integration with the activities of the Parole Department would be under this single institutional board and director. Such a program would effect many economies not possible with the system in effect today. In the long run, not only would the institutional people, both operating personnel and inmates be better off under such a program, but the taxpayers of the state would benefit tremendously because of more efficient operation of their institutions and the economies that would result therefrom.

ORGANIZATION CHART COLORADO STATE PENITENTIARY



GOVERNORS

COLORADO VOTERS

GOVERNOR,
DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS,
STATE DEPT. OF PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS

WARDEN STATE PENITENTIARY

DEPUTY WARDEN

BUSINESS MANAGER

HEAD CAPTAIN
BRANCH #1
DAIRY
BRANCH #5
GARDENS
RELIEF OFFICER

SPECIAL PRISON SERVICES
RECREATION | CLASSIFICATION
MAIL | VISITING | EDUCATION
MUSIC | HOSPITAL | CHAPLAINS
MEDICAL - DENTAL | CURIO

CASHIER
ACCOUNTANT
ASSISTANT ACCOUNTANT

SUPT. OF INDUSTRIES

CANTEEN
CANNERY
TAG PLANT
CLOTHING MANUFACTURE
GENL. CONSTRUCTION
SOAP PLANT
PLUMBING
CARPENTER SHOP
HEATING
ELECTRICAL SHOP
MACHINE SHOP
LAUNDRY
TIN SHOP
STORE ROOM
GARAGE
PRINT SHOP
GENERAL PRISON MAINTENANCE

DAY SHIFT
NIGHT
GRAVEYARD

ASSOCIATE DEPUTY WARDEN
CAPTAIN
ASST. CAPT.
SGT. SGT. SGT.
SGT. SGT. SGT.

BUSINESS OFFICER
CLERK

CUSTODIAL STAFF OFFICERS
140 GUARDS
FEMALE DEPARTMENT
6 MATRONS

MEDIUM SECURITY PRISON STAFF (TENTATIVE)

CUSTODIAL AND SUPERVISORY STAFF OFFICERS

PAROLE



WAYNE K. PATTERSON
Executive Director Colo. Parole Dept.

PROGRAM

IMPORTANCE OF PAROLE DEPARTMENT

Parallel with modern penal methods and procedures in Colorado is the program administered by the State Department of Parole. Except for this department, prison overcrowding would become intolerable. This Department serves a vital need for Colorado, besides effecting savings to the taxpayers.

Many people confuse "parole", "probation", and "pardon". "Pardon" means forgive, or absolve, and is a result of official remission of a penalty. "Probation" generally means the first offender is given a second chance and is given a probationary "period" in lieu of a sentence to an institution. "Parole" is the conditional release of a prisoner before his sentence has been completed. The word, "conditional" as respects parole is important. In the Section on Classification it was shown how a complete file is kept on every prisoner. When eligible for parole, this man's file is reviewed and the Parole Department, acting on knowledge gleaned from the file, together with recommendations of the Prison administration, decide whether he should be granted a parole, and serve the balance of his sentence under the supervision of the Parole Department.

If paroled, the prisoner makes regular reports to the Parole Officer in his district. This officer regularly visits the man on his job and at home to make sure that his integration with family and society in general is effective; he also checks the general environment and habits of the parolee to be sure that he is living up to the conditions of parole. Supervision is maintained during the remainder of the sentence given the man when he was originally arraigned in court. Thus, if a man sentenced to five years was paroled at the end of two years in prison, he would still have three years supervision under a Parole Officer to fulfill his sentence.

Colorado—Member of Interstate Compact

Upon re-organization of the Colorado Parole Department in 1951, it became important that Colorado affiliate the Parole Department with other States in a compact enabling the department to keep in close touch with parolees in other States. It works thus: Parolees released from other States moving to Colorado for employment or family affiliations fall under the jurisdiction of Parole Officers in Colorado. Colorado's paroled prisoners moving to other States are accorded the same treatment in the State to which they migrate. By this arrangement, parolees are

required to report any move to their Parole Officer, it is rare that such parolees are unsupervised by the Parole Departments in various States.

Before the Compact, there was little effective supervision of out-of-state cases. Thus far, the Compact has proven effective and the cooperation between Colorado, other states, and other law enforcement agencies has been maintained at a high level.

Crime Prevention Through Correctional Treatment

The best way to prevent crime is to deter the potential delinquents. Most criminals have had insecure and unhappy lives. The personalities they developed as children have reflected in their pattern of criminal conduct. The number of maladjusted children could be reduced through more parental education, guidance programs in schools, and other activities directed toward giving each child a comparatively normal home life. From a practical standpoint, however, effective crime prevention activities in Colorado must be directed towards modifying the behavior of those who are already offenders. Correctional treatment must be carried out within an institution, or while the offender is on parole.

We have found from a treatment standpoint, persons committed to correctional institutions fall generally into four categories:

1. Comparatively normal individuals: A few individuals, from a correctional standpoint, might be considered comparatively normal. A few of these are "accidents". Others have committed crimes under unusual circumstances or while under severe strain. These seldom need corrective treatment, and when released, seldom are repeat offenders; however a brief period of parole supervision is generally beneficial to help them readjust to society.

2. Treatable cases: Consists of individuals who, although maladjusted, generally learn from experience or benefit sufficiently from help given them within the institution, or on parole, so that they can keep out of trouble and make satisfactory adjustments to society.

3. Persons Needing Permanent Supervision: These cases are "borderline", and cannot be sufficiently improved to adjust to a free society without supervision. They keep out of trouble only if given constant supervision and guidance.

4. Persons in Need of Permanent Institutional Care: The maladjustments of these individuals are so severe and of such duration that treatment is not effective. For protection of the public, they should be kept in an institution. Many of these prisoners are in need of close custody since they are dangerous and would escape if possible. Others, while not dangerous, cannot be released and kept out of trouble even with the closest supervision.

The Parole Department is concerned principally with the first three categories, and the record thus far has proven the worth of the Department. The record of parole violations is low, and the guidance and direction received by the men on parole is responsible for this. The Department has been extremely effective in placing parolees in jobs suitable to their capabilities; in most cases, their readjustment to society has been completely effective.

Economy Through Parole

A good parole Program is an economy measure in addition to the protection that it provides. Criminals must be handled the most practical way. In correctional work, the most practical and effective method is generally the most economical. The cost to Colorado's taxpayers of keeping a prisoner in the prison or reformatory approximates \$1350 per year. His parole period costs approximately one-

tenth of this amount, or \$135 per year.

Quite often there is an additional expense to the taxpayer while a criminal is in prison in the support of his family. In most cases where a family man is sent to prison, the County Welfare Department generally extends aid to his wife and family until he is released. On parole, he must support his dependents. It can be readily observed that the economical importance of the individual is greatly strengthened if a part of his sentence is served under the parole system.

The individual is required to work on parole, and makes a contribution to society through what he produces. He pays more in taxes each year than the cost of supervision. If his absence from the family is of short duration, there is less likelihood of a permanently broken home and the resulting maladjustment of his children. If his adjustment to society is successful, there is a saving which cannot be estimated in dollars in the prevention of future crimes and the need for other periods of costly imprisonment.

It can be observed, therefore, that Colorado's Department, in addition to serving the State through economy measures, is playing an important part in the rehabilitation of men, for this is after all one of the most important functions of Government as it relates to penal institutions.

PAROLE DEPARTMENT PLANS

Concurrently with Legislative approval of the Long Range Building Program of the Penitentiary, the go-ahead was given on a building program which approved construction of a Pre-Parole Release Center. This facility will be near the proposed site of Colorado's new Medium Security Prison and located on the prison ranch properties five miles from Canon City. The need for this type of institution has long been felt; at the present time a few States have such institutions in operation. Colorado's plans are patterned after States which have successfully integrated this facility with parole programs.

When prisoners are paroled, many of them have spent several years within a penal institution, and the adjustment they must make in a returning to society is sometimes a difficult one. Since they have been out of touch with the "outside" world, they have not kept pace with modern life, economical developments and the general changes taking place from day to day in American life. Because of these factors the Pre-Parole Release Center can be helpful in helping the prisoner adjust in society when he is paroled.

Once the parolees' application has been screened and approved by the Parole Department, a date for his release will be set, and about 60 days prior to his release, he will be transferred to the Pre-Parole Release Center.

There he will be freed from most of his duties, and embark upon a period of indoctrination which will better fit him to integrate himself as a normal citizen. He will attend classes, and participate in discussion groups designed to "bring him up to date" so that his release will not come as a sharp contrast to institutional life.

In this type of institution he will get away from the cells and bars to which he has become accustomed, and life will be quite similar to an army barracks, or college dormitory. During his stay he will have additional visiting privileges with his family and prospective employers will be given the opportunity of talking to these men before they are paroled. Considerable emphasis will be placed on the individual's duties, obligations and responsibilities to his fellow citizens during his parole period.

We feel that with this program a long step will have been taken towards the better integration of parolees into a productive life in free society. The construction project will probably not be completed until sometime in 1957. One of the important aspects of the program is that it will alleviate the crowded condition which currently is one of the greatest problems Colorado has in its penal institutions.

PAROLES ...



All inmates who become eligible for parole must have their cases reviewed by the Parole Board. Individual interviews are held. Future employment, family problems and parole procedures are discussed with Parole Officers. General counseling and guidance is an important part of the whole program.



WHY WE MUST PLAN AHEAD

Within Colorado Prison walls today we have proper cell capacity for a little over 1200 inmates. Any sudden increase in our present count has us taxing our housing capacity to the utmost. By safe prison standards we should have approximately a 10 per cent margin in our housing capacity to allow for sudden fluctuations in population.

As it presently stands the prison at Canon City would meet Colorado's needs for many years to come as a maximum security institution. So far as housing is concerned we are pretty well equipped to handle maximum security risks. It is the medium and minimum security personnel that we are projecting our plans for. Since a larger percentage of our population will ultimately be placed in these categories, it is imperative that our thinking be concerned with this phase of prison planning.

Colorado is growing; we see it everywhere. Our educational institutions, hospitals and all institutions on the state level are exercising proper wisdom in planning for a growth expansion that is already beginning to make itself felt.

The projected growth of Colorado's penal population cannot be gauged with the same accuracy as that of some of the other institutions. An analysis of male birth rates, Colorado's population trend, and the general growth that has been seen in the population of the Western United States are some of the factors considered in anticipating future growth in population of the State Penitentiary.

Factors In Growth

Prior to presenting our long-range building program to the 40th General Assembly, we made an exhaustive survey in an effort to determine our building needs for the decade ahead. In cooperation with the Colorado State Planning Commission we employed a number of statistical trends as related to population growth, increasing employment factors and migration, to set up a factual analysis of what the Penitentiary could expect in population increase. We did not anticipate that there would be sudden uptrends in our inmate population; our survey was predicated on a gradual increase over the next ten years. Based on information obtainable, it was conservatively estimated that there would be a population of nearly 2100 inmates by 1965.

There are some facts, of course, which if

taken into consideration might possibly reflect the conclusion that our estimates are too conservative. We are presuming that possibilities of international conflict will be reduced and that the economy of the United States will continue to operate at high levels of employment — a factor which generally shows a lower incidence of crime.

War Tensions Influence Crime

War, or periods of international tension, also reflect on the incidences of crime and hence prison population. These are factors which are difficult to determine as it might affect future growth. With the possibility of international conflict receding, this factor is one which has been given less consideration by any of the agencies which are predicting growth trends and shifts in population. Colorado's growing industrial expansion is a factor which will definitely push our crime curve upward. Industry, even on a dispersal program, generally seeks metropolitan or urban areas because of labor supply, availability of utilities, transportation, or a combination of several such factors. Experience has shown, and statistics bear it out, that heavily populated areas show a much higher crime rate in relation to the population than do suburbs or rural areas. Colorado's heavier growth trend in these areas will continue to show heavier commitments.

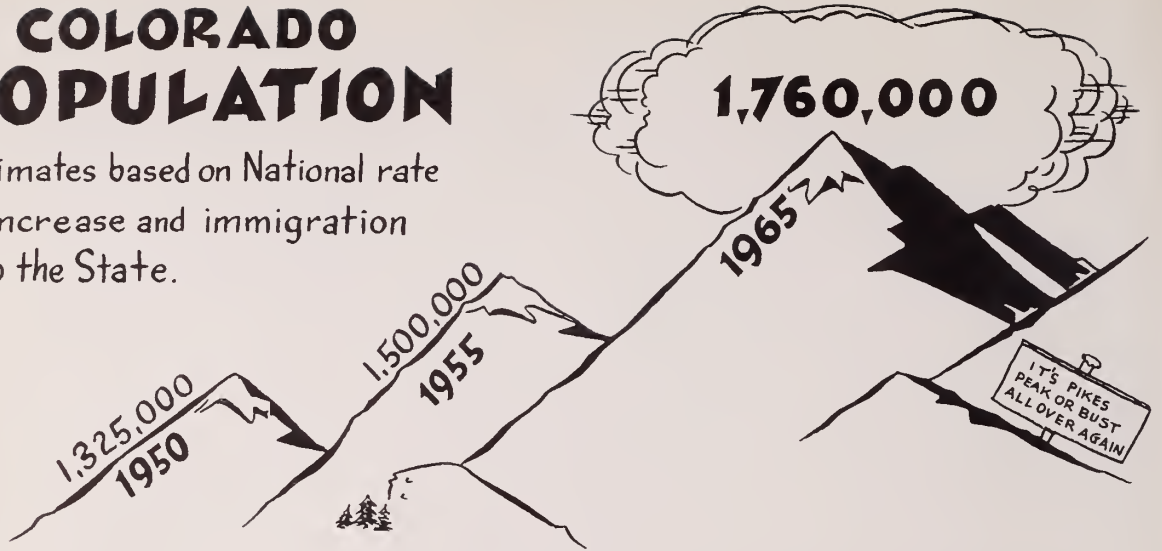
A not to be overlooked factor in holding down the prison population, is a hoped for continued success of the parole program. Actually this project is just getting under way enough that some of the results can begin to be measured. Further experience and continued good direction in this branch of the penal program should lead to even better results. Our growth trend has been modified to the extent that we believe the Parole Board and its members have launched on a program that will continue to receive fewer and fewer men returning to our prison once they have been discharged.

Preparedness Means Economy

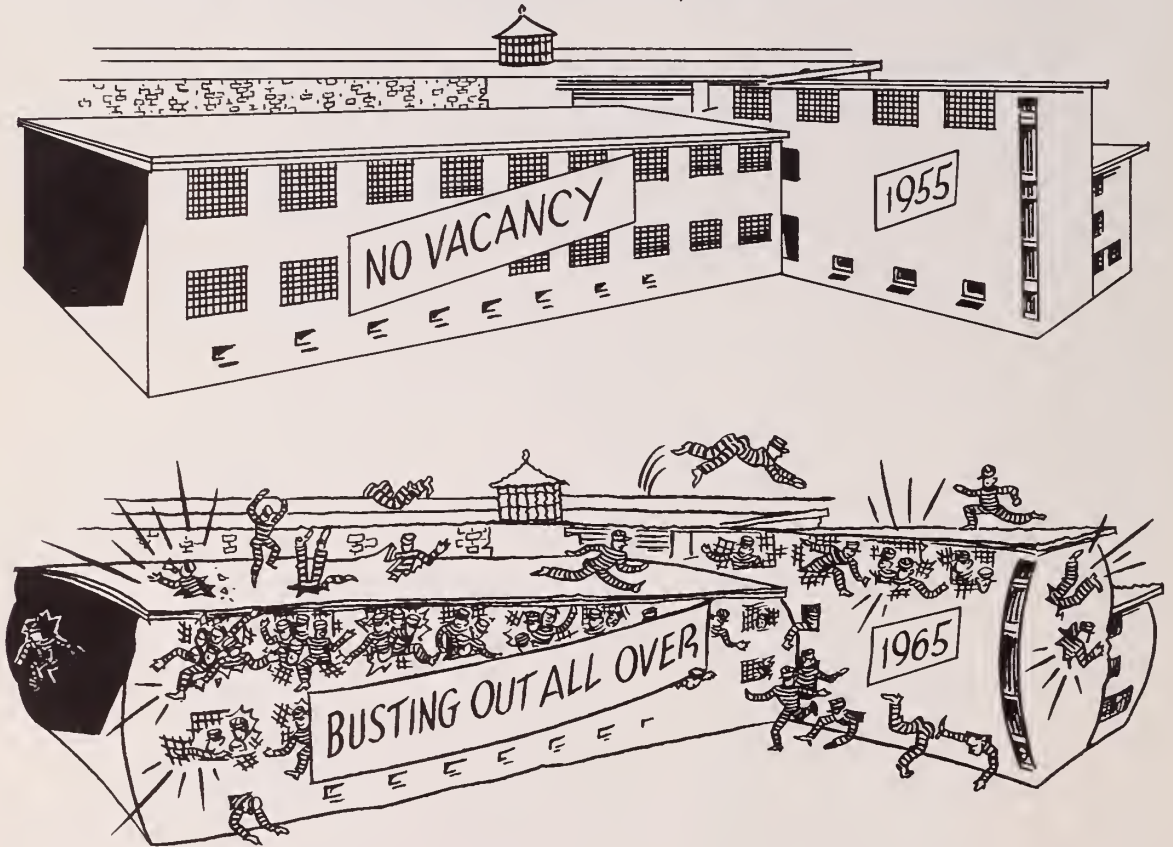
The growth curve has been projected on the conservative side; nevertheless, it is obvious that with the new doubling in population that we anticipate, additional cellroom, industrial facilities and an expanded agricultural program will be needed to care for these men. To the end that it will not be a crushing blow to the taxpayers we propose a 10 year program beginning with 1956 so that as new space is required it will be ready—and staffed.

COLORADO POPULATION

Estimates based on National rate of increase and immigration into the State.

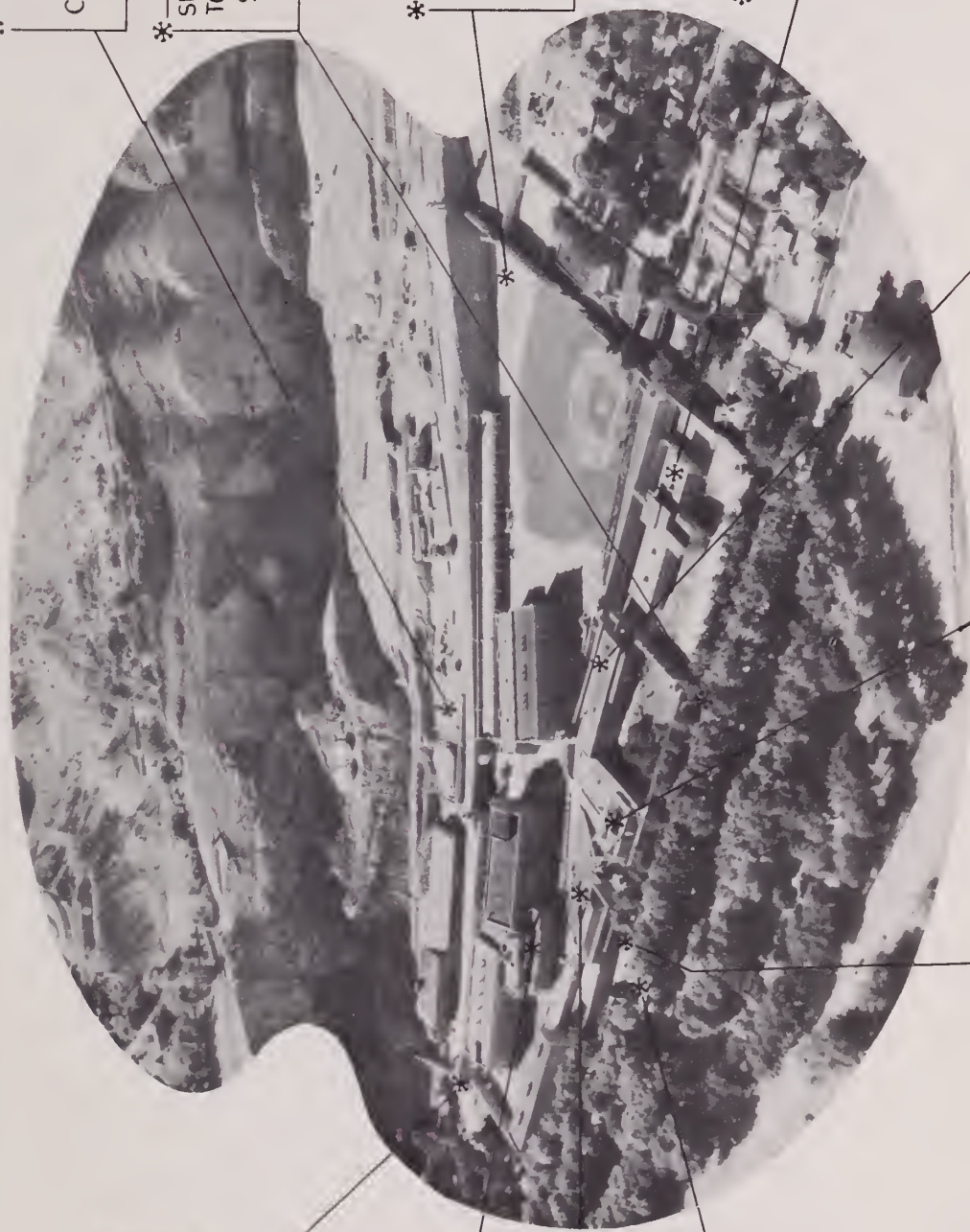


COLO. PEN. POPULATION 1,462 June 30, 1955



OVER 2,067 IN 1965 ...

BUILDINGS ON THE SPOT



* CANNERY UNDER CONSTRUCTION \$ 225,000.00

* SEWER CONNECTION TO METROPOLITAN SANITATION DIST. \$ 20,000.00

* GYMNASIUM & VOCATIONAL TRAINING BUILDING \$ 150,000.00

* THE NEW MAXIMUM SECURITY BUILDING

* HOSPITAL \$ 125,000.00

* BOILER REMODELING \$ 225,000.00

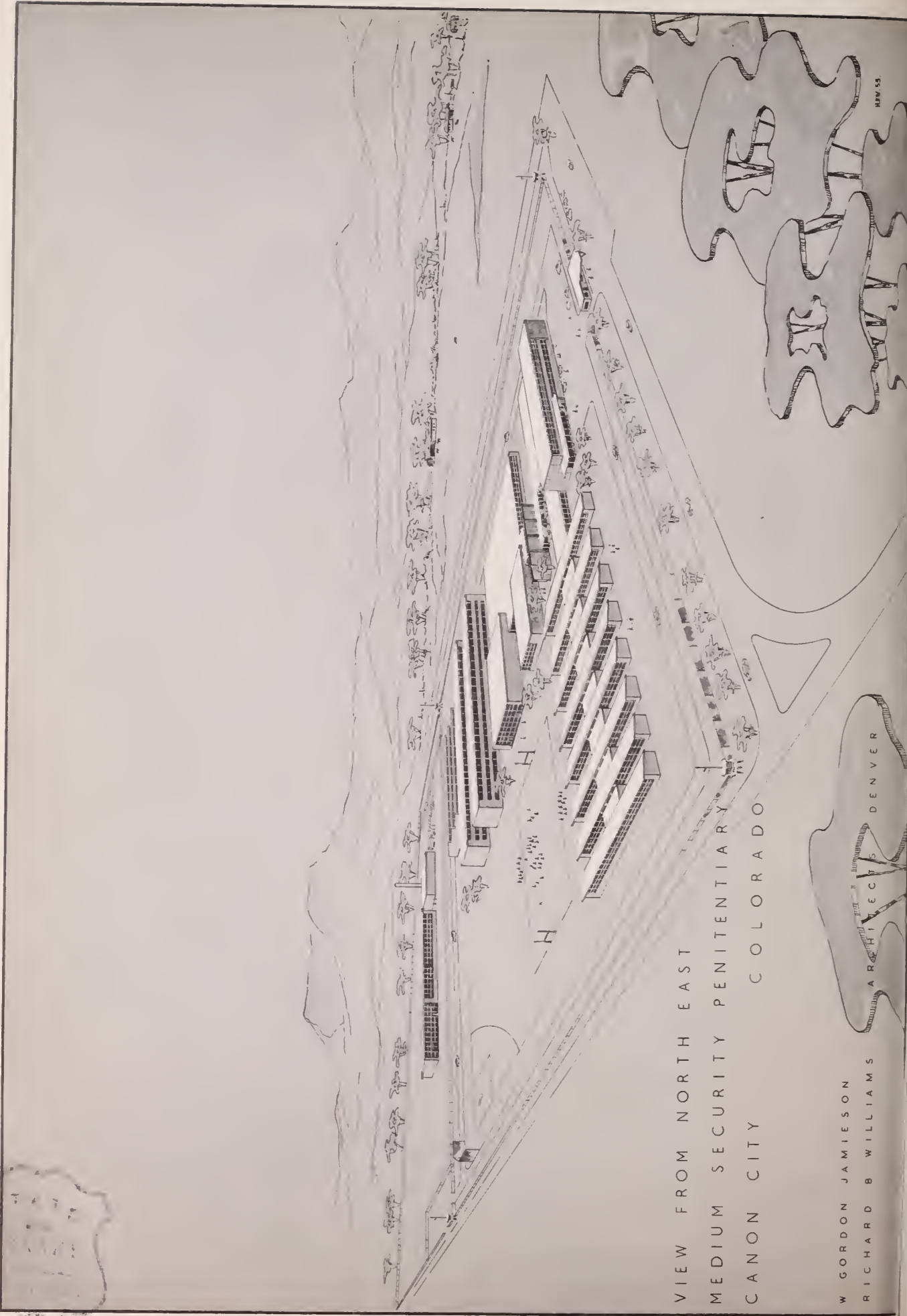
* ADMINISTRATION BUILDING \$ 250,000.00

* WEST GATE TOWER \$ 40,000.00

* OLD CHAPEL & SCHOOL ROOMS \$ 25,000.00

* PROPOSED CHAPEL \$ 50,000.00

* NEW FRONT ENTRANCE & CURIO STORE \$ 50,000.00



VIEW FROM NORTH EAST
MEDIUM SECURITY PENITENTIARY
CANON CITY COLORADO

W GORDON JAMIESON
RICHARD B WILLIAMS

ARCHITECTS
DENVER



