MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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MAINE PUBLIC DOCUMENTS

July 1, 1934 - June 30, 1936

Annual Report

of

Maine State Prison

for the

Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 1936



.. To the ..

Director

Bureau of Institutional Service

STATE OF MAINE

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND WELFARE

OFFICERS STATE PRISON

Edward P. Johnson	
Alfred P. Chapman	Acting Deputy Warden
Joseph L. Paquin	
F. G. Campbell	Physician
Eugene O'Connell .	
George Finley	Superintendent of Farm

•			

July 1, 1936

Dr. Howard C. Hanscom, Director Bureau of Institutional Service Department of Health and Welfare Augusta, Maine

Dear Sir:

In presenting this report for the Fiscal year ending June 30, 1936 I expect to convey the thought that the Maine State Prison is still advancing and not going backward. It is a great personal pleasure for me to state that conditions at the prison, in general, are much better and this despite a larger population during this last period.

PRISON POPULATION

With an average population of two hundred eighty-seven and seven tenths which was about twenty more than the previous year, housing con ditions were a problem with only two hundred and eighteen cells. It is obvious that a condition existed that was not conducive to good discipline. Frankly it meant that an average of forty men had to be culled from the entire population of the prison to allow for sleeping accommodations for the remaining men. This on the face of it was one of our most serious problems: to select forty men from three hundred or more for trusties and to house them at night in a shop room unguarded, and the prison wall unguarded was to my mind an exaggerated error. I am thankful to say that this condition no longer exists. During the past year ample cell room has been added to take care of this surplus and without the expense of constructing new buildings. Room was found inside the present cell blocks for fifty-six additional cells. They have been installed and are now occupied. They are the latest maximum security type cell and were contracted for at a substantial saving over the last installation that was made at the prison. Taking into consideration the fact that there are always a certain number of men employed at the Prison Farm you can understand that we hope to have room enough for all that cannot be classed as trusties. This task was completed with prison labor under supervision of an engineer from the contractor and our own construction supervisor.

Including electric, plumbing work and heating installation, a factor that entered into this work that was pleasing to the management was that not a single injury occured to an inmate during this construction, despite the fact that not a man in the crew working on this job had ever handled steel construction previous to this time. Altogether it is a satisfactory accomplishment and places the Maine State Prison among the Maximum Security Prisons of the country.

ESCAPE

There have been sixty or more men employed outside the Prison Walls on necessary vocations and of that number only one escaped. This man was a trusty empolyed as a helper on one of the prison trucks. Owing to existing conditions in the prison none have escaped from here.

DISCIPLINE

This subject deserves consideration and deep thought as it is one of the great problems in any Prison. The condition existing in our Prison cannot be matched anywhere. There have been no serious infractions of any one rule in this prison for over a year, a record hard to equal. At the present time not a single man is confined in punishment and from the attitude of the inmates and their re-actions to their treatment there is little indication that this treatment will be necessary. The human element is at all times uppermost in the minds of the officals of this institution and it is our earnest desire to cure the patients that are sent to us. We strive to establish in the minds of these men the thought, by living example, that right living is by far the best living. Frankly the inmates have shown such responsiveness that we feel we are gaining our point and with no serious infractions of the rules we feel that good discipline is at it's peak.

RELIGIOUS ACTIVITY

This is carried on as it always has been and each Sunday inspirational services are held under the direction of Miss Bertha Luce a leader in her field. The interest shown in her meetings by the inmates is not alone due to the fact that she is an exceptionally fine violinist but the personal contact that Miss Luce gives to the inmates from the outside world and the fine co-operation of the Pastors from the different churches is of immeasurable value.

Catholic services are held the third Sunday of each month under the direction of the Prison Chaplin Rev. Father James A. Flynn. Father Flynn reaches not only the Catholic inmates but a great percentage of the Protestants as well.

AMUSEMENTS

During the warm months outdoor recreations are urged and a fine Baseball team continues to be outstanding in this endeavor. Regular field day sports are in order during the Summer and Football in the Fall. During the colder months Motion Pictures are shown Sunday afternoon and hoildays. Pictures selected by the officials. A central Radio control supplies the inmates a limited number of selected programs via ear phones, if they are in good conduct. Incidently these privileges are deprived to all inmates violating the rules of the institution.

EDUCATION

Without necessary funds to carry on a system of Education that is thorough we strive to give men that need it all of the help we can. Their response is gratifying to a degree.

INDUSTRIES

The new Plate Shop where license plates and State Highway signs are manfactured is a growing industry. The lack of proper machinery is the only hindrance to a real source of income that will eventually make this institution more or less self-supporting. There is a definite need for replacement machines in several of the shops and this one is in greater need than the others. There is an unlimited scope to the business that can be done in this shop with proper machines. All types of signs constructed of metal can be manufactured here, parking signs, street name signs, advertising and commercial type signs of all kinds and sizes ranging from four inch by six inch up to forty by seventy inches.

In the Harness Shop the business has climbed back to the high peak it held several years ago and is now passing it. The increase in the number of horses continues and Maine State Prison harness is still among the leaders in it's field and is bound to hold it's own with out of State made harness.

Wood shop production is so great that we are forced to work a crew of men several nights each week in order to keep up with our orders. A diversified output taxes the shop and our several state depart ments keep us busy on all type of office furniture.

Auto truck bodies from half ton pick-put to ten ton van type are a regular output of this shop as well as a line of fully equipped house trailers, the latter being a new departure but very successful.

Automobile shop still continue to be one of our busiest industries and a satisfied customer is our best advertisment. This business is conducted in such a manner that it does not interfere with similar trades outside the Prison as the majority of work we do on cars not only painting but also body and fender and upholstery work is done for dealers and garages.

The Printing Department has accomplished a task of printing over a million pieces during the year. No credit is given this department through a peculiar set up but it deserves a lot. The suggestion that this department should be extended is still in order and we could handle more State work here at the prison.

Mention should be made of our Mattress shop in which we make all the mattresses used here and also for several state institutions as well as many of the County Jails throughout the state. Also our furniture refinishing department where both modern and antique furniture is rebuilt, refinished and re-upholstered by expert workmen under supervision of a practical foreman.

Our Canning Department put up between nineteen and twenty thousand can of produce from the Prison Farm and these added to the immediate consumables are a great asset.

AGRICULTURAL

During the year needed improvements have been made at the Prison Farm. Several new and modern pieces of machinery have been purchased to facilitate better crops. A new Hennery constructed along United States Department of Agriculture specifications that houses three thousands hens. The egg production realized from this improvement is indication that with the small invesiment made the profit will be great. This building cost less than three thousand dollars and was errected by prison labor under supervision of the Prison building Sepervisor. Also a new large tract of land has been cleared and will be under cultivation next year which will give the Prison added crop production.

REPAIRS

Several new additions have been made throughout the prison such as tool room in the shops, new barber shop, new ventilating system in the bakery and kitchen, pipe repairs throughout the buildings and a great amount of work is being done on the houses owned by the Prison. Such as new foundations, floors, ceilings, etc. The houses are in very poor repair and considerable work must be done to keep them valuable to the Prison. A complete overhauling job has been accomplished on the Leighton property recently purchased by the prison and it will be a valuable asset to the Prison. A repair crew or maintenance crew has been established under the supervision of two expert workman and a vast amount of needed repairs are being carried on.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Repairs to the East Cell Building must be made this coming spring. They are extensive in scope and will take several months in operation. All flashings on main Cell House have to be replaced and repairs to all roofs. All of the outside Buildings and houses of the Prison should be painted. New Pumping machines in the boiler-room and several new machines in the Plate Shop.

Our industries are not only a valuable asset to the institution but to the morale of the inmates as well. To be busy is to be contented and contentment is the greatest boon to good discipline. In all I feel that strides have been made in the direction of perfect progress.

In conclusion let me extend my sincere appreciation for the fine co-operative spirit that you, Doctor Hanscom and also Commissioner George W. Leadbetter have extended to me. I have profited greatly by following many of your suggestions and advices. I also wish to extend to my able assistant Alfred P. Chapman my sincere thanks for his part in our scheme of things also to all other employees for their loyal support and for their adjustment to my progress of procedure and for their devotion to duty.

Respectfully

EDWARD P. JOHNSON

Warden

Dr. H. C. Hanscom, Director Bureau of Institutional Service Department of Health and Welfare Augusta, Maine

Dear Sir:

Annual report of Surgical and Medical activities for fiscal year July 1, 1935 to June 30, 1936, attached.

The general health of the inmates for the year has been far above standard. A new ruling that each new inmate receives immediate examination upon commitment has given us practical immunity from spread of any contagious disease by contact with the outside. The treatment of new and old cases of Syphilis has been carried on and all precautions necessary to protect non-infected inmates have been taken.

Thru the co-operation of the Warden and his staff this department has shown remarkable improvement.

Very truly yours,

F. G. CAMPBELL Prison Physician

MEDICAL AND SURGICAL REPORT

JUNE 30, 1935 - JULY 1, 1936

		143 143
Extra Kahn	Tests	68
Total numbe	er of Prisoners seen on sick call	
Prisoners tre	ated and returned to work 3,638 cated and sent to cell 47 cated and hospitalized 39 3,	724
	SURGICAL OPERATIONS	
MAJORS MINORS	Raymond Scott Hernia John Salinski Rectal Festula Edward Crowell Prolapse of Rectum 21	
	CONTAGIOUS DISEASES	
TUBESCU		
Old Cases New Case	s 1 James Kelly	
CHICKEN	POX John Williams	
TRENCH SYPHILIS	FOOT Old Cases 1 New Cases 3 Cured 4	
er i Hillo	Old Cases 11 New Cases 4	
Treatmen	Neo-Arsphenamine 496 Potassium Bismuth Tartrate 480 Extra Blood Tests 60	
GONORRI		
X-RAYS	James Ward, Lungs, Central Maine Sanatorium, Fairfield, William Merrill, Shoulder, Knox County Hosp., Rockland,	
DECEASE	1 Pneumonia & Diabetes, 1-5-36 Enoch Munroe, No.	6290 6 47 0

I935 - 1936

INMATE POPULATION RECORDS

Number in Institution Iuly 1, 1935 . Admitted from Courts . Parole Violators Returned . Escaped Prisoners Returned	134 8 1
Transferred from: to	0
Pardoned Inmates Returned	0
	455 1 456
Paroled During Year	122
Discharged During Year	32
Escaped During Year	1
Pardoned During Year	5
Transferred	4 - 1
Diceased	2
Number in Institution June 30, 1036	289
· · ·	455 1 456
Daily Average Population	287.7
High Daily Count, July 3, 1935 .	312
Low Daily Count, January 5, 1936	261
CONVICT EMPLOYME	NT JUNE 30, 1936
Kitchen and Dining Room 17	Wood Shop 24
Machine and Blacksmith Shop 12	Harness Shop 32
Tailor Shop	Tin Shop 3
Paint & Upholstery 24	Cobbler
Clerks	Gardens and Outside 13 Construction 10
Laundry and Bathroom 6	oiler-room 10
Plate Shop 8	IDle
Waiters and Cleaners 10	Miscl. Inside 58
Hospital Patients 7	Disciplinary Division 3
	Total 289

1935 - 1936

1733 -	17	/30		
Year Established - 1824		Authority	y Chapter 142	
Year Made State Institution - 1824			napter 236. Res. 192	7
Total Area of Plant 426 acres	P		d Garden Truck	
Woods and Uncultivated 320 "			90 acre	es
Under Cultivation 98 "	Н	ay and Pa	sture 50	
Buildings and Grounds 8			Buildings . 51 "	
Average Number of Employees		Male	45	
	• • •	Female	1 46	
Average Number of Inmates		Male	286.7	
·· ·· ·· ··	:	Female	1 287.7	
1935 -				
PLANT STA	ATI	EMENT	Γ	
REAL ESTATES:				
Administration Bldg., Cell Blocks	(east	& west v	vings)	
land about 8 acres				
Carriage Building			178,973.47	
Combination Bldg., (kitchen, dini	ng ro		_,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	
and hospital			84,597.47	
Harness Building			113,891.41	
Power House			3,299.47	
Repository No. 1			2,152.96	
Warden's House			2,000.00	
Deputy's House			1,000.00	
Chaplain's House			805.74	
Adams House			900.00	
Morton House			1,000.00	
Bagley House			800.00	
Dillingham Farm, Land & Barn			1,400.00	
Barrett Farm and Buildings .			12,476.40	
New Hennery at Barrett Farm			2,717.52	
Bucklin Farm Inc., and Buildings			11,882.29	
Copeland Farm Land			100.00	
Piggery at Farm			2,000.00	
			1,000 00	
		Tota	al \$762,120.89	_
A	dded	1934 - 3	•	
		1935 - 3		
		Tota		
		100	$\mu = \mu = 0.02$	

STATEMENT OF PRODUCTION

AS PER BILLING 1935-1936

Blacksmith Shop	\$ 61.96	
Car Washing	464.25	
Harness Shop	20,330.26	
Machine Shop	3,128.71	
Point Shop	2,245.08	
Tailor Shop	9,284.87	
Upholstery Shop	3,237.37	
Wood	564.00	
Wood Shop	9,243.54	
Tin Shop	627.36	
Auto Plate	16,830.17	
Farm Sales	1,233.81	
Commissary Sales	191.70	
Kitchen Sales	360.18	
Canning Department	178.22	
Miscellaneous sales	386.25	
Total	•	\$68,397.73
Rents	468.00	
Total	•	\$68,865.73
Production for this Institution	3,128.77	
Total	•	\$71,994.59

PRINTING

Envelopes	620,000
Letterheads	
Miscellaneous	11,750
Total	757,750

(Does not include Prison printing)

STATEMENT OF FARM PRODUCTION

CONSUMED AT PRISON

1935 - 1936

String Beans	48 bu.		3,431 cans
Carrots	100		528
Corn 3	,433 ears		3,018
Eggs		• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	7,336 doz.
Milk			80,571 qts.
Potatoes	• • • • • • • •	•••••	1,412 bu.
Pumpkin		• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	600 cans
Salt Pork			5,667 lbs.
Swiss Chard	25 bu.	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	1,344 cans
Spinaco			360
Tomatoes	31 bu.		1,058
Fresh Pork			9,978 lbs:
Fowl		• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	1,059
Celery		• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	160 bns.
Turnips			- 110 bu.
Beets	43 bu.		376 cans
Cucumbers	55		
Dandelions	15		364 cans
Parsnips	27		
Cabbage	. .		15,152 lbs.
Peas	50 bu.		216 cans
Dry Beans		• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	1,776 lbs.
Lard	••••	•••••	2,291 lbs.
Vinegar	50 gals.		
Veal	• • • • • • • •		1,784 lbs.
Beef	•••••	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	1,998
Onions	60 bu.		
Squash			950 lbs.
Lettuce	35 bu.		
Mustard Greens	1.0		

STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURES & RECEIPTS

112TH, FISCAL YEAR 1935 - 1936

Expenditures - Personal Services -			
Regular Salaries	75,650.12		
Temporary	5.00		
Fees and Retainers	704.20		\$ 76,359.32
Contractual Services -			
Communications & Transportation of Things\$	2,849.72		1
Traveling Expenses	3,447.53		
Subsistance & Care - Persons and Things	1,410.89		
Printing, Binding & Advertising	7.00		
Heat, Light, Power and Water	5,227.30		
Repairs	2,757.76		
Entertainment & Burials	670.12	•	\$ 15,370.32
Commodities -			:
Supplies	73,421.92		:
Parts & Fittings	2,051.29		<u>.</u> .
Materials	36,605.46		
Armory Supplies "Ammunition"	38.27		
Industrial Supplies	76.07		
As per Invoices\$	112,193.01	·	,
Used from Stock - to 6200 - less	1,925.21	-	\$ 110,267.80
Current Charges -	,		*
Rents\$	207.12		
Insurance	215.40		
Subscriptions	2.00		
Dues - National Association	17.00		-
Awards - Indemnities	1,485.00	-	\$ 1,926.52
Properties -			· •
Equipment\$	6,964.94	-	\$ 6,964.94
Buildings & Fixed Equipment	919.43		, ,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,
Used from 3300 - Stock Plus	1,925.21		\$ 2,844.64
Expended from 7200			\$ 214,733.69
License Plates Equipment - 7215	11,895.52		" == : , :==: , :
Mfg. of License Plates	9,408.63		
License Plates Expense			21,304.15
Total Appropriation Expense			\$ 236,037 54
Overdraft to 1935 - 1936			4,928.71
Bond Issue Expense - Addition to Cell House			37,651.70
Total Account for			\$ 278,618.20

INCOME

CASH CREDITS CLASSIFIED

Rent of Houses	468.00	
Board of Transients Subsistance	88.59	
Paint Department	2,895.90	
Upholstering Department	3,547.94	
Sale of Farm Product	1,354.47	
Blacksmith - Tin - Auto Repairs	3,427.18	
Woodworking Department	7,457.55	
Sale of Industrial Products	434.19	
Sale of Green Bones, Barrels, etc	. 70	
Auto Plate Department	15,575.35	
Sale Products - Door Wats Dept	85.30	
Sale Products - Wood Department	1,412.85	
Harness	18,798.11	
Printing	12.55	
Tailoring	8,656.43	
- Sale of Gas	3.80	
Sundry Receipts	127.28	
Refund - Damage Claims	4.91	
	\$64,351.10	
Misc. Refungs - 4715 850.66		
1950 3.26	853.92	
Total	\$65,205.02	
Set up as Appro. for mfg.		
of License Plates	14,4 68 .89	
Total	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	\$50,736.13

AVERAGE WEEKLY MENU

SUNDAY

DDD	1 TZ TO 4	CT
BREA	4 K H /	

Corn Flakes and milk Baked Beans Bread, Butter and Coffee

DINNER

Baked Beans Bread and Butter Coffee

SUPPER

Roast Pork, Potatoes, Gra Dressing, Turnips, Pickle Bread, Butter and Coffee

MONDAY

Oatmeal and Milk Griddle Cakes and Syrup Bread, Butter and Coffee Hamburg and Potatoes Carrots and Pickles Bread, Butter and Tea Pea Soup Cookies Bread, Butter and Tea

TUESDAY

Bran Flakes and Milk Fried Potatoes Muffins, Butter and Coffee Roast Beaf and Potatoes Cabbage and Pickles Bread, Butter and Tea

Meat Hash Prunes Bread, Butter and Tea

WEDNESDAY

Oatmeal and Milk Corn Fritters and Syrup Bread, Butter and Coffee Irish Stew Bread, Butter and Tea Pudding Baked Bean Pickles Bread, Butter and Coffee

THURSDAY

Corn Flakes and Milk Baked Beans Bread, Butter and Coffee Frankfurters
Potatoes and Cabbage
Bread, Butter and Tea

Fried Potatoes
Vegetables and Pickles
Bread, Butter and Tea

FRIDAY

Oatmeal and Milk Griddle Cakes and Syrup Bread, Butter and Coffee Fish and Potatoes Vegetables Bread, Butter and Tea Macaroni and Cheese Squash Pie Bread, Butter and Tea

SATURDAY

Boiled Eggs Fried Potatoes Bread, Butter and Coffee Smothered Beef Bread and Butter Tea

Baked Beans Pickles Bread, Butter and Coffee

THE FOLLOWING IS A RECAPITULATION OF THE FOREGOING REPORT FROM JAN. 1 ST. TO DEC. 31, 1936

Ages at Time of Commitmer	ıt	Crime
15 to 20 years, Inc	30 78 44 41 80 273	Murder 43 Manslaughter 13 Assault, Various Forms 25 B. E and B. E. and Larceny 59 Robery and Larceny 41 Forgery, Uttering and Passing 12
Military Servsce	52 179	Receiving Stolen Property
Length of Sentence	43	Conspiracy
Maximum 40 years	1	Rape and Attempt 1 o Rape 18 Polgamy and Bigamy 2 Incest 3
·· 30 ··	3 5 10	Carnal Knowledge of Female 1 Enticing Females & Trans- For Im Pur. 5
·· 18 ··	8 8 9	Indecent Liberties
·· 14 ··	1 7 11	Possession of Counterfiet 2 Assault on Officer 1 Total 273
8	12 4	Educational Qualifications
6	13 25 53 22 44 1 273	No F ducation 12 Under Sixth Grade 36 Sixth and Seventh Grade 51 Eighth Grade Com. Sch. & Grammar 95 Incomplete High 56 Complete High 20 College, University and Special 3 Total 273
Occupations Laborers	141	Nativity - Place of Birth
Farmers Painters Sailors Cooks and Bakers Electricians	26 11 8 13	Maine 183 Other States 61 Foreign Countries 29 Total 273
Merchants	1 6	Religious Beliefs
R. R. Employees Carpenters Barbers Bookkeepers Auto Mechanics Masons	1 5 8 1 11 2	Protestant 151 Catholic 112 Russian 1 Hebrew 5 None 4 Total 273
Clerks Shoe Workers	5 6	Civil Condition
Mill Employees	2 2 1 22 273	Married 89 Single 138 Divorced 87 Widowed 1 Total 273
10 ai	4/3	1 Otal 2/3