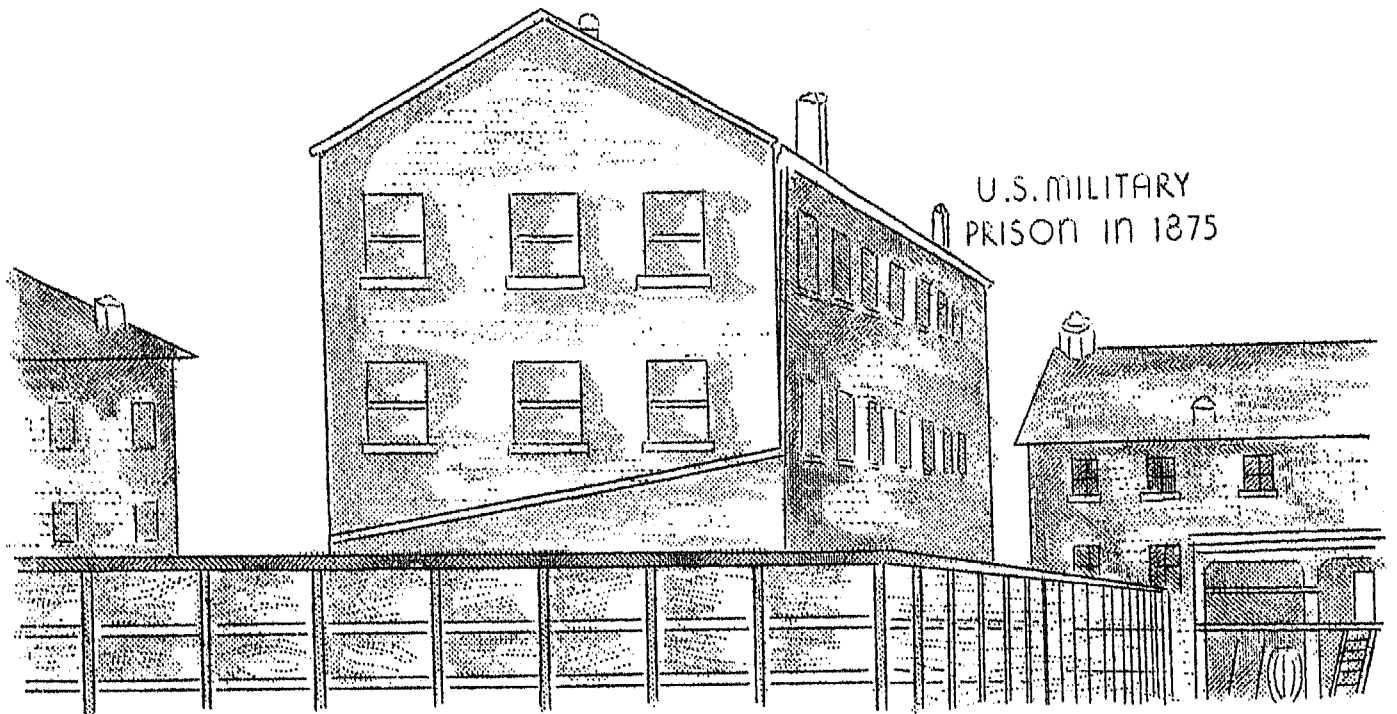
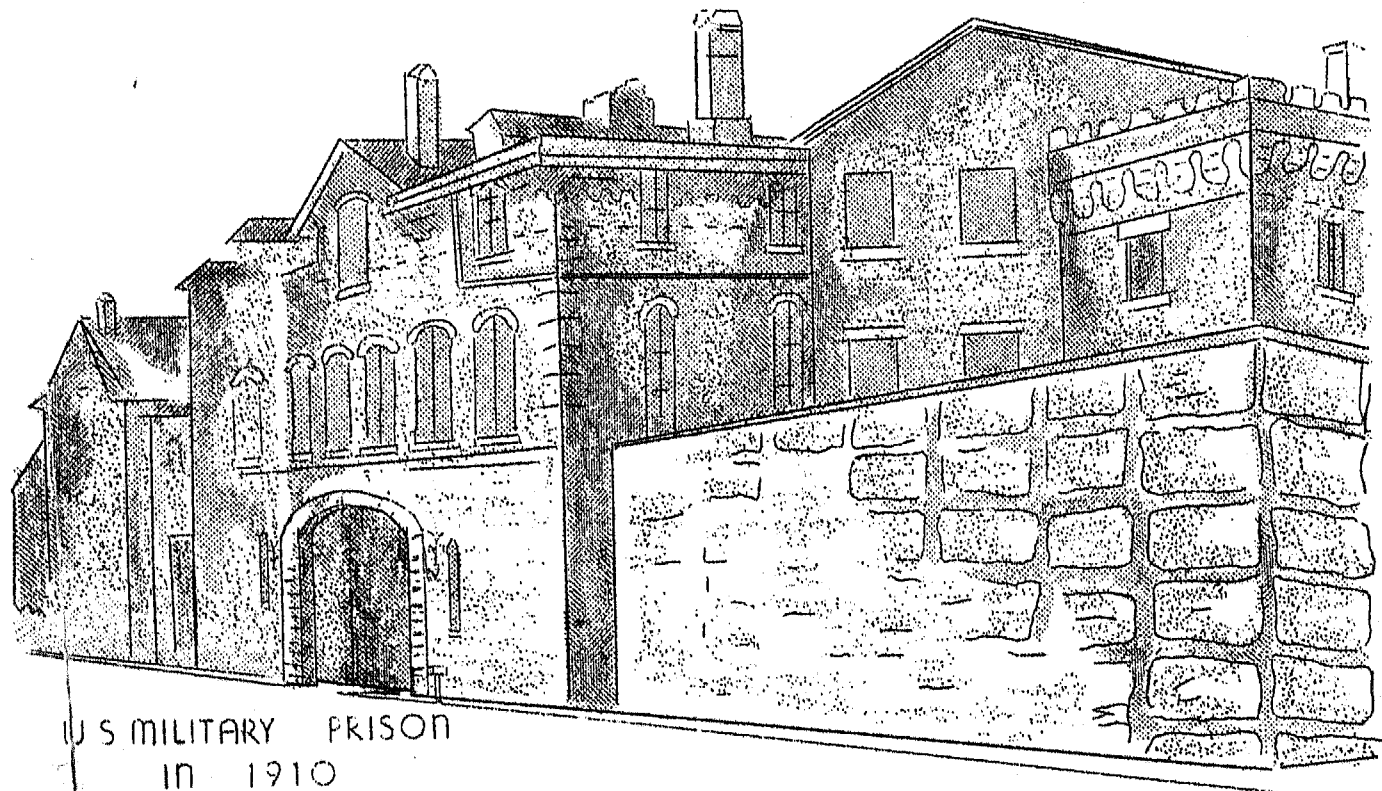


Library

U.S.M.I.P. HISTORY



U.S. MILITARY PRISON IN 1875



U.S. MILITARY PRISON IN 1910

Report Documentation Page

Form Approved
OMB No. 0704-0188

Public reporting burden for the collection of information is estimated to average 1 hour per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to Washington Headquarters Services, Directorate for Information Operations and Reports, 1215 Jefferson Davis Highway, Suite 1204, Arlington VA 22202-4302. Respondents should be aware that notwithstanding any other provision of law, no person shall be subject to a penalty for failing to comply with a collection of information if it does not display a currently valid OMB control number.

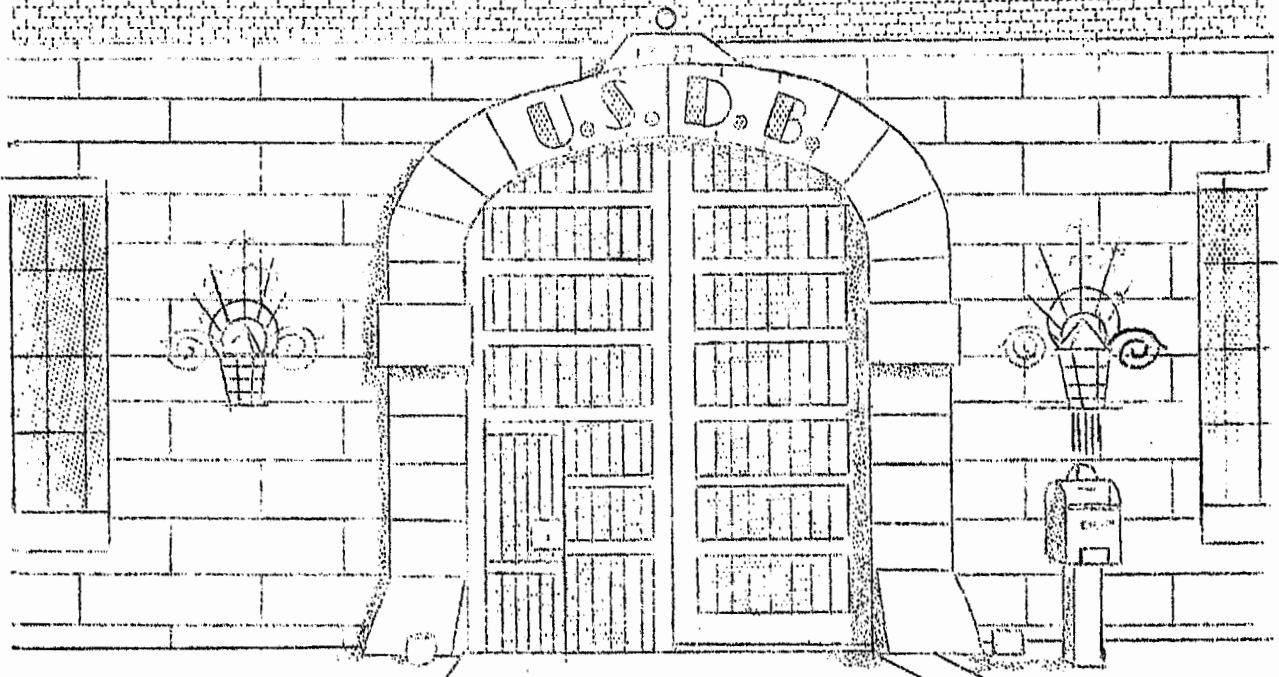
1. REPORT DATE JUN 1957	2. REPORT TYPE	3. DATES COVERED -			
4. TITLE AND SUBTITLE U.S.D.B. (U.S. Disciplinary Barracks) History.		5a. CONTRACT NUMBER			
		5b. GRANT NUMBER			
		5c. PROGRAM ELEMENT NUMBER			
6. AUTHOR(S)		5d. PROJECT NUMBER			
		5e. TASK NUMBER			
		5f. WORK UNIT NUMBER			
7. PERFORMING ORGANIZATION NAME(S) AND ADDRESS(ES) Army Command & General Staff College, Combined Arms Research Library, 250 Gibbon Avenue, Fort Leavenworth, KS, 66027-2314		8. PERFORMING ORGANIZATION REPORT NUMBER			
9. SPONSORING/MONITORING AGENCY NAME(S) AND ADDRESS(ES)		10. SPONSOR/MONITOR'S ACRONYM(S)			
		11. SPONSOR/MONITOR'S REPORT NUMBER(S)			
12. DISTRIBUTION/AVAILABILITY STATEMENT Approved for public release; distribution unlimited					
13. SUPPLEMENTARY NOTES					
14. ABSTRACT This history was originally compiled and published serially in the authorized prisoner publication, STRAY SHOTS. The expressed interest by staff officials and visitors in obtaining reference copies prompted the preparation of this pamphlet, as the last known history of the institution was published in 1910.					
15. SUBJECT TERMS					
16. SECURITY CLASSIFICATION OF:			17. LIMITATION OF ABSTRACT	18. NUMBER OF PAGES 64	19a. NAME OF RESPONSIBLE PERSON
a. REPORT unclassified	b. ABSTRACT unclassified	c. THIS PAGE unclassified			

ADMINISTRATION
 U. S. DISCIPLINARY BARRACKS
 FORT LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS
 JUNE 1957

Colonel J. W. Davis	Commandant
Lt. Col. R. E. Jessen	Dir. of Operations
Capt. L. B. Adams, Jr.	Dir. of Classification
Maj. R. R. Craddock	Supervisor of SMI
Maj. C. D. Olesen	Act'g Supr. of Prisoners
Maj. T. K. King	Dir. of Administration
Lt. Col. R. H. Hurst	Supr. of Prisoner Training
Maj. H. R. Chezem	C. O., 1st Guard Co.
Maj. W. L. Taylor	Legal Officer
Lt. Col. W. J. Tiffany, Jr.	Chief, P & N
Chap. (Major) W. R. Tuttle	Protestant Chaplain
Chap. (Major) A. A. Dudek	Catholic Chaplain
1st Lt. K. M. Short	Custodian of Funds
Harold E. Aleck	Ed. Guidance Supervisor

This history was originally compiled and published serially in the authorized prisoner publication, STRAY SHOTS. The expressed interest by staff officials and visitors in obtaining reference copies prompted the preparation of this pamphlet, as the last known history of the institution was published in 1910. All or any part of this pamphlet may be reproduced provided proper credit is given.

MAIN ENTRANCE



Mortar, stone, brick and steel do not necessarily make a prison, but when molded and built in accordance with a predetermined plan it can become a house of detention. Since our earliest recorded times, some mode of detention has existed because, as Dr. Karl Menninger states, "There is evil in the hearts of all men and life is a constant struggle to control it." It is for this reason that man's training, formal or informal from infancy through the teen-years, must be channeled in keeping with the mores of society. Man's inherent characteristics, if not directed into accepted forms, are classed as aberrations because of non-conformity to the standards prescribed for communal living. Those whose deviations from dictated customs or practices, either private or public, tend to harm or have harmed society must forfeit their right to be a free member of society. The same is true of those who breach military law.

In a successful military organization, discipline has been a primary factor since the time of Phillip II, father of Alexander the Great, which takes us back 300 years before Christ.

Our earliest record of the office of provost (keeper of a prison) is found in Phillip's reformed Macedonian Army which was the prototype of today's military establishment.

Phillip is credited with establishing the first set of laws to govern his army and from that time to this, armies, of a necessity, have been governed by their own sets of laws. Our early American armies adopted disciplinary practices primarily from the British armies of the same period.

Military offenders, prior to the establishment of a military prison, were confined in 32 different stockades, such as Castle William on Governors Island, N. Y., and Bedloe's Island, N. Y., as well as penitentiaries of different states. Punishments varied from stockade to stockade and prison to prison, and included flogging, use of ball and chain, shackling, tattooing or branding, solitary confinement and, of course, execution.

The practice of branding or tattooing has long been outlawed and by our standards of today would be classed as barbarian. The branding was done on the face with a hot iron

using various letters to denote the type of offense, such as a "D" for deserter, a "T" for thief, etc. This practice was soon succeeded by the substitution of tattooing in which the principle of using letters was retained. However, the tattooing was normally placed on the left hip in letters one and one-half inches long.

While all these modes of punishment with the exception of solitary confinement and execution were banned early in the 1870s throughout the Army, the punishment administered in 1872 to the 346 military prisoners scattered in 11 different penitentiaries in as many states presented another problem. This and many other administrative problems, such as economy and a lack of control over all military offenders, were some of the determining factors that accentuated the movement to establish a military prison.

Brigadier General Thomas F. Barr is respectfully referred to as the father of the U. S. Military Prison. In 1871, he submitted a communication to the Secretary of War, calling attention to the prevailing conditions under which military offenders were confined. An investigation, directed by the Secretary of War, resulted in a board of officers being sent to Montreal and Quebec, Canada, "to investigate and report upon the British (military) prison system, together with their mode of punishment."

The board found the British system far superior to our own, recommended the abandonment of certain practices and the adoption of a more humane system in keeping with the advanced concepts of penology. These recommendations were approved at all command levels and prepared as a bill for submission to Congress in January 1872.

The board recommended that the military prison be built in New York harbor by evacuating one of the military posts located there and effecting a conversion program. The House Military Committee did not concur in the proposed location and submitted a new bill locating the prison at Rock Island Arsenal, Illinois so that prison labor could be used at the arsenal. This bill was passed by both Houses of Con-

gress and became law when signed by the President on March 3, 1873.

The Ordnance Department and the Secretary of War both objected to the proposed location of the prison on the grounds that the prisoners could not be trusted to work with munitions and, even if it were feasible, they were not skilled in the manufacture of arms. It was also pointed out that most of them were serving short sentences which would not permit their proper training and that they would not be learning a worthwhile trade which they might follow upon their release from confinement. Additionally, it was noted that the location was not ideal from a security viewpoint inasmuch as the water surrounding the island was very shallow during the summer and in the winter was frozen over so that passage to the mainland was an easy matter. It was also felt that security measures necessary to the operation of the prison would greatly restrict the primary mission of the arsenal. These objections, plus the suggestion that the location of the proposed prison be changed to Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, were incorporated in a communication which the Secretary of War addressed to Congress in December, 1873.

However, since the military prison needed only an appropriation to proceed, the Adjutant General delegated a team of three officers "to visit several of the best established state prisons and penitentiaries to determine the physical plan of the buildings, the systems used for the reformation and discipline of the prisoners, means of isolation, diet, labor, trades taught, etc." It is not known which of the various state institutions were visited but these officers were charged with formulating a set of regulations and drafting a workable set of plans for a military prison, based on their observations and knowledge acquired through these visits. Included in their itinerary was a visit to the proposed location at Rock Island as well as the militarily favored site at Fort Leavenworth.

On May 21, 1874, Congress approved an amendment to the act of the previous year which established the military

prison. This amendment stated in part ". . . that all acts and things therein required to be done at Rock Island, in the state of Illinois, shall be done and performed on the military reservation at Fort Leavenworth, in the state of Kansas: Provided, that the government buildings on said military reservation at Fort Leavenworth shall be modified and used so far as practicable for the purposes of said prison."

A survey of the buildings involved at Fort Leavenworth was made and the following action recorded: "After mature consideration . . . it was decided that the grounds and buildings occupied by the quartermaster's department on the north side of the post present greater opportunities for . . . a proper prison than the buildings within the arsenal grounds enclosure. Accordingly the transfer of all ordnance property to Rock Island Arsenal was ordered and the quartermaster's department directed to establish its supply depot on the grounds and in the buildings of the Fort Leavenworth Arsenal." And with the site of the Military Prison definitely established, the required renovation and construction could get underway. But before anything could be started, two things were necessary--money and responsible officials.

The first money made available for the project consisted of two grants totalling \$125,900 which were authorized in June 1874 and March 1875. The next step was to assign competent personnel to carry out the remodeling and handle the funds. The War Department issued orders on April 30, 1875 designating Major James M. Robertson, 3d Artillery, Commanding Officer and Captain Asa P. Blunt, Assistant Quartermaster, as disbursing quartermaster and officer in charge of construction.

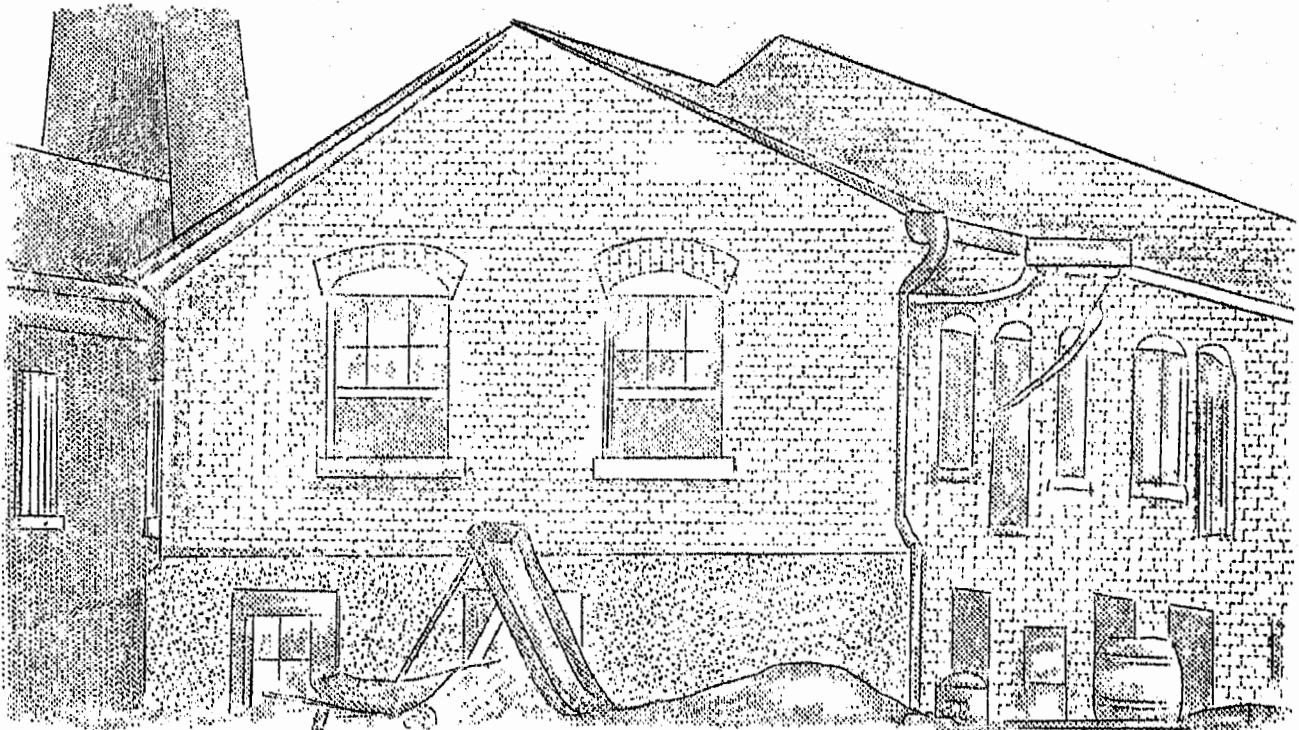
Major Robertson reported for duty on May 15, 1875 and Captain Blunt arrived on June 4th. Upon Captain Blunt's arrival, requests for men and materials were initiated. The first construction undertaken was the erection of a high-board fence or "stockade." Existing photographs of the first compound show that the fence on the south side paralleled the south wall of today and

was almost exactly in the same place. As near as can be determined, only three buildings of the original compound exist today within the walls. They are the building fronting on Bldg. 466, where the VTF offices and the accounting office are located, the Carpentry Shop behind the Commandant's quarters, and the eastern wing of Headquarters (Bldg. 473) in which prisoner personnel, legal section, etc., are housed. The Commandant's quarters, which extended approximately 15 feet further west into the compound at that time, to the east of Bldg. 472 were a part of the original quartermaster area but were not enclosed by the fence. The fence was built around the quarters paralleling today's wall and extended north to the approximate position of today's flagpole. The western boundary ran north and south between the buildings known today as 466 and 467, neither of which existed as such at that time. The north fence crossed directly in front of the main entrance to the "Castle."

The first official staff had officers assigned to the following offices: commandant, governor (equivalent to SOP), adjutant, quartermaster and commissary, chaplain, and surgeon. Two highly qualified enlisted men were assigned as hospital steward and commissary sergeant. The guard company had two officers and 60 enlisted men assigned.

The wooden fence was completed in the summer of 1875 and many renovations were begun on the buildings within the compound to adapt them to prison use. During the latter part of the summer, commanding officers of posts with large numbers of general prisoners were authorized to send them to the military prison. Their talents were being used in construction work and working in a garden which was laid out in part of a 100 acre plot adjoining the prison.

One of the shortcomings of the new prison was the lack of adequate hospital facilities, and a request for a grant of \$12,000 to build a hospital was submitted. An increase in the authorized strength of guard personnel was requested and obtained. The guards



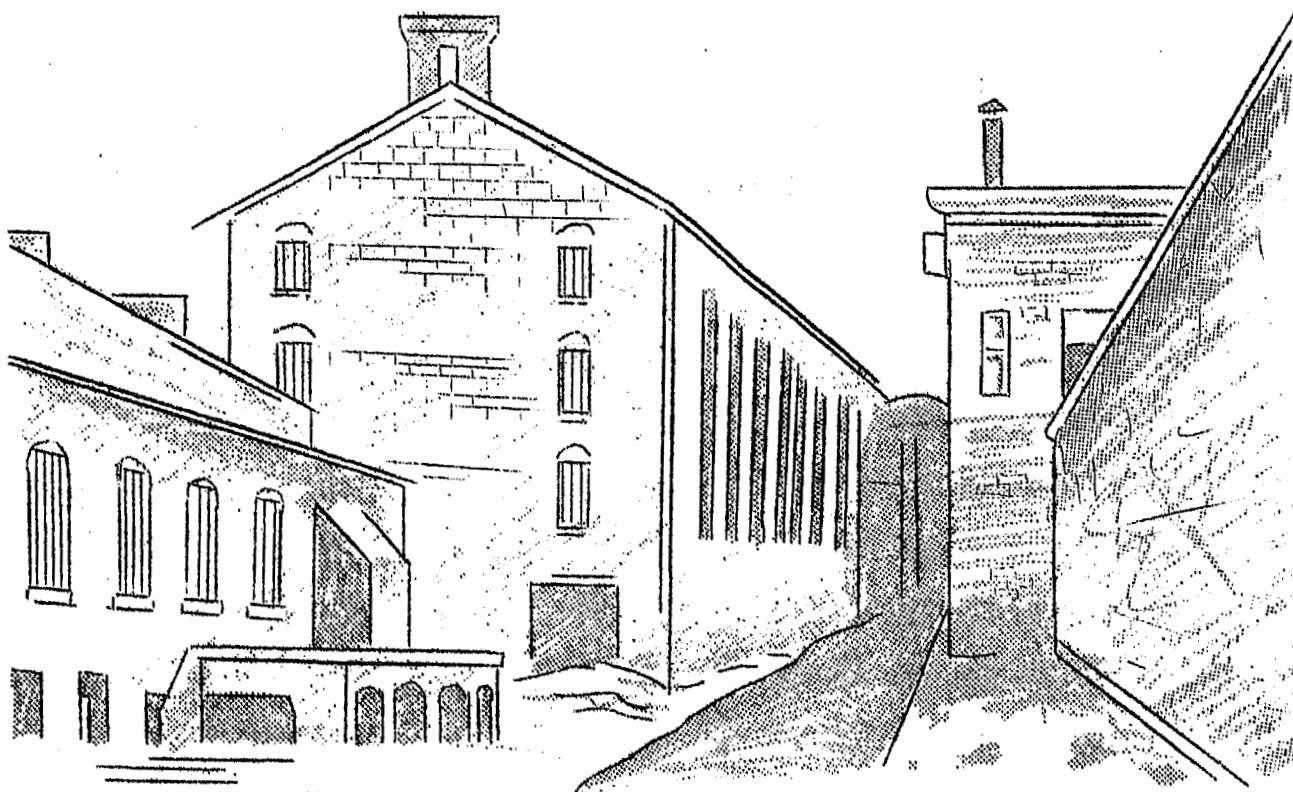
during the year 1876 numbered 75. In September 1876, the Honorable J. D. Cameron, Secretary of War, visited the prison and his comments follow: "The prison has now completed the first year of its existence as a distinct institution, and the result confirms the wisdom of the plan of confining prisoners serving long terms on one place, and utilizing their labor for the benefit of the government."

When the renovation of the existing buildings within the confine had been completed, requests from most of the departments (Army areas) began coming in to determine if there was space for additional prisoners from their sectors. By September 30, 1876, the number of prisoners had climbed to 332, and a new undertaking was planned with the opening of a quarry on the post. This project was to be the construction of a permanent stone wall around the prison to replace the fence. The plans for the wall called for it to be five feet wide at the base, tapering to two and one-half feet at the top and 14 feet high. Begun in April, over 200 feet was completed by the end of 1877.

From the time of its inception, the diet of military prisoners was identical to that served in the regular Army mess. However, the first Prison

Regulations issued on February 9, 1877 prescribed a "special" diet for all prisoners confined at the U. S. Military Prison. The "special" diet follows: "BREAKFAST--Half a pint of milk and 10 ounces of oat meal, or 12 ounces of corn meal. DINNER--On Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays; half a pint of milk and 10 ounces of oat meal, or 12 ounces of corn meal. On Thursdays (sic) as the commandant may direct. On Thursday (sic) eight ounces of bread (of quality furnished the troops) and the army ration of pork, beans, salt, pepper, and vinegar, or the same dinner as provided for Thursdays (sic) as the commandant may direct. On Thursday (sic) eight ounces of bread and the army ration of fresh beef, salt, pepper, and vinegar, and two pounds of potatoes, or fresh vegetables. (Ed. note: No mention was made of Tuesday or Sunday in the original text). SUPPER--Half a pint of milk and 14 ounces of bread. Prisoners of the first and second classes shall have, on Sundays, the same dinner as is provided on Thursdays, and prisoners of the first class also shall have coffee and sugar for breakfast, the same in quality and quantity as that furnished the Army."

For men confined to hard labor,



such as quarry work, this diet was not satisfactory and it was dropped in less than two months. Authorization was received to provide meals "conducive to health and best meet the requirements of the climate, and kind of labor performed."

✓The need for adequate labor to fully utilize the services of the prisoners and to provide them with an honorable trade upon release resulted in an experiment in May 1877. The Commandant was granted permission to employ at least 75 men in making boots, shoes and similar products used by the Quartermaster Department. Space was made available for the shop on the ground floor of one of the existing buildings and the necessary machinery was purchased and installed. Civilian foremen were hired and the Quartermaster Department agreed to furnish all materials.

Heretofore, Army shoes were furnished under contract by a civilian manufacturer and were known even then as "brogans". The shoes were sold to the soldier for \$1.00 a pair, but they were so poor in construction and appearance that most of the men purchased their shoes from general (privately owned) stores. The introduction of prison made shoes brought about a

change in style and a better all-around shoe that proved serviceable and acceptable to the men for most any occasion. From a very humble start with inexperienced labor, the shop was soon producing 150 pairs of shoes per day.

The year 1877 also saw the completion of a large lime burning kiln so that all required lime for building could be furnished locally. Construction of the hospital was commenced on May 13, 1877 and completed enough to allow occupancy by August 13, 1877 (sic).

During the first two years of operation, the cleaning of prisoner's clothes and bed-linen presented a major problem to the command since post facilities were not deemed adequate to support the prison and laundrying within the institution had not been practicable due to lack of space, labor, and equipment. The prison laundry had its beginning in a building obtained and reconstructed in the compound in the year 1878. This was the only major construction of the year with the exception of an additional 711 feet of wall being completed. Confirmation of the ground required the wall to vary in height from 14 feet to 22 feet.

The first transfer of prisoners

from Alcatraz arrived in 1878. Their conduct was demoralizing and left much to be desired. The majority of the military prisoners sentenced to more than a year on the West Coast (Department of Pacific) were confined on Alcatraz Island.

The advanced concepts of reformation and rehabilitation were gradually being developed at the military prison. Space for a chapel to serve all faiths was set aside and various services conducted. The chaplain was also charged with the responsibility of establishing a school to further the education of all prisoners, but especially the illiterates. In this segment of the over-all program, the chaplain reported failure through the year 1879. Many hindrances and discouragements had to be overcome. Among these were the lack of satisfactory instructors, lack of funds to provide texts, slates, chalk, etc., lack of divided space to conduct more than one class at a time, lack of free time in prisoners' daily schedule, as well as efficient testing methods to determine acquired schooling.

An additional 606 feet of the wall was completed during the year 1879 and a building program initiated which was to include the western side of the present drive running north from Bldg. 466 toward the "Castle." These buildings were to add more shop area to the prison trades area. The machine shop of today occupies the same site as it did at that time. The original building was a two-story of stone and wood construction with the upper section being wood. The entrance faced Bldg. 466, but this particular building has seen many changes over the past 50 to 60 years.

The year 1880 closed with few reported changes. A review of the first 5 years of Military Prison history reveals that as of 1 July 1880, a total of exactly 1880 men had been or were confined at that time. An innovation in penology was begun in this year with the purchase of 667 books to form the nucleus of the prison library. The men were encouraged to broaden their outlook and education through the medium of selected liter-

ature, textbooks and technical manuals.

Work on the wall was neglected during the year, with only 319 feet completed, as numerous other building projects required the prisoners' labors. Extensive work was done on the prison buildings, shops and officers' quarters.

The prison wall, with the exception of the coping, was completed during the year 1881. In that year 186 feet of wall were completed for a total of 2,022 feet. All stone used in the construction of the wall was quarried by prisoner labor on the post. But no suitable stone could be found for coping, so it was purchased. 381 feet of coping was laid during the year.

Shop facilities had been gradually increased to cope with the increased labor supply as prisoner strength grew. The boot and shoe shop, with added equipment and men, was then supplying the entire army.

Coping work on the wall continued during 1882 with 1599 feet laid. Prisoner population increased to 447 during the year, requiring the command to suspend incoming transfers since accommodations were limited to 450. Additional construction was completed in the fall of 1872, permitting the suspension to be lifted.

The year 1883 was uneventful according to the reports but the year 1884 found the prison expanding and another building program underway. "After the west wall of the prison had been completed and the coping placed, it was discovered that additional ground for building was necessary and the decision reached to tear down the constructed west wall and extend the grounds 85 feet westward. This decision placed the west wall, from the south wall to the West Gate, where it lies today. This permitted the construction of Bldg. 467, which today, to all outward appearances, is identical to the original.

It is noted that Bldg. 472 today has a cornerstone bearing the year 1882 set over the building entrance. A study of all available material and records for 1882 fails to disclose a building on this site, although it is highly probable that some type of

building did exist at that time since space was at a premium:

In the years 1885 and 1886, the prison-made shoes were put to some of the roughest tests possible across terrain where it was impossible to move cavalry or pack animals. This testing was carried out in the Southwest in a campaign against Geronimo and his band, as well as in other campaigns in the same territory. The shoes were given the hardest wear possible "over cacti and rocks, in a volcanic country." Since these shoes were sewed rather than nailed, it was found that they quite often came apart in a matter of days and that the materials then in use would not stand up in the climate and soil found in Arizona and the Southwest. Through these tests various materials were tried and production methods improved at the prison.

Construction of the largest building in the compound was started in 1886 and finished the following year. Rising four stories, it was a light and airy building with continuous banks of floor to ceiling windows on the four sides except for the supporting columns. The building, located on the site of today's Bldg. 472, was 200 feet long and 40 feet in width. The exact use of the building is not known, but photographic evidence and the records for that year show that a part of it on the ground floor was used as a mess hall with a seating capacity of 570 men. The only portion of this building that remains today is the basement and the foundation. The cement platform fronting Bldg. 472 was completely enclosed in the original building, which will give the reader some idea of the original size if another story can be visualized atop the present building.

The last 200 feet of the wall was completed in the year 1877, giving the wall an over-all length of 2,222 feet. Except for the moving of the north wall, which crossed in front of the "Castle," to its present location, the wall stands as it did almost 70 years ago.

Numerous operational and administrative practices were begun for the first time in the years 1888 and 1889.

It was during this time that the institution installed an electric plant to supply the entire prison with electricity. This in turn permitted the building and equipping of a cold storage room for food preservation.

This was also the time when the War Department set-up its photography section to photograph incoming prisoners for identification purposes. This procedure of establishing a permanent photographic record of the prisoners proved so satisfactory that it was never abandoned. It is believed that Military Prison was one of the first to use photography as a positive means of identification.

The Chaplain's quest for space, instructors and equipment finally paid dividends with the establishment of the first prison school in the winter of 1888. This school proved an unqualified success right from the start, with all those who could not read or write required to attend.

A review of the annual report for the fiscal year, ending June 30, 1889, reveals that 5,230 pairs of boots and 32,895 pairs of shoes were manufactured in the 12 month period. The prison industries also produced 24,902 corn brooms and 4,310 barracks chairs during the same period. However, the prison industries suffered a serious set-back at this time with the discontinuance of the manufacturing of shoes. The labor unions had been lobbying for years to stop the prison from making shoes for the army and finally succeeded early in the year 1890.

The labor made available, through the closing of the shoe manufacturing operations, was utilized in the repainting of most of the prison buildings during the year. It was at this time that a new industry was introduced with the installation of looms for weaving door mats and rag carpets.

The next four years of Military Prison history are quite scanty with nothing reported for this period which does not come under the heading "routine." There were no major changes in the physical lay-out of the compound, nor were any new administrative practices introduced during that period. The population had climbed to slightly

over 500 men and leveled-off at about 520 prisoners.

The original intent in the establishment of the Military Prison had been to curb the steady increase of desertions and to remove the "hardened or incorrigible" military prisoner from the local guardhouse where he could influence minor offenders who were serving short sentences. This argument was used in promoting the separate institution and then was used to encourage Congress to abandon it. A review of the confinement and post-confinement records of some of the prisoners since the establishment of the prison led many army officers to feel that the continued activation of the prison was a grave mistake and should be abolished. In presenting this argument to Congress an example was given to show that "350 to 450 young men under 25 years of age have been sent to that prison for military offenses, the gravest of these desertions in time of peace, and have there been associated with men, 60 in number, of bad character and evil ways. In this way these young men have been subjected to corrupting influences, and on leaving the prison have graduated with instruction which they should not have been compelled to receive." The arguments submitted calling for abolition of the military prison may be summed up in an extract from the annual report of the Secretary of War for the year 1894: "What ever may have been the necessities when the prison was established, large posts in every military department are now well adapted to the confinement of offenders against military law. By detaining them at such posts within the department in which offenses are committed an annual saving of \$15,000 in transportation alone is practicable, while the labor could be turned to much useful and necessary work, relieving the soldier from distasteful and irksome tasks tending to discontent and desertion. The objects of punishment for violations of military law in most cases can better be served by confinement in smaller numbers at large posts than by questionable influence of a large prison. . . . Legislation authorizing

the conversion of the military prison at Fort Leavenworth into a United States prison, under the care and custody of the Department of Justice, is therefore suggested as desirable on military and civil grounds."

This was the first step in the abolition of the Military Prison and was followed by the action noted in the Army appropriation bill for the fiscal year 1895-6, which provided for the transfer of the prison from the War Department to the Department of Justice. This action follows: "That the Secretary of War be, and is hereby, authorized and directed to transfer, on July 1, 1895, the United States Military Prison, Fort Leavenworth, Kansas from the jurisdiction of the War Department to that of the Department of Justice, with all buildings and grounds within the present boundary lines situated north and east of the prison enclosure, except the six wooden cottages and adjacent grounds now used as officers' quarters. All property on hand at the date named pertaining to the military prison and that has been purchased from appropriations made for its support will also be transferred to the United States prison."

Numerous arguments, pro and con, were introduced in the Congress relative to the transfer of the prison; however, "on June 30, 1895, the U. S. Military Prison ceased to be an institution under military control and became on July 1, 1895, the United States Penitentiary, under control of the Department of Justice."

Thus, after 20 years of active operation as the only military prison, the Army returned to the pre-military prison practice of guardhouse confinement with the more serious offenders sent to Alcatraz or a state penitentiary.

The transfer of the United States Military Prison, closing out two decades of operation, to the Department of Justice on July 1, 1895, provided another "first" for the institution. At its inception it became the "first" United States Military Prison and upon transfer it became the "first" United States Penitentiary, which was to receive all prisoners convicted in the

United States courts of crimes against the United States and sentenced to more than one year's confinement.

In 1891 Congress had enacted legislation authorizing the establishment of three United States penitentiaries, directing that one be located west of the Rocky Mountains and that two be located east of the same range. However, no appropriation was included in this act to purchase the sites or to assume operation of any available institution. Since no action of any description could be taken without funds, the authority contained in this bill was not used until the transfer noted above.

The civil officials of the first United States Penitentiary were quick to protest the outmoded buildings and the inadequacy of the wall as a security measure since it measured less than 20 feet high in most places. They also complained that the necessity of using a larger number of prisoners on outside work required the hiring of a larger number of guards than originally anticipated, thereby increasing the cost of operation. All of these complaints were sent to the Attorney General, who included them in his annual report for 1896.

The Department of Justice set up requirements for what they considered a first-class penitentiary which were impossible to meet because the buildings were beyond the type of renovation which the Department required. The Department felt fully justified in alleging that they had literally been handed a "lemon" and were apparently in favor of dropping it back in the lap of the War Department.

Shortly thereafter, a suggestion (the origin of which is unknown) was put forth that an entirely new prison be built. The Department of Justice was greatly interested in this proposal and succeeded in enlisting Congressional favor to assist in this project. On June 10, 1896, after Congressional enactment, the President signed a bill setting aside approximately 700 acres on the south side of the Fort Leavenworth reservation for the use of the Department of Justice in erecting a new prison. This site was

considered an ideal location for a penitentiary, and an initial \$150,000 was appropriated to commence the building program.

The following is extracted from the Act of June 10, 1896:

"Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Attorney General is hereby authorized and directed to select on the military reservation at Leavenworth, Kansas. . . a site for the erection of a penitentiary and other buildings, wall, and workshops for the employment of United States prisoners, with such improvements as he may direct in connection with the completion of the several buildings; said penitentiary to be of a good capacity to accommodate at least 1200 convicts . . . and that these grounds. . . shall be, and hereby are, set apart from contiguous military reservation for the United States penitentiary purposes, and assigned to and placed under the care and control of the Attorney General as a United States penitentiary reservation; Provided, That when the United States Penitentiary shall be occupied and applied to the purpose contemplated by this act, the buildings and grounds within said military reservation of Fort Leavenworth that were transferred from the Department of Justice. . . shall be restored to the control of the said Department of War; and provided further, That his prison reservation shall be open for military tactical purposes, when such purposes do not interfere with the discipline of said prison. . . .

"That upon arrival of plans and estimates the Attorney General is authorized to incur the expenses necessary to construct the penitentiary buildings thus approved, and for this purpose shall employ the labor of the convicts of the present United States Penitentiary at Fort Leavenworth that can, under proper guards, be used on the necessary stone, brick and woodwork, and in the manufacture of lime on the reservation until the completion of same, and shall use all the equipment for carrying on work that are in possession of the United States Penitent-

tiary building, including the saw mill and shops equipped for working iron, stone, brass, and wood, with the use of animals and wagons there belonging to the United States for hauling material, and other necessary transportation; and said prison shall have the right to quarry stone for prison purposes in any of the quarries on the Fort Leavenworth reservation. . . ."

The success with which this action brought about a site and sufficient funds to begin a new prison, in less than a year after the Department of Justice assumed jurisdiction over the old Military Prison, was actually not anticipated by the Department of Justice. However, the pending removal of a civil branch of the government from the center of a large military reservation eased the tension and conflicts which had erupted occasionally between the civil administrators of the prison and the military authorities of the post.

The funds were allocated by Congress and the building program for the "Big Top" got under way in March, 1897.

The abandonment of the Military Prison had failed to solve any problems of the military as affected the handling and confinement of military prisoners. There was no decrease in the number of military offenders sentenced to dishonorable discharge and confinement. Even though "prison posts" were designated at various installations, the practice of confining "hardening criminals" or "long-termers" in post stockades with young soldiers, who were serving but short terms for minor offenses, was criticized by post commanders as well as inspecting officers. In being confined in the local guardhouse or stockade, the general prisoner often had men of his own unit serving as his guards. This deplorable situation led to an easy life for the general prisoner as he was in a position where he could more or less have things his own way. One of the most justifiable complaints registered was that the prisoners were not earning their keep in post stockades or guardhouses. It also meant that a large number of men from each post had to be relieved from military duties to serve

as guards. The "prison posts" were hard pressed to find useful and gainful employment for the prisoners and this was the subject of many communications to the War Department.

While it was generally known that the old Military Prison would be returned to the War Department upon completion of the new Federal Penitentiary there was nothing the authorities could do to alleviate the conditions existing at the "prison posts." Numerous emergency measures were taken but to no avail. Everything pointed to the inescapable need for a general military prison. Therefore, it was with great relief that the War Department received formal notification, on December 17, 1905, from the Attorney General advising of the return of the old Military Prison to the control of the War Department on January 1, 1906. A delay in the construction of the cell-house at the new prison postponed the transfer for a month, but it was officially accomplished on February 1, 1906.

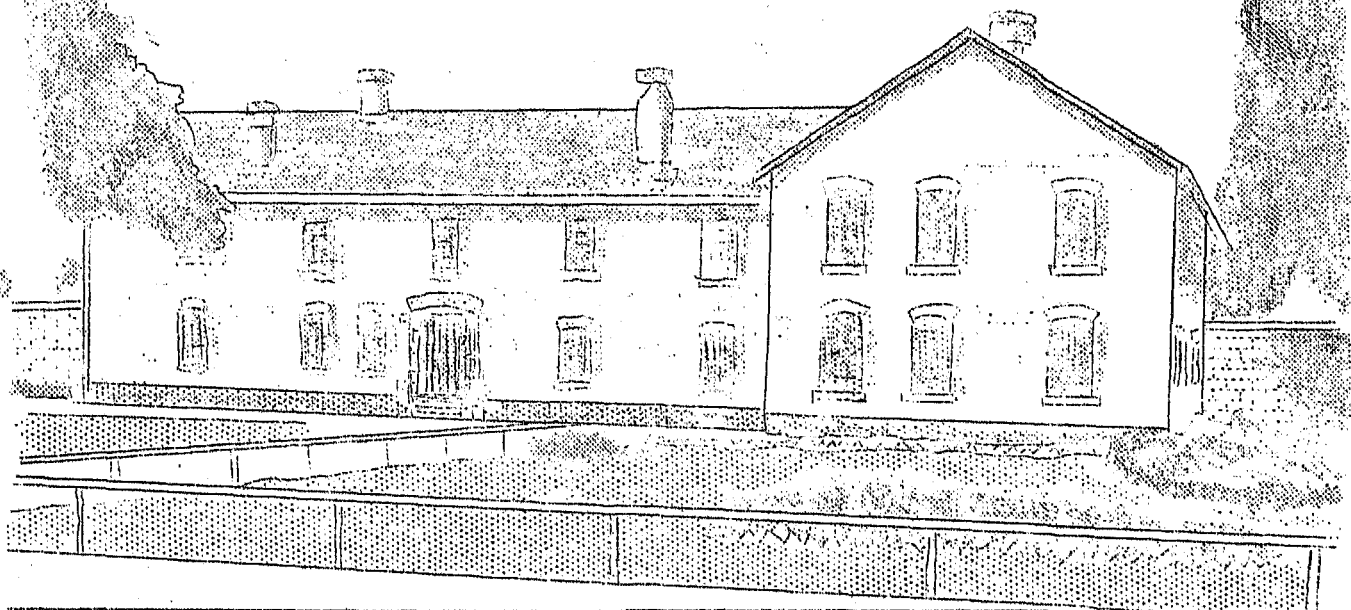
The reactivation of the United States Military Prison made it possible to relieve the overcrowded guardhouses and stockades and once again a return to the system which was abandoned at the time the prison was transferred from the Department of War.

The re-establishment of the Military Prison was carried out with a minimum of delay which necessitated the temporary drafting of administrative and security personnel from the post garrison. Major George S. Young, 18th Infantry, was detailed as Commandant and the guards were detailed from post units. In June, 1906, Congress gave authority to the Department of War to permanently detach enough men to form two guard companies, numbering 165 men.

The summer of 1906 found the commanding generals of all the United States military departments, excepting the Department of California and the Department of Columbia, receiving orders to transfer to the Military Prison all general prisoners having one year or more to serve. Subsequently, these commanding generals were directed to designate the Military Prison as the place of confinement for all

TODAY'S CARPENTRY SHOP AS

IT APPEARED CIRCA 1895



general prisoners sentenced to terms of one year or more, except those who were to be sentenced to confinement in a penitentiary.

Commandant Young, apparently of the same opinion as the Department of Justice in affixing the "Lemon" classification to the prison, states in his annual report for 1907; "This prison lacks at present almost everything needed by a modern institution of this kind. The buildings are old and of poor construction. There is a constant and increasing danger from fire, which is a source of great and continual anxiety. Some of the buildings are kept together by iron braces, and the constant vibration caused by the machinery and the walking of convicts on the upper floors make them very insecure. Repairs are always needed, and with the most extensive repairs little can be done to improve conditions. As in all old buildings of inferior construction the ventilation and sanitary arrangements are a source of constant trouble. The lighting and heating systems are also in poor condition. It is hoped, therefore, that within the near future a liberal appropriation will be made by Congress for the reconstruction, on a comprehensive plan, of a military prison which will have all modern improvements."

The crowded conditions at the Mil-

itary Prison and the lengthening of general prisoner waiting lists within the various Departments forced the establishment of a branch to the Military Prison. The first branch was activated at Alcatraz Island on March 21, 1907 and was officially designated as "The Pacific Branch of The United States Military Prison." The Island, located in the middle of the bay of San Francisco, is an irregular oblong in shape rocky and precipitous on all sides, and rises to a height of 136 feet above the tide water. It contains about 19 acres which is much smaller than the area within the walls of the "Big Top." Composed of a fine-grained sandstone and almost destitute of vegetation, the island is exposed to the winds from every direction and in the spring and fall is shrouded in dense fog most of the time.

With expansion of the branch Military Prison limited by the size of the island, only the Departments of California and Columbia were authorized to send their general prisoners to this installation.

But the establishment of a branch to the Military Prison did not help the situation at Fort Leavenworth. With the possibility of an appropriation for new construction forthcoming the Adjutant General had all the buildings inspected and plans for a new pri-

son prepared.

Based on plans and recommendations presented by the Adjutant General, Congress, on May 27, 1908, approved an initial appropriation of \$150,000 to begin construction of a new prison and stipulated that the cost should not exceed \$583,000, when completed. An additional \$60,000 was approved for the construction of a power plant on the site where it is located today. The Congressional bill also directed prison labor be used on every possible phase of the construction.

The Constructing Quartermaster was Major Thomas H. Slavens, QM, who began the reconstruction and then was designated Commandant of the Military Prison on June 5, 1908, replacing Lt. Col. Young.

The plans for reconstruction consisted of an extension of the prison enclosure to the north with an entirely new cell house on the radial plan. The front of the cell house (Castle), extending from east to west, was to be erected along the line of the then present north stone wall, and the prison hospital (exact location is unknown) was to be torn down. The two large brick structures forming the front of the prison were to be joined by another building. The walls forming the extension of the prison to the north were to be built of cement blocks. The brick to be used for the construction of the new prison buildings was to be made from clay which had been found in ample quantity north of the prison, where a brick plant was erected and worked by the prisoners.

A new terminal railway system was installed on the post, which permitted a switch to be extended into the prison enclosure, thus saving a considerable sum of money which would have been spent for hauling. Additionally, the time saved by the use of the railroad allowed the construction to proceed much faster than had been anticipated. Enormous quantities of steel were ordered as all the buildings of the new prison were to be fire-proofed.

It was found that utilizing prisoner labor provided a maximum amount of employment for the prisoners and permitted them to learn useful occupations and

trades which they could follow upon release.

In addition to the construction work on the new prison, the men were employed in the rock quarries, brick plant, saw mills, lime kiln, on the prison farm, and in the operation of concrete block machinery. The prisoners maintained the post and reservation roads, and reservation forests. They worked on the railroad, and were engaged in the making of carpets, brooms, and clothes for prison use only. Lastly, they did blacksmithing, carpentry, or worked in the wheelwright, tin, plumbing, electrical, steam fitting, tailor, shoe and harness shops doing prison work only, as well as operating the laundry. The learning of any of these trades was not permissible under the old guardhouse or stockade system and this was emphasized in the annual reports covering the construction period.

The annual report for the fiscal year 1910 reveals that labor valued at \$471,256.07 was furnished the government by the prisoners, while the maintenance of the prison for the same period is listed as \$235,653. The valuation of the labor furnished by the prisoners was based on a nine and one-half hour day at the rate then paid to civil workers performing a comparable job.

The report for the same year also disclosed that there were 898 prisoners confined on June 30th. The educational program opened to the illiterates and others desiring schooling was making good progress and more than 200 were enrolled in the classes conducted by the Chaplain's section.

Adequate reference material for the years 1910-1917 is practically nonexistent. It is known that the building program of the prison proper progressed rapidly as Congress had appropriated by 1910 the entire amount authorized for the construction of the new prison. The first major construction work accomplished was the extension of the wall north to its present location. The West Gate entrance, with its guard station in front, has not been changed to any degree since it was constructed almost 50 years ago. The guard towers atop the Gate have

been remodeled with the windows and entrances greatly enlarged. The original towers had such narrow windows that a man could not gain entrance through them and the doorways were so narrow that a man could only enter sideways.

Immediately upon completion of the wall, the first building to be completed in the new yard was that of the power plant on the same site that it occupies today. Even the smokestack of today's plant was a part of the original building. There is no noticeable difference exteriorly between the plant of 1910 and today. It may seem odd, but the skylight which was built into the roof of the original plant for ventilation and light still remains.

Existing photographs reveal that the shell of Building 479 (4 Wing) was the first of the prison proper to be completed. Since it is possible to see through the building in a photograph, dated October, 1912, it is apparent that the cells and tiers were not completed. This same photograph discloses the shells of Buildings 478 (3 Wing), 480 (5 Wing), and 477 (2 Wing) about half completed. Interior photographs of the building shells remind the viewer of a dry-dock from which a large ship had just been launched since the scaffolding is tapered as if it had been built to fit around the hull of a ship.

The materials which went into the buildings must have almost reached astronomical quantities, especially in attempting to estimate the number of bricks and concrete blocks which were used. Remembering that all the brick and concrete blocks were made by prisoner labor, it is easy to understand that the construction of the prison was a large undertaking which required a number of years to reach the final stages of construction.

Each of the buildings comprising the prison plant were built as separate units, with the rotunda being the last segment built. The base entrances were situated at ground level and when work had progressed to permit the laying of 3 tier floor then it was used for the scaffolding. Ramps were built from the ground to the wing level entrances and materials were brought in at what

we know as 3 tier level. In most instances, two railroad sidings were laid alongside each building to facilitate the movement of building materials from the manufacturing site (which laid in the valley behind the present QM warehouses against the bluff) to the site of the prison.

During the summer of 1910, the average strength of the prison was 900 men who were fully employed in either the prison industries or on the construction program. With the prisoner population almost doubled since the prison's reopening in 1906, the facilities were over-taxed and the building program tempo was greatly increased.

The outer shell of Building 482 (7 Wing) was completed except for a few feet atop the windows in February, 1914. The following year, the designation United States Military Prison was changed to United States Disciplinary Barracks, although the exact date is unknown. Shortly after this, the Atlantic Branch of the US Disciplinary Barracks was established at Fort Jay, New York.

As was mentioned earlier in this article, it is regretted that an accurate and complete report of the activities of the institution for the period 1910-1917 cannot be furnished since there is a dearth of material, short of the National Archives.

Entering World War I in 1917, the strength of the US Army jumped from under 30,000 men to more than four million under arms in less than two years and, as is the case in an almost overnight growth of this nature, disciplinary problems increased accordingly. However, the Army was in the best position of its history to cope with the problem of the military offender with branch USDBs located on each coast and the parent USDB, at Fort Leavenworth, rapidly nearing completion of its new radial plan prison.

Beginning in the summer of 1917, the vocational activities of the institution experienced almost phenomenal growth and expansion. Congressional financial aid was necessary to get this program fully underway but, once the initial outlay provided the required buildings, equipment, materials and

livestock where needed, most functions soon became self-supporting and derived enough revenue from their operations to contribute to the upkeep of the institution.

For the first time in the history of the DB, the Farm Colony, comprising a dairy farm, poultry farm, hog farm, cannery, farm and garden department, and greenhouse, was put on a solid productive footing in the fall of 1917 and the spring of 1918. Some of these operations are carry-overs which exist to this day, while the dairy farm and cannery were discontinued a number of years ago. A brief review of the growth and scope of these activities follows:

The dairy farm had its humble beginning in two artillery stables, provided by the Post Commander on a temporary basis, which were used as dairy buildings to house an initial purchase of 101 head of pure bred, registered Holstein cattle. All milk used on the Post was provided by the Farm, but when this supply proved insufficient, an additional 17 head were purchased. This last purchase raised the value of the herd to \$37,105.00 at the lowest market prices.

Three cattle barns, a creamery and a store-house were begun in September, 1917 and completed in March, 1918, permitting the move from the temporary quarters. Two additional barns were under construction, one for maternity cases and the other for calves. Each building was set on an elevation, four feet above its neighbor, giving a pleasant terraced effect to the group of buildings. The barns and creamery, under the supervision of an expert creamery man, were maintained in such a state of cleanliness that all tests found the milk to be comparatively free of bacteria.

The dairy farm used more help than any other section of the Farm Colony, with hand milking required three times daily--each man had five cows to feed, milk, groom, etc. In addition to the large detail of men needed to operate this activity, four prisoner parolees were assigned to two wagons which were used to deliver the dairy products over a daily route on the Post. With job rotation in effect on this detail, each

man was provided with the necessary training to be a qualified dairyman upon release.

The poultry farm's expansion consisted of the building of six large poultry houses and the stocking of them from the 29,637 chicks which were hatched in the brooder house during the year. These new buildings, each with a capacity of 1800 chickens, plus the older buildings, permitted building the flock to almost 23,000 chickens by the middle of 1918. The foundation or breeding stock was constantly being improved through the purchase of line-bred roosters and the acquisition of hens which were bred for egg production and good breeding qualities.

The hog farm was (and still is) one of the oldest activities of the Farm Colony and because of this showed the greatest profit in operation. In mid-summer of 1917, there were 237 head of breeding stock and shoats which produced 679 births with a loss of 352 within a month after birth. Of the remainder, 230 were sold in carload lots on the market, 30 were used in the prisoner's mess and a few others were sold as breeding stock. A rather uncommon event took place this year in which the institution donated two pigs to charity. This donation was made to a fair which was held in the late summer of 1917 at Kansas City, but no record is available to show the reasons behind this gift nor what actual disposition was made of the pigs.

In raising their pork, the hog farm used better than 110 acres, which were divided into 11 subdivisions of approximately 10 acres each into which 50 animals were fenced. Various grasses were planted in these subdivisions around the feeding platforms and the hog barns to prevent the soil from becoming barren and a quagmire. It was found that this subdividing provided better over-all accommodations and greatly reduced the mortality rate caused by the spread of diseases. The farrowing barn was enlarged and refurbished and the farrowing season soon began producing upwards of 800 swine. The young stock were screened and all those not fit for registering were fattened and sold for pork in a con-

certed effort to obtain the best registered stock possible in the Duroc-Jersey breed.

The cannery machinery was installed in the summer of 1917 to handle the large quantities of vegetables, such as tomatoes, peas, beets, beans, sweet corn, cabbage, etc., whose acreage totaled 127 acres. What quantities of these vegetables were canned and their disposition is not known. No further reference to this facility can be found in subsequent reports with the exception of an expenditure in 1918 of \$3,387.25 for additional construction. The exact location of this operation and the date of its deactivation can not be determined today.

The farm and garden department, through crop rotation, planting of early and late crops, and full utilization of the land at their disposal, was able to produce 1529 acres of crops, valued at over \$40,000 in the fiscal year 1918. These crops included the 127 acres of vegetables which were noted above and were grown to provide as much forage as possible for the stock of the Farm Colony and the animals of the Quartermaster which were used for transportation. Approximately 200 acres of a 400 acre tract were cleared of timber in the summer of 1917 and, even though the stumps had not been removed, about 150 acres were planted in melons, squash and pumpkins. This department also planned to till 1000 acres of land on the east side of the Missouri River, but this was held up pending required repairs of the old Rock Island Railroad bridge which was seized by the District U. S. Marshal on 19 December 1917 and given into the custody of the Commandant. Authority to expend funds to repair the bridge for the use of the institution was requested from the War Department.

The first greenhouse was completed on 16 February 1918 from an appropriation of almost \$35,000 allocated for this purpose. Immediately upon completion, various vegetables were planted in huge quantities which made it possible to supply the DB mess and the local military market with a good supply at least six weeks before these items could be obtained on the local

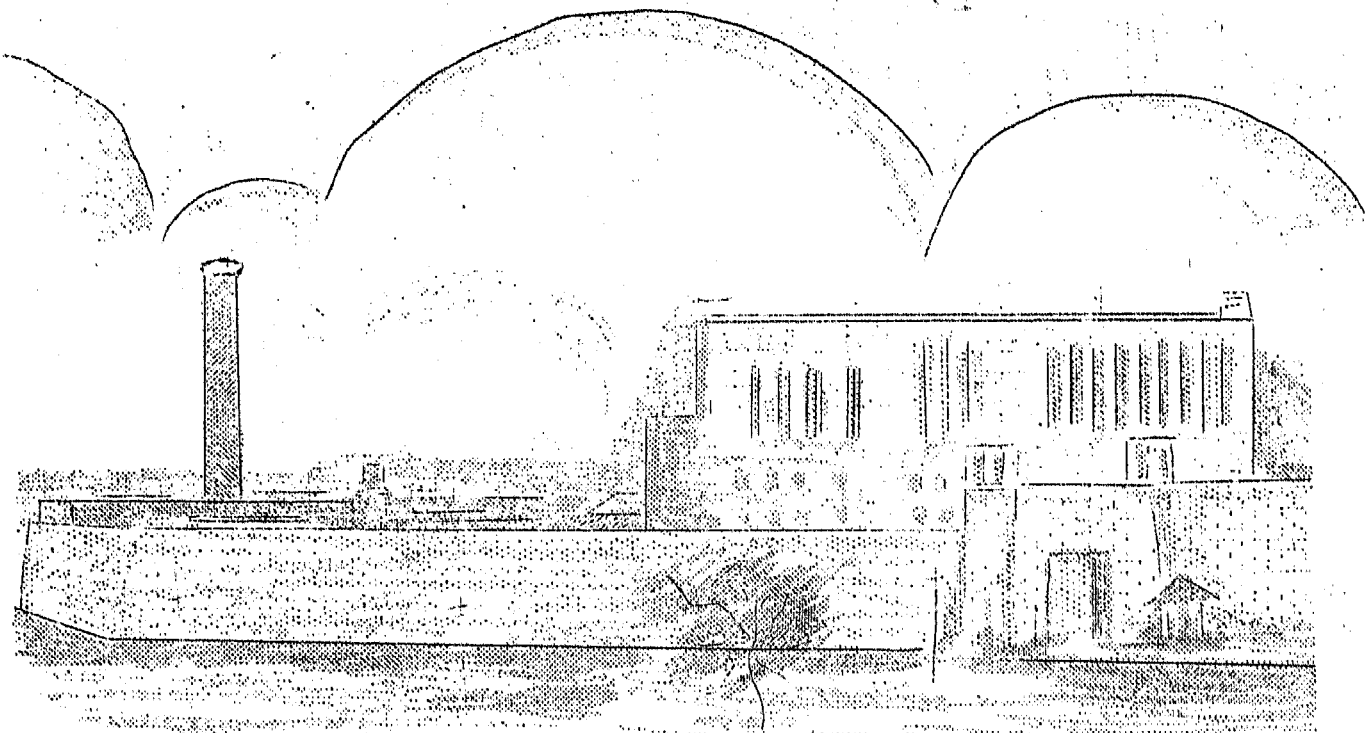
produce market. Additionally, a large portion of the vegetables for the truck garden were started in the greenhouse and then transplanted outdoors when the soil was ready and the weather permitted.

This operation was considered one of the most interesting departments of the Farm Colony and its value in vocational training is hard to estimate. Numerous "green thumbs" were discovered among the prisoners who were city born and reared, providing them with a profitable vocation in the growing field of horticulture. This particular greenhouse is still considered one of the first and largest in the state of Kansas.

Leaving the Farm Colony for the time being and returning to the DB proper, we find that a large building is nearing completion on the site now occupied by the automotive garage. This building was to house the cold storage plant and an ice house with a capacity of producing 25 tons of ice daily. The work on this building and the machinery installation progressed rapidly and ice deliveries were started during the first week of July, 1918. The ice plant was successful in supplying the DB and the entire Post with ice, providing a boost to the vocational training program and saving untold funds in the preservation of food.

Expansion was noted in every direction. The shoe repair shop was enlarged and additional machinery installed which increased the capacity to 500 pairs of shoes per day. Sufficient space remained in this shop, where with the addition of a few machines capacity could be increased to 1000 pairs daily should the need arise.

The capacity of the tailor shop also was greatly increased so that, in addition to the work of altering and mending prisoner clothes, the shop was able to produce in a year's time 21,745 garments valued at \$33,652.99. These items included caps, hats, coats, civilian suits, mittens, trousers, shirts, and overcoats. Muslin shirts, linen collars and neckties were issued with the civilian suits and overcoats (in winter) to the prisoners upon release, as the first three items could



be issued and still not increase the cost above the \$10.00 allowance authorized for civilian clothing. The records reveal that the cost of a suit, overcoat included, averaged \$7.81. (Thirty-eight years later, these same items cost \$26.85 to furnish outgoing prisoners.)

A dry cleaning plant, which operated in connection with the tailor shop, was completed by August, 1918, with a capacity for renovation, repairing, cleaning and pressing 1500 uniforms a month. It is believed that this plant occupies the same building today.

Two of the smallest activities of the vocational training program were the broom shop and the weaving shop. The broom shop manufactured a total of 1866 brooms during the reporting year at a cost of slightly over four cents each. This shop comprised exactly two men who worked with very crude machinery in a corner of the over-crowded carpentry shop. The Commandant wanted to expand this shop by acquiring the necessary space and equipment to increase the output from almost 2,000 brooms a year to 2,000 daily. He felt that this could be accomplished by using the labor of 100 men, enabling the DB to furnish all the brooms required by the Army and eventually all those needed

by the Government. However, it is apparent that this did not take place as no further references to the broom shop are found in later reports.

The weaving shop, utilizing one to three men, produced 472 yards of carpeting during the year ending 30 June 1918 and in the following fiscal year production dropped to 138 yards with no further reference to this shop noted beyond 1 July 1919.

The vocational training program also had an activity known as The Model Room where prisoners were trained in the making of models, carpentry, art work, cabinet-making, landscape painting, water color painting and in mechanical drawing. This operation produced models of fortification sets, terrain sets--as well as combination sand table sets of these two, various target designation sets and musketry landscape sets. These instruction sets were widely used throughout the Army and were made available to outside interests as well. It is not known when this operation was activated nor when it was disbanded although it did operate through 1920, but it is worthy of note that it has recently been reactivated here and is about to be greatly expanded as the Training Aids Section.

Although the strength of the DB was

up to 1536 on 1 July 1917, a letter from the Adjutant General on 14 September 1917 directed the Commandant to prepare plans for handling an expected increase of 3,000 prisoners. Accordingly, plans and cost estimates were prepared and forwarded, which were approved and an appropriation of \$236,000 provided to commence construction on 3 January 1918. In order to provide a stockade site, 20 houses located just outside the north prison wall (present location of the fuel tanks and recreation field) were moved to their present location on the circle at the north end of the recreation field. Within this wire fenced stockade, 11 regular 2-story barracks buildings were constructed, a new sewer system was installed and a central heating plant was built.

The prison equipment, permanent and temporary, was expanded to accommodate 5,000 prisoners of which 3,000 could be placed in temporary barracks--no cells, 1,500 in open cells in the wings and 500 in locked cells. A few difficulties were encountered from time to time when a man in an open cell would decide to pick up and move to another wing where a pal was domiciled. This could easily be done since there were no doors on the open cells and no doors leading from the wings to the rotunda. The first steps toward isolating the bases from the wings took place in 1919 when the stairwells in Wings 3 and 4 leading to the bases were closed with concrete. These seals remain to this day.

In this connection, recommendations were forwarded to convert Wings 3 and 6 into locked cell wings. On 30 June 1918, the "Castle" was almost 99% completed with minor work remaining on Wings 2 and 8 and the rotunda.

Additional extensions, within the wall, were required with a 150 bed extension built on the hospital and the enlarging of the laundry and cooking and baking facilities. One wooden 2-story barracks building was also constructed inside the wall to provide additional billeting space.

All of these changes were completed by the first week of May, 1918, and the Guard Companies, which had been quart-

ered inside the wall, were moved to new quarters in the stockade where they were billeted in a barbed-wire stockade within the stockade. This move was a morale booster for them as their liberty had been greatly restricted as long as they were quartered inside the wall. This move also made it possible to exclude all the guards from the DB proper except when on duty.

The Quartermaster operated most of the vocational shops and also handled all transportation equipment assigned to the DB. These included 53 horses, 112 mules, various carts, wagons and buckboards. Mechanization had just managed to gain a slight foothold in the transportation section which included in their inventory a seven passenger automobile, four motor trucks and two Avery tractors. This section also had one locomotive and 57 railroad cars of various types but most of the cars were primarily dump cars which had been used in the construction of the "Castle".

Most of the shops and activities noted in the preceding pages continued in operation and contributed to the over-all upkeep of the institution. These included the harness shop, conservation and reclamation division, the blacksmith shop and the print shop.

The Surgeon's report for the fiscal year 1918 shows a total of 2043 prisoners treated with the following breakdown: Disease 1738 (infectious and contagious 1013), mental cases 14, injuries 240 and venereal 51. Most of the infectious and contagious diseases consisted of various streptococcus infections, measles, diphtheria, malaria, mumps, pneumonia, tonsillitis, and influenza. His reports also showed 19 deaths for the reporting period. A quick glance at the records for the following year shows that a total of 5283 prisoners were treated in the following breakdown: disease 4767 (infectious and contagious 2490), injuries 333, venereal 122, mental cases 44 and epilepsy 17. Among the infectious and contagious diseases tonsillitis held the lead, followed by streptococcus infections and pneumonia (with pneumonia causing 72 of the 84 recorded deaths).

The work of the Department of Psychiatry and Sociology was established at the DB in the fall of 1914, although the value of the work did not gain much recognition until the fall of 1917. The procedures established in examining and classifying newly arrived prisoners during this period have been handed down and are still in use with some modification. Numerous statistics, charts and case histories were compiled for review and study. At that time, this section handled the work of our present day Classification Section, Parole Section and our Identification Section and in the year 1918 opened a psychiatric ward to handle a maximum of 30 patients.

A review of the parole department records as of 30 June 1918 reveals that paroles had been available for only a short time and a total of 543 had been granted up to that date. Of this total, 230 were paroled during the previous 12 months. The violation percentage up till that time was a fraction over 7%. At that time, all prisoners were required to serve half their sentence before they were eligible for parole consideration.

The first reference to STRAY SHOTS is found in the records of 1918 when mention is made that the publication had continued as a weekly until 15 February 1918, when it was changed into a monthly publication and considerable enlargement and general improvement was made possible. In the next five months, the magazine increased in size several times until in July, 1918, it contained 28 pages. The over-all supervision of the publication was under the Chaplain's office.

In the year 1918, one of the largest administrative sections of the DB was the Chaplain's Section. The Chaplain was charged with the efficient operation of the Chapel, DB Mail Room, Schools, DB Theater and the Library. His duties also included the responsibility for the publication STRAY SHOTS, daily visitations to the DB Hospital, frequent visits to the solitary confinement section, and the interviewing of all incoming prisoners. He was also available for consultations.

The Chaplain conducted an undenomi-

national Protestant service each Sunday morning and taught a Bible Study Class each Wednesday evening in the Library. A prisoner choir of 50 voices was trained and directed by the Chaplain. Catholic and Jewish services were conducted by visiting Church representatives.

Under his supervision, the mail section processed 194,793 pieces of prisoner mail during the fiscal period ending 30 June 1918. The school program produced excellent results in the regular grade school work and in the special classes conducted in stenography and telegraphy. Daily average attendance during the school year was 125 men.

The DB Theater presented movies each Sunday afternoon, as well as on special occasions and holidays. Then in January, 1918, movies were also presented every Thursday evening, providing at least two movies every week. Considerable outside talent was secured for the entertainment of the men and live shows were almost a regular entertainment feature because the Chaplain was able to find the time to supervise and direct a number of locally produced prisoner shows. A couple of them were so well received locally that the Chaplain made arrangements to take the men into the city of Leavenworth to present one of them at the Lyceum Theater for the benefit of the American Red Cross. The other was presented at the National Military Home, near Leavenworth, and the proceeds turned over to the Army Relief Fund. On both occasions the men were placed on their honor and made the trips without armed guards. The Chaplain reported excellent behavior on both trips.

An interesting sidelight on the history of the Chaplain's Section covering this period is found in the personnel report which shows that the Chaplain operated the aforementioned activities alone from 10 Dec 1917 until 5 Nov 1918 when he obtained the assignment of an assistant Chaplain. This was a particularly trying assignment for any individual because the Post was also without a Chaplain and the DB Chaplain assumed the responsibility for both sections. This was especially true

when the flu epidemic hit the installation in the fall of 1918 and the facilities of the Post and DB hospitals were taxed beyond capacity.

By the end of February, 1919, the Chaplain had obtained the services of three commissioned assistants, which aided greatly in the efficient operation of this section. Between the Post and the DB, nine regular services were conducted each Sunday, several during the week, and others on special occasions.

Another change noted was that even though church attendance was no longer compulsory, the General Protestant service on Sunday had to be held in the auditorium or in the open air because of the large number of men who attended voluntarily.

Early in the year 1919, the Chaplain's duties were very slightly alleviated with the transfer of the DB schools to the Department of Psychiatry and Sociology, although the Post School, supported by the County School Board of Leavenworth County, was left in his charge.

The Chaplain had one other responsibility assigned to his section in the spring of 1919 which aided the staff in establishing better relations between the institution and the prisoners' visitors. Each visiting day, one of the Chaplains was assigned to supervise the visitors' room and perform staff liaison work in providing, whenever possible, requested information to visitors.

Three progressive military penology "Firsts" are found in the records covering the year 1919. The first Clemency Board was appointed in February, 1919, to review and determine clemency action on the case of every general prisoner in the institution. (At that time, casual prisoners were also temporarily confined here.) In five months time, the Board had acted upon 3360 cases and had obtained Washington action on all but 273 cases which had not been returned at the close out date of the report. The records reveal that a total of 941 prisoners were restored and 1412 received remitted sentences during the fiscal year 1919, which definitely stresses the value of such a

Board to the authorities and the prisoners.

The second progressive step of this period was the organization of a General Prisoners' Conference Committee on 10 June 1919. This step was actually an experiment, directed by the Adjutant General, in effecting cooperation between the DB administrative personnel and the prisoners "for the betterment of conditions generally and for the maintenance of proper order and discipline." As an experiment, the Committee proved to be a complete failure through the attempted usurpation of control of the institution. This action on 22 July 1919, after 42 days of existence, brought about the abolishment of the Committee. (This type of council or committee is currently providing exemplary service in some of our penal institutions.)

The last progressive step of this period was the establishment of the Morale Department (the fore-runner of our current A & R Section) on 22 May 1919. Upon the activation of this section, numerous requisitions were submitted for athletic equipment and an athletic field was laid out, which included a baseball diamond. This section was charged with arranging for the delivery of addresses and short talks on such subjects as loyalty, patriotism, discipline, sex morality, etc. Every man processing in and out of the institution was interviewed by this section and special attempts were made to aid the prisoner's morale by writing letters for him in an effort to rectify compassionate matters and also in an effort to obtain employment for the man prior to his release.

On 1 November 1919, the DB supply function was discontinued and the activity, including all supplies on hand, was transferred to the Post. This necessitated the requisitioning from the Post of every item needed for the operation and maintenance of the DB. With the discontinuance of the local supply office, the salvage and reclamation activities acted as liaison in all supply matters with the Post. This department operated the Laundry, Tailor Shop, Shoe & Harness Shop, and the Dry Cleaning Plant, in addition to handling

the salvage and reclamation of clothing and equipage, rags, metal, paper, rubber, leather, etc. As much as 90 thousand pounds of rags were salvaged in a year as well as substantial quantities of other salvable material.

The Quartermaster was charged with the operation of the Utilities, Construction and Maintenance Sections. The Utilities Section operated the Rock Quarries, Rock Crushers, Saw Mill and Brick Plant outside the walls. On the inside, this section operated the Tin Shop, Electric Shop, Steamfitter Shop, Plumbing Shop, Carpentry and Paint Shop, Machine and Blacksmith Shop, and the Power Plant.

During that fiscal year the power plant produced all the electric current used by the DB and furnished steam heat to the front group of buildings (Hqs., 472, 466 and 467) inside the walls for the first time. Heretofore they had been heated by a Central Heating Plant at an added expense estimated at \$13,200.00 on fuel alone.

A coal miners strike in the winter of 1919-20 plagued the efficient operation of the plant as coal storage was limited to 350 tons. With coal shipments at a stand-still, the supply on hand was soon consumed. Immediate steps were taken to convert to fuel oil with the installation of a 100,000 gallon tank and the placement of fuel oil orders for delivery within a two week period. (As a stopgap, labor gangs were employed in the cutting and hauling of wood pending the change-over and a power line was tied in with the facilities of the Leavenworth City Power Plant in case of a local power failure.) The entire oil-burning system was home-made and operated quite efficiently. The use of oil was found to be much cheaper than coal and serious consideration was given to affecting a permanent change to oil. However, within four months time, the price of fuel oil had sky-rocketed to the point where it proved too costly to purchase which forced the removal of the oil-burning system and reversion to coal usage.

A disastrous fire in November, 1919, destroyed, with the exception of two Guard Barracks, the entire cantonment,

located outside the north wall, which had been built about six months previously. The prisoners, who were quartered in the area, were commended for their invaluable assistance in saving a large quantity of government property and in preventing the spread of the fire to the Bluntville area. Although the fire broke out at night and there was sufficient opportunity for escape, every man answered roll call after the fire was brought under control.

The remainder of fiscal year 1920 found the strength of the institution rapidly dropping and then becoming fairly stable at 12 to 13 hundred men. This strength stabilization permitted the reorganization of many staff sections resulting in a considerable reduction in force and in the number of guards assigned to the Guard Companies. From a peak strength of over 700 men, the Guard Battalion was reduced to 490 men (which is comparable to the strength of our present Guard Company).

A recapitulation of the activities supervised by the Executive Department (our present day Supervisor of Prisoners Section) from the date of its inception prior to 1 July 1917, to the close of the fiscal year 1920, discloses the normal growth of a staff section to cope with the added responsibilities over the years.

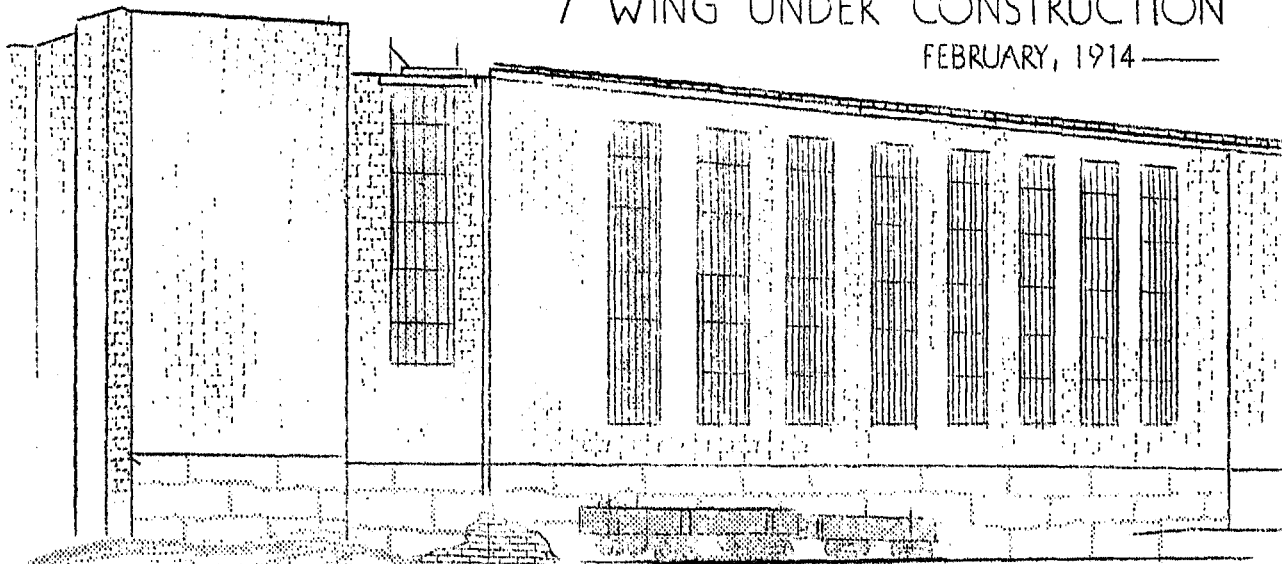
To alleviate the workload of some of the staff sections and for better coordination and control, the Executive Officer assumed the supervision of the Guard, Intelligence, Vocational Training, Casual and Mail Offices during the fiscal year 1920. A further breakdown reveals that the Intelligence staff, consisting of one officer and one enlisted man, were responsible for the investigation of all charges brought against the general prisoners.

The mail office was reorganized and the staff of six enlisted men and one civil service employee were placed under the immediate supervision of the Intelligence Officer.

The Executive Department of 36 years ago was performing duties which were quite similar to the responsibilities of our Supervisor of Prisoners Section today, with the exception of the Vo-

7 WING UNDER CONSTRUCTION

FEBRUARY, 1914



cational Training and Mail Section supervision.

The rapid decline in the prisoner population, from its post-war peak, permitted many alterations to the installation and its facilities which heretofore had not been possible. For example, the Brick Plant had not been operated during the winter months because of lack of heat in the drying house which meant an acute shortage of bricks each spring and considerable delay in construction work until the plant was able to resume production. A steam line was laid and steam coils installed in the Dry House which enabled the plant to operate continuously summer and winter.

An old wooden building known as the hospital annex had long been considered a fire hazard and it was condemned at that time to razing. To insure adequate hospital facilities, two buildings (apparently located on the site of the present hospital) were remodelled so that one had four complete wards, two of which had glass enclosed porches for the convalescents and the other building was renovated for a dental infirmary in addition to the facilities located therein.

Another beneficial change at that time involved the transfer of the laundry facility from its location in an old wooden building to its present site in the basement of 5 Wing. Hindered by inadequate facilities, the laundry daily faced a constant challenge to keep abreast of its assigned workload and quite often found itself

unable to provide satisfactory service when the strength of the DB was at its peak. Another contributing factor to the move was the classification of the laundry building as a fire hazard and the infeasibility of enlarging it to permit the installation of additional equipment.

Funds were allocated for the move and the purchase and installation of some new equipment. However, the move was delayed until a satisfactory location could be found for the prisoners' bath (shower) room and barber shop which was located in the area where it was planned to put the laundry. This situation was solved with the moving of the bath room and barber shop to the sub-basement of 5 Wing which put them just one floor below their previous location. These changes were made in the summer of 1920 and the enlarged laundry facility commenced operation in its new (and present) location on 1 August 1920. This activity was then capable of handling the laundry for the DB, Post and enlisted personnel stationed in the Kansas City area.

Founded in 1880 with an initial purchase of 667 books, the Library seems to have had a hard row to hoe for a good many years. The first reference to cataloging of the books is found in the records of 1917 where mention is made of a loose leaf catalog that was being prepared and printed for the use of the prisoners. This proved to be a simple alphabetical listing which did not aid in locating

a book on the shelves.

In August 1918, the American Library Association came to the assistance of the institution and donated approximately 5300 books. Of this number, over 1000 were of a technical nature with preference given to those that could be used in conjunction with the vocational training program. For the first time, an attempt was made to catalog the books under the Dewey Decimal System and a complete card catalog was set up. This work was accomplished under the supervision of the Post Librarian and was the first real effort recorded to bring the Library up to accepted standards for serving an institution of this size.

Regrettably the records for the years 1920-29 are not available for a review of this period.

A crack-down by the Federal Government in the spring and summer of 1929 on racketeers and other Federal Law violators resulted in an overflow at most of the Federal Institutions. The proximity of the DB to the Federal Penitentiary at Leavenworth resulted in the Department of Justice requesting the use of the DB as a Penitentiary Annex. This action was granted and the DB was deactivated on 14 September 1929 on a 5 year lease to the Department of Justice. This lease was later renewed for 6 additional years and the DB was once again in operation on 6 November 1940.

The Atlantic Branch of the USDB at Governors Island, N. Y., functioned as the main confinement installation of the Army for the 11 years (1929-1940) during which the parent USDB was operated as the Penitentiary Annex by the Department of Justice. Another noteworthy change of that period was the deactivation of the Pacific Branch of the USDB at Alcatraz. This installation, in its entirety, was transferred to the Department of Justice in 1933.

Preparatory to reactivating the USDB at Fort Leavenworth, an advance detachment, consisting of the new Commandant, Colonel C. R. Lewis, two other officers, and three enlisted men, reported for duty here on 25 October 1940. This cadre was charged

with making arrangements for the command's arrival upon the closing of the Atlantic Branch, USDB, on 6 November 1940. Proceeding as directed, the command, comprising three officers, 117 enlisted men and 171 general prisoners, embarked by rail and arrived here on 8 November 1940. However, the records reveal that the reopening date was set as 6 November 1940 to coincide with the closing of the Atlantic Branch on the same date.

Upon arrival the prisoners were housed in one wing of the Castle as the installation was still under the control of the Justice Department. The official transfer was affected on 16 November and the Army became responsible for the installation's maintenance and operation on that date. Yet, in reality, this transfer was not complete as 150 federal prisoners remained in the Castle under custody of the Justice Department. The last of these prisoners were transferred to other institutions on 16 December 1940, placing the entire facility under military control on that date.

Many and varied were the obstacles encountered in assuming operational control of the physical plant and its outlying properties. Civilian foremen and supervisory personnel were retained in their former capacities and greatly aided the authorities in getting some of the shops and activities operating under military control. However, a complete reorganization of the entire establishment was necessary to insure the efficient operation of the institution and to inaugurate the necessary security measures.

In 1929, most of the DB's properties lying outside the walls, were transferred to the Post proper and gradually disbanded so that upon the returning of the DB to military control, only the greenhouse was in operation. War Department action instructing their return to the DB was only partially effective. The greenhouse was the first of these activities to be returned and this was accomplished on 1 December 1940. Then on 24 February 1941, the farm colony and the cemetery were transferred back to the DB. The colony, consisting of a truck garden,

farm proper, and hog ranch, was officially reestablished on 15 March 1941. The chicken ranch and dairy farm were not placed in operation at that time.

The first inside activity to be reorganized and placed in operation was the print shop. This action occurred on 21 February 1941 and the Supply Officer was charged with the responsibility for its administration and operation.

Within a very short time, the laundry, dry cleaning plant, tailor shop, shoe shop, and the utilities shops were in operation with prisoner labor. Additionally, a considerable number of men were furnished to the Post for the golf course, mosquito control, post police, and garbage truck. Some of these details were made possible through the reestablishment of local paroles and honor gangs.

The Disciplinary Battalion was reorganized with one officer, two non-commissioned officers and a company of 14 probationers on 15 March 1941. By 30 June 1941 a total of 11 men had been restored to duty from the Battalion and no man had to be returned to the general population during the initial reporting period. The battalion members were given 4 hours training each weekday morning and then worked on regular details during the afternoon.

One of the first and largest administrative sections to be set up upon reactivation was the Executive Department (our SOP of today). The Executive Officer was responsible for the security, discipline, subsistence, prisoner labor, and plant operation.

Physical deterioration was found to be widespread throughout the institution upon transfer, and no less than 17 major repair and reconstruction projects were deemed necessary to prevent a breakdown in operation. Roofs, plumbing, floors, and walls were found to be in the greatest need of immediate repair. Within weeks after the reactivation, the cell blocks, basements, kitchen, etc., were cleaned and placed in a sanitary condition. Vermin were eliminated and the Castle was freed of odors.

The mess section was found to contain a lot of antiquated and unser-

viceable equipment, which appeared to be the result of poor maintenance. Even the mess hall tables were of poor construction and were extremely difficult to maintain in a satisfactory condition. Fortunately, there was still enough serviceable equipment to permit the serving of a mess comparable with any organizational mess in the Army. A Cooks and Bakers School was organized and operated in conjunction with the mess, with an average of 20 students.

The Employment Office, under the supervision of the Executive Department, was reorganized on 2 January 1941. The purpose of this section hasn't changed over the years and its concept of the requirements involved in job placement hold true to this day. Because it so aptly states these considerations, the purpose as stated in the report of that period follows verbatim: "The major purpose of the Employment Office is to promote the satisfactory work placement of the prisoners for the good of both the prisoner and the institution. To do this it becomes necessary to consider their intelligence, education, health, aptitudes, interest, and emotional makeup. It is also necessary to consider the physical requirements, degree of skill, and amount of training required by the job. Complete success is achieved in a given work placement when the prisoner has characteristics reasonably well matched with the factors involved in a specific job."

Monthly work and adjustment reports were submitted to the Employment Officer beginning 1 July 1941. Information available reveals that these reports served the same purpose and were probably quite similar to those in use today.

Beginning on 1 May 1941, a post-institutional job placement program was begun with the aid of the American Red Cross. It was felt that this agency, because of its national scope, could work through its local chapters. As of 30 June 1941, 28 requests for aid had been placed, but it was too early to determine the success of this program. (Records for the fiscal years 1942 and 1943 which would reveal the

outcome of this effort are not available. A new approach to this subject as found in the records of fiscal year 1944 will be mentioned further along in this article.)

At the time the Executive Department was reorganized, another large administrative section was set up on a small scale. Emerging as the Educational, Recreational and Religious Department, this activity was charged with the religious, moral, and physical welfare of the prisoner population. The entire music section, including a newly activated band, was under this department.

A varied athletic program was organized and active participation in some form of recreation was urged on each prisoner. With the adoption of a regular recreation schedule, indoor and outdoor, a good percentage of the population participated in baseball, horseshoe pitching, softball, volleyball, outdoor basketball, touch football, field and track, physical training, and boxing. In the first 4 months of reactivation, 170 men received some training under the boxing program and 134 men were engaged in physical training through gymnasium work. The field and track activities were the main events on holidays, with good representation by the population.

A recreation room, set up in a section of the auditorium, was well stocked with current magazines and table-top games. The room was open to the population every night and weekend, except when the weekly movie was being shown. Vaudeville type entertainment was provided when made available to the institution.

The Education Section got off to a very slow start early in 1941, when 18 students were enrolled in a laundry practice course requiring 80 hours of instruction over a period of 20 weeks. The next course to be offered was one in show card and sign painting which commenced on March 1941.

By the end of June, 1941, 280 men were enrolled in academic and vocational courses, but the emphasis was on vocational work which was offered in conjunction with work in the various shops. It is interesting to note that today's principle of voluntary enrollment and

compulsory attendance was in effect at that time. Proficiency certificates were awarded upon successful course completions as they are today.

The Religious Section functioned then as it does today with the assignment of a Catholic Chaplain and a Protestant Chaplain, with outside representatives of the other faiths and sects granted permission to conduct their individual services. A minimum of 10 services a week were held within the institution and when attendance warranted it the auditorium was used.

The Chaplains conducted their offices in much the same manner then as today. Each new arrival was interviewed personally and urged to practice his religious convictions. Daily visits were made to the hospital, providing personal attention to each patient. Segregated prisoners were visited on the average of three times weekly.

Our pre-release program had its inception in the Character Guidance classes, conducted by the Chaplains, which were mandatory for every man prior to release.

The USDB Band, organized on 10 April 1941 with an authorization of 28 piece instrumentation, consisted of 21 prisoners and three enlisted instructors. Individual, orchestra, and band instruction, practice and rehearsals consumed a minimum of 36 hours per week.

The band and/or orchestra performed on numerous occasions in the auditorium and for special events on the Post. Another group of prisoners formed the Inmate Glee Club. Using harmonicas, banjos, guitars, jews-harps and mandolins, the 16 members furnished entertainment in the auditorium and on the recreation field. This group does not exist today.

The USDB Hospital, presumably built by the War Department prior to the transfer of the installation as the records reveal that it has been in operation since 1929, is located within the walled inclosure in a separate brick building of full basement, and three floors, barred throughout and provided with one manually controlled electric elevator. Bed capacity was rated as 180 normal and 250 emergency.

Upon transfer back to the War Department, it was found to be inoperable as such through normal wear and tear, and neglect. The roof, plumbing, and wiring were in need of immediate repair. Much of the medical equipment, especially Physiotherapy, X-ray, Clinical Laboratory, and Operating Room apparatus, was unserviceable. In contrast, the Dental Clinic was found to have three chairs with serviceable equipment and extensive supplies. The Hospital mess could not be used because of unserviceable ranges and refrigerator.

By the end of the first fiscal reporting period, much progress had been made in overcoming the conditions noted above through renovation, repair, and replacement. The exact date of the hospital's reopening cannot be ascertained, but the reporting period showed a total of 412 admissions, 370 discharges and 42 remaining.

The purpose of this activity was to provide full medical and surgical care of the prisoner population. By 15 May 1941, a total of eight commissioned Nurses, six Medical Officers, one Dentist, one Medical Administrative Officer, 11 enlisted personnel, and 2 civilian employees were on duty at the hospital.

The Department of Psychiatry and Sociology was set up soon after the reactivation with a Psychiatrist, an assistant Psychiatrist and a Psychologist, all of whom worked with, and at the direction of the Surgeon. This Department was charged with the responsibility of compiling a case history on each prisoner (as they do today) through personal interviews, review of individual military records, and through questionnaires sent to the prisoner's former organization commander, relatives, former employers, etc. This information then permitted the psychiatrist to make his summary and impression of the prisoner which was referred to the Clemency Board.

This Board, however, was not the Classification Board of today. At that time it was known as the Board of Psychiatry and Sociology and the only two identified members were the Executive Officer (SOP) and the Psychia-

trist.

The Psychologist assigned to the Department was charged with conducting psychological examinations as a part of the educational, employment, vocational, and mental health program in the institution. However, because of administrative organization and non-availability of time needed for complete psychological studies, his office confined itself primarily to administering group and individual intelligence tests. All incoming prisoners were given the Army General Classification Test, and when this proved beyond a prisoner's comprehension he was given the Terman-Merrill Revision of the Stanford-Binet Tests of Intelligence. These tests were found to provide a reasonably dependable classification of men according to their general capacity to learn. These findings were made a permanent part of the individuals records as they are today.

As of 30 June 1941, the Vocational Training program, as we know it today, was not in operation as Bldg 472 was still under renovation to house this function. The exact date that this program became operative is not known, but the Bldg was converted to a billets during fiscal year 1944.

The prisoner strength of the institution had increased to 593 by 30 June 1941. (Non-availability, and in some cases limited accessibility, of the reports for the period 1 July 1941 to date preclude an accurate and comprehensive coverage of this period. The remainder of this history will present only the highlights of this period as they can be determined.)

With the entry of the United States into World War II, we had built our Army from 188,000 in mid-1939 to 1,686,000 by December 1941. In the next 40 months, the number in uniform had grown until in May 1945 there were 8,291,336 men bearing arms. With this gigantic growth the disciplinary problems increased proportionately.

By July 1944 the number of military prisoners far exceeded the confinement facilities of the DB, necessitating the opening of branches at the following locations: Eastern Branch, Green Haven, N. Y.; Southern Branch, North

Camp Hood, Texas; and Northwestern Branch, Fort Missoula, Montana.

The capacity of these institutions is not known but a total of 950 prisoners were transferred to the branches during the fiscal year 1944.

At that time the institution's one direct contribution to the war effort was the garnishing of camouflage nets. This project lasted eight months, during which 15,140 nets were garnished representing an area of nearly one square mile. The prisoner labor on this project alone was valued at \$95,000.00.

The authorized strength of the First Guard Company stood at 518 on 30 June 1944. On 20 March 1944, a strength authorization was allotted whereby 23 enlisted personnel of the WAC Detachment on the Post were assigned to duty at the administrative headquarters of the institution. Shortly thereafter the authorized strength of the Medical Detachment, assigned to the DB Hospital, was increased to 43 enlisted men.

By 1 July 1943 the title of the Executive Officer had become the Supervisor of Prisoners.

In April 1944 the Employment Section was transferred to the SOP Department from the Office of the Psychologist.

As early as 1943 a permanent pass system was put into effect which permitted first conduct prisoners to go about the institution upon proper business without being accompanied by a guard.

The records of 1944 reveal that the Mail Office functioned under the supervision of the SOP's Department. At that time approximately 500 incoming letters were processed daily and 600 outgoing letters were handled twice a week. The same restrictions on packages were in effect then as they are today. However, at that time, prisoners were allowed to write a total of eight letters per month with two at government expense. Comparatively, today we may send out five letters per week with postage paid by the institution. The last recent change in our mail procedure went into effect in June 1955, when the institution assumed the expense of all authorized outgoing letters.

During the latter part of 1943 all 12 guard towers were torn down and replaced with new towers, each equipped with a lavatory, sanitary toilet, and automatic gas heater. Reconstructed of stone and brick, they were considered modern in every respect.

As of 1 July 1944 the Library had 21,873 volumes on hand and 113 selected newspapers, magazines, and service journals were received. In addition a total of 6,868 magazines were received and distributed to the population during the previous reporting year.

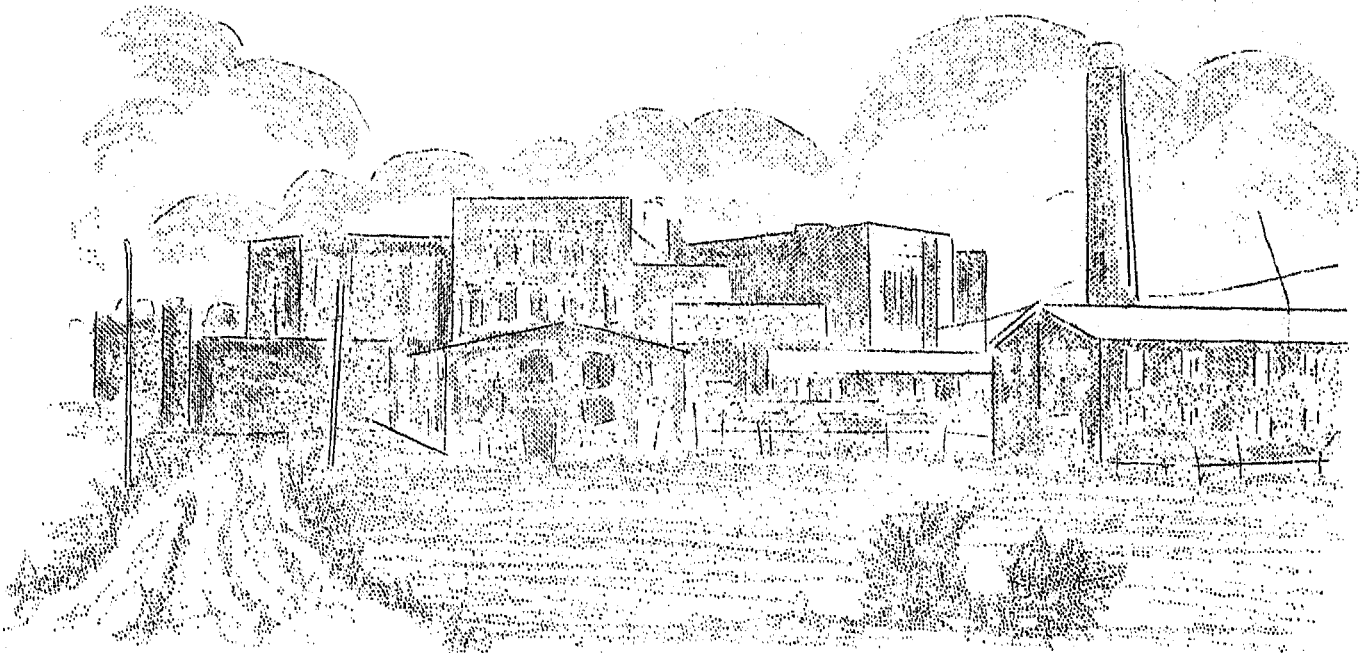
With the transfer of the Psychologist's Section to the Special Service Department in April 1944, the testing program was developed so that complete clinical evaluations could be made through the acquisition of new tests. The work of the Psychologist was found to be more fully utilized by the Psychiatry and Sociology Department, Parole, Special Service and Employment Department. He also conducted the Home Job Placement Section through which a prisoner could request aid in obtaining intra-mural employment prior to release. The Home Job Placement operated primarily through the Salvation Army, The American Red Cross, and the U. S. Employment Service. This activity proved greatly beneficial to the men about to be released and the results were gratifying.

The first mention of Barracks Review, an interim designation for STRAY SHOTS until the name was restored in 1946, is found in the records for the fiscal year 1944. Its purpose then was the same as our STRAY SHOTS today.

The USDB Hospital had been accepted for registry by the American Medical Association and by the American College of Surgeons by 30 June 1944 which commendably recommended the services afforded.

A total of 1578 prisoners were confined at the DB as of 30 June 1944.

The Disciplinary Battalion was redesignated Disciplinary Company on 29 December 1943. At that time, the period of training was changed from a five week full day schedule to a 12 week full day schedule. This change was made to allow the Company Commander more time to make a thorough study of



each individual in determining fitness for restoration to duty.

Company strength as of 30 June 1943 stood at 104 with a total of 455 men restored to duty during the preceding 12 month period.

The records for the fiscal year 1945 disclose seven additional branches of the USDB were established as follows: Southeastern Branch, Camp Gordon, Ga.; Central Branch, Jefferson Barracks, Mo.; Northern Branch, Milwaukee, Wisc.; Midwestern Branch, Fort Benjamin Harrison, Ind.; Southwestern Branch, Camp Haan, Calif.; East Central Branch, New Cumberland, Pa.; and Northeastern Branch, Pine Camp, N. Y. A total of 1245 prisoners had been transferred to these branches since their activation.

A change in the mail procedure is noted in the records of fiscal year 1945, which authorized the prisoners to write two letters each week at institutional expense. All incoming mail from authorized correspondents was delivered regardless of conduct grade, which was not done in the past as prisoners in other than first conduct had incoming mail restricted in number.

The Psychiatry and Sociology Board became the Classification Board on 14 September 1944.

During the fiscal year 1945, the Education and Rehabilitation Department had the entire fourth floor of 2

Wing remodeled to provide three class rooms. At the same time the fourth floor of 1 Wing was also renovated to provide six class rooms. The third floor of 1 Wing was thoroughly rebuilt which provided three class rooms, a supervisor's office, and office space for the Education and Rehabilitation Officer. This program had been greatly expanded so that in addition to the assigned officer, there were one enlisted man, eight civil service employees, and 13 qualified inmate instructors accomplishing daily all the academic instruction in the school program.

During that period the laundry was expanded with the addition of a new, one story annex with brick walls, concrete floor, and hand elevator. This annex was built for use as a counting room. A metal chute was installed to deliver laundry to the loading dock at street level. Seven additional presses and two 42" x 120" dry tumblers were added. Two 6 roll flat-work ironers were removed and replaced by a new 6 roll and a new 8 roll ironer.

The Army prisoner population hit its peak of 34,766 in October 1945, but the Army was well equipped to handle the load. During the five year period from December 1941 through December 1946, a total of 42,373 out of 84,245 prisoners committed to confinement were restored to duty.

Many and varied have been the changes, in physical plant as well as in the concepts of modern penology as applied here, during the past ten years. Two changes falling in the latter category are noted in passing.

Complete racial integration of the prisoner population was accomplished in the dining room during the fiscal year 1955. This was the final phase of a desegregation program in the institution which had been in force

since 1875.

The other change which has made a great difference to the few old-timers remaining was the removal of the block letters USDB from all outer garments and the issuance of individual name tags which restored the prisoner's identity.

History is still the recorder of all our deeds, good or bad, in or out, but the task of further chronicling is left to an unknown.

