

Nebraska State Penitentiary

LANCASTER

BIENNIAL REPORT

OF

A. D. BEEMER

WARDEN

TO THE

**GOVERNOR OF NEBRASKA AND THE
BOARD OF PUBLIC LANDS AND BUILDINGS**

COVERING THE PERIOD FROM DECEMBER 1, 1904
TO NOVEMBER 30, 1906

1906

HAMMOND PRINTING COMPANY
FREMONT, NEBRASKA

OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES.

Allen D. Beemer	Warden.
James Delahunty	Deputy Warden.
Edgar L. Holyoke, M. D.	Physician.
Porter C. Johnson, D. D.	Chaplain.
Belle A. Beemer	Matron.
Ernest B. Fairfield	Clerk.
Henry Wagner	Steward.
George W. Aills	Engineer.
James G. Beck	Electrician.
Thomas Cokeley	Mechanic.
Charles A. Albright	Farmer.
Jay G. Cooper	Chief Cellhouse Keeper.
Charles Berry	Day Turnkey.
Alex Robertson	Night Turnkey.
Ernst G. Heilman	Usher.
John Burke	Night Chapel Guard.
John A. Busey	Day Chapel Guard.
W. Jack Jenkins	Gateman.
Thomas J. Doody	Convict Kitchen Guard.
F. O. Nims	Night Convict Kitchen Guard.
John Hudson	Laundryman.
Joseph Steinbaugh	Night Watchman.
John McNeil	Night Cellhouse Keeper.
Charles J. Wilson	Ass't Night Cellhouse Keeper.
Charles Lewis	Guards' Kitchen Keeper.
Andrew Ringenberger	Utility Man.
August Bartle	Shop Keeper.
Leroy M. Winslow	Shop Keeper.
J. Frank Morgan	Shop Keeper.
William H. Adams	Shop Keeper.
J. C. Eyrick	Shop Keeper.
J. C. Eikenbary	Shop Keeper.
John J. Keane	Wall Guard.
John Steininger	Wall Guard.
W. D. Foster	Wall Guard.
William W. Bowling	Wall Guard.

NEBRASKA STATE PENITENTIARY,
Lancaster, Nebr.

To His Excellency, the Governor, and the Honorable Members
of the Board of Public Lands and Buildings.

Gentlemen:—As warden of the penitentiary of Nebraska, it is a pleasurable duty to submit to you my report for the biennial period commencing December 1, 1904, and closing November 30, 1906. The report, as its perusal will disclose, consists of a few general remarks by the warden; financial and statistical figures from the clerk's records; a report from the chaplain, who looks after the moral, religious, and educational welfare of the inmates, and a report from the physician, whose department is far from the least important to the institution. I trust that the report will prove entirely satisfactory, both to you and the general public.

I do not wish to seem unduly exulted, nor do I wish to plead guilty to false modesty, so I will avoid the latter charge and assume the risk of conviction of the former by stating that I believe a full and impartial investigation of the penitentiary premises will show them to be in better condition than ever before in the history of the institution. Careful attention to cleanliness, without which, of course, there can be no proper sanitation, has placed the prison on a basis of excellent health; the latter being the foremost factor in happiness, the conclusion is reached that the inmates are as contented as men can be when deprived of liberty. Contentment goes far toward making men obedient and peaceable, and the result has been that the discipline of the institution has been kept on a fairly high plane with little need of severe corrective measures.

The work of the officers and employes in charge of the various departments has been generally satisfactory; personal interest has been manifested in the work; comparatively few reports have been filed against the inmates in the several shops, and the officers and employes have shown a commendable spirit in overcoming the little difficulties which come to hand from day to day. In this connection I want to thank the deputy warden, Mr. Delahunty,

and the other officers and guards, for the efficient assistance they have given me, and the hearty co-operation with which they have seconded my efforts for better conditions.

FINANCIAL.

The report of the clerk will be found to make a full and comprehensive showing of the financial transactions for the institution, giving the receipts and disbursements of the various funds appropriated by the legislature, as well as the receipts from convict labor. The latter will be found to be somewhat greater for the biennium just closed than for the previous two years. During the last biennial period, the sum of \$64,833.34 has been earned for the State by the inmates employed by the contractor as against \$56,026.09 for the biennium 1902-04.

The table relating to State Cash shows that there have been more extensive operations in this fund than during the previous biennial period. Some discussion has been had in regard to the propriety of such cash fund, but it seems to be necessary for the paying of small emergency claims, as well as larger claims authorized by the Board of Public Lands and Buildings.

The private funds of the inmates, of which the warden is the custodian, remain in total about the same as the balance of two years ago, but the number and extent of the transactions have materially increased. During the last biennium, about \$34,000 of prisoners' money was handled in this office, an increase of \$12,000 in the bulk of this business over the previous two years. This large increase, over 50 per cent, has of course added not a little to the work of the office.

Under the rules, an inmate may receive through the office any moneys that his friends or relatives send him, or that he may earn by overtime in the shops, and he may, once each month, order such articles as are not contraband, which articles are delivered to him through the steward.

The matter of overtime is one that is arranged between the contractor and the inmate, and the State gets no part of the money earned by the inmate after the completion of his daily task. The latter is by no means arduous, and nearly every convict in the shops earns more or less money which he may either spend as above indicated, or may save until his discharge. During the biennium one inmate, who has served seven and one-half years, left the institution with \$673.55, which he had saved wholly from

his overtime earnings. The majority, however, do not husband their earnings so carefully, the "rainy day" instinct among the convicts being much the same as among people on the outside.

POPULATION.

A glance at the census table will show that there has been an increase of more than 10 per cent in the prison population over the previous biennium. The biennial report for 1902-04 shows an average of 293.2, while the present report shows an average of 328.2, an increase of 35. As I stated in my last report, when trying to account for the increase over the biennium of 1900-02, I do not know to what to attribute the enlarged figures unless it can be simply charged to the general growth of the state's population.

As this is the only penal institution in Nebraska, however, the showing is excellent, especially when comparison is made with the population of the prisons of adjacent states. There is no state having so few convicts in proportion to the whole population as Nebraska, and there is no state's prison having so few illiterate inmates.

There have been but 7 escapes from the prison during the past two years, and of these only 2 have been successful up to the present writing, the rest of the men having been captured and returned to the penitentiary.

DISCIPLINE.

Some mention was made earlier in this report concerning the discipline of the penitentiary, which I consider good. The officers and keepers having direct charge of the inmates are careful as a rule, and are instructed to maintain discipline with as little friction as possible.

The grade system, which was adopted at this institution during the previous biennium, is gaining adherents wherever it is tried, and it is certainly a success here. As an incentive to good behavior it is far more potent than prospects of solitary confinement with meagre fare. When it is understood that a man must conduct himself in accordance with the rules, or be relegated to the stripes, it is generally an easy matter to keep that man on the straight and narrow path.

Punishments, which, I am glad to say, are not often required, consist of isolating the offender, feeding him scantily, and taking away his good time. There have been no serious outbreaks

among the inmates during the biennium, and the great majority of the prisoners have obeyed the rules with cheerfulness.

AGRICULTURAL.

The legislature showed great wisdom, in my judgment, when it enacted a law at its last session, authorizing the Board of Public Lands and Buildings to sell at public auction the penitentiary lands situated at a distance from the institution, and to expend the proceeds in acquiring title to lands adjacent to the prison and in improving same. From the sale of these "distant lands" the sum of \$25,092.00 was derived, and \$24,000 of this amount was spent for 240 acres adjoining the penitentiary premises.

Prior to this purchase the penitentiary had but 40 acres of its own, and about all of its produce was raised on leased land. During the past two years about 110 acres have been leased in addition to the 280 acres owned by the State, and goodly crops have been the rule. Hail and other unfavorable conditions seriously affected the vegetable crop of the present year, but the general average has been quite satisfactory.

The produce of the farm not only enters into the question of live stock raising, but it makes possible, at a minimum of cost, a great and agreeable variety in the diet of the inmates, whose comfort and health are enhanced to no small degree.

In the tables following will appear a statement of the produce used in the prison during the biennium, as well as an invoice of that on hand at the close of the period.

EDUCATIONAL.

Since my last report there has been established a school for the benefit of those prisoners who have the ability and desire to learn, and there is now no reason why any ambitious inmate should not improve his mind during his period of detention. The school is presided over by Dr. P. C. Johnson, the chaplain of the penitentiary, with assistants in the persons of some of the more studious of the prisoners. The details of the school work are given in the chaplain's report, which, modestly, does not do justice to the untiring efforts of Dr. Johnson.

In the chaplain's report, too, will be found particulars relating to the church and Sunday School work of the institution, done by unselfish people who devote much of their time on the Sabbath to labors with the men and women of the prison.

The library, which is also under the general supervision of

the chaplain, is given a place in the report of Dr. Johnson. The library has been greatly enlarged during the biennium, and its sphere of usefulness and help correspondingly increased.

HEALTH.

Brief reference has already been made to the sanitary condition of the penitentiary and its relation to the comfort and contentment of the inmates. During the past two years there has been but a single inmate sent to the hospital on account of illness. This is a strong statement, but one which will be borne out by the facts, and by reference to the report of the prison physician, Dr. E. L. Holyoke. I do not think that such a record has ever been made in any penitentiary in the United States, and it certainly breaks the record at this institution.

As appears in the report of the physician, the most formidable attack upon the health of the institution was made by the measles which brought down a number of victims, none of whom, however, failed to regain his usual health. The inmates, moreover, were not the only ones whom this contagion visited.

Great credit is due to Dr. Holyoke, whose hearty co-operation in all matters pertaining to the health of the prison I have thoroughly appreciated.

FEMALE WARD.

The female ward at this institution continues to be a source of pride to myself and an object of favorable comment by visitors. The women themselves apparently take pleasure in keeping up the high standard of their department, which, I believe, is the best of its kind in the country. The female inmates do not perform any contract work whatever, their efforts being directed to mending, darning, and needlework of various kinds. The discipline in this ward has continued excellent throughout the biennium.

The average number of women inmates during the past two years has been 5.4, as compared to 5.6 for the previous biennial period. The number in prison at present is 9, of whom 3 are white and 6 colored. The average number for the past six months has been 8.3, although, as above stated, the average for the entire two years has been lower than for the biennium of 1902-04.

SUGGESTIONS.

I would respectfully recommend that the legislature make suitable provision for furnishing transportation for the discharged convict to the place where he was convicted; or, if he does not wish to return to the place of conviction, for furnishing him with an equivalent amount of transportation in the direction in which he desires to move. This plan is adopted by the federal government in the treatment of their discharged prisoners, and the scheme is also in use in many of the states. In any event, such a plan would relieve the discharged man of a burden, and, perhaps be more acceptable to the citizens of the city in which the penitentiary is located than the present method of simply turning the man loose at the gate.

If the legislature should see fit to appropriate, for the maintenance of the prison for the biennium 1906-08, the amount of the proceeds from convict labor during the past two years and also the amount that will be received during the coming biennial period, I think the sum thus derived would be ample for the needs of the institution. The amount received during the biennium just closed may be ascertained by a glance at the table of the labor fund in the clerk's report.

I would recommend also the purchase, if possible, of the few acres lying just east of the penitentiary. This acquisition would give the prison control of all the land immediately contiguous to the institution, as well as add somewhat to the acreage of the penitentiary farm.

I am firmly of the belief that the parole law should be extended to include all men sentenced to the penitentiary, regardless of prior convictions, and in this connection I would urge the passage of a law providing for the appointment and remuneration of a parole officer, whose duties would be to look after the men released on parole.

In concluding these remarks, I wish to heartily thank the governor for his personal interest and helpful advice, and the members of the Board of Public Lands and Buildings for their uniformly kind and courteous treatment.

Respectfully submitted,

A. D. BEEMER, Warden.

December 1, 1906.

REPORT OF THE CLERK.

Nebraska State Penitentiary.
Office of the Clerk.

To the Warden:—Herewith will be found reports of the financial operations of this institution for the biennium closing November 30, 1906; also statistics regarding the prison population.

E. B. FAIRFIELD, Clerk.

MAINTENANCE FUND.

December 1, 1904, Balance Appropriation of 1903	\$12,387.37
Specific Deficiency Claims	846.12
Estimated Deficiency Appropriation 1905	4,500.00
Maintenance Appropriation of 1905	99,280.00

Total Available Resources\$117,013.49

Expended—Officers' salaries	\$12,080.00
Employees' wages	21,898.18
Fuel and lights	15,415.78
Board and clothing	33,204.54
Drugs and medicines	1,407.16
Furniture and dry goods	1,672.03
Incidental expenses	5,532.67
Lapsed appropriation 1903	2.99
Lapsed deficiency appropriation 1905	2.27
	91,215.62

Balance, maintenance fund, Nov. 30, 1906	\$25,797.87
Average number of inmates during biennium	328.2
Daily maintenance per capita cost for biennium .....	.38072

CONVICT LABOR FUND.

December 1, 1904, balance in fund	\$ 42,357.95
Paid into State Treasury Dec. 1, 1904, to Nov. 30, '05	\$29,582.20
Paid into State Treasury Dec. 1, 1905, to Nov. 30, '06	33,243.67
Total paid to State Treasurer	62,825.87

\$ 105,183.82

LAND COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

Deduct legislative appropriation 1905	4,000.00
	<hr/>
Balance actually in fund, November 30, 1906	\$ 101,183.82
Add amount still due from contractor	5,874.44
	<hr/>
Total to credit of fund, Nov. 30, 1906	\$ 107,058.26
Paid to State Treasurer during the biennium	\$ 62,825.87
Still due from contractor	5,874.44
	<hr/>
	\$ 68,700.31
Less amount collected for previous biennium	3,866.97
	<hr/>
ACTUAL NET EARNINGS for the biennium.....	\$ 64,833.34

STATE CASH FUND.

Balance, December 1, 1904	\$ 867.68
Received during biennium	5,625.98
	<hr/>
	\$6,493.66
Expended during biennium	4,944.03
	<hr/>
	\$1,549.63

CONVICTS' CASH FUND.

Balance to credit of prisoners, December 1, 1904	\$ 2,561.96
Received during biennium by prisoners	17,733.61
	<hr/>
	\$20,295.57
Expended on convicts' orders during biennium	17,627.25
	<hr/>
Balance, November 30, 1906	\$ 2,668.32

FUND FROM KEEPING U. S. PRISONERS.

Balance, December 1, 1904 (*)	\$ 00.00
Paid in by U. S. and turned over to State Treasurer	116.60
	<hr/>
Total to credit of fund, Nov. 30, 1906	\$116.60

(*) No U. S. Prisoners received until June, 1906.

SPECIFIC APPROPRIATIONS.

Building & Furnishing Kitchen—		
Balance December 1, 1904		\$ 659.52
Appropriation of 1905		0.00
		<hr/>
		\$ 659.52
Expended	\$ 659.52	
Lapsed	0.00	659.52
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Balance, November 30, 1906		0.00
Electric Lighting Plant—		
Balance December 1, 1904		\$ 3.90
Appropriation of 1905		0.00
		<hr/>
		3.90
Expended	\$ 0.00	
Lapsed	3.90	3.90
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Balance, November 30, 1906		0.00
Repointing Wall—		
Balance December 1, 1904		\$ 778.36
Appropriation of 1905		0.00
		<hr/>
		778.36
Expended	\$ 778.20	
Lapsed .....	.16	778.36
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Balance, November 30, 1906		0.00
Furnishing Convicts' Dining Room—		
Balance December 1, 1904		\$ 323.82
Appropriation of 1905		0.00
		<hr/>
		323.82
Expended	\$ 321.18	
Lapsed	2.64	323.82
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Balance November 30, 1906		0.00

Library, Cases, etc.—

Balance December 1, 1904		\$ 354.93
Appropriation of 1905		0.00
		<hr/>
		354.93
Expended	\$ 345.80	
Lapsed	9.13	354.93
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Balance, November 30, 1906		0.00

Complete Administration Building—

Balance December 1, 1904		\$ 0.10
Appropriation of 1905		0.00
		<hr/>
		0.10
Expended	\$ 0.00	
Lapsed	0.10	0.10
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Balance, November 30, 1906		0.00

Furnishing Administration Building—

Balance December 1, 1906		\$ 30.54
Appropriation of 1905		0.00
		<hr/>
		30.54
Expended	\$ 25.81	
Lapsed	4.73	30.54
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Balance, November 30, 1906		0.00

Repair West Building—

Balance December 1, 1904		\$ 0.54
Appropriation of 1905		0.00
		<hr/>
		0.54
Expended	\$ 0.00	
Lapsed	0.54	0.54
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Balance, November 30, 1906		0.00

Photographing Convicts—

Balance December 1, 1904		\$ 22.30
Appropriation of 1905		700.00
		<hr/>
		722.30
Expended	\$ 691.25	
Lapsed	0.30	691.55
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Balance, November 30, 1906		30.75

Returning and Advertising Paroled Convicts—

Balance December 1, 1904		\$ 0.18
Appropriation of 1905		500.00
		<hr/>
		500.18
Expended	\$ 59.75	
Lapsed	0.18	59.93
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Balance, November 30, 1906		440.25

Telephone in Warden's Office—

Balance December 1, 1904		\$ 102.30
Appropriation of 1905		400.00
		<hr/>
		502.30
Expended	\$ 372.20	
Lapsed	0.20	372.40
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Balance, November 30, 1906		129.90

Delivering Convicts on Court Orders—

Balance December 1, 1904		\$ 182.45
Appropriation of 1905		200.00
		<hr/>
		382.45
Expended	\$ 70.42	
Lapsed	182.45	252.87
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Balance, November 30, 1906		129.58

Stationery, Printing and Postage—

Balance December 1, 1904		\$ 0.01
Appropriation of 1905		800.00
		<hr/>
		800.01
Expended	\$ 780.44	
Lapsed	0.01	780.45
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Balance, November 30, 1906.....		19.56

General Repairs and Improvements—

Appropriation of 1905		\$2000.00
Expended		1997.99
		<hr/>
Balance, November 30, 1906		2.01

Power and Electric Lights—

Appropriation of 1905		\$2000.00
Expended		1932.38
		<hr/>
Balance, November 30, 1906		67.62

Boilers and Repairs—

Appropriation of 1905		\$2000.00
Expended		2000.00
		<hr/>
Balance November 30, 1906		0.00

Engine and Fixtures—

Appropriation of 1905		\$2000.00
Expended		2000.00
		<hr/>
Balance, November 30, 1906		0.00

Motor and Fixtures—

Appropriation of 1905		\$ 800.00
Expended		0.00
		<hr/>
Balance, November 30, 1906		800.00

Dynamo and Fixtures—

Appropriation of 1905	\$1500.00
Expended	919.04
	<hr/>
Balance, November 30, 1906	580.96

Convict Labor Fund (Specified Purposes)—

Appropriation of 1905	\$4000.00
Expended	4000.00
	<hr/>
Balance, November 30, 1906	0.00

Penitentiary Lands—

Received from sale of lands		\$25092.00
Expended for purchase of land	\$24,000.00	
Expended for improvements thereon... 740.43		24740.43
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Balance, November 30, 1906		351.57

MAINTENANCE EXPENDITURES FOR EACH MONTH OF BIENNIUM

	Officers Salaries	Employees' Wages	Fuel and Lights	Board and Clothing	Drugs and Medicines	Furniture and Dry Goods	Incidentals	Lapsed	Monthly Totals
1904									
December	\$ 475.00	\$ 860.00	\$ 1,079.61	\$ 1,107.58	.....	\$ 77.53	\$ 400.95	.....	\$ 4,000.67
1905									
January	485.00	875.00	1,687.81	2,020.78	\$ 145.27	7.05	350.89	.....	5,571.80
February	485.00	868.33	640.07	1,231.99	101.53	49.38	307.08	.....	3,683.38
March	485.00	864.51	390.05	1,334.08	29.20	17.02	434.09	.....	3,553.95
April	485.00	854.18	333.72	1,702.24	87.60	22.72	868.72	.....	4,354.18
May	485.00	950.00	430.29	2,041.78	108.20	31.20	160.97	.....	4,207.44
June	510.00	864.00	408.68	1,374.26	88.20	90.83	249.29	.....	3,585.26
July	510.00	915.00	283.97	1,348.85	38.71	22.13	120.00	.....	3,238.66
August	510.00	915.00	245.65	1,116.90	20.08	49.08	196.97	.....	3,053.68
September	510.00	902.00	424.80	1,594.96	32.61	44.80	140.80	.....	3,649.97
October	510.00	872.74	470.32	2,375.09	82.45	6.00	305.37	.....	4,621.97
November	510.00	912.62	952.12	572.99	69.55	30.80	220.86	.....	3,268.94
December	510.00	915.00	1,029.07	934.33	53.73	88.33	177.13	.....	3,707.59
1906									
January	510.00	908.11	637.67	1,136.36	63.26	140.79	128.45	.....	3,524.64
February	510.00	925.60	650.93	887.48	32.30	225.83	134.07	.....	3,366.21
March	510.00	926.10	877.32	1,701.53	30.71	23.96	110.02	.....	4,179.64
April	510.00	947.17	1,576.41	1,933.61	3.45	67.25	136.88	.....	5,174.77
May	510.00	944.17	.....	898.07	53.95	92.80	155.08	.....	2,654.07
June	510.00	937.49	.....	1,049.47	102.82	164.70	93.29	.....	2,857.77
July	510.00	911.67	355.32	1,777.32	112.16	3.60	191.55	.....	3,861.62
August	510.00	1,003.83	659.47	1,099.23	49.45	52.15	187.41	.....	3,561.54
September	510.00	939.99	403.09	1,052.95	36.76	27.26	196.58	.....	3,166.63
October	510.00	950.00	579.84	2,012.63	30.67	122.79	117.83	.....	4,323.76
November	510.00	935.67	1,299.57	900.06	34.50	214.03	148.39	.....	4,042.22
Lapsed .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	\$ 2.99	2.99
Lapsed .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2.27	2.27
Totals ..	\$ 12,080.00	\$ 21,898.18	\$ 15,415.78	\$ 33,204.54	\$ 1,407.16	\$ 1,672.03	\$ 5,532.67	\$ 5.26	\$ 91,215.62

CENSUS OF THE PRISON.

Number present, December 1, 1904	330	
Received during biennium on commitment	374	
Recommitted from asylums, or by court orders	6	
Returned to prison from parole	18	
Escapes of this biennium returned to prison	5	
Escapes of former biennial periods returned	2	
Escapes on parole returned to prison	1	
Returned from temporary furlough	1	
United States prisoners received	2	
		739
Discharged by expiration of sentence	240	
Commuted by governor and discharged	26	
Pardoned by Governor and discharged	7	
Committed suicide	1	
Released on parole	104	
Released on temporary furlough	1	
Remanded by order of court	9	
Transferred to insane asylums	4	
Escaped from prison	7	
United States prisoners discharged	2	401
		338
Count November 30, 1906		338
Average number of prisoners for the biennial period 1904-06		328.2

ASSIGNMENTS.

Of the inmates in prison at the close of the biennial period.

Engineer's department	8
Cellhouse help	9
Laundry, tailor and shoe shop	10
Blacksmith, painter and carpenter	3
In vegetable cellar	1
Shop runners	5
Gatemen	2
Employed in hospital	1
Employed in greenhouse	1
Policing in the yard	2
Employed at stockyards	2

Farmers, teamsters and cartmen		11	
Working in the yard (improvements)		3	
In deputy's office		1	
Library and chapel stand		1	
Female department		9	
In warden's office		1	
In warden's house and kitchen		3	
Storeroom and guards' barber		2	
Guards' quartermaster		1	
Cooks and assistants		5	
Bakers and butcher		4	
Waiters, dishwashers and scullions		20	
Ill and wounded		3	
Chronically unfit for duty		3	
Under death sentence		3	
In shops—on full time	209		
Three-fourths time		3	
One-half time		10	
One-fourth time		2	224
			<hr/>
Present, November 30, 1906			338

PAROLE CENSUS.

On parole December 1, 1904		29	
Released on parole during biennium		104	
			<hr/>
			133
Discharged on parole	53		
Violated parole conditions	16		
Returned to penitentiary	18		
Died while on parole	1		
Commutated and discharged on parole	4		
Pardoned and discharged on parole	1	93	
			<hr/>
On parole November 30, 1906			40

FEMALE WARD

Women prisoners present December 1, 1904	6
Received during the biennium	10
Returned from the Asylum for Insane	1
	<hr/>
	17
Discharged	6
Transferred to Insane Asylum	1
Commuted and discharged	1
	<hr/>
Present November 30, 1906	9

CENSUS OF UNITED STATES PRISONERS

Number present December 1, 1904	0
Received during the biennium	2
	<hr/>
	2
Discharged	2
	<hr/>
Present November 30, 1906	0

COUNTIES

In Which Prisoners Received During the Biennium Were Tried and Convicted.

Adams	1	Franklin	4
Antelope	1	Fillmore	2
Boyd	2	Furnas	3
Box Butte	7	Frontier	1
Brown	4	Gage	7
Buffalo	9	Garfield	2
Butler	2	Greeley	2
Burt	2	Hall	6
Cass	7	Holt	3
Cherry	19	Howard	1
Cheyenne	7	Jefferson	2
Clay	1	Johnson	1
Cuming	1	Keith	3
Custer	8	Keya Paha	2
Dawes	10	Kimball	3
Dawson	3	Knox	4
Deuel	2	Lancaster	28
Dixon	4	Lincoln	6
Dodge	10	McPherson	1
Douglas	124	Madison	2

Merrick	6	Saunders	2
Nance	1	Seward	4
Nemaha	1	Sheridan	1
Nuckolls	1	Scottsbluff	1
Otoe	9	Sioux	3
Pawnee	1	Thayer	2
Phelps	1	Thurston	5
Pierce	1	Valley	2
Platte	7	Washington	3
Red Willow	3	Wayne	2
Rock	1	Webster	2
Saline	1	York	2
Sarpy	5		
		TOTAL	374

CRIMES

Of Which Prisoners Received During the Biennium Were Convicted.

Burglary	86	Assault to rob	3
Grand larceny and stock thefts	91	Larceny as bailee	2
Forgery	47	Arson	3
Assault to kill or wound.....	35	Obtain money false pre- tences	2
Robbery	25	Adultery	1
Murder	21	Removing mtg. property.....	1
Rape	12	Bigamy	1
House breaking	9	Wife desertion	1
Larceny from person	9	Burglary to rape	1
Embezzlement	7	Kidnapping	1
Manslaughter	6	Seduction	1
Assault to rape	5		
Incest	4	TOTAL	374

RELIGIOUS TEACHING

Denominations of Church, if Any, in Which Prisoners Received During the Biennium, Were Taught.

Methodist	100	Presbyterian	22
Catholic	84	Christian	20
Baptist	66	Episcopal	12
Lutheran	24	Congregational	5

United Brethren	4	Christian Science	1
Adventist	2	Dutch Reformed	1
Dunkard	2	Jewish	1
Holiness	2	No Religious training	27
Zionist	1		
		TOTAL	374

THE SENTENCES IMPOSED

On the Prisoners Received During the Biennium.

Under one year	3	Fifteen years	3
One year	126	Seventeen years	2
Over one and und. two yrs	31	Twenty years	2
Two to three years	107	Thirty years	1
Over three and und. five yrs	30	Life sentence	10
Five to ten years	52	Death sentence	2
Twelve years	4		
Fourteen years	1	TOTAL	374

THE RECIDIVISTS

Those Received During the Biennium Who Admit Having Served Time Before.

Reform school graduates	19
Number admitting having served one previous term	36
Number admitting having served two previous terms	8
Number admitting having served three previous terms	6
Number admitting having served four previous terms	2
Number admitting having served five previous terms	1
Number admitting having served six previous terms	1
Number who are not known to have served previously	301
TOTAL	374

AGES

Of Prisoners Received During the Biennium.

Age at reception under 21	56
Age at reception between 21 and 30 years	190
Age at reception between 31 and 40 years	81
Age at reception between 41 and 50 years	35
Age at reception over 50	12
TOTAL	374

GENERAL STATISTICS

Regarding the Prisoners Received During the Biennium.

Voluntary Statements as to Guilt or Innocence—

Admit guilt of crime for which sentenced	243
Deny guilt of crime for which sentenced	131
TOTAL	374

Civil Condition—

Married at time of reception	104
Single at time of reception	270
TOTAL	374

Parental Guidance and Supervision—

Both parents living at time of conviction	134
Father only living at time of conviction	42
Mother only living at time of conviction	83
Neither parent living at time of conviction	115
TOTAL	374

Educational Advantages—

Able to read and write at time of reception	349
Unable to read or write at time of reception	18
Able to read only at time of reception	7
TOTAL	374

Habits Prior to Arrest—

Number alleging temperate habits	133
Number admitting moderate drinking	14
Number claiming to be intemperate	227
TOTAL	374

THE BIRTHPLACE

Of the Prisoners Received During the Biennium.

Foreign born	49	Ohio	13
Nebraska	44	Kentucky	13
Iowa	33	Texas	7
Missouri	30	Tennessee	7
Illinois	30	West Virginia	7
Pennsylvania	24	California	6
Kansas	19	South Dakota	5
New York	18	Wisconsin	5
Indiana	14	Virginia	5

Louisiana	5	Washington	1
Minnesota	5	Florida	1
Massachusetts	4	Alabama	1
Michigan	4	Arkansas	1
Georgia	3	Arizona	1
Maryland	3	Delaware	1
Indian Territory	3	Oklahoma	1
Wyoming	3	New Jersey	1
Colorado	3	Oregon	1
Mississippi	2		
District of Columbia	1	TOTAL	374

THE OCCUPATIONS

Given by the Prisoners Received During the Biennium.

Common laborers	99	Carpenters	3
Farmers	59	Stone masons	3
Waiters	16	Soldiers	3
Butchers	16	Boilermakers	2
Cooks	14	Telegraphers	2
Teamsters	13	Blacksmiths	2
Clerks	11	Tinners	2
Barbers	11	Harnessmakers	2
Firemen	9	Hatter	1
Porters	9	Watchmaker	1
Painters	8	Steamfitter	1
Brick masons	7	Bookkeeper	1
Miners	5	Herder	1
Tailors	5	Printer	1
Electricians	4	Dyer	1
Salesmen	4	Janitor	1
Domestics	4	Surveyor	1
Plumbers	4	Decorator	1
Dress makers	4	Cooper	1
Machinists	4	Civil engineer	1
Ranchmen	4	Hunter	1
Horsemen	4	Shoemaker	1
Switchmen	4	Sailor	1
Engineers	4	Bartender	1
Laundrymen	4	None	1
Moulders	3	Pressman	1
Bakers	3	Actor	1

Lawyer	1	Chicken Picker	1
Dairyman	1		
Window Dresser	1	TOTAL	374

EXHIBIT

Showing the Number of Offenses of Each Kind for Which Commitments Were Issued Since the Establishment of the Penitentiary.

Larcenous operations	3665
Assaults on the person	934
Arson	48
Perjury	14
Having burglar's tools	11
Obstructing railway tracks	9
Child stealing	5
Gambling	4
Bigamy	4
Malicious injury to property	3
Selling liquor to Indians	3
Blackmail	3
Illegal voting	3
Wife desertion	2
Adultery	1
Train wrecking	1
Prize fighting	1
Libel	1
Procuring a felony	1
Seduction	1
TOTAL (Highest Register No.)	4714

EXHIBIT

Showing the Number of Prisoners Received Each Fiscal Year Since the Establishment of Penitentiary.

1869	17	1877	70
1870	30	1878	63
1871	23	1879	92
1872	25	1880	79
1873	22	1881	74
1874	29	1882	76
1875	44	1883	71
1876	49	1884	107

1885	137	1897	211
1886	140	1898	139
1887	161	1899	142
1888	153	1900	150
1889	200	1901	178
1890	194	1902	155
1891	179	1903	135
1892	167	1904	208
1893	206	1905	170
1894	261	1906	204
1895	193		
1896	160	TOTAL (Highest Register No.)	4714

Average Number of Prisoners Received 124.

EXHIBIT

Showing the Home-Grown Produce Used during Biennium.

Potatoes, bu.	4206 2-3	Onions, bu.	672 1-4
Cabbage, heads	8896	Turnips, bu.	629
Pickles, gals.	628	Sauer Kraut, gals.	170
Carrots, bu.	108 1-2	Beets, bu.	312
Parsnips, bu.	28 1-2	Radishes, bunches	5380
Lettuce, bunches	11735	Green Corn, dozens	4121
Piccaililli, gallons	460 1-2	Green Peas, bu.	81
String Beans, bu.	75	Cucumbers, bu.	76
Pumpkins, tons	6	Tomatoes, bu.	192 3-4
Catfish, lbs.	130	Hay, tons	196
Straw, tons	66	Rye, bu.	130
Fodder, tons	155	Corn, bu.	2850
Millet, tons	12	Pork, lbs.	22377
Veal, lbs.	1306	Beef, lbs.	9550
Poultry, lbs.	971	Eggs, dozens	280 1-2
Milk, gals.	23908	Butter, lbs.	673
Wheat, bu.	60	Oats, bu.	1150

EXHIBIT

Showing the Home-Grown Produce on Hand at the Close of the Biennium.

Potatoes, bus.	1600	Rye, bus.	179
Turnips, bus.	400	Hay, tons	80
Parsnips, bus.	320	Beets, bus.	400
Corn, bus.	3300	Carrots, bus.	300

LAND COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

Sauer Kraut, gals.	568	Fodder, tons	40
Oats, bus.	110	Wheat, bus.	1082
Straw, tons	35		

IN THE GROUND.

Wheat	60 acres	Rye	16 acres
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LIVESTOCK.

Horses	9	Hogs	205
Mules	5	Ducks	42
Chickens	300	Geese	15
Cattle	41		

EXHIBIT

Showing the Value of Convict Labor Used in Repairs and Improvements During the Biennium.

Pointing, resetting towers and roof repairs	\$438.00
Concrete walks, paving, and flooring	1112.50
Fencing	450.00
Hog shed	100.00
Stone crushing	263.25
Repairing water pipes and sewers	190.00
Decorating and kalsomining	125.00
Miscellaneous painting and carpentry	835.50
Farm labor and teaming	4478.00
Harness making and repairs	50.00
Tailoring, repairing, and laundry work	3719.00
Cooking, baking, and dining room work	8994.00
Barber work	728.00
Engineer's department and miscellaneous labor	3741.50
Oil house	75.00
Bake oven and stone repairs	115.00
Yard grading, sodding, etc.	394.00
Coal shed and boiler room	691.00
Repairing boilers	40.00
Vegetable house	15.00
Road work	150.00
Enameling	30.00
Cross wall in boiler house	40.00
Resetting glass and repairing windows	25.00

\$26,799.75

DAILY COUNT—DEC. 1, 1904 TO NOV. 30, 1906.

MONTH	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	Av.	
Dec. 1904	328	328	326	326	325	325	325	325	324	325	325	328	329	329	330	331	332	333	330	327	329	329	331	333	333	335	335	335	338	340	338	330.0	
Jan. 1905	336	335	337	336	336	336	334	334	334	335	336	336	335	333	333	331	332	331	332	332	335	336	339	340	341	341	341	342	341	343	343	341	336.0
Feb. "	336	336	336	336	337	337	337	336	336	335	333	334	333	333	331	330	330	330	330	329	329	329	327	323	323	324	325	325				327.9	
Mar. "	324	324	322	322	322	322	322	322	322	322	321	321	321	323	323	321	321	322	322	322	319	318	320	319	320	318	322	321	320	320	320	320	321.2
Apr. "	317	317	317	318	318	318	318	318	318	318	318	317	316	317	318	317	316	317	317	318	318	319	320	319	319	319	319	319	319	320	319	319	318.0
May "	320	321	321	321	323	322	321	320	320	320	320	319	319	319	319	320	320	320	320	320	320	320	321	323	325	325	322	322	320	319	321	320.7	
Jun. "	321	322	322	322	322	323	323	323	322	322	322	323	324	324	326	326	326	325	327	327	327	322	322	322	322	323	323	323	324	324		323.6	
July "	324	324	324	323	324	324	324	324	323	323	324	324	323	322	322	322	322	322	322	322	320	321	322	321	320	320	319	319	319	320	319	318	321.3
Aug. "	317	317	316	316	316	316	316	315	315	315	314	314	314	314	312	313	313	310	310	310	310	312	309	309	308	308	308	308	308	308	309	312.3	
Sep. "	309	308	308	307	308	308	308	308	307	306	307	307	307	306	306	306	306	305	304	304	304	304	305	306	306	307	308	308	307	307	307	306.7	
Oct. "	302	301	301	302	301	301	301	301	301	300	300	301	301	301	298	299	299	297	297	297	296	295	296	296	295	295	296	296	296	297	298	298.5	
Nov. "	296	296	293	294	293	292	292	292	292	295	296	297	297	297	296	298	297	297	297	297	298	298	296	295	296	297	298	298	303	304	304	296.6	
Dec. "	303	302	303	303	308	306	306	307	308	310	307	307	305	309	312	312	319	315	316	318	318	318	318	318	318	320	324	324	327	329	332	313.2	
Jan. 1906	331	331	331	330	331	333	332	332	333	335	335	335	335	334	334	335	335	335	335	335	335	337	337	336	336	335	335	333	333	334	335	334.0	
Feb. "	336	336	335	336	333	332	331	331	332	332	331	332	331	332	331	331	328	326	328	326	327	327	327	326	324	325	325	326	325		329.4		
Mar. "	324	322	322	323	322	322	323	323	322	322	323	323	323	323	323	326	325	326	326	327	328	327	324	322	322	327	327	327	327	327	329	324.9	
Apr. "	330	331	330	333	335	335	334	334	333	334	334	334	336	337	338	340	341	341	342	342	340	340	340	340	340	340	343	345	345	345	345	337.8	
May "	344	345	345	345	345	345	348	349	351	351	348	348	348	341	352	354	354	355	355	355	355	355	355	353	353	353	354	354	355	354	353	351.0	
Jun. "	350	351	353	354	354	355	355	356	355	355	355	353	353	351	351	353	353	352	352	352	351	351	351	351	351	353	353	355	355	357	358	353.3	
July "	357	357	357	354	354	354	352	352	355	355	356	357	357	355	355	354	354	354	354	355	355	356	356	356	358	357	357	357	362	360	361	356.1	
Aug. "	361	361	361	361	361	360	360	360	358	359	357	359	359	358	359	357	357	358	358	357	356	354	354	353	352	351	352	353	352	353	352	356.7	
Sep. "	349	349	349	350	350	351	351	351	351	351	351	351	351	345	345	344	344	344	343	343	341	340	339	339	339	339	341	340	340	345	345	345.3	
Oct. "	345	342	342	342	342	342	342	342	340	339	339	338	338	338	336	337	336	336	336	334	333	334	333	332	330	331	332	334	335	336	336	337.0	
Nov. "	338	338	337	336	336	336	336	335	335	336	336	336	336	335	335	335	335	335	335	334	334	332	333	336	337	337	338	339	339	339	338	336.0	

STATE PENITENTIARY

REPORT OF THE CHAPLAIN.

Lancaster, Nebr., December 1, 1906.

HON. A. D. BEEMER, Warden, Nebraska State Penitentiary.

Sir:—I have the honor to submit to you the following report of the facts and work of my office for the past two years.

I was appointed to this office by Gov. J. H. Mickey, January 1st, 1905, and immediately entered upon the discharge of the duties thereof.

I found, in successful operation, the following named religious services, a morning chapel service followed by a Sunday school session. To these were added by your approval and consent, an afternoon service, of an hour in length. Attendance upon chapel service being compulsory, one could not determine the degree of interest men confined in an institution like this, might take in religious services. But, as attendance upon the Sunday school and afternoon services was voluntary, a fair estimate of their regard for such services was possible. And I am free to say that the interest manifested, and the attention given, are decidedly in advance of the same given, by a corresponding number of men outside of the walls of this institution, at least so far as I know. I deem it but fair to say, that for appreciative and intelligent hearing, the resident population of this place will take rank with the best. We may not number as many converts to the religion of the Lord Jesus Christ, as others,—there are reasons for this that cannot be given here,—but we can say that the labors of these months have not been fruitless.

The event of the week (always excepting discharge) is the chapel and the Sunday school services. Then, for a little time, the thought is turned from the common place, daily routine to something higher and better.

Many have heard for the first time, the Gospel of Christ taught in the lessons of the chapel, and of the Sunday school, impressions have been made, which like seed sown, will grow into thought and life. Memories of other and better days revived. Consciences have been quickened, and a sense of personal responsibility aroused. And, in some instances, resolutions formed for better living. I find that the religion of Jesus Christ meets the needs of the men behind the bars as well as it does the spiritual needs of others on the outside.

These prison services have been aided by the presence and help of a host of friends from the outside, who have given time, thought and effort, to make them interesting and profitable, and without whose assistance the work could not have been successful. For this help these workers get nothing but the approval enlightened conscience and their car-fare.

My relations with all, officially connected with the prison, have been pleasant and friendly,

I, especially, wish to thank the warden for courtesies and for aid given me in my work. I may be allowed to add, that, in my intercourse with the inmates of the prison, I have met with uniform respect and kindness and it is a matter of much satisfaction to me to have the regard of those one serves.

The prison association of the city is helping greatly in assisting men when discharged, to place and position again in society. We hope that people, kindly disposed towards men placed at a great disadvantage by circumstances, will hold doubt and distrust in abeyance until they have examined the work of this association and know whether it is right to oppose that work or support it.

Gov. J. H. Mickey has taken much interest in the moral and spiritual welfare of the inmates. Has often visited the prison and spoken to us. It is a healthy sign when our officials and others, care for the men confined as they do for the state and its interests.

I append a brief report of the collections taken, expenditures made, etc., raised by contributions, contributed by visitors to the morning services.

These figures being for one year ending November 30, 1906.

For Sunday school supplies	\$18.45
For Sunday school papers	76.34
For hymn books	30.00
For incidentals	39.32
	<hr/>
Total expended	216.45
Balance on hand	19.53
	<hr/>
Total collected	\$235.98

P. C. JOHNSON, Chaplain.

REPORT OF THE SCHOOL.

The prison school was organized in May 1905. It began with 45 pupils. There have been attending this school since the beginning 125 different persons, mainly of the illiterate class. Present number attending 47.

Only the common English branches are taught, spelling, reading, writing, arithmetic, geography and grammar. Some have taken their first lessons in spelling and reading, some in arithmetic, some in geography and grammar. Some who knew little or nothing of the English language have learned to read and write it with remarkable facility.

The school is held in the dining room of the prison, which while serving the purpose in a measure is but poorly calculated for a school room.

At first we used books donated by the state superintendent of public instruction. These books were almost wholly samples, and as no two were alike, it was practically impossible to do much with them. A supply of new books was purchased, at a cost of about \$80. These have served our purpose very well.

The principal is assisted by men from within the institution, who are competent and willing to assist those not so fortunate as themselves. For this service they receive no compensation, save the satisfaction that comes from helping others.

While this work is new in the Nebraska prison it has demonstrated its value to the men in confinement and should receive the attention of the state legislature. Like all new methods it has run the gauntlet of criticism, not very severe it is true, yet sharp enough to reveal the fact that some doubt the wisdom of the work and the utility of the service. I question whether the state can do better by its wards, in this place than to give them the little chance for self improvement that is afforded by this school.

I especially desire to call the attention of our state legislature to this matter of teaching these wards of the state. I respectfully suggest that it is as much the duty of the state to aid its illiterate who may find their way into its prison, as it is its duty to do the same service for others.

We may not elaborate, in this paper the reason for such a

conclusion, but we wish our law-makers would take this matter under consideration.

There is another fact that I may notice here, though it may not seem to be a function of my office, that is, the propriety of putting into the field, a parole officer. One whose business it shall be to have the personal charge of and the finding of suitable persons and places to take men out on parole.

The state ought to know more about the details of this matter than can be determined by the present method. It ought to know, definitely, to what, and to whom a prisoner goes when on parole. Some competent person should visit the man paroled, note his condition, treatment, surroundings, etc. If these men are to be reformed, it is a matter of prime importance what the means are we use to reform them.

And now after a year and a half's time with this phase of prison work, I unhesitatingly recommend it to the thoughtful and sympathetic consideration of all interested.

P. C. JOHNSON, Instructor.

REPORT OF THE LIBRARIAN.

Total number of books in library according to catalog at this date (Nov. 30, 1906), 2,332. Of this number upwards of 650 have been added during the biennial. Other reports will show the cost of these additions. Donations of books have been received notably one of the bibles and testaments from the Johnson Co. Bible society valued at \$25.

These books are distributed among the inmates once a week, they selecting numbers from a catalog furnished them.

While a very large share of the books read are of a light fictitious character, yet a large percentage of the men read historical, scientific and philosophical works. Indeed, many treat "light literature" with contempt, and are very forceful in their expressions of their sense of its value.

Out of the average prison population of 350 easily 300 persons read as many books each week. It is a mistake that many make that men in the penitentiary do not "read and think." Another mistake made by an outsider is "That any old book will do for the penitentiary." Periodicals, papers, magazines, etc.,

not current outside, are not popular here. When you have any of these to donate, let them be fresh and as new as you conveniently can. We shall always be glad to receive them and thank you.

An amusing instance of the profound knowledge that a few have of "Life Behind the Bars" was furnished by a well dressed visitor. Looking at the books in the library, he exclaimed, in a tone of real surprise, "Do you let 'em read?" The indignant answer of the usher seemed to satisfy him that "We let 'em read."

The influence of good literature is no more manifest than in this institution. Here men have time for reading; it employs their hours when not at work, keeps them in touch with the world, stimulates the best impulses within them, helps towards right being and doing, and is a powerful influence in the order, discipline and well being of men and women confined in our penal institutions.

NOTES

Various facts not in the immediate line of the chaplain's work may be noticed here, have contributed to the intellectual, moral and even spiritual welfare of the inmates of this institution. Among these I may mention the general good health that has prevailed. But one case of serious illness having occurred in the two years now closing. The gloom and depression usually attendant on ill health being absent.

The sanitary conditions of the prison are superior, the discipline while firm is humane. To a large degree the "lock step" has been removed. Gray suits for the old stripes have been substituted. Various personal privileges are granted for good behavior. Modifications of the prevailing forms of prison discipline. The orderly and attractive appearance of the prison grounds. The presence of flowers, papers, books and the visits of friends. The holidays and other exercises. All these have a helping effect and are to be reckoned among the forces that make men better and happier. Possibly if these men had had more of these factors in their childhood environment they would not now be in this place.

It would be easy to enlarge upon these things and show the value of them and other like influence upon the character. We

must never forget, whatever the facts are, that these men are human, have human hearts, consciences, souls, and that they are like the rest of us in all the essentials of human nature.

We have had for a time the efficient services of Mr. Clarke Oberlies, who served as our choir leader and Sunday school superintendent. Other duties requiring his presence, we fortunately secured the services of Mr. C. Bowers, who is doing excellent service as superintendent and teacher.

We want also to note the work of Miss Luree Beemer, the daughter of the warden, who for a long time presided at the piano, and contributed greatly to the pleasure and profit of attending our services.

A decided injustice would be done were we to fail to make especial mention of the good wife of the warden, Mrs. A. D. Beemer, whose personal presence, work, sympathy and influence have been such as to make her a real blessing to us all; be our relation to the institution what it may.

The chaplain most gratefully recognizes the help given by our outside friends, who have served us as teachers, singers, entertainers, lecturers, etc. Many a pleasant hour has been made possible because of these interested ones who have come to our help. I would like to mention them all by name.

Our choir is composed entirely of the "detained"—those who stay after services—and we flatter ourselves that better singing is not found in the great city. We may not be classical, but we are understandable and that is a great virtue in singing.

The visitors, a notable feature of our Sunday school, about fill all the chapel space available for them. And these manifest a decided interest in these services, not only by being present in large numbers, but by liberal contributions to the necessary expenses of the school.

Coming as these do from all parts of the state, and even nation, they come in touch with a large class of our citizenship, young and old, that we all need to know better. Surely no person with the heart of a human being, goes away from these scenes without a broader humanity and a larger sympathy for the unfortunate. And the visit is one of mere idle curiosity if we do not strive to prevent, especially the young, from falling into temptation, sin and their results.

SUGGESTIONS

I greatly regret that undue publicity is given to the matter of discharges in the newspapers. The names and crimes of the men are published. The fact that they are convicts paraded, and by so much their return to an honest life hindered. Society speaks hard of its criminals, and yet makes it hard for them to return to an honest life.

Another piece of rank injustice is found in the fact that when convicted men are, by later evidence, proven innocent, the state simply releases them by the doubtful process of a pardon and yet makes no reparation for the wrong done the man. Cannot our law makers remedy this injustice?

The careless arrest of discharged men by officers of the law under specious plea of "protecting society" is scarcely less than an outrage and should be stopped. It is a violation of a man's rights. It is cruel and unjust. When men have satisfied the demands of the law they ought to be let alone until they do wrong again.

P. C. JOHNSON.

REPORT OF THE PHYSICIAN.

NEBRASKA STATE PENITENTIARY,
OFFICE OF THE PHYSICIAN.

To the Warden:—

I take pride as well as pleasure in submitting a brief report for the biennial period ending November 30, 1906. The report is, of necessity, brief, as there has been so little sickness among the prisoners of the institution, and the physician's business has more to do with the lack of health than its opposite. However, the physician who is true to his teachings is as much interested in maintaining the health of his patient as he is in restoring that health when it is menaced by disease. The result of the sanitary and dietetic changes which you have made has caused me much gratification, not only because of the excellent record that they have made possible in my department, but because of the manifest increase of comfort for the inmates, rendering them more readily susceptible to treatment when threatened with disease.

I have followed the same line of treatment as I outlined in

my last report to you, and it may not be out of place to quote substantially what I then said:

“It has been my policy not to wait until a malady has become fully developed before attacking it, but where I have found an inmate in an anaemic condition, to take immediate steps along a restorative line of treatment, to tone up his system, and, if possible, ward off the threatened illness.”

During the biennium but few serious cases have been encountered, and there has not been a death among the inmates during the period. There has been the unavoidable and to-be-expected number of minor complaints, and about the usual number of inconsequential surgical cases, the most of them no more than injuries to fingers sustained in operating the machinery and wielding the sharp knives used in the manufacture of brooms, but however trivial these wounds may be they occasion the loss of many days because of the nature of the prisoner's occupation.

I very seriously doubt whether the record for the last two years at this institution has been equaled at any institution of this nature in the country, and there is documentary proof that it is a new record for this institution. I do not claim the credit for this remarkable state of things. It is largely yours as you have, during your administration, directed especial and energetic effort toward healthful and sanitary conditions. There is now no congestion in the cellhouses, no disease-breeding piles of rubbish, no inadequate bathing facilities. The culinary department has been improved, the sewer system amplified, and the various other matters pertaining to good health attended to with rigor and good judgment. I think the state is fortunate, indeed, in having at the head of an institution like this one whose appreciation of sanitary and hygienic requirements is so acute.

	Dispensary Calls	Days Lost from Wounds	Days Lost from Sickness	Chronically Unfit for Duty		Dispensary Calls	Days Lost from Wounds	Days Lost from Sickness	Chronically Unfit for Duty
December, 1904.	340	90	70	....	December.....	256	5	29	1
January, 1905...	326	52	109	....	January, 1906 .	294	14	42	1
February	253	53	160	....	February	218	33	14	1
March	416	21	70	....	March	277	32	81	1
April	321	69	82	....	April	256	34	40	1
May	409	49	67	....	May	222	26	40	1
June	280	34	98	....	June	290	68	59	2
July	325	45	82	1	July	211	34	57	3
August	308	33	171	....	August	366	29	155	4
September	301	67	101	....	September	267	7	128	4
October	401	31	57	....	October	330	17	115	33
November.....	294	9	56	1	November.....	258	44	68	

In concluding this report I again call attention to the reason for its brevity, and take the opportunity to thank you and the officers and employees under you for the many courtesies extended to me and the help accorded my department. I want especially to thank Mrs. Beemer, the matron, for her invaluable assistance in caring for those whose little illnesses have made the care of a good woman of incalculable worth. The small attentions and nursing which a woman's foresight suggest are indeed of value to the physician. Respectfully,

E. L. HOLYOKE, Physician.

PAROLE LAW.

AN ACT to provide the parole of prisoners, to place the power therefor in the Governor of the State, and defining the duties of the Governor and of officers in connection therewith. Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Nebraska:

Section 1. That the Governor shall have power in the case of any prisoner, who is now, or hereafter may be, imprisoned in the state penitentiary under a sentence other than murder in the first or second degree, who may have served the minimum term provided by law for the crime for which he was convicted, (and who has not previously been convicted of felony and served a term in any penal institution within the United States

of America), and in the case of any prisoner who is now or hereafter may be imprisoned under a sentence for murder in the first or second degree, and who has now, or hereafter shall have served twenty-five full years, to allow any such prisoner to go upon parole, outside of the enclosure of said penitentiary, to remain while on parole, within the state under the control and in the legal custody of the Governor, and subject at any time to be taken back within the enclosure of said institution; and full power to retake and reimprison any convict so upon parole is hereby conferred upon the Governor, whose written order shall be sufficient warrant for all officers named therein, to authorize such officers to return to actual custody any conditionally released or paroled prisoner; and it is hereby made the duty of all officers to execute said order the same as any ordinary criminal process. Approved April 10, A. D. 1893.

In cases falling within the provisions of the above recited law, parole will be granted only in those instances where, in the opinion of the Governor, from the nature of the offense committed, the past history of the convict, the active interest promised by friends concerned in his reformation, and like considerations, the case presented seems a proper one for executive interference, and then upon the following:

RULES AND REGULATIONS.

1. Before his release on parole employment must be procured for the prisoner at some legitimate industry. His proposed employer must be a reputable citizen of the state whose fitness to supervise the conduct of the convict shall be certified to by some judge or other person of good standing known to the Governor. Such employer shall furthermore express in writing his willingness to give employment to the convict for a specified time, provided his conduct is satisfactory, to report any absence from work, or tendency to evil associations, and to certify to the monthly report required of the convict as hereinafter referred to.

2. The prisoner on his part shall pledge himself in writing honestly and faithfully to comply with the conditions annexed:

First.—He shall proceed at once to the place of employment provided for him and there remain.

Second.—In case he finds it necessary to change his employ-

ment or residence, he shall first obtain the written consent of the Governor of the state through the warden of said state penitentiary.

Third.—He shall on the first day of each month, until his final release, write the warden of said state penitentiary, a report of himself, stating whether he has been constantly at work during the last month, and if not, why not; how much he has earned, and how much he has expended, together with a general statement as to his surroundings and prospects, which report must be endorsed by his employer.

Fourth.—He shall in all respects conduct himself honestly, avoid evil associations, obey the law, and abstain from the use of intoxicating liquors.

Fifth.—As soon as possible after reaching his destination, he shall report to his employer, showing him his parole, and at once enter upon the employment provided for him.

Sixth.—He shall, while on parole, remain in the legal custody and under the control of the Governor of the State of Nebraska.

Seventh.—He shall be liable to be retaken and again confined within the enclosure of said state penitentiary for any reason or reasons that shall be satisfactory to the Governor and at his sole discretion until he receives a copy of his final discharge through the warden.

GOOD-TIME LAW.

AN ACT to allow convicts in the penitentiary a credit in diminution of their sentences, and for their being restored to citizenship upon certain conditions. Approved February 25, 1875.

Compiled Statutes of Nebraska, 1885, sec. 569. (Commutation of time of good behavior.)

Section 1. That every convict who is now or who may hereafter be confined in the Nebraska penitentiary, and who shall have no infraction of the rules or regulations of the penitentiary or laws of the state recorded against him, and who performs in a faithful manner the duties assigned to him in an orderly and peaceable manner, shall be entitled to the diminution of time from his sentence as appears in the following section, and pro rata for any part of a year where the sentence is for more or less than a year: Of two months on the first year; of two months on the second year; of three months on the third year;

of four months on the fourth year; and the like diminution of time for each succeeding year of time of their sentence. (1875 1-32.)

Section 569a. (Time lost by misconduct.)

Section 2. Whenever a charge of misconduct shall be sustained by the warden or inspectors at their first meeting after said charge or charges shall have been recorded by the warden or the deputy against the prisoner, he shall lose the deduction of time specified in section one of this act; but he may regain by continuous good conduct thereafter, a deduction of time not exceeding seventy-five per cent of said time specified in section one of this act, and as much less as the warden or inspectors may certify to as a suitable reward for good conduct.

Section 569b. (Warrant of Governor.)

Section 3. The Governor shall, upon receiving certificate of good conduct from the warden and inspectors, immediately issue his warrant for the discharge of such convict. Said warrant shall in all cases restore the prisoner to civil rights the same as though a pardon had been issued.