

REPORT
OF THE
JOINT COMMITTEE
OF THE
TWENTY-FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OF THE
STATE OF IOWA,
APPOINTED TO VISIT THE
ADDITIONAL PENITENTIARY
LOCATED AT
ANAMOSA.

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REPORT.

To the Twenty first General Assembly of the State of Iowa:

Your committee appointed to visit the Penitentiary at Anamosa would respectfully report:

That we visited the Penitentiary on January 20th and 21st, and by reason of the snow blockade were kept there during the whole of the 22d, during which time we visited the cell house, engine and boiler room, dining room, kitchen, store-room, work-shop and cellar, together with the chapel, hospital, female department, and in short all the various buildings and departments connected with the prison as carefully as the time at our disposal would permit.

We found 282 male and thirteen female prisoners confined in said prison, most of whom are in good health, all comfortably clothed and well fed. For breakfast and dinner they are allowed all they want to eat, and for supper they are furnished bread and coffee, which they carry to their cells with them.

The food is of a plain, substantial nature, clean and well cooked, and partaken of by the prisoners freely with apparent relish.

In conversing with the prisoners we find some complaint of severe punishment for slight infractions of the rules of the prison, but it is the opinion of your committee that the officers in charge use no harsher means than is necessary for the maintenance of good government and proper discipline.

The chief complaint made by the prisoners was in reference to the law fixing "good time," and this complaint comes wholly from those having long sentences to serve. After a careful examination of the laws we find the Iowa law equally as favorable on this point as the Illinois laws, or the law of other States. Especially is this true, when it is considered that the average term of sentence is but two years and three months.

Another common complaint of prisoners as well as the citizens of

Anamosa is, that the prison chaplain is by reason of her sex unqualified to discharge the duties of the office in a satisfactory manner.

The limited number of female prisoners confined in the Penitentiary at Anamosa scarcely justifies the employment of a Matron, and it is the opinion of your committee that until the number of female prisoners reaches twenty-five the services of a matron could well be dispensed with.

It is also the opinion of your committee that the law allowing one guard for every eight prisoners should be changed to allow one guard for every ten prisoners.

We find the cell-house well ventilated, heated by steam and lighted by electricity. It is commodious and clean, as indeed are all the buildings connected with the prison.

So far as your committee could learn the appropriations have been properly expended, and for the purposes appropriated.

There have been no diversions of the money drawn from the State Treasury that were apparent to your committee.

The buildings being as near fire-proof as it is possible to make them, no fire escape, other than the regular means of exit, is deemed necessary. The buildings are well supplied with good fire hose attached to hydrants in the various buildings, and always ready for use in case of fire.

The warden's house is commodious and comfortable, yet plainly furnished, and does not require anything further at present.

We find that the work on the building intended for the use of criminal insane is well along; the foundation being all in and the stone work of two rows of cells completed. It is the opinion of your committee that this work should be pushed to completion as speedily as possible, in order to relieve the overcrowded hospitals at Mt. Pleasant and Independence of this class of unfortunates.

Owing to the extreme cold, coupled with the fact that everything was buried in snow your committee did not visit the quarries owned by the State, but were informed by the Warden that they contained an ample supply of stone, not only for the work to be completed at Anamosa, but for use by the State at any of the other State Institutions. In fact a considerable quantity of Stone from these quarries has been furnished the Orphans' Home at Davenport and the Asylum at Independence, as is shown by the Warden's report.

No contract labor is performed by any of the prisoners at this Penitentiary, and it is the opinion of your committee that a small

amount per day should be allowed each convict for every day he may labor, and such sum should be set apart for the support of his family if he have any, or if he have no family, it should be paid him at the expiration of his service.

We find the following list of persons employed in and about the Penitentiary with the monthly salary of each placed opposite their respective names:

LIST OF OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE PENITENTIARY AT ANAMOSA, IA.

	Per month.
A. E. Martin, Warden.....	\$ 166.67
G. S. Hickox, Deputy Warden and house rent.....	110.00
T. T. Parsons, clerk.....	70.00
L. J. Adair, physician.....	50.00
Mrs. C. J. Wood, matron.....	75.00
A. C. Merrill, chaplain and teacher.....	70.00
F. W. Port, hospital steward.....	50.00
Lew Kinsey, turnkey.....	50.00
J. M. Breen, guard.....	50.00
T. Buckner, guard.....	50.00
C. Buckner, guard.....	50.00
W. M. Brown, guard.....	50.00
A. N. Boswell, guard.....	50.00
H. Ballard, guard.....	50.00
Frank Baum, guard.....	50.00
J. H. Brant, guard.....	50.00
J. N. Chapman, guard.....	50.00
P. Egan, guard.....	50.00
Robert Ewing, guard.....	50.00
Frank Ferris, guard.....	50.00
E. J. Gill, guard.....	50.00
J. C. Gibson, guard.....	50.00
H. L. Griffin, guard.....	50.00
R. W. Johnson, guard.....	50.00
R. W. Johnson, guard.....	50.00
M. Kenyon, guard.....	50.00
Fred Kenyon, guard.....	50.00
R. J. Kelsey, guard.....	50.00
N. Lewellen, guard.....	50.00
C. M. Gowan, guard.....	50.00
M. McCarty, guard.....	50.00
J. C. McCarthy, guard.....	50.00
M. McLaren, guard.....	50.00
J. B. Moreland, guard.....	50.00
J. H. Moreland, guard.....	50.00

	Per annum.
J. B. Martin, guard	\$ 50.00
J. H. Phinney, guard	50.00
C. J. Stanger, guard	50.00
John McMiller, guard	50.00
D. G. McKay, guard	50.00
W. H. Port, guard	50.00
F. Schuler, guard	50.00
John Flaherty, guard	50.00
Thomas O'Rourke, guard	50.00
Frank Barnes, foreman and engineer	90.00
D. Damburum, foreman	85.00
James Lister, foreman	85.00
T. C. Mollett, foreman	75.00
Farrell O'Rourke, foreman	70.00
M. Pell, foreman	60.00
J. C. McFarland, foreman	60.00
E. S. Maudesley, baker	60.00
Total	\$2,976.67

In view of the deficit in the State treasury caused by reason of unusual appropriations made by the Twentieth General Assembly it is the opinion of your committee that the appropriation of \$1,500 asked for the purpose of placing an iron fence around a strip of unoccupied ground in front of the present cell house can well be deferred until our State finances are in better condition.

We also find the Prison well supplied with water from the city water works at a moderate cost, and, therefore, are of the opinion that the \$8,000 asked for the construction of a tank house and pump can safely be withheld until the more important improvements now in progress are completed.

As most of the material used in the construction of the insane and female departments now in course of construction is stone procured from quarries owned by the State and prepared and placed in position by the convicts, and in view of the fact that iron is now very cheap, it is the opinion of your committee that an appropriation of \$50,000 will be ample to carry on construction for the coming two years, and will furnish material enough to keep fully employed all the convict labor the Penitentiary will contain during the next biennial period.

In conclusion, your committee beg leave to say that they were

courteously treated by the Warden and his deputy, and afforded the facilities usually accorded to visiting committees.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

A. M. WHALEY,

On the part of the Senate,

C. L. ANDERSON,

JOHN T. HAMILTON,

On the part of the House.