

CONVICTS FOODLESS FOR 24 HOURS AS PUNISHMENT FOR EVEN A WHISPER IN PRISON "HELL" AT HOLMESBURG

County Prison Termed "Worst in Country" by ex-Inmates

ARBITRARY REGULATIONS CALLED "INHUMAN"

County Meals of Badly Prepared Materials Kept From Men for Trivial Errors

PRISONERS MOPE IN CELLS; CAN'T WORK OR EXERCISE

Dr. Reeves, of Board of Inspectors, Says, "Rules Are Made and Will Stand"

This is the first of a series of articles dealing with conditions in the Philadelphia County Prison at Holmesburg. A second article will appear Monday.

Twenty-four hours without food as punishment for talking.
Twenty-four hours without food for smoking.
Twenty-four hours without food for the penalty for chewing tobacco.
Loss of twenty-minute daily exercise during term of imprisonment if the prisoner laughs while given this exercise.
Solitary confinement for at least 30 days for 574 convicts.

These rules are in force at the Philadelphia County Prison at Holmesburg.

The Board of Inspectors in charge of the prison is responsible for the enforcement of these rules, and the president of the board, Dr. J. M. Reeves, says that they will not be changed, except that the board will be given the use of chewing tobacco beginning January 1.

But a group of recently released convicts has opened a fight to wipe out these conditions, which are without parallel in any other county prison in Pennsylvania.

The Pennsylvania Prison Society, through its secretary, Albert H. Gray, is bent on wiping out solitary confinement at Holmesburg and now engaged in a movement that will blot out other conditions complained of at both Holmesburg and Moyamensing, the other county prison at Tenth and Reed streets.

John Wescott, an ex-convict, says there is urgent need of an investigation of the Holmesburg prison.

Wescott, an intelligent man of forty, came out in August, after serving the months of a year in prison.

Called "Worst Jail in U. S."
"Something must be done to change the rules of that prison," he said. "I can't speak for myself, but for the men who are penned in their cells like animals. This prison bears the name of being the worst jail in the United States. The keepers are well schooled in trying out these rules, and the Board of Inspectors has made its warden, A. C. Cooke, and his assistant, Captain William H. Weston, understand that they will be held strictly accountable for the rigid enforcement of the regulations."

Wescott then enumerated conditions he says he found them while serving nine months. He was made a "bunkie," and therefore, was able to be in close touch with conditions generally.

"I saw things that made me, an old-timer," he said, "and I decided that I would compile enough data to start a fight against this place. They don't boast of the whip, clubs and shackles, but they have weapons of the form of isolation and starvation that are a thousand times more deadly. They promote stagnation, physical and mental."

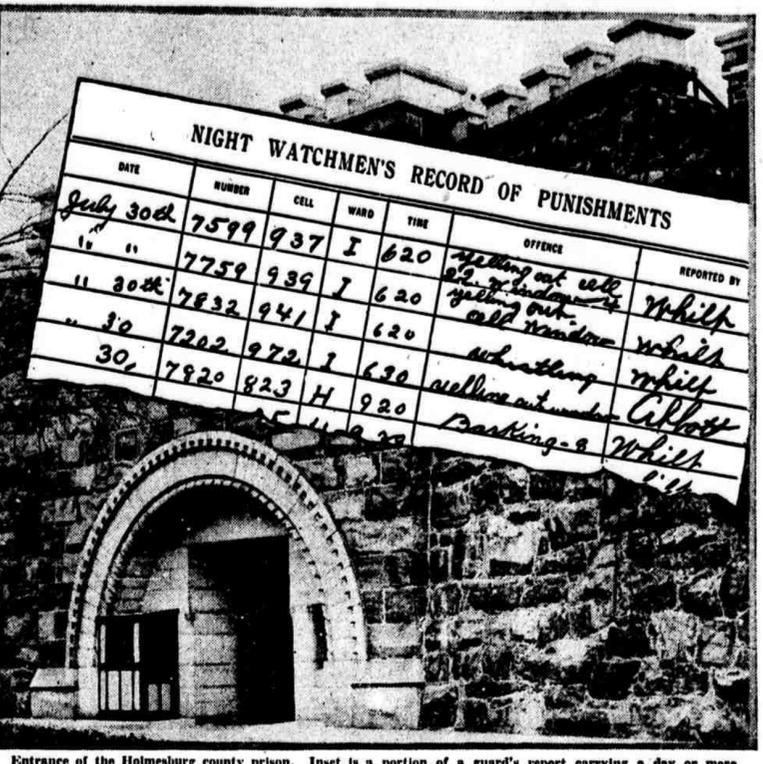
When a man is sent to Holmesburg, he is for six months or twenty months, the first thing that is done is to shave off his hair, give him a bath and lock him away in solitary confinement. When he is sent to the cell, he is doomed to spend maybe twenty years. His keeper points to a set of rules, which is the only thing that reads the walls of his cell, and says, "Read them and obey them."

Denied Even a Mattress
"Naturally the man looks around his home and the first thing he misses is a mattress. He thinks that he is in a home and mentions it to his keeper. The keeper informs the prisoner that he is allotted three blankets, one to tuck under him, one on the springs, and one for a cover. The man kit contains a tin plate, cup, pan and spoon, and the furniture."

It is that man's little home for twenty years, and if he is not smart enough to get himself out of there, he is stuck in that cell all his life. He is allowed only twenty minutes exercise five days a week, and must be kept turned around in the cell.

IF IT'S A USED AUTOMOBILE YOU WANT, you'll find it on page 21—Ad.

CALLED WORST PRISON IN UNITED STATES



Entrance of the Holmesburg county prison. Inset is a portion of a guard's report carrying a day or more without food for prisoners guilty of such heinous crimes as "barking," which is keeper's argot for shouting.

SUICIDE HOAX FAILS TO WIN GIRL

Camden Youth's Death Threat Did Not Impress Riverside Fair One a Bit

HIS LANDLADY STARTLED

Gertrude Leoney, of Riverside, the girl mentioned in a "suicide hoax" left by Walter Woolman, of Camden, says she never wants to see him again.

The young woman made it clear that if Woolman's hint of suicide was meant to win sympathy from her, the attempt failed utterly.

Woolman boarded at the home of Mrs. A. E. Sanford, 3522 Howard street, Camden, and this morning Mrs. Sanford found in his room the following note:

"I am saying good by to all tonight. I have taken of what was in the box. Forgive me for all. Call the girl and tell her what has happened to me. I love her dearly. If they bring me home get an undertaker. Don't be afraid of anything. Will turn out for the best, but don't forget my girl. I am Walter Woolman."

Miss Leoney is pretty, with dark, wavy bobbed hair, dimpled cheeks and lustrous dark eyes. She lives at 210 Fillmore street, Riverside, with her parents.

"I met him last summer," she explained, referring to Woolman. "I never liked him an awful lot, but he kept after me. He had only known me two weeks when he gave me a diamond ring. After that he annoyed me constantly with offers of marriage. I didn't want to marry him or anybody else. I haven't seen the man I want to marry. My father and mother objected to him and they didn't want him coming to the house."

Made Himself at Home
John Leoney, the girl's father, was very emphatic.

"I won't have that thing in my place," he said. "I worked hard to get this ranch, and I am not going to have that man in it."

Mrs. Leoney said Woolman made himself thoroughly at home when he called on Gertrude. He would help himself to food in the refrigerator and even make coffee for himself.

Although his real name is name is Woolman, Mrs. Leoney went on, the young man told others his name was Walter Frankel and that his parents lived in Germany.

Laughs at Landlady
"Once he brought my daughter to have dinner with his parents in Camden. Later we found the man and woman were his uncle and aunt. He always was telling lies and always getting tripped up in them."

"Why he told us he had two or three automobiles of his own and that he was a graduate mechanical engineer. The truth was that he drove a truck for a living and his automobiles were all in his imagination."

MELANCHOLIA VICTIM FOUND DEAD IN LAKE

Mrs. Florence Robinson, of Bridgeton, Had Grieved for Dead Relatives

Mrs. Florence Robinson, forty-four years old, of Bridgeton, N. J., was found a suicide in East Lake, at Bridgeton, this morning by Lawrence Boye, a night watchman.

For several hours Mrs. Robinson's body lay in the morgue unidentified until relatives arrived. They had missed her from her home, and sought information from the police.

The victim is believed to have taken her life in a fit of melancholia, to which she had been subject since the death of her father, Newton Woolman, a painting contractor, who fell from a roof a year ago and was impaled on a spiked fence.

Her husband, Le Roy Robinson, her husband, divorced her two years ago. He died a year later.

The death of her father and her divorced husband so grieved on her mind, her relatives say, that at times she was irresponsible. Her fur-trimmed velvet coat was found on the bank of the lake today, but she left no word for her family.

FIND TWO GIRLS ON STREET; ONE DEAD, OTHER INJURED

Lock Haven Men Arrested for Automobile Accident

Lock Haven, Pa., Dec. 2.—(By A. P.)—The bodies of Elizabeth Harley and Eva Perri, sisters-in-law, both aged fifteen years, were found on a street in the eastern section of this city last night at 11 o'clock.

Miss Harley was dead and Miss Perri is in a local hospital severely injured. Tony Capello and Leo Kitchin, both of this city, were arrested today on instructions of Lock Haven authorities aboard a train entering Elmira, N. Y.

The four young people had met with an accident when the automobile in which they were riding last night swerved to the left and struck a telephone pole at Liberty street and Elmira.

Following the accident officials say the men placed the girls' bodies along the street where they were found, covered their eyes with their hands, hired a taxi and went to Williamsport, where they boarded a train for Elmira.

COURT BARS YOUTH FROM HAIGHT HOME

Bonmetra's Boasted Political Pull Fails to Save Him in "Vamp Case"

Bonmetra was held in \$1000 peace bond. Bonnets of political "pull" and descriptions of calls on the woman he says "amped" him were aired in a curious medley today at the hearing of Dominic Bonmetra, nineteen years old, Chel on avenue near Chestnut street, Germantown.

"I filed the complaint against Mr. McCaffery myself," said Colonel Hyatt. "He is a likable boy and was popular with the cadets and the faculty. I have known him since he was ten or eleven years old and was hard for me to take action against him, but the college cannot tolerate direct disobedience of orders."

The specifications alleged in the charge were that Bonmetra had disobeyed orders, unfaithful performance of duty as a cadet officer and leaving cadet lines without authority.

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TRY PRINCE ANDREW ON ARMY CHARGES

Hearing of Complaint Against Constantine's Brother Starts Today

Athens, Dec. 2.—(By A. P.)—An announcement published yesterday by order of the revolutionary leaders states that the hearing of the charges against Prince Andrew will be begun tomorrow, instead of Monday, the date originally fixed.

Prince Andrew, brother of former King Constantine, who commanded a division in Asia Minor, has been held prisoner here since shortly after the Greek disaster, on the charge of having disobeyed orders of the Greek general staff.

Rome, Dec. 2.—(By A. P.)—A serious Greek counter-revolutionary outbreak has occurred in the highlands of Western Greece, and on the Island of Corfu, where the British flag is reported to have been raised, as the result of a military revolt. The Greek revolutionaries say a message received here from Athens today.

N. Y. "SIAMESE TWIN" GIRLS SEPARATED
Babies Born Month Ago Are Separated Successfully
New York, Dec. 2.—Ruth and Sylvia Zarelsky, who came into the world November 2 joined together, were separated yesterday by an operation performed by Dr. Phil Milinberg, a specialist in obstetrics, at the Borough Park Maternity Hospital, Brooklyn.

CHESTER MILITARY COLLEGE STUDENTS QUIT AS PROTEST

Thirteen Cadets Sore Because Football Star Was "Kept In" Thanksgiving

GROUP FIRST ASKED FOR LENIENCY TO McCAFFERY

Sorry, Boys, Said Col. Hyatt, but Discipline Must and Shall Be Maintained

Thirteen cadets of the Pennsylvania Military College, Chester, have left the institution, protesting against the expulsion of Hugh McCaffery, a back on the college football team.

McCaffery, who lives in Chester and was a lieutenant in the cadet corps, was ousted yesterday for disobedience. He had been instructed to remain within the college grounds Thanksgiving morning, but broke limits, taking three other cadets with him.

As a result of his expulsion, a group of cadets called yesterday at the office of Colonel C. E. Hyatt, president of the college, and asked for McCaffery's reinstatement. They left the institution when the request was refused.

Eight of the eleven seniors at the college were among the cadet corps. The three others were members of the junior class. The freshmen and sophomore classes discussed a proposed walk-out, but decided to stand by the college.

The men who left are Raymond F. Whorley, Pittsburgh; John H. Eimerwink, this city; Paul K. Collier, this city; Walter G. Floto, Stouffville, O. M. P. Fulton, Rosemont; Frederick K. Backen, New Haven; Edward Barry, Jr., Bloomington, Ill.; and Paul Heine, Jr., Lancaster, seniors, and the following juniors: Gerald E. Haffeligh, this city; George H. McClesney, Pittsburgh; Harry O. Brahm, Pittsburgh; Stephen Goho, Jr., Lewisburg, Pa.; and James C. Murray, Pittsburg.

While a majority of the cadets went to a church service Thanksgiving morning, McCaffery, according to officials of the college, directed against the institution with several other cadets.

Instead of remaining in the grounds as ordered, he drove to the Chester High school, taking three other cadets with him. For this he was charged with conduct prejudicial to good order and discipline.

The specifications alleged in the charge were that Bonmetra had disobeyed orders, unfaithful performance of duty as a cadet officer and leaving cadet lines without authority.

"I filed the complaint against Mr. McCaffery myself," said Colonel Hyatt. "He is a likable boy and was popular with the cadets and the faculty. I have known him since he was ten or eleven years old and was hard for me to take action against him, but the college cannot tolerate direct disobedience of orders."

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PLAN PART PARDON FOR MOYER TO GET NORTH PENN LOOT

Directors of Phoenix Trust Co. Would Have Cashier Freed of Perjury Charge

HE THEN COULD TESTIFY IN CIVIL LITIGATION

Petition Being Circulated, but Prisoner Would Have to Finish Term

The Board of Directors of the Phoenix Trust Company, successors to the North Penn Bank, Twenty-ninth and Dauphin streets, which failed July 18, 1919, will head a petition for a partial pardon for Ralph T. Moyer, North Penn cashier, who was convicted for embezzlement and perjury, and sentenced to the penitentiary for twelve to fifteen years.

The Phoenix Trust Company officials believe that if they can have Moyer's record purged of the perjury charge they will be able, through his testimony, to collect more than \$100,000 from North Penn debtors for distribution among the old depositors, who so far have received only twenty-five cents on the dollar.

Just when the petition will be presented has not been decided. William A. Gray, who was Moyer's counsel during the trial following the sensational bank failure, will handle the petition when the time comes, but he said today: "The time is not yet ripe."

William Morris, vice president of the Phoenix Trust Company, said today: "The time is not yet ripe."

Continued on Page Four, Column Seven

LAST-MINUTE NEWS

GIRLS' FIELD HOCKEY SCORES

Boston	.....	2	—	4	Phila. Reserves	.....	6	7	—	13
Richmond	.....	3	—	3	Chicago	.....	1	0	—	1

IDENTIFY MAN SLAIN AT WILMINGTON

WILMINGTON, DEL., Dec. 2.—A mutilated body found on the marsh here Tuesday is believed to be that of Mocco Petroszelli, a shoemaker, who has been missing since Sunday. He had gone to Washington to try to raise \$500 and has not been seen since.

POLITICAL "RED CROSS" TO AID COMMUNISTS

MOSCOW, Dec. 2.—Plans for an international political "Red Cross" to lead moral and material support to Communist prisoners in the United States, Japan and other countries, were announced by the Third Internationale today.

KILLS SELF AS HE CALLS DAUGHTER

David Raff Stands on Porch, Rings Doorbell, Then Fires Shot From Revolver

David A. Raff, fifty-five years old, 208 North Franklin street, ended his life dramatically today by shooting himself through the head on the porch of his daughter's home at 410 North Hobart street.

Before pressing the muzzle of the gun against his right temple Raff mounded the steps, kicked open the door and pressed the bell.

Then he walked across, passed for a moment in front of a window and raised the pistol. As the shot rang out his daughter, Mrs. Edward Shinkle, reached the porch and saw her father fall to the ground.

Mrs. Shinkle called police of the Sixty-first and Thompson streets station, who rushed her father to the West Philadelphia Hospital.

Physicians said Raff's death had been instantaneous and his body was taken back to the home of his daughter.

Mrs. Shinkle could give no reason for her father's sudden death, but he had appeared despondent lately and seemed to be suffering from some nervous ailment.

Upon his last visit to her home two weeks ago, she said Raff had acted peculiarly and constantly mentioned that his life was a useless drudgery and that it would be better if he were dead.

Harding's Sunny Jim



SENATOR "JIM" WATSON
Indianian, who has whispered into the presidential ear words of advice on the message to Congress. "Jim" is believed to be casting covetous eyes on Senator Lodge's scepter.

JOHN WANAMAKER BETTER, DOCTOR SAYS

"Merchant's Condition Improved," Is Word From Dr. Shoemaker

Some improvement was noted today in the condition of John Wanamaker, who is ill at his home, 2032 Walnut street.

"Mr. Wanamaker's condition is better," said Dr. Harvey Shoemaker, one of the attending physicians. His brief statement followed a bulletin issued at 7:30 o'clock which read:

"There was no perceptible change in Mr. Wanamaker's condition during the night. The official bulletin issued at 9 o'clock last night stated:

"Mr. Wanamaker's condition shows improvement in every way."
The bulletin was signed by Dr. Shoemaker, Dr. Alfred Stengel and Dr. W. E. Quicksall.

LEGISLATION AIM OF LIBERAL BLOC

Washington Conference Reiterates That Its Object Is Not Political

Washington, Dec. 2.—The purposes of the new "progressive" movement, started yesterday by the organization of the "Progressive Club" in Congress, and not political in resolution, adopted by the conference under the auspices of the People's Legislative Service, presided over the general public gathering today, which was attended by more than 100 members of Congress, Governors and other leaders of the movement.

Senator La Follette, who had represented the conference in the House of Representatives, presided over the gathering.

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JIM WATSON SEEKS SCEPTER NOW HELD BY SENATOR LODGE

Harding Gives Ear to Gentleman From Indiana Who Talks Big

PRESIDENT, NOT NATURAL LEADER, DESIRES ADVICE

Allured by Prospect of Alaska Vacation, Far From Troublesome Congress

By CLINTON W. GILBERT
Staff Correspondent Extra, Public Ledger
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Washington, Dec. 2.—President Harding, facing the difficulties which confront him on "the Hill," has been captivated by Senator "Jim" Watson, of Indiana. The Capitol buzzes with the report that he would like to see Watson succeed Senator Lodge as leader of the Republicans in the Senate.

At any rate, the prospect is that the annual message at the regular session which begins Monday will be framed in accordance with the advice of the Indiana Senator rather than in accordance with the advice of Senators like Curtis, of Kansas, and Smoot, of Utah, who believe the prompt announcement of a considerable Administration program offers the best hope of holding the Republican farmers of the West true to their party.

The message will probably suggest nothing more in the way of a program than the rural credits bill, the approval of which was announced from the White House on Thursday night. This is Watson's idea of all that is necessary in the way of legislation for the farmers at this session.

Progressives Lure Farmers
The Progressive Lure Farmers indicated, however, that much more tempting bait will be held before the farmers than the rural credits of the Administration. Also, at that conference an organization was formed which may make difficult the carrying out of Watson's idea, that with a minimum of farm legislation the Republicans can get by and avoid the calling of a special session.

The coming forward of Watson to the place of chief adviser of the President on legislation is one of the odd developments since the election. Still, psychologically, it is easy to explain. Watson is aggressive and self-confident. He bluffs big.

He actually is stronger and more plausible than any other aspirant to leadership on "the Hill." He gives an impression of strength greater than he possesses.

Mr. Harding is not a natural leader. He lacks force himself and in his present difficulties he naturally turns to try to get one who urges forward. His plan would be greatly simplified by finding a leader on "the Hill" who had power. And Jim Watson is the "White House" party organization.

"Jim" is industrious. He is over-enthusiastically interested in the details of party management. He is an idealist.

Harding's Weak Side
Moreover, Mr. Watson has caught Mr. Harding on his weak side, the side of his strong inclinations. The President is tired of having Congress always on his hands and is especially loath to have the Congress force him to have his hands tied upon his hands. Moreover, the President needs a vacation and feels that the Congress is a burden on his shoulders to get away from Washington. He wishes it with all his heart.

Along comes Jim Watson, big, bluff, energetic, self-confident, and proceeds to show the President how he can escape Congress next Spring and get away to Alaska, or wherever it is he wishes to go. No other man has been able to realize this hope. Not Mr. Lodge, the nominal leader of the Republicans; not Curtis, who is a rival of Mr. Watson's; for power, for position. Not Mr. Smoot, who also aspires to guide the White House.

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