

PENAL CODE FOUNDED ON REFORMATION, BUT FARM INMATES CHARGE CRUELTY

Provision in State Bill of Rights Is Violated, Declare Former Prisoners at Indiana Farm.

This is the last of a series on conditions at the Indiana Penal farm.

BY ARCH STEINEL
Times Staff Writer

"The penal code shall be founded on the principles of reformation, and not of vindictive justice."—Bill of Rights, Constitution of the State of Indiana.

But officials of the Indiana state farm, a penal institution for petty offenders, admit that inmates have been beaten, handcuffed to bars in cells, placed on bread and water diets, chained while at work.

Their admissions are borne out in affidavits to The Indianapolis Times and presented through the series of articles, of which this is the last, on the farm's brutality.

A committee named by Governor Paul V. McNutt vouches for the truth of chained men at work, men handcuffed to cells.

State farm officials say the inmates suffering these punishments were incorrigible.

Deny Serious Offenses

The inmates in affidavits to The Times say their incorrigibility consisted of shirking work, warding off blows of guards, complaining against curses and insults, escape attempts that never culminated, right of free speech taken from them, smoking cigarettes, pleading illness, being called "stallers."

The Times has shown in the series on the farm that one chronic tubercular inmate was placed at hard labor, beaten, put on bread and water, handcuffed in daytime to cell bars, without proper physical examination being made to determine whether he had the illness he claimed.

Farm officials declare the inmate was a "malingering" and charge, despite a recent X-ray examination, that the inmate did not have tuberculosis.

Admits Using Blackjack

E. L. Arment, assistant superintendent of the farm in charge of discipline, admits he struck the inmate with a blackjack.

Guard Mike Finn admits he struck the same inmate with a cane.

Harry H. Wissel, acting superintendent of the farm, denies that canes or clubs are used at the state farm.

The Times has another affidavit of a World war veteran, Benjamin H. Hollapple, 1106 South Church street, Indianapolis, who now is drawing compensation from the United States government for an "arrested case of tuberculosis," who says that he was worked at hard labor without the proper physical examination being made to determine if he had lung trouble.

Denial Is Entered

Former inmates of the farm charged in affidavits that guards bought their help to obtain food and provisions from the farm to take home.

Farm officials enter a blanket denial to the charges of former inmates.

The charge in affidavits of "watered milk" being served to inmates is admitted partially by farm officials. They say that at certain seasons of the year the milk has been watered.

In two affidavits to The Times, it has been charged that a minor operation was performed by a male nurse who was not licensed to practice medicine or surgery in Indiana.

Farm authorities admit having a male nurse in their employ, without the right to practice medicine, but declare they know nothing of the illegal operation performed on an inmate.

Insanitary Is Alleged

Former inmates charge insanitary conditions at the institution. The charge is denied by farm officials.

It was charged in affidavits of former prisoners that, although cigarette smoking was an infraction of farm rules, guards gave inmates cigarettes and cigarette papers.

The average cost of keeping a prisoner at the Indiana state farm is 45 cents a day, according to the state board of charities.

The state reformatory at Pendleton averages 50 cents a prisoner a day, while the state prison at Michigan City's per capita cost is 55 cents.

But the state farm has more facilities and larger means of being self-supporting than the state prison or the reformatory.

Has Own Cannery

The farm has a cannery for preserving its vegetables. It has a dairy, a poultry yard and acreage enough to raise its own meat.

But former inmates complain that the food was not well-cooked, not of a good variety, considering the farm's produce, not clean. They charge they received butter but once labeled as an "escape" and he was

Another Big 'Fun Night' Ahead; Clip the Coupon

Here is the first of the bargain fun coupons which will be good at Riverside amusement park next Saturday night. Thousands of Times readers took advantage of the cut-rate coupons last Saturday night, and, according to reports, a "grand time was had by all."

Each day this week a coupon will be printed in all editions of The Times. Clip them out every day and save them for a big time Saturday night. Each coupon is good for 5 cents in paying your fare on the rides Saturday night.

Without the coupons, the fare is 10 cents. With the coupons, the fare is but 5 cents.

5c RIVERSIDE PARK FUN COUPON 5c

This Coupon and 5 Cents will be accepted any Saturday afternoon or night at RIVERSIDE AMUSEMENT PARK in full payment for a ride on

The Thriller The Aerial Swing The Flash
The Motor Boats The Pretzel The Dodge
The Canal of Venice The Whip Fun Castle
The Motor Speedway The Mill Chutes Tipsy Town
The Merry-Go-Round

Clip and save these coupons and 5 cents on each of these 10-cent concessions Saturday.

No charge to enter the park at any time.

— THIS CURIOUS WORLD —



THE SAMBAR DEER, OF INDIA, DOES NOT ALWAYS SHED ITS ANTLERS EVERY YEAR, BUT MAY KEEP THEM FOR SEVERAL SEASONS.
The CARD HAS A LARGER BRAIN IN PROPORTION TO ITS SIZE THAN ANY OTHER FRESH-WATER FISH, AND IS CAPABLE OF LEARNING TRICKS!
LACE-WINGED-FLIES LAY EGGS WHICH STAND UP ON TALL STALKS, AS A PROTECTION FROM ENEMIES.

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THE LACE-WINGED FLIES have to protect their eggs from their own larvae. The larvae feed not only on plant lice, but upon any soft-bodied insects or eggs belonging to their own species. But Mother Nature has provided the eggs with half-inch stems which hold them out of harm's way.

NEXT: What fad caused the destruction of five million birds annually in the United States?

forced to do a sentence in the state reformatory for escaping from the farm.

"Chuck" never "squealed." He took the rap.

The persons he feeds receive salads and desserts, while salad and dessert is practically unknown at the state farm where petty offenders are housed.

For another occasion it is related that Wiggins, upon entering the farm, was taken into the room for newcomers and that several guards and a captain stood near him in a threatening manner and that the rough-and-tumble-bouncer of the prize ring challenged all of them to a knockdown-drag-out scrap.

The scrap never happened, former inmates say.

Since the start of the farm series, The Times has received numerous letters, telephone calls and personal visits from former inmates, desirous of contributing their stories of brutality.

Willing to Make Affidavits

Each and every one of those unsolicited narrators of happenings during their servitude for petty offenses in the state farm was willing to make an affidavit of the truth of their charges.

The farm brings money into the state's general fund through its shirt factory and use of inmate labor. The factory's products are sold on the market in competition with the product of organized labor.

Furniture and glass factories at the farm also produce articles in competition with organized labor, it is said.

Surplus food at the farm is sold on the admission of the officials of the farm.

Much of the material used in state farm structures is turned out on the farm. The farm has its own saw-mill and brickyard.

Shumaker Case Cited

That conditions not conducive to good health are apparent at the farm and that men have been worked in occupations that they should not have been placed at is cited in the case of Dr. E. S. Shumaker, former Anti-Saloon League executive.

Dr. Shumaker was sent to the state farm in the early part of 1929. He was suffering from an internal ailment at the time he was sentenced for contempt of the supreme court of the state of Indiana.

Dr. Shumaker was forced to get up at early hours of the morning to do work at the farm's dairy.

Friends of the militant dry league head declare to this day that it is their opinion that Dr. Shumaker's death was hastened by his incarceration at the farm and the hard labor he was obliged to do.

Statements from Repeaters

Two of the statements were from, upon their own admission, inmates who have spent one-half of the last six to ten years of their life in the farm.

It is customary for the farm to give "repeaters" the easier jobs of runners and "trusties."

In none of the Times' affidavits from former inmates is there a tinge of Hoosierland's Bill of Rights:

"The penal code shall be founded on the principles of reformation, and not of vindictive justice."

Farm officials say he was a "model prisoner."

But on one occasion, in 1924, "Chuck" was found out of bounds on farm property.

Former inmates charge that "Chuck" had been given the right to leave the farm by extending favors to one of the guards.

But when they brought "Chuck" back some way, somehow, he was labeled as an "escape" and he was

hastened death, they claim.

"He never had worked hard, at manual labor, since boyhood. He did work there he shouldn't have done. We think it hastened his death," asserted one who was closest to the former dry organization executive.

The majority of the signers of affidavits in the possession of The Times are in the strict sense of the word, "petty offenders," not felons, and were sent to the Indiana state farm for petty offenses.

Officials of the state farm, in rebuttal of the affidavits from prisoners still serving sentence as to the good treatment they receive at the farm and denying brutality charges.

Accompanied by Colonel Clarence Lininger, assistant chief of staff and Captain Ernest C. Bemar, aid, General Moseley arrived Sunday to make his first official visit to the fort since assuming command of the corps area. He is the guest of Brig. Gen. George H. Jansmeyer.

Rain threatened to postpone a parade by the Eleventh Infantry band in full dress uniform and a C. M. T. C. regiment, which were to have been reviewed by General Moseley.

However, it was said at the camp today that the regular tour of inspection by the general, in which he will observe routine activities of the camp, will not be halted.

USES MATE AS TARGET

Nege Woman Charged With Hurling Glass Lemon Squeezers.

Mrs. Mary Scott, 52, Negro, 1315 East Twenty-second street, is in city jail, charged with hurling a glass lemon squeezer at her husband to end a domestic quarrel Sunday.

The glass shattered upon his forehead, causing a deep gash. Four stitches were required. Mrs. Scott was slated on a charge of assault and battery.

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Many stories are told by former inmates of the time when "Chuck" Wiggins, "Hosier Playboy" pugilist, was an inmate of the farm.

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THE END

MARION CO. BANKERS ELECT NEW OFFICERS

G. A. Bowen Is Named President at Country Club Outing.

New officers of the Marion County Bankers' Association were elected Saturday following a day's outing at the Franklin Country Club.

George A. Bowen, cashier of the Wanamaker state bank, was elected president, succeeding Charles E. Herin of the Fletcher Trust Company.

Other officers are William C. Granel, vice-president; J. L. Bray, secretary; Hugh A. Brady, treasurer, and R. E. Huffman, member at large.

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