

PUNGENT PARAGRAPHS ON  
ACTIVITIES OF INMATES

Poppy Joyce—There's a sucker born every minute and most of them live.

McKinney wants to know if refined sugar is used only by society folks.

Eddie Jamison—"Can you string beans?"  
Poppy Joyce—"No, but I can bull frogs, kid gloves and razz berries."

Johnny Price—"Do you like cod fish balls?"

Cuba—"I don't know; I never went to one."

The Baron—"I have a chance for the debating team."

Charlie Bennett—"Why! Are they going to raffle it off?"

Jimmy Fee—"What does a dash before a sentence is finished mean?"

Roy Millman—"A friend of mine tried it and it meant sixteen more months."

Capt. Weggenman—"What is your occupation?"

Prisoner—"I used to be an organist."

Capt. Weggenman—"Used to be?"

Prisoner—"Yeah! The monkey died."

Cuba Jones—"Hey! What are you standing in front of that mirror for with your eyes closed?"

Eddie McDonald—"G'wan, beat it; I want to see what I look like when I'm asleep."

Doc Manion—"Yes! Yes! Yes! What seems to be the matter?"

Joe Solid—"I'm troubled with frequent pains in my side."

Doc Manion—"Here, take one of these pills fifteen minutes before the pain starts."

Ginger Briggs—"Yes, sir; I think more of that dog than any other livin' creature."

Interested Visitor—"Ah! In every prisoner there is some good if we can but find it. Why are you so fond of the dog?"

Ginger—"Well, one time he bit the Warden."

Walter Long—"I nearly sold my shoes this morning."

Ollie Higgins—"How come?"

Walter Long—"Well, I had them half-soled."

Mrs. Brank—"Mikey, dear, I wish you wouldn't spill any more of your goods around the garage."

Mikey—"What's the matter, babe? Was they any cops snoopin' around?"

Mrs. Brank—"No, but the cat was. And it went out and nearly killed two of Fritch Ruggerios police dogs."

INDOOR SPORTS

By Jimmie Fee

Trying to get a serious sentence separated from Doc. Manions usual line.

Buck McKinney—Distributing K. K. K. uniforms.

Jack Belmont—Searching the dictionary for three and five-letter words.

Peanuts—Sorting out who's got the candy at the movies.

Jimmy Maddeni—Writing one girl three letters a night.

Guard Gramer—Chasing royalty (the baron).

Charlie Bennett—Teaching the short way round—Gregg method.

His Excellency von Krupp Gabor—Trying to fool the rest of us with his ten-cent wrist watch.

OUTDOOR SPORTS

Wouldn't it be a good idea to check over baseball equipment and get a line on what's what in the way of needs for the coming season?

Remember, boys, we played our first game last year against the S. S. Eden Snappers on Saturday, March 19th. That only gives us a little more than a month to get lined up for the coming season and the diamond whipped into shape.

There are lots of good men who should be given a try-out this year, and with the support of outsiders (by the way, what's become of all the Second Alarmers?) the season should wind up in a blaze of glory.

Jos. Balascio—I'm having the most wonderful coat-of-arms made!

Mr. Lieberman—What kind of sleeves are you having put in it?

THE CENSUS

Population, January 1 .....	435
Received during January .....	147
From Municipal Court:	
Serving fines and costs .....	96
Held for court .....	29
Held for hearing .....	1
From Magistrates:	
Serving fines and costs .....	14
Held for court .....	2
From C. G. S., New Castle County .....	3
From C. G. S., Kent County .....	2
	147
Discharged during the month:	
By expiration of sentence .....	76
Fine and costs paid or remitted .....	24
By order of C. G. S. ....	10
To Washington, D C., authorities .....	1
By bail furnished .....	9
By death .....	1
By pardon .....	1
By parole .....	4
To Juvenile Court .....	2
	128
Present population .....	454
Last register number .....	18,015

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Greenbank News

ISSUED MONTHLY

VOL. 1, No. 11

WILMINGTON, DELAWARE

FEBRUARY, 1927

A VISITOR'S IMPRESSION  
OF THE WORKHOUSE

From the road you get a sweeping vista of a well-kept lawn gently sloping down to your feet. The winding driveway leads to a landing recently beautified by the landscape artist's craft and containing the Plummer Memorial Boulder. From this landing you mount the stairway and enter the workhouse building. To enter is almost as difficult as to get out. Those in charge of the gate seem to be of the opinion that admittance to the workhouse is eminently desired by those who are innocent of any wrong-doing. Once past the guardian of the gate the visitor is struck by a flood of impressions—the air of cleanliness, the quiet efficiency of prisoners engaged in various tasks and their upstanding carriage, and most especially by the lack of that indefinable "institutional" odor. You may go over the workhouse "from cellar to garret" and these same initial impressions will stay with you. The long corridors of cells all spic and span and furnished to conform with prison regulations and yet suit their occupants bespeaks a human interest in the men confined in them. In workshop, yard, dining room, kitchen—everywhere is reflected a healthy and normal self-restraint, self imposed in recognition of the scope allowed in ordering their lives much along the lines of those on the other side of the bars. The conduct of the inmates and the confidence placed in them by the authorities speaks volumes for the enlightened management of affairs at the New Castle County Workhouse. It is an atmosphere conducive to the reestablishment of many qualities which should be the real aim and ideal of every penal institution. The intimate relation between authorities and prisoners is indicative of the humane feeling behind all this. These relations result from the truly Christian belief that all men are brothers.

JUST WAIT AND SEE!

Spring days are on their way and with them comes the promise of a beautiful flowered terrace in front of the main entrance. Last year winter and the cold weather forbid the carrying out of the architect's plans in their entirety, but now with the planting season coming on, and eager and willing hands ready to serve, we may look for a fulfillment of the architect's plans for beautifying the terrace bearing the Plummer Memorial boulder.

GOOD FELOWS—ALL

By Capt. William G. Weggenmann

Yes, we always are waiting  
With hate in a heart of gold,  
Waiting for something to happen  
Of thoughts that are not always told.

These men are but human,  
The same as you and I,  
But Gee! The nerve strain is awful,  
The reason, I don't know why.

Now there's Walter, and lots of others,  
No better men could be found;  
Sure they're lifers, but what's that,  
That's no cause to keep them down.

People think them dangerous,  
That's where they are all wrong,  
For just in a fit of temper,  
These Buddies of mine took the dong.

Yes, the Dicks they are happy,  
Look at the name they've made  
By cuffing these birds, as they call them,  
Is that for what they are paid?

Sure we need laws and enforcers,  
But why get so bold with a gun,  
These men are of the finest,  
So why think of them as a bum.

Well, we forgive these birds  
Who call themselves detectives,  
Of all the things they've done  
But why do they get so chesty,  
Maybe they think its fun.

But when we have done our little trick  
Inside these prison walls,  
We'll all try to go a little straighter  
Along life's narrow halls.

Square deals, sure we get them,  
Our Warden sees to that,  
To this man, and this man only,  
We all remove our hat.

We have our honor system  
That gives us the rights of men;  
Judges, we have three,  
And for Justice we look to them.

Now to our accusers,  
Surely we think them men.  
Gee! There goes the gong—lights out;  
Well, God bless them, so say we all,  
Amen.

**Greenbank News**

Published Monthly at the  
NEW CASTLE COUNTY WORKHOUSE  
Wilmington, Delaware

With the Approval of the  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES AND WARDEN  
For the Encouragement and Educational Advancement  
of the Inmates

Contributed articles not original with the contributor must show proper credit to the author or publisher. All communications should be addressed to

ELMER J. LEACH, Warden  
P. O. Box 692 Wilmington, Del.

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CLARENCE W. GRAHAM .....Editor

FEBRUARY, 1927

**EDITORIAL**

To the man who does not value time, let me hand a straight shot: Soon your opportunities will begin to lessen, your abilities to be discounted, your ambition will grow less and less, and the most valuable asset you have—**TIME**—will begin to seem so short that you will get over-anxious about your situation, and in your great anxiety to do something, will do nothing.

Give some men a thousand years in the very center of the most fertile valley in all America, and they would come out of this garden spot with a handful of worthless weeds and a spray of poison ivy.

You, yourself have the raw material of your manhood and success inside of you, and it is up to you to shape this material into the finished product that you want. And remember that if a product is top notch it can be sold at a profit.

C. W. G.

The real Christian lives a life of action as well as prayer. It is not enough for him to simply pray for some good—he goes out and works for it and in the exercise profits greatly whether or not success crowns his efforts. And so we advise, not as a minister, but as a simple believer in Christian faith, to live right and let your right-living mold your character along desirable lines. Be charitable and kindly to your fellows, speak the kind word rather than the harsh one, be thoughtful of others' feelings and forget yourself and, in so doing, attain a real and happy living freed from worldly cynicism.

You may escape the criticism or the censure of the world, but you can never evade the reproach of your invisible chum. And to this life-long companion—your conscience—your invisible chum, you owe all that you are.

**THE PRISONER'S AID SOCIETY**

The secretary of this society, Rev. W. A. Vrooman, visits the Workhouse every Saturday, and may be consulted by any prisoner on any subject on application to the warden. Any prisoner, who, on discharge, is in need of any kind of relief, should call at his office at the Unitarian Church, West street, above Eighth.

Upon request he will gladly visit the family of any prisoner and give such aid as they may require in needy cases. The Prisoner's Aid Society seeks to be the "first friend" of the prisoners and their families, but, of course, can do nothing unless information is furnished.

**JANUARY RELIGIOUS SERVICES**

January 2—First Church of Christ, Scientist.

January 9—Salvation Army.

January 16—Rev. Howard Davis, Trinity M. E. Church.

January 23—Rev. A. S. Woodward, St. Paul M. E. Church.

January 30—Rev. Clarence M. Keen, North Baptist Church.

On Wednesday evenings, throughout the month, at 6 p. m., classes in Bible study were conducted by John F. Andrews.

Beginning at 7.30 o'clock Wednesday evenings, special instructions on catechism were given by Rev. Pierre Launay. Mass was celebrated on the fourth Sunday, and confessions were heard on the preceding Saturday.

**ATTENDANCE INCREASES AT NIGHT SCHOOL SESSIONS**

Attendance at night school shows a large increase since the fall session started in October.

New subjects are being stressed, namely shorthand and manual training courses, which are in charge of capable tutors, and both these courses have many eager learners striving to grasp something denied them in the past.

The women's department, too, is making a fine showing.

More power to the Warden and our good friend, Prof. Barclay, for their untiring efforts in bringing to us that which is sadly lacking in most of us—a chance for better education.

Thanks to our Warden and the Rev. W. A. Vrooman the new library is shaping up in fine style.

Fixtures of pleasing appearance are already installed and the work of cataloging the present two thousand or more books is progressing rapidly.

It will only be a short time when you can name your subject and we will name your book.

**Brief Notes and Comment on General Activities of the Institution****SHOP PRODUCTION**

Yes, sir; we sure got off to a fine start in January.

Twenty-seven hundred and seventy-five dozen pairs against twenty-five hundred for the corresponding month of 1926. A gain of two hundred and seventy-five dozen the first month and eleven months yet to go.

Who said we couldn't top forty thousand for the year of 1927.

All we ask is that you do your share. Remember increased production means increased bonus to you, and with Lieberman and Belascio backing you in your efforts, you have all to gain and naught to lose.

At both Delcastle and Home Farms work is being pushed forward rapidly in anticipation of good seasons and crops. Hot houses and beds are in seed, out buildings are being renovated and repainted, fences repaired; in fact, everything is being attended to that goes to make up what we claim. The best farms of any institution in the state.

**MOVING PICTURES**

During the month, with many thanks to the Film Board of Trade and the following producers, Metro, Famous Players, Fox, Vitagraph, F. B. O., Liberty, deLuxe, Master Players, Universal, Columbia and Pathe, the following pictures were shown and immensely enjoyed by the boys and visitors:

January 1—"Don't."

January 4—"Shore Leave."

January 6—"The Unclaimed Hill."

January 8—"Fig Leaves."

January 11—"The Wife Who Wasn't Wanted."

January 13—"Smiling at Trouble."

January 15—"Reckless Courage."

January 20—"Perils of the Coast Guard."

January 22—"Battlin' Bill."

January 25—"Circus Cyclone."

January 27—"Lew Tyler's Wives."

January 29—"The North Star."

George Kelly and his orchestra jazzed it up in great style for the boys during the month. His numbers and vocal choruses were well rendered and heartily encored.

Stop out and see us again, George.

**IN AND OUT OF THE COURT ROOM**

Attorney General—"Take the witness."

Judge Ball—"No questions. I've already taken him for all he has."

Attorney General—"How say you? Guilty or not guilty?"

Prisoner—"I am; but it's up to you to prove it on me."

Judge Lynn—"Do you mean to say that such a physical wreck as the prisoner appears to be gave you that black eye?"

Red Nolan—"But judge he wasn't such physical wreck till after he did give me the black eye."

Officer Jordan—"Hi there! You can't stand there in the street."

Drunk—"Yes I can, orfsher, don't you worry about me. I've been standing here an hour an ain' fell yet."

Judge Hastings—"Your name?"

Prisoner—"John Jones."

Judge Hastings—"And your business?"

Prisoner—"I'm a locksmith."

Judge Hastings—"How is it you were caught in this gambling house when it was raided?"

Prisoner—"I was making a bolt for the door when the cops entered."

**JINGLE JANGLES**

"I lova my work,  
I lova my boss,"  
Said Nazzarene Falconi.

Back came a cry  
Both loud and clear:

"G'wan, Nazzie, that's bologna."  
—Jimmy Maddeni.

"I sent my girl some garters  
Marked to Belle with love from Lem.  
She gave them to her mother,  
That's the last I'll see of 'em."  
—Lem Barrett.

"I'm going to write a mystery play,  
It's going to make a splash—  
The subject for my play will be,  
The well known Workhouse hash."  
—Dudley M.

Doc. Jamison pulled Mike Nero's tooth,  
A pin was in the chair.  
He felt the pain and cried, "O, Doc,  
Do the roots go down to there?"  
—Cuba Jones.

Mary had a little frock,  
'Twas dainty and 'twas airy.  
It didn't show the dust a bit,  
But whow! It sure showed Mary.  
—Jump.

"Don't touch me, sir,"  
Our Charlie cried,  
"I'm so afraid of men"—  
Then I said that I'd  
Touch some one else,  
And I touched Baboon for ten.  
—Bubbles McC.

PUNGENT PARAGRAPHS ON ACTIVITIES OF INMATES

Walter Long—"Gosh! Funny pudding this."

Poppy Joyce—"Yes, That's as far as I got with the receipt when your radio broke."

Ginger Briggs—"We cotched one ob de boys wid loaded dice."

Freddy Austin—"You should ostracise him."

Ginger—"That's what I wanted to do but they won't let us carry razors."

Jack Belmont—"How did Moggy get so round shouldered?"

Dudley M.—"Getting and out of patrol wagons."

Baboon—"Have an onion."

Bubbles—"No thanks; I have an idiosyncrasy for them."

Baboon—"Yeh! I like 'em too."

Mitchell—"Spring is here with a rush."

Wilson—"How come?"

Mitchell—"Capt. Weggenmann burst forth with a new hat."

Doc Manion—"But Gabe, I can't prescribe what you ask for unless you need it. What are your symptoms?"

Gabe—"What symptoms would you suggest, Doc?"

John Jefferies—"Say Cap! Has anyone escaped from Farnhurst lately?"

Capt. Weggenmann—"No, Why?"

John—"Well, some bird ran off with my wife."

Prof.—"How would you tell the height of a tower by means of a barometer?"

Manion—"I'd lower the barometer from the top of the tower then measure the rope."

A resident of Greenbank took out an accident insurance policy, he fell ill of pleurisy.

He brought action against the insurance company and lost in the municipal Court, which decided that pleurisy was not an accident but a visitation of God.

The Supreme Court reversed the finding on the ground a visitation of God to a man in Greenbank was an accident."

Joe Solid—"I thought you said there were no Jews in Greenland."

Eddie Wolfe—"Neither there are."

Joe Solid—"Well, what's that guy Iceberg doing there?"

Freddy Vilone—"Want a good man on the cutting table?"

Jimmy Fee—"Yes."

Freddy Vilone—"Well, there's Goldie."

Fee—"Yes, I see him, but where is the good man."

Maddeni—"Do you believe in fairies?"  
Moggy—"No, I use the needle, quicker action."

Julio—"Where are you from Buddy?"  
Newcomer—"Herron, Ill."

Julio—"Well, I'm from Missouri, let's see your bullet scars?"

Johany Richardson—"I'm going to have lots of vim this season."

Baboon—"Well your not going to get ahead of me, I'll get Captain Charley to pick some up in town for me too."

Leslie Southard to Librarian—"Have you The Crisis?"

John Andrews—"No its toothache that makes me look that way."

Lieberman—"Is that all the work you can turn out in a day?"

Newcomer—"No! But its this way I'm a new man and don't like to show up these other men who have been here longer."

Judge—"Where did you get the robe?"

Prisoner—"I carried it from a car at 6th & French as a joke."

Judge—"That's carrying a joke too far. Twelve months."

Traffic Officer—"Hey! There! Pull over to the side. What's the big idea didn't you see me wave to you?"

Fair Motorist—"I surely did, and if you do it again I'll report you to the chief."

Traffic Officer—"What do you mean by passing that stop sign at the Boulevard, can't you read?"

Motor Driver—"Yes! But my wife phoned me to come home and not to stop for anything."

**THE CENSUS**

Population, February 1.....	450
Received during February .....	171
From Municipal Court:	
Serving fines and costs .....	116
Held for court .....	12
Held for hearing .....	2
From Magistrates:	
Serving fines and costs .....	20
Held for court .....	4
From C. G. S., Kent County .....	1
From C. G. S., Sussex County .....	13
From U. S. Court .....	3
	171
Discharged during the month:	
By expiration of sentence .....	117
Fines and costs paid or remitted .....	22
By order of C. G. S. ....	5
By order of Municipal Court .....	8
By order of U. S. Court .....	6
By order of Magistrate .....	3
By death .....	1
By parole .....	5
By bail furnished .....	7
	174
Present Population .....	447
Last register number .....	18,186

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# Greenbank News

WILMINGTON INSTITUTE  
MARCH 19 1927

ISSUED MONTHLY

VOL. 1, No. 12

WILMINGTON, DELAWARE

MARCH, 1927

## Hope Replaces Hampering

Editor's Note: We are reprinting the following truly good words from "Good Words" of Atlanta Ga., because of the honest and courageous attitude of the writer. What he says may very well be applied to the inmates of the New Castle County Workhouse.

Excepting he sour completely on the world and its inhabitants, perhaps the most costly, most devastating impression with him is the feeling that he isn't going to be given a chance.

There was a time when a discharged prisoner had a condition to face. But those days have fled. The world has changed in many ways. Mankind dresses differently; so does womankind. Both sexes are traveling, getting about the world and broadening their perspective; and while thus improving, their look upon the penitent has become softer, more profitable both to sinner and sinned against. People are getting a birds-eye view—not a worms-eye impression—of what has gone on before, of what is going on and of what possibly will continue. They are beginning to face squarely the fact that the old way of turning from a man eager for a fresh grip on affairs is the wrong way, the costly attitude, so they give him a fair trial—and he usually makes good! They are fast reconciling themselves that it is characteristic of the human to err; that it is decadent to pass up the opportunity to take the divine viewpoint and forgive—and they are forgiving on a large scale.

Perhaps the public has concluded that they, too, make mistakes and are apt to some day be the target for the stoners. This feeling may provoke them to forgive and forget. For it may be that they know not when your plight will be their plight, and forgiving and forgetting your mistake they not only pave for you a brighter and better thoroughfare, but they lay a more charitable and profitable avenue—one they too may find helpful in their hour of distress.

Not long ago a man left here, on parole, who had clung to the belief that success treads the heels of every right effort. He realized that, especially in prison, we lose vigor in thinking continually the same old set of thoughts. Satisfied that new life, new opportunity, this paroled prisoner made himself ready for parole and for the outside. He chose a school giving a course in higher accounting. He was an accountant—but having control of his ego he admitted to himself that he was only a common, garden variety of accountant—so he elected higher

accounting and waded through the course. A man well up in the textile business tells this writer that the chap we have in mind is making good—that he is making six hundred dollars a month. And, parenthetically speaking, I particularly wish to call the attention to the reader that this fellow is making good—handling and trusted with other peoples' money. He isn't employed by a business controlled by one man, who could be a close friend of this paroled prisoner's and eager to give him a chance. On the contrary, he is employed by a large organization that is fully familiar with this fellow's sojourn in this institution. And they rally in the belief that he is meeting almost every expectation.

Our greatest glory is not in never failing—it is in getting up every time we fall. The pugilist that comes off the canvas every time an adversary hammers him down, each time becomes to each of us a greater fighter than before the knockdown. He wins our acclaim. And while he may lose that fight, chances are it is training that will carry him along to victory in his succeeding battles.

And this textile man tells me that for every man here who makes himself ready for it, a square deal awaits him on the outside.—N. Mc.

### INSTITUTION INSPECTED BY PENOLOGIST FROM WEST

On February 10th, Mr. Coleman G. Cox from the Golden West was a guest and speaker of the Wilmington Rotary Club. He in turn was a guest of the Warden and made a complete inspection of the workhouse with which he was greatly impressed both as to management and conditions.

In a clever and well worded short speech he brought to the boys a message of cheer and good will that made a big hit with all.

We understand that Mr. Cox is greatly interested in social welfare and penology and hope that the operation of the New Castle County Workhouse under the honor system recommended itself favorably to him. Those of us who are familiar with the old conditions, prior to the installation of the honor system, appreciate the change and willingly testify to its advantages. Mr. Cox, we believe will carry across the continent the message of the good being done in Delaware in its penal institution.

Order your April copies of the Greenbank News early! It will contain the first printing of Capt. Weggenmann's poem "Just Junk," a story from life.

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CLARENCE W. GRAHAM .....Editor

MARCH, 1927

**EDITORIAL**

Due to the illness of the editor our little paper is a trifle late this issue. Now that he is up and doing we expect to come out regularly in the future. It's no trifling work to edit the Greenbank News, modest in size as it is so the editor asks that you help him by sending in any good ideas, jokes or news pertaining to the institution, its inmates, friends—in fact any material that will be interesting reading to us and those on our mailing list. There is no animus behind the using of names in the Greenbank News; the paper wants to be used and considered solely as a medium for the further humanizing of prison life.

**WE WONDER WHO HE'S HITTING?**

I want to go home,  
I want to go home,  
The dishes all rattle  
The kettles they moan.

Never, no never to come  
North anymore.  
I want to go home where they  
Keep "open door"  
Where there's flower's and bees  
And sweet smelling loam.  
Oh! Lord hear my prayer  
I want to go home.

Dedicated to \_\_\_\_\_  
By Capt. Weggenmann.

**IN AND ABOUT THE COURT ROOM**  
No Names Mentioned

Judge—"The prisoner appears to have been drugged."  
Officer—"Sure! I drug him from Front and Poplar."

**THE PRISONER'S AID SOCIETY**

The secretary of this society, Rev. W. A. Vrooman, visits the Workhouse every Saturday, and may be consulted by any prisoner on any subject on application to the warden. Any prisoner, who, on discharge, is in need of any kind of relief, should call at his office at the Unitarian Church, West street, above Eighth.

Upon request he will gladly visit the family of any prisoner and give such aid as they may require in needy cases. The Prisoner's Aid Society seeks to be the "first friend" of the prisoners and their families, but, of course, can do nothing unless information is furnished.

**FEBRUARY RELIGIOUS SERVICES**

February 6th—Rev. Leonard B. Smith.  
February 13th—Salvation Army.  
February 20th—Rev. Leonard B. Smith.  
February 27th—Dr. Frank Morris.

On Wednesday evenings, throughout the month, at 6 p. m., classes in Bible study were conducted by John F. Andrews.

Beginning at 7.30 o'clock Wednesday evenings, special instructions on catechism were given by Rev. Pierre Launay. Mass was celebrated on the fourth Sunday, and confessions were heard on the preceding Saturday.

**MOVING PICTURES**

The courtesy of the Philadelphia Film Board of Trade and following producers, Universal, Producers, Metro, DeLuxe, Fox, Liberty, First National, Famous Players, Vitagraph, F. B. O., Columbia and Masterpiece, made possible the showing of the following films during February:

Feb. 1—Universal—"Peacock Feathers"  
Feb. 3—Producers—"The Coming of Amos"  
Feb. 5—Metro—"The Prairie Wife"  
Feb. 8—DeLuxe—"The Midnight Limited"  
Feb. 10—Fox—"The Family Upstairs"  
Feb. 12—Liberty—"Win, Lose or Draw"  
Feb. 15—First National—"Chickie"  
Feb. 17—Famous Players—"Wild Horse Mesa"  
Feb. 19—Vitagraph—"On Thin Ice"  
Feb. 20—F. B. O.—"The Tough Guy"  
Feb. 22—Columbia—"The Bells"  
Feb. 26—Masterpiece—"Golden Trails"

**WE THANK YOU!**

On Wednesday, February 9th we had with us Prof. David Runkel of Phila., violinist, accompanied at the Piano by Miss Constance Nosamow, noted pianist, who furnished us with an evening of music that was greatly appreciated.

**Brief Notes and Comment on General Activities of the Institution****SHOP NOTES**

With the shortest month of the year the shop shattered all records by a production of 3,000 dozen pairs of pants.

Let's get down to it now and hang up a total for the longest month that will make former records look sick.

Don't forget: The Trustees, Warden and Oppenheim & Co. are back of you with 100 per cent co-operation.

We invite suggestions as to betterment of conditions and helpful hints on work-shop improvement in manufacture.

The old quarry has again been put in operation and there is quite a quantity of stone on hand for contemplated improvements

Concrete post production is ahead of deliveries at present, but with the coming of Spring and anticipated State Highway work, we will have no trouble in disposing of surplus.

Broom making has slackened up somewhat owing to an over production and very little demand.

Can anyone on our mailing list offer a suitable suggestion as to the disposal of light and heavy, well made brooms or whisks?

In the Shoe Shop Joe Tuschinski is still busy saving soles.

**WHAT THEY SAY**  
(By Jimmy Fee)

Jimmy Fee—"It used to be polite to let a young lady on the street car first, now it's a treat."

Poppy Joyce—"The coat and pants do all the work and vest gets all the gravy."

Warden—"As a poet, Capt. Weggenmann would make a good blacksmith."

Bill McCoy—"About the only thing that scares a horse these days is another horse."

Buck McKinney—"Is the Aurora Borealis a straight eight or a light six."

Mickey Brank—"The only ones who seem to be satisfied with prohibition are the ones who don't care for a drink, or still have a little, or who have a little still."

Walter Long—"W-D-E-L should change its call signal to H-E-L-L."

Mike Nero—"Jack Brooks says he can hit fifty-five any time at all with the Maxwell. What do you mean Jack—chickens, telephone poles, or pedestrians?"

**BASEBALL SEASON OPENS SATURDAY**

All out Saturday, March 19 when the Plummer Stars open the 1927 baseball season with a Wilmington aggregation of outstanding talent managed by "Herb" Hirzel. The Stars will have to step some to bring home the bacon in this initial contest for Herb's line-up is replete with minor league talent.

**SOME CLOSE-UPS ON  
BASEBALL DOINGS**  
(By Jimmy Fee)

Jimmy Maddina can't wait till he dons the natty new uniforms and his dearest wish is that they take a picture of the team so that he can send it to his—well, the party he writes to every night.

Moggy says he doesn't want the water bucket in front of him when they take his picture because he's afraid they'll kid him when he comes back next time.

Ginger says this and "he don't mean maybe". No balls are going through the second baseman—unless they're too hot.

Poppy Joyce says he'll put out his best brand of baseball this year because his best girl will be watching him from the baselines.

Better not put any Bull Durham signs on the wall as there are eleven players who threaten to make home runs when the first come to bat.

Buck McKinney says he'd rather p'ay with tennis balls so that he won't break any windows in Pennsgrove. Better bunt, Buck!

Box Car is with us this season. Better not block the bases. The writer knows—he tried it!

Shovel the snow off the diamond and lead in Parkside!

"The Stars" wish to thank the Board of Trustees, the Warden, Oppenheim & Co. and the boys in general for their generous donations for new uniforms and equipment for the coming season.

With the same loyal support as in former years, and the team on their toes ready to go, there is every reason for a bigger and better season.

Again we thank you.  
"THE STARS"

### Moving Pictures and Base Ball Furnish Entertainment

Recent Films Shown Win Appreciation—Baseball Preparations Complete—Jack McGowan Secured as Coach and Good Season Looked For

During March, due to the kindness of the Film Board of Trade and the following distributors: DeLuxe, Fox Producers, First National, Pathe, Famous Players, F. B. O., Independent, Metro-Goldwyn, Masterpiece, and Vitagraph, the following pictures were greatly enjoyed:

- March 2—"Super Speed," "The Merry Widow."
- March 4—"Battling Orioles."
- March 6—"The Way of a Girl."
- March 9—"The Trail Riders," "Never the Twain Shall Meet."
- March 11—"North of 36."
- March 13—"Just a Woman."
- March 16—"Trooping With Ellen."
- March 18—"Speed Wild."
- March 20—"Ranger Bill."
- March 23—"Flames of Desire," "Pretty Ladies."
- March 25—"The Star Dust Trail."
- March 30—"The Knock-Out."

The above pictures were all good, but the outstanding features were the showings of "The Merry Widow," "Never the Twain Shall Meet," and "Pretty Ladies," which were made possible by the kindness of Mr. Anthony Sniadowski, of the Avenue Theatre, Wilmington, Del.

We take this opportunity to thank the Film Board of Trade and other contributors for the pictures which they so kindly send us for showing and which tends to an enjoyable evening.

By the time this magazine goes to press our ball season will be in full swing, and we have been very fortunate in securing the services of Jack McGowan, well known to Wilmington fans, as coach for this season. The team as a whole has shown up good in practice, and the pitching staff is in good form and ready to take their turn in the box.

We have several good teams booked for the month, and well-played games are being looked forward to with interest, especially the game with New Castle on April 10th.

#### SOME REMARKS ON THAT LAST BASEBALL GAME

Well, boys, its all right now the team will keep their uniforms and not be obliged to play the next game in B. V. D.'s, but it was a close shave; 39 more runs and the challenging team would have been just three runs behind.

But cheer up, Whitey, better luck next time. I understand the team was composed

of long timers. I know a song which reads, forever is a long, long time.

I also once heard a fellow remark that he would either be a ballplayer or a bum. The last time I met him was on West Madison street, Chicago.

But cheerio, boys, football will follow later, and then you can kick to your heart's content.

Some one wanted to know the score, but we understand the adding machine broke down around the fourth inning. I understand there will be another contest for the uniforms shortly, and suggest that the first team be blindfolded and, after circling the bases, they be obliged to run and touch the centerfield wall before they are credited with a run.

By so doing we might get along without an adding machine. It is either that or hire an expert accountant to figure the final score.

We asked Roy Millman why the band did not lead the parade around the bases during the game, and have asked him to bring the band out next time so that the boys will enjoy marching to the music if the ball game should prove a farce.

One of the fellows wanted to know whether the ball team would get an extra supper? I think after all the running the first team did they were entitled to an ox-roast.

Judge—"Take your choice: Ten dollars or ten days."

Prisoner (still in a foggy condition)—"I'll take the money, your honor."

"I can break out of here any time," boasted the arrival.

"Yes, with measles," retorted an old timer.

THE CENSUS	
Population, February 28 .....	407
Received during March:—	
From Municipal Court:	
Serving fines and costs .....	72
Held for court .....	13
Held for hearing .....	1
From Magistrates:	
Serving fine and costs .....	10
Held for court .....	6
From C. G. S., New Castle County .....	10
From C. G. S., Sussex County .....	2
From U. S. Court .....	4
Returned by parole officer .....	1
	526
Discharged during month:—	
By expiration of sentence .....	68
By F. and C. paid or remitted .....	13
By order of court .....	7
By order of Municipal Court .....	1
By order of magistrate .....	1
By order of U. S. Court .....	1
By parole .....	1
By official pardon .....	1
By commitment to Farnhurst .....	1
By bail furnished .....	8
	102
Present population .....	424
Last register number .....	16,622

# Greenbank News

ISSUED MONTHLY

VOL. 1, No. 1

WILMINGTON, DELAWARE

APRIL, 1926

## The Honor System An Aid to Reformation

Experience with Honor System Convinces Prisoner That it is Resultful—Parole System Works in 95 Per Cent of the Cases.

Perhaps a few remarks may be acceptable coming as they do from a prisoner who knows prisoners, not as the penologist knows them, but as one who for nearly two years past has known them from closer association; one who occupies their narrow quarters, experiences their restrictions, eats the same food, bears their burdens, their sorrows, enjoys their pleasures, and knows of what he writes.

Nine out of every ten prisoners observe the rules in any institution despite the most harsh spirit-breaking discipline. They do this, not because of discipline, but in spite of it. This is proven by the fact that under the honor system and a far milder form of discipline the percentage is still further reduced until about only five per cent ever violate the trust placed in him or her.

The old style discipline still used in some institutions was made to break the spirit of five per cent, and the other ninety-five per cent were forced to endure the same general treatment as the continuous offender. The idea was to treat all alike, but the treatment was usually measured by standards of the worst man or woman.

The honor system has proven that prisoners may be trusted, and good results have even been obtained from prisoners classed as irredeemable. Honor prisoners do not avail themselves of opportunities to escape. They wish at some later date to re-join their families, friends, sweethearts and re-establish themselves in the world once more.

Even with those upon whom the sense of honor rests lightly, it is not the fear of recapture that stops them in attempts to escape, but the all-powerful prick of conscience that they may live for years with the haunting dread of being returned. These disregard the promises made and the ninety five in every (concluded on page 2)

## "Liberty Alone Fits Men For Liberty"

Some Remarks on the Enlightened Operation of Prisons and How This Method Restores Self-respect and Confidence to the Prisoner.

Thomas Mott Osborne when he assumed the wardenship of Sing Sing prison laid down three cardinal principles for the reform of the New York state prison system. These principles are universal and apply in Delaware as well as they do in New York or any other place under the sun where men are confined for offenses against society. It seems to the writer that Mr. Osborne in his three principles has given us a perpetual standard for the treatment of the prisoner. Mr. Osborne's three principles are:

"First. The law must decree not punishment, but temporary exile from society until the offender has proven by his conduct that he is fit to return.

"Second. Society must brand no man as a criminal, but aim solely to reform the mental conditions under which the criminal act has been committed.

"Third. The prison must be an institution where every inmate must have the largest practicable amount of individual freedom because, 'it is liberty alone that fits men for liberty.'"

Here at the New Castle County Workhouse, under the operation of the honor system, a prisoner subscribing to the system is actually placed on his honor, and that trust is rarely violated. The responsibility which the prisoner feels as a result of this freedom from restraint does much to restore his confidence in society. His is a manly feeling. The knowledge that authorities are willing to trust him in his daily actions

makes him eager to see that trust vindicated. The results speak for themselves. The prisoner comes to regard his case as not altogether a hopeless one. He is inspired to do better, and his eager acceptance of prison responsibilities bespeaks his ability to accept the responsibilities of life outside of prison in his dealings with his fellow men.

#### MAKE USE OF YOUR PAPER

If you have anything to say pertaining to the New Castle County Workhouse, put in on paper and send it to the editor. Contributions on subjects relating to the institution will be welcomed and given expression in our columns. The Greenbank News is your paper and we want you to use it.

**Greenbank News**

Published Monthly at the  
NEW CASTLE COUNTY WORKHOUSE  
Wilmington, Delaware

With the Approval of the  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES AND WARDEN  
For the Encouragement and Educational Advancement  
of the Inmates

Contributed articles not original with the contributor must show proper credit to the author or publisher. All communications should be addressed to  
ELMER J. LEACH, Warden

P. O. Box 692 Wilmington, Del.

Unless otherwise indicated, articles appearing in Greenbank News are the ideas and expressions of inmates of this institution.

J. H. BROOKS ..... Editor

APRIL, 1926

**OUR BOW**

With the issuance of this, the initial number of the Greenbank News, through the kindness of the Warden and the Board of Trustees, we offer to our fellow inmates, their families and friends a resume of the activities of the institution and an attempt to reflect the spirit and opinions of the inmates. It is our hope that this little paper will prove interesting reading, and to that end we seek the co-operation of every inmate. Our columns are open for the expression of your views on matters pertaining to our institution, and we believe that the reprinting of such material will go far in making the Greenbank News the interesting and valuable paper we have set as our goal.

**THE HONOR SYSTEM AN AID TO REFORMATION**

(Continued from page one)

hundred must suffer because of his or her rash acts.

The records attainable show that a wise and restrictive parole tends to bring out all that is best in a prisoner and serves as an aid toward his or her re-establishment in society and the world at large, whereas were there no parole laws he or she would be confined in a cell, an expense to state and county.

Statistics show that an average of about five in every hundred violated their paroles, and we ask the reader to ponder deeply over the thought that though five did fail there are ninety-five making good. Can business life in general show any greater returns?

His close association convinces the writer more that high walls, cells, barred doors and steel bars were designed for the five and not for the ninety-five, and claims that the honor system has successfully proven to the world the worthiness of the ninety-five.

J. H. B.

**Night School Work Wins Interest of All Enrolled**

Professor Barkley's Efforts Resultful  
—New Course for Those Speaking Foreign Tongues—Pupils Interested.

The night school, under the directorship of Prof. James A. Barkley, of Delaware University, still keeps up the high standard set for it. The enrollment shows a total of fourteen women and eighty men.

They are doing nicely, all seem eager to do their best and show an excellent spirit of co-operation and willingness. This brings results in the end. In the lower grades reading and writing is being stressed and the upper classes are advancing rapidly.

A new departure is a beginners' class for foreigners, which includes Polish, Italian, Greek, Jewish, German and Chinese nationalities. Their advance in reading and writing has been remarkable.

The teaching of the women's classes continues on the same high plane. The women are interested and very happy in their studies.

Here is one of the most difficult tasks in prison work and one which is being done most acceptably.

Too much praise cannot be made to Professor Barkley for his untiring efforts and fidelity toward those under him and for the opportunity offered them toward their further advancement in education.

**Interesting Religious Services in March**

Services were conducted during the month as follows:

March 7th—Rev. Wm. Gibson, First Presbyterian Church, of New Castle.

March 7th—(Evening) First Church of Christian Science.

March 14th—Adjutant Simpson, Salvation Army.

March 21st—Henry Y. Arnett, presiding elder A. M. E. Conference.

March 28th—Rev. F. A. Cook, St. James P. E. Church, Stanton.

Also Wednesday evenings throughout the month, at 6 P. M., Bible class conducted by Rev. High Adams, assisted by John F. Andrews.

Beginning at 7.30 Wednesday evenings, there has been a special service for Catholics by Rev. Pierre Launay. Mass and confessional was also celebrated on Sunday morning, March 29th.

The Sunday morning services were conducted during the month under the leadership of Religious Work Secretary Hampton of the Wilmington Y. M. C. A.

**INDUSTRIAL ACTIVITIES IN THE SHOPS AND FARM**

Good Sale for Concrete Posts—Notes on Shop Production.  
Broom Making, New Industry—Fields Fertilized, Plowed.

The men at Delcastle and Home Farms, under the supervision of Superintendents Durburow and Moore, are busily engaged in preparations for the coming season. The ground has been fertilized and some fields have been ploughed.

The hot-beds are showing up nicely and planting will begin within a day or two. Cabbage plants have already been set out and despite the frosty mornings of late, they appear thriving.

With the increased acreage this year the outlook is bright for a successful season.

The new industry, broom-making, is coming along nicely and an excellent article in broom or whisk is being turned out in nice shape by those employed in its manufacture. We have a good supply on hand and sales have been made to two of the state institutions.

In the making of concrete posts, we have been fortunate in having the right type of help for their manufacture. We are now furnishing the State Highway Department with a type of post known as "concrete guard post," used as a directing guard to embankment and curved highway approaches. Deliveries have been promptly met and the posts have proved to be up to specifications. Sales have also been made of the concrete fence post and a fair return of revenue is shown from their manufacture. The raising of poultry for profit is another source from which revenue is derived. The eggs are carefully selected and graded and neatly packed in cartons of one dozen each. Practically the entire output is handled by a local Wilmington store, and returns are made based on prevailing market prices.

The poultry is sold "live," and is also handled by a Wilmington commission merchant and returns made on the same basis.

The shoe shop, a one-man affair, is kept busy in the repair and remaking of shoes.

The prediction of Shop Superintendent Lieberman for a production well ahead of the three thousand dozen pairs of pants for the month of March, went over the top with flying colors. Let's keep the good work up and show him we can beat those figures. Why not aim for four thousand pairs this month and shoot for that mark? We can do it, and, of course, there is no such word as can't in our dictionary. And we really are the ones that benefit the most from increased output. All together, now, boys, shoot for four thousand in April.

Apropos of the shop news and increased production one of our boys wants to know when Mr. Lieberman is going to equip the

boys on the cutting table with roller skates to facilitate their movements in the pulling and cutting of materials.

He also makes it known that he woke up the other morning and found both his blankets and sheets laid up nicely on the floor and supposes that had he his cutting knife with him he would have had it all cut by the time the rising bell rang.

He suggests as an easy way out of it that the boys on the cutting table take two or three bolts to bed with them at night, as they might as well lay it up as dream about it.

In spite of the lack of adequate space and facilities, our matron, Mrs. McGarvey, continues to show efficient results in the women's workroom. It will surprise some who have not thought much about it to know how many articles of wearing apparel, bedding, etc., have to be handled in an institution like ours.

For the four weeks ending March 27th, in addition to two hundred new garments produced, there were 2,900 pieces washed, 3,600 pieces ironed and nearly 1,800 pieces repaired.

So you see, the women really are doing something else besides looking out of the windows.

We would like to say something about the boys in the laundry, but find that about the only records kept there are Victrola records for their phonograph.

The medical department is in good shape, and despite the prevalent wave of grippe and colds, we have been very fortunate in having no serious illness.

We do suggest, however, that the doctor's clerk use every precaution since donning those white flannel trousers as part of his wardrobe, to prevent sneezing and thus save ourselves and him from embarrassing situations.

The commissary is under new management and making every effort to meet demands made on it from time to time. Several new lines have been added and orders are being made up and delivered promptly.

The dining hall and kitchen, under the supervision of Ralph Olivia, is showing great improvement. The installation of new tables and lighting fixtures has greatly increased the attractiveness of the dining hall, making it much lighter and more cheerful.

Poppy Joyce says he has heard tell of people walking in their sleep and wonders what would happen if he started to run in his? Can anyone enlighten him?