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# A SURVEY OF THE ALBANY COUNTY JAIL AND PENITENTIARY FROM SOCIAL, PHYSICAL AND PSYCHIATRIC VIEWPOINTS<sup>1</sup>

CLINTON P. McCORD, M. D.<sup>2</sup>

In the autumn of 1922 the New York State Commission of Prisons requested the National Committee for Mental Hygiene to make a survey of county jails in representative sections of the state as a means of securing scientific and impartial data on the physical and mental status of prisoners and the physical conditions that prevail in these institutions. The writer of this paper was detailed to make the study of the Albany County Jail and the Albany Penitentiary as a part of the wider survey of jails that was being made under the direction of Dr. V. V. Anderson of the National Committee for Mental Hygiene; and it is with the kind permission of Dr. Anderson and of Dr. Frankwood E. Williams, Medical Director of the National Committee, that I publish this, a portion of my report, with the idea that it may help in a local appreciation of the need for action along certain lines, and also that it may stimulate other communities to study their jail problems and perhaps may develop more productive interest in scientific procedure in dealing with offenders.

Perhaps it is not possible to draw accurate conclusions from the following tables since the number of persons examined was small. However, in some instances the implications are in line with those pointed out by Dr. Anderson in his studies of much larger groups of this class of offenders.

Society's present plan of dealing with offenders involves tremendous expenditure of time and money in an attempt to bring about a result with individual cases which is impossible. This impossibility could be demonstrated by scientific method and proper disposition of these cases could be arrived at long before they reached the stage of chronic recidivism. This would cut down greatly the expense of dealing with criminals, since 40 per cent of such work hinges around the

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<sup>1</sup>Read in part before the National Conference of Juvenile Agencies meeting in conjunction with the American Prison Association in Boston, September 15, 1923.

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<sup>3</sup>In the preparation of the tables in this study I wish to acknowledge the painstaking work of Miss Lucy Bassett, Medical Case Worker, and also that of my wife.

repeating offenders. In no successful branch of industry or business would executives think of meeting their problems without a careful study and understanding of the materials with which they are working. But society through its courts is constantly handling criminals without the simplest essentials in an understanding of their personalities and the reasons why they react as they do. It is only to be expected that the treatment prescribed under such a program will result in a large and expensive group of failures.

We note that on the physical side only 18 of the 112 men were free from disease or physical defect, many of the prisoners suffering from three, four and five physical defects and diseases; seven had pulmonary tuberculosis. The details along this line appear in our tables.

The following blank is one outlined by the National Committee for Mental Hygiene:

HISTORY BLANK—DELINQUENCY

Institution	City or town	County	State
Name	Sex	Race	
Address			
Mental Diagnosis	Age yrs.	mos.	Test age I.Q.
Mental tests used			
Personality types:	No outstanding personality difficulties, emotional, egocentric, inadequate, paranoid, others (specify)		
Physical condition			
Somatic diseases and defects			
Grade completed upon leaving school	Age upon leaving school		
Industrial efficiency:	Self-supporting yrs.; partially self-supporting yrs.; wholly dependent yrs.		
	Regularly employed, irregularly employed, odd jobs, no work, housework at home		
Occupation (in detail)			
Behavior history:	No outstanding difficulties, lying, stealing, cruelty, pugnacity, sex promiscuity, sex perversions, others (specify)		
Offense	Length of present sentence		
Times Arrested	Number of sentences	Number of times on probation	
Disciplinary history in present institution			
Marital condition:	Single	married	widowed divorced separated
Nativity (state or country) of individual	of father		of mother
Citizenship:	American	foreign	Environment: Urban rural
Actual residence—county	Year of arrival in U. S.		
Date of examination.....	19..	.....	

Examiner

1. Family history
  - Of mental deficiency
  - mental disease
  - epilepsy
  - dependency
  - delinquency

Number of children    Number of brothers    Number of sisters

2. *Medical history*

Headaches  
 Convulsions  
 Fainting spells  
 Physical disabilities  
 Injuries  
 Speech defect  
 Paralysis  
 Drug addiction  
 Illnesses  
 Syphilis  
 Habits  
 Other diseases or defects

3. *Personality make-up*: (Please underscore such traits as individual has)  
 Restless, quiet, indolent, industrious, responsive, easily influenced, obedient, selfish, gets along with others, hyper-suggestible, independent, excitable, temper tantrums, hyper-sensitive, seclusive, impulsive, neurotic, easily discouraged, egoistic, individualistic, inconsiderate, unappreciative, weak-willed, sluggish, lacking in ambition, suspicious, self-centered, sullen, others (specify)

EXPLANATION OF TERMS ON ABOVE BLANK AS USED IN OUR STUDY

1. *Name*—as given by prisoner on admission for present offense.  
*Race*—White, negro or mixed.
2. *Address*—as given by prisoner on his admission to serve present sentence. In the case of homeless men this was sometimes address of nearest relative or friend.
3. *Mental diagnosis*—made by psychiatrist after all other evidence and data recorded. *Age*—Prisoner's statement of age at last birthday. *Test age and I. Q.*—for those on whom a psychometric examination was made. In all other persons *Intelligence Level* was recorded here, based on judgment of psychiatrist.
4. *Mental tests used*—Stanford Revision of Binet-Simon, Porteus, Healy No. 2.
5. *Personality types*—Recorded at time *mental diagnosis* was made. Additional terms used: manic, so-called hysterical, epileptoid, negativistic, deteriorated, senile.
6. *Physical condition*—Good, fair, poor, as summarized by psychiatrist from report of physical examinations.
7. *Somatic diseases and defects*—Positive findings from (a) medical history as stated by prisoner; (b) physical examination by physician.

8. *Grade completed and age*—Prisoners were asked what grade they had passed through in country or city schools, and at what age they left school to go to work.
9. *Industrial efficiency*—Order of employment and approximate length of time spent at each job since leaving school was summarized from prisoner's statement to social worker checked with information elicited by psychiatrist. An effort was made in each case to learn whether man had been "in the service" and so noted.
10. *Occupation*—the last one before present commitment. An effort was made to eliminate the blanket term—"laborer."
11. *Behavior history*—Recorded from psychiatric examination plus any other data available.
12. *Offense*—as shown on record book at Jail or Penitentiary, and checked up by prisoner. *Length of sentence*—same as for *Offense*.
13. *Times arrested*—Here were recorded only those prior arrests which did not result in a sentence but where the men were fined or discharged. *Number of sentences*—only total previous to present sentence and exclusive of *times arrested* and not sentenced.
14. *Disciplinary history*—statement on the few positive cases.
15. *Marital condition*—underscored from prisoner's statement.
16. *Nativity*—Country of birth recorded where possible to obtain from prisoner's statement.
17. *Citizenship*—underscored from prisoner's statement. *Environment*—summarized from records and life history from prisoner's statement and recorded as urban, rural, or mixed according to which predominated.
18. *Actual residence*—In Penitentiary from card-file record, showing county from which committed.  
*In Jail*—from prisoner's statement.  
*Year of arrival in United States*—calculated from prisoner's statement. *Life*—when born here.
19. *Family history*—History of prisoner's parents and sibs, as summarized from all interviews.  
*Children*—brothers—sisters—prisoner's statement of all children, etc., born. The number who had died were noted beneath. The difference will give number of living children, etc.
20. *Medical history*—*Physical disabilities* and *injuries* were often synonymous and recorded but once.

*Habits*—Drunkenness was recorded here.

Gonorrhoea was recorded under *other diseases and defects*.

21. *Personality make-up*—recorded by psychiatrist.

LIST OF TABLES USED IN SURVEY OF ALBANY COUNTY PENITENTIARY  
AND JAIL

- I. Crimes as related to age at which committed; tabulated in five-year periods.
- II. List of crimes committed by 62 persons serving sentence on November 16, 1922—as compared with crimes committed by 395 persons serving sentence during preceding fiscal year (November 1, 1921, to October 31, 1922)—in the Albany County Penitentiary.
  - II. (a) List of crimes committed by 62 persons serving sentence in Albany County Penitentiary on November 16, 1922, as compared with crimes committed by 50 persons serving sentence in Albany County Jail December 5-10, 1922, inclusive.
  - II. (b) List of terms of sentence served by 395 persons November 1, 1921-October 31, 1922, as compared with terms of sentence being served by 62 persons on November 16, 1922, at Albany County Penitentiary.
  - II. (c) List of counties from which 395 persons were received during fiscal year November, 1921-October 31, 1922, and counties from which 62 persons studied November 16, 1922, were received at Albany County Penitentiary. (See map also.)
- III. Fifty persons in Albany County Jail December 5-10, 1922, grouped according to sentence or court status.
- Fig. I. Graph showing number of persons in each of 12 five-year periods from 15-74 years in Albany County Jail and Penitentiary.
- IV. Crimes as related to marital status.
- V. Crimes as related to industrial efficiency.
- VI. Crimes as related to nativity.
- VII. Crimes as related to mental diagnosis.
- VIII. Crimes as related to intelligence level.
- IX. Crimes as related to personality.
- X. Mental diagnosis as related to marital status.
- XI. Mental diagnosis as related to industrial efficiency.
- XII. Mental diagnosis as related to nativity.
- XIII. Personality as related to industrial efficiency.

TABLE I  
CRIMES AS RELATED TO AGE AT WHICH COMMITTED, TABULATED IN FIVE-YEAR PERIODS

	ALBANY COUNTY PENITENTIARY										ALBANY COUNTY JAIL													
	15	20	25	30	35	40	45	50	55	60	65	70	15	20	25	30	35	40	45	50	55	60	65	70
Tramp																								
Pettit larceny																								
Intoxication																								
Vagrancy																								
Grand larceny, 1st																								
Grand larceny, 2nd																								
Robbery, 1st																								
Assault, 2nd																								
Assault, 3rd																								
Viol. Incest., Comm.																								
Murder, 1st																								
Murder, 2nd																								
14. Other Crimes																								
TOTALS	10	5	5	7	6	7	4	6	7	2	2	62*	6	8	9	12	5	5	3	1	1	1	1	

\*Vagrant, age unknown, included in totals 8-62.

TABLE II

List of crimes committed by 62 persons serving sentence in Albany Penitentiary on November 16, 1922, as compared with crimes committed by 395 persons serving sentence during preceding fiscal year (November 1, 1921, to October 31, 1922).

Crimes	Nov. 1, 1921- Oct. 31, 1922 (No. of persons)		Nov. 16, 1922 (No. of persons)		Nov. 16, 1922 (No. of persons)	
	Nov. 1, 1921- Oct. 31, 1922	Nov. 16, 1922	Nov. 1, 1921- Oct. 31, 1922	Nov. 16, 1922	Nov. 1, 1921- Oct. 31, 1922	Nov. 16, 1922
Crimes						
Tramp	162	11	11	21	0	0
Pettit larceny	37	9	9	11	0	0
Intoxication	79	8	8	9	1	1
Vagrancy	4	1	1	1	0	0
Grand larceny, 1st	4	0	0	0	0	0
Grand larceny, 2nd	4	0	0	0	0	0
Robbery, 1st	0	0	0	0	0	0
Burglary, 3rd	4	0	0	0	1	1
Assault, 2nd	0	0	0	0	1	1
Assault, 3rd	30	5	5	5	1	1
Violating interstate commerce law	0	0	0	0	0	0
Murder, 1st	0	0	0	0	0	0
Contempt of court	0	0	0	0	0	0
Breach of peace	4	0	0	0	0	0
Violating Sect. 43 P. L.	1	0	0	0	0	0
Violating Sect. 100 P. L.	1	0	0	0	0	0
Violating Sect. 483 P. L.	2	0	0	0	4	4
Violating Sect. 720 P. L.	4	0	0	0	6	6
Violating Sect. 931 P. L.	1	0	0	0	1	1
Violating Sect. 1140 P. L.	1	0	0	0	1	1
TOTALS	395	62	62	395	62	62

Note.—Explanation of sections of the Penal Law:  
 Section 43: Penalty for acts for which no punishment is expressly prescribed.  
 Section 100: Adultery defined—sexual intercourse of two persons either of whom is married to a third.  
 Section 483: Endangering life or health of a child.  
 Section 720: Disorderly conduct on public conveyance.  
 Section 931: Personating officers, firemen and other persons.  
 Section 1140: Immoral plays and exhibitions and the use and leasing of real property therefor.  
 Section 1146: Keeping disorderly houses.  
 Section 1443:  
 Section 1897: Carrying and use of dangerous weapons.  
 Section 1990:  
 Act of December, 1919:

TABLE II (a)

List of crimes committed by 62 persons serving sentence in Albany County Penitentiary on November 16, 1922, as compared with crimes committed by 50 persons serving sentence in Albany County Jail December 5-10, 1922:

Crimes	Penitentiary (No. of persons)	Jail (No. of persons)
Tramp .....	21	0
Petit larceny .....	11	0
Intoxication .....	9	10
Vagrancy .....	8	5
Grand larceny, 1st .....	1	8
Grand larceny, 2nd .....	0	4
Robbery, 1st .....	0	6
Assault, 2nd .....	0	3
Assault, 3rd .....	5	0
Violating Interstate Commerce.....	0	3
Murder, 1st .....	0	2
Violating Sec. 483 P. L. ....	2	0
Contempt of court.....	0	1
Violating Sec. 1897 P. L. ....	1	0
Violating Sec. 1443 P. L. ....	0	1
Violating Volstead Act .....	0	1
Violating Sec. 1990 .....	0	1
Violating Act December, 1919.....	0	1
Abandonment .....	1	0
Bastardy .....	0	1
Rape, 1st .....	0	1
Rape, attempt .....	0	1
Fraud on hotel .....	0	1
Disorderly conduct .....	1	0
Disorderly person .....	1	0
Disorderly house .....	1	0
Totals .....	62	50

When one person has committed two crimes, only the more serious of the two has been noted. For example, Robbery, 3rd, and Assault, 2nd, the latter one only has been charted.



TABLE II (b)

List of terms of sentence served by 395 persons November 1, 1921-October 31, 1922, as compared with terms of sentence being served by 62 persons on November 16, 1922, at Albany County Penitentiary:

Term of Sentence	November 1, 1921- October 31, 1922 (No. of persons)	November 16, 1922 (No. of persons)
30 days .....	48	2
35 days .....	15	3
40 days .....	1	0
50 days .....	1	0
60 days .....	107	6
75 days .....	1	0
90 days .....	52	6
90 days and \$50.00 .....	1	0
120 days .....	12	3
150 days .....	0	3
179 days and \$50.00 .....	1	0
180 days .....	19	4
180 days and \$100.00 .....	1	0
2 months .....	16	3
3 months .....	42	11
4 months .....	19	3
5 months .....	4	3
6 months .....	37	9
6 months and \$ 50.00 .....	1	0
6 months and \$100.00 .....	1	0
9 months .....	2	0
10 months .....	1	1
1 year .....	9	1
1 year and 174 days .....	0	1
1 year and \$100.00 .....	1	1
1 year and \$250.00 .....	1	1
1 year and \$365.00 .....	1	1
Totals .....	395	62

TABLE II (c)

Counties from which 395 persons were received at Albany Penitentiary during fiscal year, November 1, 1921, to October 31, 1922, and counties from which 62 persons studied November 16, 1922, were received. (See map also.)

	November 1, 1921- October 31, 1922	November 16, 1922
Albany .....	187	30
Saratoga .....	81	11
Otsego .....	77	1
Clinton .....	28	6
Columbia .....	24	2
Montgomery .....	21	3
Delaware .....	14	0
Ulster .....	12	2
Washington .....	7	2
Green .....	6	0
Warren .....	5	3
Essex .....	2	1
Schoharie .....	1	0
New York .....	0	1
Totals .....	395	62

The so-called "state tramps," picked up in any one of the above counties are sent to this penitentiary. Transportation expenses to the penitentiary are met by the county from which they are committed, and their maintenance during sentence is paid for out of the state treasury at the flat rate of 60 cts. per man per day.

When the man is discharged he is no better off than when committed, and in some cases finds himself in a strange city (Albany) many miles from his usual haunts. He then may become for a varying period one of the least desirable and most inefficient members of the Albany community. If his discharge occurs during the winter, he may receive an overcoat and rubbers from a local church society which has become interested in his case through friendly offices of some of the keepers. A few nights in a local lodging house may also by chance fall to his lot. On the other hand, he is more frequently picked up by the police on a technical charge of vagrancy and recommitted for another short term. Here presents an opportunity for a piece of constructive social work and gives the argument for the provision of social service as an extension of the work of any penal institution; the family histories that might thus be collected and the facts in the behavior and industrial histories of these offenders that would be tabulated would exhibit the stupidity and expense of our present system of handling these cases, pointing the way to a more scientific approach; and the assistance rendered by such social service to selected cases at time of discharge might be demonstrated to be a very potent influence in breaking the "vicious circle" of arrest, short term, discharge, re-arrest, etc.

TABLE III

Examinations were begun in the Albany County Jail December 5th on 50 prisoners, 47 of whom were inmates on the morning of that day and 3 who were admitted during the day, listed according to the following groups:

Sentenced prisoners—3 to 30 days.....	10
Awaiting trial in police court any day.....	8
Held for observation in psychopathic ward, Albany Hospital.....	1
Awaiting indictment by grand jury.....	12
Held for grand jury for trial.....	4
Sentenced and waiting to be sent to state prison.....	4

## Federal prisoners:

Violating Interstate Commerce Act and awaiting trial in U. S. Court..	3
Sentenced for violating Volstead Act and waiting to take paupers oath after failure to pay heavy fine.....	4
Civil (failure to pay alimony)—contempt of court.....	1

## Admitted during the day:

Sentenced 3 days for intoxication.....	2
Awaiting trial .....	1

---

 50

During the remainder of the week, December 5-December 10, 8 prisoners left because sentence had expired or case was dismissed, etc., and 8 new men admitted during the same period were substituted. Each man was given physical, mental and social examinations within a two-day period, and the records were checked up afterward; this meant there were no partially completed cases. All jail examinations were completed December 13th. But one man examined by physicians failed to see psychiatrist. Psychiatrist gave both mental and physical examinations to 3 men.

FIG. 1  
Numbers of Persons in Each of Five-Year  
Periods from 15-74 Years

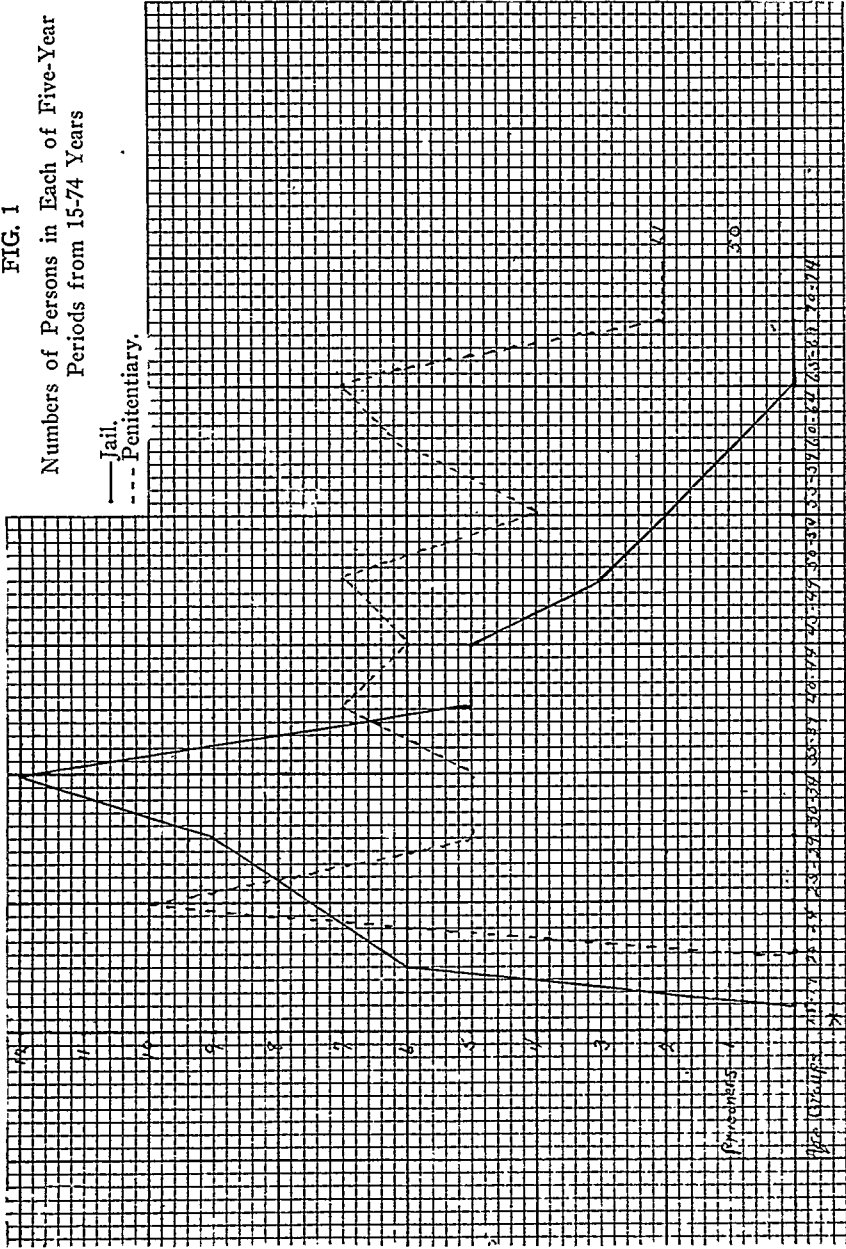


TABLE IV  
CRIMES AS RELATED TO MARITAL STATUS

	ALBANY COUNTY PENITENTIARY				ALBANY COUNTY JAIL							
	Sing.	Mar.	Wid.	Div.	Sep.	Total	Sing.	Mar.	Wid.	Div.	Sep.	Total
Tramp.....	17	1	3			21						
Petit larceny.....	10	1				11						
Intoxication.....	8	1	1			9*		2	1			
Vagrancy.....	9					9		3				
Grand larceny, 1st.....	1					1		3	1			1
Grand larceny, 2nd.....								3				
Robbery, 1st.....								5				
Robbery, 2nd.....								1				
Assault, 2nd.....								3				
Assault, 3rd.....	1	3	1			5						
Viol. Interst. Comm.....								3				
Murder, 1st.....	1	1				2		1	1			
Viol. Sect. 483.....	2	3				5		5	1	1		1
14 Other Crimes.....								9	1	1		1
TOTALS.....	46	10	5			62*	29	12	4	3		2

\*Vagrant, marital status unknown, included in totals 8-62.

TABLE V  
CRIMES AS RELATED TO INDUSTRIAL EFFICIENCY

	ALBANY COUNTY PENITENTIARY				ALBANY COUNTY JAIL							
	Self Supp.	Part. Supp.	Wholly Dep.	S. S. P. S. S. W. Dep.	P. S. S. W. Dep.	Total	Self Supp.	Part. Supp.	Wholly Dep.	S. S. P. S. S. W. Dep.	S. S. P. S. S. W. Dep.	Total
Tramp.....	3	9	1	7	1	21	5					
Petit larceny.....	6	2		3		11	1					
Intoxication.....	3	2		3		9*	6	1	1		4	1
Vagrancy.....	2	2	3			8*	1					
Grand larceny, 1st.....	1					1	4	1				1
Grand larceny, 2nd.....							4	1				
Robbery, 1st.....							6	1				
Robbery, 2nd.....							3	1				
Assault, 2nd.....							3					
Assault, 3rd.....	5					5	3					
Viol. Interst. Comm.....							1	1				
Murder, 1st.....	2	1		2		2	7	1				
Viol. Sect. 483.....	2	1		2		5	3	1				
14 Other Crimes.....							7	1				
TOTALS.....	24	16	4	15	1	62*	30	6	1	10	1	1

\*Case No. 25—Intoxication, no data, included in total 9.

\*Case No. 31—Vagrant, no data, included in total 8.

\*Case No. 18—Vagrant, no data, included in total 5.

TABLE VI  
CRIMES AS RELATED TO NATIVITY

ALBANY COUNTY PENITENTIARY				ALBANY COUNTY JAIL			
	Amer. of Amer. Par.	Amer. of* Foreign Par.	Foreign of Foreign Par.	Total	Amer. of Amer. Par.	Amer. of* Foreign Par.	Foreign of Foreign Par.
Tramp.....	7 a	10	4	21			
Petit larceny.....	3	5	3	11			
Intoxication.....	3 b	3	3	9			
Vagrancy.....	6 c	2	2	8			
Grand larceny, 1st.....	1 d			1			
Grand larceny, 2nd.....							
Robbery, 1st.....							
Robbery, 2nd.....							
Assault, 1st.....							
Assault, 2nd.....							
Assault, 3rd.....	2 e	1	2	5			
Viol. Interst. Comm.....							
Murder, 1st.....							
Murder, 2nd.....	2 f			2			
Viol. Sect. 483.....	2	2	1	5			
14 Other Crimes.....							
TOTALS.....	26	21	15	62	22	14	14

\*One or both parents foreign born.  
 a. One negro; 3 unknown parentage.  
 b. One negro; 1 unknown parentage.  
 c. One negro; 2 unknown parentage.  
 d. One negro; 1 unknown parentage.  
 e. One negro; 1 unknown parentage.  
 f. One negro.

TABLE VII  
CRIMES AS RELATED TO MENTAL DIAGNOSIS

ALBANY COUNTY PENITENTIARY				ALBANY COUNTY JAIL			
	Neg.	Const. Psych.	Const. Infer.	Feeble-minded	Psy-chosis	Total	
Tramp.....		5	12	3	1	21	
Petit larceny.....	3	4	4			11	
Intoxication.....	5	2	2	2	1	9	
Vagrancy.....		4	1			5*	
Grand larceny, 1st.....						8	
Grand larceny, 2nd.....						4	
Robbery, 1st.....						6	
Robbery, 2nd.....						3	
Assault, 1st.....	1	1	2	1		5	
Assault, 2nd.....						2	
Assault, 3rd.....						2	
Viol. Interst. Comm.....						5	
Murder, 1st.....						2	
Murder, 2nd.....						5	
Viol. Sect. 483.....	1	2	1	1		9	
14 Other Crimes.....							
TOTALS.....	10	19	22	8	2	62	

\*Case No. 39—Grand Larceny, 1st, no psych. exam. made.

\*Case No. 18—Vagrant, no data included in total 5.

TABLE VIII  
CRIMES AS RELATED TO INTELLIGENCE LEVEL

	ALBANY COUNTY PENITENTIARY					ALBANY COUNTY JAIL					
	Superior	Average	Dull	Border-line	Feeble-minded	Total	Superior	Average	Dull	Border-line	Feeble-minded
Tramp		2	7	8	3	21*					
Pettit larceny		6	2	3	3	11			4	1	1
Intoxication		4	3	2	2	9					
Vagrancy		4	1			8*					
Grand larceny, 1st						1*					
Grand larceny, 2nd									1	1	2
Robbery, 1st									1	2	1
Robbery, 2nd											
Assault, 3rd		2	1	1	1	5					
Viol. Interest, Comm.											
Murder, 1st		1			1	2				1	
Viol. Sect. 483		3	1		1	5					
14 Other Crimes			2			2			2	1	
TOTALS		22	15	14	8	62*		28	11	5	4

\*Totals 21, 8 and 1 include:  
Case No. 31—Vagrant, psychotic, no data.  
Case No. 41—Tramp, psychotic, deteriorated; probably of average intelligence before praecox episodes.  
Case No. 59—Grand Larceny, 1st, no psych. exam. made.

\*Totals 5 and 8 include:  
Case No. 18—Vagrant, no data.  
Case No. 25—Grand Larceny, 1st, psychotic.

TABLE IX  
CRIMES AS RELATED TO PERSONALITY

	ALBANY COUNTY PENITENTIARY											ALBANY COUNTY JAIL													
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	Total	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	Total	
Tramp	13	4	3	2	1							21													
Pettit larceny	3	2	2	4	1							11													
Intoxication	1	1	2	1								5*													
Vagrancy	3	3	1	1								8													
Grand larceny, 1st												1*													
Grand larceny, 2nd																									
Robbery, 1st																									
Robbery, 2nd																									
Assault, 2nd																									
Assault, 3rd	1	3										5													
Viol. Interest, Comm.																									
Murder, 1st	1	1										2													
Viol. Sect. 483	2	1	1	1								5													
14 Other Crimes																									
TOTALS	24	16	8	7	2	1	1	1	1	1	62	50*	4	15	12	15	1								

\*Total 1 includes:  
Case No. 69—Grand Larceny, 1st, no data.  
A. Inadequate.  
B. Emotional.  
C. Egocentric.  
D. No outstanding difficulties.

\*Total 5 includes:  
Case No. 18—Vagrant, no data.  
I. Senile.  
J. Manic.  
K. So-called hysterical.

\*Total 5 includes:  
Case No. 18—Vagrant, no data.  
E. Paranoid.  
F. Epileptoid.  
G. Negativistic.  
H. Deteriorated.

TABLE X  
MENTAL DIAGNOSIS AS RELATED TO MARITAL STATUS

	ALBANY COUNTY PENITENTIARY					ALBANY COUNTY JAIL					
	Sing.	Mar.	Wid.	Div.	Sep.	Total	Sing.	Mar.	Wid.	Div.	Sep.
No definite nervous or mental disease.....	7	3	.....	.....	.....	10	14	5	1	.....	1
Constitutional Psychopathic Inerity.....	14	2	3	.....	.....	19	12	3	2	.....	1
Feeblemindedness.....	18	3	2	.....	.....	22	4	1	.....	.....	.....
Psychosis.....	5	3	.....	.....	.....	8	1	3	.....	.....	.....
.....	1*	.....	.....	.....	.....	2*	.....	1	.....	.....	.....
TOTALS.....	46*	10	5	.....	62*	50*	29*	12	4	3	2

\*Totals 2 and 46 include:  
Case No. 31—Psychosis, marital state unknown.  
Case No. 50—Single, no psychiatric exam. made.  
\*Total 29 includes:  
Case No. 18—Single, no data.

TABLE XI  
MENTAL DIAGNOSIS AS RELATED TO INDUSTRIAL EFFICIENCY

	ALBANY COUNTY PENITENTIARY					ALBANY COUNTY JAIL							
	Self Supp.	Part. Supp.	Wholly Dep.	S. S. and P. S. S.	S. S. and W. Dep.	P. S. S. and W. Dep.	Total	Self Supp.	Part. Supp.	Wholly Dep.	S. S. and P. S. S.	S. S. and W. Dep.	P. S. S. and W. Dep.
No Definite Nervous or Mental Disease.....	7	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	10	17	1	.....	.....	.....	.....
Constitutional Psychopathic Inerity.....	6	6	1	.....	.....	19	11	1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....
Feeblemindedness.....	2	3	2	.....	.....	22*	2*	2	2	.....	.....	.....	.....
Psychosis.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	8	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
TOTAL.....	24*	16	4	15	.....	62*	50*	30	6	1	10	1	1

\*Case No. 25—Const. Inf., no data; included in total 22.  
\*Case No. 31—Psychosis, no data; included in total 2.  
\*Case No. 50—Self, Supp., no data; included in total 24.  
\*Case No. 60—F. M., self supp., woman.  
\*Case No. 61—F. M., W. Dep., woman.  
\*Case No. 18—No data; included in total 50.  
\*Case No. 38—Const. Inf., self supp., woman.

TABLE XII  
MENTAL DIAGNOSIS AS RELATED TO NATIVITY

	ALBANY COUNTY PENITENTIARY				ALBANY COUNTY JAIL			
	Amer. of Amer. Par.		Foreign of Foreign Par.		Amer. of Amer. Par.		Foreign of Foreign Par.	
	Amer. Par.	Foreign Par.	Amer. Par.	Foreign Par.	Amer. Par.	Foreign Par.	Amer. Par.	Foreign Par.
No definite nervous or mental disease.....	2	4	4	10	8	5	8	8
Constitutional Psychopathic.....	9	7	3	19	9	7	13	3
Feeble mindedness.....	4	8	2	22	3	1	3	3
Psychosis.....	4	2	2	8	1	1	1	1
TOTALS.....	26**	21	15	62	22**	14	14	14

\*Amer. of foreign or mixed par.  
 \*\*Case No. 31—negro, psychosis; included in totals 2-26.  
 \*\*Case No. 59—Amer. of Amer. par.; included in total 26.  
 \*Amer. of foreign or mixed par.  
 \*\*Case No. 18—Listed in total 22.

TABLE XIII  
PERSONALITY AS RELATED TO INDUSTRIAL EFFICIENCY

	ALBANY COUNTY PENITENTIARY				ALBANY COUNTY JAIL			
	Amer. of Amer. Par.		Foreign of Foreign Par.		Amer. of Amer. Par.		Foreign of Foreign Par.	
	Amer. Par.	Foreign Par.	Amer. Par.	Foreign Par.	Amer. Par.	Foreign Par.	Amer. Par.	Foreign Par.
Inadequate.....	6	9	1	24*	2	2	1	1
Emotional.....	8	2	1	16	1	3	3	1
Egocentric.....	3	3	1	8	2	3	3	1
No Outstanding Diff.....	4	1	2	7	2	2	2	1
Paranoid.....	1	1	2	2*	1	1	1	1
Epileptoid.....	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Negativistic.....	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Deteriorated.....	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Senile.....	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Manic.....	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
So-called Hysterical.....	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
TOTALS.....	24	16	4	62*	6	10	10	1

\*Case No. 25—Paranoid, no data, included in total 2.  
 \*Case No. 31—Negativistic, no data, included in total 1.  
 \*Case No. 59—Self-supporting, no data, included in total 24.  
 \*Case No. 60—Women of inadequate personality.  
 \*Case No. 61—Women of inadequate personality.  
 \*Case No. 18—No data, included in total 50.  
 \*Case No. 33—Woman, emotional.



MENTAL DIAGNOSIS

	Penitentiary	Jail
No definite nervous or mental disease.....	10(a)	21
Constitutional psychopathic inferiority:		
Constitutional psychopaths .....	7	10(b)
Con. psy. alcoholic.....	5	6
Con. psy. alcoholic, senile.....	2	0
Con. psy. drug addict.....	2	1
Con. psy. drug addict, deteriorated.....	1(c)	0
Con. psy. alcoholic, deteriorated.....	0	1
Con. psy. alcoholic with paranoid trend.....	1	0
Con. psy. senile.....	1	0
Con. psy. homosexual .....	0	1
Constitutional psychopaths, total.....	19	19
Constitutional inferiors .....	7	2(f)
Con. inf. alcoholic.....	4	1
Con. inf. alcoholic, deteriorated.....	5	0
Con. inf. alcoholic, senile.....	2	1
Con. inf. senile .....	1	0
Con. inf. drug addict, alcoholic.....	1	0
Con. inf. with paranoid trend.....	1	0
Con. inf. deaf mute.....	1	0
Constitutional inferiors, total.....	22	4
Feeble-mindedness:		
Feeble-minded .....	6(d)	4
Feeble-minded alcoholic, deteriorated.....	1(e)	0
Feeble-minded, senile .....	1	0
Feeble-minded, total .....	8	4
Psychosis:		
Dementia praecox:		
Simple type with deterioration.....	1	0
Catatonic type .....	1	0
Psychosis with epilepsy and neuro-syphilis.....	0	1
Psychotic, total .....	2	1
Not examined (g) .....	1	1
	62	50

(a) One of these, a possible epileptic.

(b) One of these, a possible epileptic.

(c) This case a possible epileptic.

(d) One of these a woman.

(e) This case a woman.

(f) One of these a woman charged with first degree murder.

(g) One of the original group of penitentiary cases left before psychiatric examination was made.

One of the jail group was transferred to psychopathic pavilion, Albany Hospital, before our examinations at the jail were started and was later sent to Hudson River State Hospital; this case was therefore psychotic, although we did not examine him at the jail.

CLASSIFICATION ACCORDING TO INTELLIGENCE LEVEL

The classification is based upon the judgment of the psychiatrist through conference and general tests (who in this instance happens to have had a wide institutional and industrial experience with the feeble-minded as well as extensive experience in applying formal mental tests) except in the case of a selected group who were given formal

intelligence tests and who were finally rated as feeble-minded, or, in one instance, borderline intelligence. One case was diagnosed as feeble-minded by the psychiatrist on very evident grounds, but was discharged before psychometric tests could be given.

	Penitentiary	Jail
Superior .....	0	0
Average .....	22	28
Dull .....	15	11
Borderline .....	14	5
Feeble-minded .....	8	4
	*	†
<hr/> Total .....	<hr/> 62	<hr/> 50

\*In one additional case there was no examination and two additional cases were psychotic.

†In one additional case there was no examination and one additional case was psychotic.

No special point attaches to a tabulation of *mental diagnosis* in relation to *intelligence level*, as an appreciation of the latter naturally figures in the former; we find the constitutional inferiors falling within the borderline and dull groups while the constitutional psychopaths and those men listed as having no definite nervous or mental disease are distributed within the upper-dull and average intelligence groups.

TABLE XVI  
RESULTS OF PHYSICAL EXAMINATIONS  
*General Physical Condition*

	Penitentiary	Jail
Good .....	24	27
Fair .....	26	13
Poor .....	12	9
	*	†
<hr/> Total .....	<hr/> 62	<hr/> 50

\*Two cases women, one in fair and the other poor physical condition.

†No data on one case. One case a woman in good physical condition.

	Penitentiary	Jail
Suffering from:		
No evident physical defects or disease.....	8	10
One disease or physical defect.....	11	14
Two diseases or physical defects.....	16	8
Three diseases or physical defects.....	9	7
Four diseases or physical defects.....	7	7
Five or more physical defects.....	10	3
Cases not examined.....	1	1
	<hr/> 62	<hr/> 50

Two of the penitentiary cases were women, one with 2 defects and the other with 4 defects.

One of the jail cases was a woman with no evident disease or physical defect.

Many of the conditions were chronic or offered little hope of correction, but a few were curable or correctible conditions provided suitable treatment were available. In one case the man was eager to have treatment for his syphilis and another man was much discouraged over his tuberculous state with recent lung abscess; but in most instances the prisoners were indifferent to their disease or defect and probably will not voluntarily seek treatment when they leave the institution.

Many of the men were undersized, flat-chested, stooped-shouldered and poorly developed.

TABLE XVII

TABULATION OF THE LEADING PHYSICAL DEFECTS

There were 61 cases examined physically in the penitentiary and 49 in the jail.

	No. of prisoners affected (many with several defects)	
	Penitentiary	Jail
Decayed teeth .....	29	20
Pyorrhea .....	16	14
Defective vision .....	10	10
Cataract .....	6	1
Defective hearing .....	3	2
Diseased tonsils .....	3	3
Varicocele .....	1	1
Hemorrhoids .....	1	0
Varicose veins of leg (one with ulcers).....	2	0
Loss of parts of body (eye, leg, fingers, etc.) and various orthopedic conditions .....	7	3

TABULATION OF DISEASES

Pulmonary tuberculosis (on physical examination only by doctors doing intensive chest work in Tuberculosis Dispensary and Cardiac Clinic).....	2	5
Cardiac disease .....	5	2
Nephritis (chronic) .....	0	1
Arterio-sclerosis .....	6	1
Malnutrition .....	3	4
Obesity (pituitary dysfunction suggested in one).....	4	0
Eczema .....	1	1
Acne Vulgaris .....	1	2
Scabies .....	1	0
Gonorrhea (active) .....	2	5
Epididymitis .....	1	1
Epithelioma of face.....	1	0
Syphilis (on history, scar on penis, scars from buboes, etc., and history of inadequate treatment).....	9	7
Neuro-syphilis .....	0	1
No data on one case in penitentiary and one in jail.....	1	1

SUGGESTED INCIDENCE OF VENEREAL DISEASES

Total number examined.....	61	49
Number having had infection from history and signs, including those who now are suffering from disease:		
Syphilis .....	10	7
Gonorrhea .....	28	23
Both syphilis and gonorrhea.....	8	6
Chancroids .....	2	0

All but two of the 110 men acknowledged sex promiscuity. With 7 of the men suffering with active gonorrhoea and with 17 cases where syphilitic infection with only desultory treatment was reasonably established, the potentialities of this group of men in the spread of venereal disease are evident.

TABLE XVIII

## USE OF LIQUOR

	Penitentiary	Jail
Number studied .....	62	50
Steady drinker .....	14	6
Periodic drinker .....	18	8
Convivial drinker .....	5	9
Occasional drinker .....	11	11
Denies indulgence and no history of arrests for intoxication .....	13	15
No data .....	1	1

TABLE XIV

## DRUG ADDICTION

	Penitentiary	Jail
Number of prisoners studied .....	62	50
No data .....	1	1
Drug addiction .....	4	2

Two additional drug addicts were transferred from jail to Atlanta Federal Prison before they were reached for examination, but they were seen informally by the psychiatrist and they were both addicts and one was hallucinating prior to his transfer and had to be restrained.

One of the addicts had used only morphine, but the others used morphine, heroin and cocaine. One had taken morphine only by mouth, but the others had puncture and abscess scars and used safety pin and medicine dropper. One blamed his habit on a girl who taught him the use of drugs; one learned from a prize-fighter with whom he was friendly; and one was given morphine for many weeks while in hospital with hernia and syphilitic inguinal abscess, and then continued the use after leaving hospital.

TABLE XX

## CLASSIFICATION ACCORDING TO ENVIRONMENT

	Penitentiary	Jail
Urban .....	17	30
Rural .....	7	3
Mixed .....	37	16
No data .....	1	1
Total .....	62	50

In compiling the above table we have considered the life history of the case, his wanderings, etc., and have classed him according to which environment seemed to predominate. In view of the importance of early environment as a factor in *juvenile delinquency* it would be interesting to study a large group of adult offenders in respect to place of birth (urban or rural), and where the first twelve or fifteen years of life were spent.

In the table as compiled, urban environment is noted twice as frequently in the jail prisoners as in the men in the penitentiary, while mixed environment (suggestive of wandering, migratory laborer, etc.) is less than one-half as frequent among the jail prisoners as among the penitentiary cases. No doubt interesting correlations might be uncovered in a study of a larger number of these younger jail cases in contrast with the older penitentiary cases from the standpoints of age in relation to employment, crime in relation to nature of employment, type of crime in relation to environment, etc.

TABLE XXI  
NUMBER OF ARRESTS

Arrests	No. of persons Penitentiary	No. of persons Jail
One .....	13	23
Two .....	16	10
Three .....	9	7
Four .....	8	1
Five .....	2	4
Six .....	1	0
Seven .....	2	0
Eight .....	1	0
Nine .....	1	0
Ten .....	2	2
Eleven .....	1	0
Twelve .....	0	2
Thirteen .....	1	1
Fourteen .....	1	0
Fifteen .....	1	0
Sixteen .....	1	0
Twenty or more .....	2	0
	62	50

In the penitentiary 62 men were credited with at least 289 arrests or an average of  $4\frac{1}{2}$  arrests per person. In the jail 50 persons were credited with at least 145 arrests or an average of nearly 3 arrests per person. In all, 112 persons were the subjects of 434 arrests at the hands of publicly paid policemen; these 112 persons caused 434 hearings, trials or what-not to be held at public expense, 434 trips were made in publicly maintained conveyances to station-house, court, jail, etc., and these 112 persons were maintained for varying periods in

prisons, jails, etc., at public expense, being released every little while and again to be put through the same procedure. Out of these 112 cases we know that 12 were feeble-minded, 3 were psychotic, 26 others were of such low grade intelligence and inadequate personality and early in their lives showed such industrial inefficiency that failure for this entire group of 41, or approximately 37 per cent, could have been prognosticated. In addition, a much larger group were of such personality make-up that adjustment on their part was difficult and without recognition on the part of the law and the public were bound to fail from the standpoint of social efficiency.

When one thinks only of the number of crimes these 112 persons committed, for which they were *actually arrested* and served sentences, he sees the enormous expense to the state and to various counties and cities in terms of arrests, hearings, trials, maintenance, etc. The record of a large percentage could have been prognosticated at any point in their recidivistic lives, and this, preferably from an economic standpoint, might well be done in similar cases early in their careers. With reiteration of such data a more general appreciation of the problem might be developed and a wiser system of care and supervision might then be evolved.

#### CASES OF SPECIAL SIGNIFICANCE

##### *Penitentiary:*

No. 31. This man, a negro, had been in the penitentiary seven weeks when our examinations took place. We found him mute, negativistic and suggestion of "lead-pipe rigidity." He had not talked since his admission and had been considered "refractory" and "faking." He had been put in the "punishment cell" for a short time, but remained in the same condition. At the time of our examination his sentence was within four weeks of expiring. It was pointed out to the officials that the man would be in no condition to look after himself at that time and transfer to a state hospital was recommended. In the course of a week or so this was accomplished, but the officials were rather surprised to find that the man went with the attendant silently and "appeared indifferent" when left at the state hospital; they fully expected him to "stop his stubbornness" and "cuss them out" when he found he was leaving the local institution.

Diagnosis: *Dementia præcox*, catatonic type. Psychiatric consultation would have brought about the proper disposition of such a case seven weeks sooner.

No. 41. This man, 38 years old, was brought from Oneonta one month before our examination as a tramp. He was said to be "sort

of dazed and no memory" upon arrival. Investigation showed that he had been living with a prostitute during the past year in Albany who a few months previous had found him so inefficient and irresponsible that she had "kicked him out"; he had been tried at a number of jobs within a hundred-mile limit of Albany, but could give but little information about his wanderings. An uncle from another state visited him and stated that he had been with him till fifteen years ago when he suddenly disappeared and the family had not heard from him in the interval; he produced evidence to show that he had been a bright boy and had done fairly high-grade work as a young man and had made a good living. The prisoner was in a very dilapidated mental condition, but evidently had been of fair intelligence prior to his præcox episodes.

Diagnosis: *Dementia præcox*, simple type with deterioration. Recommendation was made that he be transferred to the proper state institution, as his sentence expired in a few days and he was unfit to be turned upon his own resources; he did not know what city he was in nor the institution from which he was about to be discharged.

Disposition was delayed and finally some arrangement was made whereby he was recommitted for another short sentence, and he is still at the penitentiary. His deterioration is rather profound and the man should be given permanent custodial care.

No. 32. An example of an alcoholic psychopath, 64 years old; sent in as a "state tramp"; been in Albany Penitentiary 12 times for intoxication and once for a year for assaulting an officer. Has served sentences for intoxication in several other counties. Father an alcoholic. Prisoner has drunk since a boy. Was arrested a few days ago and "let go"; was rearrested the next day for the same offense. He has mitral heart disease, an inguinal hernia and defective eyesight and is unable to do much work even when sober. He will be discharged in about four weeks into the community and the same process will be repeated.

No. 34. This man is a constitutional inferior—a deaf mute; he has had the same cell in the penitentiary for years. He is 53 years old and has spent approximately 29 years and 6 months out of the past 30 years in the penitentiary. When each sentence expires he goes downtown, gathers up a quantity of cigar stubs, then goes to the police court by the time the patrol wagon is ready to return to the penitentiary. He sometimes writes out for the judge what sentence he wants, or the officer goes to the judge for his commitment paper and he is returned to the penitentiary and goes through the process of a fresh commitment; this occurred on November 24 as usual.

No. 10. Twenty-seven years old, a constitutional psychopath,

drug addict with some deterioration and probably epilepsy; used heroin, morphine and cocaine; stole from hardware company under stimulus of cocaine; has taken drugs for eight years. In penitentiary on a three-month sentence.

No. 20. A senile, feeble-minded man with pulmonary tuberculosis, mitral stenosis, a luxated shoulder unreduced (old), tuberculous arthritis of hip, knee and ankle, poor nutrition, and defective vision. He is in on a 150-day sentence for being a tramp.

No. 61. A feeble-minded, alcoholic woman, deteriorated, in on a six-month sentence for vagrancy. This woman has been doing odd jobs or has been wholly dependent for thirty years and has been arrested a number of times for drunkenness.

*Albany County Jail:*

No. 54. Thirty years old; no nervous or mental disease; average intelligence; malnutrition; pulmonary tuberculosis with drainage of lung abscess one year ago, being in hospital three months. Has drunk only during last eight months; never arrested till this time; a three-day sentence. Says he is wholly discouraged over his physical condition and never drank until his depression of the last eight months. Had been self-supporting for fourteen years prior to his disease and regularly employed; since last year has done odd jobs or has been in hospital or when out has been without work. This case offers an opportunity for constructive social work, which should be available.

No. 41. Twenty-one years old; held for trial in U. S. court; first arrest; gonorrhoea developed since entering the jail a few days ago. This man is not segregated and is receiving no vigorous treatment.

Nos. 36, 37 and 38. These three young men, each 19 years old, waiting sentence for robbery in first degree, are suffering from no definite nervous or mental disease, but have been disciplinary cases, refusing to empty their cell-buckets or keep the place clean, and as such they were placed for a week in the "punishment cell" quarter. They all have gonorrhoea, now active, and apparently have received no active treatment.

No. 39. A fine appearing man of 25 years with no physical or mental disease and no outstanding personality difficulties. Average intelligence; awaiting sentence for grand larceny, first degree. He has held responsible accounting positions and has been cashier for an automobile plant. Married and self-supporting. Last year has been engaged in the illegal transportation of liquor, furnishing the trucks for the route. Partners in the scheme accused him of holding back certain money and of conspiring with another party to appropriate this money. He very frankly states that he went into the "bootlegging"



business because he "saw a chance for big profit," and excuses himself by saying that many citizens who "stand well" in their respective communities are engaged in the same business secretly.

Nos. 13, 14, 15. The first of these three men is a constitutional psychopath and alcoholic who is held for trial for grand larceny, second degree. Cases 14 and 15, brothers, are held for same charge, one having driven the taxi in which Case 13 transported his plunder and the other boy having been with the party. The two boys, aged 29 and 31 years, are feeble-minded, suggestible, weak-willed individuals with another brother who was charged with rape at 19 years, and still another brother, feeble-minded, who was in the special class system in Albany schools for six years. These two feeble-minded prisoners were very evidently the "tools" of Case 13, a man of 55 years, convivial in type, and quite able to dominate the two brothers.

No. 12. This constitutional psychopath and drug addict, aged 30 years, has done only odd jobs at times about home, and has been wholly dependent all his life. He states that he has never worked but has lived, although "not always honestly." Has been sexually promiscuous, has practiced sex perversions, has been a wanderer, drug user, and has been charged with selling drugs, rape and white slavery. Served one year in Atlanta Federal Prison for robbery and has been arrested for writing policy. Has had gonorrhoea most of time since 22 years of age when he also contracted syphilis. Was in hospital for several months with syphilitic abscess of groin. Has large inguinal hernia and body is a mass of scars and abscess marks from punctures of hypodermic needle. Is serving a 90-day sentence as a vagrant (self-committed for "drug cure"). Does not have any plans when his sentence expires.

No. 35. Feeble-minded man, 23 years old, awaiting trial for robbery. He has pulmonary tuberculosis; said to have been married in jail, the girl being seven months pregnant at the time.

No. 25. Man, 47 years old, arrested many times for stealing; has served sentences in Elmira Reformatory, Albany Jail and Dannemora Prison; awaiting sentence now for grand larceny, first degree. A behavior history of lying, stealing, sex promiscuity, pugnacity, destructiveness, truancy and running away as a boy, drunkenness and drug using. Fracture of skull at 11 years, followed by epileptic fits of severe character till 20 years and at rare intervals since, but petit mal continually since. Mother was epileptic, brother a drug addict and maternal aunt was insane. Very frequent headaches now with attacks which suggest tabetic crises. Chancre at 37 years. Is excitable, bursts of temper, has hallucinated and is delusional at time of examination.

Pin-point pupils, fixed to light; exaggerated knee jerks, equal; wets the bed; has struck a man with a hammer; has carried weapons; many paranoid ideas expressed.

Diagnosis: *Psychosis with epilepsy; neuro-syphilis.*

Proper disposition of this man some years ago would have saved considerable expense and crime.

Of the 112 penitentiary and jail prisoners 14 (4 in Canadian or English Army) were ex-service men.

Of the cases studied 25 had mental disease, delinquency, etc., in family.

#### SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS OF ALBANY COUNTY PENITENTIARY AND JAIL

The details of this inspection will be found in the two accompanying report blanks. Similar details are recorded in reports of inspections made from year to year by the State Commission of Prisons and are a matter of tabulation of good and bad features of equipment, routine management and general policy. We take it that our report is of value to the extent that it sets forth an unprejudiced judgment of fundamental defects in the equipment and organization of these institutions together with recommendations looking toward dealing with the penal question in the County of Albany in a scientific and constructive fashion. Therefore, it seems unnecessary in such a summary to tabulate in detail the various items which rightly are set forth under appropriate headings in the report blank; but rather do we aim to indicate the broad essentials that should enlist attention in improving the situation in Albany County.

In brief, therefore, we find the Albany Penitentiary and the County Jail housed in the same structure, which is seventy-four years old, and has outlived its usefulness. The building is located on valuable land in a residential part of the city and is quite an expensive proposition, as the county had been forced to administer it in recent years since the number of federal prisoners has not materially decreased. What is said of the penitentiary applies equally to the jail. There seems to be no good argument for the continuation of the penitentiary provided a modern jail in a suitable location was erected. At present much commendable effort has been put forth by the officials directly in charge of these institutions to render them habitable and to cause them to function satisfactorily, but they are working under difficult conditions and will continue to do so as long as the present physical conditions maintain. There is a good spirit of contact between the officers and the prisoners. The administrative force are courteous, co-

operative and try to handle their work in effective fashion. The whole place is clean and remarkably free from odors. Medical service is routinely available and a set of record cards on the physical examination of prisoners has been started. At the time of our inspection there was no segregation of men with active gonorrheal infection and apparently no definite treatment of these cases was being carried out. Classification of prisoners, according to law, did not prevail. There was not adequate provision for exercise and recreation. The absence of expert psychiatric consultation means the retention of persons in one of these institutions who would be more properly cared for in a suitable type of state institution. But little is known of the men when they come to these institutions and but little interest centers around their departure or their subsequent history. Finger prints and photographs are made of the penitentiary cases and of sentenced jail cases, and this is well handled and commendable. The fundamental fault in the Albany situation is the antiquated plant which has ceased to measure up to the demands for decent, sanitary and scientific care of the prisoners. Recommendations aimed at various minor deficiencies only serve, if carried out, to continue a temporizing policy in the face of the real need. We, therefore, offer the following definite recommendations:

1. The whole plant should be abandoned and a modern jail built on the outskirts of the city, but where water, plumbing, lighting, etc., would be available.

2. Classification of prisoners according to law.

3. Complete physical examination of prisoners, including the Wassermann reaction on all sentenced prisoners with segregation and adequate treatment of all venereal cases, which cases, it would seem, might be held under the public health law until free from infection. Intensive chest examinations should be made and cases of tuberculosis properly disposed of.

4. Neuro-psychiatric consultation should be regularly available and prompt transfer to suitable state hospitals or institutions should be made by the management on the strength of such expert advice.

5. There should be some provision for "follow-up" social service in connection with discharged prisoners, and "field work" should be done on important cases at the time of admittance. Information about the previous record of the prisoner, family history, etc., would be of great value in considering the individual case, and inquiry into his post-institutional prospects would give facts of great value in securing legislation looking toward more economic methods in dealing with certain classes of repeated offenders.