

UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY
Lewisburg, Pennsylvania 17837



WITHIN THE WALLS OF THE LEWISBURG PENITENTIARY



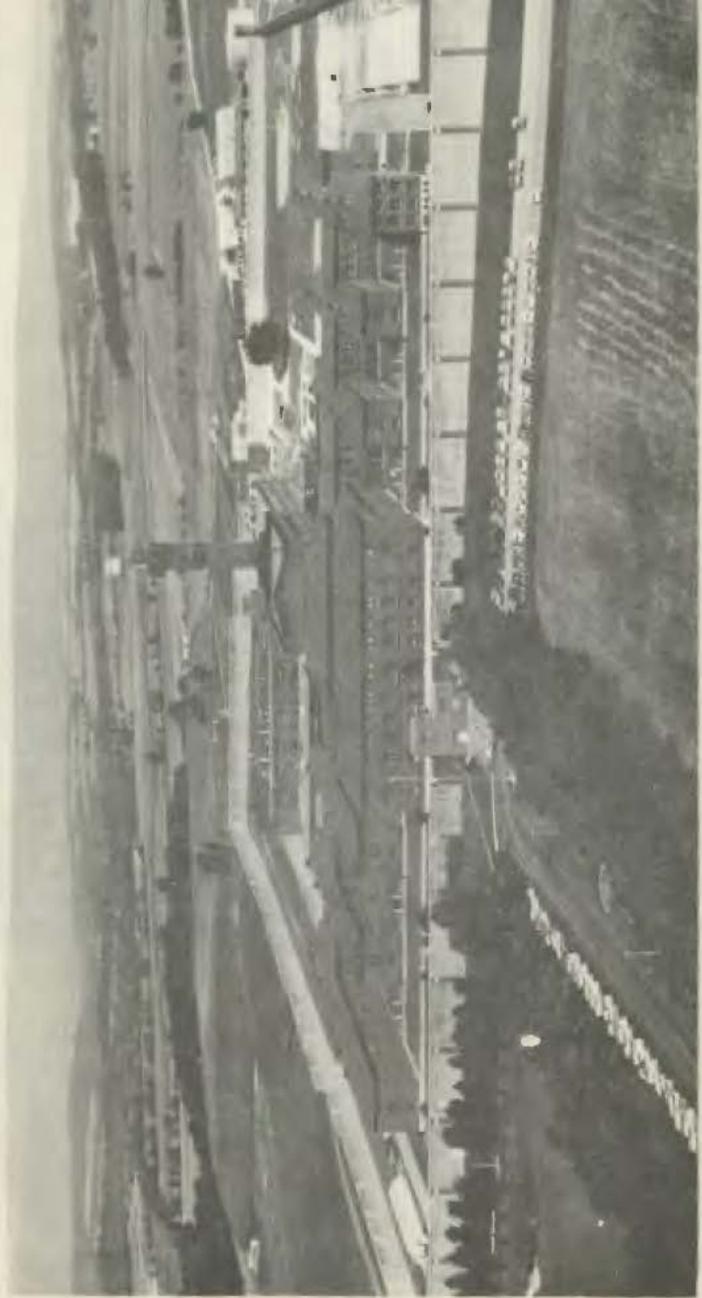
United
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PREFACE

In recent years the Correctional System, indeed the entire Criminal Justice System - the police, the courts, and corrections, has come under closer scrutiny and subjected to increased criticism and concern over its self-admitted shortcomings. Part of this concern is no doubt due to mass media and the recent coverage of the disturbances at Sing Sing, Rahway, and Attica. However, the real concern clearly emerged in the mid-sixties with the initiation of a Presidential Commission on Law Enforcement and Administration of Justice. In 1969, the President's increasing concern became apparent and was brought into sharper focus with the issuances of a 13 point Directive calling for the improvement of the Criminal Justice System, with the Federal Prison System to lead the way. We are fully committed to the President's Directive and have taken bold steps to insure the development and constant refinement of a comprehensive correctional model. We trust these steps will be reflected to you in the pages that follow.

Department of Justice
Washington



LEWISBURG TODAY

The Lewisburg penitentiary is one of more than a score of federal penitentiaries and correctional institutions. Authorized by Act of Congress in 1930, the Lewisburg penitentiary was opened on November 15, 1932. Classified as a medium security prison, it occupies a position about midway between the reformatories for younger offenders and the close custody penitentiaries such as those at Atlanta and Leavenworth for confirmed offenders. The prison itself is a radical departure from the grim and brooding structures which bid those who enter to abandon hope. In the best tradition of Italian Renaissance, the buildings scarcely suggest their somber purpose. That is revealed only by the walls and towers, symbolic of the prison's primary responsibility to keep in safe custody those committed to its care.

The institution is located off U.S. Highway No. 15, about a mile and one-half from the town of Lewisburg, Pennsylvania on a 1000-acre government reservation. The main buildings, which house 1150 prisoners, are within a 26-acre tract surrounded by a wall. Outside the enclosure are numerous farm buildings and an honor camp which houses 150 minimum custody prisoners. A second honor camp is located at Allerwood, Pennsylvania approximately 14 miles north of the main institution. It houses about 350 minimum custody prisoners. The honor camps have a more relaxed atmosphere than is possible in the main prison and they often provide an excellent means of making the transition from close confinement to the community itself.

THE PRISON COMMUNITY

There are many parallels between the free community and an institution such as the Lewisburg Penitentiary. Public utilities - heat, light, water, sewage disposal - have their counterparts in the prison. Church, library, academic and vocational schools provide for religious and intellectual needs. A hospital cares for those who become ill. Industries, farming, and many trades such as plumbing, carpentry, and painting provide work and organized training.

Men come to prison from all walks of life. Like people everywhere, they have fears, worries, uncertainties, hopes, and plans. Some of them strive earnestly to prepare themselves for a happier and more abundant life. Others think this can be attained the easy way, usually at the expense of others. Some men, with help, learn to examine themselves

honestly and recognize and understand the reasons for the behavior which brought them to prison. Others do not have the ability or the courage to face unpleasant facts and find it easy to blame others or circumstances beyond their control. But whatever the weaknesses or strengths, they are human beings like the rest of us and, except for the fact that they have been tried and found guilty of violating the country's laws, they represent a fair cross-section of the contemporary American scene. In the light of these facts, some of the problems of prison management may be better understood.

The Lewisburg penitentiary, like all institutions of the federal system, is operated on the principle that men are committed to prison as punishment, not for punishment. We are all aware the law demands that society be protected by segregating from normal society those who have engaged in criminal activity. What is so frequently forgotten is that nearly every man who goes to prison will sooner or later come out - to work beside us in the shop or in an office, to sit next to us in a movie, to mingle with us on the street. The things that happen to a man while he is serving his sentence, the standards of behavior required of him, the goals, and moral principles held before him, become exceedingly important. Obviously, if the prison life only makes him more vindictive and sullen, or furthers his education in crime, the lives and property of people will later be placed in jeopardy.

The prison serves society most effectively when it places emphasis on the rehabilitation of offenders. Society profits little if a prisoner returns to the community no better prepared to cope with his responsibilities or no more capable of becoming a self-sustaining citizen than when he entered prison.

A treatment program must be highly individualized. This is necessary because of the complex variations in human personality and conduct to be found in any group of prisoners.

THE LEWISBURG STAFF

Rehabilitation plans require utilizing trained custodial supervision in combination with the knowledge and skills of many professional groups including social workers, chaplains, psychiatrists, teachers, and physicians. The mobilization and integration of these specialized skills make it possible to focus on the needs of each prisoner.

Some 450 persons, most of whom have had college or other specialized training, and all recruited under U. S. Civil Service procedures, make up the personnel at Lewisburg. Each new employee must undergo a thorough character investigation. Immediately after he enters on duty he is given basic training, including training in defensive tactics. When this training is completed, the employee remains in a probationary status for one year during which he receives on-the-job instruction from experienced supervisors. If he completes this period satisfactorily his appointment becomes permanent. Continuous training is given at various levels for all experienced employees. In an effort to provide this needed training the Bureau of Prisons has opened three staff training centers since 1968.

The warden is the chief executive officer of the institution. Immediately responsible to him are two associate wardens, one in charge of operations which includes Business and Fiscal, Personnel, Data Automation, Farm, Food, and Maintenance. The other associate warden is in charge of Programs which include Correctional Custody, Housing, Classification, Education, Religious Activities, Drug Abuse, Mental Health, Safety and Recreation. With the exception of the superintendent of industries and the chief medical officer, who report to the warden, the various department heads work directly under these associate wardens in carrying out the functions of their respective units.

The Federal Prison System broke with the tradition of guards in their prisons decades ago. These have been replaced with correctional officers and correctional counselors. More counselors than rigid disciplinarians, although not given to coddling or sentimentality, the officers of Lewisburg are aware that the underlying purpose of the institution is to send men out better in every respect than when they entered. No guns, clubs, or billies are carried anywhere in the prison. Rather, an attempt is made to understand and help solve the prisoners' problems, to enlist their will to conform, and to awaken their desire to reform themselves. Unless the man himself wishes to change his way of life, the efforts of the staff are largely futile.

DESIGN FOR TREATMENT

Every effort is made by the staff of career employees to keep at a minimum those aspects of institutional life which are unnecessarily irritating. This is done through the use of intelligent methods based on sound prison experience.

When a man is brought to the institution by a United States marshal to begin serving his sentence, he is met at the front gate by an experienced officer who escorts him to the admission-orientation unit. There he bathes, receives an initial physical examination, and is issued a complete outfit of clean prison clothing. He may, if he chooses, arrange to have his own clothing and personal effects sent home. He is then assigned to a clean room equipped with a steel cot, sterilized bedding, a steel table and a chair, toilet and lavatory with both hot and cold water.



Aptitude tests measure training potential.

During his stay in the admission-orientation unit, the new inmate is interviewed by various members of the staff. He is given a complete physical examination. Psychological, educational, achievement, and aptitude tests are administered. He becomes acquainted with the institution rules and

procedures and with various opportunities available to him in the way of education, vocational training, religious study and worship, etc.

A trained correctional treatment specialist or correctional counselor discusses with him his personal and family problems and helps him, so far as possible, to solve any difficulties he may have.

The orientation period also furnishes an opportunity for the staff to compile complete records based upon information received from the court, the United States Attorney, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and from family, friends, and agencies in the man's home community. This data, together with the observations of the staff and information gained through interviews with the man himself, is compiled into a classification study which becomes a permanent part of the man's record in the institution.



Classification Committee plans a program with each inmate.

It is an accepted axiom that an accurate diagnosis must precede a cure. It is true also that before a physician can treat effectively he must know and understand the patient as well as the disease. Similarly, the prison staff can train, treat, and control the inmate intelligently only if it knows all that can be determined about him. Through the years a standard system of diagnosis and treatment has been developed in the Federal Prison System. This procedure is known as classification.

Classification is the underlying administrative device for planning and carrying out an individualized treatment program. It is a process in which the entire institutional staff is involved. A classification team, consisting of the caseworker, correctional counselor with either the Case Manager Coordinator or Chief, Classification & Parole as chairman, formulate for each inmate a program of work, training and treatment. On the basis of the information provided in the classification study, a conscientious effort is made to understand each man, his problems, and his needs, and to evaluate what resources within the institution can be applied to help him. The work of this committee is largely informal. Free and open discussion of each case precedes the committee's decision. Consideration is given to the degree of custody or supervision in which the inmate should be held, whether some other institution could more effectively meet his needs, his work assignment, his educational program, his medical requirements, psychiatric study if any, vocational training, and possibly other elements indicated in individual cases. The new inmate personally meets with the classification team and participates in his own program planning.

After this initial planning, each case is followed up periodically for review purposes. As new circumstances and changes develop, appropriate modifications are made in the inmates' program. In this way, classification becomes a continuing process. The various programs and services prescribed by the committee are carried out by the different departments of the institution and the specialized staffs.

The agency within the institution charged with carrying out the program formulated in each case by the classification team is the classification-parole department. The principal activities of this department are to provide the following services: (1) professional diagnosis and case-work; (2) the integration of the institution treatment services in order to focus on the needs of each individual inmate; (3) cumulative case records for parole preparation; and (4) release preparation.

THE COMMUNITY AND THE INMATE

Most men in prison engage in some activity for the purpose of building or bolstering their feelings of self-worth. Everyone has an urge to be needed. It is psychologically important to make provisions in the general program of the institution for the inmate to do something for others. When we do for others, we have an interest, an investment. When we participate in a project or a program we identify ourselves with it. The psychological soundness of encouraging prisoners to take part in such activities is quite apparent.

The men of Lewisburg have made an outstanding record of participation in many projects and programs of value to society. In addition to medical research, inmates contribute generously of their limited funds to national charitable organizations, and finance a program for foster-home children.

So that responsible citizens may learn of the aims and principles of a modern correctional system, the facilities of the institution are made available to service clubs of the community. Inmates act as tour guides for these groups, explaining and interpreting the facilities and the program.

A PROGRAM OF WORK

It would be patently futile to classify and study prisoners and then permit them to become demoralized by idleness. Nothing could be more destructive of character and decency than having nothing to do or being compelled to perform meaningless tasks. Modern correctional practice recognizes that if men in prison are to be less criminally inclined at release than at admission, some form of productive labor must be provided for them. Equally important to good physical and emotional health is the need among many men to establish habits of industry which will not only enable them to earn their living and provide for their families following release, but which will contribute to character, self-respect, and a sense of well-being. The staff at Lewisburg believes that men in prison must be taught the dignity of honest toil, the discipline of working regularly, and the necessity of budgeting time.

Every able-bodied man is required to work. A great deal of manpower is needed to operate the institution properly and maintain it in good condition. In addition to the specific services described later, there are numerous essential operations in which inmates are employed. These include general cleaning; laundering clothing and bed linen

and keeping them in repair; operating the power plant 24 hours a day; painting and keeping up the buildings and other facilities; working in the maintenance shops such as carpentry, machine, plumbing, electric, sheet metal, and automobile mechanics; manning the hospital, the library, school, and various offices; maintaining utility lines, the water and sewage systems and the roads, walks, and grounds.

FOOD SERVICES

One of the most important operations at Lewisburg is preparing more than 5000 nutritionally balanced and appetizing meals every day. This requires a tremendous amount of work and careful planning and the immediate availability of quantities of various foods.

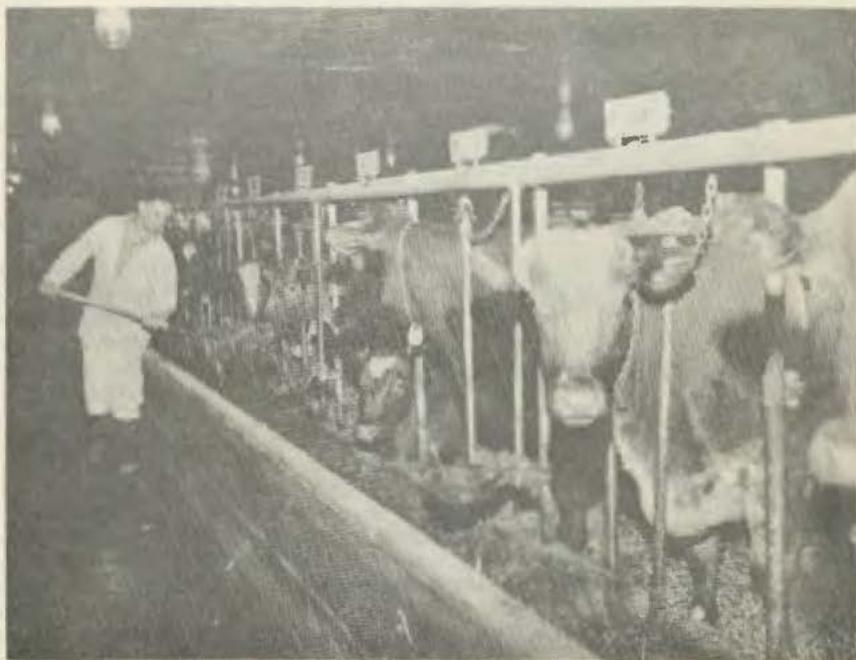


The informality of self-service cafeteria style and small dining tables helps to dispel the institutional atmosphere

Every effort is made to provide pleasant eating surroundings through the use of 4-man tables and individual chairs rather than the traditional prison mess hall arrangement of long narrow tables and backless benches. Through the use of such facilities and effectively decorated dining halls, men may eat their meals in a relaxed atmosphere. The operations of the inmate dining room are almost identical with those of a cafeteria on the outside. The men are permitted to choose what they want from the various items of food available at each meal, after which they may sit wherever they like in the dining hall. When they finish eating, they may leave.

The culinary department is operated by civilians with well over 150 inmate assistants. Staff members carry on continuous on-the-job training in such activities as cooking, baking, meat cutting, etc. which prove useful to the men upon release.

Sanitation is the key word in this modern dairy.



THE FARM

One of the largest operations at Lewisburg is the farm, which produces most of the meat, and milk required, as well as silage, hay and grain for feeding the extensive herds. More than 50 men are employed in this important work.

In addition to providing useful, purposeful work for the inmates, the farm products make it possible to serve a diversity of foods at an amazingly low cost.

In addition to the 739 acres of farm land tilled in the immediate vicinity of the institution, 1500 acres at Allenwood Camp are used for the production of stock feeds for the beef herd maintained there.

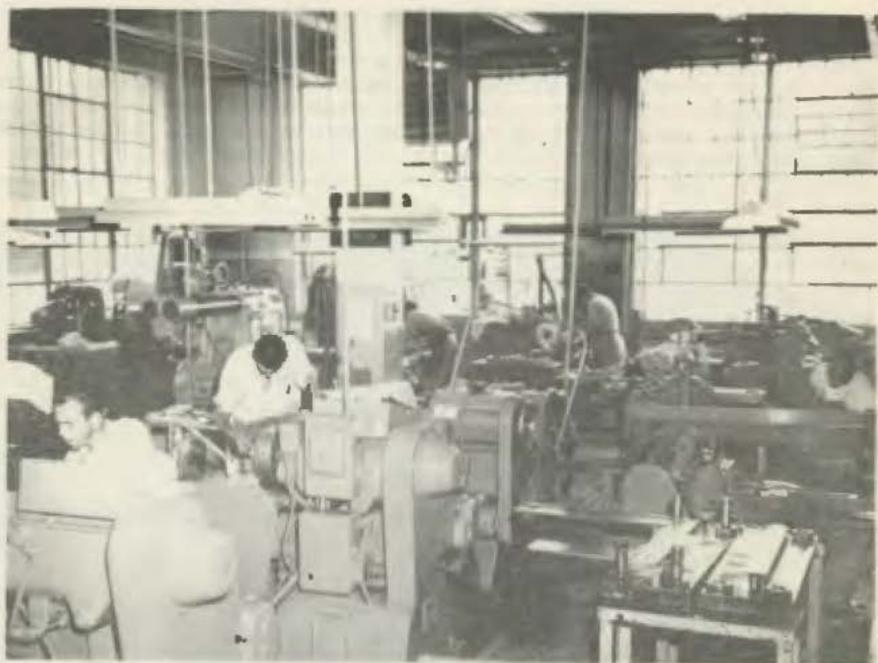
Those inmates who plan to return to farms in their home communities receive much valuable information and training in scientific farming, beef production, and slaughtering. The knowledge gained on the job is supplemented by correspondence courses from various schools and colleges throughout the country.

FEDERAL PRISON INDUSTRIES

Federal Prison Industries, Inc., is a government-owned corporation which was formed by Congress to provide on-the-job and/or vocational training to inmates incarcerated in Federal penal institutions. Here at Lewisburg, industries maintains two factories - a metal furniture factory and a clothing factory. These activities regularly employ approximately 500 men.

Industrial workers are paid an hourly salary, depending upon the skills achieved by the individual worker, and, rewarded further, through the granting of industrial good time for satisfactory work performance each month. Men normally are anxious for an industrial assignment to earn money to help support their families, to establish a savings account to aid them upon release, to earn money for spending in commissary, to learn a trade for use upon their release, or to help reduce the length of their sentence.

Federal Prison Industries, Inc., produces goods exclusively for the use of other government agencies and are permitted to make a limited profit on their sales. Congress has authorized that any profits earned would be used to pay all operating expenses, vocational training programs, certain educational programs, the meritorious payroll for the institution, Christmas packages, plus other programs auth-



Tool & Die operators at work

orized by law. Surplus earnings not used, if any, are returned to the Treasury Department. The purpose of industrial operations, however, is not profit-making but to provide useful, purposeful work and training for the inmates.

MEDICAL SERVICES

The Lewisburg penitentiary has a fully equipped hospital with excellent facilities, medical, surgical, dental and psychiatric, for caring for the health of its inmates. The hospital is a fifty bed, short stay facility which is accredited by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Hospitals.

All new commitments receive a physical and dental examination in addition to psychological testing. Thousands of examinations are given yearly. In addition to the complete physical examination, all necessary inoculations and vaccinations are given to incoming inmates. Each new admission receives a chest X-ray and routine clinical laboratory testing.



Medical Services

Patients with diseases requiring consultation by medical specialists are placed in a specialty clinic. These are attended by specialists from neighboring health care facilities, and are scheduled on a reoccurring basis.

Patients requiring extensive medical, surgical or psychiatric care are usually recommended for transfer to the Medical Center for Federal Prisoners at Springfield, Missouri. Extensive emergency care may be performed at one of the local medical centers.

As in all institutions of the Federal Prison System, the health services at the Lewisburg hospital are supplied by either U. S. Public Health Service physicians and dentists, or by Civil Service physicians and dentists. The civilian staff consists of a Chief of Health Programs, Chief Dental Officer, Staff Physicians and Dentists, a Hospital Administrator, Assistant Hospital Administrator, Physicians Assistants, Medical Records Supervisor, Laboratory Supervisor, and a Medical Secretary.

The medical staff plays an important part in the institution. In addition to being directly responsible for the health and care of the men, it shares responsibilities for maintaining high standards of health and sanitation throughout the entire establishment.

Although the treatment of prisoners is the primary concern of the medical staff, the possibilities of research as a by-product are not overlooked. Several research experiments to advance medical knowledge for the public good have been and are still being conducted in a number of federal institutions. An institution is in many respects an ideal research laboratory and, contrary to the popular misconceptions about convicted criminals, men in the federal prisons have freely volunteered in experimental trials of new drugs and treatment techniques.

RELIGION

The need for religious and spiritual guidance is often more acute in prison than in free society. The many tensions and anxieties, the feelings of guilt, and the need to resolve questionings and aspirations drive many inmates to seek the counsel of men trained in pastoral work. No prison can adequately accomplish its primary task of re-directing attitudes and raising individual standards of ethics and morals without providing this essential service.

At Lewisburg, a chapel is maintained for all faiths in which an atmosphere of religion can be continuously maintained, with a revolving altar for Protestant, Catholic, Jewish and other traditions. Full-time Protestant and Catholic chaplains and a part-time Jewish rabbi carry on a far reaching and integrated program.

The small group process such as Yokefellow, Bible-discussion, philosophy of religion and other groups provides for the basic concepts of religion for the men. Volunteer denominational ministers are welcome and a very valid part of the total ministry in providing special services for individual persuasions.

The chaplains are involved in a team effort ministry at Lewisburg, the Lewisburg farm camp, and the Allenwood facility, a minimum security camp 14 miles away. A rotating schedule enables the chaplains to cover the institutional complex at all times during the full week's schedule. They conduct regular worship services and offer a number of courses in religious education designed to help men translate spiritual values into everyday living.



Religion is an essential part of the program.

The chaplains do far more than carry on formal manifestations of worship. They visit men in the hospital, in the shops and factories and other places where they are at work. In the privacy of their offices they counsel with those who are in deep emotional turmoil or in need of spiritual guidance. They also perform a valuable service to the wives, mothers, and other relatives who often seek their advice and counsel when visiting the institution.

The value of their services is evidenced by the fact that they so often reach those who are sincerely and earnestly trying to rehabilitate themselves. Working with the other disciplines in the institution the chaplains contribute the spiritual dimension to the total treatment of each individual.

EDUCATION

More often than not, men who come to prison are deficient in education. Very few have completed high school and college training is rare. While the lack of education, even at the elementary school level, cannot in itself be considered a cause of criminal behavior, it does present a serious handicap in getting along in today's world. Moreover, relatively few prison inmates have meaningful vocational skills with which they can compete successfully in our industrialized society.

The Lewisburg Education Staff recognizes the need for a constructive program of education and training to equip men to meet the requirements and responsibilities of contemporary American Society, and are committed to the following inmate centered goals -- all inmates leaving Lewisburg will be able to read at least at the sixth grade level -- all capable inmates will have a high school equivalency (GED) upon release -- and every inmate with the need will receive training in a marketable skill. Therefore, our curriculums are flexible and our instructors are encouraged to use such innovative approaches as team teaching, individual prescription programs, Learning Materials Centers, language and math laboratories, as well as the wide use of video-tape, and other audio-visual resources.

Courses are available from the primary grade up to and including some college subjects. Classes are offered throughout the week, mornings- afternoons - evenings under the supervision of a qualified professional staff composed of full-time civilian instructors, and part-time instructors from the surrounding communities. In addition to the regular classes, there are a substantial number of self-study and correspondence courses available for those men who prefer to work outside of the classroom setting. These courses are for refresher and self-advancement purposes in academic, trade, and technical areas. The Education Department has developed a coordinated program of vocational training which provides related classwork in connection with on-the-job instruction in the various shops and in other areas of work. The Education Department is an ac-



Automatic Heat & Air Conditioning



Self Study



Computer Science



Dental Technology

credited testing center for the American College Testing Program.

One of the most successful developments in correctional education has been the introduction of "social education" courses. This derives from the observation that a working knowledge of social organization, a deep seated sense of social responsibility, appreciation of the arts and sciences and the ability to live peacefully and constructively with



The library offers new worlds of knowledge

others are conspicuously lacking in persons who come to prison. Since it is not enough simply to teach men to read and write or to acquire trade skills a new curriculum has been added to the program. This program consists in part, of lectures by professors in the Arts and Sciences, a formalized release readiness program, discussion courses in Afro-American History, Spanish and Italian Culture and everyday social problems to assist many of the men to

simply understand themselves better. A natural outgrowth of this need is reflected in the formulation of such self-improvement organizations as the Jaycees, Toastmasters, NAACP, and Alcoholics Anonymous.

Just as specific study often opens up a new vista of worthwhile experience, so the world of books presents a challenge wholly new in the lives of many inmates. Lewisburg has a large attractive library which operates on the open-shelf principle of the typical public library. The library as a total concept incorporates reading rooms, lounge, book depository and reference facility. The Law Library Section is probably the single most important component of the library and the most used.

RECREATION

A sound and broad program of activity for leisure time is essential to the well being of a correctional community. Activities are planned to make it possible for every inmate to find an interest, and opportunities are provided for socialization, personality development, and general self-improvement. These activities are designed to supplement and balance out an integrated program of work, education and training, and recreational pursuits. The overall objective is to provide the environmental atmosphere and facilities which will permit the development of desirable leisure time, sportmanship, and constructive release of tensions. This is accomplished through a variety of organized activities that generally fall into four broad areas as follows: Major Sports, Minor Sports, Music and Entertainment and Arts & Crafts.

Major Sports include competitive physical activities that are organized and conducted on a seasonal basis throughout the year such as baseball, softball, basketball, touch football, and track. These include intramural and varsity competition with outside teams, league championships games, and field day activities conducted during the holidays. Minor Sports include ping-pong, handball, tennis, miniature golf, weightlifting, shuffleboard, volleyball, cards, chess, dominoes, checkers and other table games. Music and entertainment include rhythm groups, stage productions, movies, TV, and outside entertainment. We also have a radio room that produces and pipes special programs into the living areas. Arts & Crafts include leathercraft, ceramics, coppercraft, woodworking, kit craft, and oil paintings. This activity includes a sales program and an annual art show open to the community.



Competitive Sports

MENTAL HEALTH

The concept of mental health can be thought of in overall terms of helping the individual to adjust his personal needs to the demands of his environment.

Most individuals who commit crimes (except professional criminals) are seeking success and well being in the best way that they know how but their methods of going about this reflect immaturity and self defeat in most cases.

In helping such an individual to establish educational and vocational goals, we are helping to develop work habits

and skills that can give him an increasing sense of self worth and accomplishment and thereby diminish the need to seek success and well being in more deviant ways. However, giving him skills and a sense of direction is not always sufficient unless he is also encouraged to change his "life style".

Through our individual and group counseling programs our goals are to help the individual understand that he has problems in terms of the attitudes and values which he holds and that these when translated into a faulty or distorted life style cause him to continually get into difficulties with society. He also has to understand that the major personality traits with which he has to come to terms are those that can be subsumed under the heading of immaturity, and include distorted thinking, such as his need to look for suitable excuses for his immature behavior; and poor impulse control.

When he recognizes and understands these limitations and is willing to accept responsibility for them, and the need to change, then he is in a better position to function in a more well adjusted manner and can then utilize effectively those skills that he has acquired in other areas - i. e., educational, vocational, etc.

The implementation of the above change in life style would of necessity involve a greater awareness on the part of both staff and inmates as to the cause and effect relationship of criminal behavior as outlined above and the desired direction of change.

In terms of the overall programming approach in order to achieve maximum rehabilitation, it is necessary that programs be individualized and geared toward the personality and training needs of the particular individual. We seek to accomplish this through psychological testing, evaluation and observation; by intensive psychiatric treatment of the more disturbed inmates; by correctional counselor training and follow-up; by maintaining an on going institution-wide group counseling program; by serving as members of the institution treatment teams and participating in the modification of classification and treatment procedures, by serving as consultants to the various departments throughout the institution and by participating in and developing research activities and program evaluation.

THE DRUG ABUSE PROGRAM

The Drug Abuse Program at Lewisburg addresses itself to the complex problems of the established inter-city Her-

oin addict, and the social problems attendant to his addiction.

Utilizing techniques of the therapeutic community the individual problems of each addict are uncovered, put in their proper prospective and ultimately dealt with in their proper context. To extend the base of this Behavior Modification, emphasis is placed on meeting educational and vocational needs where they exist. We believe this area is a neglected phase of Behavior Modification in many drug programs.

Utilizing the available institutional program structure the Lewisburg Drug Abuse Program starts a total therapeutic program that extends into the community after the individual's release by way of approved after-care programming.

Program participants are released to established after-care programming that emotionally supports the ex-addict as well as assists them with the social problems attending his release.

CONTROLS AND INCENTIVES

Punishment as a means of attempting to modify or control human behavior probably is as old as society itself. Its widespread misuse and the cruel manner in which it has been applied have resulted in a great deal of confusion as to its usefulness and in a reaction against it based on fear. At the same time it is easily understood that a prison must control the persons committed to it.

The Lewisburg staff believes that any system of control that relies exclusively or primarily on punishment cannot succeed in producing a well adjusted individual. This is not to say that punishment is useless and should be totally abandoned. In fact modern correctional practice is based in part on the contention that delinquent behavior cannot be effectively controlled without a discriminating use of punishment. Judiciously used, punishment helps to reinforce and to make effective certain limitations set upon individual behavior. Any discipline must be therapeutic to have lasting value.

Equally important, however, are incentives and rewards for commendable behavior. This seeming paradox, which is based on sound psychology, accounts for much of the misunderstanding as to the function of the prison. It accounts, at least in part, for charges of "coddling" and "country club" prisons.

All the harsh abuses of punishment which have characterized many prisons in the past, and which have served

only to degrade and brutalize the prisoner, never have been a part of the life in Lewisburg. In fact, for many years corporal punishment of any kind has been totally outlawed in all institutions of the Federal Prison System. There is no dungeon into which men are thrown for misconduct. In the admission-orientation period, during which each new inmate becomes acquainted with the operation of the institution and its facilities, the rules and regulations are carefully explained to him and he is given to understand clearly and specifically what standards of conduct will be required of him. Thereafter, as may be necessary, these requirements are re-explained, interpreted, and reinforced.

A most desirable element in any program for institution inmates is the opportunity to maintain close ties with their families. Like men everywhere who are separated from



— Family Visitation

their loved ones, the men at Lewisburg look forward to letters from home.

All men are permitted to have frequent visits with members of their immediate families and friends. Every effort is made to facilitate these visits and to make them as pleasant as possible. The traditional cold barrier-type of visiting table has been discarded for an informal attractive lounge furnished with comfortable upholstered chairs. In summer months, visiting is frequently held out of doors.

As men demonstrate interest, maturity, and responsible behavior, they can earn assignment to better jobs, some of which pay small wages. Similarly, they can qualify for better housing facilities offering more freedom of movement and affording greater opportunity for responsibility.

One of the most powerful incentives is the opportunity to earn extra "good time" credits which will advance the date of release. For example, men assigned to Federal Prison Industries can earn extra good time at the rate of three days a month during the first year, and five days a month thereafter. Men not assigned to industries may be given meritorious service awards for exceptional diligence and outstanding performance, whatever the work assignment may be. The privilege of being detailed to one of the honor farms, where selected men live and work without direct supervision, carries with it far greater responsibility than is ordinarily imposed upon men within prison walls. Those who successfully fulfill this trust are awarded reduction in sentence at the rate of three days a month the first year and five days a month thereafter.

PAROLE AND RELEASE PLANNING

With very few exceptions, all men who enter prison will some day be released. Failure of the staff to recognize this simple truth and the obvious social obligations related to it would be a direct failure to comply with the real function of the institution. The entire program at Lewisburg is geared to planning for the day of release for such individuals. This is the framework within which the individual planning and follow-up work of the classification team takes place. The correctional treatment specialist-correctional counselor, assigned to the new inmate works with him continuously until the day he leaves. He devotes much time to counseling with the man, assists in solving numerous family and personal problems, and acts as liaison with the United States Board of Parole and other community



Outdoor visiting arrangements are provided as one of the incentives

agencies in formulating specific plans for release. The correctional treatment specialist in addition to the correctional counselor is assisted in this work by all members of the staff, as each has a responsibility for counseling and guiding that goes beyond the specialties of his trade or profession.

Every inmate of a prison lives for the day when he will be released, and looks forward to an early release via parole. Under the regular adult sentencing procedures an inmate becomes eligible for parole after having served one-third of his sentence. If sentenced under Title #18, Section 4208 (a)(2) he becomes eligible for parole consideration at anytime the United States Board of Parole sees fit to release him. If he applies for parole, he will be given a parole hearing by members of the United States Board of Parole. If granted parole, he will be released under the supervision of a United States Probation Officer

for the balance of his sentence. He must have an approved plan consisting at least of a job, a suitable place to live, and a parole advisor from whom he may seek advice and assistance when necessary. Men who are not paroled will be released conditionally when they have served their full sentences less the good time credits they have earned. If such credits exceeds 180 days, release will be under conditions of supervision similar to those of parole for the period in excess of 180 days.



Discussion groups held under informal conditions help inmates to resolve their anxieties and prepare for their return to normal social responsibilities.

As the average prisoner approaches his release date he enters a crucial period of his life. The drastic change from the essential regimentation of the prison to a way of life in which he will be placed again upon his own resources raises in the mind of the average man many questions and creates many worries, tensions, and fears. Lewisburg has

a program to help men face realistically and with confidence the critical days immediately following release. For many, one of the most important needs is an adequate job. In addition to using the resources of numerous community agencies, the Federal Prison System has its own employment placement service whose function is to find jobs for men leaving prisons and to prepare employers for dealing constructively with the man who has a prison record. Through correspondence with family, friends, the United States Probation Officer who will supervise, and other interested agencies in the community, a concerted effort is made to anticipate workable solutions to many of the other problems that must be faced. One other way of handling these problems is release to a Community Treatment Center (CTC). These Centers are staffed with professional people who are in a position to assist inmates in making the transition from confinement to community living with a minimum of difficulty.

Intensive release planning begins approximately 90 days prior to the date of release. At that time each man enters what is called "pre-release status", the general purpose of which is to try to bridge the gap between life in the institution and the way of life that is to come in the free community. During this period he participates in a series of group discussions aimed at giving him necessary information and alleviating some of his fears and worries. These sessions have to do with such matters as the requirements of release supervision, the nature of his relationship to the supervising probation officer, how to apply for a job, where to find employment opportunities, and the like. Not infrequently persons from outside the institution, such as probation officers, employment counselors, representatives of industry or religion, are brought in as discussion leaders. Members of the classification and parole staff conduct social reorientation groups. As frequently as possible, helpful pertinent films are shown to pre-release groups. During this period each man has many interviews with his correctional treatment specialist or correctional counselor, not only to complete the details of release planning, but for special counseling purposes.

Not the least of the many details which have to be faced as a man approaches his release date is the question of what clothes he shall wear. For pre-release men the institution operates a small haberdashery where a wide assortment of clothing is on display. Each man may select a

business suit or a variety of sport clothes. If he wishes, the inmate may have clothing sent to him from the outside. However, this procedure must be initiated by the correctional treatment specialist.



Modern Haberdashery

LEWISBURG TOMORROW

The story of the present always raises the question of the future. What will the prison of tomorrow be like? Architecturally, and custodially, we know rather well that the prisons of the future will represent a radical departure from the traditional prisons of today. They will be smaller in size, designed to hold 500 or less, more open in construction to facilitate human relationships, and like the emerging metropolitan centers, more strategically loc-

ated to benefit from existing community resources. In the area of treatment and training, however, the picture is not so clear. Penology is yet in its infancy as a science, and treatment is the newest of its concepts.

Modern correctional procedures are humane and reasonable and are enriched in application by a flexibility to allow for individual differences and changing needs. These practices will be continued, modified, improved upon as our knowledge increases.

The behavior sciences are constantly making advances in man's quest to know himself. Perhaps we may some day find specific cures for the troubles of persons who come to prison.

Research into the effectiveness of prison programs appears to be the next giant step forward toward our goal of a greater percentage of restored, successful citizens. In the Federal Prison System this has already begun through a number of research efforts in order to determine the relationship of present treatment methods to success or failure.

The expanding concept of research through computer technology has provided completely new dimensions in the areas of communications and data processing along with increased opportunities of investigating broad spectrums of the entire criminal justice system. We look forward with anticipation to the implementation of these new resources in the modern correctional setting.

Neither the Lewisburg penitentiary nor any other prison is entirely successful in building worthwhile citizens out of all the men who have pursued criminal activity as an alternative to a law-abiding way of life. Not all who leave the walled community go out never to commit another crime, and there are no known panaceas to get the job done. It is the knowledge of this fact that causes us to increase our efforts and to look for new alternatives and resources. Every effort is being made to discover those human values which lie within every individual and to make them available as guides, to a more successful future life. At Lewisburg we are committed to this end.

