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Minnesota Department of Corrections Biennial Report 71-73

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1. Introduction

No biennium in the fourteen year history of the Minnesota Department of Corrections has probably witnessed as comprehensive and significant change as has the 1971-1973 biennium. As former Commissioner David Fogel testified before the U.S. House Select Committee on Crime in December, 1971: "Historically this is corrections' best time to correct itself. The level of federal support is at a height. The public is better educated and volunteer support is high. We have a 'go' situation." These trends and others have converged to create a vital, transitional period.

Basic Concerns of the Department:

The basic concern of the Department, like that of the rest of the criminal justice system, is the communitys protection. But this concern cannot be met by the mere control of offenders through custody. Because nearly all of the Department's institutionalized clients will once again be release, methods must be used to prepare them to lead responsible lives as free individuals.

Besides community protection, the Department is concerned with the accomplishment of its objectives within limited resources. It was allocated state funds to provide for priority programs while maintaining control over costs.

Goals and Objectives:

The goals and objectives that follow were developed to reflect basic policy and provide a framework for changes to be implemented. They were adopted during the administration of Commissioner Fogel, who served in that capacity from June, 1971 to January, 1973. They continue to serve as the Department's "constitution" under the present administration of Commissioner Kenneth F. Schoen, who was appointed in January, 1973.

"The basic mission of the Minnesota Department of Corrections is to serve as a resource to the people of the state, as part of the criminal justice system, for the supervision and rehabilitation of offenders. The overriding goal of the Department is to assist offenders in changing their behavior and to help them function as law abiding and free citizens.

The state provides a range of institutional and community-based resources to the Department for the accomplishment of its mission. Historically the Department allocated its resources to maximum security incarceration as a method of rehabilitation. High recidivism rates have demonstrated that maximum security incarceration and long-term separation of offenders from society is an ineffective means of rehabilitation for the majority of offenders. There will always be a need for maximum custody institutional care for a small portion of offenders such as career felons and the violently dangerous.

The primary role of the Department is to develop correctional policy, or-

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chestrate a wide variety of correctional alternatives involving the private sector and the community and to solely operate those segments of the corrections system where major professional corrections resources are required.

The Department believes itself to be in tempo with Legislative intent and community feeling as it declares that the reliance upon the fortress prison as a means of rehabilitation shall end; that, prisoners shall retain all human rights to care with dignity when they are received in institutions; that, those incarcerated shall have a voice in their own fates through mechanisms of self-goverance consistent with public safety; that, we will bring to bear the best rehabilitative array of services which the legislature permits through the allocation of resources to involve the public in sharing the task of producing effective correctional services.

The following goals, objectives and statements of policy have been developed to reflect basic philosophy and to provide a framework for creating the changes necessary to improve the correctional process:

*Deinstitutionalize and decentralize programs consistent with offender rehabilitation and public safety.

*Develop correctional programs within the context of humane care and constitutional standards of practice.

*Maintain high professional standards of practice while encouraging the development and use of new human resource inputs in the treatment of offenders.

*Encourage and involve the wide spectrum of public interest in all aspects of the correctional process in order to develop community understanding, participation, and support for effective correctional programming.

*Improve the Department's managerial capability.

*Provide consultation to communities to help focus crime and delinquency prevention efforts toward those kinds of social institution breakdowns which correlate with the development of criminal behavior."

The Climate for Change:

The basic factor in corrections today is the rapid decline of institutional populations- This decline occurred throughout the last decade, but accelerated during the 1971-1973 biennium. Total institution population levels have declined 33 percent since 1962, a long term decline rate of four percent annually. During this period, adult institution populations have declined 34 percent; youthful populations 27 percent; and juvenile populations, 30 percent. (There is some evidence that this trend may be reversing itself. This data is now being evaluated by the Department). In the same time span, offenders under field supervision (probation and parole) increased 15 %. Considered together, institutional and field populations have declined five percent in the last decade. In effect, the total number of offenders under Department supervision has remained essentially constant, but a significant change in mix has occurred from institutional to field supervision. Several factors account for the shift in population mix. These include the greater use of probation, the shortening of institution stays, the use of alternative to institutionalization and the used of federally funded or locally based programs.

Awareness of these population factors has been important in planning for the deinstitutionalization of the Department, because institutions operating with a number of fixed costs become less and less economical as their populations decline.

Basic Trends During the Period:

Perhaps the most fundamental trend in the Department's thinking during the biennium is represented in its deemphasis on the institutionalization of offenders and its increasing emphasis on the use of community corrections. Indeed, the majority of community facili-

ties now operated by the Department were developed during the biennium. Of the nine half-way houses or continuum-type programs now being operated or regulated by the Department, seven were established since 1972. Within these programs, a total of 196 new beds have been created within a time span of only five years. Similar trends, although not quite so strong, have occurred in the realms of county and state level group homes and regional juvenile detention centers.

Of nearly equal import has been the recent proliferation of community based facilities not operated or regulated by the Department, but available for the treatment of correctional clients. For example, a good number of half-way houses, privately operated group homes, chemical dependency treatment centers and mental health units have been established in Minnesota in recent years. Increasingly, the Department's personnel are referring their clients to these outside resources.

Also of great significance in this area was the passage of the Community Corrections Act by the Legislature in 1973 This bill, authored by Commissioner Schoen, allows the Department to make subsidy grants to a county (counties) electing to provide nearly the full range of their own correctional services-- including diversion programs, probation, parole, community corrections centers and facilities to detain, confine and treat offenders of all age groups. Its main purpose is to provide financial incentives to counties to care for their own offenders in a local context.

The Availability of Federal Funds:

The recent availability of funding through the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration, (LEAA), the Department of Health, Education and Welfare, (HEW) and other federal agencies has had an enormous influence on the development of community correctional programs. Such federal funding permits the development of innovative, experimental programs with built-in research evaluations. Ideally, those federal projects showing the most promise are later provided for in regular Department appropriation from the Legislature.

The Development of a Public Constituency:

Never before has public interest in corrections been at such a high level. Factors to which this trend is accountable may include such events as the Attica crisis, the accelerating crime rate and the general increase in public awareness of society's institutions This growing public interest provides a potentially potent force for needed changes within the field. The Department has made a clear-cut effort to cultivate the development of this public constituency and to involve the community in its decision making process. In March, 1972, a series of 25 public hearings on corrections were held throughout Minnesota in 13 localities. Some 1,300 persons attended these hearings, with 350 of them offering their testimony. Their varying viewpoints were carefully recorded and taken into account in planning by top Department Administrators. Other efforts toward public involvement have included the increased use of volunteers in institutions, the publication of a variety of research and public informational materials and the frequent provision of public speakers to citizen groups interested in corrections.

The involvement of private enterprise in the Department operations was also reflected during the biennium with the participation of a task force of busin ness executives as part of the Loaned Executive Action Program and the services of a General Mills executive on loan to the Department without charge for a year.

Providing for Inmate Rights and Due Process:

The Department's administration has incorporated in its mission statement the need to extend rights of due process and other basic human rights to inmates within correctional institu-

tions. It has set this policy not to create a more lenient, permissive atmosphere within institutions, but because it believes that many constitutional rights, guaranteed in the free-world, have long been unfairly abridged when it comes to inmates. It also recognizes that responsible behavior can only be learned by inmates in an atmosphere where responsibility is permitted. New programs promoting this trend include the Ombudsman's Office, authorized to investigate inmate complaints and offer recommendations to remedy these complaints where they are found to be legitimate; the Legal Assistance to Minnesota Prisoners Program (LAMP) which offers free civil legal aid to indigent inmates through the University of Minnesota Law School; the establishment of a law library available to inmates at Stillwater State Prison; and the extension of inmate rights in relation to disciplinary proceedings, inmate counsels, etc.

The Regionalization of Juvenile Institutions:

A major restructuring in the provision of services to the Department's juvenile clients occurred early in 1973. Formerly, the Department operated four juvenile institutions, specialized to serve clients on the basis of age, sex, and individual needs. The three major juvenile institutions in this category however, have now all become non-specific treatment institutions, providing their own reception-diagnostic services (Formerly, the Minnesota Reception and Diagnostic Center at Lino Lakes offered reception-diagnostic services to all juveniles committed to the Youth Conservation Commission.) Under the new plan, the Lino Lakes Center now serves youth from the Metropolitan area; the Minnesota Home School at Sauk Centre serves youth from the Western portion of the state; and the State Training School at Red Wing serves youth from the Eastern portion of the state. (Thistledew Camp, located near Togo, Minnesota, continues to provide special treatment in an outdoor setting for a few juveniles committed to the Youth Conservation Commission. In the near future, it has also been authorized by the Legislature to accept commitments directly from County Court Judges.) This recent regionalization of juvenile services better allows institutions to encourage community participation and provides for a more economical and efficient use of juvenile institutions in the face of declining youth populations.

The Closing of St. Croix Camp:

In March, 1972, the decision was made to close St. Croix Camp due to the facility's rapidly declining population and its remote location which prohibited the effective use of community resources. The camp was closed in June of that year and most of its remaining funds were transferred to the new Department operated Sandstone Vocational School to provide training to inmates living at Willow River Camp at Willow, River, Minnesota.

APPROXIMATE EXPENDITURES FOR FISCAL YEARS 1972 and 1973

Community Services

Investigations	721,746.
Correctional Services	2,271,201.
Probation & Parole	2,148,785.
Residential Facilities	2,215,920.
Regional and Community Corrections Centers	854,411.
Total Community Services	8,212,063.

Institutional Services

Client Care	4,080,498.
Education	3,818,105.
Plant Operation	3,746,654.
Institutional Security	1,628,567.
Industries	5,900,530.
Reception & Diagnostic	1,624,645.
Behavioral Change	10,142,445.
Total Institution Services	30,941,444.
Departmental Support Services	4,740,313.
TOTAL BIENNIAL EXPENDITURES	43,893,820.

2. Community Corrections

As Previously described, there has been considerable expansion in the development and use of community corrections facilities by the Department during the biennium. The definitions that follow are terms used in describing various residential community corrections facilities:

Half-Way House: A residential, community based treatment program. Clients are generally employed or attend school in the community. The facility is physically situated in a large urban area.

Continuum Type Program: A multi-phased community-based program incorporating both residential and non-residential elements. Clients move toward greater independence as they proceed through the program's various stages.

Group Home: A private, family-based facility offering care to four to ten juveniles.

Nine residential half-way house or continuum-type programs are now being operated or regulated by the Department. These include:

*Alpha House: This Minneapolis facility accepts youth and adult offenders from St. Cloud Reformatory and the Minnesota State Prison, and offers transitional treatment in a non-authoritarian environment with a full ex-offender staff. Experimental and innovative methods are used by staff members in finding both the causes and solutions of resident's problems. The facility provides room, board, clothing, employment assistance, group activities and counseling. It was opened in 1972. Has 12 beds.

*Big House: This St. Paul facility offers a wide range of treatment services providing an essentially self-sufficient program for 14 to 17 year old boys. Services provided include counseling, job and school planning and orientation and in-house business projects, such as the selling of eggs. Boys are referred to the program by the state's correctional institutions or parole agents. It was opened in 1972. Has 20 beds.

*Group Residence for Hard-To-Place Boys This Minneapolis facility provides personal, vocational and educational counseling and advocacy, community exposure and social awareness experiences. Treatment at the residence is handled on an individual basis. The program attempts to meet the perceived needs of clients, the ultimate criteria for cuscess being the ability to function in the community. Sixteen to 24 year old males with two or more failures at the state level on parole or probation, who have no other feasible placement alternatives, are eligible. It opened in 1971; closed in 1973. Has 14 beds.

*Institution Community Continuum, ICC: This dual-phased program helps 15 to 17 year old boys make the transition be-

tween institution or group residence living and independent living in the community. Three facilities are used in the program, including a new residence in Minneapolis, the "Mansion," funded on an LEAA grant; a state-operated group home; and Mayo cottage at the Minnesota Reception and Diagnostic Center. Services provided include group counseling, school and employment orientation and assistance. Clients for the program are on limited parole status. It is designed for a cross section of boys who are peer responsive and uses a peer group centered method of treatment, stressing interpersonal repsonsibility. The program opened in 1967, with the Mansion residence opening in 1972. There are 34 beds at all three residences.

*Minnesota Restitution Center: This Minneapolis facility offers a unique program for adult property offenders on parole from Stillwater State Prison after their fourth month at the institution. Its clients, chosen on a random basis, develop contracts with the victims of their crimes for restitution (repayment) while residing at the Center and working in the community. Services provided include job development, individual, group and marital counseling. It opened in 1972. Has 25 beds.

*Probation Offenders Rehabilitation and Training, (PORT): This Rochester residence provides treatment, counseling, referral, advocacy and room and board to male probationers age 13 to 47 from Olmsted, Dodge and Filmore counties. The clients work or attend academic or skill training institutions. It opened in 1969. Has 30 beds.

*Project Interaction House: (PI HOUSE) This St. Paul women's half-way house accepts both youthful and adult offenders on parole from the Minnesota Correctional Institution for Women at Shakopee. The program which is subcontracted to Project Interaction, Inc. a volunteer group working with women inmates, provides counseling, job and educational reorientation, room and board. It opened in 1972. 25 beds.

*Turnabout, (Minneapolis Rehabilitation Center Annex): Sub-contracted by the department to the Minneapolis Rehabilitation Center, this three-phase program originates with the first, institutional stage in an outside cottage at the Minnesota Reception and Diagnostic Center. In a second, community residential phase, clients pass to a half-way put facility, located in South Minneapolis. In the third phase, they move out to independent living. Clients best suited to this program are dependend juvenile boys who need to be encouraged to develop their own autonomy. It opened in 1972. Has 24 beds.

Twelve state-operated group homes have come into existence since the Legislature made the initial appropriation for this purpose in 1965. This program is operating in a state-wide basis, currently accommodating 71 children.

The last two years have witnessed some diversification of the program to make it more suitable to current client needs. Most homes are of the traditional model, with a married couple contracting with the Department to care for four to eight youths in their own home. One of the newer types of homes is operated by a Roman Catholic sister who has seven girls living at her residence, with no "father figure" present This home was designed specifically for older girls receiving vocational training or seeking employment in the Metropolitan area. They require short-term residential care before independent living. There are two similar residences for boys who are especially alienated from the mainstream of society.

Sixty-three county-operated, state subsidized group homes have opened since July, 1971, when the Legislature appropriated the first subsidy for this purpose. Although under the jurisdiction of county-level juvenile judges, these homes are potentially open for placements by the Youth Conservation Commission, on the respective judge's approval.

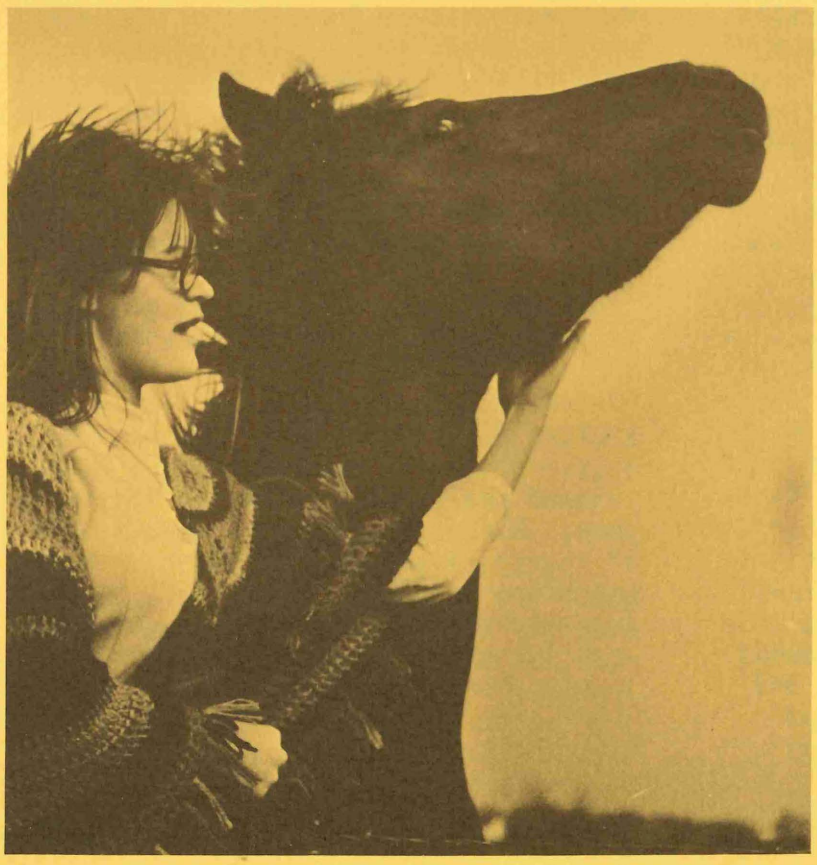
Several community oriented, non-residential programs have been operating during the biennium on federal funding.

The Training Institute for Community Corrections was established in Minneapolis by the Department in January, 1973 It is uder contract to Project Search, a non-profit Minnesota Corpoation. Among its goals is the establishment of a comprehensive educational and training resource center to serve as a support system for the growing network of community-based correctional services in the state.

The Volunteer Services Unit has been op operated by the Department for two yrs. Located in Minneapolis, it was established to screen, train and coordinate citizen volunteer involvement to the correctional process. Late in 1973 the unit is expected to be consolidated in the Department's Central Office, with a single individual assigned to continuing its work on a consultative basis.

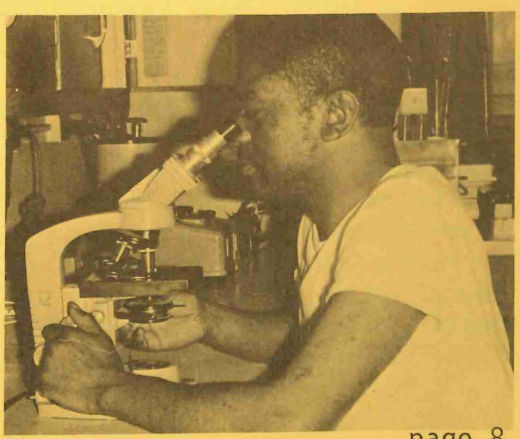
The Conservation of Human Resources Pro Program has been operated since 1969 on contract to Augsburg College. The program is a unique model of education bringing together college students, inmates and staff in joint classes at such institutions as the Minnesota State Prison at Stillwater, the Minnesota Correctional Institution for Women at Shakopee, and the State Reformatory for Men at St. Cloud. Not only do participants satisfy course and credit needs, but also become acquainted with cross-cultural situations firsthand. Over 1,000 persons have received credit from the program since it opened.

The Neighborhood House was established in Minneapolis in June, 1972 to provide specialized parole services to ex-offenders in a community setting. The unit is essentially "store front" operation offering 24-hour coverage, housing and emergency counseling on an intensive basis to parolees who are alcoholic, drug addicted or emotionally disturbed. Bed space is also obtained for clients on the program through Reachout Today, a self-help volunteer organization also located in Minneapolis. Neighborhood House is one step in a trend toward the Department's provision of increasingly decentralized, community-based probation and parole services.



← A client enjoying one of the horses at the Sauk Centre Home School.

An inmate does lab. tecn. work at Stillwater Prison's hospital. ↓



3. Indian Programming

In July, 1972, the Department employed an Indian Program Development Specialist to create sound, enduring programs designed for the specific and unique needs of Indians coming within its sphere.

The need for Special Indian programming derives from one fundamental fact, above others. This is the fact that Indians are represented in significantly higher proportion in Minnesotas correctional institutions than in the State's population as a whole. (While at some institutions Indians comprise up to 25 percent of populations, they represent only .06 percent of the state's population as a whole.) In addition, it was recognized that many of the Department's efforts at Indian "rehabilitation" had largely been in vain, due chiefly to the inherent irrelevancy of its operations to Indians coming from unique cultural backgrounds, environments and life styles. Recognition of these two factors provided an impetus for the creation of a new Indian Division.

The Indian Specialist has been involved in the ranking of priorities for Indian program development in connection with community Indian groups, both reservation and urban. He has also benn involved in the identification of funding sources and the submission of grants to these sources to underwrite Indian programs. Proposals have already been submitted for the establishment of Indian half-way houses and group homes, and for the promotion of Indian Culture groups already operating in correctional institutions. In addition, the first Indian Corrections Conference ever to be held was sponsored by the Division in Minneapolis in April, 1973.

One program is now in operation under the Division. This is the federally funded Duluth Indian Action Program, which opened in July, 1972. Sub-contracted to the Duluth Indian Action Council, it operates a new Indian youth center, and sponsors an "outreach" program involving six young Indian paraprofessionals working with pre-delinquent youth on the Grand Portage, Fond du Lac, Mille Lacs, and Nett Lake reservations. The program's overall aim is the diversion of Indian youth from the criminal justice system by providing them with alternative community resources.

4. Adult Institution Services

Problem Areas in the Provision of Adult Institution Services

The Department's Adult Division has been the focus of a disproportionate amount of media and public attention during the biennium. No doubt this situation can be attributed in large part to the relative historical neglect of this area, in contrast to the Department's Youth Division.

Complex and significant problems continue in the Adult Division, particularly in the Department's two adult, male institutions-- Stillwater State Prison and St. Cloud Reformatory. Some of these problems have been investigated and reported on at length in a series of reports generated out of the Legislature, the Department, the Loaned Executive Action Program task force, and other sources.

It is impossible here to detail and analyze the various problem areas pointed out in these reports. Two major subjects of concern will be addressed here, however.

The first area of concern has been planning for the future of the adult institutions. Early in the biennium, it was observed that declining populations at both the Prison and Reformatory hindered the effectiveness of correctional programming and made the institutions less economical to operate per inmate. In 1972, under Commission-

er Fogel's administration, it was decided that the Reformatory should close in 1975. A recent reevaluation of political, programmatic and economic realities related to the proposed closing and an awareness that population trends may be reversing themselves, however, caused a serious reconsideration of this decision in 1973. As a consequence, the decision to close the institution was postponed indefinitely pending further study. The Department retains the major objective of deinstitutionalization in the Adult Division, but has not made final determinations on the proper institution to close or the date of that closing.

A second major area of concern has been with the inadequacy of medical facilities in the state correctional system, especially the Adult Division. As reported by the Department's Medical Director: "health care in corrections institutions is at a critical impasse. Medical personnel are forced to work in archaic, obsolete surroundings. A major percentage of medical decisions are made by non-medical personnel. Delivery of care is hampered by custodial regulations. Budgetary deficiencies limit the purchase of supplies and equipment and the hiring of medical personnel such as doctors, nurses and consultants. Security regulations, salary inadequacies and the lack of promotional opportunities narrow the field of prospective employees." These problems were discussed by the first annual Midwest Corrections Medical Conference sponsored by Department medical personnel in Minneapolis in April, 1973.

A major proposal for upgrading the corrections medical system was presented to the 1973 session of the Legislature along with a special budget request. A special appropriation was granted and major efforts to overhaul medical services are expected to begin with the opening of the new biennium.

New and On-Going Programs for Adult Inmates:

Although the Adult Division has been faced with serious problems during the biennium, it has also experienced the development and continuation of a variety of valuable special programs for adult inmates.

New services for adult inmates are now being provided by the Ombudsman Program the Family Reunification Program and the Contract Parole Plan. All of these new programs are being underwritten by federal funding. A major, continuing service for adults, in addition, is the Work Release program.

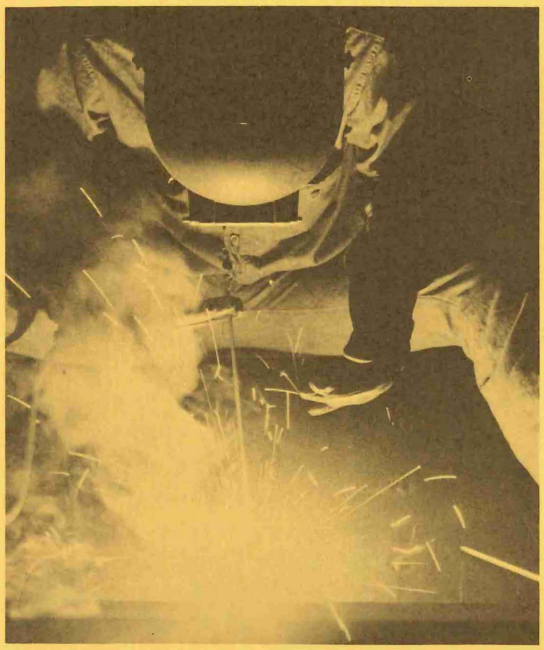
The Ombudsman's office has been given the perogative of conducting investigations on behalf of inmates filing legitimate complaints. He has unlimited access to Departmental records and personnel, but is accountable only to the Governor. The most frequent source of inmate grievances relate to complaints about parole board actions.

The Family Reunification project is designed to facilitate the transition from incarceration to free society for youthful and adult offenders returning to the Metropolitan area upon release. Its aim is to reunite families and make them self-supporting. Efforts to assist releasees and their families concentrate on employment, interpersonal skills, family problem solving, financial management and the use of community resources. Some 50 inmates have been served by the program since it opened in January, 1973.

The Contract Parole plan (Institution Performance Programming Agreement project) permits selected inmates to negotiate a contract for release with institution personnel. Specific objectives such as the completion of the equivalent to a high school diploma, successful involvement in Alcoholics Anonymous, etc., must be accomplished before the inmate is subject to parole.

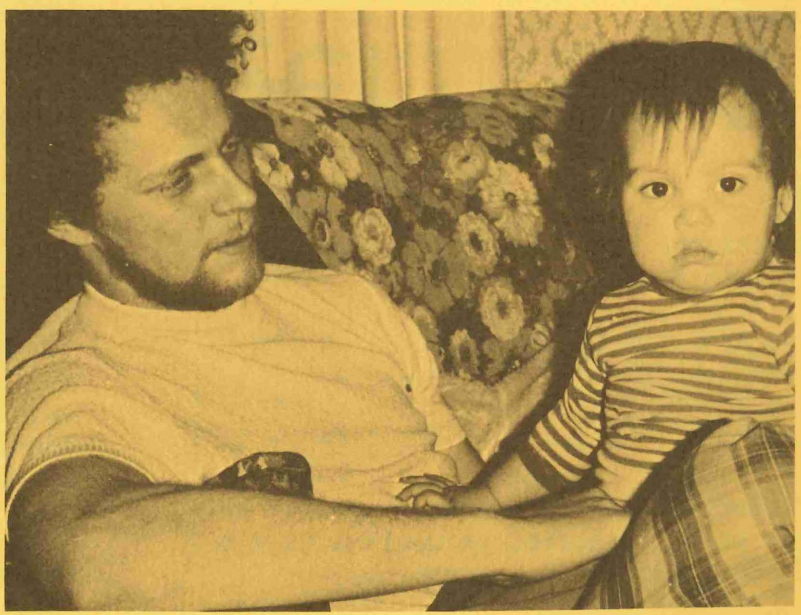
The program aims at the promotion of goal-oriented behavior and, ultimately, the reduction of recidivism. It opened in October, 1972. By February, 1973, one of its 20 participants had been released from an institution on this special plan.

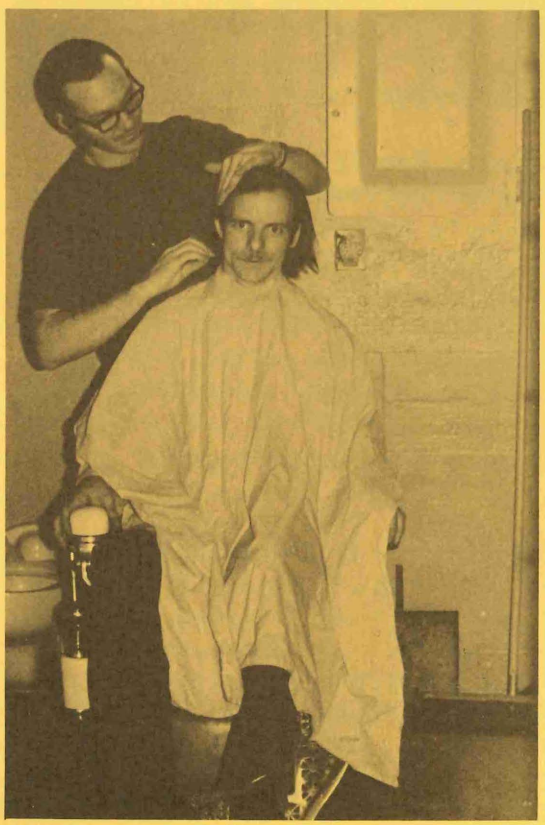
The Work Release program, which opened in 1967, permits inmates to apply for a conditional release status from their institutions. It allows both men and women to attend school or work in the open community while living at the Ramsey County Workhouse or at other special residential facilities during their non-working hours. The program's primary objective is to ease the difficult transition from the institutional life to the acceptance of individual responsibility in regular society. The Department's experience with the work release program has been favorable and highly consistent over the five year period of its use. A slight increase has been experienced in the number of successful participants in the program in recent years, however. This rate has increased from 66 percent in 1968 to 69 percent in 1972.



←In Willow River Camp's welding program.

A corrections client and his son at Alpha House. ↓





←At the barber shop at Stillwater Prison.

5. Planning and Staff Services

The Planning and Staff Services Division of the Department provides a variety of specialized, supportive services to the other sectors of the Department. Included in the division are: personnel and training, education, planning, volunteer services, research and evaluation, grants acquisition, detention and security and information services. As mentioned previously, this sector is also responsible for implementing the Community Corrections Act. A more detailed account of major areas in the division follows:

Training:

The main aim of the staff training program is to develop skill levels of all Department employees to increase their work effectiveness. To accomplish this purpose, a comprehensive orientation, pre-service and in-service staff development program has been developed. A wide variety of programs are now operating-- a number of them in connections with outside educational institutions.

The Training Academy, for correctional counselors first opened in September, 1971. Operated out of the Minnesota Reception and Diagnostic Center, it is the major pre-service component of the Department's training program, preparing new correctional counselors for work in both institutions and community facilities. The curriculum includes academic coursework in corrections and sociology, group sessions, guest speakers, field trips, individual counseling internships and an experimental lock-up situation.

Of the six classes of trainees with 138 graduates, 117 are still working for the Department or are in a related corrections field. It is expected that eight more classes of 18 to 20 will be conducted during the next biennium.

Other training programs in operation during the biennium included a training course for experienced field agents, (125 persons), an advanced supervisor training program, (16), a group skills course, (57), Psychodrama sessions,(80) a variety of human relations programs, (360), specialty programs such as cultural awareness, (200), use and abuse of drugs, (185), security measures(250) riot control, (100), middle management training, (40), group home parent train ing, (40), consultation with a variety of half-way house facilities, (30),etc.

A large number of staff have also taken part in programs conducted by the Civil Service Department, (100). Others have participated in a variety of specialty seminars and workshops run by community resources, (125) and many attended formal college level and graduate school programs.

Personnel:

Personnel is responsible for the classification and employment of some 1500 Department positions. Late in 1972 this three-member unit operating at the Central Office was expanded to include Personnel Officers working at Correctional institutions. This change promoted the more centralized, efficient operation of the personnel function.

The unit became involved in several new

functions during the biennium. In accord with the Labor Relations Act passed by the Legislature in 1971, the unit became involved in labor negotiations with union management-- particularly teachers and institution personnel. With the adoption of an Affirmative Action Plan by the Department in September, 1972, it became involved in the systematic promotion of equal job opportunity for women and minorities. It has also assisted in the development of the Training Academy at Lino Lakes.

Research, Information and Data Systems Services:

This unit has had two major responsibilities. These are:

*The development and publication of statistics relating to the movement and characteristics of persons under the jurisdiction of the Department.

*The evaluation of the effectiveness of established and experimental programs.

The data processing staff seeks to provide reliable, timely statistics in order to enhance management decisions. The research component produces many regular, evaluative reports, such as those on Work Release, the Institution-Community Continuum Program, and Group Homes. In addition, special evaluative reports are published such as the Parole/No Parole Supervision Study and the Follow-up Study of Boys Participating in the Positive Peer Culture Program at the Minnesota State Training School for Boys.

Educational Services Unit:

The Educational Services Unit was established during the last biennium to more equitably distribute existing resources among the eight institutional education programs and clients with specific problems, to act as liaison between institutional schools and public schools, to assess program effectiveness, and develop new programs. In addition to the academic and vocational classes conducted by 124 teachers in eight institutions, there are four major projects being conducted:

*Special Needs Program - Vocational Education Act of 1968: These monies are being used to initiate new vocational programming in institutions in the areas of food industry, transportation industry, building trades, graphic arts, horticulture, and floristry. There are about 600 students who receive services through this project. The program includes job training as well as pre and post-release social service and employment.

*Willow River Project: This program provides training in the areas of welding, refrigeration, truck mechanics, truck body building and repair, and truck driving.

*Title I-ESEA: There are eight teachers and twelve aides paid for by Title I funds who tutor approximately 150 institution children whose reading and math skills are at or below fifth grade level.

*Title III-ESEA: These funds are used for the New Focus: Arts and Corrections Program, which seeks to utilize the arts as a tool for rehabilitation and recreation for youngsters in the states three major juvenile institutions.

Public Information:

The Public Information Unit was expanded late in the biennium to promote more regular and effective communication within the Department and to meet the increasing demand by citizens for information on corrections. Its responsibilities include the writing and dissemination of internal and external periodicals, news releases, major reports and other publications.

The Special Projects Management and Development Unit:

The Special Projects Unit was established during the biennium on an LEAA grant from the Governor's Crime Commission. Its goals include planning and program development, grant funding, grant administration, program and financial reporting and the evaluation of programs funded through grants.

Since it opened, it has developed some 100 programs and secured funding for 34 of these for a total of $2,210,000. In addition, the Unit was instrumental in obtaining $11,000,000 of Title IV reimbursement for monies spent for social services.

6. Administrative Structure

The 1973 session of the Legislature approved a bill calling for a major restructuring of the Corrections Department. The new law provides for the establishment of two new regional divisions, to replace the Department's former Adult and Juvenile Divisions. It also permits the creation of a new Planning and Staff Services Division.

The new regional divisions were established to aid in coordinating services offered to persons moving through the correctional system within certain geographic areas.

The Deputy Commissioner of the three-county Metro Region, including Hennepin Ramsey and Anoka counties, will administer the Minnesota State Prison at Stillwater, the Minnesota Reception & Diagnostic Center at Lino Lakes, and the Minnesota Correctional Institution for Women at Shakopee. Pat D. Mack, the former Superintendent of the Minnesota Home School, has been appointed to this position.

The Deputy Commissioner of the Non-Metro Region, including all the remaining counties, will administer the State Reformatory at St. Cloud, the State

Training School at Red Wing, the Minnesota Home School at Sauk Centre, Thistledew Camp at Togo, and Willow River Camp at Willow River. Milton S. Olson, the former Deputy Commissioner, Youth Division, has been appointed to this position.

The two new heads of the regional divisions will also be responsible for all probation and parole services, group homes, and diversion and detention projects within their areas.

The new Planning and Staff Services Division will be responsible for supportive services in such areas as education, training, research, public information, personnel, grants coordination and planning. It will also set standards and administer subsidies in connection with the new Community Corrections Act. Frederic A. Holbeck, former Staff Services Director, has been appointed as Deputy Commissioner to head this division.

Howard J. Costello, former Assistant Commissioner, Administration, has been appointed to head the Administrative Services Division. This Division is responsible for such areas as office management, financial, medical and legal services and legislative liaison.

7. Minnesota State Prison at Stillwater

Warden: Bruce W. McManus
Year Opened: 1914
Clientele: Adult male felons age 21 and older
Average Population: 766
Staff Size: 374.75
Treatment Programs: Intensive treatment group (for psychotic problems), alcoholic and soft-drug group, narcotic group, marriage counseling, inmate counseling, casework.
Vocational Programs: Printing, cordage manufacture, farm machinery manufacture
Education Programs: Basic education, G.E.D. preparation, post high school education.
Off-Grounds Programs: Vocational training in 50 course areas at District 916 vocational school at White Bear Lk.
Recreation: Basketball, broomball, football, table tennis, tennis, badminton, volleyball, baseball, horseshoes, chess, etc.
Inmate Groups: Art class, Afro-American Brotherhood, Alcoholics Anonymous, CAGE (ecology), chess club, country western club, family orientation, Gavel Club, Indian Folklore, Inkweavers Jaycees, Jewish Culture, Sounds Incarcerated, Religious groups, etc.

The Minnesota State Prison is the state's major, maximum security facility for older male offenders. Although the maintenance of custody is a continuing necessity at the institution, increasing emphasis is being placed on the involvement of the inmate in the planning of his institution program, from orientation to parole release.

A major new series of treatment programs opened for inmates at the institution during the biennium. These pro-

grams, originally houses in cell-hall "D", are now operated out of cell-hall "A". Programs in this special area are designed for the increasing number of inmates who have difficulty in the institution, who are less likely to successfully adjust to life in a free society on release. Increasingly, the Prison has received psychotic and borderline psychotic individuals who had formerly been accepted at state hospitals. The first effort to offer special help to these individuals came with the opening of a small, intensive treatment unit in 1965. Gradually it was recognized that this unit was too small to meet the needs of these and other inmates with special problems. In March, 1972, an entire cell-block was set aside for these individuals. Some 125 inmates now receive treatment from its programs. These include: orientation (30 persons); intensive treatment (30); chemical dependency treatment (45); and treatment contracting (20). A variety of treatment modalities are used in this cell-hall, including reality therapy, confrontive and supportive therapy In addition, specially assigned inmate counselors provide one-to-one counseling and crisis intervention services.

The Prison's casework staff provides counseling services to the inmate population as a whole. Caseworkers are concerned about the daily adjustment of inmates within the institution and are involved in the major area of parole planning. They also assist inmates in such routine matters as correspondence and visiting and prepare a considerable amount of paper work for consideration by the parole board. Ten caseworkers are employed by the Prison.

8. Minnesota State Reformatory for Men at St. Cloud

Superintendent: William F. McRae
Year Opened: 1889
Clientele: Youthful offenders ages 16 to 24.
Average Population: 494
Staff Size: 257
Treatment Programs: Individual and group counseling, drug treatment program, casework.
Pre-Vocational Programs: Vocational evaluation and counseling.
Vocational Programs: Formal training in auto body work, baking, barbering, cabinet making, carpentry, drafting, electrical maintenance, front end alignment, furniture finishing, masonry, meat cutting, painting, plumbing, printing, radio and TV repair, steam engineering, upholstering, and welding; informal training in auto mechanics, clerical work, cooking, dry cleaning, machine tool operation, mattress manufacture, steamfitting, tailoring, and teaching.
Industrial Programs: Woodcraft, metal work, upholstery, furniture finishing, printing, mattress manufacture, license plate manufacture.
Education Programs: Academic instruction at all levels, remedial through college; part-time classroom, full-time

classroom, correspondence classes and night school; G.E.D. preparation and testing; outside college work at St. Cloud State College; inside college work in connection with the University of Minnesota college Newgate program, Antioch Communiversity and Augsburg College.

Off-Grounds Programs: Work release, study release, temporary parole, etc.

Recreation: Movies, hobbycrafts, special shows, table games, baseball, soft ball, basketball, football, volleyball, weightlifting, skating, broom hockey, operation of inmate radio station, etc.

Inmate Groups: Alcoholics Anonymous, Black Culture, Chicano Culture, Gavel Club, Indian Culture, Italian-American Culture, Jaycees, religious groups, etc

Health Care: Full-time institution medical staff includes one doctor, 3 reigstered nurses, two para-medical aides and a medical technologist. Outside care provided at Stillwater Prison and St. Cloud Hospital, University of Minnesota Hospital, Rochester State Hospital, etc.

The Minnesota State Reformatory for Men is the state's maximum security institution for youthful male offenders aged 16 to 24. The core treatment task for the Ref rmatory population is to change the prevailing inmate expectation of failure to an expectation of success. This is best done by experiencing success in areas of significance to the individual. These experiences may differ widely from one person to another and may involve such areas as interpersonal relationships, vocational preparation, educational growth, self-knowledge, etc. Thus, a wide variety of treatment programs are offered, permitting a number of potential success experiences. All but the most recently admitted inmates are in program assignments intended to be meaningful in relation to the particular behavior changes diagnosed as necessary for the individual to become law-abiding. These include groupwork for about a third of the population, structured one-to-one counseling for another third and informal, interpersonal daily interaction for the remainder.

Major trends at the institution during the beinnium include the drop in inmate population, and the increase in minority and ex-offender staff.

The RESHAPE, chemical dependency program was added at the institution during the beinnium, in 1973. This consists of several phases, the most intense of which is a voluntary four month period in a special, drug-free unit and the use of a variety of relationship therapies.

Team classification was also inaugurated during the period as the staffing process by which all decisions are made about individual inmate programs-- including treatment plans, institution assignments, release recommendations and the disposition of disciplinary matters. All categories of staff are represented on the teams.

An Audio-Visual Media center was created under a federal grant making advanced, audio-visual aids available to vocational students.

Drivers license written exams and road tests were made available to inmates through drivers education classes.

A number of new inmate groups were also established during the biennium. These include the Drama Club, Gavel Club, Chicano Culture Group, Italian-American Culture Group and an Insiders Jaycees unit.

9.
Willow River Camp at Willow River

Superintendent: Ralph L. Nelson
Year Opened: 1951
Clientele: Adult and youthful offenders from Minnesota State Prison and St. Cloud Reformatory.
Average Population: 38
Staff Size: 31.5
Treatment Program: Positive Peer Culture group therapy sessions.
Vocational Programs: Welding, refrigeration, truck mechanics, truck body building and repair available at Sandstone Vocational School.
Education Programs: Remedial education G.E.D. and special interest education programs.
Recreation: Basketball, softball, fishing, swimming, card games, bookmobile services, etc.
Health Care: Medical, dental and optical services are provided through community resources.

Willow River Camp underwent a major programming alteration in 1972. Since its establishment in 1951, it has provided a program of conservation and forestry work to youthful offenders age 18 to 24. It now serves both youthful and adult offenders age 18 and older and operates in close connection with the new Sandstone Vocational School at Sandstone. Funds to operate the school come through the federal Manpower Training and Development Act, the Department of Education and the Upper Great Lakes Regional Development Commission. Trainees come from Stillwater State Prison, St. Cloud Reformatory and the Federal Correctional Institution at Sandstone. State inmates receiving training at the school have served at least three months in their respective institutions and have been accepted for admittance to the program by the parole board. This group also resides at Willow River Camp where they are involved in Positive Peer Culture group programs and may receive supportive remedial academic instruction.

Four vocational courses, from six to nine months in length, are offered at the school. These include welding, refrigeration, truck mechanics and truck-trailer body. To date, 18 inmates have graduated from welding, six from refrigeration, three from truck mechanics and one from truck-trailer body.

10.
Minnesota Correctional Institution for Women at Shakopee

Superintendent: D. Jacqueline Fleming
Year Opened: 1920
Clientele: Female adult and youthful offender felons.
Average Population: 48
Staff Size: 42.5
Treatment Programs: Group therapy, individual counseling, psychiatry, inmate counselors, Alcoholics Anonymous groups, team meeting, drug treatment, mother's group.
Pre-Vocational Programs: Work adjustment and evaluation.
Vocational Programs: Food service, key punch, cash register training, work release, sewing room, beauty shop, off-grounds vocational training, Minnesota Home School Trainee Program, off-ground on-the-job training.
Off-Grounds Programs: Anoka T.E.C., Lydia School, Rasmussen School of Business, Hennepin County Home School, Shakopee House, Medical Institute of Minnesota, Opportunity Workshop, Minneapolis Rehabilitation Center.
Recreation: Theater, photography, ballet, modern dance, yoga, swimming, arts and crafts, bowling, roller-skating, softball, volleyball, ping-pong, skating, pool, basketball, shuffleboard, snowmobiling, camping, movies, etc.
Inmate Groups: Black culture, Indian culture, drama club, speakers bureau, boutique, Alcoholics Anonymous, toastmistresses, tour guides, etc.
Health Care: Part-time doctor, and nurse, consulting dentist and psychiatrist, out-patient care in Shakopee, major medical care at Rochester State Hospital.

The Minnesota Correctional Institution for Women is the single state institution for adult, female inmates. The first objective of this facility is to operate a program enabling women to return to the community and function in an improved way as soon as possible. This is accomplished by involving the women in decision making about their own lives whenever possible; by encouraging responsibility for their own and their group's behavior; and by teaching socially acceptable ways to negotiate in all facets of life.

A major program change at the institution during the biennium involved the first use of off-grounds vocational training in 1971, with the assistance of the Minnesota Department of Education, Vocational Division. Inmates are now transported off-grounds into the community where they may acquire needed vocational training and increase their employability. The training agencies, which assume custody responsibility for the women when they are off-grounds are in constant communication with vocational counselors at the institution. This permits the screening out of any participant who appears to be a custody problem.

A second major change occurred in 1971 with the opening of the institution's food service program. This program

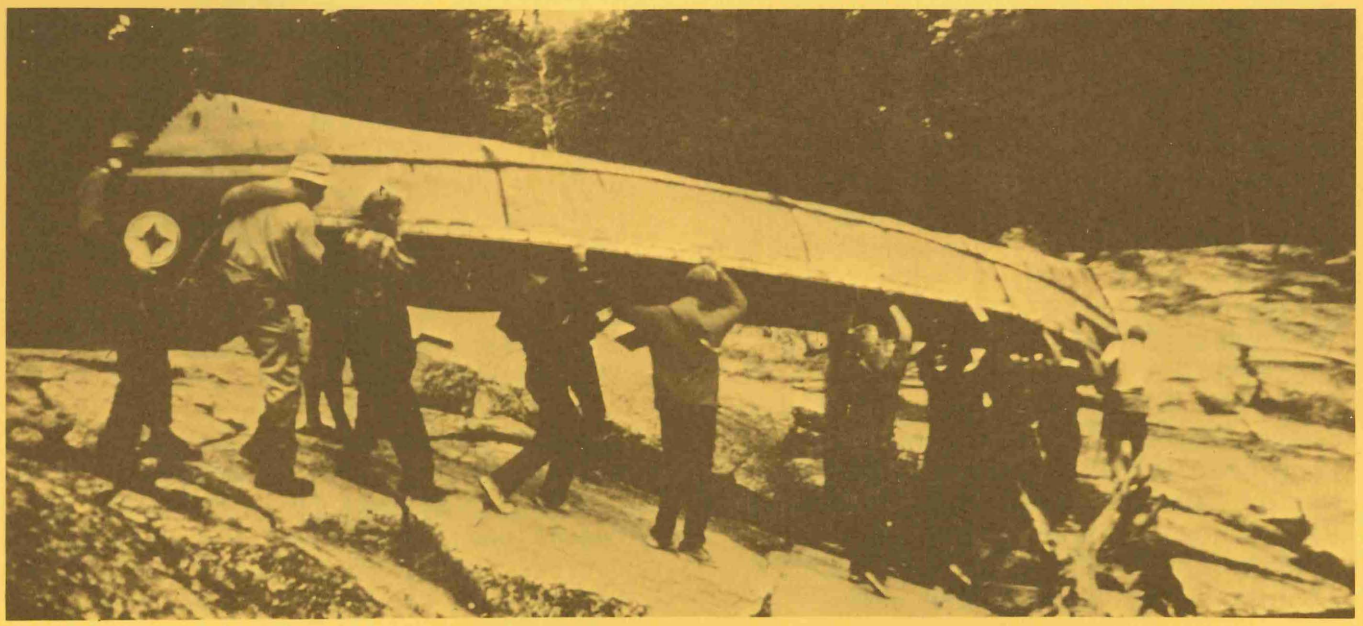
serves the dual purpose of training women for food management work on release and insuring that meals are prepared for the entire institution.

The facility's population has also experienced some changes during the biennium. Residents generally come into the institutions with longer sentences and at a younger age than previously. In addition, both admission and release rates are up from the last biennium.

11. Youth Institution Services

A unique new program, called "New Focus Arts and Corrections" was started in July, 1972 to serve the three major juvenile institutions. Funded by a grant under Title III of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of the Department of Health, Education and Welfare, the main purpose of the project is to utilize the arts as a means of rehabilitation for juvenile delinquents--giving them a means of self-expression through the arts as an alternative to violent or criminal acts. In addition to outside excursions to such places as the Tyrone Guthrie Theater, the Walker Art Center and various concerts, students attend exhibits of their own work produced in workshops. Continuing workshops are offered in sculpture, film making, photography, singing, crafts, creative writing, creative dramatics and Indian Culture. Some of the workshops are led by ex-inmates or current inmates from the State Prison.

Thistledew Camp Challenge Program canoe expedition. ↓



12.
Minnesota Home School at Sauk Centre

Superintendent: Harvey Akerson
Year Opened: 1911
Clientele: Juvenile Males and Females age 12 to 18
Average Population: 125
Staff Size: 123.5
Treatment Programs: Group therapy, individual counseling, recreation skill building, developing poisitive values through the use of a positive culture.
Pre-Vocational Programs: Pre-school nursery, work study, food service, retail floristry, greenhouse work, construction work.
Vocational Programs: Retail floristry, greenhouse work
Education Programs: Basic Academic education, art, industrial art, home economics, music, driver's education, family life, photography, Cadet program (remedial education).
Recreation: Bicycling, camping, canoe camping, canteen, fishing, golf, horses movies, picnics, trampoline, swimming, ice skating, skiing, sliding, roller-skating, volleyball, basketball, softball, football, bowling, hiking, ping-pong, pool, hockey, cross-country skiing, broomball, etc.
Resident Groups: Indian club, religious groups, ceramics, glassblowing, etcetera.
Community Volunteer Groups: Mrs. Jaycees, Jaycees, St. John Seminarians, Long Prairie Faculty Wives, Pre-School Nursery Advisory Committee, Minnesota Home School Citizens Committee.
Health Care: Full time nurse, doctor at institution one day per week.

The Minnesota Home School is a Reception, Diagnostic and Treatment Center for the western half of the state. It serves boys and girls up to 18 years of age who are sent there by juvenile court judges after local communities have exhausted their resources. The purpose of the institution is to help residents change their behavior so that they may return to their home communities and lead non-delinquent lives. This may be accomplished during the diagnostic phase by referring the student to a setting other than the Home School such as a group home, a residential treatment center, or a return to his parental home on probation. The treatment phase of the Home School provides a number of services which the student can utilize to help bring about a change in his behavior so that he can function successfully in society.

Several new programs were opened at the Home School during the biennium. A program offering pre-school nursery work was started on a federal grant in 1971. Supervision of children brought in from the surrounding community is combined with classroom instruction in such areas as child development and basic teaching skills.

Another new program involves teaching and counseling services offered to the school's residents by four inmates on conditional parole from the Minnesota Correctional Insiitution for Women. The aim of this program is to enhance the

self-concepts of both the women and those they counsel.

A new boy's program was also added due to the increase in male population during the biennium.

Two programs with a security orientation were closed at the school during the biennium. In November, 1971, the staff stopped using lock-up and isolation as discipline measures. Students now spend their crisis time with a staff member who doesn't leave the crisis area until the individual's problem has been resolved. The Secure Treatment Cottage program was also terminated in November, 1972. This program had been designed for students who ran away or were disruptive and uncontrollable. These students are now dealt with in their regular cottages with the help of the former security staff who may, if necessary, provide individual 24-hour supervision.

13. State Training School at Red Wing

Superintendent: Orville B. Pung
Year Opened: 1891
Clientele: Juvenile boys (Juvenile girls also, soon)
Average Population: 199
Staff Size: 173
Treatment Programs: Entire treatment program is based on Positive Peer Culture, a form of group therapy. Pre-release guidance counseling also available.
Pre-Vocational Programs: Printing, food service, small engine repair, service station and custodial training, greenhouse work.
Vocational Program: Welding
Education Programs: Basic academic education, art, building trades, physical education, driver education, drafting, G.E.D. preparation and testing, instrumental music instruction, remedial reading and math.
Recreation: Competitive sports and games, skiing, swimming, camping, and fishing.
Community Volunteer Groups: Volunteer Organization (local women), Surround (religious group)
Health Care: Two full-time nurses, a full-time dentist, and a half-time doctor. Outside care handled at local hospital.

The State Training School at Red Wing is a regional juvenile institution serving the eastern portion of the state. Throughout the biennium, as in the past the school served only male youngsters. A bill passed by the Legislature in 73 however, has permitted the institution to become coeducational.

The main emphasis of the institution is on helping youngsters develop concepts of themselves as worthwhile persons, concerned about other people. Its long term goal is to teach them to live responsible lives in their own community.

Every resident of the school is involved in the Positive peer Culture program

a special form of group therapy designed for delinquent youth. A member of the Training school staff (cottage counselor, teacher or caseworker), trained in the dynamics of Positive Peer Culture leadership, meets with approximately nine boys, five nights weekly for 90 minutes. During these sessions, the youth help one another solve the problems that initially got them into difficulty. The members of the group live, work, play and study together, and are given the responsibility of helping and caring for each other 24 hours a day.

During the biennium, two new programs were added to the Training School's curriculum. A food service program now offers residents specific training in general restaurant type food preparation, including menu planning, food preparation, food service, etc. A cycle driver education course was added with the objective of instructing students in cycle driving skills, safety and road regulations.

At the beginning of the nightly meeting the group decides which youth needs their help the most, and the rest of the meeting is devoted to this individual. When the group feels that one of their members has his problems solved and is ready for parole, they make their recommendations known to the staff.

14. Thistledew Forestry Camp

Superintendent: Dennis Hanson
Year Opened: 1955
Clientele: 16 to 17 year old boys
Average Population: 26
Staff Size: 23
Treatment Programs: Casework done on a one-to-one basis, Challenge Program
Pre-Vocational Programs: Small engines basic cooking skills, construction work
Education Programs: Academic instruction, remedial instruction
Recreation: Cross country skiing, ice skating, snow shoeing, basketball, volleyball, swimming, ice fishing, softball, hiking, fishing, canoeing
Community Volunteer Groups: Volunteers from Hibbing and Charles Sommers Canoe Base.
Health Care: Services provided as needed by the clinic and hospital in Hibbing.

Thistledew Forestry Camp, the only state juvenile institution not serving a specific geographic region, provides a unique program for "unsophisticated" delinquent youngsters. Prior to regionalization, it had received commitments from the Minnesota Reception and Diagnostic Center. It now serves as a resource to the three regional training centers, and in accord with legislation passed in 1973, expects to begin receiving commitments directly from County Court Judges in July, 1973, in exchange for a per diem charge to the counties.

A single major treatment tool is used at the Camp. This involves the "challenge program," a unique, two-phase

program consisting of wilderness adventure and survival training in an outdoor setting. The first phase involves physical conditioning and technical training. This is accompanied by class room instruction and "learning by doing" techniques. The second, expedition phase is tailored to current weather conditions and seasons of the year. During warm seasons, canoe trips are taken into the Boundary Waters canoe area. Cold weather months provide an opportunity for skiing and snowshoe trips. Hiking, rock climbing and primitive camp-outs are made all year--whatever the weather conditions. Staff members are present on all parts of the expedition phase to guide, counsel and supervise youngsters.

A youth who completes the Challenge program has experienced the satisfaction of challenging and overcoming physical obstacles. He will have experienced an adventure long to be remembered, and a positive, intensive involvement with authority. Every phase of the Camp's program is directed toward the achievement of as many successful experiences as possible by the youth. As youngsters self-concept and ego strength develop, it is intended that they will rely less on delinquent behavior and thus avoid further difficulty.

15. Minnesota Reception and Diagnostic Center at Lino Lakes

Superintendent: Warren T. Johnson
Year opened: 1963
Clientele: Juvenile boys and girls committed to the Department from Anoka, Hennepin, and Ramsey counties. Preadjudicated and detention hold youths from all 87 counties.
Average Population: 187
Staff Size: 215
Treatment Programs: Institution Community Continuum, Community Re-Entry Project, Contracting for Community Reintegration, Treatment Agreement Program, Metro Girls Program, Turnabout, Reorientation Services.
Education and Vocational Programs: Basic academic and remedial instruction graphic communications, office and business education, small engine repair arc and Oxyacetylene welding, auto mechanics, horticulture, landscaping, driver education, G.E.D. preparation, physical education
Community Volunteer Groups: Jaycees and Mrs. Jaycees, church groups, University of Minnesota students, etc.
Health Care: Institution provides physical exams, dental care, routine lab work, X-rays, eye exams. Other work handled by outside agencies and hospitals.

The Minnesota Reception and Diagnostic Center had served, for over nine years,

as a centralized evaluation point for all juveniles committed to the Department by the 87 county juvenile courts. In 1972, with the regionalization of the Department's major youth institutions, the Center lost its state-wide reception and diagnostic function and became a receiving and treatment institution for Hennepin, Ramsey and Anoka counties. Diagnostic evaluation is now handled in a very streamlined fashion, permitting residents to be channeled into a treatment process within a few days of their arrival. A number of new treatment programs were developed to meet the needs of the institution's new largely urban clientele. Nine new programs were added, each with a strong orientation toward the step-by-step reentry of youngsters back into the community. New programs are as follows:

Metro Girls Program: All girls; diagnostic, group treatment, individual treatment.

Contracting For Community Integration: Aggressive, assaultive older youths; treatment "contracts," surveilance dossier, explicit consequences and group methods.

Turnabout: Older, inadequate followers in delinquency; behavior modification and vocational rehabilitating methods.

Treatment Agreement Program: Unconventional delinquents and "veteran" delinquents, individual "contracts," supportive groups, bringing to community placement.

Reorientation Service: Secure or benign detention to back-up the institution's programs and parole services.

One major progarm was closed at the institution in 1972. This was the secure "B Building" program for hard core, recalcitrant youths. This building was converted into a school.



New Focus: Arts in Corrections Title III, ESEA ceramics class at Sauk Centre Home School. →

16. Parole and Probation Services

The Department now provides direct parole services for all youths and adults released from state correctional institutions and direct probation services and the preparation of pre-sentence investigations for the district courts in the state's rural counties.

On an average day, some 10,000 Minnesotans are on probation from district or juvenile courts or on parole from an institution. Of these, nearly half are supervised by state agents or state-subsidized agents. The rest are county probation cases from any of the 87 coun counties or district court cases from Hennepin, Ramsey and St. Louis county. County and contract agents provide juvenile probation services to the 84 rural counties, in addition to supervising the state juvenile and youthful offender cases in these counties.

State agents supervise adult parolees in all counties, in addition to providing adult probation services and preparing pre-sentence investigations for the 84 non-Metro district courts.

The three most populated counties-- Hennepin, Ramsey and St. Louis-- provide their own probation and supervisory services without subsidy, with state parole and probation cases in these counties supervised by the Department.

Supervision of state employed or supervised probation and parole officers is organized under three regional units-- the Northern, Southern and Metropolitan Regions. This supervisory structure is expected to be modified soon under the newly adopted regional, organizational plan.

Northern Region

Northern Region provides probation and parole services in 40 predominately rural counties of Northern Minnesota. The regional office is located in Brainerd, with District Offices in St. Cloud, Detroit Lakes, Bemidji and Duluth. In addition to the regional director, the staff includes district supervisors, state adult and youth agents and county probation officers. (St. Louis County provides its own probation services to both juveniles and adults.)

The adult agents are responsible for pre-sentence investigations, probation supervision of district court cases, and supervision of adults released on parole. They are currently averaging 57 cases under supervision and 3.5 pre-sentence investigations per month. The average workload is almost the same as that of June, 1971, although the total workload has increased by about 13 percent, due primarily to drug related offenses. Individual caseload levels were maintained over this period due to the addition of an agent in 1972. Probation and parole violations have averaged about 4 % of total caseloads.

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The county probation officers and state youth agents who provide probation and parole supervision to youthful offenders are averaging caseloads of 47. Although the total number of cases under supervision has increased, individual caseloads have remained relatively stable due to the addition of several county probation officers. The violation rate in this total caseload averages about eight percent.

The variations witnessed over the past two years in both adult and juvenile caseloads have not been great enough to indicate a definite trend in the Northern Region.

Southern Region

The Southern Region is responsible for services to the district court and Department in 37 Southern Minnesota counties. Services are also provided in connection with the county court and County Probation Act in eight additional counties around the Metropolitan area.

The regional office is located in St. Paul, with district offices in Rochester, Willmar, Owatonna, and Mankato.

The 1971 session of the Legislature strengthened services to clients coming under the purview of the County Court. Services are extended to those convicted of misdemeanors and the subsidy for county operated group homes has provided more placement opportunities for those juveniles dealt with by the county courts.

Nine adult corrections agents covering 37 counties provide pre-sentence investigations for the district courts and subsequently supervise those individuals placed on probation by the district court in those counties. In addition, they supervise those cases placed on parole by the adult board in their districts. The number of individuals under supervision by agents has increased from 392 in January, 1971 to 618 in January, 1973. Average caseloads over this period have been 69 per agent. The number of pre-sentence investigations peaked in 1971 with a total of 369 being completed, as compared to 322 in 1972.

Adult Metropolitan Region

The Adult Metropolitan Region serves the large Metropolitan counties as well as Pine, Wright, Isanti, Chisago and Kanabec counties. Clients are persons thought to be criminally sophisticated who need supervision. Caseloads include clients on parole, probation, modified parole, inter-state, and a special unit for the drug addict and work release.

Agents are officed in St. Paul, Minneapolis, Anoka and Stillwater. They act as resource people, therapists and referral agents. Forty-two such agents are now assigned to the Adult Metropolitan Region. Total caseloads total 2162 clients, or an average of slightly over 51. This is an increase of about 300 clients over June, 1972.

Clients are now being assigned to staff before they are actually paroled from institutions. In addition, agents are now assigned to each of the classification teams at Stillwater Prison and to most of the teams at St. Cloud Reformatory. Plans are now being developed to have agents assigned to all of the classification teams at both institutions.

With the continued development of residential centers in the community, caseloads are expected to continue to increase at a rather rapid rate in the next few years. Some 100 residential community beds are now available in the Metropolitan area for adult clients.

Juvenile Metropolitan Region

The Metropolitan juvenile population continues to show a decline in the number of clients served-- in accord with the national trend. At the same time the sophistication level of clients has increased, indicating the greater use of diversionary programs for the less serious offenders. Due to this decline and resulting smaller caseloads, some staff has been diverted to work in adult

services, which have not experienced the same population declines.

The Metropolitan region was reorganized during the biennium and the dual positions of adult regional director and juvenile regional director were created. In addition, the field agents role in this and other regions has changed from being an exclusive treatment agent to that of a broker of services.

The director of Alpha House and a client converse.→





↑A typical cell house at St. Cloud Reformatory.



In the St. Cloud Reformatory Upholstery Training Shop. →