REPORT OF THE SOUTHERN ILLINOIS PENITENTIARY, AT CHESTER FOR THE TWO YEAR ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 1906

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ILLINOIS STATE PENITENTIARY

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Trieste

REPORT

OF THE

Southern Illinois State Penitentiary

AT CHESTER

FOR THE

Two Years Ending September 30, 1906

SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS
PHILLIPS BROS., STATE PRINTERS
1907

OFFICERS

OF THE

Southern Illinois Penitentiary

September 30, 1906.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS.

JAS. E. McCLURE, *President.*
RUFUS NEELY, *Secretary.*
THOS. J. CLARK.

RESIDENT OFFICERS.

JAS. B. SMITH, *Warden.*
W. C. DOWELL, *Deputy Warden.*
J. N. BENSON, *Assistant Deputy Warden.*
H. W. SHAFER, *Clerk.*
D. H. HOLMAN, *Assistant Clerk and Bookkeeper.*
W. N. RUTLEDGE, *Chaplain.*
WM. R. McKENZIE, *Physician.*
W. H. SMITH, *Assistant Physician.*
S. E. McMURRAY, *Acting Steward.*
CLAY LAWLESS, *Usher.*
JOSEPHINE PYLE, *Matron.*

COMMISSIONERS' REPORT.

MENARD P. O., ILL., Oct. 1, 1906.

To the Governor, Chas. S. Deneen:

In accordance with the law, we herewith submit to you our biennial report of the Southern Illinois Penitentiary for the two years ending September 30, 1906, together with the reports of the warden, chaplain and physician.

The warden's report and the statistical tables accompanying the same, show all cash receipts and the source from which the same was received; all cash disbursements in detail, including itemized pay rolls and the account on which same was expended; balance cash on hand and the balances of appropriations still undrawn; as well as the number of prisoners received and discharged, the county received from, the crime for which convicted and the sentences received.

The number of prisoners on hand Oct. 1, 1904, was	957
The number of prisoners on hand Sept. 30, 1906 ,was	1,013
Gain for two years	56
Of this number, 1,013, on hand Sept. 30, 1906, there were in the—	
First grade (blue suit)	845
Second grade (gray suit)	144
Third grade (stripes)	24
The cash receipts from prisoners' earnings for the year ending Sept. 30, 1905, were	$62,236 36
The cash receipts from the same source for the year ending Sept. 30, 1906, were	$146,199 82

The cash receipts the first year were low, for the reason that it was the first year under the new anti-convict labor law, and at this institution there was no appropriation to put new law into effect, and we could only take up new work or install new plants, as we could get funds from our earnings or spare it from our ordinary fund, which made the work necessarily slow.

The receipts for the second year are up to average and a little in excess of previous years as shown by the following:

The cash receipts from prison earnings were:

For the year ending Sept. 30, 1900	$115,285 54
For the year ending Sept. 30, 1901	107,311 37
For the year ending Sept. 30, 1902	125,110 46
For the year ending Sept. 30, 1903	126,742 30
For the year ending Sept. 30, 1904	107,336 06

The expenditures, excluding special funds:

For the year ending Sept. 30, 1905, were	$273,656 57
For the year ending Sept. 30, 1906, were	332,620 40

This is also in excess of the expenditures of previous years and is accounted for by the fact that under the old piece price law, nothing was paid out for material, while under the present law the raw material for manufactured products must be purchased by the State. For example, the purchases for our clothing factory the past year for cloth and trimmings alone, amounted to $82,112.71.

In one of the tables accompanying the warden's report, it will be noticed that a cash item of $5,910.01 has been charged, by order of the board, into the profit and loss account. We make this explanation: Ex-Warden James D. Baker had on deposit, of the prison funds, in the bank of H. Seiter & Co., of Lebanon, Illinois, the sum of $11,750.00 when that bank failed in the year 1894. Several suits resulted in the recovery of $5,839.99 of these funds, but nothing more could be recovered and the assignee made his final settlement in 1905, and in January last, the board ordered that the old balance, that had been carried on the books for eleven years, be charged off, the same being worthless.

The new prison hospital building at the time of our last report was in the course of construction. The appropriation of $15,000.00 made by the Forty-third General Assembly, for the purpose of its erection was not sufficient for its completion, and the sum of $10,799.43 has been used out of our ordinary appropriation made by the last General Assembly, to complete same, and we have now a substantial, commodious hospital building, that will answer all our needs in that line for many years.

The appropriation for contingent expenses made by the last General Assembly of $10,000.00 fortunately we have not had to draw upon as yet.

Only $592.50 of the $750.00 appropriated by the last General Assembly for the purchase of milch cows has been used, and we have now a sufficient number of cows to furnish all the milk needed by the prison.

We havestill an undrawn balance of our ordinary appropriation of $161,250.00 in the hands of the State Treasurer and we feel satisfied, at this time, that this amount, with our earnings, will be ample to meet all our needs for the remaining nine (9) months of this fiscal year.

Our principal work for the past two years has been the manufacture of brick, stone, clothing, hosiery, mops and brushes.

Our brick department is now giving employment to about 65 men. Number of brick manufactured last year was 5,023,000. Ready sale is found for all our brick. Practically all our sales for the past year have been on the open market.

Our stone department employs about 360 men. The cash sales the past two years were $16,315.56, most all being on the open market. During that period 41,843 cubic yards of free macadam (including that to apply on freight for hauling same) has been shipped for road purposes.

This department has also gotten out stone for the erection of a stone wall, with an arched gateway, in the rear of the prison, 336 feet in length, 29 feet high and 2½ feet thick on top, as well as road material for a number of roadways on the prison farm and around and about the prison yard. The value of the same for the two years being $9,741.43.

The stone crusher in the prison yard was destroyed by fire in April, 1905, but was at once replaced with a new one, with elevated tramway tracks leading from bins, so that the bins may be emptied and the crusher kept running continuously.

A new crusher has been purchased and about all of the material is now on the ground, and will be in operation soon, barring unforeseen delays. This crusher is to be located outside the prison walls, near the ledge of rock northwest of the prison.

Our clothing manufactory is employing now 120 men. The sales the past year were $82,842.79, besides doing $6,036.19 of work for the prison. The work done in this department is practically all for the State institutions.

The knitting factory output for the past year was 6,432 dozen pairs of hosiery, and practically all of the sales have been to the State institutions. The demands of the State institutions require only the services of about 20 men in this department to meet them.

The brush and mop factories are not extensive, giving employment to only two men. The sales from this department have been to the State institutions.

The remaining prisoners have been employed on the farm and gardens, at the machinery department, barns, kitchens, cell houses and various other prison duties.

The chaplain's and physician's reports show fully the work and conditions in their departments, and we deem comment by us upon them as unnecessary at this time.

Appropriations.

As to the requirements of the prison for the coming two years, we believe the sum of $200,000.00 per annum will be needed for the ordinary expenses and to enable the board to further put into effect the provisions of the new law and to keep the prisoners employed.

For keeping up the library and furnishing the chapel the sum of $350.00 per annum is recommended.

For enforcing the parole law the sum of $5,000.00 per annum we deem necessary. Last year the appropriation for this work was only $2,500.00 per annum and was not sufficient. Prisoners out on parole should be visited by the parole officer. Proposed employers of parole prisoners should be visited, and their ability to furnish employment with proper surroundings, inquired into, and parole violators should be speedily located and returned to prison. Many of these things we have been unable to do the past two years for lack of necessary funds.

We respectfully ask an appropriation of $30,000.00 for the construction, equipment and furnishings of a dining hall for the prisoners.

The $10,000.00 appropriated by the last General Assembly for contingent expenses has not been needed as yet, but we recommend that a like amount be appropriated by the next General Assembly to meet any unforeseen contingency that might arise.