

STATE OF NEVADA

BIENNIAL REPORT

OF THE

Nevada School of Industry

1921-1922

E. J. MILNE, Superintendent



CARSON CITY, NEVADA

STATE PRINTING OFFICE : : : : : JOE FARNSWORTH, SUPERINTENDENT

1923

REPORT OF THE NEVADA SCHOOL OF INDUSTRY

ELKO, NEVADA, January 1, 1923.

HON. JAMES G. SCRUGHAM, *Governor of the State of Nevada.*

DEAR SIR: I herewith have the honor to submit for your kind consideration my report of the Nevada School of Industry for the years 1921 and 1922:

I shall hope to be very brief.

This School was opened for the reception of the delinquent and incorrigible child by proclamation of Governor Emmet D. Boyle June 15, 1915.

It has long been our contention and belief that the more we treated and regarded a person, and especially a child, as unworthy, as a mistake and a failure, and more particularly as a criminal, the more likely they are to accept our estimate of them, and he usually tries to live up to your opinion of him and usually with marked success. If this be true, it is also equally true that if we regard him as being unfortunate, misguided, misunderstood, dependent, and neglected, but still having within him that spark of honesty and fairness, the more likely you are to succeed in having him discover and nurture it into definite action and growth. It is hard to conceive of a more forlorn and pitiable object than a child who feels friendless, who has lost all faith in himself, knows no real friends, and sees no future.

Our conception of this institution is one of service rather than show, one of assistance rather than punishment. We must not regard too seriously WHAT a boy does, but rather WHY he does. We are sometimes prone to dwell so much upon a boy's gloomy past that he fails to recognize a possible bright future. We have tried to remove, as far as possible and consistent, the stigma of penal in connection with our school and make it more of a big family unit—realizing that in all families there are mistakes and discouragements; that ours is not the exception, but that every boy here is to be regarded on the same plane or level; the son of the banker and the widow's waif are social equals, and each must determine his own future.

We aim to take a rather democratic attitude towards mistakes, but at the same time take a definite stand against evil, with a liberal recognition of virtue.

We realize that rules and regulations to maintain discipline and laws must needs be, but we are of the opinion that no law is greater than a boy, and if necessary either or all might well be suspended if his best interest be served thereby.

The first thing incumbent upon us receiving a boy is to apply a rather practical intelligence test to determine his mental age and ability; to have the school physicians determine his physical fitness. This being safely determined, we can logically proceed in his treatment and control.

TYPES

In every institution of this nature there can always be found three quite separate and distinct types of boys: First, persons between ages of 16 and 21, whose acts and crimes include felonies, grand larcenies and burglaries. Their long line of activity in these lines rate them as almost distinctly criminal; they take great pride in their daring deeds and "the big tricks" they have turned, and in their own parlance they are "hard-boiled" and tough.

The second type includes boys of very similar ages who are more or less accidental offenders; they blush with shame at their deeds and immediately beg us that their families be not notified of such; they have left good homes for conquest and travel; their home is now most alluring, and they readily adjust themselves to the regular routine and proceed at once to earn the required number of credits, return to their own homes, and usually make good.

The third group or type is made up of boys of various chronological ages, but whose mental ages never exceed that of a normal boy of, say, 12 years. They are the subnormal and often feeble-minded, and it is a serious question as to whether the ultimate benefit to them has been worth while.

In my last report I made the following comment, which I may be pardoned for repeating: "Large States have different institutions for the more effective treatment of these groups, and all States and school districts have graded schools where segregation is made, but we are under the necessity of keeping all grades and types in the one institution with but little opportunity of segregation; and, while it may not now be feasible, it occurs to me that a plan under proper and equitable arrangement with such States as Idaho, Utah and Nevada might, with mutual advantage, so grade their work and institutions that these three distinctive types might properly be segregated and be given a decided advantage over present conditions without increasing the cost to any one State, and yet each would add materially to the efficiency and ultimate results. This thought is perhaps worthy of further consideration and investigation."

POULTRY

The last Legislature made an appropriation of \$2,500 for the establishment of one poultry unit, more as an experiment to ascertain as to whether or not poultry-raising would not be a profitable and useful department here. We placed some 700 pullets in the plant and have kept an accurate record of the results for one full year (October 15, 1921, to October 15, 1922), which showed that, in addition to supplying fresh eggs for the entire institution, we sold \$1,591.45 worth of eggs, receiving cash for same. The outlay for feed was approximately \$900, thus making a net profit of approximately \$700 cash, in addition to our own consumption which would average about \$1 per day. We naturally had to cull down the flock and take out the nonlayers, and from this and disease we now have approximately 550 hens.

You will readily appreciate that, situated as we are, with no water except that used from the pumps, irrigation for farm products under such circumstances nets us but little, but if an appropriation were made, sufficient for us to go into the poultry business upon a rather larger

scale, it occurs to me that such an appropriation would be most wise and would provide the boys with a practical and profitable education, so that they may go out into immediate employment. It would stimulate a new industry in this county, and would do more to make this institution somewhat self-supporting than any other similar expenditure. I therefore most urgently recommend that an appropriation of \$7,500 be made that we may put in three additional units, and I trust that your Excellency and the members of the 1923 Legislature will give this measure your most careful and liberal consideration.

SUPERINTENDENT'S COTTAGE

An appropriation of \$5,000 was made by the last Legislature for a cottage for the Superintendent. The board hired Mr. E. O. Fields of Elko to submit plans and specifications of various cottages he could build for this amount, and to utilize the boy help at the school as far as possible. Very satisfactory results were obtained in this manner in building the manual-training building, but he apparently did not figure as well on this job; the material was higher than he figured on; the work longer, and all in all he was notified by the Superintendent that the funds were exhausted and the building was not completed; therefore work ceased, and Governor Boyle and the board members went over the situation with Mr. Fields and some way to complete the cottage was hoped for, but it still stands uncompleted and unoccupied. I have had a plumber and an electrical-fixture man and a furniture man all submit bids for the complete finishing and furnishing of the cottage for immediate occupancy, and their figures approximate \$3,500 for the entire job. This amount provides for hardwood floors in two front rooms, for furnace and hot-water system of heating, for painting, electrical fixtures, range and cooking utensils, three bedsteads and equipment, dining-room set, couch and rockers for parlor, rugs for all rooms, chiffoniers, dressers, chairs for bedroom, curtains and shades, cutlery, and grate basket. All this includes installation, and will provide not elaborate but substantial furnishing of the cottage long needed and hoped for. The wisdom of the immediate furnishing and finishing of the cottage is so apparent that I feel merely calling this item to your attention is sufficient.

I therefore recommend, with the endorsement of the local board members, an appropriation of \$3,500 for same.

MANUAL TRAINING

We have a good manual-training building quite well equipped for practical needs, but we have no materials on hand in any line. I would therefore recommend an appropriation of \$500 for the two years, as many useful articles for the institution can be made; thus training and equipment may be secured thereby.

POPULATION

There have been 120 boys committed since the opening of this institution. There were 18 boys in attendance, as of November 1 taken as a basis for this report. Six boys were paroled in October, and, as no new ones were received, our present population is lower than usual at this time.

There have been 39 boys received during the past two years, distributed as follows:

Received under Juvenile Court Act.....	22
Paroled by State Board of Parole Commission.....	9
Received from State Prison*.....	2
Federal prisoner received.....	1
Returned for violating parole*.....	1
Returned voluntarily.....	4
Total.....	39

*One boy received from Prison and returned, both have been here under regular commitment this biennium.

Those committed during the past two years represent the following counties:

Clark County.....	9
Elko County.....	7
Washoe County.....	6
White Pine County.....	5
Lincoln County.....	4
Churchill County.....	2
Lyon County.....	2
State Prison.....	2
Total.....	37

The following shows the family history of those here now:

Both parents dead.....	4
Mother dead.....	1
Father dead.....	5
Separated.....	5
Unknown.....	1
Parents living together.....	2
Total.....	18

States Represented by those Received

Nevada.....	17
California.....	3
Colorado.....	3
Idaho.....	2
Ohio.....	2
Utah.....	2
Pennsylvania.....	1
Old Mexico.....	1
North Dakota.....	1
Louisiana.....	1
Massachusetts.....	1
Nebraska.....	1
Texas.....	1
China.....	1
Total.....	37

Their Nationalities

American	11
Indian	3
Italian	2
Polish	1
Chinese	1
Total	18

PUNISHMENTS

During the past two years there have been 7 boys placed in the meditation-room for a total of 26 days, or an average of 3.7 days each. These cases have been returned escapes in 3 cases and defiance or insubordination in the other 4 cases. There was a period of 9 months and 14 days without an occupant in the cell.

We have our own self-government plan working here, and in each instance the Boys' Court has passed on the cases sentenced to the meditation-room—this with the consent of the Superintendent.

ESCAPES

We are most happy to report that during the past two years we have been unusually fortunate in the matter of escapes, and for this wonderful record the Superintendent takes pleasure in ascribing most of the credit deserved to the efficient officers who have been more responsible than the Superintendent himself for such a record. The total cost for returning escapes during the past two years has been \$16.36. None of the escapes were gone longer than twenty-four hours before being apprehended and returned.

We have just finished a period of from November 2, 1921, to December 31, 1922, without an attempt at an escape. Thus we may assume—for the present, at least—that we have this particular phase of the work quite safely launched.

APPRECIATION

May I at this time take this means of extending sincere thanks and appreciation to Governor Emmet D. Boyle, State Controller Geo. A. Cole, Secretary of State Brodigan, and State Printer Joe Farnsworth, in particular, and all state officials in general, for their kindly attitude towards us, and I wish especially to mention the kindness and courtesies of the Board of Control of this School, His Excellency the Governor, Mrs. Emma E. Humphreys, Hon. Frank Fernald, Hon. George Russell, Sr., and Hon. W. W. Booher for their keen and active interest, for their kindly cooperation, and for the many courtesies extended to myself and family the past number of years.

NEEDS OF MAINTENANCE

An estimate for the amounts required for the coming two years is herewith attached and made a part of this report.

CONCLUSION

We trust our feeble efforts, as indicated by this report, will appeal to you as worth-while; that the unfortunate young men who are our

charges may continue to be properly fed, clothed and educated, and that through your liberal appropriation the work of reclamation and saving of the citizen of tomorrow may continue, and to this end we most respectfully solicit your deepest interest in "the boys."

Respectfully submitted,
E. J. MILNE,
Superintendent.

PUNISHMENTS

During the past two years there have been 7 boys placed in the medication-room for a total of 20 days, or an average of 2.7 days each. These cases have been returned escapes in 3 cases and delinquency or insubordination in the other 4 cases. There was a period of 9 months and 14 days without an occupant in the cell.

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ESTIMATES FOR 1923-1924**SALARIES**

Superintendent, \$200 per month.....	\$4,800.00
First Officer and Teacher, \$125 per month.....	3,000.00
Farm Supervisor, \$100 per month.....	2,400.00
Matron, \$65 per month.....	1,500.00
Chef, \$100 per month.....	2,400.00
Manual-Training Instructor, \$100 per month.....	2,400.00
Physicians, \$25 per month.....	600.00
Dentists, \$8.33 per month.....	200.00

\$17,300.00**GENERAL EXPENSE**

Light and power, \$50 per month.....	\$1,200.00
Manual-training equipment and supplies.....	500.00
Food and subsistence, \$400 per month.....	9,600.00
Automobile upkeep, \$30 per month.....	720.00
Drugs, \$10 per month.....	240.00
Coal for two years, 4 cars.....	2,000.00
Stamps and postage.....	200.00
Telephone and telegrams.....	200.00
Laundry.....	200.00
Seeds, including spud seed.....	200.00
Transportation, based on 40.....	2,000.00
Return escapes and rewards (estimated).....	300.00

\$17,360.00**CLOTHING**

1 suit per boy per year for 2 years, at \$12.50.....	\$625.00
1 pair dress shoes per boy per year, at \$4.....	200.00
Work shoes, 3 pair per boy per year, two years, at \$4.....	600.00
Overalls, 4 pairs per boy per year, at \$2.....	400.00
Shirts, 6 per year per boy, 2 years, at \$1.25.....	375.00
Night-shirts, 2 per boy per year, at \$1.25.....	125.00
Sox, 6 pair per boy per year, at 20c.....	60.00
Hats, 1 per boy per year, at \$3.....	150.00
Gloves, 2 pair per year, at \$1.....	100.00
Overshoes, 1 pair per boy per year, at \$2.25.....	112.50
Ties, 2 per boy per year, at 35c.....	35.00
Garters, 2 pair per boy per year, at 35c.....	25.00
Underwear, 4 suits per boy per year, at \$1.25.....	250.00
50 yards mercerized linen and napkins.....	33.00
Towels and toweling.....	50.00
1 bolt pillow-slip muslin.....	15.00
36 yards bleached sheeting.....	25.00
Bedspreads and cretonne.....	90.00
150 yards unbleached muslin.....	37.50
300 packages each Gold Dust and Borax chips.....	75.00
20 pairs blankets.....	80.00
Electric-light globes for 2 years.....	60.00
Rugs for officers' rooms.....	45.00
Miscellaneous, not enumerated.....	220.00

\$3,888.00

REPORT OF NEVADA SCHOOL OF INDUSTRY

MISCELLANEOUS HOUSEHOLD SUPPLIES

2 cases sapollo.....	\$12.00
2 cases chloride lime.....	13.00
1 case candles.....	10.00
3 cases Dutch Cleanser.....	12.00
6 push brooms.....	18.00
12 mop sticks.....	6.00
3 dozen house brooms.....	51.00
8 whisk brooms.....	2.00
8 galvanized pails.....	10.00
1 dozen scrub brushes.....	2.00
1 case bon ami.....	3.50
1 case lye.....	10.00
20 pounds Silver Gloss starch.....	3.50
4 cases toilet soap.....	18.00
6 cases toilet paper.....	60.00
100 pounds sal soda.....	4.50
Laundry soap.....	40.00
4 dozen hair combs.....	12.00
4 dozen tooth brushes.....	12.00
12 quarts liquid blue.....	2.00
5 gallons O'Cedar polish.....	12.00
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	\$313.50

OFFICE SUPPLIES, TWO YEARS

Office supplies for 2 years.....	\$200.00
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IMPROVEMENT AND REPAIRS

Improvement and repairs, 2 years.....	\$1,500.00
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POULTRY PLANT

Poultry plant with 3 units fully stocked and equipped.....	\$7,500.00
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NEW TEAM

Our team is very old, 13 years each, and we should provide for new one.....	\$200.00
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SUPERINTENDENT'S COTTAGE

Finishing and furnishing complete.....	\$3,500.00
Grand total required for two years, divided as follows:	
Salaries.....	\$17,360.00
General expense.....	17,360.00
Clothing, shoes, etc.....	3,888.00
Miscellaneous and household.....	313.00
Improvements and repairs.....	1,500.00
Office supplies.....	200.00
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	\$40,621.00
Poultry plant equipped.....	7,500.00
Finishing and furnishing cottage.....	3,500.00
New team of horses.....	200.00
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Grand total asked for.....	\$51,821.00
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PRODUCTION

During the two years we have produced approximately as follows from the farm and garden:

Milk, 2,534 gallons at 20c.....	\$306.80
Hay, 30 tons at \$10.....	300.00
Spuds, 3,000 pounds at 2c.....	60.00
Veal, 500 pounds at 14c.....	70.00
Chickens, 60 at 75c.....	45.00
Turnips, 500 pounds at 2c.....	10.00
Carrots, 700 pounds at 2c.....	14.00
Cabbage, 200 pounds at 3c.....	6.00
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	\$811.80

FINANCIAL

The appropriation of \$36,680 has been expended and distributed as follows:

Executive.....	\$568.45
Management.....	11,733.66
Education.....	1,796.95
Health.....	817.71
Commissary.....	7,814.94
Fuel, light, and power.....	2,676.62
Clothing and bedding.....	1,468.47
Shoes.....	728.98
Laundry.....	200.98
Auto.....	738.27
Miscellaneous.....	1,294.37
Improvements and repairs.....	2,293.90
Equipment.....	1,535.72
Farm and Garden.....	365.10
Transportation.....	2,049.78
Subsistence.....	182.26
Salaries (paid from Revolving Fund of Superintendent)....	413.84
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Total.....	\$36,680.00