

Alcohol Said To Be Main Cause Of Most Men Ending Up in Prison

New York — (U.P.) — Alcohol is the horrible handmaiden of crime. That is the confessed word of the men you find in prisons, according to a spiritual worker who has been interviewing inmates for more than 35 years.

"Thousands of men have said to me: I'm here because of alcohol," George R. Andrews, an adjunct of the Volunteers of America, said in an interview. "And wardens will tell you it's a standard thing to find that 80 to 85 per cent of convicts are there due to alcohol."

"The impulsion to crime while drinking is disclosed over and over in our work of spiritual counseling—as in the case of a prisoner I talked with recently. He said: 'I don't belong here in prison. I'm a truck driver and made a good living. One day another driver and I parked at a tavern and got to drinking. And

suddenly we were telling each other how easy it would be to go over and hold up a service station across the way.'"

Busy Schedule

Andrews and his wife, both adjuncts in the national religious social welfare organization, and both ordained ministers, spend eight months each year at state and federal prisons in all 48 states, helping prisoners with their personal problems.

Andrews said that during the last 20 years the age average of prison populations seems to have shrunk 8 to 10 years.

"There are an awful lot of 13 and 14-year-old kids — and you see 17-year-olds, both boys and girls — all too young for the atmosphere of a prison," he said.

"And a great many of them are just frustrated kids. They know they did something, but

they don't know why. The problem goes back to divided homes — maybe one alcoholic parent, or two. Just not a home, that's all. And a lot of the trouble comes in that parents are just plain indifferent about their children, never know where they are."

Lack of Programs

Within the prisons themselves, the big lack in the national picture is that a majority don't have a real rehabilitation program, Andrews said.

"In some prisons they'll tell you they've got so many hundreds of acres of crops and point out all the men out there learning to hoe. But inside, they may have abuses, pressures — there are even whippings in some prisons still."

"What's needed is an opportunity to act natural, and a program to rehabilitate the whole man, body, soul, and mind."

Prisons are doing more spiritually for the inmates than they were a decade ago, Andrews said. The chaplain has become a recognized staff officer in many of them.

Five Persons Appear In Circuit Court

Five persons appeared in circuit court Wednesday morning to enter pleas to charges and receive sentences.

Kenneth Jones Mikesell, Crater hotel, Medford, was sentenced by Judge H. K. Hanna to three years in the Oregon state penitentiary after pleading guilty to charges of obtaining money by false pretenses.

Lawrence W. Pennell, 35, who was extradited from Pontiac, Mich., in October, pleaded guilty to charges of obtaining money by false pretenses and was sentenced to five years in the penitentiary.

Ralph Wendell Wier, route 1, box 375, Medford, was given a five year suspended sentence during good behavior after pleading guilty to charges of non-support. Sentencing was deferred pending arrival of federal bureau of investigation report. He was released on his own recognition.

Charles Dean Lucht, Klamath Falls, pleaded guilty to contributing to the delinquency of a minor. Sentencing was deferred pending a report from the probation officer.

Oregon Seed Growers To Discuss Marketing

Corvallis — (U.P.) — The Oregon Seed Growers League will hear a discussion of market possibilities when it holds its 16th annual convention in Eugene Dec. 3-5 at Eugene.

All parts of the seed industry will be represented at committee meetings during the convention.



TOP FARMER—Wesley Patrick sits with his 2-year-old son, Harris, on speakers platform at Quitman, Ga. as his home town folks turned out 6000 strong to honor him. Patrick became the nation's "Star Farmer" when he was chosen top farmer among the Future Farmers of America in convention at Kansas City.

Worcester, Mass. — (U.P.) — Marchmont Castle, built in 1888 as a replica of a medieval castle, is being razed. The old castle has 20 rooms, 17 fireplaces imported stained glass windows and a wide central staircase, running from the main entrance to the third floor. It long had been a tourist attraction in Worcester.

127 Jackson County Students at OSC

Corvallis — Students from every Oregon county, 38 states and 40 foreign countries are registered this fall at Oregon State college.

Jackson county students number 127. Of these, 89 are from Medford.

A breakdown of the 6,791 registration total shows 5,391 students from Oregon, 1,027 from other states, 166 from foreign countries, 152 from Hawaii and 55 from Alaska.

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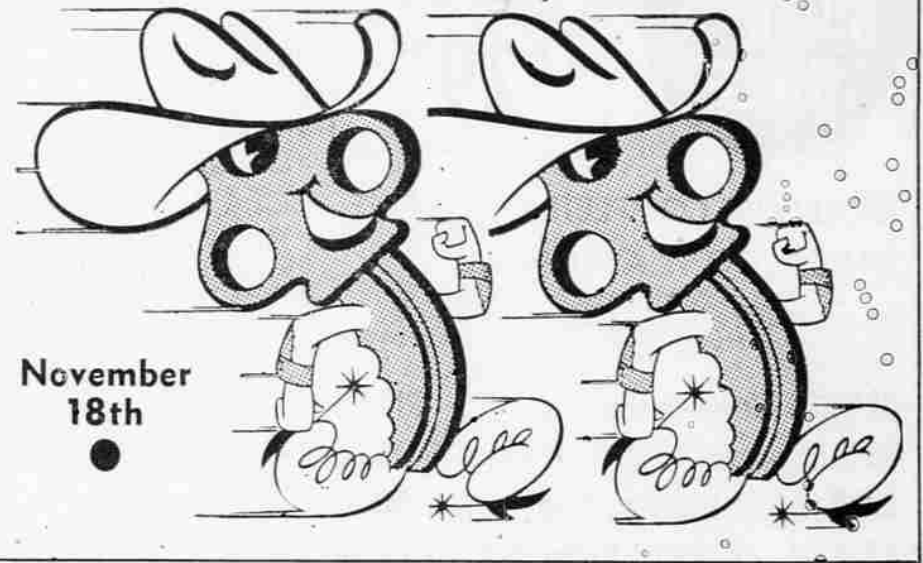
Ducks banded in South Dakota have been shot as far away as Ontario, British West Indies, Venezuela, Panama, and Columbia.

HEAVY LETTUCE
Granby, Mass. — Mrs. Alpine Bissel grew a six-pound head of lettuce on her farm.

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Quotes From the News

By UNITED PRESS

Budapest—A Csepe Island worker on failure of Hungary's acute food shortage to halt the general strike.

"They won't catch us through our stomachs. We have money for the work we did in October and the peasants bring us food free of charge."

Washington—President Eisenhower on his landslide victory with Democratic control of both houses of Congress:

"From my viewpoint, the United States has not yet been convinced that modern Republicanism is with us and is going to be the guiding philosophy of the Republican Party."

United Nations—Secretary-General Dag Hammarskjöld on United Nations security troops being sent to the Mid-East:

"Let us hope the force will succeed and let us hope that we will succeed in establishing peace and order."

Menard, Ill.—The Menard Times, convict newspaper of Menard State Prison, urged the enlistment of American convicts in a permanent United Nations Army:

"A prison sentence does not wipe out love of country."

Brownsville, Tex.—Capt. Tom Wilson on a Mexican gunboat ramming his unarmed shrimp trawler and its crew shooting him in the back:

"During the sea chase of more than three hours, the gunboat tried to ram me, time after time. There were about 15 men on the gunboat. They were shooting at me with high-powered rifles and they were shooting to kill."

Fish Problem at Snake Dams Studied

Washington — (U.P.) — Opponents of Pacific Northwest Power Company's proposed construction of a two-dam development on the lower Snake river between Oregon and Idaho launched their attack on the fish problem the dam would produce in a hearing before the Federal Power Commission here.

The hearing, in its final phase, took a long recess while Mrs. Evelyn Cooper, counsel for the National Hells Canyon Association, studied previous testimony that the two dams would not endanger fish runs to an extent comparable with the proposed Nez Perce dam. The Hells Canyon Association favors federal construction at the Nez Perce site.

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