

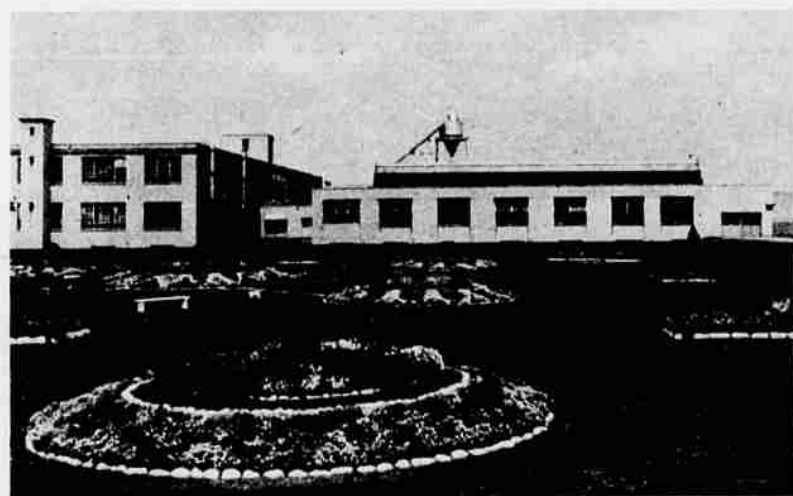
CRIMINALS (Continued)

One of the current aims of the association is to make Americans aware of the benefits of a well-developed statewide probation service. States like Wisconsin are proof of these benefits: Wisconsin has only 61.8 prisoners for every 100,000 persons. Compare this with Colorado, which has a minimum probation system and 126.6 prisoners per 100,000. It's apparent that perhaps *half of the men in prison might be outside*, making restitution for their law violation through the probation system. This costs one-fourth as much as keeping a man in jail!

Dramatic proof of how effectively such men can respond when given a chance was shown in Illinois during World War II. After a careful screening of prisoners, 3,036 were paroled to the armed forces. Approximately 100 of these parolees became noncommissioned officers, and only about 50 of the 3,036 were ever returned to custody. Many others achieved honors for outstanding service records in all branches.

According to the association director, Eugene S. Zemans: "Prison is at best an abnormal community. If the public isn't interested and willing to spend money on better probation services—or to provide rehabilitation in prison, including therapy, constructive employment, counseling, and vocational training—the men are bound to come out worse than they went in."

As a social worker who has studied prisons both abroad and throughout this country, Zemans knows what he's talking about. He knows that every taxpayer is a victim of crime even if he's never felt the cold jab of a gun at his back. He knows, too, what it means for a man to step out of prison, feeling that he's paid his penalty and can start afresh, only to find road-blocks of social ostracism in every direction. It is at this moment that a man most needs the philosophy of the John Howard Association: "If we want a man to be a worthwhile citizen, we've got to treat him like one!"



Behind the landscaped gardens at Illinois' Stateville penitentiary stand furniture and soap factories where inmates are taught a trade.



An ex-convict may have to take a job like running an elevator before he can find work related to the trade he learned in prison workshops.



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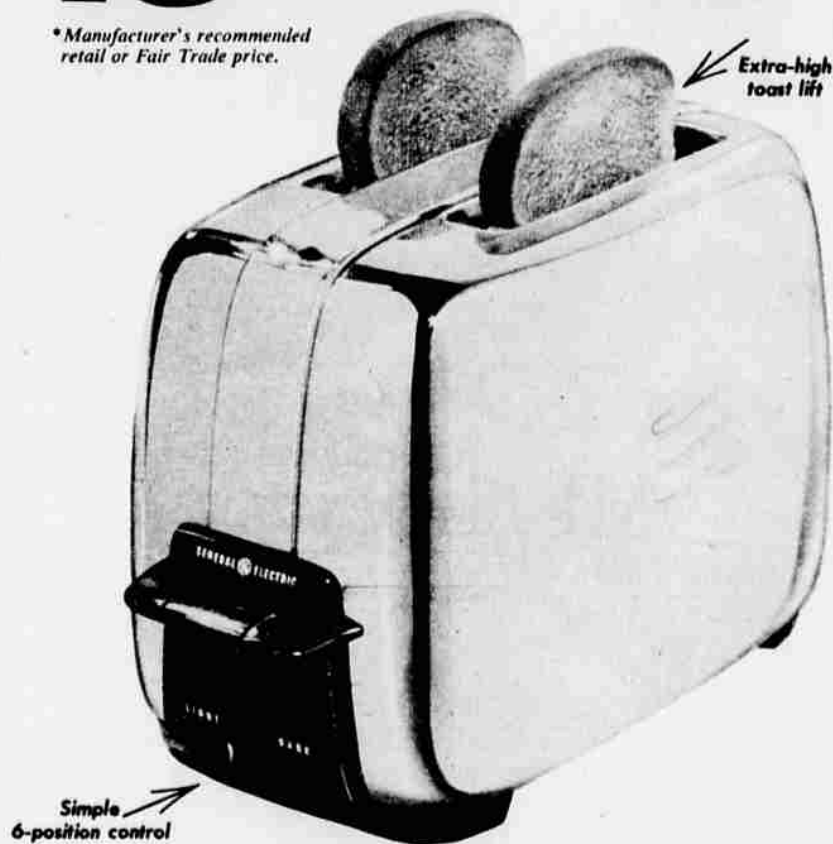
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