

T

GAOLS & PRISONERS.

1916-1917.

STATISTICAL RETURN of the PRISONERS of MALTA, for 1916-17.

Name and nature of the Prison (Here "Lock-ups" not inserted)	Total Number of Persons Committed in 1916-17	Number Committed for Debt Want of Bail and Punishment			Number of those Committed who have been previously Convicted			Number of Persons ^a Committed to Penal Imprisonment including "Hard Labour"				The Daily average Number in Prison	The Number of Admissions to Hospital during the above period	The Daily average in the Sick List	The Number of deaths during the above period
		For Debt	For safe Custody to trial, and detention for want of Security	For purpose of Penal Imprisonment	Once	Twice	Three or more	For five years or more	For one year or more, but less than five Years	For more than Three Months, and less than One Year	For Three Months or less				
Corradino Prison ... (Common Gaol)	5051	1	314	4736	571	313	2439	8	80	82	1961	326.81	66	70.73	—
Valletta Prison † ... (Prison attached to the Police)	3118	—	—	3118	411	1146	1361	—	—	—	—	9	—	—	—
Gozo Prison * ... (Common Gaol)	387	—	476	111	65	31	491	—	—	—	587	4	—	—	—
Totals ...	8756	1	790	7965	1047	1490	4491	8	80	82	2548	339.81	66	70.73	—
Men ...	5741	1	634	5106	562	883	3184	8	73	68	2128	286.48	66	67.06	—
Women ...	738	—	37	701	125	51	277	—	4	9	148	24.41	—	3.67	—
Juveniles ...	2277	—	119	2158	360	556	1030	—	3	5	272	28.92	—	—	—
{ Boys ...	2277	—	119	2158	360	556	1030	—	3	5	272	28.92	—	—	—
{ Girls ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	8756	1	790	7965	1047	1490	4491	8	80	82	2548	339.81	66	70.73	—

† Exclusive of persons committed for temporary detention, until their removal to the Corradino Prison in the afternoon. See Answer to Question I.

* Exclusive of 21 persons committed for temporary detention and imprisonment and 4 awaiting trial, until their removal to Corradino Prison generally the day after.

Corradino Prison.

Questions.

I. If the Prison is on a separate system, is the separation complete? And if not, what is the separation enforced by day and night respectively?

II. If not on the separate system, what provision is there for the supervision of the prisoners while in association?

III. How many cells are there and how many wards?

IV. Taking the average number of prisoners in gaol, how many cubic feet of space are there for each prisoner during the hour of sleep?

V. How are the prisoners classified?

Answers.

The Prison is on the mixed cellular system as regards the criminal ward. The separation is complete as regards prisoners undergoing hard labour of the first class for the first twenty-eight days — After this period, prisoners are employed on hard labour of the second class, in association as far as practicable.

The prisoners while in association, are supervised by Warders in the Male Division, and by Sisters of Charity in the Female Ward.

There are 264 separate cells, and eight wards.

In the Criminal wards there are 1,120 cubic feet of space for each prisoner in 78 cells, and 1,260 cubic feet in 186 cells.

Long sentence prisoners are sub-divided into three grades, viz:—lower, middle and upper —six months good conduct being required before passing to the middle grade, and three months to the upper grade.

Corradino Prison—(continued).

Questions.

- VI. Is penal labour — that is labour by treadmill, crank or shot drill—in force?
- VII. If so, during what period of imprisonment, in respect of what classes of prisoners and during how many hours, is such penal labour enforced? In stating hours of treadwheel labour, give, first, the total time on and off at the wheel, &c., secondly, the length of spells and interval of rest.
- VIII. What kind of labour, other than penal labour, is in use?
- IX. If the prisoners are employed beyond the walls of the gaol, state:
1. On what kind of work are they so employed?
 2. How are they supervised?
 3. How many escapes of prisoners, while being employed beyond the gaol, have taken place during each of the last three years?
 4. How are the profits of their labour accounted for?
- X. What was the total annual cost of the Prison during the financial year 1916-17.

Answers.

No.

See Answer No. VI.

Building, stone-cutting, carpentering, glazing, mining, painting, staining, whitewashing, tailoring, shoemaking, mat and broom-making, gardening, field labour and stone-breaking, washing, sewing, knitting, patching, book-binding, &c.

The prisoners are not employed outside prison as a rule; but well conducted men, supervised by a warder, are sent out to cultivate the lands annexed to the Prison.

None.

Lodged in the Colonial Treasury.

£ 7,927. 19. 11.

<i>Personal Emoluments</i>	£4,771	7	3
<i>Other Charges</i>			
Uniforms	69	12	0
Incidental expenses	—	17	8
Stationery	9	3	1
Rations for prisoners	4,015	4	6
Clothing, bedding and other necessaries	699	14	9
Gratuities to prisoners	115	5	3
Materials for repairs to buildings	81	15	2
Drugs	12	6	5
Transport	15	2	4
Water supply	79	7	11
Cultivation of Prison lands	53	14	10
Materials for Prison manufacture	325	14	11
Expenses incidental to burials & Divine service	65	14	5
Reclamation of waste lands	5	15	4
Fuel	134	3	3
Lighting	206	9	1
Execution of capital sentences	34	10	0
Extra assistance	14	13	4
Telephone	10	0	0
Substitute Warders	49	4	9
Purchase of bookbinding tools	41	6	0
War bonus	41	12	8
Passage to Warder Inspector S. R. Dobson	67	19	0

£ 7,927 19 11

Less

Amount received in reimbursement of subsistence of Consular and Naval Convicts	£ 621	3	0
Proceeds of works of Prisoners	330	10	6
Proceeds from sale of produce	213	6	5
Miscellaneous Receipts	—	14	8
	£1,166	0	7
	£6,761	19	4

RETURN OF GAOLS, &c.—(continued).

Corradino Prison—(continued).

Questions.

XI. What was the annual account of the Prisoners' earnings during the year 1916-17?

Answers.

Brooms, mats and matting	...	...	£ 1,397	18	4
Tailoring	...	...	183	0	0
Joiners' work	...	...	68	12	6
Masons' work	...	...	25	8	4
Painters' work	...	...	40	13	4
Plasterers' work	...	...	76	5	0
Shoemakers' work	...	...	76	5	0
Stone-breaking	...	...	122	0	0
Tinmen's work	...	...	61	0	0
Plumbers' work	...	...	...	...	...
Reclaiming waste land...	...	...	...	...	...
Field labour	...	...	366	0	0
Cooking for the prisoners	...	...	182	10	0
Pumping water	...	...	243	6	8
Cleaning and jobbing	...	...	279	16	8
Patching and knitting	...	...	30	10	0
Attending sick prisoners	...	...	18	5	0
Washing	...	...	30	10	0
Basket making	...	...	12	14	2
Book-binding	...	...	90	0	0
			£ 3,304	15	0

XII. What is the number of the hours allotted for sleep? And if sleep is in association, are the dormitories lighted; and how often are they patrolled during the night?

In summer, prisoners are locked up in their cells for the night at 5.30 and rise at 6 a.m. In winter, they are locked up for the night at 4.30, and rise at 6 a.m. Lights are put out at 9 p.m. in summer and at 8 in winter. All the wards are patrolled every half-hour during the night.

XIII. What were the number and nature of the punishments inflicted for offences committed by prisoners undergoing imprisonment?

The number of punishments inflicted was 2,758

Viz:			
Admonitions	...	...	231
By H.M.'s Criminal Courts	...	...	—
Solitary confinement in cell	...	...	436
By Courts of Magistrates	...	...	4
Punishment diet	...	...	1,941
Punishment diet and deprivation of mattress	...	...	26
Reduction in grade	...	...	15
Forfeiture of marks	...	...	5
Forfeiture of gratuity	...	...	95
Postponement in promotion	...	...	5
			2,758

XIV. Is there, or are there, any Chaplain or Chaplains of any, and what religious persuasion?

One resident Roman Catholic Chaplain; and the Visiting Chaplains, one Church of England, one Presbyterian and one Wesleyan.

XV. Are religious services regularly, or otherwise performed for the benefit of the prisoners of any, and if any, what religious persuasion?

There are two Chapels, viz: one Catholic and the other Protestant in which Divine service is regularly performed.

XVI. Are Roman Catholic Priests and dissenting Ministers allowed free access to prisoners of their own persuasion? and are they informed when prisoners of their respective persuasion enter the prison?

Yes.

XVII. What provision is made for the education of prisoners?

The resident Chaplain is also Schoolmaster, and gives religious instruction to the prisoners in their cells. He also teaches reading and writing, &c., to such prisoners as wish it.

Corradino Prison—(continued).

Questions.

Answers.

- XVIII. On what conditions are remissions of imprisonment granted? Long-sentence prisoners may earn remission of sentence by industry accompanied by good conduct according to the mark system.
- XIX. Have Coroner's Inquests been held on every occasion of a death in prison during the year and what were the verdicts? No deaths have occurred during the year.
- XX. (1). What was the sanitary state of the Prison during the year? Very good.
- (2). * What were the prevailing diseases? Mediterranean or Undulant fever and gastro-enteric derangements.
- XXI. What are shortly the rules as to diet?

Simple Imprisonment.

$\frac{1}{2}$ Pint coffee—24 oz. bread—Soup—2 oz salt-fish or cheese or $\frac{1}{8}$ mond. olives. Salt fish—or olives—or cheese—is given on Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays, and Saturdays, 4 oz. beef or pork on Sundays, Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Hard Labour.

4 oz. bread in addition to the ordinary diet on Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays, and Saturdays.

Persons during their first month of imprisonment, and persons sentenced to detention, who do not provide their own food, receive 20 oz. bread instead of 24 oz.

$\frac{1}{2}$ Pint coffee contains $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. of raw coffee and $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. sugar.

Each basin of soup contains $1\frac{1}{2}$ ration vegetables (including potatoes) $\frac{1}{100}$ pint oil or $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. suet and 0'008 mond. dry beans, lentils, etc.

A ration of vegetables is made up of $\frac{3}{4}$ tot. of raw vegetables (including potatoes) for every 100 persons.

Valletta Lock-up (*In the Palace of the Courts of Justice*).

Questions.

I. If the Prison is on a separate system, is the separation complete? And if not, what is the separation enforced by day and night respectively?

II. If not on the separate system, what provision is there for the supervision of the prisoners while in association?

III. How many cells are there and how many wards?

IV. Taking the average number of prisoners in gaol, how many cubic feet of space are there for each prisoner during the hour of sleep?

V. How are the prisoners classified?

Answers.

It is not on a separate system, and no effectual separation can, as a rule, be enforced either by night or by day, owing to the fact that the premises are defective and ill suited for the object for which they are intended, viz:

1. The temporary detention of prisoners, sentenced during the day, until their removal to the Corradino Prison in the afternoon.
2. The temporary detention of persons apprehended in the evening or by night until the next conveyance to the Corradino Prison.
3. The temporary detention of prisoners escorted from the Corradino Prison early in the morning to undergo trial before the Magistrates, or before H. M.'s Criminal Court to communicate with their legal adviser, when their defence is taken up by the Advocate for the Poor.
4. The detention of prisoners sentenced to not more than three days.

They are occasionally supervised, day and night, by the Keeper of the Prison and by the Inspector and Sergeants of Police on duty at the Main Station.

There are 8 cells now in use; all the others are damp, dark and insanitary.

See Answer No. I.

A classification is not practicable.

Valletta Lock-up—(continued).

Questions.

Answers.

- VI. Is penal labour — that is labour by treadmill, crank or shot drill—in force?
- No penal or other labour is in force.
- VII. If so, during what period of imprisonment, in respect of what classes of prisoners and during how many hours, is such penal labour enforced? In stating hours of treadwheel labour, give, first, the total time on and off at the wheel, &c., secondly, the length of spells and interval of rest.
- See Answer No. VI.
- VIII. What kind of labour, other than penal labour, is in use?
- See Answer No. VI.
- IX. If the prisoners are employed beyond the walls of the gaol, state:
1. On what kind of work are they so employed?
 2. How are they supervised?
 3. How many escapes of prisoners, while being employed beyond the gaol, have taken place during each of the last three years?
 4. How are the profits of their labour accounted for?
1. Washing and sweeping the cells.
 2. By the Prison Keeper.
 3. None. Prisoners are never employed beyond the gaol.
 4. Prisoners are never employed on remunerative labour.
- X. What was the total annual cost of the Prison during the financial year 1916-17?
- The total annual cost in 1916-17 was:

Salary to Keeper (a Police Sergeant) ...	£ 51 14 2
Personal allowance ...	13 13 9
Fatiguesman ...	23 0 0
Provisions ...	82 5 2
Bedding, furniture, &c. ...	— 7 6
Celebration of Divine Service ...	6 12 6
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	£ 177 13 1

RETURN OF GAOLS, &c.—(continued).

Valletta Lock-up—(continued).

*Questions.**Answers.*

- XI. What was the annual account of the Prisoners' earnings during the year 1916-17?
- See Answer No. VI.*
- XII. What is the number of the hours allotted for sleep? And if sleep is in association, are the dormitories lighted; and how often are they patrolled during the night?
- There is no limited time for sleep.
There are no dormitories but cells only, receiving light from the Prison yards. The cells are visited as stated in Answer No. II.
- XIII. What were the number and nature of the punishments inflicted for offences committed by prisoners undergoing imprisonment?
- None.
- XIV. Is there, or are there, any Chaplain or Chaplains of any, and what religious persuasion?
- There is a Roman Catholic Priest who performs Divine Service on Sundays and other holy days when required.
- XV. Are religious services regularly, or otherwise performed for the benefit of the prisoners of any, and if any, what religious persuasion?
- See Answer No. XIV.*
- XVI. Are Roman Catholic Priests and dissenting Ministers allowed free access to prisoners of their own persuasion? and are they informed when prisoners of their respective persuasion enter the prison?
- Clergymen of every religious persuasion have free access to the prisoners, when the latter require their assistance.
- XVII. What provision is made for the education of prisoners?
- None.

Valletta Lock-up—(continued).

*Questions.**Answers.*

- XVIII. On what conditions are remissions of imprisonment granted?
- Remissions of imprisonment are granted or withheld by His Excellency the Governor after enquiries into the circumstances connected with each case.
- XIX. Have Coroner's Inquests been held on every occasion of a death in prison during the year and what were the verdicts?
- No deaths occurred in 1916-17.
- XX. (1). What was the sanitary state of the Prison during the year?
- Fair.
- (2). What were the prevailing diseases?
- None.
- XXI. What are shortly the rules as to diet?
- Detention prisoners who have no means, and all others who are undergoing punishment are fed at the public expense by rations supplied from the Orphan Asylum on requisition by the Superintendent of Police. A day's ration consists of:
- 20 oz. bread,
2 oz. of cheese,
or
2 oz. of salt fish,
 $\frac{1}{10}$ of mond olives.

RETURN OF GAOLS, &c — (continued).

Gozo Prison.

Questions.

I. If the Prison is on a separate system, is the separation complete? And if not, what is the separation enforced by day and night respectively?

II. If not on the separate system, what provision is there for the supervision of the prisoners while in association?

III. How many cells are there and how many wards?

IV. Taking the average number of prisoners in gaol, how many cubic feet of space are there for each prisoner during the hours of sleep?

V. How are the prisoners classified?

Answers.

It is not on a separate system, but the premises admit, generally, of the separation of persons sentenced to imprisonment from others who are under examination or remitted for trial.

They are occasionally supervised by the Keeper of the Prison, or by the Warder.

There are four cells and three wards, two of which wards have airing yards.

The cells and yards being very spacious, and the number of persons detained in the same limited, no possible doubt can be entertained of the prisoners being too closely confined.

See Answer to Question No. I.

Gozo Prison—(continued).

Questions.

Answers.

VI. Is penal labour — that is labour by treadmill, crank or shot drill—in force?

No penal labour is in force.

VII. If so, during what period of imprisonment, in respect of what classes of prisoners and during how many hours, is such penal labour enforced? In stating hours of treadwheel labour, give, first, the total time on and off at the wheel, &c., secondly, the length of spells and interval of rest.

See Answer to Question No. VI.

VIII. What kind of labour, other than penal labour, is in use?

Sweeping and cleansing the prison and conveying water to the same.

IX. If the prisoners are employed beyond the walls of the gaol, state:

1. On what kind of work are they so employed?
2. How are they supervised?
3. How many escapes of prisoners, while being employed beyond the gaol, have taken place during each of the last three years?
4. How are the profits of their labour accounted for?

The prisoners are not employed beyond the walls of the gaol.

X. What was the total annual cost of the Prison during the financial year 1916-17?

The total annual cost in 1916-17 was:

Salary to Keeper	...	...	£ 54	0	0
Personal allowance to G. Xuereb	...	...	4	0	0
Salary of Warder	...	...	30	0	0
Wages to Fatigue-man	...	...	15	4	2
Rations for Prisoners and Warder	...	...	48	4	7
Clothing, bedding, and other necessaries	...	...	7	10	5
Celebration of Divine Service	...	...	4	11	6
Petty expenses	...	...	—	1	7
			£ 163	12	3