

T

GAOLS & PRISONERS.

1918-1919.

STATISTICAL RETURN of the PRISONERS of MALTA, for 1918-19.

Name and nature of the Prison (Mere "Lock-ups" not inserted)	Total Number of Persons Committed in 1919	Number Committed for Debt, Want of Bail and Pardons			Number of those Committed who have been previously Committed			Number of Persons 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 on the Sick List	The Number of Deaths during the above period
		For Debt	For sole facility to trial, and deposit in 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)	3404	—	1552	1852	649	227	2018	3	33	37	1779	276.38	112	53.72	2
Valletta Prison † ... (Prison attached to the Police)	1364	—	—	1364	94	549	723	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—
Gozo Prison * ... (Common Gaol)	574	—	328	246	104	35	435	—	—	—	246	5	1	—	—
Totals ...	5342	—	1880	3462	845	811	3176	3	33	37	2025	285.38	113	53.72	2
Men ...	2989	—	941	2048	473	356	2002	3	25	22	1453	223.65	89	47.18	2
Women ...	845	—	418	427	128	20	85	—	7	3	417	34.09	23	6.54	—
Juveniles ...															
{ Boys ...	1497	—	511	986	242	433	1087	—	1	12	154	27.47	1	—	—
{ Girls ...	11	—	10	1	2	2	2	—	—	—	1	.17	—	—	—
Totals ...	5342	—	1880	3462	845	811	3176	3	33	37	2025	285.38	113	53.72	2

† Exclusive of persons committed for temporary detention, until their removal to the Corradino Prison in the afternoon. See Answer to Question I.
* Exclusive of 17 persons committed for temporary detention and imprisonment and 2 awaiting trial, until their removal to Corradino Prison generally the day after.

Corradino Prison.

*Questions.**Answers.*

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?

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.

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

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

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

There are 264 separate cells, and eight 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?

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.

V. How are the prisoners classified?

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 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 1918-19?

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.

Yes, two. Vincent Blaise,
Giuseppe Borg—Field party.

Lodged in the Colonial Treasury.

£ 9,284. 10. 4½.

<i>Personal Emoluments</i> ...	...	£ 1,042 6 7
<i>Other Charges</i>		
Uniforms ...	...	130 0 10
Incidental expenses ...	...	4 4 11
Stationery ...	...	11 15 2
Rations for prisoners ...	...	4,696 15 10
Clothing, bedding and other necessaries ...	...	617 19 7
Gratuities to prisoners ...	...	186 7 6
Materials for repairs to buildings ...	...	65 1 1
Drugs ...	...	27 8 6
Transport ...	...	31 11 3
Water supply ...	...	74 3 0
Cultivation of Prison Lands ...	...	67 5 8
Materials for Prison manufacture ...	...	142 11 0½
Expenses incidental to Burials & Divine service	...	66 15 4
Fuel ...	...	356 0 6
Lighting ...	...	298 8 0
Execution of capital sentences ...	...	35 18 10
Extra assistance ...	...	25 3 0
Telephone ...	...	10 0 0
War bonus ...	...	249 4 1
Treatment of Influenza cases ...	...	247 5 8
		£ 9,284 10 4½
<i>Less</i>		
Amount received in reimbursement of subsistence of Continental and Naval Convicts ...	£ 147 13 7	
Proceeds of works of Prisoners ...	276 8 1	
Proceeds from sale of produce ...	205 7 2	
Book-binding ...	132 7 5	
Miscellaneous Receipts ...	11 7 10	
		£ 773 4 6
		£ 8,511 5 10½

RETURN OF GAOLS, &c. — (continued).

Corradino Prison—(continued).

Questions.

XI. What was the annual account of the Prisoners' earnings during the year 1918-19?

		Answers.
Brooms, mats and matting	...	£ 1,195
Tailoring	...	391
Joiners' work	...	46
Masons' work	...	26
Painters' work	...	41
Plasterers' work	...	76
Shoemakers' work	...	51
Stone-breaking	...	102
Tinmen's work	...	41
Reclaiming waste land	}	...
Field labour		
Cooking for the prisoners	...	165
Cleaning and jobbing	...	377
Patching and knitting	...	69
Attending sick prisoners	...	18
Washing	...	71
Book-binding	...	395
Oakum-picking	...	82
		£ 3,361

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 the 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 2,146 viz :

Corporal punishment (lashes)	...	1
Admonitions	...	353
Solitary confinement in cell	...	663
By Courts of Magistrates	...	10
Punishment diet	...	1,006
Reduction in grade	...	22
Forfeiture of marks	...	2
Forfeiture of gratuity	...	76
Postponement in promotion	...	3
		2,146

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?

Two deaths have occurred during the year, out of those prisoners removed to the Manoel Hospital on account of Influenza epidemic.

XX. (1). What was the sanitary state of the Prison during the year?

Very good.

(2). What were the prevailing diseases?

Influenza, 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 $\frac{1}{10}$ 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 $\frac{1}{4}$ oz. of raw coffee and $\frac{1}{4}$ oz. sugar.

Each basin of soup contains 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ ration vegetables (including potatoes) 1/100 pint oil or $\frac{1}{4}$ oz. suet and 000'8 mond. dry beans, lentils, etc.

A ration of vegetables is made up of 34 rot. of raw vegetables (including potatoes) for every 100 persons.

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

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?

It is 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.

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

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.

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

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

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?

See Answer No. I

V. How are the prisoners classified?

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.—Sweeping and washing the Police dormitory, Valletta Lock-up cells, and, occasionally, Police Offices.
- IX. If the prisoners are employed beyond the walls of 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 supervised by special policemen when employed beyond the gaol as stated in VIII.
 4. Prisoners, who are fed at the public expense, are never employed on remunerative labour.
- X. What was the total annual cost of the Prison during the financial year 1918-19?
- The total annual cost in 1918-19 was:

Salary to Keeper (a Police Sergeant)	...	£ 73 0 0
Provisions	...	54 3 0
Bedding, furniture, &c.	...	1 19 10
Celebration of Divine Service	...	7 0 0
		<u>£ 136 2 10</u>

RETURN OF GAOLS, &c.—(continued).

Valletta Lock-up—(continued).

*Questions.**Answers.*

XI. What was the annual account of the Prisoners' earnings during the year 1918-19?

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 by the Prison Keeper and his Assistant by day and by the Sergeants at the Main Guard and the Orderly Inspectors by night.

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 1918-19.

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 Commissioner of Police. A day's ration contains of:

20 oz. bread,

2 oz. of cheese,

or

2 oz. of salt fish.

$\frac{1}{2}$ of mond. olives.

RETURN OF GAOLS, &c.—(continued).

Gozo Prison.

*Questions.**Answers.*

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?

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.

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

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

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

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

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?

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.

V. How are the prisoners classified?

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 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 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 1918-19?
- The total annual cost in 1918-19 was :

Salary to Keeper	...	...	...	£	54	0	0
Personal allowance to G. Xuereb	...	...	...	...	4	0	0
Salary of Warder	...	...	...	...	30	0	0
Wages to Fatiguesman	...	...	...	...	15	4	2
Rations for Prisoners and Warder	...	...	...	...	72	14	10
Clothing, bedding and other necessaries	...	...	...	...	9	9	11
Celebration of Divine Service	...	...	...	...	4	11	6
Petty expenses	...	...	...	...	0	0	10
Uniform	...	...	...	...	2	15	3
					£ 192 16 6		