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GAOLS & PRISONERS.

1919-1920.

STATISTICAL RETURN of the PRISONERS of MALTA, for 1919-20.

Name and nature of the Prison (More "Lock-ups" not inserted)	Total Number of Persons Committed in 1919-20	Number Committed for Debt, Want of Bail and Punishment			Number of those Committed who have been previously Convicted			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 sale of property to trial, and detention for want of security	For purpose of Prison	Once	Twice	Thrice or more	For five years or more	For one year or more, but less than five years	For more than three Months, but less than one Year	For three Months or less				
Corradino Prison ... (Common Gaol)	2480	2	1121	1357	360	459	1661	24	77	53	1203	241	79	24	2
Valletta Prison † ... (Prison attached to the Police)	997	—	23	974	211	364	422	—	—	—	974	3	12	—	—
Gozo Prison * ... (Common Gaol)	500	—	362	138	96	38	366	—	—	—	138	5	3	—	—
Totals ...	3977	2	1506	2469	667	861	2449	24	77	53	2315	249	94	24	2
Men ...	2303	2	874	1427	275	447	1581	24	70	49	1284	200	77	20	1
Women ...	547	—	290	257	155	80	312	—	4	—	253	19	17	4	1
Juveniles ...	1122	—	338	784	235	333	554	—	3	4	777	30	—	—	—
{ Boys ...	5	—	4	1	2	1	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
{ Girls ...	5	—	4	1	2	1	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Totals ...	3977	2	1506	2469	667	861	2449	24	77	53	2315	249	94	24	2

† Exclusive of persons committed for temporary detention, until their removal to the Corradino Prison in the afternoon. See Answer to Question 1.
* Exclusive of 10 persons committed for temporary detention and imprisonment and 3 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 first 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 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 1919-20?

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, picking oakum, &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, to clean Police Depot, &c.
One Giuseppe Borg—Field party.

Lodged in the Colonial Treasury.

£ 9,196. 1. 1.

<i>Personal Emoluments</i>	£ 2,095 14 3
<i>Other Charges</i>	
Uniforms	250 7 4
Incidental expenses	2 10 7
Stationery	30 18 7
Rations for prisoners	4,133 8 0
Clothing, bedding and other necessaries	898 14 6
Gratuities to prisoners	171 6 11
Materials for repairs to buildings	185 3 10
Drugs	82 11 3
Transport	36 7 4
Water supply	91 11 4
Cultivation of Prison Lands	51 13 9
Materials for Prison manufactures	428 5 6
Expenses incidental to Burials & Divine service	60 11 2
Fuel	171 8 10
Lighting	138 13 9
Execution of capital sentences	39 0 2
Extra assistance	62 13 10
Telephone	10 0 0
Employment of substitute warders	27 6 7
Repatriation of discharged prisoners	6 4 6
Expenses in connection with riots	112 17 7
Carpenters' Tools	8 17 3
Book-binding { Purchase of Tools	6 11 6
{ Cost of materials	92 16 9
	£ 9,196 1 1
<i>Less:</i>	
Sale of stone and Prison manufactures	£ 313 2 9
Sale of produce of Lands	187 6 3
Maintenance of Consular and Naval Prisoners }	18 12 0
Book-binding	123 8 7½
Refund of passage expenses	6 4 6
Miscellaneous, Head XII-B 3	12 1 4½
	£ 660 15 0
	£ 8,535 5 7

RETURN OF GAOLS, &c.—(continued).

Corradino Prison—(continued).

Questions.

XI. What was the annual account of the Prisoners' earnings during the year 1919-20?

Answers.		
Brooms, mats and matting	...	£ 875
Tailoring	...	385
Joiners' work	...	135
Masons' work	...	25
Painters' work	...	60
Plasterers' work	...	187
Shoemakers' work	...	50
Stone-breaking	...	50
Tinmen's work	...	40
Reclaiming waste land	...	375
Field labour	...	165
Cooking for the prisoners	...	464
Cleaning and jobbing	...	15
Patching and knitting	...	18
Attending sick prisoners	...	50
Washing	...	300
Book-binding	...	100
Oakum-picking	...	
		<u>£3,294</u>

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:

Deprivation of mattress	...	65
Corporal punishment (lashes)	...	—
Admonitions	...	217
Solitary confinement in cell	...	630
By Courts or Magistrates	...	11
Punishment diet	...	1,137
Reduction in grade	...	43
Forfeiture of marks	...	32
Forfeiture of gratuity	...	98
Postponement in promotion	...	64
		<u>2,306</u>

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 instructions 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 Central Hospital, one suffering from strangulated hernia and the other from cerebral apoplexy.
- XX. (1). What was the sanitary state of the Prison during the year? Very good.
- (2). What were the prevailing diseases? Influenza of a very mild type Gastro-enteric derangements and furunculosis.
- 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 $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. of raw coffee and $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. sugar.

Each basin of soup contains $1\frac{1}{2}$ ration vegetables (including potatoes) 1/100 pint oil or $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. suet and 000.8 mond. dry bean lentils, etc.

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

RETURNS OF GAOLS, &c.—(continued).

Valletta Lock-up (*In in 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 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 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. 1.

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 1919-20?

The total annual cost in 1919-20 was.

Salary to Keeper (a Police Sergeant)	...	...	£ 100 7 6
Provisions	...	...	134 15 11
Bedding, furniture, &c.	...	...	2 4 5
Celebration of Divine Service	...	...	7 0 0
			£ 244 7 10

RETURN OF GAOLS, &c.—(continued).

Valletta Lock-up—(continued).

*Questions.**Answers.*

XI. What was the annual account of the Prisoners' earnings during the year 1919-20?

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 1919-20.
- 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 rations consists of:
- 20 oz. bread,
2 oz. of cheese,
or
2 oz. of salt fish,
 $\frac{1}{20}$ 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 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.

RETURN OF GAOLS, &c.—(continued).

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 1919-20?
- The total annual cost in 1919-20 was.

Salary to Keeper ...	...	...	£ 72 15 0
Personal allowance to G. Xuereb ...	...	...	2 0 0
Salary of Warder ...	...	...	42 9 0
Wages to Fatigeman ...	...	...	20 17 0
Rations for Prisoners and Warder ...	...	...	73 15 6
Clothing, bedding and other necessaries ...	...	...	9 12 8
Celebration of Divine Service ...	...	...	4 14 6
Petty expenses ...	...	...	— — —
Uniform ...	...	...	2 9 8
			<u>£ 228 13 4</u>