

at least one more truck, larger and heavier than the one now in use. The buildings on the larger farm have been repaired and painted, twenty acres of wooded land have been cleared and put under cultivation, and one hundred seventy fruit trees and ten thousand Norway spruces have been planted. These trees will be in a few years the source of considerable revenue. A hay barn, 126 feet long and 40 feet wide, has been built, replacing the one which was destroyed by fire. The cow-stable in the basement is entirely of cement and iron and provides both for the present number of Holstein cattle and also for future increases in the size of the herd. These farms and the vegetable gardens with the road work, which I shall report, employ thirty percent of the inmates. The number of men working on the farms is steadily increasing as this department of the institution develops. Besides being of financial value, this work keeps the men in good health and is an incentive of good conduct.

A large force of men have been working on road construction. One man has served both as guard and as supervisor with excellent results. This is a new departure from the contract system which was formerly the only system of prison labor in Vermont.

The Reliance Shirt Company (our contractors) have been generous in granting additional recreation periods to the men employed in the shops. The men now have the yard each Saturday afternoon through the month of September in addition to the summer months, and also a full noon hour each day. Part of every Sunday afternoon is also spent in the yard. At these periods the band assists greatly in the way of entertainment. The band, which was organized about four years ago, still continues to make good progress. It now consists of twenty-two pieces and compares favorably with many bands under more favorable conditions.

Plans of a separate building for the women have been made and a site has been selected, but, because of the present high cost of all building materials the construction has not yet been begun. This will be done as soon as possible and thus relieve the present over-crowded condition.

I wish to express my sincere thanks to Governor Graham and to the members of the executive department, also to the members of the department of Charities and Probation for their co-operation and interest. I appreciate especially the personal fellowship and wise counsel which I have received from the Director of State Institutions, Honorable John E. Weeks.

Respectfully submitted,

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Superintendent.