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Consensus: Penal system corrects little

(Editor's note: The following article begins a three-part series on prison conditions underlying revolts such as that at Attica and reports on a growing movement toward effecting reforms.)

By MARK BROWN
Associated Press Writer
WASHINGTON (AP) — "The correction system in the United States is a national disgrace. It corrects little. It rehabilitates few. It does nothing for most of the people who serve time in it. And it does precious little for the society which hopes it will prevent crime."

The words are those of Rich-

ard W. Velle, associate administrator of the Justice Department's Law Enforcement Assistance Administration.

The view is a consensus held and expressed by state and federal officials alike.

See related stories on pages 7 and 23.

Degrading and brutal to those within, ignored and neglected by those without, America's prisons and jails are failing to rehabilitate criminals or protect the public.

From Attica in New York to San Quentin in California, 200,

000 adult men and women are confined to spend part of their lives behind prison walls.

From the Tombs in New York City to Orleans Parish Prison in New Orleans, another 15 million men, women and children pass through local jails each year, awaiting trial, sentencing or the end of a term.

Inside those walls, many of them built 100 or more years ago, they are exposed at best to poorly financed rehabilitation programs and minimum living conditions. At worst, they live in squalor and filth, suffering sadistic brutality at the hands

of their keepers or fellow prisoners.

For most Americans, the minority behind bars is out of sight and out of mind. Out of mind, that is, until dramatically called to public attention by a riot or a revolt, such as that at Attica, where 40 men lost their lives.

Yet all but a mere 2 per cent of the prisoners will someday return to society where, according to official federal figures, 80 to 90 per cent of them will commit another crime.

Expensive to maintain, even more expensive to rebuild,

America's 600 prisons and 4,500 jails are breeding grounds for crime and violence.

In 1970, the American Correctional Association resolved that "the aim of the prison should be to make 'industrial' men rather than orderly and obedient prisoners."

Yet 100 years later, despite the urging of Nixon, Chief Justice Warren E. Burger and scores of others, that aim is unfulfilled.

Of the \$1.3 billion spent yearly on corrections in the United

States, former Atty. Gen. Ramsey Clark estimates that 95 per cent goes for custodial costs: walls, bars and guards. The balance, Clark says, is spent on rehabilitation: education, job training and health services.

To be sure, conditions have improved since the American Correctional Association adopted its statement of purpose.

Corporal punishment is no longer official policy. Prison architects are designing minimum security facilities that es-

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Better idea

The lemon in Eddie Campos' hand shows what he thinks of the 1970 Lincoln Continental that he says cost him time almost from the time he bought it.

One match solved all

By JAY SHARBUIT
WHITTIER, Calif. (AP) — Eddie Campos was talking about the problems he had with his car when the phone rang. The caller was a man in San Bernardino who wanted to talk about the problems he had with his car.

Campos didn't know the caller, but listened anyway. Then he shrugged his shoulders and said: "Well I feel sorry for you. I solved all my problems with one match."

Kid stuff!

NEW YORK (AP) — Cooking experts and fancy food fans are predictably piqued at a nutritionist's suggestion that the menu of the future may be based on such things as peanut butter and pizza.

"Deplorable," said one cooking teacher. "Purgatory," said another. "A rash statement," commented a gourmet shop manager. "Impossible," sneered a restaurant owner.

The suggestion came from Dr. George C. Graham of Johns Hopkins University. He predicted that modern technology would enable women to spend less time in the kitchen and to serve nutritional diets composed of "hand foods"—sandwiches, pizzas, rolls and poultry.

The ingredients of the future, Graham contended, are hamburgers and peanut butter and jelly sandwiches.

A spot check of professional cooking experts, gourmet shops and others dealing in fancy foods shows reaction ranging from dismay to outrage.

Sally Child, whose syndicated show introduced thousands to the intricacies of haute cuisine, commented:

"What a deplorable, miserable situation to live in—peanut butter sandwiches and pizza. Cooking is a creative art and

Last month, he set the car ablaze outside a Ford Motor Co. plant in California. He hauled the remains to his office, cut a hole in the top and planted a lemon tree.

Lower draft numbers first

WASHINGTON (AP) — Men with low draft numbers who have lost their deferments—primarily students graduating from college in June or dropped out—are expected to be the first called when the Selective Service resumed inductions.

Draft officials gave no indication when the first men would be called, but said men would be in uniform within two weeks after President Nixon signs the draft measure approved Tuesday by the Senate.

Nixon is expected to quickly sign the bill extending the Selective Service system.

The impact of other major provisions of the act will be slow to materialize, officials said. Included are the phasing out of undergraduate deferments, the right of a man to present witnesses before his board, requiring a local or appeal board to have a quorum when hearing a registrant, and lowering the maximum length of service on boards from 30 to 20 years.

Pentagon officials have said that about 20,000 draftees would be needed during the remainder of the year, including a 10- to 15-day August request left hanging when the draft authority expired June 30.

That would bring this year's total to less than 110,000, the smallest call-up since 1970.

From then on, says Campos, the draft would be a "series of small, steady drips" rather than a "big splash."

Campos, described by a deputy sheriff after the Great Car Burn as "perfectly sober, perfectly rational and completely dispassionate," denies he's on a one-man vendetta against Ford.

"I don't think it's that," he says. "It's more of a service to the consumers to help them stand up and demand their rights. As long as they remain silent I'll remain active."

A local spokesman for Ford would only say that a check with the dealer from whom Campos bought the car showed only one complaint had been received from Campos and that it had been handled satisfactorily.

Campos, meanwhile, put the charred black and rust-brown bulk of his 1970 Lincoln—his last making payments on it and has \$1,125 left to go on display on the front lawn of his apartment house here.

A five-foot-tall tree sprouting from a hole he chipped in the car's roof.

Living costs, wages up

August rate doesn't reflect freeze

WASHINGTON (AP) — The government said Wednesday its first consumer price report since President Nixon ordered a wage and price freeze still shows living costs and wages rose in August.

Living costs increased three-tenths of one per cent, largely because of a sharp boost in gasoline prices, but the Labor Department's Bureau of Labor Statistics said the report did not reflect the price freeze because many of the figures were

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NIACC teachers' salaries frozen

By GARY GRIMMOND
Teachers at the North Iowa Area Community College will not receive pay raises because of the federal wage freeze, the NIACC board of directors decided Tuesday night.

Acting on the recommendation of the board's attorney, Ray Cough, who questioned the constitutional validity of the presidential order and who said he "reciprocates the legislation" involved—the board authorized a separate fund in the event of clarification in the law in favor of the teachers.

Citing the "bottling up" of various and changing interpretations, Dr. David R. Pierce, NIACC superintendent, said at "some point there has to be a resolution" of the matter because it is illogical that some teachers are allowing the raise and some aren't.

In his comments, Cough said that as of Aug. 15, the date the freeze went into effect, "no instructor had either received or had become eligible to receive or to accrue wages at the higher rate anticipated for Sept. 1, 1971."

The attorney cited guidelines from the Office of Economic Planning which noted exceptions were promotions or change of status. In this regard, it was noted that about eight NIACC instructors, because of additional training and change of classification, will receive raises based on last year's salary schedule.

Administrative and non-certified personnel (custodians, secretaries) will receive pay hikes. These salaries and wages went into effect before July 1.

Despite the current "tight money" mood prevailing among many Americans, the advice of Martha Mitchell to other women is, "If you want a new dress, go get it. Which is what the wife of U.S. Attorney General John N. Mitchell did Tuesday in New York.

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pushed the government's consumer price index up to 12.2 per cent of its 1967 base of 100. The figure means that it cost \$12.22 last month to buy the same amount of goods and services as it cost \$100 in 1967. The index is a measure of the cost of living. It is calculated by adding up the prices of a basket of goods and services, such as food, clothing, housing, and medical care, and dividing the total by the number of items. The result is the index. The index is used to measure inflation. It is also used to calculate the cost of living allowance for federal employees.

Grocery prices were unchanged in August, the first time since January there had been no increase.

In other major price categories, housing costs rose five-tenths of one per cent. Transportation was up five-tenths, including a 3.7 per cent hike for

gasoline, medical care increased five-tenths, and recreation rose one-tenth of one per cent.

Clothing prices declined three-tenths of one per cent but there was a rise of five-tenths of one per cent for shoes.

The bureau said future price reports during the freeze are likely to show change because some items are not frozen and others are not priced every month, and will later show changes from before the freeze.

The bureau said fresh fruits and vegetables and eggs which are not frozen account for 1.3 per cent of the pricing weight of the index. Sales, property and other taxes which are also not covered by the freeze accounted for about 19 per cent of the August rise in the index.

Such items as rent, property taxes and college tuition are priced only every six to 12 months and price changes may show up later. Rent is frozen. Property taxes and college tuition are not.

"Changes in these prices prior to the freeze may show up as an increase in the index in subsequent months," the bureau said.

Also to be held is the national tractor-pulling contest.

The show, with features of farm equipment, will be held at the municipal airport and the Buecher, Haas and Priebe farms.

Eighteen Algonquin representatives spent the week in Lafayette, Ind., where the current farm show is being held, getting ideas for the next year's show.

Farm show at Algonquin next year

ALTON, Ill. (AP) — The MAW Gear Farm Power show, which is estimated to attract between 200,000 and 300,000 people, is going to be held in Algonquin Sept. 23-24, 1972, according to Chamber of Commerce officials.

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Throttled

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