

Annual Report

1978



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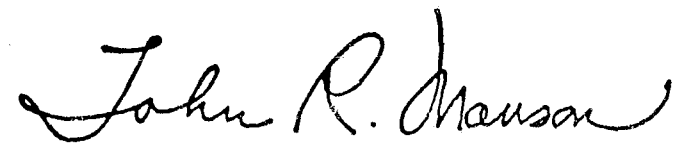
STATE OF CONNECTICUT
ELLA T. GRASSO
GOVERNOR

FOREWORD

Ours is a decade of candor. In corrections this has meant a candid acknowledgement that incarceration is a punitive response to criminal behavior. And, in acknowledging this, we have taken the first step toward an ability to use deterrent sanctions as instruments of a public policy to control crime.

Implicit in the quests and understanding that the year just ended have brought is the inescapable conclusion that no system is ever in finished form. The truths of one era become the questions of the next, and the axioms we depended on yesterday may not always bear the burdens of tomorrow. Change is the only certainty.

It has been in this spirit that we approached 1976-77. As you read through these accounts of the year's activity, we hope you will communicate to us questions and comments you may have.



John R. Manson
Commissioner

COUNCIL OF CORRECTION

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J. Bernard Gates, Ex Officio Member

Statutory provision for a Council of Correction, appointed by the Governor to four-year terms and the serving without compensation, was written into the legislation enabling creation of the Department of Correction in 1968.

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

JOHN R. MANSON, COMMISSIONER

The tenth year of the Department's organization and service has just ended. The agency was organized in 1968 to encompass within a single budgeted state unit responsibility for four felony institutions, six community correctional centers which house both pretrial individuals and convicted misdemeanants, and parole supervision. Connecticut's integrated, comprehensive correctional services are matched by such single agency models in only three other states.

This means a higher price tag for state-operated corrections, but a lower overall cost to the tax payers. This latter is accomplished by centralized functions in purchasing, business management, personnel operations, training, and an impressive list of other areas.

The dialogue concerning determinate versus indeterminate sentences, initiated in 1976-77, was continued in 1977-78 and brought before the legislature by a report of a special legislative commission on sentencing. This commission recommended the abolition of indeterminate sentences and the substitution of determinate sentences. This latter would mean the elimination of parole decisions concerning release. One year of parole supervision, however, was proposed for all releasees.

The indeterminate sentence has been in wide use. It provides a span of discretionary release time which advocates have claimed allowed decisions to be made on the basis of progress toward rehabilitation. Opponents on the other hand have argued that rehabilitation is a myth, a lofty ideal that research fails totally to support. Under changes recommended by the commission and supported by the Department, fixed sentences would be reintroduced and prisoners would know their anticipated release date. The only contingency would be the maintenance of good time credits. Rehabilitative programs would continue on a voluntary basis.

These proposed changes failed to secure enactment during the 1978 legislative session, a short session intended for budgetary

matters and related legislation. However, the new system will be reintroduced in 1979 when it can be given more extended study and consideration.

Also reported last year was the substantial approach being taken toward the use of team community service for selected misdemeanants as a means of giving greater rationality to the period of incarceration and, ultimately perhaps, finding a useful substitute for it. Project REDEEM (Redevelopment of Energies Devoted to Enhancing Esteem and Merit) was put in place during 1977-78 at four small community correctional agencies with the assistance of Labor Department funds for staffing.

The central purpose of REDEEM Teams is to deploy offender energies and talents in the improvement of the quality of life in Connecticut. Detention of minor offenders accomplishes relatively little beyond the temporary incarceration of their criminality. The victim is not compensated, the state incurs only expenses, and the offender returns to the community either embittered or ego-deflated. In this revolving scenario, society is the injured party, losing twice; first, in the inevitable disruption that crime imposes upon community life and second, in the spiraling costs of incarceration.

Nobody has panacea for this social dilemma. Crime cannot be ignored; it cuts too deeply at the foundations of fundamental social control. Likewise, a "get tough" policy which would put a prison on every corner and serve up an annual tax bill of many billions of dollars is not a practicable solution for a state that must meet many other social priorities. Are there other approaches for the relatively minor offender group (largely a youthful population) which has failed in the school, failed in community adjustments, and finally failed on formal probation orders? This is not a dangerous group of offenders — insofar as we are able to measure dangerousness — but it is a group of persistent and incorrigible youth that for a variety of reasons have been unable to meet or embrace the dominant social values.

A new approach began in 1977-78 to take shape. This scheme sets up the following: (1) a life structure to which the offender can attach himself for a period of time, (2) role models who approximate the offender's age set, community experience, and

life choice situations but who have not used criminal means to advance their interests, (3) useful, constructive group-selected public service projects within or near his/her home community, (4) group experiences for decision-making, divisions of labor and shared responsibility for group living in a microcosmic social unit, (5) a reasonable opportunity for release or substantial status improvement (work release, advancement toward release, status job) at the conclusion of the Team experience, and (6) an enhanced opportunity for the development of self-esteem and the making of a self image which is positive and forward looking.

Among projects completed during the year by REDEEM Teams, the following are typical: building nature trails for handicapped children, painting and fixing-up of an Hispanic center, serving as classroom aides in a school for disturbed children, and building outdoor picnic facilities for a town recreation area.)

The statistics for REDEEM participants are impressive, too. Exactly 100 young misdemeanants took part in the program during 1977-78. At year's end, some 78 of the number had been released to the community and none had been rearrested. The balance were still awaiting release. Whether this is a short term or a long term corrective effect will have to await later measurements.

In developing a full range of after-care services, the Department has turned to a new programmatic concept to accomplish this end. This is derived from circumstances in the Parole division, including heavy case loads plus a dual image deriving from roles both in surveillance and assistance.

The helping aspect of parole — which sometimes lacked the funds, sometimes the organization and sometimes the needed services — was partially assimilated during the year by multi-service centers in Bridgeport, New Haven and Hartford. These centers brought together under one roof and one staff the many needs of men and women in parole status.)

Prior departmental experience had indicated that many of these services are best provided by private contractors, and this experience was sustained and expanded in developing these

centers. Agencies with good prior track records were selected to provide the core services in this reorganized approach.

Typical of the services available are (temporary shelter, job development, job placement, restoration of rights and credentials, counseling services covering a broad spectrum of problems, and crisis intervention at many intersections of community return.) Not all services are immediately available from the multi-services centers; some are provided as referrals to other agencies.

It is important to note that all these services are voluntarily elected by the clientele, and, although there is some overlap, they do not replace the one-to-one relationship that has characterized parole services since their inception. Early indications are that the centers are receiving exceptionally heavy usage from parolees and discharges.

In 1977-78, the multi-services centers in Hartford, New Haven and Bridgeport continued their roles. (a fourth center opened in Waterbury, and a fifth, in Stamford, was scheduled for opening in mid-summer 1978.)

Training has occupied increasing attention in the system and has found many areas in which its function could upgrade critical skill levels.

One of these has been in the elaboration and implementation of institutional fire safety plans. Each institution now has a fire emergency plan, which typically includes notification, color-coded keys, staff and inmate movements, essential evacuations and extinguisher use in minor instances. Fire drills have been held semi-annually and will be advanced to a quarterly basis in the coming year. A concurrent aspect of fire safety implementation had been the manufacture and installation of fire retardant mattresses in secure inmate residential quarters. The rationale and details of all these safety measures have, as part of the training program, been communicated to staff.

A second area of staff training that has been especially prominent in the year just ended has been cardio-pulmonary resuscitation (CPR.) This life saving procedure has been, in its approved form and length, taught to several hundred correctional

officers. And, a number of these officers have gone on to advanced training to qualify themselves as instructors. At year's end, the Department was seeking bids to purchase its own equipment for the expansion of CPR training.

Affirmative action is a current and continuing concern of the Department. In measuring progress in this area, statistics are maintained on the minority or majority identity of all those hired by the Department. The 1977-78 figures disclosed an increase in minority numbers but the increase was much smaller than those recorded in preceding years. Minorities in the departmental staff now comprise 14% of the total.

In the departmental statement of its Affirmative Action Plan, the major philosophical and action dimensions are spelled out in a few paragraphs worth quoting as a preface to this report:

"The Department is committed to search for motivated individuals for acceptance jobs with the Department; individuals who, because of race, ethnic origins, sex, socio-economic background or related reasons have until now had limited access to these opportunities. Furthermore, the Department strongly believes its common goal will not be the falsified appearance of equality, but actual equality in terms of the best standards which all can accept.

"Toward this end, we strongly endorse the scrupulous enforcement of all federal, state, and local statutory prohibitions against discrimination in public employment, remuneration, and promotion in access to equal justice and other rights and privileges of the individual as a citizen, regardless of race, creed, ethnic background or sex, and in any other area where public authority in conspiracy with private prejudice may yet be invoked to deny equal freedom and opportunity to any citizen.

"In addition to the above, the Department will make every effort to correct the following deficiencies pointed out in the utilization analysis:

1. Over-utilization of Black and Spanish-speaking individuals in the protective services jobs category;
2. Under-utilization of Spanish-speaking males in four job categories: (a) skilled crafts, (b) technicians, (c) service maintenance, and (d) administrators;
3. Under-utilization of Black females in the protective category;
4. Under-utilization of all females in the official administration categories;
5. Development of a system for gathering and reporting statistical information for all protected categories by salary level and job category;
6. Appointment of an Affirmative Action Advisory Committee;
7. Promotion of minorities and women to be encouraged with every effort made to promote them as vacancies develop;
8. Development and implementation of a retention program for minority group individuals;
9. Development of a system to monitor the intake of applicants seeking employment in the Department.

"What will be done will greatly depend upon the financial condition of the State and to the extent positions are available. In any event, the Department will, throughout this year, concentrate its efforts to seek qualified minority individuals and to encourage those already employed to career opportunities in the Department. Another area of concentrated effort will be the retention area. With the aid of the Affirmative Action Officer and the immediate supervisors in all institutions with this problem, programs will be adjusted to resolve the situation."

These thrusts continue, but in reviewing the circumstances of 1977-78, there is a clear need to increase the numbers of minority personnel at every level of corrections, from top management to the newest correctional officer or clerk. Constant care must be

taken to see that minority staff are treated fairly in every aspect of assignment, promotion and discipline.

With this theme in mind, the Department of Correction over the past year has further extended itself in trying to bring more qualified minorities into the system. Thus far, the Department has reached parity with the labor market areas that serve our facility needs. In this past quarter the Department appointed a new Affirmative Action Officer whose responsibility it is to oversee the total overall task of minority recruitment, hiring, retention and upward mobility of minority candidates and/or employees.

The Department has placed further emphasis on its continuing program of utilizing minority individuals in federally funded positions, summer positions and other positions which do not require competitive examinations. It is frequently possible to move individuals from this type of position to permanent positions when these become available.

Although the hiring rate of minorities has shown an increase, the retention rate continues to be of concern. In the coming years, if we are to continue to increase our minority group individuals, a strong emphasis must be placed on retention of those persons. Affirmative Action consciousness training must be conducted throughout the Department for individuals in supervisory positions. Next, additional training for new employees fits into the scheme of the total plan. And lastly, the Department must adopt a posture that encourages each individual — Black, White, Spanish-speaking, or female — to be trained for promotional opportunities based on his or her qualifications. Supplemental training toward role consciousness and career counseling may be especially helpful for minorities and, concurrently, augment the retention rate. In short, the Department will make every effort to create an attitude of equal opportunity for all, regardless of race, sex, religion, or national origin.

Detailed data and a statistical breakout of employees by sex and ethnicity will be contained in an updated Affirmative Action Plan to be filed with the Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities by September 1, 1978.

Finally, in noting aspects of operations that have coalesced into departmental trends, it can be reported that over recent years at least a dozen steps have been taken to assist inmates in the maintenance of family ties. These represent a sharp contrast to practices common a decade ago when the Department was created. Included in this survey are the following: (1) notification of the prime family member by mailgram or special delivery letters of the transfer of a family member from one institution to another; (2) support of Women in Crisis, a volunteer group that works closely with a wife, mother or sister when this relationship is endangered by prison or jail commitment; (3) the posting and publishing of bus schedules and routes that volunteer groups support to enable family visits; (4) the volunteer liaisons that the Connecticut Prison Association sponsor program enables with families; (5) home phone calls arranged monthly, with family paying the collect charges; (6) unrestricted, uncensored correspondence with family members as well as others; (7) civil legal assistance toward marital dissolution or changes in child custody arrangement; (8) expanded hours and provisions for family visiting at the new community correctional centers; (9) family furloughs on holidays and days of special family significance; (10) special furloughs for deathbed, wake and funeral occasions; (11) provisions to send funeral flowers through the institutional chaplaincy office and (12) availability of central office staff to talk or correspond with family members.

Institutional services are many and varied. Their provision and conduct though is complicated by increasing numbers of inmates. Statistics over the past several years show some of this increase. The decline in 1977-78, however, occurred entirely in the institutions and did not relieve the overcrowding which has developed at the urban community correctional centers.

YEAR	AVERAGE NUMBER	PERCENT CHANGE
1971-72	3320	—
1972-73	3029	- 9%
1973-74	2769	- 9%
1974-75	2854	+ 3%
1975-76	3200	+ 12%
1976-77	3201	—
1977-78	3033	- 5.2%

INSTITUTIONAL SERVICES

RAYMOND M. LOPES, Deputy Commissioner

CONNECTICUT CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTIONS

Somers	Carl Robinson	Warden
Enfield	Richard Steinert	Superintendent
Cheshire	Dwaine Nickeson	Superintendent
Niantic	Elizabeth Durland	Superintendent

RAYMOND COYLE, Correctional Center Administrator

Bridgeport	Victor Liburdi	Warden
Brooklyn	Richard Hills	Warden
Hartford	Richard Wezowicz	Warden
Litchfield	Charles Brownell	Warden
Montville	Henry Karney	Warden
New Haven	Francis Moore	Warden

HEALTH SERVICES - Dr. David Hedberg, Director

DRUG & ALCOHOL TREATMENT - Lawrence Mayer, Director

CORRECTIONAL EDUCATION - Edmund Gubbins, Director

MODEL PRISON INDUSTRIES - Robert McVay, Project Director

The institutionalization of adjudicated offenders comprises an important and major segment of the Department's work. It is in this area that an overwhelming amount of the budget is devoted, and it is in institutional settings that specialized programs are concentrated.

Those who study institutions and their dynamics frequently cite the custody-treatment dichotomy. While this model for investigating the workings of prison policies and practices may be of continuing relevance in some systems, it would seem to be of declining importance in Connecticut. This is most evident in the upper echelons of institutional operations, where the chief administrative officer has responsibility for both functions, and

the two deputies often interchange roles. It is also true at the line level where hard and fast rules are now blurred and, in at least one instance — that of the Correctional Treatment Officer — the roles are actually combined in form and practice.

Treatment procedures, such as automatic recommendation to General Educational Development classes for those without high school diplomas, home furloughs, work and educational release, pre-release classes, etc., have in many instances become institutionalized and treatment personnel now find themselves most frequently in the administrative aide roles of status determinations, evaluating individuals against established criteria, and completing necessary paper work.

Concurrently, there is a much diminished use of individual and group counseling procedure, programs which in the prison context have a documented history of poor or extremely limited success. This is not to say that the search for more effective means of shaping behavior has been abandoned. A good example of the effort to investigate new approaches is to be found in the Special Offender Program at the Somers facility.

In this program, which extends to a mixed group of prisoners with maladaptive traits, the emphasis is not on a direct confrontation with the personality inadequacy of clients, but on finding activity areas in which success can be won and self-esteem developed and put to work as a means of rehabilitation. Thus, the Special Offender unit has been staffed with Correctional Treatment Officers, teachers, and others who can assist, frequently on an individualized basis, the man who has a low capacity for adjustment within the institution's general population. Special classes, mini-industrial production units and a green house provide a broad scope for linking men to programs in which chances of success are enhanced. The underlying purpose of all this activity is to give individuals the strengths they need to reestablish themselves in the general population. It is interesting to note that the program, which would be generally characterized as a "treatment" program, is directed by a "custodial" lieutenant.

Two other reasons for believing that the custody-treatment dichotomy is eroding are found in the single labor union representation of both groups and the declining difference in educational backgrounds of the two groups. A study four years

ago showed that new Correctional Officers had an average of 14.1 years of schooling and this average may now well be higher.

The advantages of these changes are readily apparent. The major source of staff friction and antagonism is gradually erased and it becomes increasingly easier to define and set out common objectives and goals for institutional operations. A cooperative working atmosphere is fostered and the device, which once worked to the advantage of contentious inmates, of exploiting antagonisms is greatly reduced in importance.

The Department has had for several years a plan which would eliminate entirely, via personnel changes, the dichotomous classes. While no decisions have been taken on this plan, it is instructive to note that organizational evolution has already moved circumstances some distance in that direction.

The matter of pre-trial release as an aspect of community correctional center operation continues to confront the administration of the Department. While such release is clearly the prerogative of the judiciary, the centers where detention is imposed must deal with the consequences of overcrowding, restlessness and, sometimes, feelings of inequity.

National figures are not available but at the close of the year Connecticut's centers contained more than 53% men and women in pre-trial status. Whether the detention of so many accused persons is justified by ultimate court decisions to incarcerate was the subject of a study in Connecticut in 1972. Taking several samples of center incarcerants awaiting trial and the subsequent percentage that are sentenced to prison or jail terms, Professor Daniel Freed of Yale University calculated an "imbalance ratio" in the rates of incarceration. He found that approximately 70% of those detained pre-trial were ultimately released under circumstances such as probation that suggested they were not in need of confinement. Professor Freed acknowledged that pre-trial holding may have a variety of purposes, but pointed out that public safety is a frequently cited reason for detaining those arrested and held for prosecution.

A 1977 study of decision criteria in the fifty states used as a basis for pre-trial release showed that Connecticut was only one of ten states that have no criteria set out in the constitution, statutes

or rules. This situation may be remedied when a legislative commission, established in early 1978, to study pre-trial matters brings its recommendations to the legislature in January, 1980.

Meanwhile, the Department's six community correctional centers continue to seek out stabilizing and constructive programs to occupy pre-trial time. Among these are greatly expanded opportunities for family visits, center maintenance and operations work assignments, mini-course presentations and pre-release readiness programs.

Factors of overcrowding, particularly in the new urban centers, have been remedied on an interim basis by the installation of second bunks in cells originally designed for single prisoners. This step was taken reluctantly and it was, at the close of the year, one of the points of contention raised in a class action suit against the Department.

Described elsewhere in this report is a training program in the conduct of periodic fire drills at centers as well as institutions. Another safety factor that has been instituted system-wide is the individual interview of newly committed persons to assess suicide potential and/or other destabilizing forces. Those found in need of close observation are assigned to special units where full surveillance can be maintained.

A program of pre-release information and activity has been instituted at the three urban centers. Numerous research studies have noted how critical the first few months following release are for typical jail/prison releases. It is during this early period that most recidivating acts occur.

Thus, if mechanisms and skills could be taught to make the transition from a correctional setting to the community smoother and less turbulent, the prospects for ultimate community adjustment should be significantly enhanced.

It was with this understanding that the Department developed in the most populous centers a pre-release preparation curriculum for the two weeks prior to parole or discharge. While pre-release programs have a substantial history in corrections, these programs have been developed and honed on an experience base

that represents almost all the "problem" areas in release adjustments. The curriculum opens with a pre-test that provides both individual and group assessments of informational and guidance needs. The two-week sessions close with a post-test that measures change and learnings in the activities. Both tests are also used in the process of curriculum revision.

What areas are covered? Informational and skill areas are represented by sessions on "agencies", alcohol and drug use, job finding resources and skills, higher and technical education choices available, housing, legal issues and relations with police. Two continuing areas of participant instruction are "behavioral studies" and individual counseling. The former seeks to inform pre-releasees in the fundamentals and whys of human behavior, while the latter emphasizes individual needs and strengths. These areas are supplemented by sessions on feelings and attitudes, stress factors in adjustments, decision-making and the role of spirituality. Open-ended rap sessions are scheduled almost every day and visits to important outside sites are scheduled as needed.

No formal evaluation of the pre-release program has yet been undertaken, but there is continuing in-house assessment of effectiveness and each participating class is asked to give its evaluation.

At the close of the year, each institution and center was beginning the process of self-evaluation in the Accreditation sequence. Each facility had its own Accreditation committee and standards were being reviewed for compliance and applicability.

The range of institutional/center programs was exceptionally wide during 1977-78, and it is possible to report here only a few highlights.

At SOMERS the new special offender program has already been noted. Admissions to the institution were down as reflected in a 17% decrease in the number of Reception-Diagnostic Center cases. An exceptionally active year was reported in the chaplaincy service with a wider range of outside visiting groups and activities in behalf of the spiritual/religious holidays for inmates. In this, the first full, year of the collective bargaining contract, a substantial increase in the number of employee grievances was noted.

At ENFIELD the "Get Smart" program, an educational activity in which a group of inmates make presentations at regional junior and senior high schools, has continued despite some transportation problems. The institution's report notes a decreased count, a decline in furloughs and a decline in educational participation. Although there was substantial community concern and protest following a series of four escape incidents in the last quarter of the year, the yearly figures showed that escapes in 1977-78 declined from 11 to 7 over the previous year.

At CHESHIRE the annual report notes an exemplary educational program with a General Educational Development examination success rate of 97%. College courses are also continuing to be offered. It is also reported that during the latter half of the year there was a decline in the use of the segregation unit. This population drop is attributed to the placing of greater reliance on other means of institutional adjustment.

At NIANTIC, where a cottage and campus-like atmosphere is maintained for women offenders, the year has been essentially tranquil. The data processing industry, which also provides vocational training in keypunching, involved some 43 inmates during the year. At year's end the industry was being readied for the assignment of a second shift which would keep the unit occupied until mid-evening each weekday.

At BRIDGEPORT, the holding of regular fire drills, planned in coordination with the city fire department, has become a regular feature and enhanced administrative confidence in a fire-safe environment. Project GREEN, a CETA funded project for horticultural training for youthful inmates, has been in operation for some months. At the close of the year, the University of Bridgeport donated a greenhouse for use in the project.

At HARTFORD, the first year of occupancy of the new facility was completed in 1977-78. Training was substantially expanded to familiarize all staff with new procedures required by the new physical plant. The work-release unit was quite active with 87 participants during the year. Average weekly earnings were \$142.

At NEW HAVEN, where accommodation to a new unit is also a factor, there is also reported substantial training conducted during the year. Seven supervisors completed the full fire marshal's basic training, and all supervisors completed training in cardio-pulmonary resuscitation. During the year this Center was designated by the National Institute of Corrections as a jail training resource center for the Northeast. A cash grant was made to enable the training of personnel from other states.

At LITCHFIELD, the smallest of the Department's community correctional centers, an active year was reported with progress being made in the areas of pre-trial services, education, use of volunteers, and community service projects.

At MONTVILLE, an exceptionally successful inmate Jaycee chapter is reported and note is taken of the ten awards won by this group. A new outdoor, patio-type visiting area was completed toward the end of the year. Here, as elsewhere, substantial increases in training hours was reported.

At BROOKLYN, surprise inspections by the Occupational Health and Safety Administration and the state Fire Marshal's Office resulted in a number of citations that subsequent repairs corrected. The yearly report notes that Project REDEEM, a community service project described elsewhere in this report, "made us many friends." The Center arranged for a Spanish translation of its inmate guide book during the year

HEALTH SERVICES

Medical, psychiatric and dental services in the Department are an integral part of the maintenance of health program. Correctional inmates present a wide variety of medical and psychological illnesses. While the institutional regimen undoubtedly contributes to a pattern of stable health, there are frequent examples of individuals who have had given only scant attention to medical problems while in free community status.

At the Somers Correctional Institution an accredited hospital is maintained with full-time physicians and a substantial number of medical specialties represented by consultants. This hospital regularly receives transfers from other facilities where resources are more limited.

Every facility has at least one contracted physician and includes in its health complement registered nurses and paramedics. At year's end the Department had taken a decision to employ several physician assistants, a new category of health professionals.

DRUG AND ALCOHOL TREATMENT

Programming of substance abuse treatment and services in the correctional facilities has shown steady progress over the past year. Nine out of the ten departmental units now have programs for substance abusers, and such programs will be substantially expanded by virtue of the funding of Project TRAP (Treatment and Rehabilitation for Addicted Prisoners), an institutional services grant announced at the end of the fiscal year.

Project FIRE (Facilitating Integration and Re-entry Experience) is a statewide, five-office community program for released offenders. FIRE, working in conjunction with the Parole Division, provides (1) comprehensive treatment planning, (2) substance abuse counseling, (3) individual, group and family counseling, (4) housing, (5) job preparation, finding and placement, (6) crisis intervention, (7) urinalysis, (8) social service referral, and (9) tracking. FIRE works with an average 275 clients per month.

Initiated and expanded in 1977-78 has been a behavioral studies class offered to inmates of seven correctional facilities. The class provides insights into the psychological principles of the life developmental process and explores alternative coping skills.

Mental health transfers for drug and alcohol treatment of addicted and adjudicated persons is sometimes the procedure of choice. In 1977-78, a total of eleven Mental Health Department programs received transfers from the Department of Correction as provided in the General Statutes.

The addiction unit also supplies training for departmental staff, both at the Connecticut Justice Academy and in institutional, in-service training courses.

CORRECTIONAL EDUCATION

The Correctional School District, a statutorily established statewide district, carries out responsibilities to provide educational opportunities for inmates. Expansion was noted in the areas of special education and education for the handicapped. In addition to the regular course of studies, including adult basic education, secondary education, General Educational Development examination preparation, vocational education and college programs, the district provides special instruction to those found to have learning disabilities and other handicaps. The School District is now in full compliance with federal standards for special education efforts.

MODEL PRISON INDUSTRIES

In 1976, the Department competed with correctional agencies in other states for a large Law Enforcement Assistance Administration discretionary grant to enable revamping of inmate industries. A grant of \$595,000 plus a state 10% cash match of \$66,111, was received to initiate the program. Subsequently, the state legislature voted a \$1 million appropriation to retire industries debts and provide a small working capital amount.

The federal grant was to provide the following characteristics for selected industries at Somers, Enfield, Cheshire and Niantic: (1) full work week, (2) inmate wages based on worker output, (3) real world productivity standard, (4) job skills relevant to outside community opportunities, (5) hire and fire procedures consistent with outside industry practices, (6) selfsupporting or profit-making business operations, and (7) postrelease job placement mechanisms.

Undergirding the whole thrust of this project, is the conviction that the work ethic in American society continues as an important factor and stabilizer and the belief that correctional institutions can re-gear to accommodate the application of this ethic within industries manned by prisoners. This belief in a model concept of industries is matched by hard-headed business thinking that would apply procedures found successful in the "real" world of work.

During the year just ended, the Model Prison Industries project has established a number of new industries and expanded others. Numbers of men and women employed in each has been realistic. Cost accounting procedures have been instituted and customer relations has been elevated to a new level of importance. Second year funding, now pending approval in Washington, will provide funds to give further implementation to the design.

FIELD SERVICES

LAWRENCE ALBERT, Deputy Commissioner

DIVISION OF PAROLE Earl Mercer, Chief, Parole Services

DISTRICT PAROLE OFFICERS

Hartford Arthur Blomberg, Supervisor

New Haven John Morytko, Supervisor

Bridgeport Robert Houston, Supervisor

VOLUNTEER SERVICES Joseph Trotta, Director

PROJECT FIRE Lawrence Mayer, Director

Field Services encompasses all of parole, including inter-state compact cases and the coordination of assistance for released offenders. During the year a new multi-service center was opened in Waterbury, supplementing the service centers in Hartford, New Haven and Bridgeport, and a fifth center, in Stamford, was readied for mid-summer opening. These centers provide assistance with jobs, counseling and other services to more than 2500 criminal justice clients each year.

Unique to Connecticut has been a large network of private/public agencies, subsidized by the Department, that serve the needs of released men and women. This program, which was initiated with federal funds, is now wholly supported by state appropriated funds. During the past year this activity was formally recognized and given a statutory base by Public Act 78-1, "An Act Concerning Department of Correction Contracts With Non-Profit Agencies."

Field Services also develop and coordinate half-way house facilities, generally buying-in on a contractual basis specifying a number of beds to be set aside for departmental clients. Last year it was reported that half-way house guidelines and standards were being developed. During the past year these standards were written into the contracts for the 24 community facilities where Department placements are made.

In the fall of 1977, Field Services organized a major workshop to develop a five-year plan for the division's development. Representatives from correctional facilities and individuals from public and private programs were involved. What has evolved is the core of a five-year plan for Field Services.

The thesis of this model is that comprehensive planning of Field Services is one route by which a reduction in crime can occur and more effective and efficient systems can develop. Implicit in this plan is an integrated public and private sector partnership in community based corrections.

The goals delineated in this workshop were sub-divided into headings of Administration, Direct Services and Systems Change. The specific content of these categories provides both the underlying philosophy and the targeted goals.

ADMINISTRATION:

Supervision of staff and/or contracted agencies —
Continuation of existing administrative structure with five regional coordinators with supportive staff.

Staff development — increased development and involvement in training program specific to Field Services.

Program development — increased use of contemporary research and program information in the development/refinement of programming.

Program evaluation — establishment of measurement criteria and on-going inspection with continual feedback loops to impact present operations. Development of usable management information system.

Research — expanded capabilities to conduct quantitative and qualitative study of Field Service programs.

Regional planning — increased, formalized regional planning on five regions with expanded input from the private sector.

DIRECT SERVICES:

Individualized treatment for every correctional client — development of an individual treatment plan with a continuum of care from incarceration through release.

Pre-trial services — development and expansion of community programs and alternatives for pre-trial release.

Alternative residential program — expanded use of half-way houses and other alternative residential program for community release programs and other alternative programs.

Pre-release programming — expansion and establishment of formal pre-release programs into each correctional facility with the opportunity to participate for each correctional client returning to the community.

Re-entry services — expansion of re-entry services to adequately serve all offenders returning to the community from a correctional facility. Services to include addiction services, employment and skill training including basic education, housing assistance, civil assistance, financial or material assistance, and transportation where appropriate.

Supervision — continuation of mandated responsibility for supervision of conditionally discharged individuals.

SYSTEMS CHANGE:

Research — expanded use of Connecticut correctional experiences and those of other jurisdictions to impact and improve Field Services.

Planning — continued development of alternatives and strategies through this five-year plan.

Public information — expanded multi-media efforts to educate and inform the community of correctional programs and pertinent issues in the criminal justice system.

Lobbying — increased constituency building and private sector involvement in criminal justice reform and support of progressive corrections.

DIVISION OF PAROLE

The Division of Parole is responsible for the supervision of persons who have been granted parole from the Department's institutions by the Board of Parole. The division may also supervise persons authorized for release by the Commissioner of Correction under the provisions of Section 19-498 of the Connecticut General Statutes. The Chief of Parole Services is the administrative head of the division and he is directly responsible to the Deputy Commissioner for Field Services. Parole Division headquarters are in Hartford, and three major district field offices are maintained in Hartford, New Haven and Bridgeport. Other office space is utilized in other areas in cooperation with community agencies, multi-service centers and other Department facilities.

At the beginning of the fiscal year, the Division of Parole had under its supervision 1,568 parolees. During the year release programs were arranged for 1,288 inmates from Connecticut's correctional institutions, and they were placed under community supervision. In addition, 95 out-of-state parolees were accepted for supervision under the terms of the Interstate Parole Compact.

During the year, 616 Connecticut parolees successfully completed parole and were discharged at the expiration of their maximum terms, 217 individuals, recommended by parole offices as no longer needing supervision, were granted early discharge by the Board of Parole, and ten cases were closed due to death of the parolee.

The Division of Parole investigates all alleged cases of parole violation or criminal activity by parolees and reports to the Board of Parole and the Commissioner of Correction concerning these matters. During the year, 249 parole violation warrants were issued. Seventy of these were due to criminal arrests, 55 for offenses involving both a criminal arrest and technical violations of the parole condition, and 100 were issued for serious technical violations only. Thirteen were issued at the request of other Compact states supervising Connecticut parolees through the Compact, and the remainder were issued after new convictions.

One hundred thirteen arrest reports were filed by parole officers in cases where the arrest was not serious enough to request a parole violation warrant and the parolee was allowed to remain on bond. Some of these cases later evolved into formal violation after court convictions were obtained. Sixty-one formal misconduct reports were submitted by the staff to report delinquency not serious enough to call for violation procedures by the Board, but these reports are submitted to the Board and to the Deputy Commissioner for review. It is the policy of the Division to review each alleged violation matter very carefully and to allow the parolees to make bond if the arrest does not indicate that the parolee is a serious danger to the community. Preliminary hearings by a special Hearings Officer are offered under the terms of the U.S. Supreme Court Morrissey decision, in all cases where a parolee is remanded to custody and a court conviction has not been obtained.

At the close of the fiscal year, the Division of Parole had under supervision 1,442 Connecticut parolees. In addition, it was supervising 163 out-of-state parolees in Connecticut under the terms of the Interstate Parole Compact. One hundred ninety eight Connecticut parolees were under parole supervision in other states.

Parole Division staff members work closely with the personnel of other community agencies in preparing parole release programs for inmates, and in meeting the special needs of parolees, especially in the areas of drug addiction, alcoholism, and mental health problems. Parole officers and supervisory staff meet regularly with these agencies on individual case conferences and in other areas of program planning.

All parole officers are involved in the compilation of information for the Department of Social Services in the Title XX program, which regularly brings in many federal dollars to the state's General Fund. In return, parole officers are eligible for educational programs and other training opportunities with funds made available through this program. The parole staff has over the past year completed an excellent parole training film in cooperation with the University of Connecticut, which is already being used in Connecticut and other states.

Current programs are aimed at improving the quality of supervision in the community, and in meeting requirements for accreditation by the American Correctional Association

VOLUNTEER SERVICES

Volunteer Services has only a four year history with the Department, but during 1977-78 the unit counted more than 1,200 volunteers working with a wide range of correctional programs. Volunteers have been aggressively sought and are now beginning to come from non-traditional areas, e.g., business men and women, lawyers, and the Hispanic community

The award of a grant from the Connecticut Justice Commission enabled the staffing of pre-release programs in Bridgeport, New Haven and Hartford, plus the addition of a full-time trainer for volunteers. Elsewhere in this report the curriculum of this pre-release program is described. Here, it should be noted that a number of volunteers are used to give strength and vitality to the content elements.

Volunteer Services contracts each year with Decisions, Inc. to train volunteers in the decision-making formula course this private organization offers. Volunteers then become one-on-one trainers with inmates at any of the six correctional facilities where this program operates. During the past year, some 328 inmates participated in the individualized course.

Two programs offered in conjunction with the Connecticut Prison Association, the Volunteer Sponsor program and the Parole Aide program, continued to expand and grow. The former is now "staffed" with 155 carefully selected and trained volunteers, while the latter has attracted 85 members of the Connecticut Bar.

The Action program, an integral part of the community correctional effort, provided 20 VISTA volunteers in the past year. The VISTA's were placed in roles that emphasized community resource development. The year 1977-78 marked the completion of 100 years of individual service by VISTA to the Department of Correction.

There are 18 separate volunteer programs now operated or coordinated by the Department. All of these were represented at an annual recognition dinner, attended by 325 volunteers, held in the fourth quarter of the year.

PROJECT FIRE

FIRE, an acronym for Facilitating Integration and Reentry Experience, functions in a half dozen Connecticut urban centers to assist inmates with addiction histories to readjust to the community. Its work is coordinated with institutional components for the addicted and with the Division of Parole.

On a monthly basis an average of 275 ex-offenders with substance abuse problems were served by the Project. Substantial emphasis is placed on job finding and placement for clients. In the final quarter of the year, 71.5% of the men and women served by the Project had satisfactory employment. In addition to employment services, the FIRE staff complements provide individual, group, and family counseling sessions.

During the year just concluded, Project FIRE staff accumulated 1,050 hours of staff development and training.

EVALUATION AND INSPECTION SERVICES

DORIN POLVANI, Deputy Commissioner

COMMUNITY RELEASE	John Waters, Chief
PUBLIC INFORMATION	Constance Wilks, Director
PROGRAM EVALUATION	Angelo Zangari, Director
INFORMATION SYSTEM	Thomas DeRiemer, Director

In the departmental reorganization of 1975, there was created a new unit to provide evaluation of individuals applying for work and educational release and those asking for furloughs.

In work or education release, typically, the participant is employed or attends school during the day and returns to the institution at night. He lives in a special unit at one of the community correctional centers designed both to segregate him from non-participating inmates, and to afford him a greater measure of freedom in the conduct of his non-working hours. During hours in the work release facility, the participants are both supervised and counseled by specially trained community release counselors.

In some cases the community releasees are housed in facilities other than those operated by the Department. In 1970 there were five such units; in the year just ended some 25 houses were utilized by the Department.

As the statistics indicate, there has been growing use of community release since its inception and authorization in fiscal year 1969: 1969 - 119; 1970 - 186; 1971 - 202; 1972 - 299; 1973 - 429; 1974 - 582; 1975 - 715; 1976 - 891; 1977 - 849; 1978 - 627.

In this last year some 88 individuals were removed for cause and there were 13 escapes. This represents a failure rate of about 15.9%.

In the case of furloughs, an individual inmate may be released for a period of hours or days according to the individual needs developed in the furlough application by institutional counselors. Furloughs may be granted for any legitimate purpose, including

attendance at funerals, death bed visits, employment interviews, pre-parole arrangements, or family visits. This final category is reflected in the exceptionally large number of inmates who are furloughed at Christmas, Thanksgiving, and other days of special family significance.

Since the inception of this program a grand total of 58,123 furloughs have been granted.

Authority for the use of furloughs was expanded by the 1974 legislature to include out-of-state furloughs for men/women whose residential or family situations warrant such releases. About 271 such furloughs were granted in 1977-78.

The summary of previous years will indicate how the use of this tool for maintaining family and community ties has grown with each year.

YEAR	NUMBER OF FURLOUGHS	INCREASE OVER PREVIOUS YEAR
1970-71	400	
1971-72	1600	1200
1972-73	4042	2442
1973-74	5640	1598
1974-75	8790	3150
1975-76	12,528	3738
1976-77	13,030	502
1977-78	12,093	-937

In the second half of the fiscal year an episode at the Connecticut Correctional Institution, Cheshire, disclosed that two inmates in minimum custody who had been receiving regular furloughs had illegally brought into the institution certain weapons, and had allegedly committed rapes in the community while in furlough status. This situation was fully investigated and, as a consequence of the findings, certain of the furlough criteria were tightened and procedures for the readmittance of furloughees to the institution became subject to tightened security. This situation accounts in part for the decline in the total number of furloughs granted in addition to the fact that the departmental population also declined about 5% during the year.

Furloughs continue to be carefully screened at the institutional and central office levels. The rate of failure — escape or new offense — has been less than three-tenths of 1% over the last eight-year period the program has been in effect, but less than two-tenths of 1% over the past year.

PUBLIC INFORMATION

The Public Information Office has the on-going responsibility of disseminating information about the Department's goals, objectives and programs to the various publics, and of answering inquiries regarding all aspects of the Department and its operation.

This Office serves the external public, including those out of state, and Connecticut citizens of all ages. It also serves specific publics such as the General Assembly, the Council of Correction, the media and, internally, line and staff employees.

During the past year the Public Information Office utilized all forms of media to carry out its tasks: television, radio, newspapers, magazines, press conferences and other information seminars, newsletters, slide showings, bulletin boards and on occasion, exhibits. One of the most effective means of bringing information to the public continues to be the Speakers Bureau, which involves approximately 45 employees. One of the most interested "publics" continues to be the students of Connecticut, especially those of high school and college level.

Public interest during FY 1977-78 seemed to reflect a stronger concern for the Department's charge relating to "confinement" rather than to "rehabilitation," judging by the kinds of questions, issues and comments offered by citizens over the past twelve months. The one issue which seemed to require a great deal of clarification was that of fixed sentencing, which brought a large number of telephone and written inquiries.

In brief, the Public Information Office conducted a number of special projects such as the annual Outstanding Performance Awards ceremony, the inmate newspaper competition, the Operation Santa Claus toy collection, while working cooperatively on other events such as the Volunteer Recognition dinner, the Niantic Drama group presentation, the employee Jog-

A-Thon for Cystic Fibrosis, in-house Jaycee activity, Prison Store events and Information for Justice conferences. Assistance was rendered to every division and every facility of the Department in an effort to relay programs and activities to the public. Heaviest demands from the media occurred in December-January and in May-June, when inmate incidents drew strong public attention to the Department.

Several innovative projects were undertaken by the Public Information Office in 1977-78. These included the effort to introduce correctional officers to the public through the formation of a departmental Drill Team, which will make community appearances on appropriate occasions; the Honor Roll Boards, which were installed in each facility as a means of recognizing outstanding employees; and the Scholarship Program, currently being organized to create a scholarship fund to benefit youngsters of correctional employees.

This Office also continued its effort to foster communications and represent the Department on a national level by assisting in the preparation of a national professional publication, and serving as a member of the national Public Information Committee for the American Correctional Association

PROGRAM EVALUATION

Program Evaluation relates to investigations conducted by the Department to ascertain facts in situations important to the conduct of departmental business. This would include character checks of new employees, allegations involving staff and/or inmates, and the accumulation of information essential to the legal obligations of the Department.

Closely related to this evaluative function is the new and enlarged role that inspection is to play in departmental activity. Inspection is to be based on the Administrative Directives of the Department, a comprehensive, loose-leaf volume which forms the procedural base of essential operations. Administrative Directives were revised in 1977-78 and reissued.

The preamble to this volume is the United Nations Minimum Standards for the Treatment of Offenders, which was adopted in late 1974 by the Department in a proclamation that ordered

"continuing inspection as to (the standards') adherence." This concept of inspection, with particular evaluation of unit adherence to directives, is fundamental to the departmental reorganization.

During the year just ended, inspection was set up on a regularized basis with one institution or center being selected each month for extensive evaluation. Central office personnel responsible for overseeing and coordinating specialized areas of institutional activity visited and evaluated in detail the institution's compliance with directives. These specialists noted deficiencies as they carried out their inquiries, and these were then brought together in a month-end report to the Deputy Commissioner for Evaluation and Inspection. He in turn communicated the findings of the evaluation with the administrative head of the affected institution or center. The use of this procedure seemed to be agreeable to all parties, and it was found that facilities could rather readily correct deficiencies soon after their discovery.

Inspection in any organization is always a problem, sometimes representing a threat to unit members, but the speed and style in which these inspection visits were conducted helped to obviate the more difficult problems associated with the process.

INFORMATION SYSTEMS

A massive records clean-up project was completed during 1977-78 in which five tons of duplicate and outdated records were purged from the system. The Records Rehab Project has placed the Department in position to microfilm old records and thus reduce storage space while making these records more readily available. In addition, all old records will be added to the computer files which will make location possible and practical.

The parole docketing process is now an efficient and operating program and the Single File system is gaining maturity and reliability.

The OBSCIS project involves an entire revamping of the CORRECT system, including a total rewrite of the existing computer language, the data dictionary and computerized data elements. This project will be completed on October 1, 1978.

Second year funding is anticipated and should provide system enhancement, including program standardization, improved display, formats and forms, greater edit control, ad-hoc report capability, automated reporting for UPR, NPS, etc., and a registering of all wants and warrants via NLETS and NCIC.

It is expected that Connecticut will be the second OBSCIS operating state and the first with an "on line" system.

PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT

ROBERT J. BROOKS, Chief of Program Development

STAFF TRAINING AND
DEVELOPMENT

Frank Fersch, Director

RESEARCH SERVICES

James Harris, Senior Planner

LIBRARY SERVICES

Lorraine Guenther, Director

The current organizational structure of the Department provides for a Program Development unit to serve the numerous institutions and other functional units of the system. The original impetus to this division was the inadequate programmatic development within the system at the time of its creation. Over the years, however, these areas have articulated identities of their own and come to represent the Department in explicit efforts to both rationalize programming and to give prominence and appropriate emphasis to each area. Over the years, too, these areas have expanded the scope of their operations and budgetary support for specific programs.

As a consequence of these developments, departmental reorganization incorporated a large number of programmatic areas into units (Institutional Services and Field Services) where they could function with the authority of operational attachments. Those areas left with Program Development represent either staff function or, as in the case of Library Services, an activity area that is funded by another state agency.

Program Development continues to function with respect to federal and private grants, although in most cases the actual administration of these funds is the responsibility of other units within the Department. Program Development is charged with the initial design of pilot programs and the coordination of several activities that cut across departmental lines.

A major concern of Program Development during the latter half of the year has been the get-ready process for accreditation. Accreditation is now available for adult institutions, detention

centers, parole services and a wide range of other correctional activities under a program established by the Commission on Accreditation of the American Correctional Association.

The accreditation process, similar to accreditation for schools and hospitals, involves the meeting of several hundred standards of advanced practice in corrections. The process begins with a six-month self-evaluation phase, in which departmental personnel evaluate their programs and policies in relation to the standards set out. Acceptance of this report by the Commission places the Department in Candidate Status, a status that may continue for two years as efforts are expended to meet standards via the development of written policy statements, legislative changes and budgetary revisions. At the close of this two-year period, an extensive external audit of the Department would be ordered by the Commission. At that time the Department would be eligible to receive three-year accreditation if it met 90% of all "essential" standards, 80% of all "important" standards, and 70% of all "desirable" standards.

In 1978, an Accreditation Task Force was created for the Department and sub-committees established at each institution and center as well as within parole supervision. These committees have met at regular intervals and the process of self-evaluation was well along at the end of 1977-78, although it will not officially begin until September 1978. The major task for the Department seems to be the writing of policy statements which reflect actual practice. This will substantially expand the Department's book of Administrative Directives.

Also, at year's end, a grant application for approximately \$70,000 was submitted to the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration to enable full-time staffing for the accreditation process and the procurement of technical assistance in resolving the work entailed by some of the more difficult standards. As Connecticut was one of the first applicants for system-wide accreditation, it is anticipated that this grant request will be successful.

STAFF TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT

The Staff Development division in 1977-78 was keenly aware of its responsibilities in the Department's drive for accreditation.

There are standards for training that will more than double the current requirements for training hours. The division will make every effort to develop additional training materials that will meet the needs of both the Department and its employees. The concern is not merely geared to the satisfaction of numerical requirements, but toward the delivery of relevant materials to enhance the effectiveness of departmental staff.

The plans for the 1978-79 training year includes both an expansion of the current strategies that have proven effective and the development of new programs to increase training levels. Working with the five training officers, the various facilities will be offered every opportunity to meet training requirements.

The pre-service orientation program is set to continue as an intensive 140-hour session based at the Connecticut Justice Academy under the supervision of a training officer. The session includes a simulated lock-up period in the Haddam jail cellblock. Following the simulation and a debriefing session, the trainees begin a full program of classes dealing with every facet of the correctional experience. Topic areas include: security procedures, crisis intervention, fire-arms, non-lethal weapons, and professional ethics. The curriculum is constantly being evaluated to ensure the relevance of the subject materials. The orientation training program is one area in which the Department is already in compliance with accreditation standards.

In-service training efforts have been restricted by the difficulties created by the release of staff to attend centralized training sessions.

A strategy that has met with some success has been the development of self-study packages that can be completed as time is available. In this manner, training can be accomplished with no disruption of institutional operations. Topic areas have been varied in these self-study packages and new subjects are being examined to see if they would be adaptable for this type of delivery. Another strategy designed to permit training to proceed without interruption of facility operations is the development of mandated training modules. These modules are delivered to institutional supervisors as part of a "training for trainers" program that will allow these supervisors to deliver them to their subordinates at the facility. The staff Development division has

made a commitment to have a minimum of 12 hours of training available in this lesson plan form for the current training year.

In-service training is the primary responsibility of the four regional training officers. They must, in addition to strategies already mentioned, plan, research and deliver training programs designed to satisfy specific facility needs. They are also responsible for the recording of all training that takes place for institutional personnel.

At the beginning of the training year, the regional training officers meet with facility administrators and institutional training coordinators to develop a training plan for the year. Training is planned to meet the requirements of facility and staff. The plan is then periodically reviewed to ensure its effectiveness.

New plans for the coming year include a cross training program. Under this program, the officers will be given the opportunity to serve two-week duty assignments in institutions other than their own in order to receive added information about departmental functions and procedures. The program is due to begin in the fall of 1978.

The Staff Development division will also attempt, with the cooperation of institution heads and custody supervisors, to develop a formalized institutional orientation program. Each plan will share certain general materials, but will be geared toward the individual institution's needs. This orientation will be given to all new and transferred employees.

RESEARCH SERVICES

During 1977-78 the Research Services was reorganized. Personnel working to design or maintain the Department's computerized information system were reassigned to the newly-created Information Systems division. Remaining personnel, along with the planning staff, operate under newly-structured Research Services.

The primary research activity was conducted in conjunction with a Connecticut legislative commission which recommended reformed criminal sentencing laws to the General Assembly. During the year, research staff collected and analyzed data

regarding Connecticut sentencing patterns, inmate time served, good time practices, parole board release rate, and plea bargaining practices. In addition, the staff used this data to construct new sentencing guidelines and projected impacts upon correctional facilities. This activity will continue at a much lower rate during the coming fiscal year.

Major research efforts currently under way involve community release programs. Research Services is studying the efficiency and effectiveness of the Department's management process in selecting and routing inmates to community release programs. The staff will then begin to evaluate the effectiveness of selected community programs.

Concurrently, research staff is studying the furlough and work release programs and the policy of assigning long-term inmates to minimum, custody facilities.

LIBRARY SERVICES

Library Services for the Department's institutional environment has been provided by the Connecticut State Library, with a full-time Library Supervisor being assigned to the Department. In addition, libraries at Somers and Cheshire each have a professional librarian.

During the year, the Library Supervisor worked with the Otis Library of Norwich to develop a grant application that would provide half-time professional services for the libraries at the Montville Center and the Niantic Institution. This grant was funded and the two facilities will be beneficiaries of these services during 1978-79.

Several years ago the Department inaugurated a system of microfilmed legal materials. The legal collection, which includes statutes, case law and legal journals from the public domain, is available in all ten facilities. At the Somers and Enfield institutions, it supplements the hard cover legal libraries. The Department's publication "Landmark Decisions in Correctional Law," a capsule of over 200 case decisions, continues to be a best seller and the full text of each of these cases is available in microfilm.

The annual book fairs at Somers and Enfield featured \$10,000 worth of paperback and periodical materials available at discounts to inmates ranging up to 20%. Although the populations were smaller this year than last, sales were up about 7%. The wide diversity of reading interests and the enthusiasm of the men for acquiring books stimulated a number of newspaper reports this year.

The professional collection of the Department's central office was augmented substantially during the year by the addition of many new correctional titles. In addition, a small, nuclear collection for each institution and center was provided by grant funds and these facilities were urged to build in this beginning.