

WITH THE COMPLIMENTS
OF THE

*Director
of
Correctional Services*

ADELAIDE

Annual Report

**Director, Department of
Correctional Services**

31639

1973-74

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

South Australian Department

OF

Correctional Services

For the Year 1973-74

By AUTHORITY: A. B. JAMES, Government Printer, South Australia

1975

Report on the Activities of the Department of Correctional Services for the Year 1973-74

The Honourable the Chief Secretary.

Sir—I have the honour to present my report on the activities of the Department of Correctional Services for the year ended 30th June, 1974.

The most significant feature for the year was undoubtedly the publication of the First Report of the Criminal Law and Penal Methods Reform Committee. Whilst there are many decisions yet required on the sections to be implemented and the priorities to be observed, we have had, for the first time since the early 1900's (so far as I can ascertain) an independent review of the whole system. Whilst a number of the recommendations have been departmental policy for some time, the review of legislation will formalise much of what is being done, and the other changes envisaged are at present being assessed and reported on. Probably the most interesting aspect of the First Report was its recommendation that the department should continue to develop as an integrated unit.

It is also interesting to speculate on exactly what is happening in the field of justice. Reference to the figures presented later in this report for the Probation Branch shows that for the first time for a number of years, the number placed on probation and suspended sentences has shown no significant rise. Probably the recently appointed Criminologist will ultimately produce some figures for the whole justice system that will be far more useful than those produced by only one part of it.

PRISONS

The drop in prisoner numbers has now reached the stage where serious consideration can be given to the closing of a prison, and as mentioned in my previous report, this must undoubtedly be Gladstone. The reasons for this are twofold.

(a) the report of the Criminal Law and Penal Reform Committee which recommends the phasing out of Gladstone and Cadell.

(b) the amount of money required to bring Gladstone to a stage of satisfactory accommodation.

With respect to (b), all major alterations previously approved have been stopped, and the only essential projects have been proceeded with pending a final decision on the future of this institution.

The drop in numbers has also caused problems in prison workshops which over the years have had scheduled production geared to numbers of prisoners available. Whilst the Prison Industry Officers have coped well with this particular situation, what has caused more concern is the attitude of prisoners themselves. In South Australia we have experienced little trouble over the years in coping with prisoner attitudes and problems, but there is a clearly discernible trend over the last 12 months for prisoners to be more demanding, less inclined to want to work, possess far less respect for authority of any sort (not only prison officers) and to be generally less appreciative of assistance available to them. There are, of course, exceptions, but the number of prisoners who must work their way through early institutional problems is certainly increasing and these people require the best efforts of the professional and disciplinary staff.

Comments on individual institutions follow.

Adelaide Gaol

Total admissions fell from 6 930 in 1972-73 to 6 474 during the period under notice. The drop of some 7 per cent is a return to the 1971-72 figure. This is reflected in a drop in daily average from 249 in 1972-73 to 236 in the present period. Movement remained high with a total of 12 948 admissions and discharges for the year.

Admissions to the Remand Section fell from 1 933 in 1972-73 to 1 811, of which 1 073 were released from Court not subsequently given a direct term of imprisonment. This was approximately 5 per cent lower than the 1972-73 figure of releases.

With the publication of the First Report of the Criminal Law and Penal Methods Reform Committee, it is now clearer that Adelaide Gaol must be replaced as quickly as possible with a secure and satisfactory Remand Centre containing proper assessment facilities. Not only is Adelaide Gaol old and inconvenient, but the intent to preserve its identity as a National Trust heritage militates against the department making any alterations that are necessary, although we continue to upgrade those portions not classified by the Trust.

The industries continue to operate with sentenced prisoners, and the Kitchen, Bakehouse, Laundry, Garden and Maintenance sections are productive and provide good training. However, it is noticeable that more remand prisoners are now nominating themselves as prepared to work, and one section of the Laundry is almost completely staffed by these people.

Yatala Labour Prison

There was a decrease both in admissions and daily average, the latter being 311 against 343 in the 1972-73 year.

The industries continued in much the same vein as previously and these are commented on more fully in another part of this report. The sewerage of one living section of "A" Division was commenced and after we have had time to assess the success or otherwise of this section, a decision can be made regarding sewerage of individual cells as against the more community type of living envisaged in the experimental wing.

The Amenities Section expanded its activities, particularly in prisoners' canteen facilities. Working from Yatala, the Amenities Officer is in the process of developing proper canteens in other prisons, both for sentenced and remand prisoners. However, in spite of cheaper goods available through this facility, the purchasing power of prisoners is rapidly eroding with inevitable price rises.

As mentioned in the previous report, we have planned for a new laundry and also for additional administrative facilities, but is not yet clear if finance will be available for this work.

Cadell Training Centre

Daily average population fell from 95 in the 1972-73 year to 64 in the year under notice, with total admissions being 467 as against 800 the previous year. This drop is a direct reflection of the types of prisoners now being received and regarding which some comments were made in the preamble to this report. An open prison requires a degree of trust on the part of authority and acceptance of responsibility on the part of the prisoner. It is becoming increasingly more difficult to meet these requirements. Particularly with prisoners convicted for crimes of violence, there is a great press and public reaction when the administration makes an error in judgment regarding placement of prisoners. It is a matter of regret that little attention is paid to the successful decisions, and there is no doubt that Cadell with its open atmosphere, team participation and placement of responsibility on the individual, has played a big part in the successful rehabilitation of many offenders. The First Report of the Criminal Law and Penal Methods Reform Committee recommends ultimate phasing out of Cadell, mainly on the basis that the Committee feels that farming activities do not provide satisfactory training for offenders largely drawn from urban society. However, until we can develop the metropolitan minimum-medium security institution recommended by the Committee, Cadell must remain in operation as our principal resocialisation institution. But in doing this we can now only place prisoners nearing the end of their sentence, and this must reduce the daily average because of the comparatively short stay involved.

Port Augusta Prison

Daily averages dropped from 50 males and 10 females in 1972-73 to 43 males and 6 females for the year under notice. Due to problems of ground levels, it has not yet been possible to build the industrial area, but the land-fill project will commence shortly and on completion the industrial buildings can be erected.

The after hours education programmes in the institution have been particularly successful, with officers of the Education Department co-operating with departmental officers in a most gratifying fashion.

Gladstone Prison

The daily average dropped from 64 in 1972-73 to 37 in the year under notice, and this number of prisoners makes it almost impossible to continue to operate this sprawling and inconvenient institution, particularly as a large staff is required because of these same factors. Whilst the sheet-metal shop and garden continued to be productive, the department could make much better use of both staff and prisoners in other institutions.

Mount Gambier Gaol

Although admissions for the year were less than in 1972-73, the daily average rose from 16 to 18. This is accounted for by the fact that this institution kept longer term inmates than hitherto.

A number of building projects for the Gaol had been projected but following the recommendations of the Criminal Law and Penal Methods Reform Committee, these were reviewed. A major plan for the previous improvement plus cell sewerage has now been approved following the Committee's recommendation that the Gaol should be retained and upgraded. Additional staff will also be appointed in due course.

Port Lincoln Prison

Admissions and the daily average remained steady, the latter being 15 against 16 in 1972-73. However, immediately the extensions are completed the number will rise as the present policy of flying prisoners to Port Augusta will cease. Housing for the additional staff is almost completed, and this institution will be in a position to provide a proper service for males and females from the entire West Coast.

Womens Rehabilitation Centre

The daily average in this institution was 22, the same as the 1972-73 year.

The few years of operation of this institution have shown that some building alterations were necessary. Higher partitions were installed in the dormitory division to give more privacy to the inmates, and the recalcitrant wing is to be extended to make for more satisfactory handling of difficult prisoners.

INDUSTRIES

Whilst there was little change in the nature of our industries, and certainly a drop in man-power available, it is interesting to note that returns to the Treasury rose by \$62 717 to \$375 458. Whilst some of this amount came from a reasonably satisfactory season at Cadell, most of it came from improved production methods in the workshops, and for this the Industries Committee and the Prison Industry Officers must receive full credit.

Our products of course, are not placed on the open market and are absorbed by our own, and other Government departments. The shops do provide general industrial training and it is not uncommon to find prisoners developing considerable interest in some skills, an interest which departmental officers do their best to foster.

Having said this, it must also be stated that in reality, ex-prisoners seldom appear to stay for longer than about three months in the jobs to which they go from prison. There are exceptions, but our figures are supported by statistics from other places. The reasons for this would provide some interesting research which could perhaps change many of the concepts of prison work. However, the importance of Union participation in the future of prison work and training cannot be over-emphasised. Where we have been able to obtain this, the placement of prison-trained people has been relatively easy and also, it appears, results in more job satisfaction. Employers have been co-operative and job opportunities have not been lacking for those prisoners who are interested.

In the meantime consideration is being given to the First Report and its recommendations on prison industry.

Details of receipts and payments are contained in the financial report on page 9.

DISCIPLINE AND ESCAPES

Whilst general discipline has been good, there are, as previously mentioned, a number of signs that the voluntary type of discipline that has been a feature of the department is becoming increasingly difficult to maintain. If we had a large staff turnover, one could perhaps query staff attitudes, but in view of the fact that we have had virtually no turnover at all it can safely be assumed that other factors are operating. Certainly the unrest in institutions in other places generates unease and it is a matter of conjecture how much longer South Australia can survive without this type of problem.

No doubt the Ombudsman's Report will be of interest in this regard, but it appears from correspondence with his office that prisoners are principally concerned with medical attention and interpretation of court rulings at this stage, and that actual prison conditions have not been of particular import.

There were 16 escapes during the year, being seven from Adelaide Gaol, four from Yatala, two from Port Lincoln and three from Cadell. Four of the escapes from Adelaide Gaol were from medium security areas and the remainder were abscondings from outside jobs. There were no escapes by prisoners assessed as maximum security.

EDUCATION

Basic information on the work of the Education Officers is as follows:—

I. STATISTICS

1. Average number of prisoner student enrolments	1 625
2. Total number of lessons	1 103
3. Total number of assignments	
1. Lessons for Illiterates	367
2. Lessons for Primary	736
3. Assignments for Primary	264
4. Assignments to S.A. College of External Studies	659
5. Assignments to Correspondence School.....	171
4. Courses completed	
5. Average Monthly Enrolments	
Primary	12.5
Technical	97.2
Secondary (Academic)	25.3
Illiterates	7.0
Foreign	5.0
Religion	1.5
Private Study	16.3

II. DISTRIBUTION OF LIBRARY BOOKS

	Hard Covers	Paper Covers	Used
Yatala Labour Prison.....	565	116	—
Adelaide Gaol	114	292	550
Womens Rehabilitation Centre.....	161	42	—
Cadell Training Centre	299	66	—
Gladstone Prison.....	139	46	—
Port Augusta Prison	144	24	—
Mount Gambier Prison	77	15	—
Port Lincoln Prison	79	24	—

MISCELLANEOUS BOOKS AND MATERIALS

Various trade manuals to Prison Industrial Officers.
Manuals and pamphlets to Adelaide Gaol Bakehouse.
National Geographic Magazine to all Libraries.
The Companion Book Club to all Institutions.
Boot and Shoe Recorders to Boot Shop, Yatala Labour Prison.
Educational books as required for all Academic and Technical Courses.
Pilot Course, Yatala Labour Prison—Equipment and materials as required for classes in Plastics, Pottery, Ceramic Art and Electronics.

EXAMINATION AND COURSE COMPLETIONS

Nineteen students completed Technical courses throughout the year. In addition five students sat for examinations at the end of the year. One passed in three subjects at Matriculation Level. One passed in two subjects at Leaving Level. One passed in Cartography and two students passed in Automotive Workshop Theory and Automotive Drawing.

In addition to these activities, the Education Officers paid visits to country institutions, supervised examinations, assisted with the debating groups, conducted whatever classes were necessary, lectured schools of new officers and arranged visits by educationalists and special interest groups.

The interest and dedication of our present officers is greatly appreciated by both staff and prisoners.

PSYCHIATRIC

Whilst the Senior Psychiatrist seconded to the department continued to provide the necessary reports for the Classification Committee, the Parole Board and the various courts, the most important development for the year was the opening of the Security Hospital.

Built as a joint venture with the Department of Mental Health, this particular institution has now been operating for seven months and shows every sign of being successful in terms of treatment and assessment. Although some people outside the department expressed the opinion that prisoners admitted to the hospital could be kept in on an indeterminate basis, the fact that there were 21 admissions and 23 transfers to prison or discharge shows that these fears were unfounded.

There will have to be changes made as problems appear, but considering the shortness of the assessment period to date it is difficult to comment more usefully at this stage.

The most significant development is the good relationship that exists between prison and hospital staff. There is every reason to believe that this will continue and can serve as an example of inter-departmental co-operation at all levels.

MEDICAL AND DENTAL

Medical Officers seconded from the Department of Public Health and private practitioners in country areas continued to maintain health services at a high level. Medical examinations and treatment of minor ailments were conducted in all prisons, and where necessary, patients received hospital or out-patient treatment, including optical. At Yatala, the Medical Officer continued with the policy of regular six monthly check-ups for long term prisoners.

Dental facilities continued to be provided by a Visiting Dentist in the metropolitan area and local dentists in country areas.

There was no outbreak of infectious diseases.

There were three prisoner deaths during the year.

PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES

The range of services undertaken by the psychologists was similar to that of other years except that changes were made to test patterns to enhance reliability. Apart from routine testing and reporting a number of prisoners were seen on request, and a number taken for counselling on a regular basis. The granting of an 18 month scholarship to one of the psychologists to study for a Master's Degree has thrown a great load on other officers, and has meant curtailing of some services, but it is anticipated that future services can be further improved as a result of this move.

The appointment of a Research Officer to the department will be of great assistance, and it is evident that the Research and Psychology sections will work very closely together in the future.

SPIRITUAL WELFARE

Visiting Chaplains of all faiths continued their ministry in all institutions, but there is evident a decreasing wish amongst prisoners to attend church services. Experiments with alternative times has not registered any significant improvement. This suggests that a Chaplain's most valuable work is in the area of pastoral counselling and working with institutional officers as part of a team, although the whole concept of chaplaincy services should perhaps be looked at to decide which is the best policy for religious instruction in prisons. We will undertake this early in 1975.

The department is very grateful to the Visiting Chaplains for the work they undertake and their opinions on the future of the service provided will perhaps make it possible to make their task more rewarding.

STAFF AND STAFF TRAINING

Due to continued low staff turnover, only 15 officers had to be recruited for institutions during this period. Courses conducted by the Training Section were:—

- A. Stage "A" Induction Training Courses
Each of these Courses were of five weeks duration.
 - A. 1. 44th Probationary Prison Officers Course. Six male officers attended.
 - A. 2. 45th Probationary Prison Officers Course. Nine officers attended (8 male, 1 female).
- B. Stage "B" Training Courses
Each Course was of one weeks duration.
 - B. 1. 43rd Probationary Prison Officers Course. Fifteen officers attended (13 male, 2 female).
 - B. 2. 44th Probationary Prison Officers Course. Seven Officers attended (6 male, 1 female).
- C. Courses for Psychiatric Nurses in Prison Administration
Each Course was of three weeks duration.
 - C. 1. The first Course was attended by 15 Nurses (10 male, 5 female).
 - C. 2. The second Course was attended by 16 Nurses (12 male and 4 female).

However, the Training Branch officers revised and rewrote training precis, and prepared a new training manual for issue to all uniformed staff.

In line with the recommendations of the First Report of the Criminal Law and Penal Methods Reform Committee, a departmental committee has been formed and negotiations are under way for the preparation of a Certificate Course in Correctional Administration to be conducted by one of the Colleges of Advanced Education. It is yet too early to comment usefully on this project except to say that it is hoped that parts of it can be commenced in 1975.

PUBLIC RELATIONS

The department continued with its policy of opening prisons to groups of students from appropriate disciplines from the Flinders University, Adelaide University, S.A. Institute of Technology, in-Service training courses, Teachers College and Nursing Group courses.

A number of clubs and individuals visited prisons for sports and debating nights and artists presented concerts. A poetry group was formed at Yatala by interested people and appears to be attracting interest. Many service groups, schools and other bodies were addressed by officers and it is apparent that people generally are interested in the activities of the department.

FUTURE DEVELOPMENT

The First Report of the Criminal Law and Penal Methods Reform Committee has presented a number of recommendations on which future progress of the department can be based. At the invitation of the Government a number of committees have been set up to recommend ways in which the various recommendations can be implemented, and to assist in setting priorities. The recommendations fall quite readily into categories of matters that require Government decision on priorities (e.g. institutions) those that require legislative changes and those which can be implemented by departmental action. Some changes have already been made and it is hoped that a review of the legislation will shortly be approved. Although this will be a big task it is long overdue and will also enable a complete rewriting of the regulations, many of which are hopelessly out of date.

DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONAL SERVICES

The activities of this department include the control of gaols and prisons under the Prisons Act, and the administration of the Adult Probation Service under the Offenders Probation Act.

In April, 1974, the name of the department was changed from Prisons Department to the Department of Correctional Services.

Receipts and Payments on account of Consolidated Revenue for the year ended 30th June, 1974, with comparative figures for the previous year were:—

	\$ 1973	\$ 1974	Increase \$
PAYMENTS—			
GENERAL ADMINISTRATION—			
Salaries and wages and related payments	296 764	429 814	
Services, supplies, etc.	51 375	58 711	
	348 139	488 525	140 386
ADELAIDE GAOL—			
Salaries and wages	445 866	567 971	
Provisions, clothing, payments to prisoners, services, etc.	138 675	186 253	
Purchase of plant and equipment	3 651	6 259	
	588 192	760 483	172 291
COUNTRY GAOLS—			
Salaries and wages	146 067	189 643	
Provisions, clothing, payments to prisoners, services, etc.	69 545	95 442	
Purchase of plant and equipment	12 687	2 928	
	228 299	288 013	59 714
POLICE PRISONS AND POLICE STATIONS for services and supplies	25 853	22 698	*3 155
WOMENS REHABILITATION CENTRE—			
Salaries and wages	96 050	126 670	
Provisions, clothing, payments to prisoners, services, etc.	20 905	25 856	
Purchase of plant and equipment	268	150	
	117 223	152 676	35 453
YATALA LABOUR PRISON—			
Salaries and wages	975 374	1 193 709	
Provisions, clothing, payments to prisoners, services, etc.	247 872	330 221	
Materials for trade shops	141 387	168 423	
Purchase of livestock, plant and equipment	17 455	30 313	
	1 382 088	1 722 666	340 578
CADELL TRAINING CENTRE—			
Salaries and wages	176 508	211 882	
Provisions, clothing, payments to prisoners, services, etc.	100 274	92 757	
Purchase of livestock, plant and equipment	12 308	9 060	
	289 090	313 699	24 609
GLADSTONE PRISON—			
Salaries and wages	142 409	170 230	
Provisions, clothing, payments to prisoners, services, etc.	51 186	59 129	
Materials for trade shops	13 047	11 576	
Purchase of livestock, plant and equipment	5 363	1 467	
	212 005	233 402	21 397
Total Payments by the Department	3 190 889	3 982 162	791 273
RECEIPTS—			
PROCEEDS OF PRISON LABOUR, ETC.—			
ADELAIDE AND COUNTRY GAOLS	31 792	35 124	3 332
YATALA LABOUR PRISON	211 460	252 352	40 892
CADELL TRAINING CENTRE	47 311	60 661	13 350
GLADSTONE PRISON	22 178	27 321	5 143
Total Receipts	312 741	375 458	62 717
DEFICIT ON DEPARTMENTAL OPERATIONS TO WHICH ARE TO BE ADDED—	2 878 148	3 606 704	728 556
OTHER PAYMENTS ON BEHALF OF THE DEPARTMENT			
Public Buildings Department Services	221 351	225 305	3 954
Superannuation Contribution by Government	26 311	32 196	5 885
Interest	269 232	307 287	38 055
Depreciation pursuant to Public Finance Act	38 657	56 003	17 346
Total Other Payments	555 551	620 791	65 240
TOTAL DEFICIT FOR YEAR	\$3 433 699	\$4 227 495	\$793 796

* Decrease.

Payments shown in the foregoing statement do not include any charges for use of premises, telephones, electricity, cleaning, etc.

Net cost to Consolidated Revenue

Payments, receipts and net cost to Consolidated Revenue, together with the average annual cost per prisoner including Head Office administration charges for the past three years are set out in the following table:—

Year	Payments	Receipts	Net Cost	Average Daily Number of Prisoners	Average Annual Net Cost per Prisoner	Increase in Cost per Prisoner over Previous Year
	\$	\$	\$		\$	\$
1971-72	3 251 432	340 929	2 910 503	922	3 157	584
1972-73	3 746 440	312 741	3 433 699	867	3 960	803
1973-74	4 602 953	375 458	4 227 495	747	5 659	1 699

The main variations and reasons for the increase of \$794 000 in the net cost to Consolidated Revenue for 1973-74 as compared with the previous year were:—

Payments	Increase \$	Main Reasons
Salaries, wages and related payments	611 000	Award variations and an increase in the number of staff employed
Office expenses, provisions, clothing, etc.	156 000	Increased cost of prisoners' rations and clothing
Materials for trade shops	26 000	Increased cost of materials
<i>Receipts</i>		
Proceeds of prison labour, etc.	63 000	Increased market value of garden and farm produce and tradeshop products

Included in the payments for the department is \$225 000 for maintenance of buildings and plant expended by the Public Buildings Department. Of this amount \$109 000 was on account of Yatala Labour Prison and \$44 000 for Adelaide Gaol.

Number of Prisoners and Staff

The average daily number of prisoners and staff as at 30th June for the various institutions for the past three years were:—

	1971-72		1972-73		1973-74	
	Average Daily Number of Prisoners	Staff as at 30/6/72	Average Daily Number of Prisoners	Staff as at 30/6/73	Average Daily Number of Prisoners	Staff as at 30/6/74
Comptroller's Office	—	49	—	62	—	80
Adelaide Gaol	262	75	249	81	237	86
Country Gaols	78	22	92	22	76	29
Womens Rehabilitation Centre	26	18	22	18	22	21
Yatala Labour Prison	363	167	343	182	311	178
Cadell Training Centre	119	33	95	35	64	32
Gladstone Prison	74	24	66	26	37	25
Total	922	388	867	426	747	451

Departmental staff continues to increase mainly due to the necessity for additional parole and probationary officers to cope with the present trend towards greater non-custodial supervision and the additional supervision involved in providing increased facilities and activities for inmates in institutions.

Payments from the Loan Account

During 1973-74 payments from the Loan Account for building and equipment amounted to \$700 000, an increase of \$438 000 compared with the previous year.

The major items involved were—

Institution	\$	Principal Projects
Port Lincoln	377 000	Stage 2 of new prison, \$338 000, and erection of staff residences, \$39 000.
Yatala	171 000	New laundry, \$115 000; new workshop, store and toilets, \$38 000 and emergency power supply for the prison and the Northfield Security Hospital, \$18 000.
Port Augusta	39 000	Completion of new prison and conversion of accommodation for use by women prisoners.
Adelaide	32 000	Construction of new kitchen, \$19 000.

Special Comments on Accounting Activities

During the year attention was drawn to the unsatisfactory standard of accounting work throughout the department. The main problems stemmed from inadequate procedures and internal checks combined with a lack of co-ordination between head office and the various institutions. The situation has recently been reviewed by the Public Service Board and appropriate action commenced.

No. 1—RETURN OF PRISONERS RECEIVED AND DISCHARGED AND DAILY AVERAGE IN CONFINEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE, 1974

	Yatala		Adelaide		Cadell	Gladstone	Mt. Gambier		Pt. Augusta		Pt. Lincoln		Police Prisons		Total		Grand Total
	M.	F.	Gaol	W.R.C.			M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
Strength on 1st July, 1973	322	231	231	20	76	56	20	1	52	12	14	1	6	1	777	35	812
Totals	322	231	231	20	76	56	20	1	52	12	14	1	6	1	777	35	812
Received during the year—																	
Convicted	—	4 500	209	209	159	129	217	2	707	192	162	31	338	111	6 212	545	6 757
New cases for trial, etc., afterwards convicted	—	738	22	22	—	—	—	—	53	3	6	3	19	—	816	28	844
Probationers returned to prison	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Transfers from other prisons	561	163	4	4	308	151	1	—	12	4	4	1	21	2	1 221	11	1 232
Transfers from asylums	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	—	6
Transfers from hospitals	42	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	44	—	44
For trial, but not subsequently imprisoned	2	1 073	97	97	—	11	—	—	80	5	5	—	3	—	1 174	102	1 276
Totals	611	6 474	333	333	467	291	218	2	852	204	179	35	381	113	9 473	687	10 160
Total (including strength at commencement of year)	933	6 705	353	353	543	347	238	3	904	216	193	36	387	114	10 250	722	10 972
Discharged during the year to freedom—																	
By time	284	4 218	201	201	374	245	136	3	663	201	142	26	263	86	6 325	517	6 842
By Warrant of H. E. the Governor	1	1	22	22	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	22	24
On probation	65	11	3	3	15	2	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	96	3	99
Died	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	3
Absconded	4	—	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	11	—	11
Transfer to other prisons	153	794	3	3	81	46	10	—	72	3	21	4	113	27	1 290	37	1 327
Transfer to hospitals	44	1	4	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	48	4	52
Transfer to asylums	10	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	14	—	14
Unconvicted	2	872	83	83	—	10	—	—	80	5	—	—	—	—	964	88	1 052
On appeal	—	18	1	1	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	22	1	23
Other means	51	555	14	14	—	12	72	—	35	1	11	5	4	—	740	20	760
Totals	616	6 474	331	331	476	315	218	3	857	210	179	35	380	113	9 515	692	10 207
Strength on 30th June, 1974	317	231	22	22	67	32	20	—	47	6	14	1	7	1	735	30	765
Daily average in confinement	311	236.8	22	22	64	37	18	—	43	7	14	1	7	1	730.8	31	761.8

No. 2—RETURN SHOWING THE OFFENCES AND AGES OF CONVICTED PRISONERS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE, 1974

	Age of Prisoners												Total		Grand Total
	18 to 20		21 to 30		31 to 40		41 to 50		51 to 60		60 and over				
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
Felony	204	9	250	9	79	1	39	2	9	—	1	—	582	21	603
Misdemeanour	310	31	436	39	186	38	128	34	63	7	11	—	1 134	149	1 283
Drunkenness	60	38	196	54	796	68	846	78	753	27	244	10	2 895	275	3 170
Other Offences	385	41	612	40	326	18	530	20	425	3	139	7	2 417	129	2 546
Total	959	119	1 494	142	1 387	125	1 543	134	1 250	37	395	17	7 028	574	7 602

No. 3—RETURN OF CONVICTED PRISONERS GIVING NUMBER OF DISTINCT PERSONS AND NUMBER OF CONVICTIONS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE, 1974

Number of Distinct Persons Convicted		Number Previously Convicted						Not Previously Convicted		Total		Grand Total
		Once		Twice		Three or more						
M.	F..	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
3 137	226	313	18	191	18	2 216	129	417	61	3 137	226	3 363

No. 4—RETURN SHOWING THE OFFENCES OF CONVICTED PRISONERS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE, 1974

Offences Against the Person	Offences Against Property		Offences Against Morality	Offences Against Good Order		Other Offences	Total
	Larceny and Similar Offences	All Other Offences Against Property		Drunkenness	All Other Offences Against Good Order		
446	829	286	82	3 170	551	2 238	7 602

In the case of those imprisoned on a number of convictions, the offence listed is the most serious.

No. 5—RETURN SHOWING THE BIRTHPLACES OF CONVICTED PRISONERS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE, 1974

United Kingdom (Including Eire)	Europe	America	Asia	South Australia	N.S.W.	Victoria	Queensland	Western Australia	Tasmania	New Zealand	All Other Places	Total
511	701	21	5	4 496	596	789	150	155	70	43	65	7 602

No. 6—RETURN SHOWING THE RELIGIONS OF CONVICTED PRISONERS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE, 1974

Church of England	1 571
Roman Catholic	2 114
Presbyterian	169
Congregational	29
Church of Christ	118
Baptist	117
Methodist	1 234
Lutheran	1 112
Other Christian Churches	322
Non-Christian Churches	53
No Religion	763
Total	7 602

PROBATION AND PAROLE

The period covered in this report sees the 20th anniversary of the commencement of a statutory probation and parole service. On the 15th March, 1954, the first full-time statutory probation officer started duty in the then Sheriffs, Gaols and Prisons Department. From that modest start the Service has now grown to have a staff of over 40, with two suburban district offices, two more soon to open, three staff located in the country, senior supervisory staff and a client of 2 229 offenders under its control.

Due to the limits of our resources, we are unable to produce an analysis of the data accumulated over 20 years on adult offenders who have been under our supervision. Perusal of annual reports supplied to the Government since the commencement of the Service indicates that probationary supervision has been ordered more frequently by the courts. The rate of success is difficult to measure, indeed a definition of success is itself hard to reach, except in very basic short run criteria. Certainly a high percentage of probationers complete the period of their order without returning to court. The lack of sophisticated data collection and analysis procedures prevents us from putting forward any data on the relative contributions made to an apparent success of probation by both the probation officers and the clients. Neither do we have methods of prediction available to us that would indicate the potential for recidivism on the majority of clients placed under our care. Nevertheless, in purely economic terms there is no doubt that probationary supervision is a much more economic method of providing control on the behaviour of some criminally deviant members than placing them in maximum security custody. The appointment of a Research Officer will enable the department to produce much more relevant data than has been the case to date.

Probation under supervision is however, more than mere reporting and surveillance. The importance of social case work as a long term behaviour modification technique is well documented in many fields of social work, including corrections. This is expressed both in the job classification (which is linked with social work) and in the increased emphasis on higher levels of training. Of all the developments that have occurred in the probation field in South Australia in the past 20 years, increasing attention given to better levels of training is perhaps one of the most important. It is worth noting the first officer appointed to the service was a social work graduate. It is really only in the last three years that the service has been in a position to recruit new staff through a formalised training method. All entrants to the probation service are now recruited either as graduates from schools of social work, or mature age applicants through a formalised 12 month in-service training course, conducted in conjunction with the Department for Community Welfare. If probation, and parole, is as important a method of managing the criminal deviant as we would believe, and we certainly believe that it is, then it is equally important that staff engaged on this work should have a formal theoretical background to complement the experience they bring with them or gain on the job.

Examination of the growth of staff shows that we have progressed to an agency of some size. This has however, been outweighed by an increase in the work loads, particularly in the last five years. The advent of the local and district criminal courts, the parole board, and the amendments to section 4 of the Offenders Probation Act, have all provided a part in the rapid growth of clients in latter years. If probation and parole are to have long term benefits in changing the patterns of behaviour of offenders, time and skill must be invested in individual offenders, an investment which is largely beyond our resources under current work loads. The First Report of the Criminal Law and Penal Methods Reform Committee will require an increased commitment in terms of money for the recruitment of additional staff if we are to reach the work-load goal outlined in that report. In the recruitment of social work graduates, we will probably continue to have difficulty for the next three to five years. Adult corrections is not the most popular area for professionals in any area of behavioural sciences. Certainly in social work the area receives either passing reference only, or often none at all in the present generic social work courses. It is fortunate that this fact is realised by the Public Service Board and at the present time a working party, on which this department is represented, is examining the problems of staffing in the various social work areas within the State Government. It is likely that as a result of that Committee's findings an attempt will be made to provide some alternative sub-professional level of training which may more adequately meet our needs.

An examination of the figures for the period 1st July, 1973, to 30th June, 1974, indicates one significant change from previous reports. Figures for new cases assigned to the department indicate that for people placed under the supervision of a Probation Officer, there has been no net gain. In terms of providing

a breathing space to enable the average work loads of the staff to be reduced to a more manageable level, the fact that the numbers have remained stationary will certainly provide that space. On the other hand the figures also indicate that the demand for both Pre-Sentence Reports and Parole Reports continues to increase. As noted in the previous annual report, it is in the area of preparation of reports that the greatest amount of pressure is placed upon the staff.

Supervision

Table 1 shows the assignment of offenders under various classifications who are placed under supervision.

TABLE 1

	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Number of Probationers and Parolees under supervision as at 30th June, 1973	1 896	329	2 225			
Number assigned 1st July, 1973-30th June, 1974—						
1. Offenders Probation Act	261	100	361			
2. Offenders Probation Act Section 4 (Suspended Sentence)	450	60	510			
3. Justices Act	151	6	157			
4. Criminal Law Consolidation Act	71	5	76			
5. Crimes Act (Commonwealth)	0	1	1			
6. Parole	89	4	93			
7. Licence	14	0	14			
Total	1 036	176	1 212	1 036	176	1 212
Less Probation completed	659	207	866	2 932	505	3 437
Less Recognizances estreated	165	12	177			
Less Parole and licence completed	83	6	89			
Less Parole and licence revoked	19	1	20			
Less Deceased	14	2	16			
Less Deleted for other reasons	33	7	40			
Total	973	235	1 208	973	235	1 208
Number under supervision—30th June, 1974	1 959	270	2 229			

As mentioned previously, the significance of these figures is the fact that we have had no net gain. A comparison of figures with the previous year shows that during the period covered in this report a greater number of offenders completed their period of probation and a significantly larger number had their recognizances estreated.

Table 2 provides some information on the reasons for estreatment of recognizances. The table indicates that by far the greater number of estreatments were either for offences of entirely different character, or for other breaches of the probation orders. One factor put forward to account for this stabilisation of numbers under supervision, is that the period covered in the report constitutes a little over three years in time since the introduction of suspended sentences. In previous annual reports comment was made on the extensive use of section 4 of the Offenders Probation Act, and that over half of the people placed on supervision had a suspended sentence as part of the order. It is therefore suggested that the initial extensive use of suspended sentences continues to show up in the figures in terms of the number of bonds and periods of probation being completed. It may also account for the slight rise in the number of recognizances estreated.

The previous annual report made mention of some of the problems that emanate from the use of suspended sentences. The fact that on proof of a breach of recognizance, the lack of discretion requires that the court revoke the suspension and that the sentence come into effect, does in some way make estreatment more straight forward, and may account for a slight rise in the number of recognizances actually estreated.

TABLE 2

ESTREATMENT OF RECOGNIZANCE

The following table is submitted bearing in mind that many comparatively minor breaches are dealt with by reprimand and that others have left the jurisdiction of this State.

Offence Related to Original Probation Order	Breach Due to Conviction ¹			Breach Due to Failure to Comply with Conditions of Probation Order	Total
	For Further Similar Offence	For Further Offence Along Same Lines	For Another Different Offence		
Assault	1	—	6	2	9
Attempt to commit felony	—	—	1	—	1
Attempt murder	—	—	1	—	1
Beg alms	—	—	—	1	1
Breach recognizance	—	—	1	1	2
Break, enter, larceny	5	7	14	31	57
Buggery	—	—	1	—	1
Burglary	1	1	—	—	2
Carnal knowledge	—	—	—	2	2
Create false belief	2	—	—	—	2
Cause death by dangerous driving	—	—	1	—	1
Demand money with menaces	—	—	1	—	1
Drive under influence	—	—	1	4	5
Drive while disqualified	3	1	3	2	9
Drug offences	1	—	5	5	11
Drunk	1	—	—	1	2
Escape legal custody	—	—	1	2	3
False pretences	2	1	4	6	13
Forge and utter	—	—	1	4	5
Illegal use	5	1	5	4	15
Indecent behaviour	—	1	—	—	1
Indecent interference	—	1	—	—	1
Insufficient means of support	—	—	1	1	2
Larceny	3	—	11	12	26
Offensive behaviour	1	—	1	2	4
Pass valueless cheque	—	—	—	2	2
Possess housebreaking implements	—	—	1	1	2
Rape	—	—	—	2	2
Receiving	—	—	3	1	4
Robbery with violence	—	1	4	—	5
Unlawful possession	—	1	2	1	4
Unlawfully on premises	—	—	—	1	1
Wilful damage	—	—	4	1	5
Total	25	15	73	89	202

Table 3 indicates the growth of the probation service as mentioned in the preamble to this section of the report. Apart from a slight drop in total numbers in the period 1962-63 the total number under the supervision of the probation and parole service has continued a steady increase.

TABLE 3

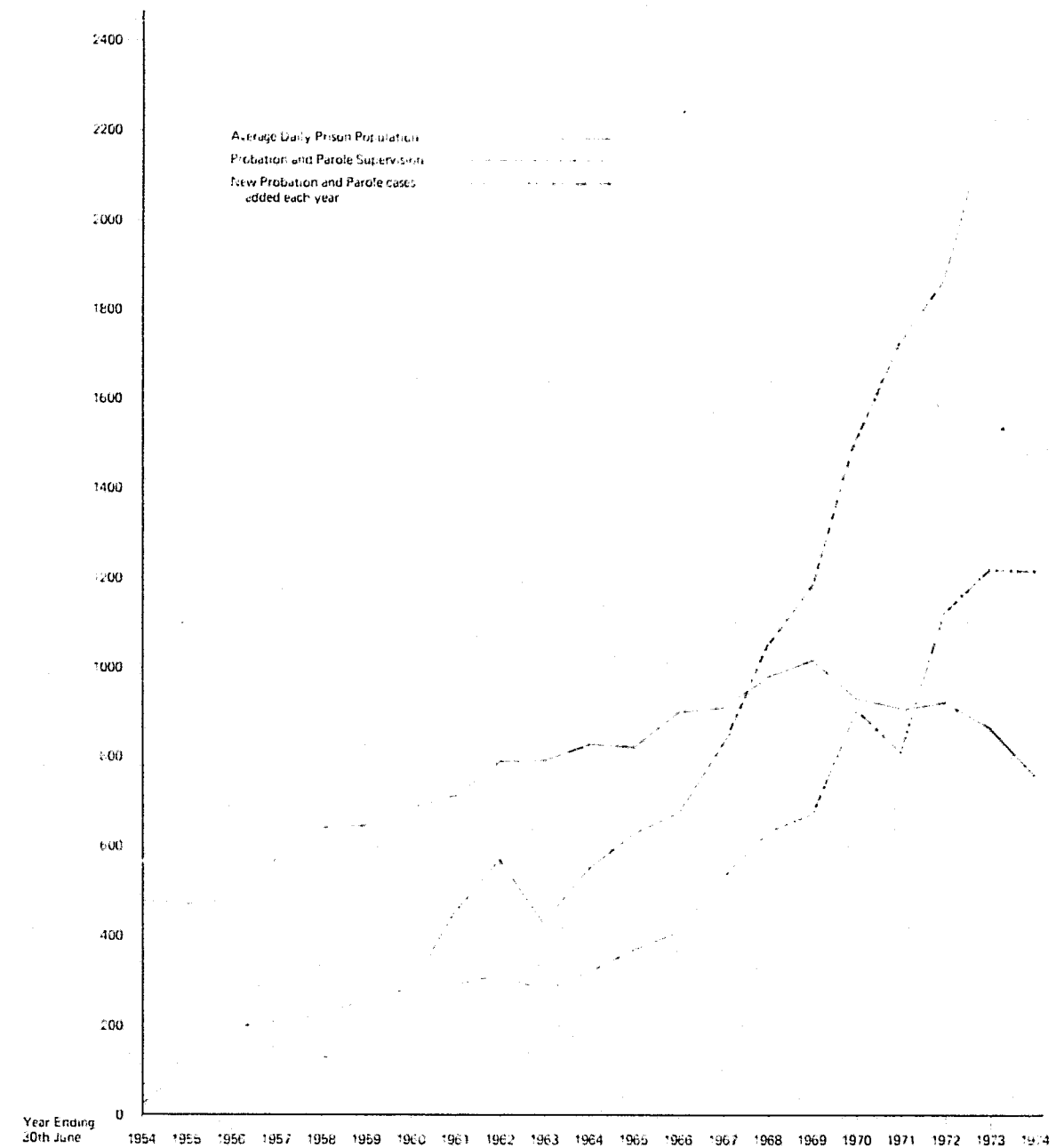


Table 4 refers to the number of orders with or without supervision issued in respect of all adult offenders. The figures indicate that just under half of all bonds granted on adult offenders contained a clause relating to supervision.

TABLE 4

Court	With Supervision			Without Supervision			Grand Total		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Supreme —									
Adelaide	60	14	74	19	1	20	79	15	94
Mount Gambier Circuit	1	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	1
Criminal Appeal	6	—	6	1	—	1	7	—	7
District Criminal Courts —									
Central	243	16	259	67	10	77	310	26	336
Northern	9	2	11	6	1	7	15	3	18
South-Eastern	12	—	12	6	—	6	18	—	18
Magistrates —									
Adelaide	182	46	228	234	138	372	416	184	600
Adelaide Juvenile	6	—	6	—	—	—	6	—	6
Christies Beach	24	—	24	16	9	25	40	9	49
Darlington	33	40	73	26	16	42	59	56	115
Elizabeth	108	16	124	125	14	139	233	30	263
Glenelg	16	1	17	28	13	41	44	14	58
Henley Beach	16	10	26	—	—	—	16	10	26
Holden Hill	11	2	13	17	4	21	28	6	34
Norwood	9	1	10	13	2	15	22	3	25
Port Adelaide	114	13	127	127	54	181	241	67	308
Prospect	21	1	22	21	2	23	42	3	45
Unley	2	—	2	4	—	4	6	—	6
Country —									
Barmera	4	—	4	—	—	—	4	—	4
Berri	9	1	10	2	1	3	11	2	13
Cooper Pedy	—	—	—	4	1	5	4	1	5
Cowell	1	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	1
Crystal Brook	—	—	—	2	—	2	2	—	2
Gladstone	—	—	—	1	—	1	1	—	1
Jamesstown	—	—	—	3	—	3	3	—	3
Kadina	1	1	2	1	—	1	2	1	3
Leigh Creek	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	1
Marree	—	—	—	1	—	1	1	—	1
Millicent	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	1	1
Moonta	—	—	—	1	—	1	1	—	1
Morgan	1	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	1
Mount Barker	1	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	1
Mount Gambier	1	—	1	—	1	1	1	1	2
Murray Bridge	1	—	1	4	1	5	5	1	6
Naracoorte	—	—	—	1	—	1	1	—	1
Penola	—	—	—	3	—	3	3	—	3
Port Augusta	15	3	18	2	1	3	17	4	21
Port Broughton	—	—	—	1	—	1	1	—	1
Port Lincoln	5	2	7	1	1	2	6	3	9
Port Pirie	5	2	7	9	5	14	14	7	21
Port Victoria	1	—	1	1	—	1	2	—	2
Quorn	—	—	—	1	—	1	1	—	1
Renmark	4	—	4	2	—	2	6	—	6
Strathalbyn	1	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	1
Tallem Bend	—	—	—	1	—	1	1	—	1
Tanunda	4	—	4	2	—	2	6	—	6
Victor Harbor	—	—	—	1	—	1	1	—	1
Waikerie	3	—	3	2	1	3	5	1	6
Whyalla	3	—	3	3	—	3	6	—	6
Woodside	—	—	—	1	—	1	1	—	1
Woomera	—	—	—	1	—	1	1	—	1
	933	172	1 105	761	277	1 038	1 694	449	2 143

Table 5 refers to the number of probationers ordered to take some form of psychiatric or medical treatment. As previously reported this area continues to be a problem to the probation and parole staff. To many lay people psychiatric treatment is still considered to be an all purpose palliative and that referral to psychiatrist will provide some sort of cure for most of the clients with whom we deal. The reality of the situation indicates this is far from the truth, and that the majority of the people with whom we deal lack any real motivation to voluntarily accept the advice or guidance of a psychiatrist, provided of course that their form of deviant behaviour might be classed as a treatable mental illness.

Experience indicates that the majority of clients of this service are not motivated to accept treatment, the end result being that the Probation and Parole Officer largely relies upon his or her skills to manage the client as best they might in the community. With those clients who are motivated to accept treatment considerable support and advice and assistance is obtained from both the Mental Health Services and the Alcohol and Drug Addict Treatment Board.

TABLE 5

PSYCHIATRIC TREATMENT CLAUSES

	With Supervision			Without Supervision		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Probationers	288	64	352	13	12	25

Psychiatric clauses included in 16.74 per cent of total bonds ordered—2.21 per cent increase over previous year.

Psychiatric clauses included in 2.41 per cent of bonds ordered without supervision—0.31 per cent increase over previous year.

Psychiatric clauses included in 29.04 per cent of bonds ordered with supervision—2.15 per cent decrease from previous year.

93.36 per cent of psychiatric clauses ordered contained a supervision clause—2.87 per cent increase over previous year.

REPORTS
Table 6 indicates the court originating the request for a Pre-Sentence Report, and the eventual disposition of the case upon presentation of that report to the court.

TABLE 6
PRE-SENTENCE REPORTS

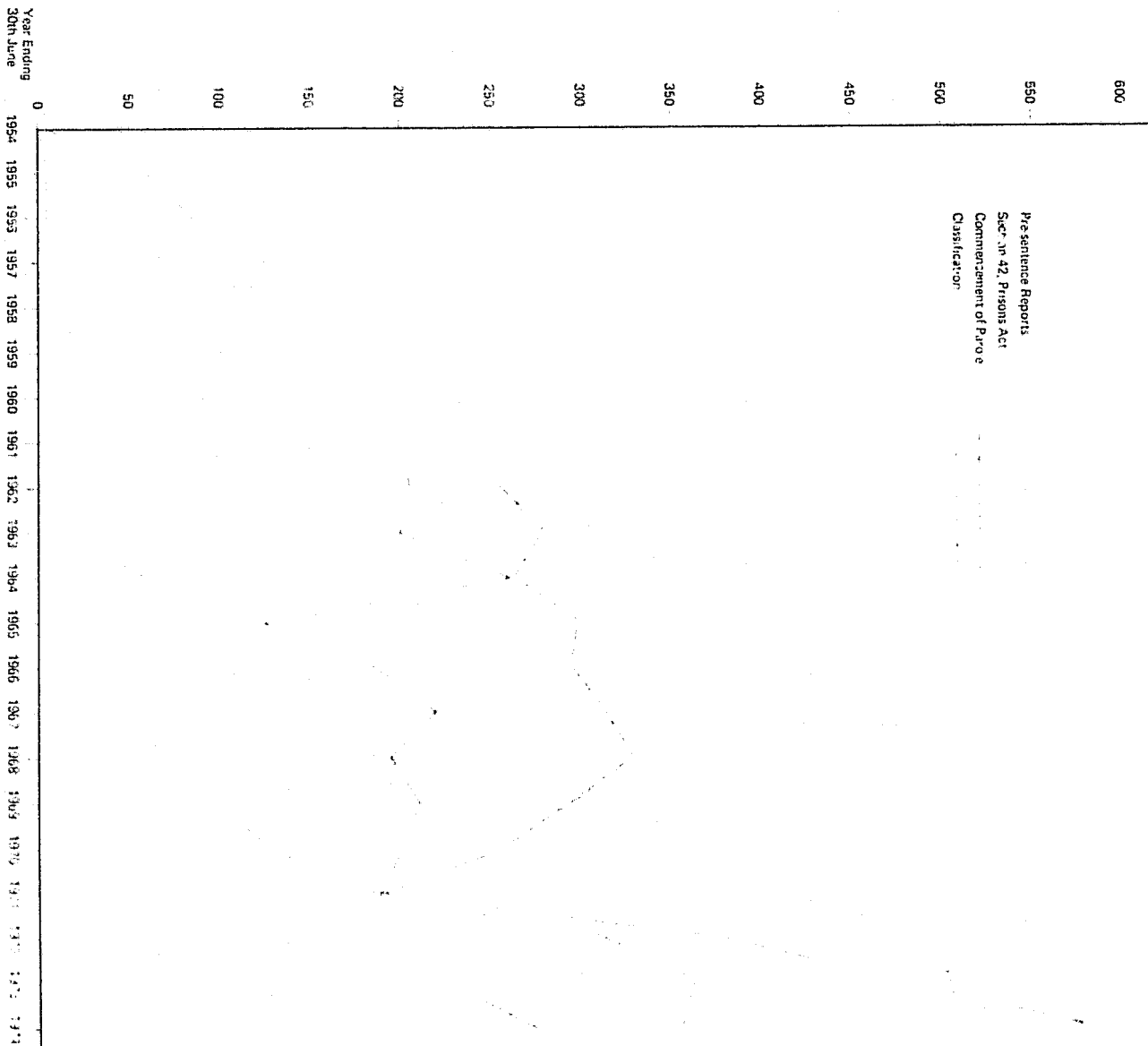
Court	Probation				Fine and Bond	Im-prison-ment and Bond	Fine	Prison	Con-viction Without Penalty	No Con-viction Re-corded	Dis-missed	Re-manded	Non-Appear-ance in Court	Report now Not Required	Total	Grand Total													
	Suspended Sentence		Bonds																										
	With Super-vision	Without Super-vision	With Super-vision	Without Super-vision																									
	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.														
Supreme	7	3	1	—	2	—	—	—	5	3	—	—	—	—	2	27													
Port Augusta Circuit	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	12													
Central District Criminal ..	53	6	2	—	3	—	2	22	3	—	—	1	—	—	150	158													
Northern District Criminal ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	5													
South-Eastern District Criminal	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	5													
MAGISTRATES SUBURBAN																													
Adelaide	14	2	—	—	12	1	3	5	1	10	—	2	8	—	1	64													
Port Adelaide	29	2	6	—	25	3	6	2	1	—	4	—	13	—	93	104													
Elizabeth	10	3	—	1	7	2	2	1	47	—	19	—	52	—	1	155													
Christies Beach	2	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	12	12													
Darlington	1	—	1	1	1	1	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	11	14													
Glenelg	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	4	5													
Henley Beach	1	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	12													
Holden Hill	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1													
Norwood	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	2	2													
Unley	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	2													
COUNTRY COURTS																													
Berri	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	3													
Murray Bridge	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	1													
Naracoorte	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1													
Port Augusta	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	3	3													
Renmark	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2													
Stirling	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	1													
Tanunda	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	2													
Criminal Appeals	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1													
Insolvency	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1													
Total	125	16	10	4	58	9	14	3	57	2	58	1	65	2	111	6	3	2	1	—	13	—	—	1	5	1	525	48	573

In addition there were 1 Progress Report (M), 1 Marriage Application (F) and 1 Social Background.

As was mentioned in last years report, the demand for both Pre-Sentence and Parole Reports continues to place strain upon the staff, but the increased demand for the use of these reports would indicate that the service is maintaining the standard of past years. (See Table 7.)

In addition to the 576 Pre-Sentence Reports requested during the year, 355 reports for the Parole Board were also prepared. This is a slight decrease on figures for the previous year.

TABLE 7



INSTITUTIONAL SOCIAL WORK

A social work service continues to be provided to most of the penal institutions. A Probation and Parole Officer is again rostered for a 12 month period at Yatala Labour Prison, staff from Head Office share a visiting roster to the Adelaide Gaol and the Womens Rehabilitation Centre, and staff located in country centres provide welfare oversight to inmates of country institutions.

DECENTRALISATION

During the period covered by the report, a new country office was established at Whyalla. The officer will cover the whole of Eyre Peninsula with particular emphasis on Port Lincoln, and with the officer located at Gladstone share the work load at Port Augusta.

Plans have reached a finality for the opening of another suburban office at Gilles Plains to be opened in the latter part of 1974. Plans have also reached satisfactory level on the planning of a fourth suburban office at Christies Beach.

STAFF

It is with considerable regret that I report the death of Mr. W. L. E. Henderson, Principal Probation and Parole Officer. Mr. Henderson died on the 7th November, 1973. As previously mentioned, 1973-74 marks the 20th anniversary of the probation and parole service, and Mr. Henderson, who was the fourth Probation and Parole Officer appointed to the service, was over the years instrumental in the development of the service. His loss to this social work in particular will be great.

One increase to the staff establishment was the recruitment into the service of five graduate social workers, all of whom are bonded to the department as a result of cadetships awarded previously. For the long term development of social work service, it is still considered important that we recruit a number of graduates each year. In the beginning of 1974 six more cadetships in social work were offered to students, and four places were awarded the department in the current in-service training course, conducted in conjunction with the Department for Community Welfare. Of the six cadetships awarded, one completes the end of 1974 and the remaining five at the end of 1975. In addition to these appointments, it should also be mentioned that one of the senior officers was fortunate to be granted a Public Service study award, granting two years full-time study on full salary. That officer will have completed his studies at the end of 1975.

PLANNING AND RESEARCH

As mentioned elsewhere in this report, the department has now had appointed a Research Officer who will take up her duties in July, 1974.

This appointment, together with the First Report of the Criminal Law and Penal Methods Reform Committee will, in due course, enable the department to more clearly see its problems and hopefully define the more successful methods that have been used in supervision to date.

PROBATION TRUST FUND

This fund relies on donations from organisations and individuals, and is used to assist urgent cases of hardship where no other form of assistance is available.

	\$
Balance as at 1st July, 1973	137.14
Donations Received	205.00
Loans Repaid	315.50
Bank Interest	3.30
*Sub Total	660.94
Payments made	613.50
Balance as at 30th June, 1974	47.44

APPRECIATION

To the voluntary and statutory bodies, service clubs, special groups and individuals who have assisted during the year, the staff of the department extends its thanks. We appreciate what is being done and it is certain that the departmental effort is supplemented greatly by the consideration shown by these other people.

L. B. GARD, Director of Correctional Services

END

7-11-11-11-11