

“the protection of society” is considered one of the major functions of the prisons.

The Salvation Army throughout its whole history has been interested in the plight of the unfortunate, and is co-operating fully and effectively with the other prisoners' aid organizations in helping the ex-prisoner to re-establish himself.

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It is quite impossible within the space of one article to give a complete picture of the life and activity within a large modern prison. There is of course a certain percentage of inmates in our prisons who are difficult and dangerous men, a real menace to society. For these, safe custody is the only course. For many others, however, there is a real hope for reform and rehabilitation, and the philosophy of modern prison administration is not merely retributive, punitive or custodial, but insofar as possible,

reformatory, rehabilitative, humane and constructive.

It is recognized that it will take many years for the full implementation of the Archambault recommendations. Large sums of money will be needed for new institutions, plants and equipment. If however the staffs in our institutions are supported by public opinion—if there is sufficient faith in the common humanity of all men; if we the members on the inside of these institutions and the general public on the outside co-operate with patience and skill, we may look forward to the day when prison will furnish inmates with the incentive and opportunity to equip themselves for a better life. At the same time society at large will profit from the increased security thus provided, and taxpayers will feel that the increased costs of modern penal administration have been a wise and economic investment. ●●●

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