

be permitted to associate with or work in the same gangs as the better class of convicts, but will be kept in separate gangs.

This prison is the only one of its kind in Canada. The Warden visited a somewhat similar institution in Pennsylvania where he obtained a great deal of information regarding the workings of such prisons. But while he adopted a few of the measures which he saw employed there, he is endeavoring to improve on the American system in many important particulars.

RULES OF PRISON OF ISOLATION.

The following rules and regulations were drafted by the Department of Justice for the government of this prison, and are now in use:—

(1) Any male convict whose conduct is found to be vicious or who persists in disobedience to the rules and regulations of the Penitentiary, or who is found to exercise a pernicious influence upon his fellow-convicts, may be imprisoned in the Prison of Isolation for an indefinite period, not to exceed the unexpired term of the convict's sentence.

(2) If, in the opinion of the Warden, it should be expedient to punish any convict by confinement in the Prison, the Warden shall, before inflicting the punishment, transmit to the Inspector for the Minister's consideration, his report of the facts and reasons on account of which he deems it proper to order the convict to be so confined, and should no order to the contrary be received, the proposed punishment may be inflicted.

(3) Convicts confined in the Prison of Isolation shall be known as "Penal Class Convicts."

(4) Penal class convicts shall be subject to the following rules and regulations:—

(a) They shall be confined in special cells, where strict silence shall be observed.

(b) They shall take exercise for about an hour a day, separately, in the presence of an officer.

(c) They shall be employed at such labor as may be ordered.

(d) They shall, subject to the approval of the surgeon, be restricted to a special diet for three months at least.

(e) They shall not be allowed to receive visits or letters, or to write letters, for the period of three months.

(f) They shall be subjected to the prescribed punishment for ordinary offences.

(g) If specially recommended by the War-

den, on account of good conduct, at the end of three months, they shall receive the ordinary prison diet.

(h) If again specially recommended by the Warden, at the end of three additional months, they shall return to the ordinary cells.

(i) A special list of library books will be kept for the use of such convicts, which list shall be approved by the warden and chaplains.

(j) Any convict who has been ordered more than once during the same term of imprisonment, to undergo confinement, in the Prison of Isolation, shall be kept confined therein until the expiration of his sentence, unless otherwise ordered by the minister upon the recommendation of the Warden, on account of good conduct and well assured amendment, or of the Surgeon on account of mental or physical ailment.

(k) Convicts, after having passed through a stage of separate confinement, will not immediately return to work among the general body of prisoners but will, as a measure of prevention, but not of punishment, continue to be kept and employed apart from them, upon probation, in separate working gangs, for such period as the Warden may deem necessary or proper.

(l) Penal class convicts will not be allowed any remission time. Marks will be kept of their conduct and industry, as in the case of other convicts, which will stand to their credit in determining the length of time they shall spend in isolation.

A GENERAL DESCRIPTION.

To a visitor, the penitentiary yard presents an animated appearance, and the ringing of hammers, intermingled with the humming of machinery, reminds one that he is in the midst of a not very small manufacturing centre. The south, or new group of buildings, is occupied entirely by the shops, etc. of the institution. These buildings are two stories high, built of limestone, and are admirably adapted for these purposes. In these shops the convicts are taught the various trades, skilled instructors being employed in each branch of the different industries.

First we enter the Stone-Shed, where some fifty odd men are busily engaged in transforming crude masses of stone into shape for building purposes, the ringing of the heavy hammers as they deal blow after blow on the solid lime-