DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WELFARE

ROOM 592

CITY HALL, PHILADELPHIA

CHARLES H. GRAKELOW
DIRECTOR
LOUIS N. GOLDSMITH
ASST. DIRECTOR

October 28th, 1927.

Confidential. Not to be used by more institutions or state

Dr. Lawrence Kolb,
Hygiene Laboratory,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Dr. Kolb:

Below will be found data in reference to drug addicts committed to the House of Correction during the last seven years.

A close study of inmates committed to the House of Correction for drug addiction during the year 1926 has produced most gratifying and beneficial results. During the year only 57 individuals were committed for using dope. In 1925 the number of cases of drug addicts was 101. Comparing the commitments of 1926 with those of 1925 shows a reduction of 44%.

YEAR	DRUG ADDICTS COMMITTED	TOTAL NUMBER COMMITTED	PERCENTAGES
1920	727	2150	33%
1921	661	2795	24%
1922	618	2514	24%
1923	271	2221	12%
1924	274	2471	11%
1925	101	2773	3%
1926	57	2490	2%

By comparing the commitments each year it will be seen that the number of commitments has been greatly reduced. Comparing the number of commitments for 1926 with those of 1920 gives a reduction of 92%.

In order to prevent using, possessing or peddling narcotics the following method is used. The Department of Welfare works in conjunction with the Judges of the Courts, the Federal Narcotic Authorities and the Narcotic Squad of the Department of Public Safety.

The Sesqui-Centennial
Philadelphia
1776 1926
150 Years of American Independence

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Dr. Lawrence Kolb:

Prior to 1923 drug addicts committed to the House of Correction were given short terms and therefore their resisting power had not been given a sufficient opportunity to establish itself. Beginning with the year of 1923 drug addicts received a sentence of one year or longer and in this way it is believed a better opportunity was afforded them to overcome their drug habit. While the Department of Public Welfare has not been able to follow these cases yet it is believed since they have not been re-committed to the House of Correction that a great deal of good has been accomplished.

TREATMENT OF DRUG ADDICTS

Drug addicts committed to the House of Correction are given warm baths according to circumstances. They receive bromides for their nervous system, tincture of digitales for their heart condition. They are also given epsom salts to clean out their intestines and if there is any vomiting they receive doses of cerii oxalate and ant-acid doses of aromatic spirits of ammonia. Sometimes lime water is also given them properly diluted to arrest vomiting. For hepatic symptoms they are fiven calomel with bi-carbonate of soda followed up with doses of phosphate of soda. To induce sleep one of the following is used: veronal, trional sulphonal or allonal. In two instances ¼ gr. of Morphine was given hypodermically.

METHOD OF EXAMINATION BEFORE BEING DISCHARGED

Time received at the House of Correction, examined for(Ct. Order or Writ)
Name, Reg. No., Date Committed, Drugs used, Daily for,
Term, Times Committed, Charge, Committed by, Time out.

Wasserman and Gc., Weight admitted, Now, General appearance,
Heart Action, Blood Pressure: Systolic Diastolic,
Tremor: Tongue, Hands, Reflexes, Remarks.

Recommendation:
Disposition:

Very sincerely,

APPROVED

Chas. H. Grakelow
DIRECTOR

Randolph Faries
RANDOLPH FARIES
PHYSICIAN IN CHIEF

RF:EW

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