The South Messhall Murals: A Pictorial History

By Phillip Clark
Part II

In this issue of the News we bring you part two of a four-part series on the murals that grace the south dining room of San Quentin.

The pictures here are the two that are painted on the partition separating the fifth and second sections of the dining room.

The mural on the left was the first painted by Mr. Santos and is on the east face of the wall. The mural on the right, depicting California as a cornucopia of wealth, and covers all the facets of present-day life in the state extending from agriculture, fisheries, heavy industry, and shipping.

For the most complex of the six murals painted, and judged to be the most beautiful, its very complexity defeats the viewer to pick out its many scenes at first study. Men who have been in San Quentin for many years still look at it and make their heads, for it contains many things they had not noticed before.

The mural depicting the west of the partition takes us back to the war years between 1940 and 1945. It depicts California and its people geared for World War II, and covers many of the faces of the California home front from Pearl Harbor to V-J Day.

A close look at the mural will give the viewer a kaleidoscopic outlook into the difficulties experienced by the civilians and the soldier alike in the days of shortages and rationing, and the outpouring of the personal and public sacrifice of the people of the state.

Here is to be found all the hubbub, razzle-dazzle, and the hard work of a people. The aircraft factories, ship yards, military installations, and diverse services needed to sustain the war.

Here, too, are found the joys, sorrows, hopes, and final triumph of that war. With the fabric of the mural we see the strength of the people, and on the final day the continuity searching for a new life in a state and world reaching for a time of peace.

In the next issue we shall bring you Part III of the early California history, and the leap into the space age.

Varsity Softball
Pirates in Split With Dublin Corral

By T. D. Ventura

Sunday, June 27, Dublin Corral rode up to San Quentin's Coliseum Field and made the Esque Pirates eat their dust in the first game of the scheduled double-bill by pounding out 12 base hits, which included three hits and a pair of doubles for the nine-game season behind 10-7 victory over our boys in blue.

J. D. Boswell didn't pitch one of his better games. He gave up eight earned runs and 12 hits, walked only two men but managed only one strikeout. His mound opponent on the other hand allowed only three earned runs to cross home plate on six base hits; he engineered six strikeouts and issued only two walks.

Dublin Corral didn't have any really big explosive inning as they chipped away in all the frames except the second and sixth which they scored six runs on home runs, to a score of 11-7. Boswell was pounded very hard and most of the hits against him were hit very hard.

San Quentin picked up two runs in the first, one in the fifth, two in the sixth, and two in the seventh to account for their scoring. Boswell picked up a double and Gene Williams garnered a triple. Homan was held by Bob Holland (the first of two on the day) John Nason and Art Bernsall (for Dublin Corral), Ray Abernethy had three RBIs for the winners also. Boswell got two hits for the Pirates.

Pirates Get Revenge

The second game was a complete turnaround for our Pirates lashed out with 13 base hits to score a 10-2 victory over their adversaries. Richard "No-B" Thompson picked up his fourth consecutive win to keep his unbeaten record intact. He allowed only two earned runs to cross home plate and gave up only three base hits. The only damaging blow was Bob Holland's second roundtripper of the afternoon for the Pirates in the third frame. Virgil Dahl suffered the loss for Dublin.

San Quentin News
PROCEEDS THROUGH EDUCATION

NEW WRITERS AND IDEAS FOR PENAL DIGEST INTERNATIONAL

By Doc Huffman

The Penal Digest International has announced that John Severn-Watson will write the Penal Press column for their publication effective with their next issue.

Watson in the Penal Press critic for the San Quentin News. His acid wit and penetrating analysis of the Penal publications from all over the country have come to the favorable attention of the free world news media.


Now the freelance reporter for the News has been recognized for his writing talents by Joe Grant, founder of Phase Four and Penal Digest International. The co-editors of PDI, Wes Graham and Rex Fletcher, agreed with Grant that Watson's caustic remarks have a place in their outstanding publication.

The PDI is a 72-page, tab-sized monthly paper that is published on the streets by an all-ex-con staff. This paper reprints the best articles from prison papers all over the world in addition to fresh material supplied by their own staff.

Subscription rates are $6.00 a year for people living in the outside world, and $6.00 a year for inmates in prison. However, Joe Grant realizes there are many good doing time who don't have the funds to subscribe to PDI. He has set up a special rate for these imprisoned men. Anyone on the streets can send $1.00 to Penal Digest International, P.O. Box 39, Iowa City, Iowa 52240, and this will cover a one-year subscription for any man (Continued on page three)}
The Warden’s Column

L. S. Nelson, Warden

I must again devote this column to the problems arising from what I consider to be abuse of narcotics, and to the problems of those inmates who have two or more offenses, with two or more convictions, with two or more sentences, and letters which recipients consider threatening.

In order to rectify the policy of the majority of the institutions in the Department of Corrections, mail between men in the various institutions is now being screened by a common rule to prevent the possibility of a drug distribution system being operated throughout the system.

We have had two letters returned to us which had been mailed to persons who had served on or had been known to be involved in narcotic activity within the institution.

I find it difficult, in responding to letters of commendation, to utilize mail procedures and to reply to the addressee, I would hope that it would not be necessary for me to take more action.

Press Release

State of California
Dept. of Human Resources Development
764 Franklin Street
San Francisco, Calif. 94102
Phone: 505-3362
July 2, 1971

Total employment in the San Francisco-Oakland Metropolitan Area was 1,410,000 in June—7,000 more than in May but 2,500 below one year ago.

Unemployment was 99,000 in June, up from May’s 10,000 and June’s 10,000, a 30 percent increase in the number of unemployed primarily reflects the expansion of the service labor force of highly-skilled graduates and students and jobseekers. The seasonally adjusted unemployment rates decreased from May’s 3.9 percent in June, one year ago in June it was 6.8 percent.

Employment rose over the month in all major industry divisions, although trade disputes and seasonal factors reduced the employment in the metal industries (including amusement services, communications and unposed food processing). Construction employment rose strongly, surpassing its level for the first time this year. Retail trade and services increased again during the summer vacation period started. Summer-job programs for youth boosted payrolls in local governments.

Between June 1970 and June 1971, job gains were recorded in services, finance-insurance-real estate, government, construction and trade.

The unadjusted rates were 6.6 percent in June, 5.8 percent in May and 5.3 percent in June 1970.

A letter to the public relations committee will guarantee that your complaint or suggestion will be brought to the attention of the appropriate department, and that all complainants of area representatives will be informed of the steps which will be brought to the council floor, and the members of the council will have the opportunity to give valid reasons for his actions.

It is only with the assurance of the public, the members of the council and the members of the council in this matter of holding the council on the merits and the action of the council, that the members of the council will be informed of the steps which will be brought to the council floor, and the members of the council will have the opportunity to give valid reasons for his actions.

If you do not hear your representative on the weekly tapes giving his report of the problems or solutions reached in your area, find out why? Is it his duty to keep you informed of what the council is doing, and lack of information is our biggest enemy on this council simply because some men don’t really care about the man on the yard, their interests being centered in himself.

It is hoped that you will not be too interested in the functions of the council, and help the council by criticizing it if those who don’t care about you or your problems.

Please send The San Quentin News to me for the following number of issues:

3 years, 114 issues, $1.20
2 years, 104 issues, $2.00
Make all checks payable to The San Quentin News.

Address
City
State
San Quentin News
Tamar, California 94964

San Quentin News

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Editor:

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Printed by the San Quentin News Press Photographic Arts Dept.

Sewn by the prisoners of San Quentin

A new edition of the San Quentin News will be published weekly.

SUBSCRIPTION BY MAIL $1.00 PER YEAR

Bastille by the Bay

By J. PENCE WAGNER

in the absence of John Fencer Wagner from the News, the paper will be published by myself and T. D. Ventura, the Sports Editor.

As our staff got a little out of control, our regular writers will be seen with the situations to put together.

Philip C. Cork, Act. Editor

With the advent of summer to San Quentin, the yard’s that make up the main recreation areas team with a sea of blue clad men seeking the sun, or whatever men in prison seek at such times. Some participate in a few hours in the sun, but many others spend long hours at the domino tables, or sitting around the walls and grasped chairs with their shirts off taking away the paleness of their faces and weathered skin. Others walk in endless circles from yard to yard in which appears to be a great search for a shade. The weather thing different, something to break up the monotony of their lives. But whatever they do or seek, the paramilitary overall impresses me.

The San Quentin News have moved from their old position to a more intimate location. They walk amid stone and steel as sun-dazed blue figures moving testified in uniforms. A faceless mass of humanity, still they represent in their own way that which is at once bright in sunlight, and cast in deep shadow. The image they pose is a man, an individual case in a crowd, and filled with darkness tone and tint for, whatever the reason for their being, it is in the kind of a case, and might have been. Many would curse them and ask for the why of their existence; for to them the past is foremost in their minds, now a somber memory.

There are those who walk in silent contemplation, and think even less. A twisted man of reaction, caring for nothing, seeking nothing. There are those who will walk in the sun and cast a deathly mask and imperceptibly united in a cry for freedom, equality, respect, and justice. They demand all, and earn nothing; their demands conveniently forgetting the rights and duties of those who have contributed to the happiness of their victims. There are those who cry “bitch!” at every turn, yet barb with themselves the depth of all by re-fusing to see that bigotry itself is blind to all color and dwells only in he who cries it the least. Then there are the workers, the doers, the men to see and do things, and the few who are untouched for they know in their hearts that the injustices, the prisons, the courts, and all the pain and sorrow they have experienced could exist without them. They are the men who are able to reach out and touch another man and say, “I love you” without fearing that it will be twisted and side-taken.

Sinners and Saints? They are all and none of these things. They are just men, and in the end that is about all that may be said for anyone, inside or out. The only real difference is that so many of their hands curled around the bat of gan, club, or knife instead of the book of the law.

These are the men who present to the world an image of strength—veep to silent and unresisting contemplation. You can see in most cases their tears will mean little to other men, and only go to drench an earth already sodden with 120 years of tears shed before then. Another man, however, can dream and dream away the hours thinking of how many women sitting alone in lonely many empty rooms with only the clock to keep them company, and how they wish that their actions and that they are women are sitting there. Yet these same men are the hope, and maybe the promise of a new day when this place will no longer be a Bastille on the Bay, running sure on the breast of a prison named for a Saint, but a tract of homes ringing with the gay laughter of children playing beneath the summer sun.

Where did it go wrong, and where will we end? We look through a barred window to where the things of the earth pass by, but it is oh so very fleeting. We gaze into the mirror of existence and say, “This is not it.” But if not, what is our true image within the frame work of the mirror, but it is ethereal. We stand here, the center of our lives, yet the pattern is not symmetrical. Is it because our mirrors have been shattered and only reflect the colored glass of our being back in the form of vacuums and tinted shadow. Are we, the men, unreal? Who can say?

In the end the question is: Can we present to the world that which mean anything is that we are men, not sinners, but men. We are men. We are men, and in our present situation, we must use, and each of us looks up to the summit of our lives to greet the dawn of a new tomorrow, for many who walk the yards of San Quentin the question will ever be: “I wonder what ever happened to yesterday?”

Thank You!!
Two Men in Action

Sports Profile

Gaveliers. What's That?

By Philip D. Verdugo

Who Gives A Damn? show that we've got the wrong idea. Tamal Gavel Club No. 171 meets regularly each Friday night in the Western Block Annex, and we occasionally host outside-participation games.

On September 4th, 1971 the Tamal Gavel Club will play host to about twenty and fifty members from the so-called free society. Statistically, it means this one hundred and twenty-five women. Interested now?

The Tamal Gavel Club teaches the individual to socialize eloquently, courteously, and meaningfully.

There are more positive aspects to what Gavel Club is all about. Primarily, though, we are speaking a language.

We learn the art of speaking in front of live audiences without stammering and getting red in the face. We learn to speak on our feet, and think as well.

One thing should be remembered. A person coming into our club may or may not know anything about speaking. In fact, he may or may not know anything about thinking. It does not matter. We're a learning club. That is our purpose: to learn how to do these things. And that's what we do learn.

Those not interested in who you are or what you are are we. We are interested, in teaching you how to speak effectively and profusely. Once it was remarked . . . that an ignorant man may steal from a box— the educated man so inclined.

Hospital Visits

Due to the influx of new prisoners, the hospital sergeant has requested the following information to be passed to the in-mate body:

Any hospital patient may be visited by an inmate between 8:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. on the weekends and holidays providing that the patient is medically sound and that his or her inmate is not on duty.

Check in at the sergeant's office to find out if the patient is

What SQUIRES Means to Me

Not long after I asked the general membership, "What SQUIRES means to me," the following excerpts are from the pages submitted:

"Reality! Human Involvement! Maturity! Confidence! Respect! And Awareness! These are only a few things that SQUIRES means to me, because I have experienced all of them since becoming a member of SQUIRES!"

"SQUIRES is a nucleus of earnest attempts to gain insight into ourselves and other human beings, both internally and externally. Moreover, it is a conscious effort to seek out solutions and means to deal with and eventually overcome these problems." S. J.

"The role SQUIRES plays to the youth of today is to try and give a double mirror. By a double mirror, I mean that we give the young people the challenge to look at their image in the mirror and see what others see in them." W. J.

"By giving our experiences, we hope they will make a good choice in their decision making and not follow our footsteps. To me this is SQUIRES."

"SQUIRES has given me a new insight into my life. I felt more or less like a robot, just making it from one thing to another. The best I could be was a 3rd termer. I feel I am qualified to give you honest opinion of both, inside and out and I thank you for the insight that SQUIRES has given me." R. E.

"Through SQUIRES, I believe I can acquire the necessary skills to communicate and relate to youngsters, who are venturing their lives on the "don't side of the coin. There are two sides naturally, both "do's and don'ts. Now in SQUIRES have experienced both sides of the coin, our present status is proof of this. I believe that being rigorously honest with myself and with the youngsters, I have something to offer them, in doing so, I can help myself also. SQUIRES helps me do this!" E. D. W.

"My name is SQUIRES is to help myself and the young- sters may be exposed to the different and varied patterns of thought that, the various work- ships bring out. I am a convict now and every- day we have together with other SQUIRES is the opportunity to look at ourselves and others, for that reason I am in this organization. I'm tired of looking out through a sea of bars, of endless hours of waiting in some kind of line, unlearn- ing to make any major decisions for myself. Never knowing when the gates of freedom will swing upon this. It is not where it's at." W.

The ideas that have been printed here are not the words of one man, they are the words of many men. Men that care about their fellow- man to be a better one. And not until they are having to spend one day in this place will they know that some will come here and there is nothing that they can do about it. But, if it's not possible, can it be at all, it is a group of men that are trying to help others now, had a "helping hand," they just might not do it here, now.

SQUIRES has an open door policy and meets every Sat., morning at 9 a.m. in the Parole Office. Come on over, it could be the very thing you are looking for in prison.

Penal Digest (Continued from page one)

woman that is presently incarcerated.

Grant says, "of course" and can recall the $5.00 balance to them upon his release, and after he gets on his feet financially.

Grant has also been the recipient of over $34,000 in scholarships for his work and exons who will be used for educational purposes. Among other things, the money will be used for corres- pondence courses for inmates who are interested in painting, writing and photography.

In addition, Phase Four also has the first ex-con owned and operated halfway house in the United States located in San Diego. And, quite possibly, it is the first halfway house that is on a co-ed basis.

One special plan that Grant is now working on is to have 7,000 ex-cons in universities and colleges so that they can be working in the corrections courts included in 1972. Then from 77 on Phase Four will have a steady flow of ex-cons entering law, medicine, etc.—the "professions."

The maestro and the San Quentin News proclaims, "Progress Through Education." It is quite obvious that Joe Grant, founder of Phase Four and the Penal Digest International, is a firm be- liever in this motto.

My lawyer was defending me great... until they found me guilty.

Doc Huffman, artist and sportsman, proudly displays his oil painting of two football superheroes: Gale Sayers, Huffman was the former number one player on the SQ varsity tennis team... for a few minutes. He will present a series of paintings at the next art show depicting famous sports persons in action from the contemporary world of sport.

Freddy "The Preloader" Carroll is his name and baseball is his game. After seven long years, a broken leg finally transferred him to CCHC Tehachapi last week.

He has participated in other sports besides baseball which is his best sport such as boxing (he was a trainer for awhile), tennis and football. In fact, he made a Cover Design Artist and has won many awards with his art. Freddy has also coached baseball.

Freddy lived most of his life in the Tenderloin area of San Francisco. He claims his 29th birthday falls on July 4th (Independence Day) but that he has no idea what his independence will come.

He plans upon release include painting and "making love"; all who knew Freddy wish him the best in his new romantic home, Tehachapi.

SAN DIEGO—State heavy- weight champion Henry Clark, hoping of getting Floyd Patterson as an opponent in a San Francisco fight, has cleared the decks in a hurry for the projected bout.

All of his 211 pounds behind his first author- itative punch at 1:21 of the second round last night. The left hook landed flush on the cheek of San Diego's Chuck Hayes, 198, and some ten seconds later Referee Frank Church started the count: "one, two, three, out." Immediately following Henry's hands were on the head of a crowd of 2,200 which contributed to his $2000.00 take. It was learned that new S. F. match- maker John Nuner had started negotiating for a Clark-Patterson bout at either the Civic Auditorium or the Cow Palace.

18 F. EXAMINER
July Fourth Title Fights Provide Hard-Hitting Action

Seven Bouts Move Fast

By T. D. Vestaber

It has been a long time since there has been a fight card as well documented as the big 4th of July title fights held in the Skyline gym on Saturday, July 3rd. Credit for the length of this report must be given to the efforts of the photographic staff, the great action, and highly competitive ring action. There were seven bouts in all (with one being won by default) and the reason that the card moved so swiftly and was exciting up to the end was because of the absence of so many exhibition matches that were usually present at past cards.

Daniels over Aquirre

Brown Sugar Aquirre lasted for four rounds before his opponent, Baby Daniels, caught up with him and won by TKO in the 23rd second remaining on the clock in the 4th round of their scheduled 15-rounders. At the start of the match, it appeared that Daniels was the aggressor with a good job and had Aquirre in trouble against the ropes in the first round at the beginning of the 2nd round. Aquirre had a very poor condition in the 3rd round. Aquirre seemed to gain new life and he landed a few good punches, but in the 4th round, it was apparent that Brown Sugar was flopping around. Baby Daniels won by TKO in 23 seconds because of his bloody nose and the bout was stopped with Daniels the winner.

Age on Youth

Morrie Strain, the oldest contender on the card, at 39 years old, was able to go the full 15-rounds with 22-year-old experience and age again proved victor. Baby Daniels won a unanimous decision over his much younger opponent, in an exciting match that went the full distance. Strain, with a devasting left hand (he is a southpaw), knocked his opponent out with a left hook that sent him down towards an adversary who proved the winner in the 15th round.

Martina's Marshall

With 1:23 in the 3rd round on the minute clock, the ex-middleweight champion, Ernie Marshall fell victim to a powerful left hook thrown by Norman "Schoolie" Martin that put a sudden end to the song. This was an easy win for the quick-fisted Martin, as opposed to being tried to beat with him up till the 3rd round knock-out.

Galavis vs. Motion

Tachi Galavis, recuperating from a left thumb fracture, brought about by Edward Motion, sent his opponent to the canvas with a hard left hook. Motion made a comeback with both hands remaining in the second round. His manager and trainer, the very colorful and tall Motion, was jubilant over his fighter's sudden change. He made a slow start in the initial round in which Motion connected with a left to Galavis' head, down momentarily.

The Chaman gains split

L. B. Chaman and "Hog Head" Garcia mixed it up in a battle for the heavyweight crown and by the time it was all over, Chaman was awarded the victory on a very close (one point difference) split decision in a bout that went all the way. Both men came out in the first round to "get down" and wreathing from their feet like two enraged bulls but neither man would go down. After two rounds of the slugfest were over, both men were very tired and their punches lacked the zip they had in the previous rounds. The 5th round, it looked like the fight was in slow motion as both fighters were exhausted. In my estimation, it was the most exciting fight of the day.

McCarthy over Bubash

Bubash McCarthy didn't have to work up a sweat to win the middleweight crown as his opponent failed to show up. McCarthy and Bubash made for a very interesting match that ended when McCarthy knocked out his opponent in round six.

LOCKING HORNS—This light heavyweight bout featured the uncanny "bunny" style of Morris Strain (left side of picture) against the peak-a-boo boxing style of Russ Brasier proved to be a "battle of bulls" because they fought like bulls, but were very strong. Both Strain and Brasier went down during the fight with repeated sledgehammer blows to the body for the decision.

BROWN POWER IN ACTION—This last match of the day featured two quick-fisted lightweights in Luis Valenzuela (left) and the popular Spider Rodriguez, who won by technical decision at the end of their five round match.

San Quentin News

Sports

Ray Hamilton

This writer's recent arrival upon the West Coast scene from Florida has resulted in a comparison being made of these two geographical locations, tactfully, and I am of the inescapable conclusion that Florida is still the "Melba of Melba." This was vividly demonstrated in viewing the action-packed July 4th bouts served up to the mainliners by matchmaker "Crow" Larrar who did a most commendable job. Several "pier six" brawls, liberally spiced with dazzling displays of boxing ability of a very professional caliber, kept the ring brimming with a top of the ring wars capped here in the early 1940's when Don Coughlin was the helm of boxing and the war time restrictions on all but the extreme and fought like bulls without going away to the other.

Traiiner Bob Wells appears satisfied that his fighter, Tachi Galavis, has just won the junior welterweight title.

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BROWN SUGAR AQUIRRE, flanked by El Palom (l) and Johnny Lopez prior to his match with Baby Daniels.

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Canvas Scopes

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BROWN SUGAR AQUIRRE, flanked by El Palom (l) and Johnny Lopez prior to his match with Baby Daniels.

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LOCKING HORNS—This light heavyweight bout featured the uncanny "bunny" style of Morris Strain (left side of picture) against the peak-a-boo boxing style of Russ Brasier proved to be a "battle of bulls" because they fought like bulls, but were very strong. Both Strain and Brasier went down during the fight with repeated sledgehammer blows to the body for the decision.

BROWN POWER IN ACTION—This last match of the day featured two quick-fisted lightweights in Luis Valenzuela (left) and the popular Spider Rodriguez, who won by technical decision at the end of their five round match.