

Sept 8, 1962



CONSTRUCTION progresses on the second wing at the Monteith Industrial Farm at Monteith. The addition which will hold 120 inmates in four dormitories, with a kitchen and dining room in the basement, is expected to be completed by the end of October. There are now 99 prisoners at the farm but when completed the farm will have a capacity of 240 inmates. (Daily Press Photo)

Monteith Industrial Farm Capacity To Be Increased

MONTEITH (Staff) — Construction on the extension to the Monteith Industrial Farm is expected to be completed by the end of October, bringing to an end a two-year building program costing in the neighborhood of \$700,000.

Construction workers are putting the finishing touches to the second of two wings which will house four dormitories with 30 beds in each, with a kitchen and dining rooms in the basement.

The first wing, completed last September, houses 120 inmates in four dormitories. There are segregation cells in the basement.

John Irvine, superintendent of the farm, said that when the

program has been completed, the farm will accommodate 240 inmates.

The inmates themselves recently completed construction of a barn on the 770-acre farm, which also has a herd of 94 Holsteins, 108 pigs and 600 hens. Of the 770 acres, an estimated 300 acres are cultivated.

The farm's main building has an interesting background. At one time it was a private school and in 1937 it was taken over by the department of reform institutions for two years as a branch of the Burwash Industrial Farm.

In 1940 it was turned over to the federal government for use as a prisoner of war camp until 1947 when it was turned back to the department as a reform institution.

Mr. Irvine has spent many years with the reform department of the Province serving in various capacities.

Starting as a guard in one institution, he has held posts as sergeant at the Monteith farm, assistant superintendent at the Mimico institution, inspector of reform institutions which took him throughout the Province, and then three years ago was appointed superintendent at Monteith.

The industrial farm has been a landmark of the north for many years and with its expansion will make it one of the most modern institutions in the Province.

*New Building
under
Construction
at Monteith
Industrial
Farm
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