

(Search for New Penal Site)

Q. Governor, has there been any decision on the erection of a new penal institution?

A. No, I haven't conferred with Mr. Cannon about the situation. We have been meeting once or twice a week, but when the budget situation became critical we skipped a couple of meetings and I do want to get in touch with him to get the general recommendations on that capital prison program.

Q. In a recent speech before a Grand Jurors Association, Mr. Cannon said that he considered the erection of a new institution of the greatest importance to the penal system if it was going to be revised the way it should be.

A. Yes, that may well be. But I don't know whether when he says a new institution he means the revamping of the Penitentiary in a certain way, whether he means the actual relocation of part of the penal system — I just haven't been with him sufficiently on that subject to find out. But I will certainly be with him this week or next and will find out.

Q. Governor, another priority item of Mr. Cannon was the relocation of a reception center which was authorized (interruption) . . .

A. That's on the site of the present Penitentiary that he is talking about — the reception center.

(Constitution - Judicial Section)

Q. Governor, back to the Constitution for a moment. Suppose a commission submitted two to five names to you and you didn't like any of them. How do you feel about the Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals making the appointment?

A. I don't think that the judicial sections are perfect. I guess it's difficult to think that anyone could devise a method of appointing a judge that would suit everybody. But I do think that they are workable. We have been very fortunate in this State with the quality of the high Bench and I think that my recent appointment to the high Bench probably gave me more pause and more room for consideration than anything I have done in the way of appointments since I have been here. As long as we maintain that quality I don't have any strong remorse about the Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals having a broad amount of power over judicial appointments.