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Formation and Development of Penitentiary Institutions in Yekaterinodar (Second Half of the 19th–Early 20th Centuries)

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Abstract

Introduction: the article is devoted to the historic background of the prison system in the Kuban and features of the prison institutions formation in Yekaterinodar – the center of the Kuban Oblast, formed in 1860. The article, based on the comprehension of historical experience and analysis of archival materials, shows the impact of the 1860–1870 state-legal reforms on construction of new and enlargement of current prisons and studies the specifics of prisoner detention conditions. It reveals the role of the Yekaterinodar Military Prison Committee “Prisons Custody Society” in enhancement of Yekaterinodar’s penitentiary institutions: organization of places of detention and provision of the necessary detention regime; control over detainee’s welfare; improvement of medical care for prisoners, etc. *Purpose:* to reflect development features of penitentiary institutions in the Kuban as a whole and Yekaterinodar in particular. The methodological basis of the research consists of philosophical, general scientific and private scientific methods (dialectical, system-structural, historical-genetic, comparative, formal-legal, etc.). *Discussion:* based on a brief analysis of the works of N.I. Galkina, N.V. Slavinskii, M.K. Batchayeva, S.A. Lobova, etc., devoted to the issues under consideration, as well as the study of materials contained in the funds of the State Archive of Krasnodar Territory, the author presents chronological background of formation and development of the Kuban prison institutions. As a result of the conducted research, the researcher comes to the following conclusion: since Yekaterinodar acquired the status of a civil city in 1867, there was a sharp increase in out-of-town visitors, which led to a rise in the number of crimes and, accordingly, persons serving sentences in the form of imprisonment. It involved the expansion of existing prison facilities and construction of new ones, in particular, the Yekaterinodar regional prison in 1876. The establishment of the Yekaterinodar Military Prison Committee “Prisons Custody Society” in 1867, which was in charge of the entire Kuban penitentiary system, helped achieve some success in prison guardianship within its competence. The development of guardianship in relation to prisoners should be considered one of the mechanisms that solved the problem of improving prisoners’ situation. This activity was financed by state and private charitable funds. The author also notes that the Kuban prisons addressed acute problems, characteristic, however, of the entire penitentiary system, such as insufficient funding of prison facilities, unsuitability of prison facilities, i.e. overcrowding, and harsh detention conditions.

Keywords: Kuban Oblast; Yekaterinodar; places of detention in the Kuban; Yekaterinodar military prison; Yekaterinodar regional prison; Yekaterinodar Prison Committee; prison guardianship; prison financing.

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Regional aspects of the development of penitentiary institutions reflect the general specifics of evolution of the Russian penal enforcement system. In this regard, it is important to turn to historic development of the Kuban penitentiary institutions in the second half of the 19th and early 20th centuries.

Key aspects of the functioning of Russian prison institutions of this period are reflected in the works of pre-revolutionary researchers and publicists, such as A. A. Piontovskii [14], N.A. Tagantsev [19], S.V. Poznyshv [15], I. Ya. Foinitskii [21], D. V. Krainskii [6], V.N. Nikitin [10], etc.

In the Soviet period, the most significant research in the evolution of tsarist prisons was the work of M.N. Gernet [3], which not only describes prison institutions and prisoners, but also analyzes in detail the domestic penitentiary legislation.

A.V. Pechnikov [13], L.P. Rasskazov [17], I.V. Uporov [20], etc. are post-Soviet authors who addressed this issue. I.V. Uporov's comprehensive study tries to make a historical and legal analysis of the formation and implementation of a penal policy in Russia.

In relation to the region considered in this article, the works of such modern authors as N.I. Galkina [2], N.V. Slavinskii [18], M.K. Batchaeva [1], S.A. Lobova [7], etc. deserve attention.

Based on the study of normative acts, archival materials and documents, theoretical approaches and conclusions of historical and legal science, N. I. Galkina determines prison guardianship patterns in the Russian Empire and its features in the Kuban to substantiate the possibilities of using this historical experience in modern conditions [2].

The dissertation research of N.V. Slavinskii presents ways for the formation, development, legal regulation and functioning of provincial prison inspections in pre-revolutionary Russia and the Kuban [18].

The work of M.K. Batchayeva is devoted to the emergence and functioning of charitable prison committees in the second half of the 19th – early 20th centuries in Stavropol and Kuban in the context of the evolution of the domestic penitentiary system and the activities of Russian prison-care societies [1].

S.A. Lobova examines reasons for the appearance of the Yekaterinodar Military Prison Committee, its tasks and main activities. According to the researcher, the specifics of its activities lies in the fact that all matters related to the economic management of detention places and the correction of prisoners were assigned

to its competence, and the committee was responsible only for places of detention located in the city. Military prisons were financed by the Black Sea Cossack Host, city prisons – by the city budget, and Cossack village prisons – by local societies, while the Black Sea Cossack Host, the State Treasury and the War Ministry provided for the maintenance of prisoners in prisons [7].

The article by P.I. Ostapenko and I.V. Siritsa recreates in detail the history of the Yekaterinodar regional prison (1876–2007), currently functioning as a Pre-Trial Detention Center No.1 in Krasnodar [12].

The source base of the article comprises published legislative sources regulating the activities of prison institutions at the state level in the second half of the 19th – early 20th centuries and related to the issues of prison charity, as well as unpublished materials from the State Archive of Krasnodar Krai (SAKK, Krasnodar), many of which had not previously been involved in research. The following archive materials were scrutinized: Fond 454 “Office of the Chief of the Kuban Oblast and the ataman of the Black Sea Cossack Host, Yekaterinodar, 1870–1917”, Fond 657 “Kuban regional prison inspection of the Main Regional Prison Administration, Yekaterinodar, Kuban Oblast, 1909–1920”.

The Kuban penitentiary system began to develop dynamically with the rapid enlargement of the Cossack region. The “Statute on provincial administration of 1775” adopted on November 7, 1775 was the legislative basis. The task to execute punishment in the form of imprisonment was fulfilled by the Military Board. The stated above document stipulated the creation of provincial prisons, headed by a warden, a police officer, which in the Kuban “transformed into military prisons with a regime of class division of prisoners. The general leadership of the entire prison system in the Black Sea Cossack Host was confined to the military ataman” [8, p. 12–13]. In the first half of the 19th century the legislator adopted a number of legal acts containing norms on the procedure and conditions for the implementation of various types of imprisonment. Among them, it is necessary to highlight the “Instructions to the warden of the provincial prison castle” (1831), the “Code of institutions and charters of detainees”, the norms of which were applied only to civilians (1832) and the “Code of criminal and correctional punishments” (1845). These legal acts were aimed at the legislative development of the institution of deprivation of liberty.

The Kuban Oblast was formed on February 8, 1860. As a result of these transformations, Yekaterinodar became the center of the Kuban Oblast, headed by the "ataman of the Black Sea Cossack Host" [11, pp. 20–21]. According to the information from the description of Yekaterinodar, compiled by the city police chief in 1861, Yekaterinodar was populated by the "Black Sea Cossack estate, without exception, Little Russians. The morals of the city inhabitants are not reprehensible" [4, pp.122–122]. According to the regulation "On the settlement and management of the city of Yekaterinodar", adopted on May 1, 1867, anyone could live there [4, p.132]. This meant that the city received a civil status. Due to the transition from the military department to the civil, the rules of settlement and management of Ekaterinodar were renewed. Since September 1868, Russians, not belonging to the military estate, had been allowed to settle and acquire land of the Black Sea Cossack Host; that involved, after which the flow of migrants to the Kuban, including Yekaterinodar, began to increase sharply" [4, p.137].

Active settlement of the Kuban and its center, Yekaterinodar, led to the increase in the number of crimes committed and, accordingly, prison population. The 1861 peasant reform had a significant impact on the development of the Kuban prison system, as many peasants left their permanent places of residence and began to settle in cities. Often unable to cope with unusual urban conditions, they became criminals. Ekaterinodar, with an increased influx of visitors, was no exception in this regard.

In the period under review, imprisonment was executed in various types of places of detention (general purpose prisons, convict prisons, reformatories, arrest rooms, fortresses, etc.). For Yekaterinodar, "the main places of detention were a military prison, a female fortress prison, a city prison at a police station ("police prison") and the main guardhouse"[7, p. 292]. "Unimportant prisoners from civilians were kept in the Yekaterinodar city prison. Prisoners were also transferred here from the overcrowded military prison. It was located in the building of the city police department, rented from a private person" [9, p. 140].

Historical data show that the prison facilities of Yekaterinodar were overcrowded, while the conditions were dreadful. The current prison facilities could not accommodate a growing number of prisoners.

The Ekaterinodar military prison was the main prison of the Kuban. The prison castle (as

the military prison was sometimes called) was located on the square where "reviews of troops and their relief were carried out, and it was surrounded by high and thick piles" [4, p.124]. The decision to build a new brick prison in Yekaterinodar was made on May 11, 1817 and it operated up to the summer of 1876.

It should be noted that shortly after the 1861 peasant reform the government faced the question of expanding the number of prison institutions, since the current prison system in the period under review could no longer cope with an ever-increasing number of convicts, while experiencing significant difficulties in organizing the execution of imprisonment. In particular, the material and technical base of penitentiary institutions was evaluated extremely unsatisfactorily [21, p. 49].

In this regard, in 1862, the Ministry of Internal Affairs requested information from all governors about the state of places of deprivation of liberty. From the reports received, it was clear that "with the rarest exceptions, the prisons were in the most terrible condition" [5, p. 49].

According to domestic researchers, "the survey of Russian prisons conducted by a special commission of the Ministry of Internal Affairs can be considered the first serious approach to reforming places of deprivation of liberty" [16, p. 187].

Inspection of prisons, which had become regular since the beginning of the 1860s, showed the appalling state of prisons, due to the insufficient state funding for construction and repair of prisons.

An "appropriate department (the state treasury, the Black Sea Cossack Host a military department)" [9, p. 139] was responsible for prisons maintenance. The maintenance of the Yekaterinodar military prison was carried out mainly at the expense of the Black Sea Cossack Host.

In 1867, the Yekaterinodar Military Prison Committee "Prisons Custody Society" (hereinafter referred to as the Prison Committee) was formed; it had to meet management needs in the places of deprivation of liberty, located within the city. The newly created Prison Committee addressed problems of unsatisfactory financing of prison institutions, medical support for prisoners, etc. Improving the prisoner detention conditions was one of the key directions as well.

Information about prison maintenance costs deserves special attention. Archival materials show that the Prison Committee primarily used

funds to improve the nutrition of prisoners. So, "in June 1868, 20 kopecks a day was allocated for food of a prisoner-official held in the military prison, 10 kopecks – for a chief officer and a nobleman without any rank, and 6 kopecks – for a "raznochinets" (Russian intellectual not of gentle birth) [7, p. 293]. By the way, the products in Ekaterinodar at that time were very cheap, and the "expense of 16 kopecks was considered significant". At the bazaar (market), a large carp could be bought for 5 kopecks, a pound (400 gr.) of mutton for 3 kopecks [4, p. 124]. It should be noted that the prisoners' food ration did not differ much from the traditional products for the citizens' lunch. So, one of the reports of the Kuban Regional Government for 1879 indicated that "Russian cabbage soup with meat and fresh herbs" was given to prisoners for food (SAKK. Fond 454, register 7, file 1388, sheet 1-1). The inspectors pointed out that "food and bread are quite good" (GAKK. Fond 657, reg.1, f. 3, sh. 45). We believe that the prisoners were provided with satisfactory food.

The Prison Committee paid attention to the issues of providing prisoners with clothes and underwear. Persons held in prison were given clothes if necessary, and bedding was mandatory. So, "in March 1868, about 500 rubles was spent on clothes and underwear for prisoners of the military estate and the civil department, and in February 1870 the Military Board allocated 1 thousand rubles to the budget of the Prison Committee to purchase shoes and clothes for prisoners of the military estate during 1870" [7, p. 293].

Improving the life of prisoners was not the only direction of the charitable activities of the Prison Committee. It also provided financial assistance for the upbringing of children (SAKK. Fond 461, reg. 1, f. 615, sh. 5). In addition, the Prison Committee carried out charitable activities outside the territory of the Kuban, for instance, its donations to the Society for the Care of Families of Exiled Convicts in Saint Petersburg (SAKK. Fond 461, reg. 1, f. 957, sh.1).

The issues of heating and lighting of the prison were never ignored by the Prison Committee. Since electric lighting appeared in Yekaterinodar only in 1894, the lighting of the prison, like all other buildings in Yekaterinodar up to that time, was carried out with kerosene lanterns, demanding substantial financial allocations. So, "in 1871, the Military Economic Board allocated almost 600 rubles for the lighting of the prison" [7, p. 293]. For comparison, 2 thousand rubles from "city funds" was spent

on lighting the entire city at night with 200 kerosene lanterns [4, p.150].

The issues of material security of prison officers also remained relevant for the Prison Committee. So, "according to the "Statement on remuneration to the officers who served at the Ekaterinodar military prison from January 1, 1869 to January 1, 1870", a prison warden received a salary of 557 rubles 14 kopecks, a prison clerk – 40 rubles 66 kopecks, two guards – 10 rubles 1 kopeck each, and Cosacks in the number of 21 people – 8 rubles 66 kopecks each" [19, p. 293]. For comparison, a city worker got 50–60 kopecks a day and a female worker – 40–45 kopecks [4, pp.122–122]. A couple of years later, the salary of prison officers was increased almost 2 times (SAKK. Fond 461, reg.1, f. 181, sh. 2–3). This fact testifies to the emergence of certain guarantees of social protection of penitentiary institution employees on the part of the state.

The issues of arrangement of the military prison were also in focus of the Committee's work. So, already in 1866, a stone punishment cell under an iron roof was built at the military prison to hold "more important criminals". On June 20, 1870 the Military Board informed the Prison Committee that the "overhaul of the prison building, begun by the Military Architect since October of the previous year, according to the estimate approved for that in the District Engineering Department of the Caucasian Military District in the amount of 3,493 rubles, is to be completed by September 15, 1870" (SAKK. Fond 461, reg. 1, f.113, sh. 12). In 1871, in the prison, "renovation of buildings in the amount of 1,583 rubles was carried out" [7, p. 293].

At the same time, despite active charitable activities of the Prison Committee, it was objectively impossible to provide a solution to the problem of the unsatisfactory state of prisons due to a general lack of financial resources.

In addition to the unsatisfactory living conditions of convicts, there were problems with "the staff of institutions, since even general approaches to solving personnel issues have not yet been developed" [16, p. 182].

The head of the Kuban Oblast exercised supervisory functions over regional prisons. Direct management of places of detention was carried out by prison wardens, whose duties included overseeing the observance of cleanliness, order, righteousness by prisoners and caring for the correction of criminals' morality based on religious norms. For this purpose, priests were required to perform religious rites for prisoners,

administer the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

Those sentenced to imprisonment were allowed visits with relatives. At the same time, prison wardens carefully monitored the procedure for organizing visits with prisoners. So, in January 1868, the Yekaterinodar Military Committee announced that “persons arriving for a date are accepted by the prison warden exclusively on Sundays and holidays an hour before lunch, and those arriving later than the set time will be deprived of the right to a date” (SAKK. Fond 461, reg. 1, f. 3, sh. 15). This rule was dictated by the need to regulate the organization of visits with detainees in the Yekaterinodar military prison and obliged visitors to appear at the time prescribed by law. In general, the opportunity for prisoners to meet relatives was a progressive step, since family ties play an important role in the correction of convicts.

At the end of the 1860s, the issue to construct a “military prison castle” in Yekaterinodar became critical due to the growing population of the Kuban and the increase in the number of convicts. In 1867, the project of a new prison was approved, in which the architect took into account the latest achievements in the construction of penitentiary institutions in Europe. Unfortunately, the construction of the building, which was to have been finished by October 15, 1871, stretched for almost 10 years, since the contractor, merchant F.K. Gelfond, was dismissed from further construction for violating the contract and the work was suspended for a long time.

On June 26, 1876 the Ekaterinodar regional prison was inaugurated. The territory of the prison, built of solid brick, was divided into sectors, due to which prisoners were transferred from one sector to another, when their behavior corrected, while there was a “change in the conditions of the detention regime” [12, p. 185]. It should be noted that this principle is reflected in the modern penitentiary system.

By the beginning of the 1880s in the prison, surrounded by a “brick wall of proper height” (SAKK. Fond 454, reg. 1, f. 1388, sh. 2), there were “7 departments, including 2 two-story brick buildings for the detention of prisoners: the first – a building of the general prison wards of 27 rooms, the second – a building of 60 cells for solitary confinement; for female prisoners a brick one-story outbuilding was intended. On the prison territory there was a building for the accommodation of employees, a bathhouse, and a laundry” [9, p. 139].

The number of persons held in the Ekaterinodar prison continued to increase annually. According to the information from the report of the Kuban Regional Government for 1879, a total of 1,171 convicts were held in prison (SAKK. Fond 454, reg. 1, f. 1388, sh. 2). In 1882, 1,195 people served their sentences in prison, of which: 858 were civilians, 336 were Cossacks of the Black Sea Cossack Host. In 1885, out of 1,372 prisoners, there were 984 civilians, and 288 Cossacks (SAKK. Fond 454, reg. 2, f. 96, sh. 21), which indicates the predominance of civilians among the prisoners.

In February 1906, the head of the Kuban Oblast decided that it was necessary to examine the conditions of detention of prisoners in the Yekaterinodar prison; for this purpose a special commission was created. The members of the commission inspected the living quarters and found out that almost all single cells housed several people, overcrowding was also observed in the common cells, at the time of the inspection there were 580 prisoners in the prison. According to the results of the survey, the commission came to the conclusion that “it is necessary to reduce the number to 400 prisoners” (SAKK. Fond 583, reg. 1, f. 230-A, sh. 406).

The data for 1906 contained information that “in the Yekaterinodar prison, which “served” not only the city, but also Cossack villages, rural communities and mountain villages of the Yekaterinodar department, a total of 2,854 people were held. By estates, the prisoners were distributed as follows: hereditary nobles – 23 people, personal nobles – 17, merchants – 5, burghers – 558, peasants – 1,635, Cossacks of the Black Sea Cossack Host – 285, the military – 5, highlanders – 161, other estates – 148 people” [12, p. 186].

In her memoirs P.I. Vishnyakova, a participant in the revolution of 1905–1907 in the Kuban, described the Yekaterinodar prison as follows: “... cramped, extremely dirty, especially for women, with a cement floor, dirty walls and full of bedbugs. There were no walks, unlike other prisons. There was no supply of books. Food was served in rusty tanks... They took me to the bathhouse every two or even three months” [4, p. 286].

There was an eight-place infirmary at the Yekaterinodar military prison, where first aid was provided to prisoners. There was a sufficient number of local military infirmaries, where ill prisoners were treated. In August 1909, the construction of a new hospital building at the Yekaterinodar regional prison was completed;

then sick prisoners were transferred “to newly built premises” (SAKK. Fond 657, reg. 1, f.1, sh. 46).

The issues of expanding places of detention were relevant in Yekaterinodar at the beginning of the 20th century. So, in December 1908, on the proposal of the head of the Kuban Oblast, in pursuance of a telegram from the Main Prison Administration, the commission consisting of the regional engineer of the state councilor Kundukhov, the head of the second department of the Kuban Regional Government of the state councilor Voloshin and the head of the Yekaterinodar regional prison Shpilevoy, with the participation of the Yekaterinodar merchant L.N. Trakhov, inspected the place where the state-leased arrest house built by the former prison head, state councilor Skochko was located. Having made the appropriate conclusions, the commission decided to expand an arrest room onto the “free area, outside the prison fence – to the east, between the wall fence and the Kuznetsov brick factory” by constricting an “extension from both sides”, since to expand this room is “impossible otherwise” (SAKK. Fond 657, reg.1, f. 1, sh. 28).

As a result, in December 1908, the Kuban Regional Government and the Yekaterinodar merchant L.N. Trakhov made an agreement on the construction of an extension to the premises of the arrest house rented by the state from the wife of the state councilor Evdokia Ivanovna Skachko for the detention of prisoners. The contract contained a detailed description of the object. The building was supposed to consist only of common cells, without solitary cells and punishment cells. The overall size of the building as a whole and the individual cells had to correspond to the sketch approved by the General Prison Administration. In addition, 2 single cells available in the arrest house were to be converted into a visiting room and a water closet. The contract provided for the procedure for laying bricks, dimensions, materials planned for use and features of their application; special attention was paid to the arrangement of windows, doors, and ventilation. According to the contract, the contractor was obliged to lease the constructed building to the Kuban Regional Government with the rent collection for an 8-year period, during which he assumed obligations for external and internal repairs of the building and whitewashing twice a year (SAKK. Fond 657, reg. 1, f. 1, sh. 11). By the way, not only in the Kuban, but throughout Russia, private individuals lease premises for prison facilities.

It is noteworthy that B.B. Shardanov, a railway engineer, also expressed a desire to perform contract work on the construction of this extension, as he stated in writing to the head of the Kuban Oblast. However, the amount of lease payments proposed by B.B. Shardanov, namely 4,700 rubles a year, was significantly higher than that proposed by the merchant L.N. Trakhov – 3,750 rubles a year (SAKK. Fond 657, reg. 1, f. 1, sh. 2). This circumstance indicates that the best conditions for the performance of the contract were determined at the lowest cost of the price, and allows us to conclude about the origin of the principle of ensuring competition, which takes place in the modern system of public procurement, including for the penal system.

Upon completion of the work in August 1909, the commission chaired by the head of the 3rd department of the Regional Government of the collegiate assessor Sadilo accepted the building; on September 1, 1909 it started accommodating prisoners (SAKK. Fond 657, reg. 1, f. 1, sh. 48–50). It should be noted that after the expiration of the eight-year lease agreement for a building built on city land for the detention of prisoners, in November 1917, the head of the Kuban Oblast received a submission from the Kuban regional prison inspector about the need to “appoint a commission for its acceptance from the heirs of the deceased merchant L.N. Trakhov” (SAKK. Fond 657, reg. 1, f. 4, sh. 4). It seems that the prison department carefully monitored the conditions for fulfilling obligations under contracts, which is critical for the modern system of concluding contracts.

The premises of the Yekaterinodar regional prison gradually continued to expand. So, in July 1909, the Main Prison Administration approved the construction of an outbuilding at the Yekaterinodar regional prison, and in September of the same year, a plan for this building, worked out with the participation of the prison governor, was submitted for approval. According to archival documents, the outbuilding was leased to the prison department for an 8-year term, for a fee of 7,500 rubles a year, with the further transfer of the building to the property of the prison department. At the same time, the contractor, a merchant L.N. Trakhov, was provided an interest-free loan in the amount of 300,000 rubles from the “penalty capital” of the Kuban Oblast (SAKK. Fond 657, reg. 1, f. 3, sh. 9, 14, 16).

Moreover, in September 1909, the agreement was concluded between the Kuban Regional Government and the Yekaterinodar mer-

chant L.N. Trakhov on the construction of a building for prisoner detention at the premises of the Yekaterinodar regional prison, measuring “39.50 sazhen” in length and “6.76 sazhen” in width (SAKK. Fond 657, reg. 1, f. 2, sh. 31a). The contract contained mandatory conditions regarding exterior and interior decoration of the premises. The exterior one included conditions for laying bricks, in particular, two and a half bricks for the foundation and basement, two bricks for exterior walls, and one and a half bricks for interior walls. At the same time, the foundation and basement was necessarily set on cement, and walls – on lime and clay. In addition, to avoid dampness, the upper part of the basement had an asphalt layer half an inch thick (about 13 mm). As for the interior decoration, doors and windows were painted, ceilings and walls were plastered and whitewashed, iron grilles were installed on windows with double window frames, and fans – in furnaces and windows. Floors should be concrete in corridors and wooden in cells. According to the contract, the contractor had to lease the constructed building to the Kuban Regional Government for 8 years with a payment of 7,500 rubles a year. In addition, an interest-free loan in the amount of 30 thousand rubles was allocated to L.N. Trakhov for the construction of this building (SAKK. Fond 657, reg. 1, f. 2, sh. 31b).

In order to ensure proper supervision in places of detention, attention was paid to staffing of prisons with warders. So, in June 1910, the head of the Yekaterinodar regional prison sent a report to the Kuban Regional Government about the need to apply more 15 “prison guards” due to the completed construction of a new prison department by L.N. Trakhov and the transfer of prisoners there. The prison head clarified the proposed number of employees as such: a post in the kitchen would require 2 people; inside the building there would be 4 posts of 2 people, eight in total; at the side of the wall bordering the brick factory there would be an external post of 2 people, in addition, 2 “guards accompanying convicts” and one senior warden would be required. In addition, the head of the prison asked for “provision of the mentioned guards with weapons, equipment and uniforms” (SAKK. Fond 657, reg. 1, f. 3, sh. 37–38). In the same month, the head of the Kuban Oblast received a telegram signed by the head of the Main Prison Department Khrulev, in which it was allowed to employ 12 warders. One of them was paid 360 rubles, the rest – 240 rubles (SAKK. Fond 657, reg. 1, f. 3, sh. 40). Soon, in addition to this tele-

gram, the Main Prison Administration clarified in writing why it had not found an opportunity to expand the staff by 3 more warders for the newly installed outdoor post at the side of the Kuznetsov brick factory, indicating that the military unit was responsible for outdoor protection of places of detention. In terms of material support for the prison staff, it was clarified that the issue of allocating funds would be resolved after receiving information about their hiring, and the prison management would be additionally notified about the provision of weapons and uniforms (SAKK. Fond 657, reg.1, f. 3, sh. 41–41). The resolution of the head of the Kuban Oblast on this document contained a requirement to establish a fence from the side of the brick factory. In July 1910, the head of the prison reported to the Kuban Regional Government that the warders had been hired and petitioned for “speedy provision of uniforms, equipment and weapons for the warders” (SAKK. Fond 657, reg. 1, f. 3, sh. 43).

The issues of arrangement of places of detention along with the construction of new and expansion of existing places of detention did not go unnoticed by the authorities. In August 1910, the Yekaterinodar regional prison was visited by the directors of the Prison Committee S. Beim, H. Bogarsukov, A. Kovalenko, I. Gorchakov and the adviser to the Regional Government G. Sementsov, who made a number of comments in the book. In particular, the arrest house built by Skochko had poor ventilation, and therefore it was necessary to “arrange good ventilation”. In the building constructed by Trachov, it was necessary to make windows with slopes opening outwards, the baths in the chambers had to be replaced with “high tubs on thick legs, galvanized inside”, in the “water closet at the hospital it was necessary to make high cement seats”, and an appropriate hood on the wall with access to the roof. In addition to the increased attention to compliance with hygienic requirements, in particular, “stale air” everywhere, the inspectors drew attention to the fact that the women’s department was “very crowded”. The construction of one more floor was required. The result of the inspection was a petition of the commission members to the head of the Kuban Oblast for the construction of the floor above the women’s department (SAKK. Fond 657, reg. 1, f. 3, sh. 45).

In 1912–1913, two additional new buildings were built on the territory of the Yekaterinodar prison. This was due to the growth of the Kuban population and deterioration of the criminogen-

ic situation, reflected in criminal statistics for 2010-2012 [4, p. 346]. Therefore, the “number of those who needed to be isolated from society increased” [12, p. 186].

Unfortunately, the events of 1914, caused by the outbreak of the First World War, influenced further development of penitentiary institutions both in Russia as a whole and in the Kuban.

Thus, the development of the Kuban penitentiary institutions in general and Yekaterinodar, in particular, occurred during the period of mass settlement by the visiting population, which was not so typical for other territories and provinces of the Russian Empire. With the increase in the visiting population, the number of crimes and, accordingly, persons serving sentences in prison institutions went up as well. In connection with the above, the priority directions for the development of penitentiary institutions in Yekaterinodar were the following: expansion of existing and construction of new premises; ensuring the regime of detention of prisoners; provision of living conditions for prisoners; assistance to moral correction; improvement of medical care for prisoners, etc.

By the beginning of the 20th century, the Prison Committee, which was responsible

for the entire Kuban penitentiary system, had made many steps in the development of prison guardianship in its areas of activity. The development of guardianship in relation to prisoners should be considered one of the mechanisms that solved the problem of improving the situation of prisoners. The financial basis of this activity was state funds and charitable funds received privately. No doubt, donations from benefactors improved the food ration of prisoners.

However, the penitentiary institutions of Yekaterinodar faced unresolved managerial, material, financial and other problems characteristic of the entire system of execution of sentences in the form of deprivation of liberty during the period under review – insufficient funding of prisons, unsuitability of prison buildings, which entailed overcrowding of existing places of deprivation of liberty, as well as unsatisfactory conditions of detention of persons serving sentences, despite the construction of new prison facilities. This crisis in the penitentiary system was triggered by general socio-political conditions in Russia at the beginning of the 20th century.

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