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FOR THE RECORD

*Herald* ————— 3/15/39

County and state officials are in the midst of negotiations directed toward a trade that would give the county a 300-acre farm.

The other day, we inquiringly suggested that perhaps the county didn't need to engage in farming on a 300-acre scale, since the county is no longer responsible for the upkeep of long or short term prisoners.

In the nature of reply, it has been suggested that while it may be the popular impression that the state takes over all prisoners, the county is required by law to take care of all prisoners not sentenced to more than 30 days.

Well, it happens that popular impression and state law conform on that point. The state and not the county is responsible for the care of 30-day prisoners. That has been true for more than two years. We checked on our memory with the state highway commission chairman and he says that the state is responsible for 30-day prisoners along with long term prisoners.

It is within the discretion of trial courts, naturally, to send physically handicapped prisoners to county homes and judges usually oblige when they are asked by county authorities to name the county home rather than a state prison camp as the designation of particular prisoners.

So, while there may be any number of reasons why the county needs a farm, or farms, one of them is not because the county is required to take care of 30-day prisoners.