

Notes on People

## Colson Tells Officials Of Inmates' Dispair

A well-known former prisoner, Charles W. Colson, told the American Correctional Association yesterday that "uncertainty, helplessness and paranoia" afflict the inmates of the nation's prisons. The former special White House counsel to President Nixon, who worked in the laundry of a Federal prison while serving six months of his one-to-three year sentence in the Watergate affair, said that disparity of sentencing was the "greatest cause of despair" for prisoners.

Speaking in Denver to the association's 106th congress, Mr. Colson urged prison administrators to "open the doors" to the public because "they can cure the sores and would want to, once they are aware of what prisons are and what goes on in them."

The American Ballet Theater announced yesterday that Marianna Tcherkassky, 23 years old, Clark Tippet, 21, and Charles Ward, 24, have been elevated from soloists to principal dancers. They are among the younger dancers to achieve the top rank.

Norway. He received an \$850 fine and a 120-day prison sentence. The prison term was suspended.

A 20-year-old plant enthusiast, visiting the National Arboretum in Washington last weekend, made off with a 100-year-old bonsai tree—part of Japan's \$4 million Bicentennial gift of 53 such rare dwarf plants, some of them given by Emperor Hirohito and the royal family. When the young man's girl friend convinced him of the 30-inch juniper's probable value, he returned it this week. The name of the young man was not disclosed because the United States Attorney does not intend to prosecute him. William L. Ackerman, acting director of the arboretum, said, "He apparently had quite a collection of plants in his apartment and thought this would be a nice addition."

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