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# Federal Corrections



# FEDERAL CORRECTIONS

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EDITOR: Mrs. Jean Webb

## HISTORY OF PAROLE

Today's concept of parole is the product of many minds that were faced with the practical problem of what to do with the felon who was not hanged or executed.

Parole, as we know it today, has had a slow and devious development with many relapses, and every step of advancement grew out of the necessity of meeting a practical situation.

Parole is based on three fundamentals: (1) Remission of part of the sentence imposed by court on the basis of certain conditions, one of which was always good conduct while in prison; (2) A contract or agreement between the paroling authority and the prisoner, infringement of which would result in return to prison; (3) Provision for supervision of those released under parole conditions.

The first two aspects of parole developed more or less simultaneously with varying emphasis. The provisions of supervision is of more recent origin.

Although the word "parole" was not used until 1846, the idea of conditional release of offenders goes back to colonial days. It may be said that the seed of parole was planted in the Order of the English Privy Council, passed in 1617, making it a policy of the Government to transport convicts overseas when it was found necessary to do something to get rid of the increasing prison population. His Majesty's Government then began sending convicts to the colonists in the new world, as indentured servants. Many of these indentured servants, after serving their time or purchasing their freedom, became settlers, and their branches spread into our present civilization.

With the advent of the Revolutionary War, English convicts were sent to New South Wales in Australia where the Governor was given the power of conditional pardon, which later developed into the "Ticket-of-Leave" system introduced by Captain Alexander Maconochie on Norfolk Island in 1840.

Maconochie's system was elaborated and improved by Sir Walter Crofton in Ireland and became known as the Irish System. As carried out in Ireland, it definitely demonstrated that a system of conditional liberation was workable both for the protection of society and for the rehabilitation of the criminal. The most novel phases of the Irish System were that it required the person on "Ticket-of-Leave" to make periodical report and provided re-imprisonment for those who violated their agreement.

By 1865, the Irish System had become well known in America. At the same time prison reformers were critical of the conditions existing in the American prisons and advocated the adoption of the Irish plan. However, objections were raised against it because it used officers to supervise "Ticket-of-Leave" men. It appears that the same criticism had been raised in England, where prisoners' aid societies were established, partly subsidized by the Government, for the purpose of supervising men on "Ticket-of-Leave".

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## HISTORY OF PAROLE

Prisoners' aid societies were already in existence in America, although they had been limiting their activities largely to prison visiting. The first of these societies was the Philadelphia Society for Alleviating the Miseries of Public Prisoners and was first established in 1776.

The Ticket of Leave system had been effect in Canada from the late 1890's until the advent of the National Parole Board in 1959. After some three years of investigation and study the Fauteux Committee, appointed by the Government of the day to enquire into the principles and procedures of the Remission Service of the Department of Justice, included in Chapter XI of its report a recommendation that a National Parole Board of five members be established, and that its Headquarters be in Ottawa.

As a result and by proclamation by the Governor-in-Council the Parole Act came into force on February 15, 1959. The Ticket of Leave Act was replaced. The Remission Service of the Department of Justice, which had up to that time carried the responsibility of administering the Ticket of Leave Act, was abolished.

As a further result the National Parole Board was appointed, and the members of the staff of the former Remission Service were transferred to the Board and became the National Parole Service.

The Board has exclusive jurisdiction over the granting, suspension, and revocation of parole, the revocation or suspension of any sentence of whipping, and the revocation or suspension of any order made under the Criminal Code prohibiting any person from operating a motor vehicle.

The Parole Act provides for the automatic review of cases of inmates serving sentences of two years or more, whether application is made or not, and the review of cases of inmates serving less than two years where application for parole is made.

In 1963 the Parole Board made decisions in 9559 cases, of which 8615 were with respect to granting or refusing parole. During the first four years of its operation the Parole Board had granted parole to 10,289 inmates, not including these given gradual release. During the same period 1,036 parolees had been ordered to be returned to prison because of revocation or forfeiting of parole—an average failure rate of 9% for the period. One may assume, therefore, that for the period of parole some 90% made satisfactory progress and were contributing members of society.

Mr. Benoit Godbout, Q.C., is Executive Director of the National Parole Service, as well as Secretary to the Board. The function of the Service concerns the proper investigation of cases and the preparation of material in relation to them for the consideration of the Board, as well as providing or arranging supervision of those inmates released on parole. In 1960 an additional one was given to its charge with respect to the matter pertaining to the exercise of the Royal Prerogative of Mercy, such as advising the appropriate authorities with regard to the granting of new trials, the granting of pardons under the Great Seal of Canada, the remission of fines and other pecuniary penalties, the return of articles forfeited to the Crown, etc.

There are some fifty members of the Service Staff at Headquarters comprised of Case Investigation Units, separate Units covering the Eastern, Central and Western Sections with Parole Analysts working under a professionally competent supervisor, and in addition the Registry, Records and Notifications Section.

Beyond the confines of Ottawa there are ten Regional Offices—Halifax, Moncton, Quebec, Montreal, Kingston, Toronto, Winnipeg, Prince Albert, Edmonton, and Vancouver—with a total staff of some fifty-four members. Further expansion, in terms of additional offices is contemplated as circumstances permit.

Regional Representatives, in charge of Regional Offices, are responsible for the general administration of all the local aspects of the work of the National Parole Service within their Region arising from applications for parole and the release and supervision of persons on parole. Their duties include visiting penal institutions to interview applicants for parole, and maintaining liaison with government agencies and welfare organizations concerned in the administration of Justice, law enforcement, and the rehabilitation of offenders.

Supervision has long been regarded as the crux of parole, a concept with which Board and Service are in full agreement. As with other parole jurisdictions it has become used increasingly in the Canadian system and with greatly increased frequency and intensity since the early 1950's. In this endeavour Regional Offices, Public Agencies, Private After-care agencies, and others—such as lay men—play an important role in ensuring that the parolee successfully discharges his obligations and fulfills his parole contract. It may be of interest to note that during 1962 social agencies supervised fifty per cent of parole cases, public agencies twenty-three percent, Regional Offices twelve percent, and others four percent.



# MEET THE BOARD MEMBERS

In its proposal for the establishment of the National Parole Board (Fauteux Report, Chapter XI), the Advisory Committee recommended certain qualifications each member of the Board should possess, viz: "... a person chosen from the senior ranks of the judiciary who would bring to the Board the dignity and impartiality of the Bench, and who could be given leave of absence from his judicial duties to be the first chairman of the Board."

## T. George Street, Q.C.

Born on January 4, 1916 at Thorold, Ontario, Mr. Street graduated from Osgoode Hall Law School in 1939. From 1939 until 1941 he practiced law in Welland with the firm of Maccoomb, Maccoomb and Street.

During World War II, Mr. Street served with the Canadian Army overseas—with the Saskatoon Light Infantry in Sicily and Italy; also served as Air Liaison Officer in Yugoslavia, Greece and Corsica. He returned to Canada in 1945 with the 48th Highlanders and was discharged with the rank of Captain.

Upon his discharge Mr. Street resumed his duties with the firm Maccoomb, Maccoomb and Street until January 1, 1948 at which time he was appointed Magistrate for the City of Welland, a position he held until January 1, 1959 when he was appointed Chairman of the National Parole Board. In 1956 he was appointed Deputy Judge of the Juvenile Family Court for the City of Welland.

On November 17, 1960, by the Committee of the Privy Council, approved by His Excellency, the Governor General, Mr. Street was appointed one of Her Majesty's Counsel, learned in the Law.

*"The specific areas of academic training that would qualify a person for membership on the Board would be professional experience in such fields as the law, psychiatry, social work, and applied criminology";*

## Mary Louise Lynch

Born in Saint John, New Brunswick, Miss Lynch completed two years in the Faculty of Arts at Dalhousie University and then entered the Faculty of Law at the University of New Brunswick, where she was granted the BCL degree in 1933. She then became associated with the Saint John law firm of Messrs. Gilbert, McGloan and Gillis with which firm she practiced law until her appointment to the National Parole Board, October 1, 1960.

Miss Lynch has had varied and extensive experience in law and was the first woman to argue a case in the New Brunswick Court of Appeal. For some

years she handled various legal and financial matters for Lord Beaverbrook.

From 1948 Miss Lynch was secretary and registrar of the Faculty of Law, University of New Brunswick, until the Faculty was moved from Saint John to Fredericton in 1959. She has been a member of the University Senate since 1954.

Since 1951 Miss Lynch has been on the selection committee for the Lord Beaverbrook Undergraduate and Overseas Scholarships.

Miss Lynch is a member of the Juvenile Delinquency Committee, a departmental committee set up by former Minister of Justice Fulton, and latterly has been appointed a director of the Ottawa Welfare Council and of the Ottawa Community Chest.

## Edouard Dion, Q.C.

Edouard Dion, Q.C., was born in Levis, P.Q. on May 7, 1913, the son of Maurice Dion and the former Blanche Burroughs.

He received his primary and secondary education at Levis College and Nicolet College. Mr. Dion received his B.A. on July 1, 1933 and his LL.L. on May 3, 1937, from Laval University. While at the university he was elected President of the Laval Law Students Association for the year 1934-35.

Mr. Dion was called to the Bar on July 9, 1937 and was appointed a Q.C. on April 1, 1948. In 1937 he began his law practice in Quebec City, entering into partnership with the Hon. Albert Dumontier, now a Judge of the Sessions of the Peace.

Upon his retirement from the Army in 1945 as a Captain in the Royal Canadian Army Pay Corps, he resumed his law practice in New Carlisle, Bonaventure County, P.Q. From November 1945 until February 1959 he was Crown Attorney and on several occasions he appeared before the Court of Appeal of the Province of Quebec and also before the Supreme Court of Canada.

Edouard Dion, Q.C. in his work as a Crown prosecutor in New Carlisle was known throughout the entire district for his reputation for fairness and for his desire to see justice done to those accused. He brings to the National Parole Board the experience of a person familiar with the administration of criminal law on a day to day basis and with the handling of those individuals charged with offences.

The keen interest he has shown in the welfare of those whom he prosecuted eminently qualifies him to be a member of the National Parole Board.



## MEET THE BOARD MEMBERS

*"...a senior member of the present staff of the Remission Service, who would bring to the board his experience in the present parole system and thereby preserve continuity of administration."*

Frank Patrick Miller's interest in the problem of the rehabilitation of offenders was first aroused (at the time of the establishment of the John Howard Society of B.C.) in a course of sociology taken under Professor C.W. Topping, Canadian Criminologist. His first professional experience with offenders was received in the Army, as Personnel Selection Officer, when he dealt with the cases of men being discharged from detention.

Mr. Miller was born on August 17, 1911 at Victoria, B.C. He attended British Columbia public and high schools, University of British Columbia and Union College of British Columbia. In 1935 he was granted a B.A. degree in History and Sociology.

From 1946 to 1947 Mr. Miller was a part-time worker with the John Howard Society, visiting Burwash Industrial Farm. In 1947 he was appointed as the first Classification Officer at Kingston Penitentiary and worked in this capacity until 1952. Mr. Miller joined the Remission Service staff in 1952 and was appointed Assistant Director on April 1, 1953. On January 1, 1959, he was appointed member of the National Parole Board.

Mr. Miller is a member of the Editorial Committee, Canadian Journal of Corrections; Chairman, Committee on Records, Statistics, and Research, Canadian Corrections Association; Member, Executive Committee, Association of Paroling Authorities, American Corrections Association.

*"...a person having wide experience in non-institutional correctional work such as, for example, a voluntary after-care agency or a provincial probation service."*

J. Alex. Edmison, Q.C., was appointed a Member of the National Parole Board on January 1, 1959. Previously he had been Assistant to the Principal of Queen's University, having special concern with all matters of public relations and endowment. A native of Ontario, Mr. Edmison was born at Cheltenham, Peel County, the son of the late Reverend J.H. Edmison, D.D., Secretary of the Board of Home Missions & Social Service, United Church of Canada.

Educated in Arts at Queen's University and in Law at McGill, he was president of the student body and captained debating teams at each university. Mr. Edmison practiced law in Montreal and was an Alderman of the Montreal City Council and a member of the Board of Health until commissioned with the Black Watch, Royal Highland Regiment of Canada in 1940. He served overseas from June 1941 until

January 1945, when he was appointed by UNRRA as Chief Liaison Officer to Supreme Headquarters Allied Expeditionary Force (SHAEF). In France and Germany he set up the organization for the care of refugees, displaced persons, and concentration camp survivors. In this connection he received citations from Generals DeGaulle and Eisenhower.

A writer and speaker on penology and criminology, Mr. Edmison has been interested in crime prevention (penal reform and the welfare of ex-prisoners) since the 1920s. He was a member of the Committee appointed by the Minister of Justice to study probation, parole and clemency problems generally (1953-56). In 1960 he received the "Award for Distinguished Humanitarian Service" from the John Howard Society of Ontario.

Mr. Edmison has done considerable public speaking in Canada, the U.S. and the United Kingdom; for many years he conducted public speaking classes in Montreal. He is a director and board member of several welfare associations, and is President of the Overseas Friendship Society of Ottawa operating International House.

Mr. Edmison was formerly: Honorary Legal Counsel & Director—Montreal Prisoners' Aid & Welfare Ass'n; Governor—Shawbridge Boys' Farm and Training School; Chief Legal Counsel—Montreal Legal Aid Bureau; Chairman—Committee of Montreal Council of Social Agencies Committee for Submissions to the Archambault Commission; President—Canadian Penal Association; President—International Prisoners' Aid Association; Director—American Correctional Association; Executive Director—John Howard Society of Ontario; and President—United Nations Association of Toronto.

In January 1964, Mr. Edmison was appointed to the first Board of Governors of Trent University, Peterborough.

## SELECTION FOR PAROLE

By T.G. Street, Q.C.

The function of the Parole Board is to select those inmates in the various institutions in Canada, who have given some indication of their sincere intention to reform, and to assist them in doing so by a grant of parole. The dual purpose of parole is the rehabilitation of the offender and the protection of society, and we must keep the latter uppermost in our minds at all times.

In the investigation made in the case of each application for parole, we obtain a great deal of information from many sources. From this information we must make an assessment of the applicant, to determine if he seems to have changed his attitude.



## SELECTION FOR PAROLE

The most significant information we get of course is from the institution where the inmate is confined, because if there has been any change on the part of the inmate, it will have taken place there.

Therefore, I cannot stress too strongly the necessity of our obtaining all available information about the inmate from every person at the institution who knows of him. We should have all the information, both favourable and unfavourable, as to his conduct and industry and his interest in improving himself and what effect the conviction and imprisonment have had on him, and whether there is any indication of change or improvement. It appears to me that there is no exact science involved in determining whether a man has changed his attitude but it is a matter of assessment. Therefore we would like to obtain the institutional officers' impressions of the inmate, and their views as to whether it appears that the inmate will behave himself in future.

I believe that institutional officers who are accustomed to living and working with inmates are able to determine, with a fair degree of accuracy in most cases, whether or not an inmate will return to crime or will live a useful, law-abiding life. Therefore, we very much appreciate the cooperation of these officers in the past and I would like to assure them that their complete and comprehensive reports, assessments and impressions are very valuable indeed.

## INMATES HELP IN EASTER SEAL CAMPAIGN

A group of five inmates of Collin's Bay Penitentiary gave up much of their leisure time to assist the Rotary Club of Kingston in their Easter Seal Campaign. During evenings, and including some weekends, these men addressed envelopes and packaged request letters and Easter Seals for mailing to residents of Kingston and surrounding district. The work started about January 8th and was completed February 18 with approximately 25,000 envelopes being forwarded to homes in an area extending from Seeley's Bay, Verona and Odessa and south of Wolfe and Howe Islands.

Associated with the Ontario Society for Crippled Children, the Rotary Club are asking for donations to help provide care and treatment for crippled children in the Province of Ontario. On the suggestion of Warden-Rotarian Fred Smith, the five inmates were given this task, which was completed on schedule.

The five inmates enjoyed working on the project and appeared to be gaining satisfaction from it. Their labours saved the Rotary Club \$500.00 to \$600.00. Their only reward—coffee and sandwiches, and a good feeling of satisfaction for the part they played in the welfare of the community.

## PAROLE AND THE COMMUNITY

*Submitted by National Parole Service, Ottawa*

"One of the basic realities of civilized social life is the right, the duty—indeed, the inherent necessity—of the organized community to establish and maintain, by force if need be, those minimum standards of behaviour that insure an orderly, stable community life. This is one of the limitations that governs the voluntary choice of all, and the prisoner is no exception. On the contrary he usually is a prisoner because he has been unable or unwilling to accept these limits. His prime need is to learn to do so; the prison's prime duty is helping him learn that basic lesson. This cannot be done by denying or abandoning the real and necessary authority of the prison, but only by using that authority to help the individual prisoner find more satisfaction in accepting these inevitable limitations and living with them, rather than rejecting and fighting them...."

It is some years since the above was said by Sanford Bates in "Social Problems of the Prisoner" but it holds equally true today. It holds no less true for the parolee than it does for the prisoner. What is required of every citizen is required of the parolee in his attempts to re-acquire full status as a citizen. That there is a part of the social structure which refuses to accept these limitations does not lessen their validity since they are necessary to the survival of the community, and necessary if the community is to have any stability, if property is to be held sacred, and if the individual citizen is to be able to walk its street in safety.

To expect less of the parolee or to aid and abet him in any way in evading or avoiding this responsibility is to undermine and to defeat the very purpose of community living, to stunt or pervert his own growth as a citizen of that community, and to subvert the very intentions of parole. The limitations of the Parole Agreement are not designed to hamper but to promote growth of the parolee within the limitations set upon and accepted by the ordinary citizen of the community within which he has chosen to make his abode. If within the due process of parole the parolee finds himself unable or unwilling to live within its limitations then the community, as represented by the law and its due process, must take appropriate action in having him again removed from its confines to the confines of the prison in the hope that a further period of retraining may accomplish that which the first (or second? or third?) failed to do.



# FEDERAL PROFILES

*This is the third in a series of articles entitled, "Federal Profiles", in which it is intended to introduce members of the Penitentiary Service, National Parole Board, and National Parole Service to outstanding personalities in the field of corrections. Several indulge in unique and worthwhile hobbies conducted after duty hours. Many, particularly those with long service records, have been active participants in Canada's modern program of reform. Others are outstanding by reason of a colourful and vivid personality. Federal Corrections welcomes contributions from its readers in this regard.*

\* \* \* \*

In 1954, a juvenile historical novel entitled "Son of the Mohawks", a story about the boyhood days of Pierre Radisson, French explorer, was completed for publication. In 1957 another juvenile historical novel, "Brook Watson of Beauséjour", with a setting in the Maritimes, was completed. In 1960 a biography of Taylor Statten, Canadian boys' work leader and camp director, appeared on the library shelves; all of which were published by the Ryerson Press, Toronto, and written by a member of the National Parole Service.

Mr. C.A.M. Edwards was born in Toronto in 1917, where he attended Hillcrest Public School and Vaughan Road Collegiate. In 1939 he received a Bachelor of Arts Degree from the University of Toronto (University College), having specialized in English, History and German. In 1940 he attended the Toronto Normal School. After teaching for two years as Assistant Master at Trinity College School, Port Hope, Ontario (a private school for boys) he joined the Canadian Army in the fall of 1942 and served with Personnel Selection in Canada and with the Canadian Intelligence Corps (Special Wireless Intelligence Section) in Italy and Northwest Europe. Following cessation of hostilities Mr. Edwards served with a Counter Intelligence Section in Holland.

Upon his discharge from the Army in 1946, Mr. Edwards became House Master at Shawnigan Lake School for Boys, Vancouver Island, and was for one summer in 1947 Personnel Superintendent of the Pacific National Exhibition in Vancouver. Upon his

return to Ontario that same year, he was employed briefly as the Assistant to the Executive Secretary of the Ottawa Board of Trade.

On February 12, 1948, "Aussie" as he is better known throughout the correctional field, joined the Penitentiary Service at Collin's Bay Penitentiary as its first Classification Officer. In the fall of 1954 he transferred to Ottawa to the Remission Service, doing parole work at Remission Service Headquarters in Ottawa, and also as Field Officer for the Atlantic Provinces and Ontario.

During the time Mr. Edwards was in Ottawa he made two trips each year to Dorchester Penitentiary and the Maritime gaols, as well as to Her Majesty's Penitentiary in St. John's, Newfoundland; at the same time maintaining public relations with the reformatories and industrial farms throughout Ontario. In 1957 he returned to Kingston, Ontario, where he opened a Regional office for the Remission Service.

Mr. Edwards's hobby is, of course, writing. He began his writing career in Grade 6 when he wrote, produced and acted in a classroom play. During high school he was active in dramatics and later participated in amateur dramatics extensively.

Since "Aussie's" Grade 6 days, he has written short stories, poems and plays for his own amusement. He recalls having written, as a boy, a blood-and-thunder adventure story filling two scribbles, entitled "The Six Silver Hawks", which was all about air pirates in South America. Recently he has written a one-act play and is at present engaged in a history of Canadian federal corrections covering the period 1867-1967.

Mr. Edwards was married in 1946 and has three children, all born in Kingston. As writing is to "Aussie", the fine art of entertaining is to his wife who has, over the years, welcomed with equal warmth her husband's business colleagues and parolees, and the numerous pets her children have brought home, which have included—mice, snakes and fish of several varieties, a hamster, turtles, salamanders, a large black and white rat, and, at the present moment, a large and friendly mongrel dog.



## WHEN THE SAINTS GO MARCHING IN

*"The private after-care agency can, and does, attempt to promote those qualities of self-discipline, self-control, self-reliance and self-respect on the part of the inmate that are so much the concern of the prison administration...In so doing they have, in many cases, spelled the difference between the success or failure of the prison program of inmate training." \**  
(\*From a speech given by A.J. MacLeod, Q.C., Commissioner of Penitentiaries, February 1963 — "Training the Prisoner to Live in Freedom").

Many representatives of after-care agencies across the country give generously of their time and effort in this regard, during and after incarceration of inmates; one of whom we are proud to introduce.

The heavy door swung shut. No one inside questioned the identity of the tall, white-haired gentleman who strode down the prison corridor. Brigadier William Mercer of the Salvation Army entered the Classification Department of Joyceville Institution. To the clerk's greeting, he gave his familiar response:

"I'm not too bad for a young fellow. How are you?"

Born in 1897 in the village of Shearstown, Newfoundland, young Billy Mercer's favourite pastime was to slip away from his home and sit on the fringe of a crowd, enthralled with the vibrant music and singing of the Salvation Army group. This boyish interest in the Salvation Army remained with him when he migrated to the mainland at the age of 18 years. At Hamilton, Ontario, he was converted to the Salvation Army faith as a soldier and in 1920, he enrolled in theology at the College in Toronto.

In 1946 Major and Mrs. Mercer were appointed as Spiritual Specials by their Headquarters and spent the next seven years conducting spiritual campaigns in Corps from St. Johns, Newfoundland, to Vancouver, B.C. In 1952 he was appointed as the Correctional Service Officer in the Kingston area and began one of the most gratifying experiences of his entire career.

While the Salvation Army is interested primarily in the spiritual welfare of a lawbreaker, the scope of a Correctional Service Officer's duties is unlimited. Under his guidance, religious services and Bible classes are held regularly in the penitentiaries and in the city and county jails. Any inmate, regardless of race, colour or creed, will be granted an interview with a Salvation Army officer upon his own request. Before his retirement from active service, Brigadier Mercer conducted an average of 75 interviews each month. Locating missing relatives, strengthening the bond between a confined man and his family, counselling the inmate on his institutional

adjustment or after-care needs, and supervising parolees, have been a routine part of this man's day for the past ten years. In a few known instances he has been called upon to perform prison weddings or to comfort the receiver of a "Dear John" letter. On a regular basis he carried suitcases and work clothing into the institution for inmates going out on parole or on expiration of sentence.

"I'll never forget big Sam," he stated. "I had picked him up at the institution, intending to take him into the city for a meal before we went to the bus depot. Sam was carrying almost \$700.00 in cash with him, money he had earned through his hobby-craft work. I explained the dangers of being 'rolled' and he agreed to my plan of having his money converted into travelling cheques. On the way out of the bank, Sam paused on the front steps, looked back into the building, and shook his head.

'Do you know' he told me. 'Of all my trips to banks, this is the first time I've been inside one in the daytime to put money in.'"

There is a human interest story in the life of every inmate with whom Brigadier Mercer has been in contact. Too many of these men and women were neglected and abused throughout their formative years. Many, like Sam, came to regard a business establishment as a victim, rather than a way of life. There were many long-termers who had become too institutionalized, it appeared, to cope with the frustrations of life on the outside. Under the qualified supervision of a dedicated person like Brigadier Mercer, the transition process from imprisonment to freedom becomes less formidable.

Brigadier William Mercer is a young fellow—at heart. When he retired from active service in the summer of 1962, the steps he took into the shadowy twilight period of his life were reluctant ones. This reluctance to give up his post is one of the reasons he still imparts his special kind of help to the less fortunate. On a part-time basis, he serves as the Correctional Service Officer at Joyceville Institution and the two area farm camps. Into these institutions Brigadier Mercer carries the word of his God to anyone wishing to hear it, never questioning whether or not the individuals are deserving of his help. They are in need and are never refused.

The part he has played in the rehabilitation and reformation of inmates must be left in the hands of a higher Deity to decide. It appears safe to assume, however, that Brigadier William Mercer, erect and proud in his Salvation Army uniform, will occupy a post at the Big Gates to welcome a few of his boys among the number—when the saints go marching in.



# Correctional Quickies:

## CORRECTIONAL QUICKIES

### Joyceville Inmates Complete Second Christopher Leadership Course

Graduation exercises for the 17 inmates who had successfully completed the 10-week Christopher Leadership Course were held at Joyceville Institution on December 19, 1963. In the form of different phases of speech making, every graduate participated in the exercises.

Also present were the graduates of the first Christopher Leadership Course to be held in a Canadian Penitentiary, their presence offering moral support to the graduates of this second course.

The following guest speakers attended the graduation: Father Patrick Kelly, the spiritual leader of the Course; Schoolteachers Tom Hutchinson and Al St. Pierre, both of whom were instructors for the course; Warden C.E. DesRosiers, who is a Christopher graduate; W.J. Shynkaruk, Supervisor of Education whose department was responsible for having the course conducted; and the President of the first Christopher Leadership Course.

Other guests included Deputy Warden J.H. Meers; Assistant Warden (O&A) J.J. McQuaide; Assistant Deputy Warden (IT) J.D. Clark; Rev. J. Brush; Father F.M. Devine; Father Colin Maloney; Mr. William Mowes; Supervisor of Classification S.M. Farrell; and Supervisor of Education J.R. Douey from Kingston Penitentiary.

The result of this course may best be summed up in the following poem that was quoted by one of the graduates:

#### "One Chance"

One chance to put aside a pride and say humbly,  
I was wrong, or it was all my fault.

One chance to do a real kindness for someone  
when it would mean the most to explain a misunderstanding.

One chance to hear what a child or adolescent  
needs to tell us.

One chance to give another person the break he  
needs when he is trying to make a start in the world.

One chance to defend one when slighting remarks  
are made in his absence.

One chance to accept a shy but sincere offer of  
friendship.

One chance to say no when it is important to  
say no, but easier to say yes.

One chance to show our appreciation for another's  
kindness.

One chance to refuse to be talked into something  
you know you shouldn't do.

One chance to right a wrong you have done.

One chance to choose the right way when you  
come to a crossroads in your life.

Sometimes we only get that "One Chance".

\* \* \* \*

### Catholic Mission at Joyceville Institution

The annual Mission for Roman Catholic inmates was held at Joyceville from December 15 to 22, 1963. The average daily attendance at the Mission was approximately 60 with an over-all attendance of 300.

Father Colin Maloney, a young Jesuit Priest from Halifax, Nova Scotia, conducted the Mission.

\* \* \* \*

### Clinics at Joyceville

On Monday, December 30, 1963, three hundred and six inmates donated blood to the Kingston branch of the Canadian Red Cross Society.

On January 9, 1964, the large Department of Health bus unit was set up in the Auto-Body Shop and in a period of four hours 585 inmates and officers were X-rayed.

\* \* \* \*

### What is Sufficient?

The dictionary defines sufficient as an adjective and noun meaning, sufficing; adequate, especially in amount or number to the need; enough.

As a result of a recent advertisement by B.C. Penitentiary in the Vancouver Sun for stenographers, one female applicant completed the entry on the application form regarding "Chest Measurement". She entered "sufficient".

Next comes the interview by the Staff Selection Board!

\* \* \* \*

### Inmates Pledge Eyes

In reply to a radio appeal for volunteers to pledge their eyes upon death to blind persons, one inmate from Dorchester Penitentiary, through the prison officials, pledged his pair of healthy eyes to the Canadian National Institute for the Blind. Since then, the number of volunteers for this cause has grown rapidly in Dorchester Penitentiary and continues to grow daily.



## CORRECTIONAL QUICKIES-Continued

### Assistant Hospital Officer Retires

Mr. R.F. Perkins proceeded on Retiring Leave December 28, 1963, and will be retired due to age effective April 11, 1964. Mr. Perkins joined the Penitentiary Service at B.C. Penitentiary on May 3, 1948.

With his parents' permission, he enlisted in the 47th Battalion and served in England and France from December 1915 to October 1919. He was decorated with the Military Medal in 1917 in recognition of his gallant conduct as a Canadian soldier.

Prior to joining the Penitentiary Service, Mr. Perkins worked in the Merchant Marine, following which he worked valve testing for an Engineering firm in New Westminster. He subsequently joined the staff of the Royal Columbian Hospital in New Westminster where he was engaged in medical work.

\* \* \* \*

### B.C. Penitentiary Staff Christmas Party

Staff members of B.C. Penitentiary gathered with their wives and families for the Annual Christmas Party held at Our Lady of Mercy Hall in Burnaby. For two hours on Saturday afternoon, December 14th, the walls rocked with the happy squeals of laughter, astonishment and delight as Santa Claus (retired staff member, Charlie Price) distributed 330 presents and candy to the children.

Master of ceremonies Mr. Shay Duffin entertained the children with some good old-fashioned slapstick comedy, accompanied by Brenda Sneed on the piano.

\* \* \* \*

### Family Church Services Held

The fifth family church service was held at Collin's Bay Penitentiary on December 15, 1963. Following the church services in the chapel, visitors and participating inmates gathered in the Exercise Hall for lunch and a visiting period extended until approximately 2:30 p.m.

It is felt that family services such as this provide the opportunity for inmates to maintain good family relationships while in prison, helps to build morale, and places the inmates in a receptive frame of mind toward the institutional inmate training program. For members of the inmates' families it affords an opportunity to maintain a close and intimate contact with a member of their family who is in prison.

The first family church service at Collin's Bay Penitentiary was held in 1961 under the organization and planning of Warden Fred Smith, Canon W.J. Minto Swan, and Father F. Devine.

### St. John's Ambulance Graduation Ceremonies Held

On December 7, 1963 the auditorium of B.C. Penitentiary was the scene of a graduation ceremony for nineteen inmates who had successfully completed examinations by St. John Ambulance. From the class of 19, two obtained the medallion, three the voucher and fourteen the certificate.

The ceremony was attended by Dr. E.W. Wylde, President of St. John Ambulance who made the presentations, assisted by Leo Stadnyk, Provincial Superintendent and E. Liske, instructor of the graduation class. Also in attendance were Warden T.W. Hall, Deputy Warden John Maloney, Asst. Warden (O&A) S. Merritt, Assistant Deputy Warden (IT) W. Fleck, Assistant Deputy Warden (C) T. Ellis, Supervisor of Classification A. Trono, Supervisor of Vocational Training H. Grest, Assistant Supervisor of Vocational Training N. Etson, and 23 inmates of the First Aid Class presently undergoing instruction. At the conclusion of the presentation Warden Hall and Dr. Wylde gave a short address each.

On January 27, 1964, graduation ceremonies were held at Joyceville Institution for twenty-six inmates completing the St. John's Ambulance First Aid Course. Two obtained the Voucher, indicating the second level in First Aid Training.

Present at the ceremonies were Deputy Warden J.H. Meers, Assistant Deputy Warden (IT) J.D. Clark, and Supervisor of Education W. Shynkaruk.

In congratulating the inmates, Mr. Clark pointed out the value of this knowledge in the institution and on the street, in cases of an emergency. Mr. Meers noted the rehabilitation value of such a course, and Mr. Shynkaruk handed out the certificates.

\* \* \* \*

### Another First at Saskatchewan Farm Annex

The bells of the Christmas Season rang in another first for the Saskatchewan Farm Annex when seventeen inmates were escorted to churches in the city for special services.

Sunday evening, December 21st, 1963, eleven inmates were taken to St. Alban's Anglican Church where they attended a service of "Nine Lessons and Carols."

On Monday, January 6, 1964, six inmates were taken to the Sacred Heart Cathedral for a Pontifical High Mass, celebrating the Feast of the Epiphany.

It is felt that the good manner and conduct displayed by the inmates attending these services left a favourable impression on the parishioners of the two parishes. It is intended to make this a regular privilege during the Christmas and Easter seasons.



## CORRECTIONAL QUICKIES-Continued

### Exhibiting of Dorchester Cattle

Nine females from the Dorchester Penitentiary farm herd were exhibited at the New Brunswick Exhibition, Fredericton. Shepody Provocative Model placed first in the Senior Yearling class, going on to win the junior female class and the Oglivie Flour Mills Challenge trophy. This heifer was also a member of the first prize winning junior get of sire class.

Firsts were also won in the senior calf class on Shepody Leona Jonsie and in the 4 year old dry class on Shepody Lola Model. Susan Model placed second in the 3 year old dry class, Opal Model was 4th in the 2 year old dry class, Odessa Model 4th in the Senior yearling class, 5th placings went to Valentine Model in the Jr. yearling class and Janice Killarney in the aged cow in milk class. The herd was runner up for the Premier Breeder banner.

The aged bull, Shepody Tilman Air, owned by the New Brunswick Unit, but bred by Dorchester Penitentiary, placed first and went on to win the Senior Championship and Grand Championship awards.

Of considerable significance is the fact that the animals, with the exception of Janice Killarney, were all Penitentiary bred animals, both sire and dam being raised on the farm.

\* \* \* \*

### Blood Donor Clinic at Camp

In December 1963, the Red Cross held a Blood Donor Clinic at Landry Crossing Correctional Camp. Of an inmate population of 72, forty-seven donated blood, an additional seven volunteered, but were rejected.

\* \* \* \*

### Xmas Tree Festival at F.T.C.

Approximately 800 men, women and children attended the annual Xmas Tree celebration, sponsored by "Le Comité Social" of the Federal Training Centre, on December 15. The children were greeted by Santa Claus, personified by Mr. W. Généreux, Supervisor of Services, and his elves, who presented each with a present. Candy pop-corn, balloons, noise-makers, and soft drinks were distributed, with movie cartoons to delight both young and old.

The staff of F.T.C. extend their congratulations to all those who worked so hard to make this annual event a success.

### BIRTHS:

To Warden and Mrs. L.H. St-Pierre, Warden of Federal Training Centre, on November 12, 1963, a baby girl.

\* \* \* \*

### ORPHANS' PARTY AT LECLERC INSTITUTION

A Christmas party for the children of St-Francois d'Assise Orphanage was held December 31st at Leclerc Institution.

Under the supervision of Sister Marie Leontine, from the orphanage attended, each of whom was presented with a suitable gift by the Leclerc inmate Superior, and Father Hurteau, thirty junior citizens Santa Claus.

This annual party for the Orphans, now almost a tradition at Leclerc, is an event keenly enjoyed by the inmates who finance the purchase of gifts by a personal cash collection. Their collection this year exceeded \$300.00.

The Christmas party at Leclerc Institution was considered an outstanding success by all, and a repeat is anticipated for 1964.

\* \* \* \*

### INSTRUCTORS' ANNUAL DANCE

The second annual buffet-dance for the Instructors of the Industrial Section of Leclerc Institution was held November 29, 1963 at the Collège des Officiers de Correction, Québec.

The idea of this affair was conceived by J.O.D. Lalonde Industrial Supervisor, to unite the instructors and their wives in an evening of leisure, entertainment and fraternity. With this in mind, the theme for the affair was "Esprit de Corps". Music for the occasion was provided by a local popular trio and Instructor A. Munz was Master of Ceremonies.

Among the guests for the evening were Mr. and Mrs. J.A. McLaughlin, Director of Industries; Mr. and Mrs. M. LeCorre, Warden, St. Vincent de Paul Penitentiary; Mr. and Mrs. P. Desgroseilliers, Warden of Leclerc Institution; and Mr. and Mrs. M. Grisé, Superintendent of the Collège des Officiers de Correction — Québec.

\* \* \* \*

### Miss M.L. Lynch Speaks On Parole Matters.

Since completing her Canadian Club tour in November 1963, Miss Lynch has appeared on television in Saint John, N.B., on December 27 and will again speak on parole matters February 20, 1964, on television station CJOH, Ottawa, at a time to be announced.



## CORRECTIONAL QUICKIES-Continued

### Staff Changes — National Parole Service

**Transfers out:** From Headquarters stenographic pool:- Miss Anita Lemire to Department of Health & Welfare; Mrs. L. Laramee to Department of Labour; Miss Lucille Ouellette to Economic Council of Canada; Miss L. Curtis to Department of Immigration.

**Transfers in:** Mrs. Gilberte Birtch, Department of External Aid, to secretary to Mr. Edouard Dion, Q.C., Member, National Parole Board.

**Appointments:** Mr. Dusas Pavolic, Diploma of Maturity, Belgrade, and Certificate of Social Pedagogy. University of Montreal, from Classification Department, Federal Training Centre, to Parole Service Officer, Montreal.

Mr. Owen Wesley Fonseca, M.A., McGill University, 1953, from Supervisor of Classification, Dorchester Penitentiary, to Parole Service Officer, Ottawa.

\* \* \* \*

### Activities of Parole Board Chairman

On January 25, Mr. T.G. Street, Q.C., attended an informal meeting of Ontario Judges and Magistrates. This meeting involved a general discussion of the parole system, and the problem of sentencing, and in Mr. Street's words "was an extremely interesting and helpful one".

In Ottawa on January 28th, Mr. Street delivered an address to the Lawyers' Club about the philosophy and purpose of parole, and the problem of crime and treatment of criminals.

On February 6th, Mr. Street addressed the Bar Admission Course of the Law School at Osgoode Hall, giving a general outline of the Parole Act, the law relating to parole and the operation of the parole system.

Mr. Street travelled to Tallahassee, Florida, on February 14th, where he has been invited to sit on a Panel to discuss "Group Counselling: Methods of Training Correctional Staff and Parole Officers", at the Southern Conference on Corrections.

### J. Alex Edmison On Extended Tour

Mr. J. Alex Edmison, Q.C., Member of the National Parole Board left Ottawa on February 6th on an extended tour of the four Western Provinces, under the sponsorship of the Association of Canadian Clubs. He will be addressing Canadian Clubs in Courtenay, Penticton, Kelowna, Vernon, Kamloops and Revelstoke in British Columbia, and in Calgary and Edmonton, Alberta.

He will also be speaking in Victoria, Vancouver, Brandon, Portage le Prairie and Winnipeg.

During this tour Mr Edmison will be visiting the Regional Offices of the National Parole Service, Federal and Provincial authorities and institutions, and after-care agencies.

\* \* \* \*

### Frank Miller Visits Toronto

Mr. Miller made a trip to Toronto January 15, 16, 17, 1964, to visit institutions and the Regional Office.

On February 30, he addressed the R.C.M. Police College on the subject of parole.

In February, he has been invited to speak to the Children's Aid Society of Renfrew.

\* \* \* \*

"It has been stated by clear thinking parole administrators that a man should be kept in prison until the community is ready and willing to receive him and he is ready and willing to return to a law-abiding life. No offender should be paroled until it can be shown that it is of more value to the community and to him to have him back in the community than to keep him longer in prison. Release should be effected as soon as possible, but only if it is in the public interest. The protection of the community requires that the prisoner be better able to meet the demands the community will make upon him when he leaves the prison than when he entered.

The protection of society is paramount and should constitute the basic criterion for parole. Society is most effectively protected when the community and the prison work hand in hand in the rehabilitation of the prisoner. It is conceded that the task of determining when the community and the prisoner are simultaneously ready, the former ready to receive the prisoner and the latter to return to a law-abiding life, is an extremely difficult one...the task of selecting prisoners for parole, even under the most favourable conditions, remains largely a practical, common-sense process which becomes more refined and exact with the increasing experience of the operators."

(G.L. Giardini in THE PAROLE PROCESS).

\* \* \* \*



# AGASSIZ CORRECTIONAL WORK CAMP TWO and ONE-HALF YEARS OF PROGRESS

A.E. Jones, Superintendent

When you visit Agassiz Correctional Work Camp for the first time as I did on August 1, 1963, you will find it difficult, no doubt, to visualize what it was like at the opening in May 1961.

Travelling over the good road which leads to the camp, you can still see the shape of the original trailers glistening through the tall cottonwoods which border the Marie Slough river. When you reach the camp you are at once impressed by the long low silhouette of the six pre-fabricated white and green buildings. Their clean lines and smart layout against a heavily wooded mountain backdrop complement the scenic beauty of the area.

Behind this progress, of course, is a story. A story of team work and co-operation between Agassiz Correctional Work Camp, Warden T.W. Hall and all Departments of the British Columbia Penitentiary. A story not lacking in excitement and interest to Warden Hall and former Superintendent J. Moloney (now Deputy Warden at the B.C. Penitentiary), both of whom must receive much of the credit for the camp as it stands today.

It was on June 14, 1961, that a convoy of eight new industrial trailers arrived at the site, with Mr. Moloney in charge. The eight trailer units were made up of:

One 40' x 10' Administrative Unit

One 40' x 10' 4-man staff accommodation

Two 50' x 10' dormitory units

One 25' x 10' ablution unit

One 50' x 10' hobby unit

One 50' x 10' 40-man dining unit

One 50' x 10' kitchen unit

The next day three Correctional Officers and ten inmates arrived to set up the mobile camp. It is significant to note that the trailers were functional at the close of the day on which they arrived, and were completely set up with all service lines in their present location ten days later.

The movement in convoy of the trailers from Vancouver and the actual opening of the camp was covered by C.B.C./T.V. with Deputy Commissioner J.R. Stone officiating. Ten more inmates arrived from British Columbia Penitentiary on June 28, 1961.

Of the twenty inmates comprising the first and second drafts, only two still remain at the camp.

In a literal sense, it can be said that "much water has flowed under the bridge" spanning the Marie Slough. Situated about 75 miles east of Vancouver, and four miles from the unincorporated village of Agassiz (named after a pioneer family of the same name), on the property of the No. 2 farm of the Dominion Experimental Station, the camp reserve which consists of slightly more than four acres, receives considerably more precipitation than the 57.54" average over 10 years enjoyed by Vancouver.

Through experience, it can now be said that the trailer units are ideally suited for a type of camp where an initial operational base is required. Four of the trailers are in constant use as sleeping quarters and one unit is serving as a temporary composite Chapel and small group meeting room.

The four-man staff accommodation trailer was brought into use again during the crisis involving the hunger-strike at Mountain Prison, at which time temporary staff used in the forced-feeding process were housed in the trailer. Four of the trailers are now in a state of semi-storage, awaiting removal to a new site. Present plans are to move them, as the need arises, to the site of the proposed new Drug Centre at Matsqui, near Abbotsford, B.C., where they will be used as the operational base for an inmate work party in the initial stages of construction of the Centre—in an almost identical role to that which they served at the Agassiz Correctional Work Camp.

In addition to the trailers, Agassiz Correctional Work Camp now has six other buildings, referred to earlier in this article. They are of the laminated truss type of construction, were prefabricated at British Columbia Penitentiary and trucked out to the Camp and erected by inmate labour under the supervision of Mr. Gordon Frew, Works Officer.

Of necessity, the first building to be erected at the work Camp was Dormitory Building # 5 on which construction commenced August 1, 1961. The stores and Laundry building was next on the programme and construction began November 15, 1961, followed by the construction of the kitchen building on November 27, 1961. Work began on the long-awaited Administration building on December 8, 1961, against a starting date of December 18, 1961. The final phase



of the construction programme began February 16, 1962 and included the staff quarters building and the garage and maintenance building.

The steel window sashes used throughout the Camp were manufactured at Joyceville Institution by inmate labour.

The normal complement of the Camp is 80 men but because of the overcrowded situation in the British Columbia Penitentiary, an additional 20 men are being fed to the Camp as vacancies occur, in order to maintain the population at 100.

Forty-five men are employed on various projects at No. 1 and No. 2 Dominion Experimental Farm.

A crew of inmates from the Camp is used each summer by the British Columbia Forestry Service for fire-fighting. This fire crew has rendered commendable service and has received high praise from forestry officials.

A continuing programme of development and beautification of the Camp grounds is being carried out.

Agassiz Correctional Work Camp also supplies a work force consisting of 5 to 8 men to Mountain Prison (for Doukhobours) which is situated about four miles north-west of Agassiz and nine miles from Agassiz Correctional Work Camp.

While the camp is a work camp in the full sense of the word, activity is not all work. An adequate recreational programme is maintained all year round. Because of inclement weather during winter months, a pressing need is for a recreation building which will take care of all leisure-time activities and also provide an adequate visiting area during wet weather.

It can be said that Agassiz Correctional Work Camp is a super-minimum security camp without fences, without locks, without bars. Three signs posted at strategic points mark the camp limits with the words "Camp Boundary". The twenty-man total staff at Agassiz Correctional Work Camp prefers to designate it as an honour camp and are conscious of their responsibility to maintain it so.

## HON. GUY FAVREAU APPOINTED NEW FEDERAL MINISTER OF JUSTICE

The appointment of Guy Favreau, P.C., Q.C., B.A., LL.M., M.P., as Minister of Justice and Government Leader in the House of Commons was announced recently by Prime Minister Lester B. Pearson.

Mr. Favreau was elected Member of Parliament for the constituency of Papineau on April 8, 1963, and was appointed Minister of Citizenship and Immigration on April 23, 1963.

Born in Montreal, Que., in 1917, Mr. Favreau attended Collège André Grasset, Montreal, and graduated from the University of Montreal in 1937 with a Bachelor of Arts degree. He studied law at the Law Faculty of the University of Montreal from which he graduated with the degree of LL.B., in 1940. Mr. Favreau was called to the Bar of the Province of Quebec the same year.

Mr. Favreau practised law in partnership with Georges F. Reid, Q.C., from 1942 until 1946, and from 1946 to 1952 he was a partner in the firm of Messrs. Adam and Favreau with Gustave Adam, Q.C. In 1944 he was appointed Secretary of the Royal Commission on the operations of the Quebec Provincial Police and in 1946 Secretary of the Montreal Bar.

In 1951 Mr. Favreau was appointed Special Counsel to a Special Joint Committee of the Senate and House of Commons on Combines Legislation

(Resale Price Maintenance). He also appeared as counsel for the Federal Department of Justice, pleaded before the Superior Court of Appeals of the Province of Quebec, as well as the Supreme Court of Canada.

Mr. Favreau lectured at the Faculty of Law of the University of Montreal in 1951 and 1952 and lectured in Civil Law and Procedure at the University of Ottawa from 1953 to 1960. He was appointed Queen's Counsel by the Canadian Government in 1954, a member of the Restrictive Trade Practices Commission in 1952, and a member of the Royal Commission on Patents, Copyright, Trademarks and Industrial Designs in 1954. From 1955 to 1960 he was Associate Deputy Minister of Justice.

Mr. Favreau is married with four children, and until his election to Parliament was a member of the law firm of Messrs. Howard, Cate, Ogilvy, Bishop, Cote, Porteous & Hansard, Montreal, P.Q.

### AFFILIATIONS

Member of the Canadian Bar Association; Member of the Editorial Advisory Committee of the Canadian Bar Review; Past Editor of *La Revue Légale*; Past President of Hôpital Sainte Jeanne d'Arc; Director of Institut de Cardiologie de Montréal; Member of the Club de Réforme; the Club Canadien and the Cercle Universitaire d'Ottawa.



## BEHIND THE FLOODLIGHTS AT SASKATCHEWAN PENITENTIARY

Irving Berlin's classic hit, "There's No Business Like Show Business", could well describe the atmosphere in Saskatchewan Penitentiary and the ardour with which the inmates stage production of their annual Christmas shows. Their record is quite impressive. Over 14,000 civilians have come into Saskatchewan Penitentiary as guests of the Warden to witness the shows. Some 8,000 inmates have attended, making a total of some 22,000 persons who have witnessed the performances. The shows have been broadcast over a local Radio Station to millions of listeners over the years. The Canadian Broadcasting Corporation has recorded an entire show and featured many of the numbers on a coast-to-coast network of stations. They have raised over \$9,000 to date for community projects and have been responsible for thousands of dollars in sales from hobbycraft.

The radio show, which is conducted on the style of an Amateur Hour and goes on the air for over three hours, is a joint project of radio station C.K.B.I. and the Associated Canadian Travellers, to raise funds to fight tuberculosis. In his last radio address over the air and to a studio audience, Warden J.H. Weeks announced that the inmates had been responsible for raising over \$9,000 for this project.

The show has been publicized throughout Canada in a 1962 issue of Weekend Magazine in a feature article written by Bruce Moss.

The idea started in 1950 when, for lack of any entertainment, the inmates with the assistance of three officers, put on an impromptu and unrehearsed Christmas program in the Protestant Chapel. From this modest beginning the show has grown into the present slick and professional presentation staged in a modern

auditorium. With the aid of most of the subterfuges known to show business, the shows have featured every type of act; from pantomimists to hoola dancers, from magicians to Eskimo dancers, and from puppets to girls—girls with a problem of hair on their chests. Musically speaking, every field has been covered; from western to jazz to classical, performed by every type of instrumentalist or singer in solo or ensemble.

Three shows are staged annually, one for the staff members and their guests, one for a radio broadcast with a live audience, and the last for the inmates themselves on Christmas Day. The Warden is deluged with requests for tickets a month or so before "opening night". Since the auditorium can accommodate an audience of only 750 people, he is unable to meet the demand.

During the first years of the show, Penitentiary officers assisted the inmates. Two of these, Dick Watts, Assistant Works Officer, and Pierre Jutras, Assistant Warden, were Veterans of the Canadian Army Shows. During the past years, however, the inmates have been left on their own, which has given them an opportunity to express themselves creatively. There are skits to write, orchestrations to score, costumes to design, sets to paint, and all the productive details that surround the magic of show business. In all, some 700 inmates have participated actively since 1950.

A few have pursued their newly-discovered talent upon release in radio work and organized professional orchestras. For the majority, however, their exposure to the footlights is regarded as a pleasant memory of the days when there was "No Business Like Show Business"—even in a Penitentiary.

## A "FIRST" FOR ONTARIO

A course in conversational French began at the Correctional Staff College, Ontario, on December 4, 1963. Twenty-nine officers from Kingston Penitentiary have shown the initiative and interest in furthering their qualifications for the Penitentiary Service by volunteering for the course and supplying their own text books. These officers are:

T.J. Robinson	D. MacLean
W.J. Tobin	G. Milner
L.H. Bell	P. Cote
J.H. Brown	T. Hicks
G.J. Roy	S.P. Brunt
B.P. Fleming	H. Nelson
T.E. Rathwell	P.H. Belisle
J. Woods	J. Simmons
R. Gage	M.E. Gaylord
H.A. Moore	L.J. King

J.F. Detlor	W.J. Harpell
G. Bos	J.L. LeBlanc
A.C.H. Amos	(Mrs) G. Ryce
R.L. Dawson	(Mrs) S. Stagg
K. Garrett	

Arrangements for the course were carried out by Staff Training Officer P.H. Belisle. The institutional psychologist, F.E. Ouelette, and Mr. B. Patry have volunteered their services in instructing the group.

The members of the group wish to express their appreciation to Mr. R.W. Cunningham, Superintendent of the Staff College for allotting them the use of a classroom every Wednesday evening.

The course promises to be successful and it is expected that a more advanced course in conversational French will be offered in September 1964.



## BENEVOLENTS ANONYMOUS (B.A.)

*Submitted by Mrs. J.C.L. Gosselin, Leclerc Inst.*

A Montreal lawyer, who had business at Leclerc Institution, was so impressed by the loneliness of those inmates who receive no visits or correspondence, that he discussed it with his wife and they decided to do something about it. Through their efforts and in conjunction with the Institutional Classification Department, Benevolents Anonymous, comprised of both an English and French branch, was formed. The first meeting was held at Leclerc Institution on September 19, 1963. Liaison Officer is the Related Training Officer of Leclerc Institution.

B.A. operates in a manner similar to the Foster Parents plans, its purpose being to provide friendship, encouragement and assistance in any way to keep up the morale of the inmate and his family. An inmate who receives no mail or visits is its first concern.

A male member of B.A. is assigned to befriend him. In some cases, a husband-wife team do the work. If an inmate has no one to meet him upon his release from the institution, the foster friend can fill the gap and assist him to get established on the outside. For the first few days, he is available to offer encouragement and assistance in obtaining employment. He sometimes provides transportation either for family visits or upon release of the inmate. It is felt that this friendly assistance has helped many inmates adjust better.

The female member's role is chiefly to provide baby-sitting services and transportation when needed. She can often help with budgeting advice, giving cheer and encouragement to families, and maintaining close family ties.

Because of the "no questions asked" policy, this organization is highly acceptable to both the inmate and his family. The friendship, encouragement and strengthened family ties are of great value to the inmate in his rehabilitation and consequently, of value to the officers of the Institution. It is felt that this friendly assistance has helped many inmates adjust better and has kept both the inmate and his family from becoming embittered.

The work of a member ceases when the work of the recognized after-care organization and societies take over. The member notifies the Secretary, Section Chairman, or Liaison Officer, that his assignment is completed. He also states whether or not he is ready to accept another case. If for any reason he feels that his work has been accomplished or that he cannot carry on, he advises the Secretary of this and another member takes over; so that an inmate is never just "dropped".

All members are screened carefully and investigated with discretion in order that the welfare of the inmate and the security of the Institution is protected. If all rules and regulations are followed, the member cannot be duped.

B.A. members derive satisfaction in this worthwhile work and feel rewarded by the results of their efforts.

It is the first time that such work has been done on an organized scale. So far Benevolents Anonymous is limited to Leclerc Institution and to inmates from the Montreal area, but it is to be hoped that this area will expand in time.

*The following editorial appeared in the Springhill Record dated January 2, 1964:*

### WHATSOEVER YE DO...

Forty-eight local families suffering economic difficulties had their children's Christmas made much more joyous through the voluntary efforts of the inmates of the Springhill Institution. These inmates, in their leisure hours, repaired and repainted between 800 and 900 toys, doing an almost professional job of making them "like new".

This alone is highly commendable, but we uncovered other evidence of the interest of these men in the youngsters of the town. It has long been noted that the most popular visitors at the Institution have been the children—whether they came to play minor hockey and baseball, soccer, or to present concerts. At one such concert this year the inmates noticed one little fellow who seemed voracious when lunch-time came, and when investigation proved his family was having a difficult time, the prisoners obtained permission to make up a box of their own fruit, nuts,

candy to send to this home. At nine o'clock Christmas Eve Superintendent De Varennes received an urgent call from the Institution. Word had somehow reached the prisoners about a large family of fatherless children who would have very little to anticipate on Christmas morning. The inmates had collected gifts, fruit and nuts and candy from among themselves and were seeking permission to have them delivered to this destitute family.

Perhaps one has to suffer life's vicissitudes oneself in order to feel the compelling urgency to help the less fortunate. Anyone with full pockets and a spark of Christianity can help others, but we somehow feel this gesture of the inmates was like the widow's mite—of inestimable value to Him whose birthday we honor. For didn't He say, "Whatsoever ye do unto the least of these My children, ye do it unto Me."

E.M.



# FACILITIES PLANNING OFFICE APPOINTED

Appointment of Ian Begg Simpson, F.R.I.B.A., M.R.A.I.C., A.A. Dip., as Facilities Planning Officer, was announced recently by Allen J. MacLeod, Q.C., Commissioner of Penitentiaries.

Born in London England, Mr. Simpson is a graduate of the Architectural Association, London, and is a Fellow of the Royal Institute of British Architects. Before immigrating to Canada in 1953, he gained considerable experience in the architectural profession in England and during his travels to Italy, Austria, France, Germany, Belgium, Denmark, Sweden and Norway.

Mr. Simpson joined the Royal Navy in September 1940 as an Ordinary Seaman and served in H.M.S. Wellington from December 1940 to May 1941. He was commissioned in the R.N.V.R. in August 1941 and served in corvettes until demobilization in March 1946.

In April 1946 Mr. Simpson joined his father's firm where he remained until November 1947, at which time he was appointed as Architect, Public Works Department, Nyasaland Protectorate. In this appointment he was responsible for the design of all buildings constructed under the Development Programme, which included European and African living quarters, Schools, Hospitals, Offices, Airport Terminal building, etc.

Upon his arrival in Victoria, B.C., Mr. Simpson was employed with the British Columbia Provincial Government and later joined the firm of Wade, Stock-

dill and Armour where he was responsible for the production of working drawings and for the writing of the specifications for the Supply Centre, H.M.C.S. Naden.

In September 1958 Mr. Simpson was appointed to the Building Construction Branch of Department of Public Works in Ottawa. In April 1962 implementation of the Penitentiary Service construction program became the responsibility of DPW. As Liaison Architect, Penitentiary Service Construction Program Mr. Simpson acquired wide and varied experience in the field of corrections, and is responsible for the introduction of new planning concepts in this field. Since April 1962, the new standard medium security institution planning was completed and a start was made on the standard maximum security institutions and the Special Detention Units. Construction began on the new Correctional Staff College at Kingston and on many smaller items of work in existing institutions, including the reconstruction of St. Vincent de Paul Penitentiary following the riot in June 1962.

As Facilities Planning Officer of the Canadian Penitentiary Service, Mr. Simpson will be responsible for the long-term planning of future accommodation requirements and for the development of detailed user requirements for all new construction.

Mr. Simpson is married with one married daughter, is well known throughout the Service and is held in high esteem by all who have been in contact with him.

## INTERNATIONAL CRIMINOLOGICAL CONGRESS TO BE HELD IN CANADA

The 5th International Criminological Congress, sponsored by the International Society for Criminology, will be held in Montreal, P.Q., August 29th—September 3rd, 1965. The Canadian Corrections Association will play host to this important gathering.

Internationally known criminologists from all continents are expected to present papers. Some of the senior names in the field of Criminology will attend: Messrs. Andre (U. Kingdom), Audenaes (Norway), Chazel (France), Cormier (Canada), Debuyst (Belgium), Del Rosal (Spain), Ellenberger (Canada), Fontanesi (Italy), Germain (France), Gibbens (U. Kingdom), Glueck (U.S.A.), Grassberger (Austria), Guttmacher (U.S.A.), Mailloux (Canada), Mira Y Lopez (Bazil), Pinatel (France), Sellin (U.S.A.), Spencer (Canada), Szabo (Canada), Wolfgang (U. S.A.).

The general theme of the Congress will be: "The Treatment of Offenders", (Young and Adult) and the program will deal with it under the following headings:

- Prophylaxis and Treatment
- Methods of Treatment
- Scientific Research
- Current Research.

Those interested in submitting papers are invited to mail them to the:

Secretariat  
5th International Congress  
55 Parkdale Avenue  
Ottawa 3, Ontario, Canada.

Before October 1st, 1964.



## CHALLENGE and RESPONSE

The Protestant Chapel at Kingston Penitentiary—The Chapel at the Top of the Stairs, as it is called in the Sunday Clarion Service Sheet—has taken on a new look over the last six months. More noticeable than the general clean-up and fresh coat of paint and the warmth brought about by furnishing the offices and Sanctuary, there is a new spirit in the observance at Chapel Services. The number of men who attend Chapel has trebled from 50 or 60 to 150 to 160 men. Fifty men are in the choir and two choir practices are held each week under the direction of outside organists. This growth in depth and general interest was most marked, as the response to the Christmas program has shown.

Three hundred and fifty inmates attended a Recital of Carols sung by members of the St. George's Cathedral Anglican Choir under the direction of Mr. G. Maybee.

On Saturday, December 21st, a concert was held in the chapel at which three hundred and fifty men attended. Master of Ceremonies for the occasion was the Chaplain, Reverend J.A. Nickles, assisted by Mr. R. Lawton, the Related Training Officer.

The K.P. choir took the lead in an Inmates' Carol Service on December 22 (a Service of six carols and six lessons). The Lord Bishop of Ontario read a Lesson and gave the Address. Other Lesson readers were Mr. P. Christie (Organist), Mr. D. Chinnery (Inmate Training), Mr. A. Jarvis (Deputy Warden), Commander T. Hicks, (R.C.N. of Royal Military College) (Deputy Organist) and Dr. G. Scott (Psychiatrist). Two hundred and four men attended this service.

On all these occasions the Chapel looked festive with two decorated Christmas trees; but again, more noticeable was the Spirit of Fellowship and Goodwill that prevailed. This Spirit of Fellowship and Goodwill was carried over to Christmas Day Services when the attendance was good.

There are no inducements to come to The Chapel at the Top of the Stairs; men come because they want to come. How deeply the inmates of Kingston Penitentiary support their Chapel will perhaps be discovered during Religion and Life Week, to be held from March 8th to March 15th. The Challenge is there and there is a good possibility the Response will gradually grow over the months of 1964.

## QUEBEC REGIONAL RECRUITING

Since September 1963, staff recruiting for all federal penal institutions of the Province of Quebec has been undertaken through St. Vincent de Paul Regional Headquarters.

During the four-month period ending December 31, 1963, over 1,200 applications were received and screened, 29 competitions were held, 411 applications were called, 318 candidates were examined, 60 applicants qualified for employment, and 58 (including 50 guard applicants) were enrolled.

An endeavour has been made to set up standards

for all similar positions in the different institutions, thus facilitating advertisement, examination and enrolment procedures.

Efforts so far have been concentrated on the filling of existing vacancies. It is anticipated that, in the not-too-distant future, approved regional lists of qualified candidates will keep authorized establishments continuously at full strength and to cope with the situation created by the explosion of our correctional program and the resulting expansion of staff requirements.

## PEOPLE MUST BE INVOLVED - NOT DRAGOONED

Whenever people discuss a problem together they begin to have an investment in its solution. They begin to think about the problem on and off the job, and in the process, they motivate themselves toward accepting any new idea that might provide a solution.

Rather than say that people resist change, perhaps it would be more accurate to say that people resist being changed. People like to be involved in working out the change and they strongly resist being changed by others...

Regardless of what you say, the people in your

department will propose new ideas only if they observe that the rewards for being right are greater than the penalties for being wrong. Everyone knows that the odds do not favour a new idea, and men are reluctant to stick their necks out unless new ideas are received in the right spirit. As someone once said, "A new idea is delicate. It can be killed by a sneer or a yawn; it can be stabbed to death by a quip or worried to death by a frown."

Charles C. Gibbons in  
Supervisory Management



# LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Your last issue of "Federal Corrections" contained several articles submitted by Custodial Officers across the country, the theme being "In your opinion, what is the Custodial Officer's responsibility toward the institutional inmate training programme?" As a Custodial Officer, I can appreciate these comments and I wholly agree that they are of vital importance, and are most necessary to the future betterment of the inmate.

Unfortunately, the Inmate Training Program and the Custodial Officer's contribution toward that program is most seriously hindered by a particularly self-evident obstacle. This being, that the present practice regarding the length of sentence imposed by the courts concerning crimes of non-violence, is often inadequate and should be altered. It would appear that one of the main reasons for the high crime rate, and for the high rate of recidivism among young offenders can be stated briefly:- their sentence is too little, their stay too pleasant, their release too soon.

There are those who would criticize the Inmate Training Program as being inadequate, and therefore failing to fulfill its requirements. The fault for so many young offenders being returned to prison does not lie with the Inmate Training Program. The fault lies in that the program has not been given a proper chance to prove itself. Teenagers and young men in their early twenties entering prison can be compared to students entering college. Usually students are sent to college by their parents, very often they reach their second and sometimes their third year before they begin to realize the real purpose for their being there. So it is with the young offender in prison.

The common crime, Break, Enter and Theft, is frequently punishable by a two-year sentence. This means that with reasonably good behaviour an inmate is released a free man after serving approximately one year, four months and thirteen days. He obviously believes that he has paid his debt to society and is therefore free to run up a new account. Many short term inmates will openly tell you that they do not want parole. This they say is a hinderance to their freedom. Their answer is simple and honest:

"What's a few more months in a place like this, I don't mind staying here, when I go out, I'll be free—no bugs."

Imprisonment in our present-day institutions is not a difficult ordeal, it imposes very few hardships. And with light sentences imposed upon young offenders, their interests lie in sports and other amusements to a large extent. The realization that their release is but a short way off is their main concern, while trade and vocational training, anything in fact that might call for extra effort is often accepted with reluctance or is rejected entirely. To get out soon is all important, but to get out to what? And what to do when out? The answer to these two questions is little considered by our young offenders and is therefore little understood.

And so in slightly more than a year, we release a young man totally unprepared to take his place in society, seldom better and often worse than when he was admitted. This is the case with too many short time offenders, young men that a longer sentence would undoubtedly have improved.

Until law requires our judges and our magistrates to impose longer sentences coupled with a reasonable parole period, our rate of recidivism will not decrease, our Inmate Training Program will serve only a few, while much of the work put forth, and the money spent in the promotion of a practical Inmate Training Program, will have been in vain.

J.M. Mahoney,

Guard Grade 1  
Dorchester Penitentiary

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***Federal Corrections*** is your publication. Tell your Assistant Warden, Organization and Administration of any items you think may be of interest.



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Unfortunately, the Inmate Training Program and the Custodial Officer's contribution toward that program is most seriously hindered by a particularly self-evident obstacle. This being, that the present practice regarding the length of sentence imposed by the courts concerning crimes of non-violence is often inadequate and should be altered. It would appear that one of the main reasons for the high crime rate, and for the high rate of recidivism among young offenders may be stated briefly - their sentence is too little, their stay too pleasant, their release too soon.

There are those who would criticize the Inmate Training Program as being inadequate, and therefore failing to fulfill its requirements. The fault for so

not lie with the Inmate Training Program. The fault lies with the courts. The young man has not been given a proper sentence. Teenagers and young men in training prison can be compared to students entering college. Usually students are sent to college by their parents. Very often they reach their second and sometimes third year before they begin to realize the real purpose for their being there. So it is with the young offender in prison.

The common crime, Break, Enter and Theft, is made less with reasonably good behaviour an inmate is released a free man after serving approximately one year, four months and thirteen days. He obviously believes that he has paid his debt to society and is therefore free to run up a new account. Many ex-convicts inmates will openly tell you that they do not want parole. This they say is a headcrack to their freedom. Their answer is simple and honest.

"What's a few more months in a place like this, I don't mind staying here, when I get out, I'll be a no longer."

Imprisonment in our present-day institutions is not a difficult ordeal, it imposes very few hardships. And with light sentences imposed upon young offenders, their interests lie in sports and other amusements to a large extent. The realization that they are but a short way off in their main endeavor, sports and vocational training, anything is fact, and the call for extra effort is often accepted with reluctance or is rejected entirely. To get out soon is all that counts, but to get out to what? And what to do when out? The answer to these two questions is often furnished by our young offenders and is therefore the most difficult.

And so in slightly more than a year, a young man totally unprepared to take his place in society, seldom better and often worse than when he was admitted. This is the case with too many of our offenders. Young men that a longer sentence would undoubtedly have improved.

If we imposed longer sentences (limited with parole), our rate of recidivism will not improve. Our Inmate Training Program will serve as a waste of time while much of the work put forth, and the expense of it, in the training of a practical inmate. The Program will have been in vain.

M. Mahoney,

Guard Grade 1

Dorchester Penitentiary

*Federal Corrections* is your publication. If you have any items you wish to be of interest.