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Beyond The Walls



Correctional Service
Canada

Service correctionnel
Canada



Security
Staff

Program
Staff

Volunteer

Citizen

Offender

HV
9308
C24
1987

Canada

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The Correctional Service of Canada
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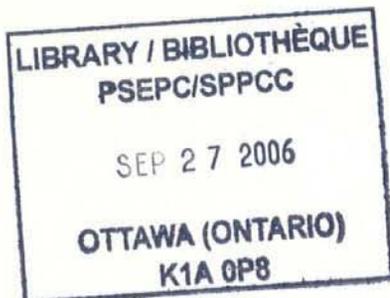
June, 1983

Revised March, 1987

"Everyone is a prisoner of his own
experiences..."

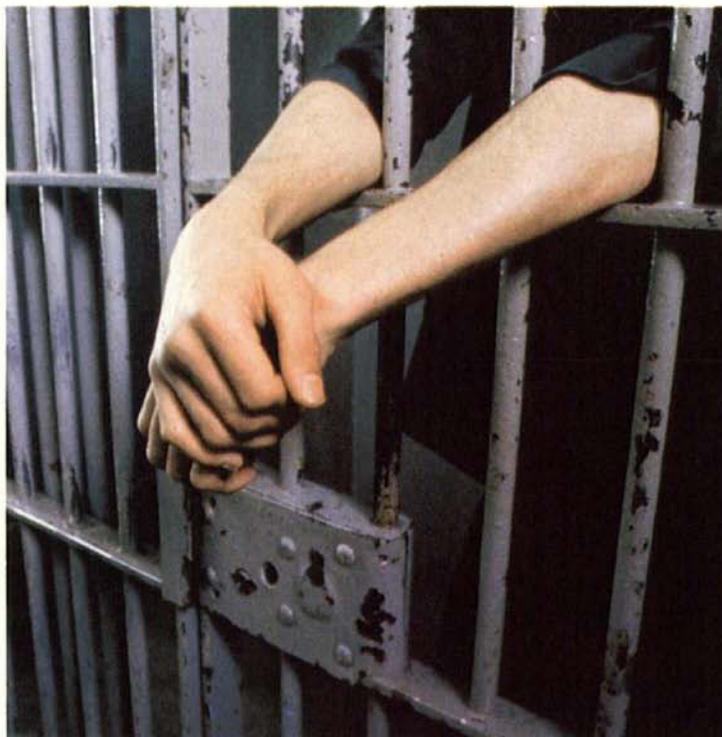
Edward R. Murrow

It is our intention to take you
beyond the walls of your
experiences — which may or may
not include an awareness of the
people and programs of The
Correctional Service of Canada.



Beyond The Walls

HV
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When most of us think of Canada's penal system, certain images rush immediately to mind. Massive limestone walls, topped by barbed wire and patrolled by heavily armed guards. Rows of dark, gloomy cells containing the most desperate and dangerous of men. Constantly simmering violence, exploding into vicious riots and hostage-takings.

Unfortunately, there is some truth to this view of our penal system. There have been major riots, and even deaths. But, still, it is a very narrow view distorted by our natural fears and the occasional glimpses within prison walls in times of crisis.

A real picture of Canada's correctional system is much broader, much more complex and, certainly, more positive than that.

This booklet is intended to take you beyond prison walls, to give you a more complete picture of Canada's federal correctional system, and to explain the role and mandate of the agency responsible for the operation and maintenance of that system: The Correctional Service of Canada.

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An Introduction to The Correctional Service of Canada

In Canada, we have what is usually described as a *Criminal Justice System* which includes our body of law, law enforcement agencies, courts, organizations responsible for probation, imprisonment and parole, as well as many private agencies and volunteers. Responsibility for these components is shared and divided among all levels of government — federal, provincial and municipal.

The Correctional Service of Canada is a part of our *Criminal Justice System* at the federal level.

Under the terms of the Constitution Act of 1867, (Canada's basic constitutional legislation which defines and establishes the division of power and authority between the federal government and the ten provinces) the Government of Canada is authorized to administer correctional institutions for convicted offenders sentenced to two years or more.



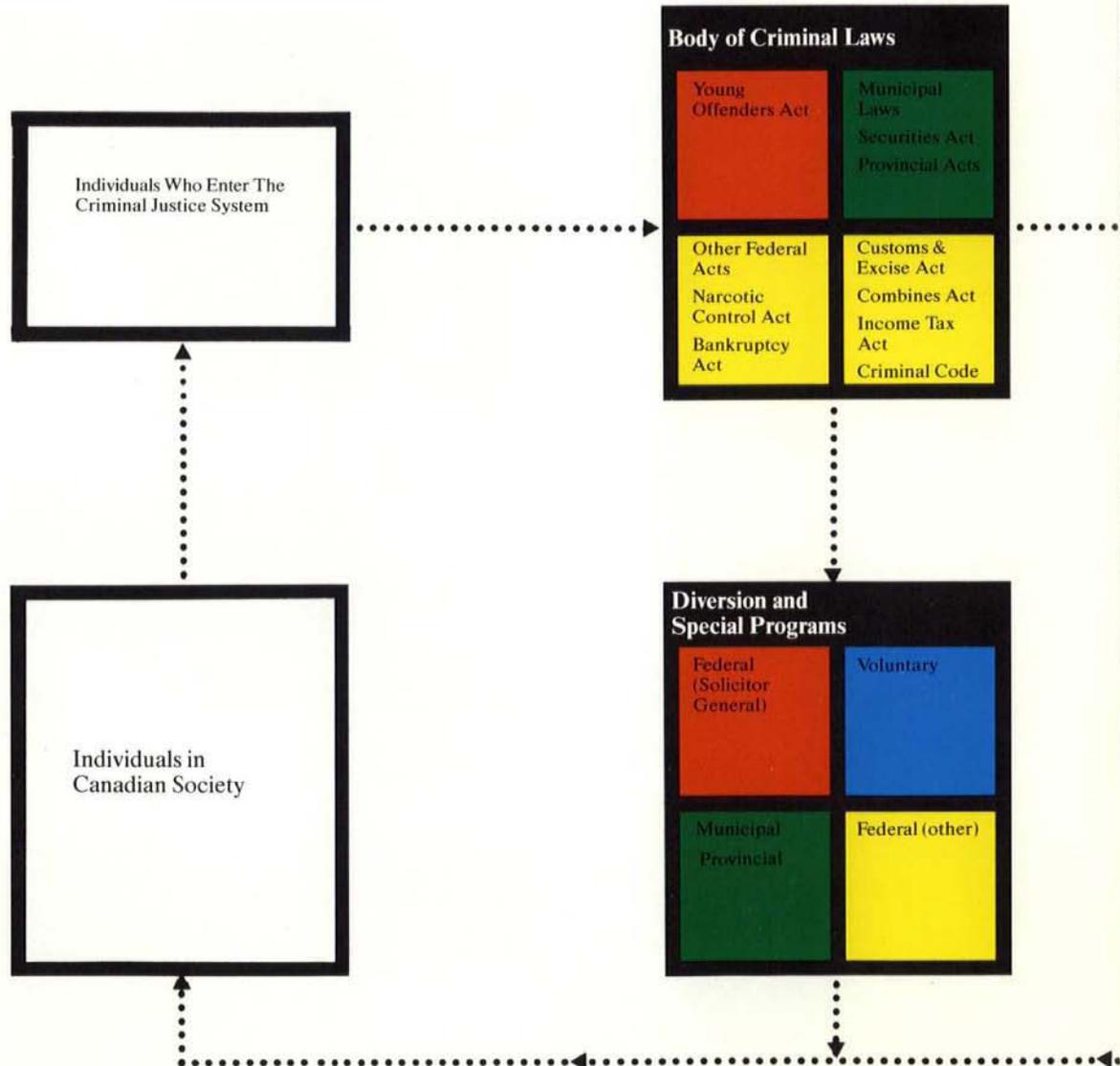
The provinces are responsible for administering jails, detention centres and correctional centres for the custody of persons sentenced to prison terms of less than two years. Provinces also have exclusive responsibility for the administration of probation.

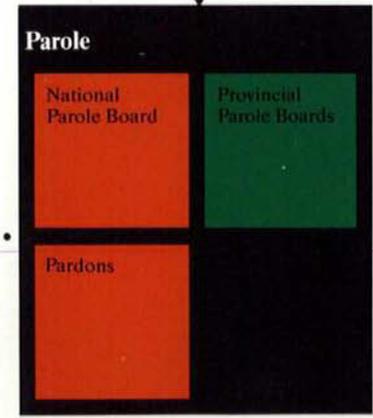
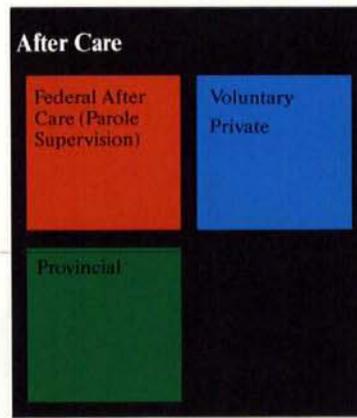
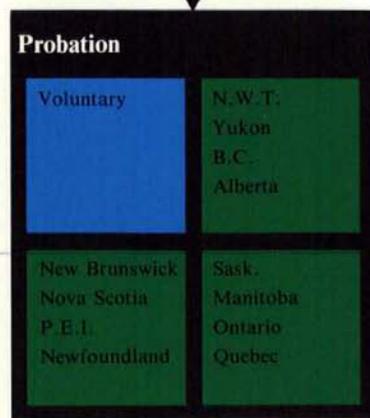
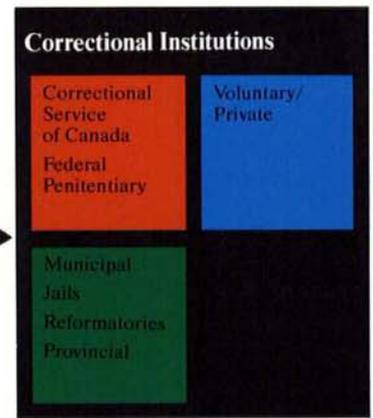
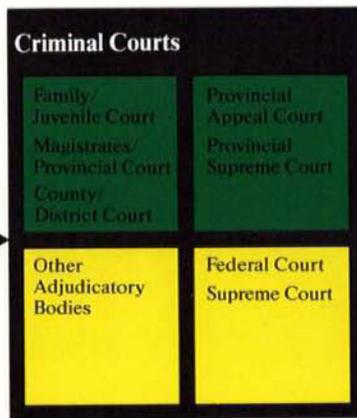
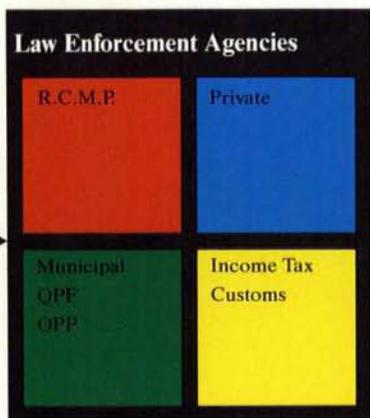
The Correctional Service of Canada is the agency established by the federal government to administer the sentence of convicted offenders who are sen-

tenced to two years or more. This responsibility includes both the management of institutions of various security levels and the supervision of those who have been released on parole, day parole, or temporary absence under the authority of the National Parole Board, or are released on mandatory supervision to serve the last third of their sentence in the community.

The Canadian Criminal Justice System

- Legend**
- Department Solicitor General
 - Other Federal Departments
 - Provincial or Municipal Governments
 - Private & Voluntary Agencies





The Sentence

The primary role of corrections, whether under federal or provincial responsibility, is to administer the sentence of the court. Once a convicted offender is sentenced, however, other laws come into effect which do not alter the length of sentence but do determine the manner in which that sentence is served. For example, a sentence of five years may not mean that the offender serves all of those five years in a federal institution. The sentence can be generally divided into three parts:

1. Imprisonment for a period of time in a maximum, medium or minimum security institution as well as a community correctional centre;
2. Conditional release in the form of parole, day parole or periodic leaves of absence granted at the discretion of the Parole Board, and;
3. Mandatory supervision, which is an automatic release by law under supervision of a parole officer to serve the last portion of the sentence in the community (approximately one-third of the total sentence).





Parole

Although CSC has complete responsibility to administer the sentence of an inmate, it has absolutely no power to parole.

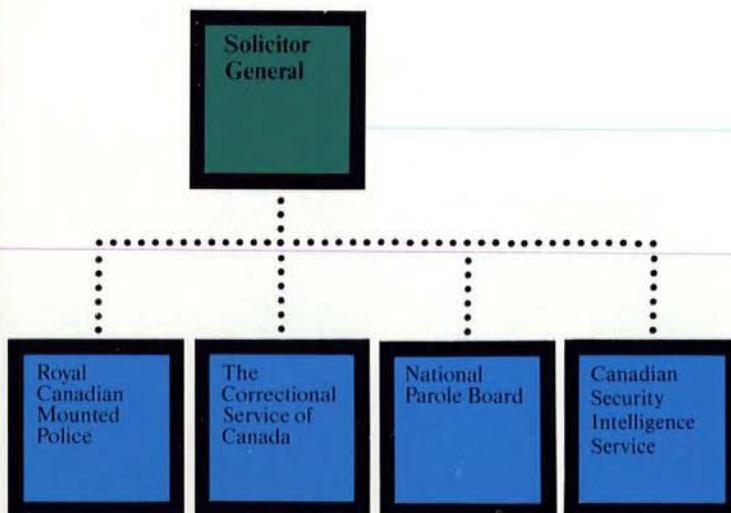
It is the *National Parole Board* that has exclusive jurisdiction and absolute discretion to grant, deny or revoke day parole and full parole for inmates in both federal and provincial prisons, except for cases under jurisdiction of the Provincial Parole Boards. (Only Ontario, Quebec and British Columbia presently have their own boards.)

The Board is ultimately responsible for granting unescorted temporary absences; however, in some instances, the Board delegates its authority to grant these absences for specified periods to directors of federal institutions.

Although mandatory supervision is an automatic release from federal institutions normally after two-thirds of the sentence has been served, the Board has the authority to revoke this form of release.

Following the passage of Bill C-67 in July 1986, the Board can detain, after a hearing, potentially dangerous inmates until their sentences have been completed. Also, inmates referred to a detention hearing, but who are not detained, will be subject to "one chance" mandatory supervision. This means that if the inmate's release is later revoked, the person will not be released on mandatory supervision again. This attempts to reduce the "revolving door syndrome."

Organization of the Solicitor General



As the federal agency responsible for all offenders sentenced to two years or more, The Correctional Service of Canada is part of the Ministry of the Solicitor General, which also includes the Secretariat, Royal Canadian Mounted Police, Canadian Security Intelligence Service, and the National Parole Board.

The legislative and constitutional framework which guides The Correctional Service of Canada is set out by the Constitution Act, the Criminal Code, the Penitentiary Act and Regulations, the Parole Act and Regulations and various international agreements.

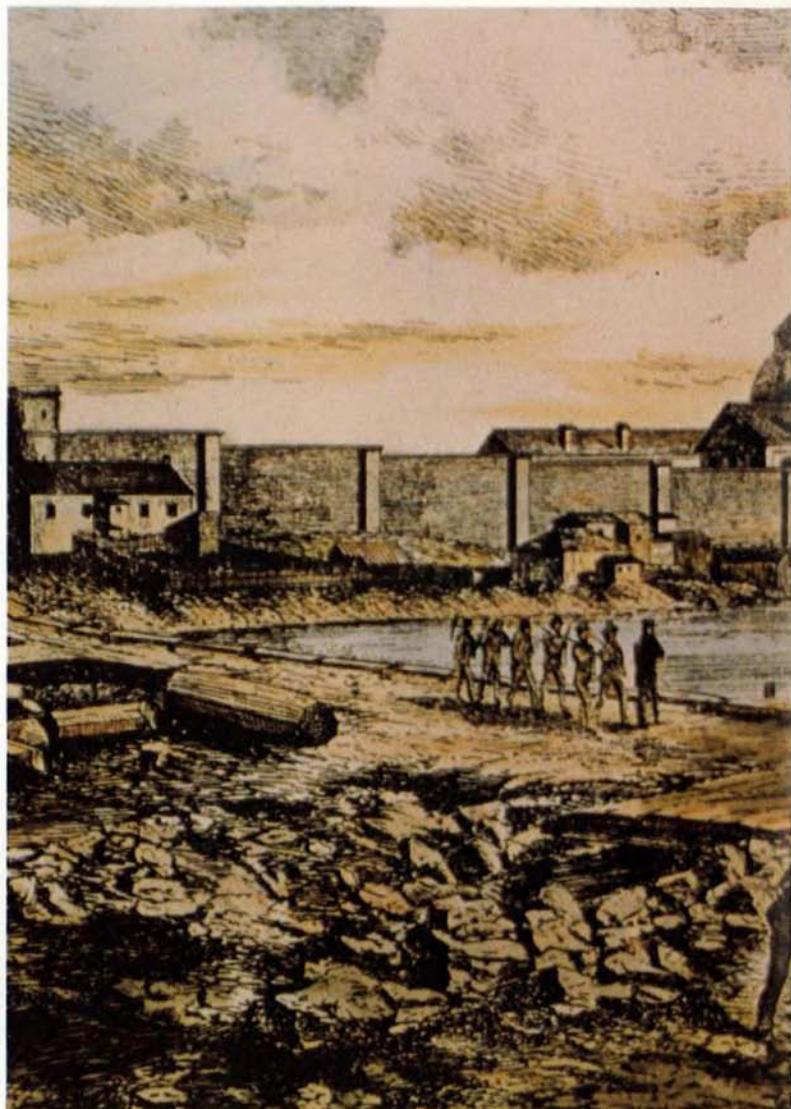
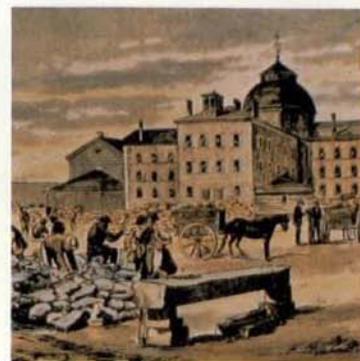
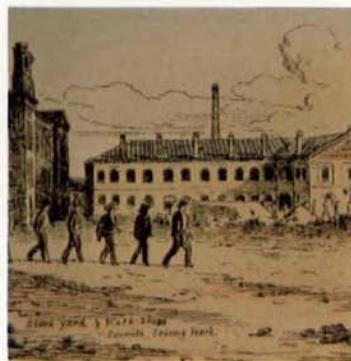
How the Walls Were Built

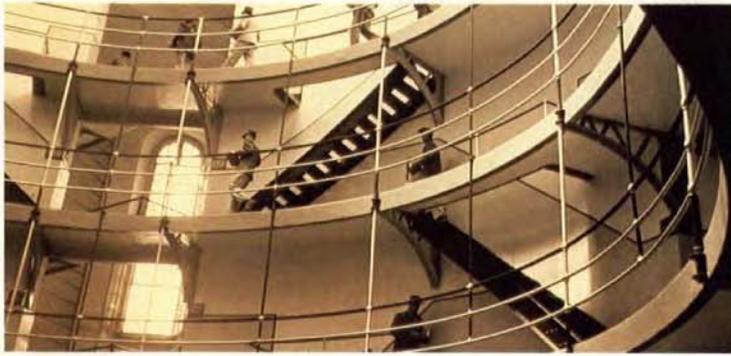
The penitentiary was an American invention, introduced by the Philadelphia Quakers in 1789 as a more humane alternative to the harsh punishments of the day. The Quakers felt that a sentence of imprisonment served under conditions of isolation with opportunities for work and religious contemplation would render the offender penitent and reformed. In New York, the penitentiary sentence was adopted not out of religious motives, but out of a belief that work and training in the penitentiary would lead to a reduction in the overall crime rate. The penitentiary sentence in the form of long terms of imprisonment then spread to England as an alternative to exile and transportation of offenders to the colonies. While Canadian law followed the English model, prison institutions were influenced by developments in the United States.

In Canada, imprisonment as we understand it today, dates back to the building of Kingston Penitentiary in 1835. For more than 30 years, Kingston was operated as a provincial jail until the passage of the British North America Act (1867) established and defined federal/provincial responsibilities for justice.

With passage of the first *Penitentiary Act* in 1868, Kingston and two other pre-Confederation prisons in St. John, New Brunswick and Halifax, Nova Scotia, were brought under federal jurisdiction, creating a federal penitentiary system “for the establishment, maintenance and management of penitentiaries for offenders sentenced to two years or more.”

Construction of federal institutions started in 1873 with St. Vincent de Paul (now Laval Institution), a renovated boys’ reformatory in Quebec. Manitoba Penitentiary (now Stony Mountain Institution) was opened in 1877 and British Columbia Penitentiary a year later. Dorchester Penitentiary, New Brunswick, was built in 1880. All were maximum-security institutions, administered by a strict regime — productive labour during the day, solitary confinement during leisure time. A rule of silence was enforced at all times. Parole (supervised early release into the outside community) did not exist, although inmates could have three days a month remitted from their sentence for good conduct.





Toward Rehabilitation

As Canada grew as a nation, the federal corrections system grew apace — and there were growing pains rooted in the questions of penal philosophy and management style which continued to plague our prison system. In the Depression years of the 1930s, a rash of inmate strikes and riots focussed attention on these problems and caused the formation (in 1936) of the Archambault Royal Commission of Inquiry into the management of federal penitentiaries. With its emphasis on crime prevention and the rehabilitation of offenders, the Commission's report, published in 1938, was a landmark in Canadian corrections and much of its philosophy remains influential today.

Working from the principle "that no system can be of any value if it does not contain, as its fundamental basis, the protection of society," the Commission recommended a complete revision of penitentiary regulations to provide "strict but humane discipline and the reformation and rehabilitation of prisoners." The report also called for better staff training standards, higher salaries and the "elimination of arbitrary hiring and firing practices."

In many ways, the Archambault Report reflected a society which had become less concerned with retribution and more with rehabil-

itation. However, the priorities of a nation at war superseded penal reform.

Growth, Development and Reform

Following World War II, federal officials responsible for the gradual implementation of the Archambault recommendations were overtaken by events — rising prison populations, overcrowding and prison disturbances. Spurred by these conditions, the government established the Fauteux Committee in 1953 for yet another investigation into the correctional system.

Like the Archambault Commissioners before them, the Fauteux Committee travelled widely in Canada and abroad, finding "a remarkable uniformity of informed opinion," which led the committee to define the goal of our "corrections" system as "the total process by which society attempts to *correct* the anti-social attitudes or behaviour of an individual" by means of punishment, treatment, reformation and rehabilitation of the offender.

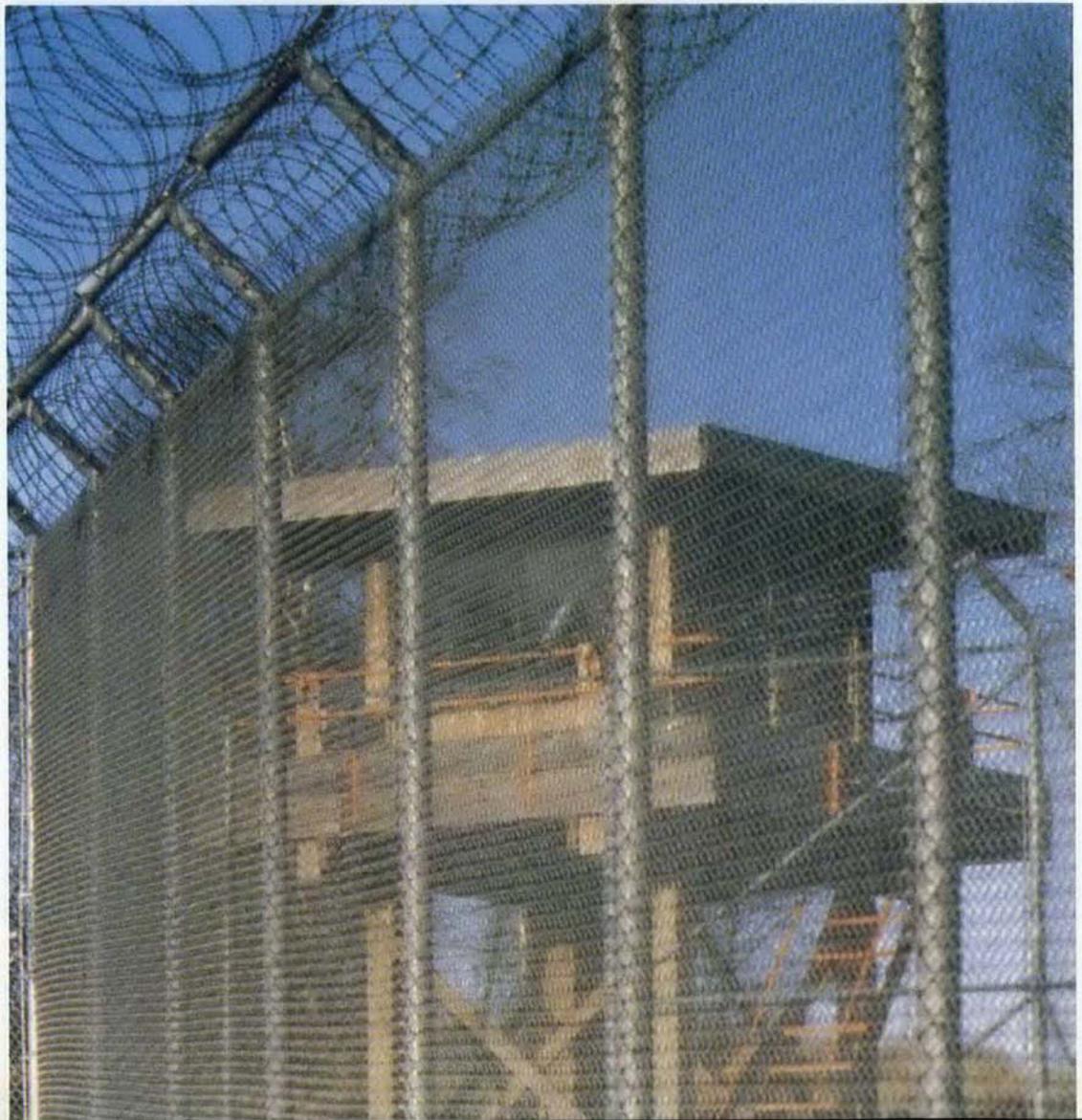
To accomplish this objective, the Committee envisaged a new type of prison which would not merely be a facility for custody, but also a place of "worthwhile and creative activity" with programs focussing on the "attempt to change the basic behaviour attitudes and patterns of the inmate."

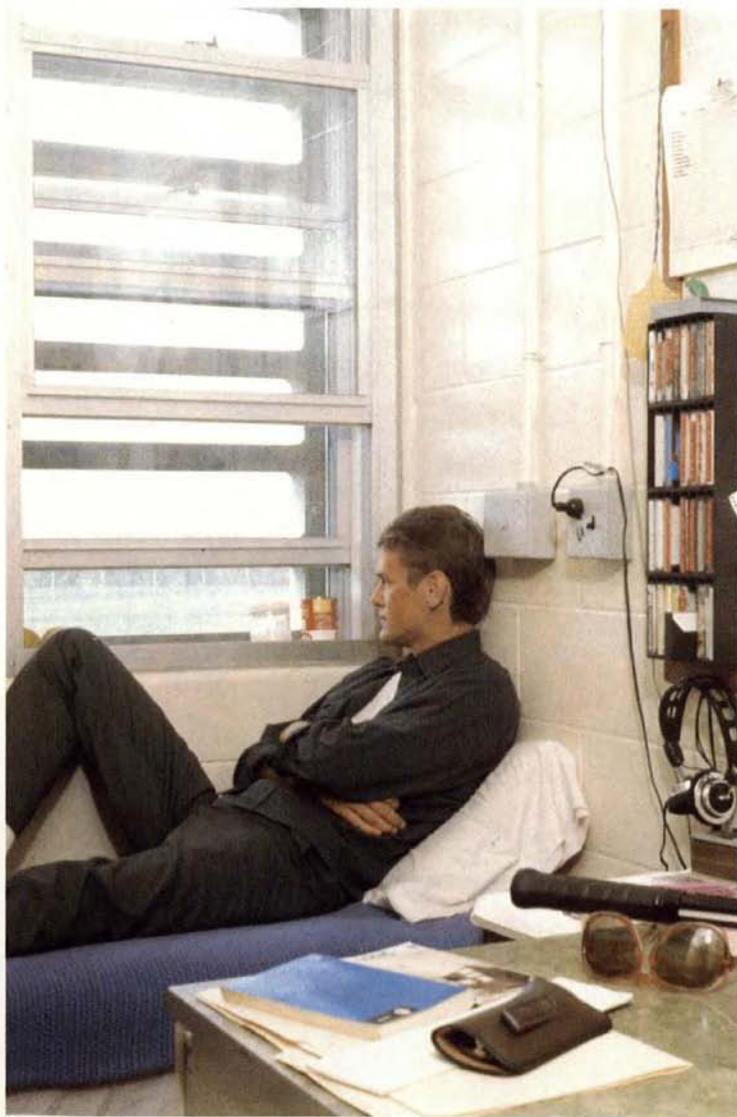


Since there was to be so much emphasis on treatment within prison, it followed there would be a need for more specialized and flexible institutions, greatly extended vocational training facilities, pre-release and after-care programs and, above all, more and better trained professional staff — in such fields as social work, psychology, psychiatry, criminology and law — to make all these programs work.

The recommendations of the Fauteaux Committee initiated a new era of legislative and institutional reform and expansion without parallel since the first decade of Confederation.

- Pre-release and parole, now recognized as integral parts of the rehabilitative process, were removed from the jurisdiction of the Remission Service of the Department of Justice by the Parole Act of 1958, which established the National Parole Board — an independent body with authority over parole for federal and provincial inmates, other than juveniles, convicted of federal offences.





- The Penitentiary Act was amended in 1961 to establish new procedures for the operation of penitentiaries, as well as initiating regionalization of the system, re-organizing the personnel selection, promoting and transfer systems, authorizing temporary absences and statutory remission of sentences and permitting the transfer of inmates between the federal and provincial systems (to place inmates closer to home and family towards the end of their sentence).

- In 1963, a *Ten Year Plan* for penitentiary accommodation was begun to construct ten new penitentiaries of varying sizes and security classifications reflecting the Fauteaux Committee's vision of prisons as places of custody and worthwhile activity.

A New Approach

In 1976, after a series of disturbances in federal prisons, the Solicitor General requested that the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs inquire into the operation of federal maximum security penitentiaries. The Standing Committee, in turn, established the Sub-Committee on the Penitentiary System in Canada, which found that the rehabilitation of inmates during imprisonment had been largely ineffective and that management processes as well as morale among correctional officers needed significant improvement.

Their recommendation: Make Canada's correction system more open and more accountable to the public.

"We stress the need for more openness and public visibility through-out the... system. We believe that many of the abuses in the... system could not conceivably co-exist with any sort of public accountability. What goes on in penitentiaries should be public... except to the extent that confidentiality is legitimately related to sound and necessary correctional practices, including the protection of the privacy of inmates and employees."

— Report of the Parliamentary Sub-Committee on the Penitentiary System in Canada (1977).

The Sub-Committee's report emphasized the need for treatment programs based on the "therapeutic community" model, inmate training programs that met provincial standards for certification, and work programs with adequate payment and incentives whereby the products of inmate labour could compete on the open market.



The Sub-Committee also identified the Rule of Law as a principle fundamental to rational discipline, and proposed that it be reflected in a consistent code of regulations having the force of law for both inmates and staff. Inmates' rights should be protected through grievance committees, independent chairpersons, a correctional investigator and functioning inmates' committees. Access to the penitentiary by outside groups should be increased and all federal institutions should have functioning Citizens' Advisory Committees. Public involvement should be sought in correctional policy development.

Back in 1938, the Archambault Commissioners admitted early in their report that "the difficulty in laying down principles on penology is increased by the fact that it is still the subject of profound and scientific inquiry, and of much controversy, and that, at the present time, many of its problems appear to be practically insoluble." That statement remains a challenge today.

Although there have been great strides in penal philosophy and management in the years since the Archambault Report, one fact remains the same: As long as people are held against their will, in institutions designed to separate them from mainstream society, there will be problems. And the most any correctional system can do is keep those problems at minimal level while providing maximum protection to society and maximum opportunities to those motivated offenders who wish to rejoin that society as responsible citizens.



Pacific Region

Institutions
 Matsqui (Med.)
 Regional Psychiatric Centre (ML)
 Elbow Lake (Min.)
 Ferndale (Min.)
 Mission (Med.)
 Mountain (Med.)
 Kent (Max.)
 William Head (Med.)
Parole Offices
 Abbotsford
 Chilliwack
 Kamloops
 Vancouver
 Victoria
 Prince George
 Terrace
 Vernon
 Dawson Creek
 New Westminster

Prairie Region

Institutions
 Edmonton (Max.)
 Bowden (Med.)
 Drumheller (Med.)
 Stony Mountain (Med.)
 Sask. Pen. (ML-Max.)
 Sask. Farm Annex (Min.)
 Regional Psychiatric Centre (ML-Max.)
 Rockwood Farm (Min.)
Parole Offices
 Yellowknife,
 N.W.T.
 Edmonton, Alta.
 Red Deer, Alta.

Calgary, Alta.
 Prince Albert, Sask.
 Saskatoon, Sask.
 Regina, Sask.
 Winnipeg, Man.
 Thompson, Man.
 Brandon, Man.
 Kenora, Ont.
 Thunder Bay, Ont.

Ontario Region

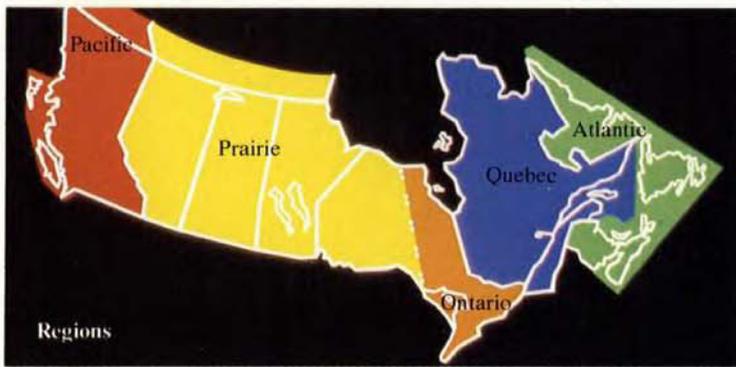
Institutions
 Beaver Creek (Min.)
 Warkworth (Med.)
 Bath (Min.)
 Millhaven (Max.)
 Collins Bay (Med.)
 Frontenac Farm (Min.)
 Treatment Centre (ML-Max.)
 Kingston Pen. (Max.)
 Prison for Women (ML-Max.)
 Joyceville (Med.)
 Pittsburgh (Min.)
Parole Offices
 Sault-Ste-Marie
 Timmins
 Sudbury
 Windsor
 Brantford
 Hamilton
 St. Catharines
 Guelph
 Brampton
 Etobicoke
 York
 Toronto
 Barrie
 Scarborough
 Oshawa
 Peterborough



Belleville
 Kingston
 Ottawa
 London

Quebec Region

Institutions
 La Macaza (Med.)
 Leclerc (Med.)
 Federal Training Centre (Med.)
 Laval (Max.)
 Montée
 St. François (Min.)
 Regional Reception Centre (ML-Max.)
 Ste-Anne-des-Plaines (Min.)
 Archambault (Max.)
 Cowansville (Med.)
 Drummond (Med.)
 Donnacona (Max.)
Parole Offices
 Rouyn-Noranda
 Hull
 L'Annonciation
 Ste-Thérèse
 West Québec
 Québec
 Longueuil
 Montreal South
 Metropolitan
 Montreal
 Montreal North
 Décarie
 Acadie
 Langelier
 Laurentides
 Fabre
 Duvernay
 Granby



Three new prisons

Three new penitentiaries opened in the last few years. They are Drummond medium-security institution (1984) and Donnacona maximum-security institution (1986), both in Quebec; and Atlantic maximum-security institution (1987) in New Brunswick.

Institutions in The Correctional Service of Canada are designated according to their security level as maximum, medium, or minimum security. Where (ML) or "multi-level" is used, it means the institution houses several levels of security.

Trois-Rivières
East Québec
Chicoutimi
Rimouski

Atlantic Region

Institutions

Dorchester (ML.)
Westmorland
(Min.)
Springhill (Med.)
Atlantic Inst.
(Max.)

Parole Offices

Edmunston, N.B.
Bathurst, N.B.
Fredericton, N.B.
Saint John, N.B.
Moncton, N.B.
Halifax, N.S.
Truro, N.S.
Kentville, N.S.
Sydney, N.S.
Charlottetown,
P.E.I.
Renous, N.B.
Cornerbrook,
NFL.
Grand Falls, NFL.

The Correctional Service also provides a number of community residential facilities across the country for parolees. These may be government-operated or under contract to non-government organizations such as the John Howard and Elizabeth Fry Societies, the Salvation Army, St. Leonard's and others. These facilities offer a range of programs designed to assist offenders to achieve a successful reintegration into the community, thereby minimizing the risk to society.

CSC Today

In 1966, Parliament established the Ministry of the Solicitor General and assigned it responsibility for the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, The Canadian Penitentiary Service and The National Parole Board which included the National Parole Service.

Then, a 1978 Ministry reorganization amalgamated the Canadian Penitentiary Service (responsible for federal prisons) and the National Parole Service (responsible for all parole supervision) into an integrated organization called The Correctional Service of Canada (CSC).

Today, CSC maintains and manages more than 65 institutions of varying degrees of security as well as 77 parole offices.

CSC is headed by the Commissioner of Corrections, who reports to the Solicitor General. The national headquarters in Ottawa performs overall planning and policy development for the Service.

Five geographic regions — Atlantic, Quebec, Ontario, Prairie and Pacific Regions — are virtually autonomous since a decentralization of authority occurred in the spring of 1985 as a result of the Carson Report of 1984. Five regional deputy commissioners administer the operation of institutions and parole offices in their areas.

In 1984 as well, CSC developed a new mission statement to explain the overall objectives that will govern the Service in the coming years. In essence, it states that the Service, as part of the criminal justice system, contributes to the protection of society by exercising safe, secure and humane control of offenders while helping them become law-abiding citizens.

Although the security of institutions and the protection of the public will always remain priorities, new importance is now being given to the preparation of offenders for their eventual release. This is being done through academic upgrading, vocational training and work programs which try to offer the same conditions as on the outside. Increased emphasis on training inmates is resulting in a closer, working relationship between offenders and staff.

Inside the Walls



Prisons have been the cornerstone of penal practice for less than 150 years. Yet over that period they have gone through a number of stages which reflected society's changing expectations and innovations in penal philosophy.

The first stage was the solitary system during which the idea of correction through meditation and penitence dominated. Then came the silent associated system where industry was expected to provide the medium for reformation. Training and strict discipline dominated the reformatory movement of the late 19th century, to be followed in turn by education and, during the middle decades of this century, by treatment based on the theories of the behavioural sciences.

Beyond the basic requirement of providing secure installations wherein offenders would pass their sentences, each of these penal philosophies had one other objective: the *correction* of all offenders. What they failed to take into account was that a person can be *corrected* only if he or she wants to be corrected — and not every inmate wants to be. The fact is, there is no easy cure-all, no magic formula by which all offenders can be transformed into decent, law-abiding citizens.

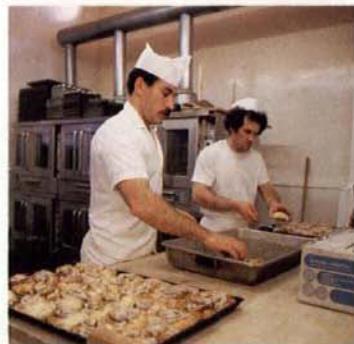
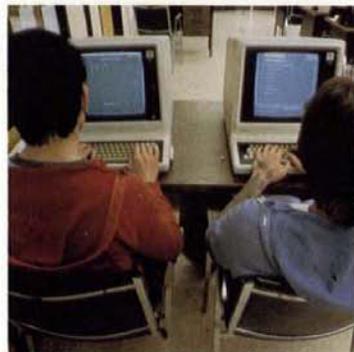


For some reason, many people think Canada's incarceration rate (of 108 per 100,000 population) is the highest in the world — but it's not. In fact, it ranks down the list — averaging about one-half the U.S. rate but four times the Netherland's rate, which is lowest.

Of those convicted of indictable offences in Canada each year, some 33 per cent are placed on probation, 64 per cent serve their terms in provincial institutions,

and only 3 per cent — or approximately 6,000 offenders — are admitted to federal facilities.

With an annual turn-over — that is, those offenders who have been released from a correctional facility to serve the remainder of their term on some sort of parole — approximately equal to intake, the population of Canada's federal facilities reflects general population growth at about 6 per cent per year since 1978.



The prime purpose of any prison system is to carry out the sanctions imposed by society on members who have transgressed its rules. And that is what Canada's correctional system does — but it does so in a humane way which provides maximum opportunities to those inmates who wish to take advantage of them.

Work and Educational Programs

Since 1978, inmate job opportunities, and vocational or academic training have been core activities of CSC correctional training program. Inmates in industrial programs produce goods and services to be sold to governmental and non-profit organizations, receive on-the-job training in agriculture, horticulture and fisheries, or learn data processing skills in market simulations. Inmates employed in institutional maintenance and service produce goods and services used by other inmates.

Where possible, CSC involves the private sector in the creation of jobs for inmates and may assist inmates in setting up their own business enterprise. The private sector may, where feasible, establish plants within penitentiaries to employ inmate labour at regular wages.

Not only do work programs help prepare inmates for life after prison, the work they do also helps reduce institutional operating costs — in fact, much of the food consumed by inmates in federal institutions is produced on six well-managed, highly productive CSC farms. In some cases, part of an inmate's income is also used to offset the cost of his room and board.

As an alternative to these regular work programs, an inmate may choose an educational or vocational training program. Instruction is available in highly technical skills, such as key-punching, printing and micro-filming.

The traditional trades of mechanics, carpentry and autobody repairing are also taught and can lead to certification in the provinces where located.

Social and Recreational Programs

Inmates are encouraged to participate in a wide range of social and recreational activities. There are sports programs, clubs and community service projects to help inmates increase their sense of self worth and develop the social skills they will need after release.

At most institutions, private family visits provide inmates with a tangible connection to life beyond the walls.



Health Services

Inmates in federal institutions have access to medical and psychiatric services comparable to those offered to the general public.

Health care centres in most institutions provide comprehensive medical-surgical, psychiatric, dental, nursing, laboratory, radiology and rehabilitation therapy services to inmates. Regional Psychiatric Centres are also available for mentally-ill inmates.



Inmate Committees

Inmate committees provide a channel of communication between the inmate body and the penitentiary administration. Elected by secret ballot, their purpose is to increase inmate participation in the development, and operation of programs and activities in the institution.



How High the Walls?



Security Classifications of Federal Institutions

Upon entry into the federal correction system, inmates are classified according to the security level each requires.

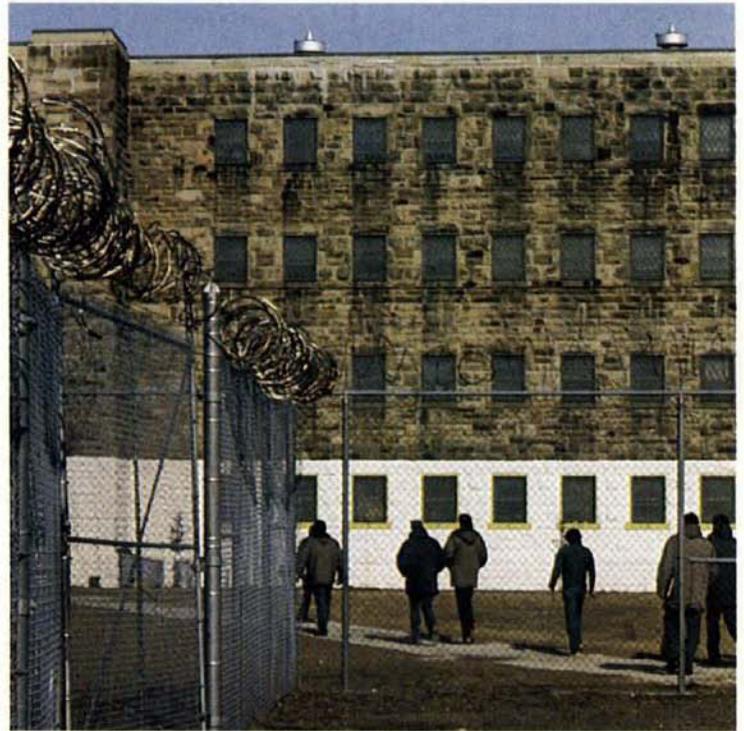
This classification process is governed by the principle that no inmate should be kept in a more secure environment than potential risk necessitates. During the course of his sentence, an inmate may be transferred to another security level — either more or less secure — for his own safety, the safety of others, or as a prelude to parole.

Federal institutions are generally classified according to the degree and kind of control considered necessary for each individual inmate.

Maximum Security institutions are highly controlled facilities with extensive perimeter security usually consisting of double fences or walls with armed elevated security posts. Many have electronic perimeter intrusion detection systems, coupled with an immediate response capability designed to deal with emergencies.

Internal security controls consist of strong physical barriers, bars on windows, and may include armed posts.

Medium Security institutions are controlled facilities with perimeter security that ranges from a single fence with unarmed posts to double fences or walls with armed posts. Some also have electronic



perimeter intrusion detection systems.

Internal security controls feature moderate use of physical barriers and unarmed posts.

Minimum Security farms or forestry camps are open facilities with simple physical barriers such as doors and windows with normal household locks.

Community Correctional Centres are a form of halfway houses, which accommodate a small group of offenders on day parole. The inmates, although still in custody, are released daily or periodically, to carry out programs approved by the National Parole Board, and are normally under parole supervision.

The correctional centre works closely with local community organizations, businesses, and law enforcement authorities. Counselors help the inmates re-adjust to society and to find employment. An inmate receives an allowance while job-hunting, then pays nominal rent when employed.

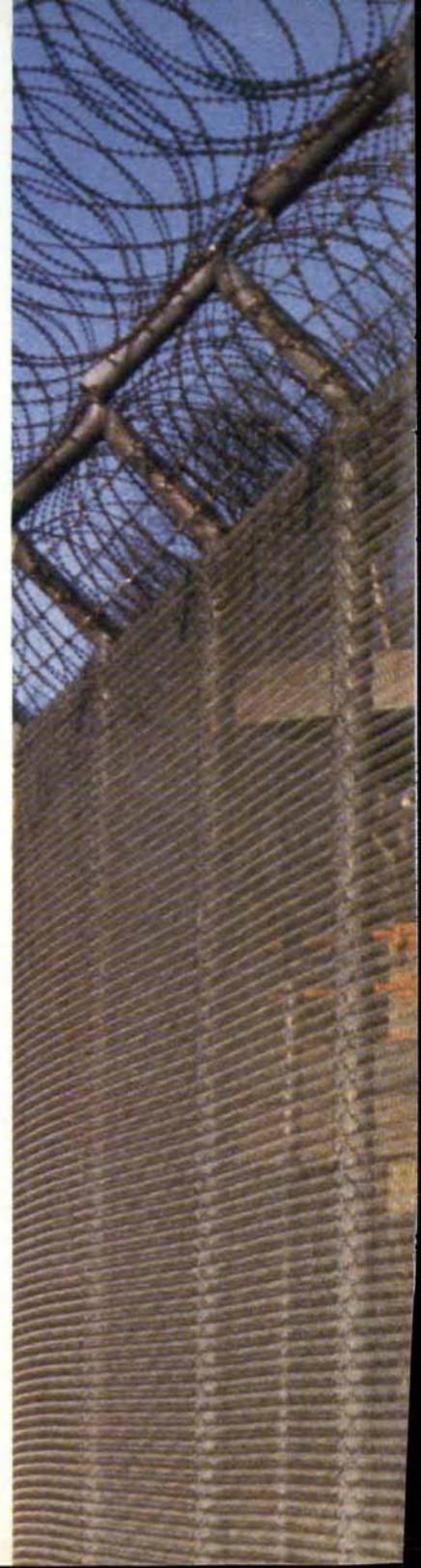
Regional Psychiatric Centres provide treatment for offenders who are mentally ill and emotionally disturbed. The Centres offer consultative services to penitentiaries and other parts of the criminal justice system; conduct psychiatric research programs; and provide psychiatric assessments to the National Parole Board, other outside agencies, and, where federal-appointed agreements exist, to the courts.



CSC's Perimeter Intrusion Detection System (PIDS) is designed to replace existing, manned perimeter guard towers at maximum and medium security institutions with a less costly, sophisticated electronic security system.

PIDS is an integrated Fence Detection, Motion Detection and Closed Circuit Television system which detects physical contact with a perimeter fence and movement between fences, activating an alarm at a Main Communications and Central Post (MCCP). The MCCP operator verifies immediately whether the perimeter of the institution is being compromised and deploys response staff to the scene.

Some institutions have walled Perimeter Intrusion Detection Systems. This consists of a fence disturbance system mounted on a wall plus a Closed Circuit Television system to provide visual assessment of the wall and surrounding area.



There was a time when the prison warden had almost absolute power over the inmates in his care. He could order a range of punishments – from flogging to “time in the hole” – for any breach of prison rules and inmates had no means of appealing the justice (or injustice) of his decisions.

But the days when the warden’s court was the ultimate authority for all inmate activities are long gone. Today, inmates have full access to a justice system designed to protect their rights. Because inmates *do* have rights as guaranteed in the Canadian Constitution, save loss of freedom for a specified period and other rights expressly taken away by statute.

Grievance Procedure

Following a written complaint, the inmate’s grievance procedure allows appeal through three levels:

- 1a. the Inmate Grievance Committee, composed of two staff and two inmate members and chaired by a non-voting person who may be either a staff member or an inmate;
- 1b. the warden of the penitentiary;
2. the Regional Deputy Commissioner of CSC;
3. the Commissioner of Corrections.



After the first grievance level, the inmate may request a review of the grievance by an Outside Review Board composed of two community volunteers, with a staff member and an inmate representative acting as advisors. The Board makes a recommendation to the warden who may confirm or modify the decision made at the first level. Whether or not the matter is submitted to the Outside Review Board, the inmate may proceed to the second and third levels.

Since the implementation of this procedure, over 90 per cent of the problems have been resolved at the written complaint stage.

Correctional Investigator

The Correctional Investigator is a “prison ombudsman” who reports to the Solicitor General. He investigates and makes advisory recommendations on prisoners’

complaints. The investigator may also initiate inquiries or act on complaints made on behalf of inmates. About 1,000 complaints are investigated in this way each year.

Independent Chairpersons

Independent Chairpersons are usually members of the Bar appointed by the Solicitor General to preside at disciplinary hearings in prisons. The Chairpersons discharge the warden’s duty to hear charges and award punishment when an inmate is accused of a serious disciplinary offence.

Legal Aid and the Courts

Any inmate who feels his rights have been illegally infringed has access to legal aid and the courts equal to that available to any citizen.

After the Walls/ Conditional Release



Prison doors swing both ways. What that means is that almost all inmates *do* eventually return to the community — either on some form of conditional release or at the expiry of their warrant of committal.

The actual granting, denial or revocation of parole is the absolute responsibility of the National Parole Board. However, it is part of the CSC's function to help inmates prepare for parole and to supervise all parolees as well as those offenders released on mandatory supervision. Most parolees successfully complete their sentences and remain in the community as productive, law-abiding citizens.

Temporary Absence

Temporary absence allows an inmate to leave prison for limited periods of time to deal with life "on the outside." An inmate who meets the requirements for Temporary Absence may be released for a job interview, to attend a conference or cultural/recreational event, to receive medical treatment, to resolve family crises, or for other rehabilitative purposes.

Day Parole

Day parole requires an inmate to return to prison from time to time during the duration of such parole or to return to prison after a specified period.

Following the passage of Bills C-67 and C-68 in July 1986, the National Parole Board must

automatically review the case of every federal offender for day parole release, normally prior to the one-sixth point in their sentence.

The Correctional Service of Canada is committed to the early identification of offenders, to ensure not only that offenders likely to be good risks for parole can be released as soon as possible, but also to develop effective institutional and longer term release programs for the offenders identified as poorer risks for parole at the first hearing.

Day parole release is generally limited to a period of four months and can serve as a testing period prior to full parole review. Day parole programs vary. One inmate may be released to attend daily classes at a local college, another might be paroled to a community residential centre to seek employment. Inmates are encouraged to participate in designing their own day parole plans.

Parole

Parole is the conditional release of selected inmates from the prison system before the completion of their full sentences. A paroled inmate serves the remainder of his or her sentence in the community under supervision and must meet certain conditions during this period.

An inmate normally becomes eligible for full parole after serving one-third of the sentence or seven



years, whichever is shorter. To assess the suitability of inmates for release, parole investigations are conducted by CSC, which gathers information from police, courts, social service agencies, psychiatrists, prison staff, friends and family, to determine an inmate's background, institutional adjustment and the community situation to which the offender will return. Federal inmates may also receive personal interviews by at least two members of the National Parole Board.

An inmate who is refused parole usually remains eligible for subsequent review. If parole is granted, the inmate is released under the supervision of CSC which may suspend a parole for breach of release conditions or if there are indications that a breach is imminent. If a post-suspension investigation reveals that, in the interest of the public, parole should not be continued, parole will be revoked by the Parole Board.



Mandatory Supervision

Remission credits for good behaviour accumulated during incarceration may entitle an inmate to be released before completion of his sentence. Amendments to the *Parole Act* of 1969 required that an inmate released as a result of remission be supervised in the community for the remainder of the sentence. This is termed mandatory supervision.

An inmate usually is released under mandatory supervision when two-thirds of the sentence has been served.

Release under mandatory supervision may be suspended if the offender violates specified conditions, and may be revoked by the Parole Board if an investigation shows that the suspension was warranted.

With the 1986 passage of Bill C-67, the Parole Board can order the detention, following a hearing, of offenders it has reason to believe are potentially dangerous and likely to cause harm or injury if released before their sentence is completed.

In addition, offenders referred to a detention hearing who are subsequently released by the National Parole Board will be subject to "one chance" mandatory supervision. If the offender's release is later revoked, the offender will not be released on mandatory supervision again.



Since 1977, an inmate eligible for release under mandatory supervision may complete the sentence in the institution, rather than accept release under supervision.

The Other People Behind the Walls



There are approximately 10,000 CSC staff — and without them, Canada's correctional system could not operate. They are "the other people behind the walls": the psychologists, psychiatrists, criminologists, lawyers, correctional officers, teachers, instructors, nurses, chaplains and others whose dedication and support are essential elements in the success of all CSC programs and operations.

They come from all walks of life to their demanding task of preventing offenders from causing harm to others. And even though they often see the worst of society at its worst, they play a vital role in helping willing inmates prepare themselves for life after incarceration.

To be sure, CSC staff are well-trained to deal effectively with the constant stress and potentially explosive problems that are virtually unavoidable in institutions built to isolate a part of society from the mainstream. But they are equally well qualified and trained to provide support and encouragement to inmates wishing to rejoin that mainstream.

Within federal prisons, each inmate is assigned to a case management team consisting of a supervisor, classification officer, and a parole officer as well as psychologists, security officers and medical staff as required. This team prepares and reviews information on the inmate and develops a plan based on the inmate's needs and objectives leading toward his eventual release.

And when an inmate is released, CSC parole officers work with the parolee to smooth his or her sometimes difficult reintegration into society.

Whether working with inmates or ensuring the security of federal institutions, the prime job of all CSC staff is the protection of society. It is a difficult, sometimes dangerous job — and one they do very well indeed.

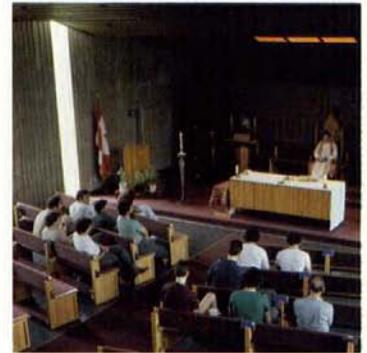
Bridging the Walls



Much of the innovation, creativity and experimentation in corrections and criminal justice has derived from the initiatives of private individuals and organizations. The development of probation, parole, conflict mediation, community residential centres, after-care work release, and many other corrections programs, all have their roots in community involvement.

For some years now, Citizens' Advisory Committees have been making a significant contribution to the life of inmates. These committees ensure citizens have access to the institutions, can objectively assess the operations, and act as community advisors to institutional directors. Most Citizens' Advisory Committees meet regularly with Inmate Committees and individual inmates. Volunteer members come from a cross-section of the local community.

Almost since the first prison opened, community services such as the John Howard Society, Salvation Army, St. Leonard's Society, the Elizabeth Fry Society, the Native Counselling Service, L'association des Services de Rehabilitation Sociale du Quebec and many others have been aiding inmates and released offenders through residential homes and counselling services and they are still going strong.



Some 2,000 volunteers enter institutions each year. The type of work they do, and the hours they contribute, add vital support to the efforts of CSC staff. And often, inmates reciprocate by working on projects which benefit the community.

A Shared Responsibility



Corrections is a shared responsibility. Because, in the final analysis, Canada's correction system is a reflection of what society wants it to be.

In the early days, society wanted retribution and penitentiaries certainly provided it.

In the 1940s and 50s, society wanted total rehabilitation and the federal corrections systems tried to provide it.

In the 70s, the elimination of capital punishment, the emphasis on the rule of law and individual rights, and the use of penitentiaries for the more dangerous or persistent offender required further changes.

So, in large part, The Correctional Service of Canada, like all aspects of the criminal justice system, is what society has made it. And we want you to know all about CSC. So, together, we can mold the kind of correctional system that best reflects our social values and is worthy of our society.

