

Jailbreaks

On this point, because of the events of last weekend, I must digress slightly to cover the question of security of our penal institutions. Whatever the jail terms of convicted criminals, society must be able to assume that they will be enforced, and not broken willy-nilly by escape. Our prisons are there to contain unlawful persons. Containment is the primary function. Rehabilitation follows. I urge Honourable Members not to permit events of the past weekend to colour their views on the issue of capital punishment. Jailbreaks will be dealt with as the enquiries and the Solicitor General recommend. Amendments to other legislation will be viewed on their merits. But today, the issue is capital punishment — a punishment I do not regard to be effective for the only purpose advanced by its proponents, deterrence.

I am not suggesting that these issues are unrelated, or that the events of the weekend should remain unconnected with the subject of this debate. That would not only be impossible, it would probably be undesirable. The provisions of the Criminal Code, the operation of our judicial system, the management of our police forces and parole boards, the security of our penitentiaries are all ingredients of a single, vital process: the administration of criminal justice in Canada. No ingredient in this process is less important than any other. None can be ignored by society, none will be ignored by the Government.

The people of Canada, the judiciary of Canada, the police officers of Canada, have every right to insist that criminal offenders, once convicted and imprisoned, remain in prison according to chance. By their very nature reformatories are not pleasant places. Society intended them in the first instance to be secure. And this Government intends to ensure that they are secure. I sympathize entirely with the concern expressed in this House and by Canadians generally over prison breaks.

I sympathize, too, with the difficult working conditions faced by many penitentiary guards. Those conditions the Government is seeking to alleviate. But I pledge to this House that this will not be done at the risk of further escapes. And I say, too, with all the earnestness at my command that prisoners who have broken jail or who have exploited temporary leave and other

humanitarian reforms — and who by doing so have placed these programs in jeopardy for thousands of other prisoners — will be dealt with on recapture with the full severity of the law. Those who mock the desire of Canadians for an orderly, law-abiding community, those who hold in contempt those restraints on human conduct that enable us to live as free men and women, will be shown that society is not only resilient but that it is capable of protecting itself and of meting out whatever punishment is required.

The choice of punishment, however, must be other than vindictive for no society can be vindictive and remain healthy....

I believe that by supporting the motion which is now before the House on second reading, we have the opportunity here to act in a way that will not reduce the necessary protection to Canadians from the possibility of violent crime but which permit Canada to stand with those other nations of the world that have concluded that the calculated taking of a human life, self-defence apart, is not an act which should be countenanced on either an individual or a community basis.

Ontario Place wins U.S. design award

Ontario Place and its designers, the architectural firm of Craig Zeidler Strong, won a citation of excellence at the 1972-73 Design in Steel Award Program sponsored by the American Iron and Steel Institute in New York last month.

The award is for excellence in engineering of low-rise construction as conceived by Eberhard H. Zeidler, partner-in-charge for Craig Zeidler Strong.

Situated on Toronto's lakeshore, Ontario Place is a 96-acre complex, a project of the Ontario government. The award-winning glass and steel structures include a five-moduled elevated building, housing exhibits and restaurants, suspended on steel columns above Lake Ontario; and a unique domed theatre, Cinesphere, which cradles what is claimed to be the world's largest spheric film screen.

"The design was intended to epitomize the ultimate in engineering refinement; the extraordinary tensile strength of steel and its simple elegance,"

said Mr. Zeidler. "The result is a form which has become the symbol of Ontario Place."

Mr. Zeidler, formerly affiliated with the University of Toronto's School of Architecture and a member of the Royal Canadian Academy of the Arts, has been responsible since 1951 for the design development of the internationally-acclaimed firm Craig Zeidler Strong of Toronto, Peterborough and Hamilton.

The Design in Steel Award Program gives recognition to designers, engineers and artists for imaginative uses of steel. The current program attracted more than 1,000 entries in 14 categories.

The 1973 season for Ontario Place began on May 19 with new attractions, films, exhibits and entertainments.

Study of effects of confinement on POWs

Mr. Daniel J. MacDonald, the Minister of Veterans Affairs, has announced the completion of the first phase of his Department's study on former European prisoners of war. The long-term physiological and psychological effects of confinement of POWs is being investigated under the direction of Dr. J. Douglas Hermann of Ottawa.

In order to identify any variations between the physical or mental conditions of veterans who had experienced wartime imprisonment and those who had not, the research group has examined many thousands of files on former prisoners and other servicemen who served under similar conditions but who had not been captured. The study also includes a number of civilians in the same age group.

During the next stage, some 6,500 questionnaires will be sent to the ex-prisoners and other veterans.

Men's lib?

A bachelor's survival course will be offered to Grade 12 students in Vancouver schools in autumn. The course, designed by the home economics departments to help boys look after themselves when living alone, will include cooking, sewing, apartment-furnishing and creative crafts.