

Paper Company in my native province of Nova Scotia. It consists of allowing inmates to work cutting pulpwood for wages and under conditions which are comparable to those applying to ordinary contractors. In speaking to some of the officials of that company I am informed that this particular work camp, called Shulie Lake, is located about 30 miles west of Parsboro in Nova Scotia. The inmates and the guards live in the same quarters. The inmates are considered to be employees of the company during the time they work.

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There are two phases: phase I involves 12 weeks of training and phase II involves a further 12 weeks during which time the inmates work cutting pulp and are trained at the same time. The inmates are paid under the regular system of the industry: they are paid per cord for the wood they cut. They have to buy their own saws and clothes. As they accumulate money, they pay for their equipment. Also they are allowed to put money in the bank. When they are allowed to go home, they are able to pay their own fares from that money. On some occasions they are allowed to send money home for the support of their families. This type of program should be expanded.

The hon. member for Surrey-White Rock (Mr. Friesen) referred to the Dorchester penitentiary in British Columbia. Based on my visits to that penitentiary, it is one of the best institutions of its kind in the country. I was interested in the references to this institution. I see the Minister of Fisheries and the Environment (Mr. LeBlanc) listening as I refer to this particular institution. Perhaps he is closer to it than I am, and has visited it on occasion as well. The committee noted the following:

Although it is about the same age as the B.C. penitentiary, Dorchester rates as one of the better maximum security institutions in Canada. The director, Humphrey D. Sheehan, attributes this to his staff:

It is very interesting to note that. Perhaps it is one of the better institutions because of the relationship which exists between the director, the warden and the staff.

**Mr. Nielsen:** And the inmates.

**Mr. MacKay:** Yes, the inmates as well. I should like to quote what Mr. Sheehan said:

They are pretty basic down-to-earth people who can get along with others. They recognize that there is a job to be done and that you can do it both ways: you make it tough or you make it easy. I think the stability of the staff, the fact that we do not have a large staff turnover, contributes to this. There is considerable staff experience here and they are familiar with dealing with inmates.

Also I should like to return to what the committee noted, which reads as follows:

The PSAC representatives similarly praised Mr. Sheehan whom they considered to be the "best director in the penitentiary service."

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. MacKay:** That type of tribute is very heartening to people who are interested in the prison system. My impression of Millhaven is based on far briefer visits and less observation than Dorchester. When I visited that institution, I found it was

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much more modernistic in many ways. It was a more attractive prison to look at superficially, but there was an air of tension and unrest which seemed to be almost tangible when walking through the halls of that institution.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Ethier):** Order, please. I regret to interrupt the hon. member but his allotted time has expired. He may continue if there is unanimous consent. Is there unanimous consent?

**Some hon. Members:** Agreed.

**Mr. MacKay:** I should like to refer to an editorial which appeared in today's *Globe and Mail*. It indicates that this is a very current matter which occupies the continuing attention of leading newspapers all over Canada. The hon. member for Oxford (Mr. Halliday) quoted the excerpt which first caught my eye. There is another section of the article which is almost as important. It is based on observations made by the ombudsman for Ontario, Arthur Maloney. In his day he was one of Canada's best criminal counsel.

**Mr. Cullen:** And a member of parliament.

**Mr. MacKay:** Yes, he was a member of parliament, as I have been reminded.

**Mr. Paproski:** He was on our side.

**Mr. MacKay:** I did not know that.

**Mr. Cullen:** He must have made quite an impression.

**Mr. MacKay:** I point out to the Minister of Employment and Immigration (Mr. Cullen) that I am not as old as he is and I do not have the recall of parliamentary jurisprudence. According to the editorial, Mr. Maloney makes it obvious that we are sending far too many people to jail. The editorial reads in part as follows:

He points out that during the fiscal year 1976-1977, "the ministry housed 59,362 prisoners in its jails and detention centres prior to trial." (So much for our so-called soft bail laws.) He quotes the Law Reform Commission of Canada to the effect that this country "is one of the harshest western countries when it comes to prison sentences."

We must protect our citizens but, as the subcommittee has pointed out, there is a better way to do this. There is a way to treat more humanely people who have run afoul of laws and regulations. This will not only benefit them but society as well.

Since it is nearing five o'clock and the end of this debate, I close by saying that I trust the new Solicitor General (Mr. Blais) and all hon. members in the House of Commons will do their utmost to bring forward legislation which will embody these excellent recommendations as a package. I hope the government brings them forward in a well-drafted bill, and gives the highest court in the land an opportunity to deal with them swiftly and in the same spirit which has characterized the committee deliberations and this debate.

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear!