

En route to police headquarters, Swearngen produced the .25 automatic and ordered the cruiser to stop. He told Sgt. David Horne and Sgt. David Swanwick to hand over their guns, and then fled the cruiser.

Swearngen eventually reached Pontiac, Michigan, with the aid of friends. He was arrested—

Swearngen claimed in a statement to police that the three men who came out of the hotel rushed him with knives and he only fired in self-defence.

Here is what the judge said:

"You and I have very different ideas about what constitutes self-defence. . . . The fact that you were carrying two guns shows that you were ready to resort to violence."

I will accept that. The article continues:

The accused would have been eligible for parole in another two years, but must now serve at least 12 years—

These are examples of the temporary release program. Naturally, the parole board gets the blame when it is written up. I looked at the Oxford dictionary this afternoon and it defines "parole" as release from an institution, such as a penitentiary. I could go on and on, Mr. Speaker. All these statistics are a lot of tommyrot because you cannot find out anything from them. The people who make the mistake hide it under the table and the parole board takes the blame.

Certainly jails are lonely. Certainly people in them are frustrated. I agree with other speakers who say that Canada has too many people in the penitentiaries. We have a habit of sentencing people for various kinds of crime to long terms of imprisonment. That was one of the complaints set out in a pamphlet put out by the youth of this party. Only a few years ago, people who had a certain amount of marijuana were said to be trafficking and the courts were giving sentences of four and five years. Yet the same process of law in this country was releasing people who were dangerous psychologically, and the psychiatrists knew that they were.

I suppose Byron was right in his sonnet "The Prisoner of Chillon" when he wrote:

And when thy sons to fetters are consigned,  
To fetters, and the damp vault's dayless gloom,  
Their country conquers with their martyrdom,  
And Freedom's fame finds wings on every wind.  
Chillon. Thy prison is a holy place  
And thy sad floor an altar—  
For 'twas trod, until his very steps have left a trace,  
Worn as if cold pavement were a sod—by Bonnivard.  
May none these marks afface!  
For they appeal from tyranny to God.

● (2120)

I know about these things. I spent 27 years practising before the bar. Apart from the time I have spent in this institution, I have spent much time and initiative—all my life—in defending people. I have been in every penitentiary of this nation, either as counsel or visitor.

**Mr. Benjamin:** How about as an inmate?

**Mr. Woolliams:** I don't want to get into that. My hon. friend may know something about that; I don't know. I hope he stops joking, because this is no joking matter, believe me. I have spent all my life dealing with matters of

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this kind and have deep feelings about them. I want to see us on the road to a proper rehabilitation program. Let us set up a proper parole board, staffed with men and women who are trained in the highest skills, so that the right type of person in our society may be rehabilitated.

Surely we all recognize that environmental factors are behind much of the trouble. Judges across this nation to whom I have talked agree. A man who served his country as a member of this House—I refer to Mr. Justice McNiven whom I met in the Court of Appeal in Regina, who, incidentally, was a member of the Liberal party, and one of the finest men western Canada ever produced—used to say that from broken homes there comes trouble. We cannot change these things, but we can help the young men and women who have gone astray. That is why I want to see parole boards set up on a regional basis so that people with the best experience and the best skills are appointed. In that way we shall return people to society as rehabilitated individuals.

Last week, being alone, I read again the life of Clarence Darrow. Anyone who has read his life story will have read about the famous case of Leopold and Loeb. Darrow was the first lawyer in 1929 to bring together seven top-rated psychiatrists and psychologists of the nation to prove that Leopold and Loeb, who came from the oldest of families in the United States, were in a certain mental condition at the time of the offence.

These two young men had set out to commit the perfect crime. They picked up a young boy, the first one to leave a certain school, and took him out to the country and murdered him. It was not the perfect crime because one of the accused dropped his glasses. His name was on them and he was caught. Darrow pleaded them guilty. The accused were sentenced to death. However, Darrow, with his great ability, eloquence and knowledge of humanity and human motivation, brought scientists for the first time before a Chicago courtroom to show that the accused should be sentenced to life imprisonment rather than to death because of their mental and emotional condition at the time of the offence. That was a very important trial.

This illustrates the kind of law I should like to see in my country. I know what I said about capital punishments, but my remarks are confined to a very narrow basis as one will see if one examines my speeches. That illustrates the kind of law I should like to see in this nation. I say that because my whole life has been spent defending people charged with terrible crimes. In that way I may be unique in this chamber.

If I may be personal for a moment, in 1950 I defended a lady charged with murder. She was acquitted. In 1967 the same lady approached me and asked me to defend her son who was charged with murder. So one can see how important environmental factors are. The environmental factors of the home shape our lives and we can all say, when we point to unfortunate people, "There but for the grace of God go I." So I am really glad to see that the government has at long last moved on this matter.

I know the minister pretty well. We served on the same committee years ago when we used to take time off and visit various institutions. We would talk to various inmates. I know that his feelings run deep and I know he wants to do the right thing. I say to him, get rid of this ad