

to the community. I understand the service has completed an agreement to purchase suitable accommodation in Montreal. In addition, funds are being requested for the continuing construction of a maximum security institution at Ste. Anne des Plaines to eventually replace the archaic St. Vincent de Paul penitentiary, as well as the initial construction of another institution in Ontario to replace Kingston penitentiary, the start of construction on four reception centres, one each in the Atlantic region, Quebec, Ontario and Western Canada, and the purchase of a site for a new modern institution for the treatment of female offenders in eastern Canada.

All of the above represents a very large building program. Much has been accomplished even in the face of numerous unforeseen and regrettable delays. However, it is hoped that with the completion of the projects planned for this and the next fiscal year, the whole spectrum of institutions included in the plan will be a reality and that the treatment program envisaged therein can be fully implemented.

Although much effort has been concentrated over the last few years in attaining the physical facilities necessary for any modern correctional program, the treatment program itself has not been left unattended nor has that element so necessary in carrying out any program—the staff of the penitentiary service. The penitentiary service, like many other agencies in similar fields, has experienced considerable difficulty in recruiting adequate staff, especially professionals in the psychiatric, psychological and sociological disciplines, to bring about changing treatment and training programs being introduced into its existing institutions and those planned for its new treatment centres. In addition, a concentrated program of both in-service and out-service training for staff is being stepped up.

In order to provide for the increase in staff, from 2,500 to 7,000 during this ten year period, provision is being made this year to enlarge the correctional staff college in Ontario, for the completion of a new staff college in Quebec and the initial construction of another staff college in British Columbia. In this way it is hoped to upgrade the knowledge of all penitentiary staff in the areas of penology and the handling and treatment of inmates and to replace the traditional notion of penitentiaries as a place of custody with one of treatment and resocialization.

I should now like to comment briefly on the activities of the national parole board. I have

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about one more page of notes, Mr. Chairman, if I may be permitted to complete my remarks.

**Some hon. Members:** Agreed.

**Mr. Pennell:** It is encouraging to note that in 1966 there was an increase of 200 in the number of paroles granted bringing the total to 2,496 for the year. During the first quarter of this year the number of paroles granted increased by 271 over the same period last year. If the present trend continues it is expected that approximately 3,000 inmates will obtain paroles this year. If this comes to pass it will be the highest number of paroles granted in the history of the board.

● (6:00 p.m.)

A significant point I should like to mention is that despite the increased number of paroles granted the failure rate still remains constant at roughly 10 to 11 per cent, which is very modest indeed. This indicates that the board's dual concern for the rehabilitation of the offender and the protection of society still remains in balance.

Speaking for myself I remain firmly committed to the belief that increased probation and parole are our best instruments in the great task of human renewal. I want to express the hope that those in authority will continue to exercise their discretion in these matters generously.

**The Chairman:** It being six o'clock and in order that the house may proceed to the consideration of private members' business I do now leave the chair.

**PROCEEDINGS ON ADJOURNMENT MOTION**

**SUBJECT MATTER OF QUESTIONS TO BE DEBATED**

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** It is my duty, pursuant to provisional standing order 39A, to inform the house that the questions to be raised at the time of adjournment tonight are as follows: the hon. member for Lac-Saint-Jean (Mr. Simard), Labour Relations—inquiry as to the right of C.B.C. employees to belong to a union of their choice; the hon. member for Middlesex East (Mr. Lind), Natural Gas—Southwestern Ontario—Damage caused by pipe line construction; the hon. member for Halifax (Mr. Forrestall), National Harbours Board—Hiring practices.

It being six o'clock the house will now proceed to the consideration of private members' business as listed on today's order paper, namely, private bills and public bills.