

Supply—Justice

reading now from the English translation of what my hon. friend said in French, and this is at page 4 of the English translation of *Hansard* of yesterday—

The parole board has now replaced the remission service.

It would be of general interest, I think, to make known the number of prisoners in this country for the various provinces, also how many of these prisoners' files have been studied by the new parole board and the result of that study.

Then the hon. member went on to say:

The committee would also be interested to hear from the minister how this parole board operates.

Mr. Fulton: Mr. Chairman, the question referred to by my hon. friend is one the answer to which must come from two sources, the penitentiary branch and the parole board. The question asks that we make known the number of prisoners in this country in the various provinces, and that is information I expect to obtain and supply to the committee when the penitentiary branch item is before the committee.

The other part of the question is, how many of these prisoners' files have been studied by the new parole board and the results of that study. I am told that something in the neighbourhood of 2,000 files have been studied, but the exact figure is not yet available. This figure will also be available at the time the penitentiary item is called.

Mr. Roberge: At the same time, would the minister advise the committee how many prisoners were pardoned and how many are on ticket of leave as a result of that study?

Mr. Fulton: I am told that the percentage is 32.6 per cent. In other words, of the files studied 32 per cent have been paroled. As the hon. member will recall I distinguish between parole and pardon. Pardon is a function of the executive. Of the files studied 32 per cent have been paroled since the parole board commenced its operation.

Mr. Roberge: I note that this item asks for \$60,000 for grants to recognized prisoners' aid societies as may be approved by treasury board. At page 217 I note that last year the amount was \$50,000 and that this year the amount asked for from parliament is \$60,000. I have no quarrel with that increase because that would be for the benefit of the prisoners when they come out of the penitentiary or the prison, I suppose. What I should like to know is this, and I think it is a matter of public interest. It may be of assistance to the prisoners and their families to know what are the societies that are concerned.

Mr. Fulton: The list is quite lengthy. The Salvation Army national service—did my hon. friend ask for the amounts they received?

[Mr. Roberge.]

Mr. Roberge: No. I should just like to have the names of the agencies so the public may be made aware of these societies.

Mr. Fulton: Salvation Army national service; John Howard society of Newfoundland, John Howard society of Nova Scotia; John Howard society of New Brunswick; Catholic rehabilitation service, Montreal; centre de service social de Trois-Rivieres; John Howard society of Quebec; service de rehabilitation sociale inc. Quebec; service social de Beauce; service social de l'enfance Chicoutimi; service social de Gaspé; service social de Hull; service social de Joliette; service social de Lévis; service social de Megantic (Thetford Mines); service social de Nicolet; service social de Rimouski; service social de St. Hyacinthe; service social de St. Jean d'Iberville; service social de St. Jerome; service social de Valleyfield; société d'orientation et rehabilitation sociale de Montreal; société de rehabilitation de Sherbrooke; Catholic adjustment bureau, Toronto; the Elizabeth Fry society of Ontario; the John Howard society of Ontario; Catholic welfare bureau, Winnipeg; John Howard and Elizabeth Fry society of Manitoba; Manitoba welfare association, Winnipeg; John Howard society of Saskatchewan; John Howard society of Alberta; John Howard society of British Columbia; John Howard society of Vancouver island.

These various organizations received grants under this item in the last fiscal year totalling \$50,000 and this year will receive grants totalling \$60,000.

Mr. Roberge: I said earlier that I did not want the amount received by each of them, but I could have the average amount received by each of them; or is that too complicated? I should be glad to be furnished with the information later on.

Mr. Fulton: I do not think it would be possible to give an average, because the awards by the branch are made on the basis of the case work done by the respective societies I have mentioned. It just would not be possible to give an average. I shall be glad to send over to the hon. gentleman, if he wishes it, a list showing the amounts paid in the last fiscal year.

Mr. Roberge: Later on, when the minister is through, he could furnish that information. He could do that later on, not necessarily on the estimates. Later on I will be interested in receiving that information.

Mr. Fulton: All right.

Mr. Roberge: There is a service sociale in my own constituency of Megantic. I should like to know whether this service sociale is able to participate in that vote and receive