

high proportion of "recidivists" within the institution only emphasizes that the total system is functioning effectively. Daniel Glaser's book entitled "The Effectiveness of a Prison and Parole System" contains the following pertinent observations which I quote:

"The proportion of releasees returned to prison tends to be higher:

- a. where probation is used extensively, so that only the worst risks go to prison (although this use of probation may make the long-run recidivism of all felons lower);
- b. where parole is used extensively, so that many poor-risk parolees are released on a trial basis;
- c. where a large proportion of parolees are returned to prison when they have violated parole regulations but have not been charged with or convicted of new felonies."

"It is the prevailing opinion in corrections that the public is best protected from crimes by released prisoners by:

- (1) sentencing and parole policies which enable most prisoners to leave prison by parole rather than by outright discharge;

(2) an optimum amount of surveillance of parolees, rather than none at all or a gross excess (as well as more positive supervision functions, of course, such as counselling and assistance);

(3) some revocation of parole for nonfelonious behaviour." However, the more these three policies are adopted, the greater will be the proportion of released prisoners returned to prison.

I would suggest that the future of corrections lies more and more in the community, where the inmate must one day return to take his place as a law-abiding and productive citizen. In the meantime, he remains a citizen and the institution should be seen as part of not apart from the community. He must develop an understanding and an appreciation of the social and economic context within which he must live his life in harmony with his fellow citizens. For these reasons, I suggest that the course upon which we are presently embarked is the correct one. However, I realize there remains much to be done in developing community focused correctional programs since traditions and attitudes are sometimes slow to change. Rehabilitation of the criminal is the surest and most economical way of achieving our objective of the protection of society. The best protection of society is rehabilitation.