

contact with the inmate and who are aware of his daily progress in the institution.

Should the case conference decide that further psychiatric opinions are necessary, this is done by bringing together a panel of "outside" psychiatrists for a more comprehensive and independent evaluation. Should it be decided that further treatment is indicated or that a change to a different environment seems necessary, these arrangements are made. The change of environment may be to a hospital or clinic where specialized programs are carried on or the inmate could be moved to a different type of security institution where his rehabilitation would be enhanced.

If progress in the institution appears favourable, an intensive community enquiry is carried out to determine the readiness of the community to receive him.

Following upon positive reports from the institution and from the community investigation, a comprehensive report is prepared by a parole officer. He will summarize all reports on file, discussing the nature of the offence, the findings of the psychiatrists and penitentiary officials, the treatment carried out and the inmate's adjustment to the institution. He will discuss the inmate's present attitudes in terms of the offence and future plans in the event of parole. All of the strengths and weaknesses of the case are discussed and a recommendation is made to the Board. The Board may or may not reach an immediate decision. They may require further clarification of some issue or an elaboration of a particular report. When all issues of the case are covered to the satisfaction of the Board, it is then in a position to make a definitive decision.

Prison Cases

The procedures that are carried out in penitentiary cases are carried out in prison cases with the following variations:

1. A file is opened upon receipt of an application from the inmate or by someone on his behalf. Together with the inmate's application, the institution forwards a document similar to the admission document which contains the information necessary for us to begin our basic enquiries.
2. No automatic features exist and, therefore, all our reports are requested.
3. The Board Panels do not visit provincial institutions and, therefore, the Board decision is made at headquarters in Ottawa.

V—SUPERVISION OF PERSONS ON PAROLE

A major concern of the Board is the protection of society. We are confident that a system of parole, whereby persons are released under a degree of supervision and control with clearly stated conditions which they must recognize and observe, offers a better protection than unconditional release at the termination of sentence. In all the contacts which the officers of the Board have with the prisoners in the institutions, they encourage them to think in terms of reform and self-improvement and to plan realistic, attainable programs for their future, whenever they are released. If they are granted parole, the officers

of the Board are available not only to enforce the observance of stipulated conditions and to maintain supervision but also to provide guidance and counsel to the parolee and to his family. Supervision of the parolee therefore becomes a further step in the process aimed at treatment and rehabilitation of the offender.

At November 30, 1971 there were 5,479 persons on parole in Canada. Officers of the National Parole Service supervised 3,162 and the balance, 2,317, were supervised by after-care agencies, provincial welfare or correctional services and private citizens who volunteered their services.

When individuals are released on parole, it is our responsibility to help them in every way possible to become law-abiding and productive citizens. The majority of parolees are supervised on a one to one basis; this means that usually each person is seen individually by a supervisor who utilizes the case-work technique. In recent years, however, some other techniques of supervision have been developed, such as the ones utilizing group dynamics. Some specialized group-therapy programs have also been organized on an experimental basis in a few of our offices. Up to now, the results have been quite promising. Other special techniques, e.g., Alcoholics Anonymous, are being utilized. In the course of supervision, we will frequently utilize the services of many professionals and community resources if there are special needs.

Experience shows that the first six months on parole is the most difficult and trying period. This is the time when a good number of parolees encounter their more serious problems and crises in re-adapting to a satisfactory way of life. Because of this, our supervision is more intensive and our contacts are much closer during the first months on parole. We do not want, however, to create dependence. Our ultimate aim is to see these persons accept their own responsibilities.

There are three main aspects in the supervision of parolees which, it is believed, will influence the successful outcome. They are:

1. Service and Assistance
2. Treatment and Support
3. Control and Surveillance

Service and Assistance

The aspect of service and assistance is the one where the material needs of the parolees are evaluated and adequate action taken. Very often they have problems and difficulty in finding employment because of their criminal record. They will be refused employment because they cannot obtain security bonding or employers do not want to hire persons with criminal records. They need assistance from different sources. The supervisor gives practical help in these instances and in so doing he will be able to establish a good relationship. Whenever this has been accomplished, the chances of a successful outcome of the case become greater.

Treatment and Support

This is the most important aspect of supervision whereby professional techniques are utilized, and an analysis of