

The security staffs at most institutions, I am told, are unhappy with the state of affairs. Perhaps it is now time for some of the senior security officers to be consulted before some of our so-called rehabilitation programs are instituted. Colonel Stone, a former officer in the service, stated the situation very well in an article which appeared in the *Ottawa Citizen* on Saturday:

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The hostile attitude of inmates of maximum-security institutions does not create an environment in which rehabilitative programs flourish. Security, with the necessary discipline, must be given priority in these institutions.

Rehabilitation can profitably be stressed in the medium and minimum-security institutions as inmates transferred there should have demonstrated a reasonable attitude to the authorities charged with their custody. Inmates should not be kept in maximum-security institutions when they have demonstrated that they are ready to conform, but those inmates that require maximum security should be subjected to it notwithstanding the fact that there may be a speck of gold in their hearts if only someone could find it.

The need for modern facilities to separate inmates requiring maximum security, medium security, or minimum security is paramount if rehabilitation is to achieve a measure of success. It is very misleading for the solicitor general to blame the lack of modern separated facilities, particularly in British Columbia, on the difficulty of acquiring land for the purpose. I should like to remind you, Madam Speaker, that in 1966-67 the department of corrections acquired a site at Mission, British Columbia, with the co-operation of that community. The underground services were installed for maximum and medium security institutions. The project was stopped by a former solicitor general. One might ask, for what reason.

We will have other incidents involving hostages so long as we have sociologists and parole officers calling the shots in institutions involving inmates who require maximum security conditions. For the sake of progress in our rehabilitation programs in classifications where rehabilitation has a chance, let us return to basic priorities of first, security, second rehabilitation, and third cost of services rendered.

Mr. Herb Breau (Parliamentary Secretary to Secretary of State for External Affairs): Madam Speaker, the hon.

Adjournment Debate

member inquired on Friday last if the cabinet had looked into the reasons for the high rate of turnover in our security staff in our penitentiary system, and asked what were the conditions which could be reported to the House.

The penitentiary service has had this issue under periodic review for a number of years, especially in the province of British Columbia where the percentage of turnover of security staff has been relatively high in comparison to the other regions of Canada. At this time I wish to give some statistics supporting this statement. I shall also enumerate the reasons. The rates of turnover of security staff in the penitentiary regions vary as follows: in the Atlantic region, 1 per cent; in the Quebec region, 13 per cent; in the Ontario region, 10 per cent; in the prairie region, 8 per cent; in the Pacific region, 40 per cent.

The reasons for separations from the service, separations which are causing the turnover, are numerous and varied. They include death, retirement, ill health, rejection while on probation, dismissal for cause, personal reasons unspecified, acceptance in some more remunerative employment, permutations and/or promotions from security staff to other areas of employment within the service or with other federal or provincial government agencies as well as municipal agencies, and relocation of families to distant area, or a change in work environment.

The rather high percentage of turnover of security staff within the province of British Columbia is due to the relatively favourable economic conditions prevailing in the associated areas of employment in the lower mainland part of this province. It is in fact less difficult to recruit security staff and to retain such staff in the service in the Atlantic provinces where the rate of unemployment is higher than in the other provinces. In addition, the salary scales paid to persons employed in comparable conditions by private or government agencies in the lower mainland of British Columbia is a major factor affecting the retention of the security staff.

The Acting Speaker (Mrs. Morin): The motion to adjourn the House is now deemed to have been adopted. Accordingly, this House stands adjourned until tomorrow at 2 p.m.

Motion agreed to and the House adjourned at 10.27 p.m.