

**Mr. Street:** Oh, certainly, sir; it is very desirable. I do not know if that is within the constitutional terms of reference because it is a provincial matter, but I would be delighted if you could do it.

**The Deputy Chairman:** Honourable senators, I wonder if we could follow this procedure? Would you make notes of the areas that you want to question the witnesses on? Because in this particular area I want Senator Hastings to lead the questioning so as to give us, first of all, a complete picture of what happens to the man from the time he is placed in custody until he is released on parole, and from then until total and final release. This is what the witness we have this morning is here for. I know that as a result of that there will be questions. So could you make notes, in order to get a sequence that everybody can follow? Then we can come back to any questions you have, and you can ask for any detail you wish.

**Senator Hastings:** Now we have the man arriving for a three-year term, and his first date is his parole eligibility date, which is one year hence. Then the other date would be his release date, three years hence less nine months statutory remission and his earned remission of three days per month. Now he proceeds through the first year towards his parole eligibility date. What reports do you receive from the Penitentiary Service during that period?

**Mr. Carabine:** Immediately upon admission the inmate is interviewed generally by a classification officer and in addition psychological tests and IQ tests are carried out. The report we get from the institution, since August, 1970, forms part of what we call a cumulative summary. This is a four-part document with four different time sequences. At any rate, the classification officer's report is done, and it is essentially a social history. If there is no pre-sentence report, it is in large measure what the inmate tells the officer about his family, his background, his criminal career and his work experience. In general, it is a social history. This is made available to us generally in the first 30 days of the individual's sentence.

In some institutions there are follow-up reports and in others there are not depending on the staffing and a number of other factors. The individual can be seen at any time in the institution by the classification officer or by the psychologist, and so on, during his sentence, and notes are taken of this sort of thing; but we do as a matter of routine receive additional reports along the way.

The inmate then applies five months in advance of his eligibility date. This again calls for action on the part of the classification staff who again interview the inmate.

**Senator Hastings:** This is the classification staff of the penitentiary?

**Mr. Carabine:** Yes, of the penitentiary. They will again interview the inmate. In addition to his comments and his reports about what the man intends to do, the classification officer's report will include the sort of things he has done in the institution, what he has learned, if his attitude has changed, if he has taken a trade, if he has been out on passes; and it will include comments from senior officials who know the individual, the padres, for instance, the immediate work supervisor, the officer in a particular cell

block, if he is there, and so on. This attempts to give us a picture of the inmate as he progresses in the institution.

**Senator Hastings:** When he made that application, it triggered action by two elements: it triggered the classification staff; and it triggered your responsibility, did it not?

**Mr. Carabine:** Yes, immediately following or closely following on receiving reports from the institution.

**Senator Hastings:** His application form?

**Mr. Carabine:** Well, the application is simply acknowledged.

**Senator Hastings:** He makes application to his classification officer, who prepares a report as you have indicated?

**Mr. Carabine:** Yes.

**Senator Hastings:** And then it comes to you?

**Mr. Carabine:** No, we get a copy of it at the same time. This, as I say, triggers action on the part of the penitentiary classification office. Shortly thereafter this will trigger an interview by a parole service officer in the institutional area. This report will concentrate on the inmate's post-release plans, and the purpose of the interview by the Parole Board's representative is to give the Board the perspective or the picture from our point of view.

This is then followed by what we term a community assessment. The community assessment focuses mainly on the immediate family and close relatives. In some situations, of course, there is very little, really, because the inmate may not have any close relatives; he may be going to a halfway house or he may have plans to go to commercial accommodation. In any event, the normal situation is that the family, the wife or mother or father, as the situation may be, are interviewed. If the inmate so wishes, former employers could be interviewed. A great many factors are checked out, including what the attitude of the family is towards the individual. Sometimes it is very friendly and warm, but other times it is rather cool towards his return, and so on. In this situation our officers attempt to judge just how the community will react to his return, what are the supporting factors and what are the negative factors. Then once it is completed, it is sent back. If it is a different office that has done this community assessment—in Kingston, for example, it is most likely Toronto as the area where the majority return—that is returned to the parole service officer who did the interview. Meanwhile, of course, all this information is coming to headquarters and is available to the Board for study prior to their going out for a panel hearing.

**Senator Hastings:** I just want to clarify one point. You mentioned five months, but I think you should point out that it is nine months for murder. A man has made application five months prior in normal circumstances, and nine months prior where it is a case of murder.

**Mr. Carabine:** In life sentences, yes.

**Senator Hastings:** We have the opening file, we have the classification reports from the Penitentiary Service along with psychiatric and psychological reports. We now have