

committees. So we have gone away from the strict security aspect of the penitentiary.

The Chairman: In other words, you do not think of your prison staff as guards. That is an obsolete term?

Mr. Faguy: That is right. We do not call them guards, although let us admit that some of them are just that. Those people in the tower, for instance, are guards, to all intents and purposes; that is all they do. The majority are what we call correctional officers, and we want them to behave as such, as correctional officers and not as security guards. Over and above that, we have now created a new classification, called the living unit officers. These officers are responsible for a new concept which is being tested now in six institutions. People are being trained for it. They are going to be participating day in and day out in these activities, such as work activities, recreation activities, group discussions, group therapy and individual counselling. The correctional officers themselves, known as living unit officers, will be directly and personally involved in what I would call the "treatment" of the inmates, by participating in the counselling, and in the program, under the supervision of a professional person, the classification officer.

The Chairman: Something in the same way as a nurse's aid operates in a hospital?

Mr. Faguy: Yes, in a sense. It is someone who is not a professional, but who has been given some basic training, who has some basic knowledge and because of his experience, attitude and aptitude is able to deal with that situation. I think the majority of our staff can get involved and do this very well.

Senator Fergusson: Well, Mr. Faguy, I think that this is an excellent idea. Is that policy in effect in the Prison for Women?

Mr. Faguy: Yes. We have recognized the Prison for Women as a living unit institution. Only three or four weeks ago we recognized it. We are now authorizing them to obtain more staff in order to implement this program in the Prison for Women.

Let me say, however, in so far as the Prison for Women is concerned, that we have now just over 100 inmates. I am hoping to reduce that population by releasing inmates on parole and by granting temporary absences, but, more to the point, we are now making arrangements—in fact, we have already done so in Kingston—for the Elizabeth Fry Society to take some of the female inmates into a house in town, in the community, where they will be allowed to go to work or go out for educational purposes and so on. But they will be under the supervision of the Elizabeth Fry Society outside the walls of the prison. We hope to do the same in Toronto, Vancouver and all across Canada. Therefore, hopefully, our population within the Prison for Women will be reduced quite drastically.

Senator Hastings: With respect to staff, how many employees of native or Métis ancestry do you have employed in the Prairies?

Mr. Faguy: In the Prairies I think we have now some 13 correctional officers or guidance officers in our employ. There was a

special program to recruit staff of the Indian community, and out of 33 trainees 13 were assigned to the National Parole Service as assistant parole officers. Twenty were assigned in the Penitentiary Service, either as custodial officers or as guidance officers. Of these 20 we still have 11 who are employed, who have passed through all the courses and training and are now employed by the penitentiary services.

Senator Hastings: There are no classification officers?

Mr. Faguy: Not yet.

Senator Hastings: Are there any former inmates?

Mr. Braithwaite: There are some who are former inmates, but not former inmates of a federal penitentiary. Let us say that some of these are ex-offenders.

The Chairman: You mean that they have been in provincial institutions but not in federal institutions.

Mr. Braithwaite: Yes.

Senator Hastings: Do you have any special program at the moment for the increased recruitment of these people?

Mr. Faguy: Yes. In fact, the problem of the natives in our institution is one we are concerned with, and over the past few months we have been taking some specific steps in order to improve the relationship with the Indian population, and also to improve the knowledge that is needed to deal with these people. We have, for instance, at Drumheller what we would call a liaison officer. We have Mr. Chester Cunningham, who is a member of the native counselling service of Alberta, established in Drumheller to serve the Indian and Métis inmates and to counsel and help them, and also to help us and advise us as to what we should do with these people.

We have just signed a contract with Mr. Earl Allard, an Indian ex-inmate who used to be with the X-Kalay Foundation. He is well known to us and well known to institutional people. He will serve also as a consultant on institutional programs. We also have made contact with the B.C. Council of Indian Chiefs and the legal programs officer, and we have arranged a meeting for the end of this month so as to identify the needs of these people and what types of programs we should have for them.

So we have taken very specific steps in order to know the problems we have and how we should tackle them.

Senator Hastings: One specific step I might suggest is for you to utilize more effectively your Native Brotherhood which you have within the institutions. They are quite capable individuals and have ideas with respect to their own difficulties. I think if we communicated a little more and listened to them, they would probably have a great deal to contribute to their own success.

Mr. Faguy: As you know, we do use the Native Brotherhood within the penitentiaries. They exist within the penitentiaries and we have made use of them. But we feel also that we must get advice