

tie-up nationally. As I understand it, our immigration officers overseas are fed weekly information about job opportunities which exist across Canada. They know the requirements of unions both locally and nationally. To someone applying in Croatia or elsewhere for entry into Canada, an immigration officer can suggest that there might be a job available in, say, Moose Jaw. It seems to me that the whole weight of trying to obtain community resources is left to a few people. We have this resource of government, with offices all across the country. I am wondering how we can tie that in more closely with your service. Do you think it might be beneficial?

Mr. Street: Yes, it is indeed beneficial. I do not believe it happens very often, if ever, that a man is refused parole simply because he does not have a place to go to, or a job to go to. Sixty-eight per cent of our parolees are working and earning wages. The Manpower offices provide special placement officers whose concern it is, to help inmates or parolees find jobs. As I say, I do not believe many prospective parolees are turned down simply because they do not have a job to go to. As you yourself said, senator, there is usually work of some kind in some part of the country for a person who is willing to do it.

Senator Thompson: Let us take the Indian, for example. In answer to a question asked of you earlier, Mr. Street, I believe you explained to us that obtaining jobs for Indians is a particularly difficult situation. Now, I do not wish to single out any particular group, but we are quite successful in adopting other peoples in our country. My question, Mr. Street, is this: Are there particular efforts to look at areas across Canada to determine whether or not there are opportunities that a parolee or ex-inmate could go to? As it is now, there seems to be a pattern in that you always seem to want an individual to go back to his own community.

Mr. Street: I do not think it is fair to say we do that as such, but the prospective parolee is put in touch with a Manpower representative and can easily find out the job opportunities in various parts of the country. Most of them seem to want to go back to whence they came. The man is encouraged in every way to get a job on his own because then he will be happier, but he is given all the help we can possibly give him, through Manpower and through our own offices, to obtain a job.

I am not sure if that answers your question, senator.

Senator Thompson: Well, I am not too clear on this. Assuming I was an inmate of one of the penitentiaries, and I was soon to be released but had no job to go to, do I understand someone would come and interview me to determine my educational background, if any—and I would not have very much to offer—and I would then be put in touch with a Manpower representative? Now, do I write a letter, and, if so, where does it go to?

You see, I am thinking of the immigrant who is not aware of job opportunities, but the counsellor tells him that there are more opportunities in Ontario than in some other place and suggests that this might be the best place to go. The convict, I would think, has to figure out the best place to apply. For example, he has to think of whether he would not stand a better chance of being released if he said he was going home to live with his mother, or to get married, or something of that nature, whereas the real

opportunities for him could be in the Northwest Territories

By simply writing to the local Manpower office I think his application would be simply filed without the type of interview which would disclose his background and, as well, make him aware of the opportunities across Canada. For example, an immigration officer sits down with a newly arrived person and outlines for him the various opportunities across Canada and, because he learns the background of the individual, he can direct him to certain areas in Canada where he might best succeed.

The Chairman: Why not simply ask Mr. Street how the prisoner finds a job?

Senator Thompson: Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Street: The prisoner is encouraged to find a job on his own, as he will then be much happier. He is, however, put in touch with a Manpower special placement officer who comes to the prison and obtains the type of information you were speaking about and, with this information on hand, tries to place the prisoner in a satisfactory job.

Did you want to add something, Mr. Stevenson?

Mr. Stevenson: I was going to say that a Manpower representative generally comes to penitentiaries and, I think, to jails on a regular basis to interview those who are either applying for parole or nearing the end of their sentence.

Senator Thompson: You say a Manpower representative usually comes—

Mr. Stevenson: I know a representative comes to the penitentiaries on a monthly basis in order to conduct interviews with those who request them. The prisoner's classification officer hopefully will have discussed employment and the whole post-release plan with the prisoner before this and will have suggested that he be put on the interview list for Manpower. I think the majority of the inmates obtain employment through relatives or friends, and they usually return to where they are most comfortable. Very few ex-inmates want to go to an entirely new area. I remember one fellow who wanted to go to Whitehorse in the Yukon Territory. He had been a miner in Sudbury and had a good employment record, so we agreed to reserve our decision on his request and seek a report from the Whitehorse probation department for his move. This individual's file was then sent to the probation department in Whitehorse who checked things out and finally agreed that he could go there. It was explained to this individual that Whitehorse in the winter was a difficult place to find work and fellows who ended up without a job, if it was 40 degrees below zero or colder, were given a bus ticket, but if it was warmer than 40 degrees below zero they walked out of town.

The Chairman: They were led to the highway, so to speak?

Mr. Stevenson: Yes, and this individual finally had to leave and go to Vancouver.

Senator Thompson: Is there any training given to the Manpower officer who attends at the penitentiaries? It would seem to me that there could be a requirement of