

Mr. Faguy: It is exactly because there are no women there that there is an available building. We closed the female unit at Matsqui, and this is the building now available for a psychiatric centre. The female unit was closed because there were not enough females in that region to warrant the operation of a prison for women, so they were transferred to Kingston. I believe there were 13 of them transferred.

Senator Fergusson: There were ten inmates when I visited the institution. Are those inmates now receiving treatment for drug addiction at Kingston?

Mr. Faguy: Not the specialized treatment that they were receiving in the Matsqui institution, but studies are beginning to indicate—and this has to be researched further—that the best way to treat drug addicts is to keep them functioning in the normal environment and not to segregate them.

Senator Buckwold: In Saskatoon I was very much involved in the sale of some land by the city to the Penitentiary Service, a lovely site close to the university hospital. This land was purchased some four or five years ago as the site of a psychiatric treatment centre, but since its purchase nothing has happened. Do you have any comment on how that project is coming along?

Mr. Faguy: As I stated earlier, senator, we are trying to make these things happen. We hope this centre will be built. This particular project is part of a total study being carried on by the advisory council on psychiatry. They are aware that we have the site and it is ideally located, and we are now awaiting the report of that advisory council.

Senator Buckwold: It has been four or five years since that site was purchased, and you are now awaiting a report as to whether you should go ahead with it?

Mr. Faguy: Well, senator, I became commissioner just over a year ago, and six months ago I became aware of the need for more psychiatric service, and we have taken action in that regard.

Senator Buckwold: I am only suggesting that you have an ideally located site for such a centre.

Mr. Faguy: Yes, that is right.

Senator Buckwold: Perhaps you might get the advisory council moving in that regard.

Mr. Faguy: They are well aware of this, senator, and I know they have already considered it. I am quite sure it will be part of their final report to be submitted in April.

Senator Buckwold: I see. Now, another question is with respect to the division of the appeal institutions as between the federal and the provincial governments. As I understand it, if an individual is sentenced to more than two years he goes to a federal institution, and if it is less than two years he goes to a provincial institution.

Could I have your assessment of that? Do you feel we should have one prison system as opposed to federal and provincial systems?

Mr. Faguy: Mr. Chairman, may I invoke the Fifth Amendment?!

I might say, senator, this is a matter of policy which I think would have to be reviewed by the Solicitor General, in consultation with the provinces.

Senator Buckwold: You are not prepared to comment as to whether we should have one integrated prison system, or . . .

The Chairman: May I just intervene at this point, senator, and perhaps protect Mr. Faguy. You are asking a federal public servant to make a statement concerning an opinion as to how the provinces discharge their responsibilities. I doubt if even the minister would want to make a public statement in that respect. This committee might draw conclusions at a later date and possibly carry out some investigation in a quiet way, but I think it would be embarrassing for Mr. Faguy to be asked that question and to be allowed to answer it. The question will be ruled out of order.

Mr. Faguy: May I just state that in the Province of New Brunswick there is a contractual arrangement with the province whereby some of the provincial inmates are in our institution.

Senator Buckwold: My personal opinion in that respect is that it is rather stupid to have this arbitrary cutoff point of two years as a result of which a man goes to penitentiary.

Mr. Faguy: All I could venture to say is that it needs to be reviewed.

Senator Buckwold: My other question is with respect to the parole system and our whole attitude to crime. I do not think there is any doubt that there is a backlash against what we call the enlightened treatment of criminals. In that regard, there was an article in the *Winnipeg Tribune* yesterday by Mr. Kennedy, a columnist with that paper, and apparently a supporter of law and order, in which he outlined the statistics. I meant to bring that article with me, but, unfortunately, I left it in my hotel room. Those statistics indicate that over the last five or six years, I forget just which, there has been a tremendous increase in crime and when I say "tremendous" that is an understatement. I do not want to quote the figures from memory, but those figures indicated murder had gone up 50 per cent, and something else had gone up 80 per cent, and so forth; and, of course, those figures were related to the manner in which we are now dealing with criminals.

My question, Mr. Faguy, is: How do we answer these things? We are now moving along the line that most of us wish to see; we want to rehabilitate criminals. I suppose the courts in many cases are more lenient, and this is the type of thing that many of us support. However, on the other hand, there is this tremendous increase in crime, especially violent crime. Is this increase as a result of what we are doing, or is it just the system, or a combination of both? Do you have any comment on that?