

## Questions

circulated across the nation I do not know, except that I am given to understand it was a mistake that it was worded in the way it was and entirely misrepresented the remarks I had made in my original letter.

I want to thank you, Mr. Speaker, for allowing me this point of privilege to clarify a situation which has given a completely false interpretation of my original remarks.

## PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

Ninth report of standing committee on public accounts—Mr. Baldwin.

## QUESTIONS

(Questions answered orally are indicated by an asterisk.)

## CONFERENCE OF JUDGES RESPECTING SENTENCING

Question No. 2,155—Mr. Orlikow:

Is the government considering convening a meeting of judges to discuss the problems of disparate sentencing of people found guilty by the courts; of too severe sentencing, particularly of first offenders; and of the desirability of the more frequent use of probation, along the lines proposed by the Minister of Justice in his speech to the probation officers in Niagara Falls recently?

**Mr. D. S. Macdonald (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Justice):** The government is studying the matters referred to in the question and they are to be included in the terms of reference of the committee on corrections to which the Minister of Justice referred on November 23, 1964 (*Hansard* for November 23, 1964, page 10376) but the government is not considering the convening of a meeting of judges at the present time.

## PRISONERS SERVING LIFE SENTENCES

Question No. 2,629—Mr. Matheson:

1. How many persons serving life imprisonment were in each of our federal institutions as of January 1, 1965?

2. What special problems, if any, do life term prisoners present to penitentiary authorities?

3. What is the average total annual cost of providing custodial supervision and care for one such prisoner?

4. What is the estimated annual gross value of the work done in penitentiary by such a prisoner?

**Mr. D. S. Macdonald (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Justice):** 1. As of January 1, 1965, there were 252 persons serving life imprisonment in federal institutions and distributed as follows:

[Mr. Thompson.]

Dorchester penitentiary	22
St. Vincent de Paul penitentiary	49
Federal training centre	1
Leclerc institution	6
Kingston penitentiary	73
Collin's Bay penitentiary	4
Prison for women	1
Joyceville institution	6
Manitoba penitentiary	30
Saskatchewan penitentiary	34
British Columbia penitentiary	26
	—
	252

Of these persons 29 are hospitalized in provincial mental hospitals.

2. Life term prisoners as a group present no special problems to penitentiary authorities.

3. In the fiscal year 1963-64, the average total cost of providing custodial supervision and care for one prisoner was \$2,722.10.

4. The total estimated annual gross value of the work done in penitentiary by a prisoner is \$810.

## ONTARIO PENITENTIARY INMATES IN MEDIUM AND MINIMUM SECURITY

Question No. 2,637—Mr. Matheson:

In the Ontario region what percentage of penitentiary inmates were living in medium and minimum security facilities (a) during 1960, and (b) during 1964?

**Mr. D. S. Macdonald (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Justice):** (a) During 1960, in the Ontario region, 15 per cent of penitentiary inmates were living in medium security facilities and no minimum security facilities were available.

(b) During 1964, in the Ontario region, 40 per cent of penitentiary inmates were living in medium security facilities and 13 per cent were living in minimum security facilities.

## MORTALITY RATES

Question No. 2,638—Mr. Matheson:

During the last five years, what has been the mortality rate from natural causes (a) in penitentiary, and (b) in the community at large?

**Mr. D. S. Macdonald (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Justice):** (a) During the last five years the mortality rate from natural causes in penitentiaries is as follows: