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Government moves to tighten up parole system

A torrent of criticism caused by offences committed by prisoners on parole and temporary leave of absence has persuaded the Government to take measures to prevent abuses of the release program and to provide more adequate means of investigating inmate grievances.

In a statement to the House of Commons on June 1, Solicitor General Warren Allmand outlined as follows the steps taken in this regard:

...Since 1961...inmates could be released to the community both under the authority of the National Parole Board or the Canadian Penitentiary Service. Because the criteria for selection of inmates by these two agencies have not necessarily been the same, there has been some difficulty. The differences in criteria arise not only because of the different statutory authorities under which they operate but also because of the considerations that apply in assessing an inmate for temporary absence differ from those applicable to parole. Inevitably this has led to confusion in the public mind. Moreover, there are certain legal complexities that bring into question the operation of a large portion of the temporary absence program. The most difficult problem concerns what are commonly called "back-to-back" temporary absences, a practice developed in recent years whereby inmates are released on successive leaves of absence over an extended period of time, generally for rehabilitative purposes. I have therefore made the following decisions:

1. In the future the Canadian Penitentiary Service will cease the practice of providing back-to-back temporary absences for inmates in federal penal institutions. This involves a change in the Canadian Penitentiary Service directives and does not require an amendment to the legislation. The Penitentiary Service will continue to operate a temporary absence program under Section 26 of the Penitentiary Act to provide three- and 15-day absences for medical, humanitarian and rehabilitation purposes, with or without an escort.

2. For those inmates who are now on successful temporary back-to-back absences or where in the future extended absences are considered necessary or desirable by penitentiary authorities, provision will be made for a greater use of day parole under the Parole Act. This will enable inmates to continue their education, accept employment, and generally pursue their rehabilitation outside the institutions.

Enlarged Parole Board

3. Legislation will be introduced at the earliest opportunity to amend the Parole Act to permit the appointment of ten additional *ad hoc* members of the Parole Board. These ten members will be assigned in teams of two to the five regions of Canada and will deal primarily with day parole and panel hearings in the institutions. This step will enable the National Parole Board to deal with a considerable backlog of cases that require detailed consideration, and simultaneously satisfy the new volume of decisions on day parole that will come before the members.

4. The appropriate regulations under the National Parole Act will be changed so that an inmate will be required to serve one-third of his sentence or seven years, whichever is the lesser, before he becomes eligible for parole. Previously inmates became eligible for parole after they had served one-third of their sentence of four years, whichever was the lesser. Concern has been expressed that the premature release of inmates on parole contributes to an unacceptably high rate of parole violations, and that

those who violated their conditions of parole previously are permitted to become again eligible for parole at too early a date. This change in the parole eligibility period will affect primarily offenders serving long terms, that is, of more than 12 years.

5. The National Parole Act regulation will be changed so that those who have forfeited their parole will have to serve one-half of any new term of imprisonment or seven years before being again considered for parole. This will prevent an offender who has forfeited his parole by committing an indictable offence from being reconsidered for parole before he has completed a large part of his total sentence. Under the present regulation an inmate who has forfeited his parole and has his parole revoked is eligible for parole consideration after serving one-third of his total term of imprisonment of four years, whichever period is completed first.

The two above-mentioned changes apply to inmates currently in our institutions. I am mindful of the fact that some inmates who had been making good progress toward their rehabilitation in the community might feel aggrieved by these changes. Any such case could be favourably considered by the National Parole Board where justified because of special circumstances resulting from these modifications.

6. Steps have been taken to increase the number of classification, visiting and correspondence officers within the Canadian Penitentiary Service, as well as those members of the staff who are concerned with the social development of inmates. More visiting and correspondence officers will provide additional opportunity for family and friends to meet and communicate with inmates within institutions. Additional classification officers will ensure that individual inmates receive appropriate diagnostic and counselling service as well as providing for closer screening of applications for temporary absence, day parole and full parole. Social development and activity officers are required to enrich institutional programs of leisure-time activities. The steps that have been taken to improve programs within the penitentiary system have included, as I mentioned, the use of temporary absences and day parole to gain access to rehabilitative re-

sources in the community for individual inmates.

Staff working conditions

7. Steps are being taken to provide additional staff facilities, such as conference rooms, libraries, lockers, lounge and shower facilities, to improve working conditions for employees in our penitentiaries.

Programs of inmate rehabilitation cannot be achieved without good relations between staff and inmates. A great deal of effort has been and will continue to be expended on establishing the best possible conditions for the reform of the inmate, but I fully realize that where staff, for one reason or another, are dissatisfied in terms of their working conditions, the prospects of useful staff-inmate relationships tend to diminish. While it is true that the penitentiary service is now unionized and a collective agreement exists, there are other areas not subject to negotiation where we could improve staff conditions.

Inmate grievances

8. To assure the impartial investigation of inmate complaints and grievances, I have received authority, under Part II, Section 6, of the Inquiries Act, to create the position of correctional investigator. Both the Archambault and the Swackhamer commissions recommend visiting committees to assist in the impartial consideration of inmate grievances. While I feel that this is a valuable suggestion, I am certain the creation of the correctional investigator's position will better accomplish these goals.

The appointee will assure that inmate grievances are dealt with at an early stage and on a basis that is satisfactory, generally speaking, to the inmate, the penitentiary staff, and to the Canadian public. The appointee will report directly to the Solicitor General. The correctional investigator's duties will be to investigate complaints of federal penitentiary inmates and to make recommendations concerning those complaints. The investigator will also be authorized to inquire on her own initiative but will be relieved of the necessity of making an investigation if she is satisfied that the complainant has not sought legal or administrative remedy. This

official will be required to make an annual report to the Solicitor General who will table it in the House of Commons, subject to the deletion of any material that might adversely affect the security of Canada or any penitentiary, and the civil liberties or privacy of individuals.

Female is first investigator

9. Miss Inger Hansen has been appointed Canada's first correctional investigator. Miss Hansen has broad experience in both the field of criminal law and corrections generally and I believe that her distinguished background will assure her success as correctional investigator.

These are recommendations that are calculated to deal with some federal correctional problems on a short-term basis in the field of penitentiary services, temporary absences and parole. For the long term, more profound changes may be necessary. I should remind the House that there is a report of the task force on the release of inmates under the chairmanship of Mr. Justice Hugessen to be made public shortly which requires detailed consideration because it raises a number of important issues that could only be dealt with by substantial changes in current legislation. Similarly, a committee of the other place is conducting inquiries into the entire question of the release of inmates, whether on parole or temporary absence. Finally, there is the Justice and Legal Affairs Committee of this House which just a few days ago has assumed the task of carrying out an inquiry into our penitentiary system, including parole and temporary absence. All of these reports will be considered in depth as part of an ever-expanding development of federal corrections in Canada....

Language most often spoken at home

According to preliminary population counts of the 1971 census, English is the language most often used at home for 67.0 per cent of Canadians, and French the language for 25.7 per cent. Italian, at 2.0 per cent and German at 1.0 per cent, rank next as the languages spoken most often in Canadian homes.

Closing of Atlantic ports to foreign fishermen under study

A special study is to be made into the possible effects of closing Canadian East Coast ports to foreign fishing fleets.

Dr. Ernest P. Weeks, Chairman of the Canadian Salfish Corporation, who has been asked by Fisheries Minister Jack Davis to carry out the study, will assess the economic consequences of port closures on Canadian merchants and on the Canadian fishing industry.

"Our own fishermen have been asking us to close our ports to foreigners, especially those who fish indiscriminately near our shores," Mr. Davis said. "Two-thirds of all the fish caught in the North Atlantic are taken by foreign fishermen. Their big fleets are heavily subsidized. They'll be even more costly if they can't get into our ports to buy supplies and make repairs. Closing them, or even the threat of closing them, may cause them to back off our Shelf."

Vessels from 15 countries fish regularly in the Northwest Atlantic. They frequently call at St. John's, Newfound-

land and Halifax, Nova Scotia. Occasionally they also call in at Sydney, N.S.

"Dr. Weeks is being asked to visualize," the Minister said, "what would happen if foreign fishing vessels no longer come into our ports. The supply of fuel, food, clothing, entertainment, etc., provides an income for some of our local merchants. But if, by keeping foreign vessels out, we increase our own Canadian catch, this additional income to Canadians could be of even greater benefit at home.

"We are concerned, of course, with the future of our fishermen in the outports. They do not benefit in any way from the visits of foreign fleets to our waters. Runs of fish coming inshore are depleted by foreign fishing operations on our Shelf.

"The small inshore fisherman has really been hurt by the big foreign trawler and I have a feeling that sound conservation practised by Canadians in our own coastal waters will more than offset any loss in revenues result-

ing from the disappearance of foreign fleets," Mr. Davis stated.

The port of Vancouver on Canada's West Coast was closed to fishing vessels of the Soviet Union in March 1970, following a dispute over fishing operations. The port was re-opened when the Soviet fishermen agreed to stay away from the Big Bank off Vancouver Island.

China and Canada settle Ming Sung Company claim

On June 4, the Canadian Ambassador to the People's Republic of China, Mr. Charles Small, signed in Peking, on behalf of Canada, an exchange of notes between the Government of Canada and the Government of the People's Republic of China providing for the settlement of the Ming Sung Claim.

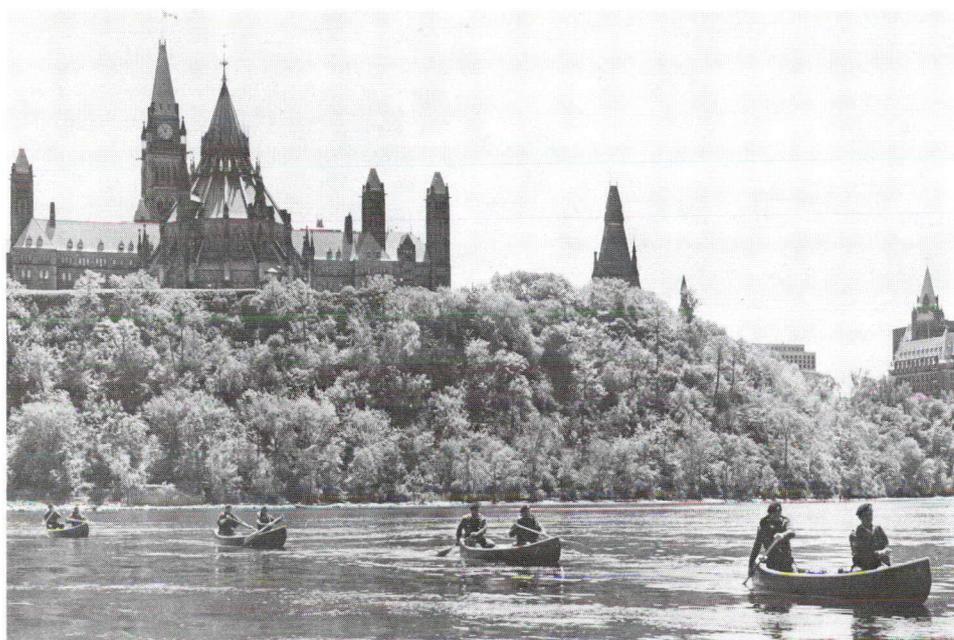
The Chinese Ming Sung Industrial Company obtained a loan in 1946 from three Canadian banks to finance the construction of nine ships by two Canadian companies. The loan was guaranteed by the Government of Canada. Construction of the vessels began in 1947 and they were delivered to the Chinese company by 1949. As of 1951, the Ming Sung Company, was unable to meet the payments pursuant to the terms of the guarantee, the Canadian Government paid to the Canadian banks a total of \$14,469,183.06 between 1951 and 1960.

In settling the claim, the Government of the People's Republic of China has agreed to repay to the Government of Canada, immediately, the full amount.

NATO scholarships

The National Research Council of Canada has awarded 13 North Atlantic Treaty Organization postdoctorate fellowships for 1973-74, with funds provided by the NATO Science Committee. These awards are designed to stimulate the exchange of young scientists between NATO member countries. They represent Canada's part in the NATO Science Fellowship Program.

Thirteen fellowships, with a value of \$8,600, will be held as follows: four in France; three in the United States; two in Britain and the Netherlands; and one each in Germany and Denmark.



Eight soldiers of the Second Battalion, Royal Canadian Regiment, are canoeing from Ottawa to Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, to arrive in time for that province's July 1 centennial celebrations, which will be attended by Queen Elizabeth and Prince Phillip.

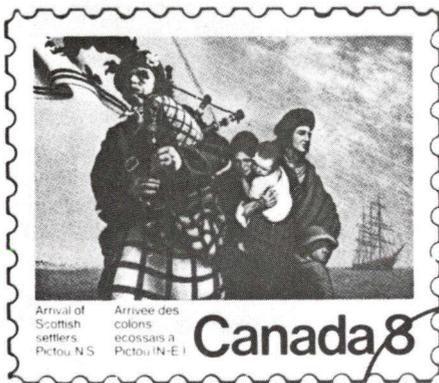
The men, stationed at Canadian Forces base, Gagetown, New Brunswick, are seen here on the Ottawa River on May 24 at the start of their 1,000-mile trip, with the Parliament Buildings in the background.

Canadian Forces photo

Scottish pioneers commemorated by postage stamp

The Canada Post Office will issue an 8-cent stamp on July 20 to commemorate the two-hundredth anniversary of the arrival of Scottish settlers at Pictou County, Nova Scotia.

"The arrival of nearly 200 Highland settlers at Pictou...was the beginning of a wave of Scottish immigration to Canada," said Postmaster General André Ouellet. "Appropriately, the stamp which commemorates this historic event also marks the beginning of a new series of stamps recognizing the contributions of immigrant peoples to the prosperous development and multicultural character of our nation."



A forbidding shoreline greeted the Scots on board the *Hector* the day she cast anchor off the shore of what is now Pictou County. The dense forest grew down to the water's edge as far as the eye could see. The unfamiliar customs and appearance of the Indians inhabiting the area so terrified the settlers that they remained on board for two days despite their desire to walk again on dry land. Finally, on September 17, 1773, dressed in full Scottish regalia with all the pageantry of their kilts and the pipes, they went ashore.

Their voyage provided the impetus for the tide of Scottish immigrants that flowed for more than 50 years, peopling the whole of northeastern Nova Scotia, large parts of Prince Edward Island and New Brunswick and sections of eastern Ontario. With little else to support them but the raw resources of their land, the immigrants became lumbermen, farmers and fishermen. Out of the success of these endeavours grew important industries and commerce that provided the settlers and their descendents with a prospering economy.

In the past 200 years, the anniversary of the *Hector's* arrival has been celebrated in Pictou. The date, which came to be known as Natal Day, has been the occasion for a public holiday observed by such special events as highland games, parades and harvest thanksgiving.

The year of the "Hector"

This year's celebrations will mark what has been designated "The Year of the *Hector*". Included in a province-wide festival running throughout the summer of 1973, are such regular annual events as the Pictou Lobster Carnival and the Festival of the Tartans, as well as special, commemorative events of distinctly Scottish themes. Coinciding with a celebration at Pictou, the date of issue for the Scottish settlers stamp will be marked with a formal launching ceremony there, attended by Mr. Ouellet and officials of the *Hector* Bicentennial Committee.

Food prices review board

Consumer and Corporate Affairs Minister Herb Gray recently announced that Mrs. Beryl A. Plumptre of Ottawa had been named Chairman of the recently-established Food Prices Review Board.

Well known throughout Canada for her energetic role in the country's economic and social life, Mrs. Plumptre will be joined in the five-member Board by Dr. Gordon L. Burton of Claresholm, Alberta, W. Grant Thompson of Halifax, Nova Scotia, Mrs. Evelyn A. Root of Vancouver, British Columbia and Louis-H. Lorrain of Baie D'Urfé, Quebec.

Mr. Gray announced the Government's decision to establish a Board to review food costs in April, following a recommendation of the Special House of Commons Committee on Trends in Food Prices. The FPRB will conduct two kinds of examination of food prices: (1) It will prepare a regular quarterly review of trends in food prices; and (2) it will make special inquiries into the causes of particular food price increases.

Mr. Gray emphasized that the Board would be an independent body with wide powers of inquiry. At its own dis-

cretion it will determine such food prices as warrant special investigation and will undertake on its own inquiries into these areas.

On completion of each inquiry the Board will make public a report on the results of its investigation, including any appropriate recommendations.

Members of the Board will be appointed as Commissioners under the Inquiries Act, who will have power to summon witnesses, to require them to give evidence and to produce documents considered necessary to the Board's investigations.

Gross national product

The Canadian economy continued to expand strongly in the first quarter of 1973. Preliminary estimates indicate a striking acceleration in consumer spending, after exceptional growth in the fourth quarter of 1972, a sharp pick-up in the rate of business inventory investment and continuing acceleration in corporation profits. The strength of the economy was also evident in large employment increases, resulting in a marked fall in the unemployment rate to 5.9 per cent in the first quarter of this year from 6.7 per cent in the fourth quarter. The fast pace of activity was accompanied by increased price pressure, particularly in prices of food and many industrial commodities.

The gross national product at market prices rose by \$4.8 billion, to reach a level of \$112.6 billion, seasonally adjusted at annual rates. This amounted to a 4.4 percent increase. The gain, one of the largest ever recorded, came on the heels of an exceptionally strong 3.6 percent increase in the revised fourth quarter of 1972. The acceleration was, however, entirely due to price increases; the price index rose twice as fast as it did in the previous quarter — 1.5 per cent, compared with 0.7 per cent. In volume terms, GNP showed the same increase of 2.9 per cent as in the revised previous quarter. (Revisions introduced in this report had the effect of raising the growth rate in 1972 to 5.8 per cent from 5.5 per cent.) In the quarterly data the largest revision made to 1972 was in the fourth quarter, which originally showed a 2.6 percent real rate of growth.

Canadian clothes selling abroad

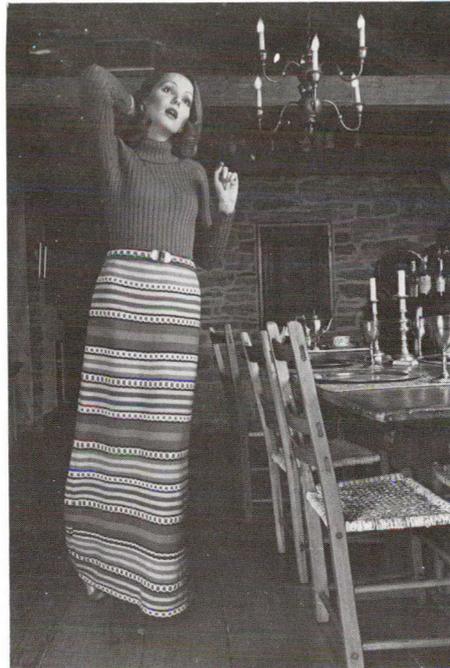
Canadian clothing manufacturers have returned from exhibitions in New York and Los Angeles with orders valued at \$3.5 million in New York and \$750,000 to \$1 million in Los Angeles, the Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce, announced recently.

Follow-up orders are expected to double the amounts originally written, making this promotion the most successful since the garment manufacturers first launched their drive into the U.S. market five years ago.

The Los Angeles show was the first apparel show held on the U.S. West Coast sponsored by the Canadian Government.

In New York, there were 29 ladies' apparel firms displaying their products. There were 20 ladies' wear and 12 men's wear firms showing in Los Angeles. Several companies were involved in both shows.

The garment export drive started in 1968, when Canadian manufacturers staged their first fashion fair in New York under the sponsorship of the Department. Seventeen companies presented the largest exhibition of rain-wear ever held in New York. It at-



A turtleneck sweater complements the gold and purple skirt of this Canadian hostess gown knitted from pure wool.

tracted 110 buyers representing 10,000 stores, including 12 of the largest retailers in the United States.

As a result of the five-year drive, Canada has increased apparel exports



A little warm for this time of year, this unplucked Canadian beaver coat is perfect for a cold winter day.

from \$26.97 million in 1967 to more than \$92 million in 1972. The Department expects that in 1973 exports of apparel will easily exceed \$100 million.

Status of women advisory council established

Dr. Kate Cooke, a sociologist with the federal Department of Regional Economic Expansion, was recently named by Labour Minister John Munro as chairman of the Advisory Council on the Status of Women, which, he stated, had been established "to bring before the Government and the public matters of interest and concern to women, and to advise the Government on actions that it deems necessary to improve the position of women in society".

Mr. Munro described as follows to the House of Commons on May 31, the Council's terms of reference, and the method of appointing its members."

...The terms of reference for the Council are as follows: to advise the Minister responsible in respect of such matters relating to the status of women as the Minister may refer to the Council for its consideration, or the Council considers appropriate.

These terms of reference are purposefully very broad in order that the Council will have freedom to take whatever action it considers necessary. To enable the Council to carry out its mandate effectively, provision has been made for a full-time chairman plus two vice-

chairmen working on a full-time basis who will be supported by a staff and office. The Council will meet as often as it feels necessary, and its first meeting will probably be early in July.

The Council will also have authority to publish its reports, recommendations and statements. In this way the Council will be in a position to keep before the public, as well as the Government, the whole question of the status of women.

In establishing the Council in this manner, I am aware that it does not

follow the exact recommendation of the Royal Commission on the Status of Women in that it will not report directly to Parliament. However, the main objective in having a body that reports to Parliament is to enable that body to make its advice public so that parliamentarians can look at the advice and question the Government concerning that advice. By giving this Advisory Council authority to publish its recommendations and reports, this objective has been met.

Fully representative body

In considering whom to appoint to this Council, I felt strongly that it must be as representative as possible of all the women of Canada. For this reason, I wrote to women's organizations across the country and publicly requested their assistance in suggesting people who could contribute to this Council. More than 200 letters have come back, all with excellent suggestions. The list of names that I am now

tabling is made up of the best people available, 28 people from across Canada of varying backgrounds and experiences, all of whom are vitally interested and concerned about the status of women in our country.

I am appointing as chairman Dr. Kate Cooke, who has been chosen because of her excellent understanding of the problems of women in all walks of life, because of her ability to work with and communicate with people of varying backgrounds and concerns, and because of her "in-depth" knowledge of the situation of women in Canada at the present time. Dr. Cooke has a Ph.D. in sociology and is presently with the Department of Regional Economic Expansion. She will be taking leave of absence from the Government to fill this position. The two vice-chairmen will be appointed after the Council has met.

Amendments to Labour Code

I would like to take this opportunity to inform the House that as well as setting up this Advisory Council on the Status of Women, the Government is taking other actions to improve the position of women in Canada. I will be introducing, in the very near future, a bill to amend the Canada Labour Code (Fair Employment Practices). The purpose of this bill will be to amend the act so that discrimination on the grounds of sex, age and marital status will be added to other prohibited grounds of discrimination by employers and unions coming under federal jurisdiction. Honorable Members may recall that a bill to this effect was introduced in the last Parliament; however, there was insufficient time for debate and it died on the order paper. The bill that will be introduced in the near future will contain a number of improvements, specifically in regard to pension and insurance schemes....

Fine wine from fair province

Quebec's first major wine-making facility — a \$3-million investment by Vins Calona Inc. — was recently inaugurated at the St. Hyacinthe Industrial Park. Tapping the first keg, Mr. Gaétan C. Morissette, chairman of the board of Standards Brands Limited, opened production of 13 wines: two table

wines, four dessert wines, four all-occasion wines and three sparkling wines.

The plant has a processing and storage capacity of 1,000,000 gallons (4,545,900 litres), roughly one quarter that of the original Calona Wines Limited plant in Kelowna, British Columbia, founded in 1931 by the Capozzi family and acquired by Standard Brands in 1971. Present equipment makes it possible to bottle half a million gallons (2,272,950 litres) a year.

Vins Calona hopes to market all the brands and sizes produced in Kelowna — at present, 41 wines in bottles ranging from 13 ounces (.3694 litre) to 160 ounces (4.55 litres).

Although wine-making is a highly competitive industry, Vins Calona decided to establish itself in Quebec because of the popularity of wine in this province, and in St. Hyacinthe in particular because of the stability of the region as well as the ready availability of the raw materials — apples, cherries, raspberries, blueberries, sugar.

Sales and potential

Some 5,840,000 gallons (26,543,056 litres) of wine, worth \$59,635,000 were sold by Quebec Liquor Corporation outlets in 1971-72 compared to 4,739,000 gallons (21,543,020 litres), worth \$46,841,000 in 1970-1971. Forecasts call for an increase of 15.2 per cent in wine sales in 1972-73.

Total wine sales in Canada were approximately 17,000,000 gallons (77,280,300 litres) in 1971-1972, of which 13,000,000 gallons (59,096,700 litres) were domestically produced.

The future potential of the market is suggested by these comparative figures: annual wine consumption in Canada is two-thirds of a gallon (3.03 litres) per inhabitant, while it is 20 gallons (90.0 litres) *per capita* in Europe as a whole and 33 gallons (150 litres) *per inhabitant* in France.

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