

is required to report once each month, so long as his Ticket-of-Leave period is in force, to the Chief Police Officer or Sheriff of the place in which he resides, unless this condition has been remitted by the Order of the Governor General.

A Ticket-of-Leave subject must produce his licence if called upon to do so by a magistrate or police officer; he is required to abstain from any violation of the law; shall not habitually associate with notoriously bad characters such as reputed thieves and prostitutes; he shall not lead an idle and dissolute life without visible means of obtaining an honest livelihood and is required to carry out any additional condition that has for reason been attached to his licence.

The Ticket-of-Leave Branch receives very efficient co-operation from the police forces throughout the country. Through their help, record is kept of each Ticket-of-Leave subject at large in Canada and monthly reports are forwarded to Headquarters. Most police forces treat Ticket-of-Leave information as strictly confidential; exercise care in protecting those concerned from embarrassment; give sympathetic consideration to the problems of these unfortunates and are ever ready to give assistance and helpful advice to anyone who is honestly endeavouring to rehabilitate himself.

He who fails to carry out the minor provisions of his release is at first admonished and given another chance. If, however, no heed is taken of rebuke, the Governor General may order the licence of the subject so transgressing to be revoked. In this case the culprit will be, by warrant, recommitted to prison to serve the portion of his sentence that was unsatisfied at the time he was granted Ticket-of-Leave.

If any holder of a licence under the Ticket-of-Leave Act is convicted of an indictable offence, his licence is forfeited. This is the only automatic feature of the Canadian Ticket-of-Leave system. In the case of forfeiture, the subject must first complete the sentence given on account of the indictable offence; he is then recommitted by warrant to prison to serve the portion of the former sentence that remained unsatisfied when he was granted Ticket-of-Leave.

The Ticket-of-Leave subject is not pampered. He is made to realize that he has been justly punished by imprisonment for offence committed and that judgment has been tempered with mercy by permitting him to serve part of his just sentence at large under the mild restraint of a Ticket-of-Leave licence. On the other hand, no unjust advantage may be taken of him. He has all the rights and liberties of any free Canadian citizen to engage in any honest enterprise or occupation and is fully protected by law from any impositions whatever.

The number of convicts released on Ticket-of-Leave each year from penitentiaries, gaols and reformatories varies between 700 and 1,000 persons. From the time the system was inaugurated in the year 1899 to the fiscal year ended Mar. 31, 1947, 35,043 offenders have been so released. During the 48 years Ticket-of-Leave has been in operation in Canada only 5.4 p.c. of the total number released have lapsed into crime that has necessitated return to prison.

Criticism is occasionally heard when publicity is given to some case of a Ticket-of-Leave subject who is again convicted of crime. Because of the strictly confidential nature of this work, nothing is ever heard of the more than 90 p.c.