

Subsection 1.—Penitentiaries*

The penitentiaries of Canada are administered by the Commissioner of Penitentiaries, responsible directly to the Minister of Justice. The system comprises the following permanent penitentiary institutions:—

- (1) Six primary institutions, which receive inmates sentenced by the courts to imprisonment for terms of two years up to life, are located at New Westminster, B.C., Prince Albert, Sask., Stony Mountain, Man., Kingston, Ont., St. Vincent de Paul, Que., and Dorchester, N.B. Persons sentenced to penitentiary terms in Newfoundland are cared for in the provincially operated institution at St. John's, Nfld., under financial arrangements authorized by Sect. 82 of the Penitentiary Act.
- (2) Five secondary institutions, to which inmates are transferred from the primary receiving institutions on the basis of their suitability for special forms of treatment, including vocational training. Two of these (the Federal Training Centre and the Leclerc Institution) are in close proximity to St. Vincent de Paul Penitentiary in the Montreal area. Collin's Bay Penitentiary and the Joyceville Institution are within a few miles of Kingston. The Prison for Women, to which female inmates are transferred upon committal to penitentiary in any part of Canada except Newfoundland, is adjacent to Kingston Penitentiary.

Three semi-permanent satellite institutions, at William Head, B.C., Valleyfield, Que., and Springhill, N.S., are operated as minimum-security extensions of the primary institutions in their respective areas. A Penitentiary Staff College is operated at Kingston, Ont., for the training of groups of Penitentiary Officers from all institutions through the media of regular and special courses and conferences.

During the year ended Mar. 31, 1960, the average daily population of the penitentiaries was 6,141 and the total net cash outlay for maintenance was \$12,786,603 or \$5.70 per inmate per day.

In 1958, the Minister of Justice appointed a Correctional Planning Committee for the purpose of considering ways in which a more effective and more fully integrated Canadian correctional system could be achieved. The basic principles contained in the report of the Planning Committee are now being implemented.

A new building has been constructed at the Prison for Women at Kingston to improve the facilities for segregation of inmates, to enable the introduction of training courses in homemaking and commercial subjects and to provide additional facilities for recreational and cultural purposes.

There has been a significant increase in the number of professional and technical staff members employed in the penitentiaries for the purpose of diagnostic study and improved classification and segregation of inmates. It is vitally necessary that conditions of over-crowding in major penitentiary institutions be relieved as quickly as possible and that those inmates who are most susceptible to reformative treatment be cared for under medium or minimum security conditions wherever it is practicable to do so. During the fiscal year 1961-62, it is intended to establish five Penitentiary Farm Camps adjacent to existing maximum-security institutions and to construct an equal number of Correctional Work Camps at points where useful projects may be undertaken on behalf of federal or provincial governments which would not otherwise be attempted within a period of at least ten years. A study has been made of the administrative methods used in the penitentiaries and at the Head Office and, as a result, a reorganization of the staffs has been effected. Intensive training courses are being conducted at the Penitentiary Staff College for the purpose of developing the executive capabilities of those officers who will be called upon to carry positions of senior responsibility in a rapidly developing service.

* Prepared under the direction of A. J. MacLeod, Commissioner of Penitentiaries.