

for him and exert discipline upon him. The therapeutic community concept is based on such ideas. The neurotic patient—like many prisoners and delinquents—has to learn new habits of feeling and behaving towards others. Hence the use of group methods, the sharing of responsibilities, and the need for permissiveness. Prisons and borstals are not psychiatric hospitals; prisoners are not, in the main, mentally ill nor are custodial staff trained therapists. But the lessons that have been learned in the treatment of the mentally ill and their rehabilitation in the outside community have relevance in the field of

corrections. (I have already made a plea along these lines in "Psychiatry and the Penal System" in the *Prison Service Journal* of July, 1962.)

Permissiveness is not mollicoddling and it is not indifference. It is not letting the prisoner off nor ignoring reasonable rules and regulations. It is, on the contrary, a characteristic of a culture where responsibility is shared, where deviant behaviour is allowed expression *in order* that it be examined and corrected, where social learning in fact is encouraged. And that, after all, is what correctional agencies are for.

## CONTRIBUTORS

ALEX BRYAN, B.A., is the National Organiser of the St. Leonard's Housing Association, Ltd.

BRENDAN O'FRIEL is an assistant governor at Lowdham Grange. He was educated at Stonyhurst College and Liverpool University where he took an honours degree in law. Before entering the Service in 1963, he spent several months visiting and working in approved schools.

SYLVIA COLE, Oxford graduate, teacher, was in Y.M.C.A. troops welfare work in Germany. After working with Miss Size at Askham, specializing in drama and singing, she was housemistress at St. John's H.O.A.S. for girls, Wakefield, and has worked there for the past six years, part-time. Previously she worked for six years as welfare officer in a large textile mill: she is in her tenth year as a visitor to young prisoners at Wakefield.

J. K. W. MORRICE is a Consultant Psychiatrist at Dingleton Hospital, Melrose, which is run as a Therapeutic Community. He is Visiting Psychiatrist at Saughton Prison, Edinburgh and is also an Honorary Lecturer in the Department of Psychological Medicine, Edinburgh University.

REV. LESLIE LLOYD REES is Chaplain General of the Prison Department of the Home Office.

F. L. JONES joined at Brixton in 1947, serving at Lowdham, Hewell Grange and Hollesley. Spent three years seconded as Education Officer to the Bahamas Prison Service and is now a Principal Officer at Stoke Heath. Mr. Jones is current golf champion of the Prison Service, holding the "Vidler Golf Trophy".

DR. J. C. G. EVANS, M.B., B.S., L.R.C.P. is Medical Officer at Liverpool Prison. He qualified in 1933, has served in the R.N. and been in general practice in London.