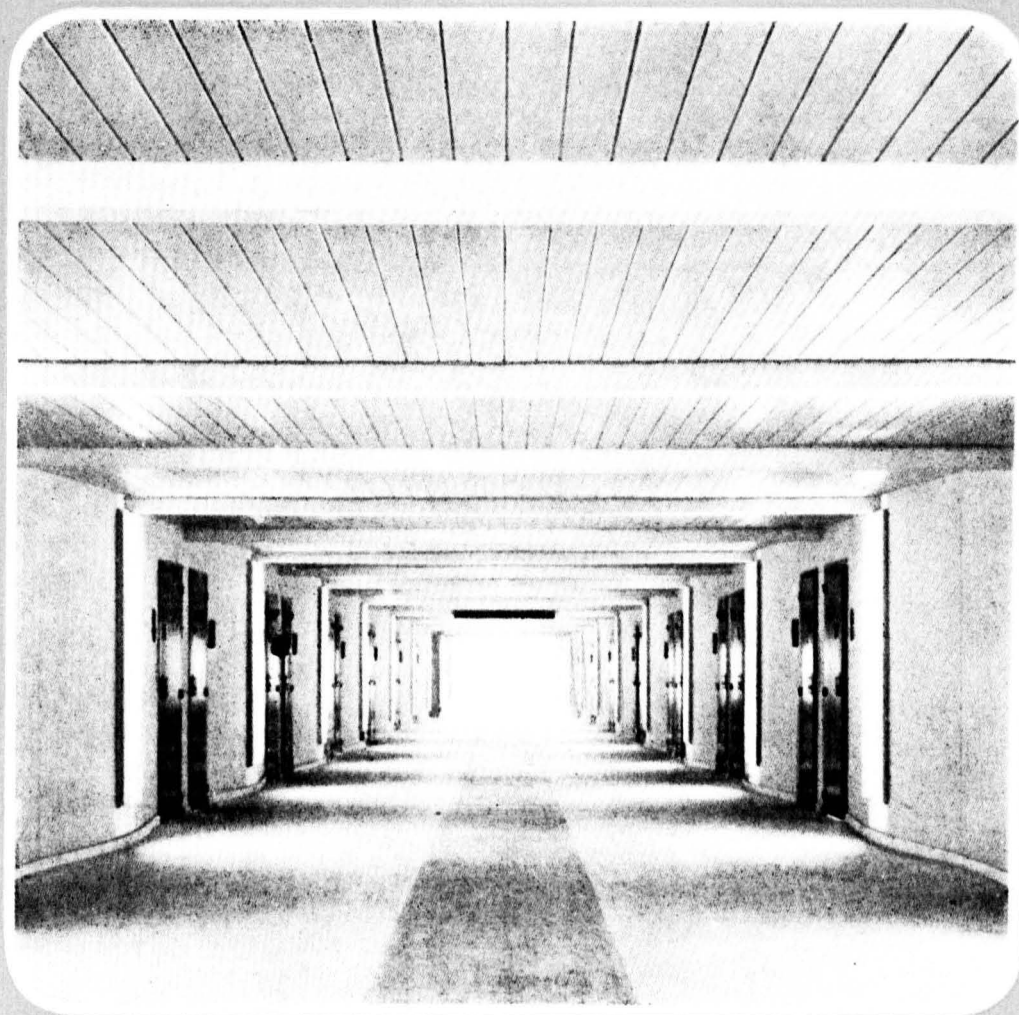


JULY 1971

5p QUARTERLY

No. 3
new series

P R I S O N S E R V I C E J O U R N A L



Editorial Board

DAVID ATKINSON
Governor, H.M. Borstal, Hewell Grange

GEORGE FERGUSON
Principal Officer, H.M. Prison, Pentonville

JOHN ST. Q. ROSS
Higher Executive Officer, South-west
Regional Office, Bristol

ROY S. TAYLOR
Principal Psychologist, H.M.P.S. Staff
College, Wakefield

MARK S. WINSTON
Deputy Regional Director (Operations),
North Regional Office, Manchester

PRISON SERVICE JOURNAL

Editorial Office: HOME OFFICE, PRISON DEPARTMENT
SCOTTISH LIFE HOUSE, BRIDGE STREET, MANCHESTER, M3 3DH

Quarterly 5p Annual subscription 15p (by post 25p)



Contents

A New Prison for Paris	2
Roy Taylor	
A Bit of Portland History	4
Extract from Weymouth as a Watering Place	
Long Lartin—The Development of a Concept	6
Ian Dunbar	
Behind the Cartoon	9
A. Taylor	
Employing Ex-prisoners	10
L. G. Harris	
Is there a Social Work Role for Prison Officers?	11
Robert Foren	
Periodicals and Pamphlets about Prison	14
Martin Wright	
Leslie Lumb—appreciation	14
Looks at Books	15
The Media and the Message . . .	19
Alan Rayfield	



WHAT'S INSIDE?

AS USUAL, one could look through any particular issue of the PRISON SERVICE JOURNAL and solve the penal problems of England and Wales, if not the whole world.

In these days of discussions on the Common Market, it is perhaps natural to have a look across the Channel. In France, a huge 4,000 cell complex has cost some 12 million pounds and one can well imagine some of the critics of our system advocating the building of a similar structure over here. They might let us have four of these monsters and put an end to overcrowding. Perhaps they would invite Earl Mountbatten to say whether he would favour using part of them as a super-secure segregation prison for top security prisoners. That might satisfy a lot of people except those who live in the vicinity of any site chosen. Prisons, like airports, are not too attractive as neighbours.

Nearer home, Robert Foren's article on the Prison Officer's Role as a Social Worker is a tremendously important contribution if only because of its re-emphasis on the point that although so many people say that prison staff should be involved in rehabilitative work with prisoners, no one ever seems to do anything about it. This is not by any means an exact account of the overall position but there is sufficient truth in it to warrant our taking a good look at it.

The essence of Prison, be it in Fleury Méréogis or Long Lartin, should mean both containment and training but the two ingredients do not mix easily nor do they mix all the time and the prison officer's job is one of contrasts and conflicts in demands and responses.

Just as size and security of new establishments (though desirable) will never solve all our problems, neither will talk about "social work" or even "job satisfaction", though both are desirable.

Actions are said to speak louder than words—but we cannot all be building new prisons, so perhaps, for some of us words are important. Let us not be afraid of speaking up about it—even among ourselves.

ROY TAYLOR, principal psychologist, Staff College, Wakefield, recently visited France and presents his own observations with extracts from the official guide produced by the French Information Services, to whom we are indebted for the illustrations of . . .

A New Prison for Paris

BEGUN in May 1964, the prison at Fleury-Mérôgis near Paris received its first inmates in May 1968. The prison which is designed for use as a remand centre (Maison d'Arret), will replace the existing prisons—the Santé and Fresnes. This has become necessary because the older prisons are no longer suitable for present-day conditions. Paris has grown from a city of two millions in the 1870s to eight and a half millions and it is expected that it will soon exceed 10 millions.

The new centre is a vast complex on a 50-acre site. It provides cellular accommodation for 3,112 men, 430 women and 560 youths aged 18–21. France, in common with all other European countries, does not have bail. A person arrested on suspicion is held in a Maison d'Arret whilst a preliminary examination is carried out by an examining magistrate who has to decide if the evidence is likely to support the charge and to warrant transfer to a criminal Court for trial. The period of examination may take a few months and occasionally it can take two or three years.

The prison is comprised of five separate cell units which are termed "tre-pales". Each trepale has three sections or wings providing accommodation for 600 inmates. The trepales are arranged in such a way that one section is joined to a central building which is in the shape of a hexagon. In this building are administrative offices and the reception. Above this is extensive visiting accommodation with provision for 50 visiting rooms and 18 rooms for lawyers' visits for each trepale. The general waiting room resembles a large airport concourse. Women look after visitors in much the same way as an air hostess, guiding them to their visiting room. All visitors are required to have a special identity card with an authorised photograph.

The extent of the perimeter is a mile and a half. This consists of a continuous building in the form of a polygon which incorporates the perimeter wall. The

buildings on the north side house administrative offices which flank the entrance for vehicles and for pedestrians. Admittance to the prison is through electronically controlled gates. Next to these are garages and maintenance workshops. The perimeter buildings also include workshops for contract production and vocational training facilities in a range of skills. The remaining buildings include a laundry and central heating plant.

There is a high degree of internal security. Walls and floors are constructed of concrete six and a half inches thick. Each floor (landing) is self-contained with its own control centre controlling entry to the section and the electronic locking and unlocking of cell doors. There are no bars at the cell windows which are made of toughened

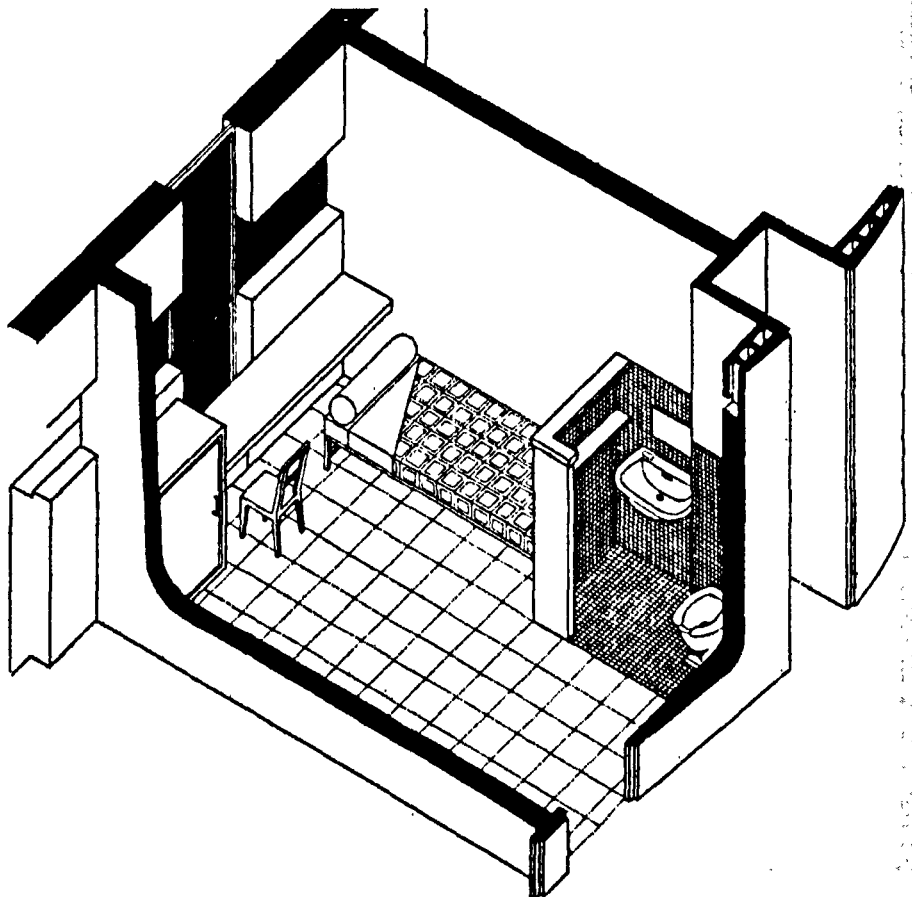
glass. There is two-way communication between the cells and the section centre by phone. The building has been built so that there are no "dead" areas where inmates can be unobserved. A cat-walk is set about 12 feet from the ground in the perimeter building so that there can be constant observation of inmates at work, from above. There are 105 cells which are available for segregation and punishment purposes.

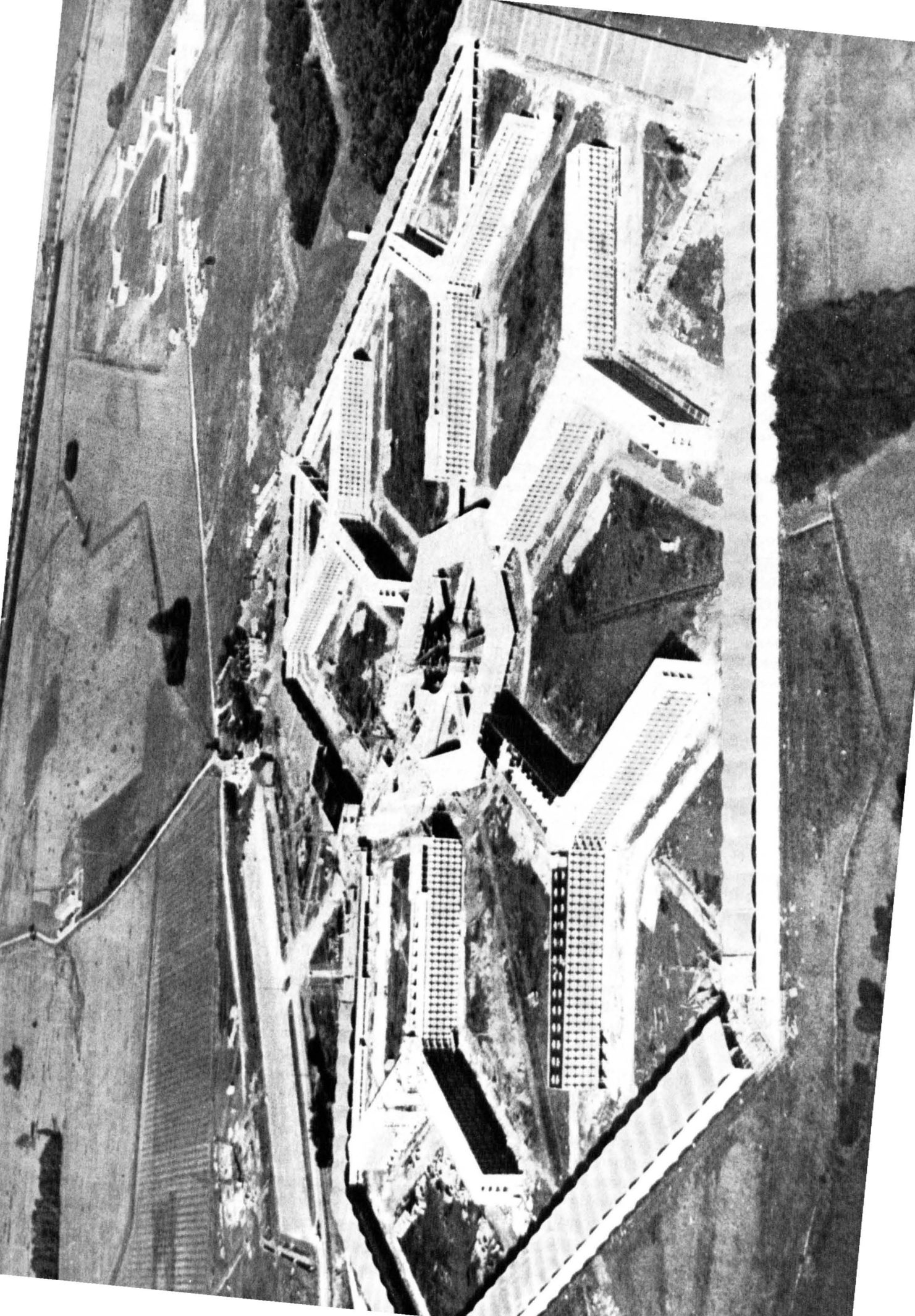
In an establishment of this size, movement of inmates and staff can be a complicating factor. At Fleury all movements have been reduced to a minimum by setting the trepales between the administrative unit and the workshops. When inmates have to be moved any distance they are taken in an electrically-driven mini-bus which moves within the building.

In the administration of the prison there have been many innovations, one of which is an electronic searching device which can search and collect any or all relevant documents for any inmate by pressing the relevant code.

The building cost exceeded £12 million; there are up to 50 external telephone lines and over 400 internal phones.

The designers aimed to produce a building which was functional, secure and rational. It would seem that this aim has been fulfilled.





Now look back, through the eyes of a visitor to the Thomas Hardy country, many years ago, at **PORTLAND**, a place with a great history both as a prison and a borstal. Lionel Fudge, now Chief Officer at Guys Marsh, was engaged on Community Service work when a collector of Dorset antiquities presented him with—

A Bit of Portland History

Extract from "Weymouth as a Watering Place" published in 1857.

PORTLAND PRISON is admirably adapted for carrying out a great experiment in the treatment and improvement of the criminal classes. The situation is high and dry; the buildings are of the most perfect kind, and ventilated in the most approved manner. Everything that humanity and enlightened intelligence could suggest is here adopted; good food is supplied in sufficient quantity; order, cleanliness, industry and early rising are enforced; religious, moral and educational training is given; and the brightest hopes and promises of amelioration are held out to those who excel in learning, working and good conduct; altogether, results may be looked for from this great establishment, that may have an important bearing on public opinion and thus on the legislation and jurisprudence of this country. That it may succeed, or pave the way to success, is the one sentiment of all good men who give attention to the subject.

The number of prisoners is about 1,500; the greater part are engaged in procuring stone from the quarries for the construction of the breakwater. The prisoners who do not labour in the quarries are employed as joiners, smiths, founders, builders, painters, gardeners, shoemakers, tailors, washers, cooks, bakers and in other duties connected with the shelter, clothing and maintenance of so large a body of men.

Before coming to Portland, the prisoners have passed their allotted time (generally about nine months) in what is termed "separate confinement," at Pentonville, Millbank, Preston, Bedford, Wakefield or some other prisons adapted for the first stage of penal discipline. The change from solitary work in cells of a town or city gaol, to associated labour under the cheerful

light of day, in the pure and genial atmosphere of the island, is grateful to most of the prisoners, who soon become much improved in health, vigour and appearance by their advance to the second stage of corrective punishment.

When detachments of prisoners arrive at Dorchester, they are met by vans, which convey them to the foot of the hill of Portland (Fortune's Well) whence they march to the prison, escorted by a military guard and prison officers. Wearied by their journey, after washing, medical inspection and change of clothes, they generally retire to rest. In the morning they are summoned to the reading and explanation of the rules of their new abode, and then proceed to school for examination in educational attainments, with a view to their correct classification. Afterwards they receive an introductory address from the chaplain and are allowed to write their first letter from Portland to their relations. The new arrivals being thus initiated, are attached to various divisions of working parties, they soon become assimilated to the general body, and assume its habitual regularity.

In the working days of early light the prison bell rouses all hands from slumber at 5.15 a.m., allowing an hour for washing, dressing and breakfast; the march to chapel commencing at 6.15 a.m. In seven minutes the assembly is complete and their many deep voices are engaged in singing two verses of a hymn: a portion of scripture having been read, prayer is offered and the congregation move in double files through the eastern, western and two northern doors to the parade ground, from which they are marched to their appointed spheres of labour, there to continue until the great bell calls them

to dinner at 11.0 a.m., coming in with the same order as was observed in going out; after examination they retire to their respective cells for food and rest. At 12.30 p.m. they are again paraded and dismissed to labour until 6.0 p.m. in the evening when the friend with the iron tongue bids them leave their toil and prepare for supper, worship and repose. Suppers are distributed to each cell at 6.30 p.m. and at 7.0 p.m. the march towards the chapel again begins, where every man is expected to appear clean and orderly. The singing, the prayers and the lecture, ended, the cells again receive their prisoners, where 10 minutes before 8.0 p.m. they sling their hammocks and at 8.0 p.m. all cell lights must be put out and silence reign in every hall. The custody of the establishment is then confided to the slippered night-guard, who noiselessly glide like spectres through the long and dimly lighted galleries; to the watchmen, officers on night duty and the military.

Attendance at chapel and walking exercise in the open air, are the two great features of the Sabbath-day's employment. Each prisoner is allowed half a day's schooling per week, the loan of a book from the library (in addition to his bible, prayer book and hymn book), daily access to prison authorities for advice, consultation, complaint, etc.; to send and to receive a letter once in three months (and more frequently if necessary) and should he be a well conducted prisoner he may have a quarterly interview of 20 minutes with his friends.

The religious aspect may be roughly described as Protestant, 1,393; Roman Catholic, 90; Hebrew, 3; total, 1,486. The great bulk of prisoners, at their arrest, would most properly be termed "nothingarians." When committed to

prison they are pressed to state their sect or persuasion in religious matters—poor fellows! They generally belong to no sect, they have no persuasion, they are without God in the world! Notwithstanding their practical atheism, if they do not declare themselves Jews, Roman Catholics, Wesleyans or members of some denomination, they are described or assumed to the Church of England, which is thus made a refuge for the destitute—a loose fraternity, amongst whom any villian may be thrust, who has the misfortune to be owned by no one.

We may briefly advert to the state of education of the prisoners. In the report for 1853 we find the following particulars:

Prisoners who could not read on admission	130
Prisoners who could read imperfectly	134
Prisoners who could read and write	418
Prisoners who could read and write well	353
Prisoners well educated	277
	<hr/>
	1,312

Of the first three classes many have advanced a stage in the prison school but the relative numbers damage a favourite theory upon the proportion between crime and the want of education.

From the chaplain's report, with every care not to swell the numbers improperly, communicants average nearly 200.

The ticket-of-leave system, which is causing much anxiety and is subjected to much and severe criticism, is being carried out at Portland with every promise of success, considering that the practice is only in its infancy; and we cannot refrain from mentioning that the results here in the experience with convicts have been more successful than in other prisons; this is a fact which ought not to be concealed, as the authorities elsewhere will have their attention drawn to the working of the system, and will no doubt, easily discover why there are better results in one place than in another, and so take advantage of every circumstance to improve its operation.

The practice is founded on clear and intelligible principles. It is not safe to let loose on society a vitiated and un-

reformed character, even at the expiration of his term of imprisonment; while many, who have fallen in an evil hour, give good evidence in a short time, that they might be trusted safely and beneficially for society in their former places and at former duties. Here the system steps in and qualifies the severity of the law's demands by putting the prisoner on conditions favourable for ameliorating his own state. Without such a stimulus to improvement, there is little hope of perseverance in well-doing; here and there an exception, bright and almost superhuman, comes before us—only to delude—for their's is an example beyond the mass. For all experience proves that the large majority of mankind require training, restraining, promises, examples and encouragements, to keep them in the path of duty and obedience. It is only the few that can rise to eminence, either in virtue, duty or accomplishments; the overwhelming influence of temptation and evil example is too plain to be doubted and too frequent to be forgotten.

The great mass of the population is injured through injudicious training in early life; from deficient education, from evil example and associations. These causes are aggravated in the cases of weak, irresolute or naturally defective minds. Oh, for more system! For better example and training! Then might the disgraceful day of trial and conviction be avoided. But we must take the man as he is and proceed as well as we may.

We find that up to June 1855, 713 convicts have been released from a portion of their sentences, while only 10 of these have been deprived of their privilege; some were not giving satisfactory evidence of their being worthy of confidence and a number had gone out of reach of inquiry; but still a heavy proportion were doing well and showing improvement in their social, moral and religious conduct, beyond anything they ever before felt or exhibited. To the strictness of the discipline, to the faithfulness of the chaplains, and to the excellence and usefulness of the arrangements, many a prisoner will continue to the end of his career to do justice; and to the order of the system which combines punishment with *hope*, many will bear grateful testimony, by their after-conduct. *Where hope is excluded, all good resolves expire and moral and religious improvements ends.*

We look on Portland prison—its management and its inmates—with

hope as the first dawning of better things. It may be that here sounder views of corrective and reformatory treatment will be illuminated: how best to return a criminal reformed to society; and how the laws shall truly become a terror to evil-doers, and a praise to them that do well.

Portland prison contains within its boundaries every class of offenders; from those who have received a sentence of three years, to those who have been condemned to a life of servitude. In July 1855 the numbers and sentences were as follows:

Prisoners	Years	Prisoners	Years
1	3	6	12
354	4	10	14
25	5	20	15
84	6	3	20
630	7	2	21
15	8	6	Life
330	10		
		Total	1,486

Thus the total number of prisoners was 1,486, who are divided into three classes: first class, 1,303; second class, 122; third class, 61, equals 1,486. Their employment might be stated as under three heads, thus:

	Prisoners laboured
For the Admiralty	919
„ Ordnance	117
„ Prison	217
	<hr/>
	Non- workers
In the Infirmary	78
„ School	146
„ separate cells	9
	<hr/>
	Total 1,486

The first three labouring classes of 1,253 earned within the year £43,590.

Officers: Col. Jebb, R.E., C.B., Chairman of the Board of Directors; Captain Whitty, Captain O'Brien, Directors. Offices of Directorate, 45 Parliament Street, London.

Resident Officers: Captain Clay, Governor; Major Stewart, Deputy-Governor; Rev. W. Holderness, Chaplain; Rev. J. H. Nowers, Assist. Chaplain; Dr. Houghton, R.N., Medical Officer; Mr. Harris, Assist. Medical Officer and 133 sub-ordinate officers employed in carrying out the routine and discipline of the establishment.

The chaplains are aided in their ecclesiastical and educational duties by a religious instructor and six school-masters.

Back now in the 1970 scene, with a longer look at Long Lartin this view of which enlivened the front cover of the first new-size Journal. Ian Dunbar who gave us the picture now etches in the background, the controversy over dispersal, the planning and operational control of this, the seventh dispersal prison . . .

LONG LARTIN—The Development of a Concept

THE PENDULUM YEARS¹

HISTORICAL perspectives usually provide a sobering background against which to measure erstwhile progress. Was it advanced public opinion which rang the death knell of the nineteenth century hulks? Or was it the unavoidable stench, decay and physical closeness which resulted in a course of action leading to the rapid building of about 50 prisons—a massive public works operation brilliantly devised and executed?

In penal terms nothing like it has happened since and even today we rely heavily on this monumental contribution in containing an exploding inmate population a century and a quarter later.

Since then society's whole pattern of communicating ideas has changed. Yesterday's certainties have become today's doubts and the swings of public opinion oscillate ever more frequently, governed, not as in the past by the slow paternalistic change as one generation takes over from another but by rapid change created by developing technologies transmitted haphazardly and received anxiously.

"Penal Practice in a Changing Society"² marked a penalogical watershed and ushered in the sixties. It realised (almost one feels with surprise) that crime levels would no more return to pre-war patterns and saw that future policy would require more pragmatism and scientific appraisal. And so policy in the sixties sought tentatively to meet the needs of society on the one hand and of the prisoners on the other against the ever deteriorating backcloth of our Victorian heritage.

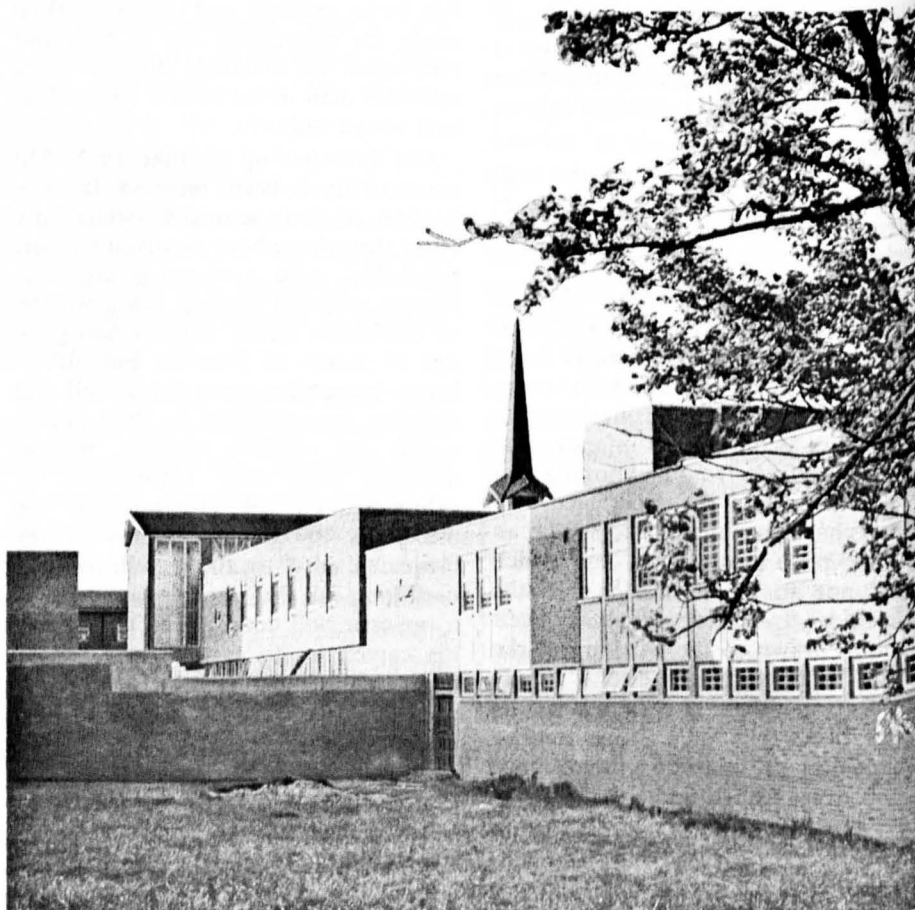
Society's ambivalence is well chronicled in the sixties. The year 1963 saw the publication of the A.C.T.O. Report on Prison After-care³, and the Dover resolution⁴ of the Prison Officers' Association on developing the welfare role of the prison officer. Both events reflect the feelings of that part of society which was urging a more constructive role for prisons and their staff; a concern that the prisoners should be cared for other than punished.

The escape of George Blake in 1966, marked the last in a number of security lapses. Public anxiety was highlighted by the commissioning and publication of the Mountbatten Report on Prison Security⁵ reflecting the views of those who felt concerned that security and containment needed greater emphasis.

The same equivocalness was at work in the gradual build up of opinion leading to the abolition of capital punishment, a decision which seemed to increase public concern, re-enforcing the trend towards longer sentences. Representatives of both viewpoints were largely unaware of long-term implications which only now are becoming all too apparent. The strategy of the Prison Service was going to be affected and in February 1967 the then Home Secretary

asked his Advisory Council on the Penal System to consider the regime for long-term prisoners detained in conditions of maximum security⁶ and to make recommendations. The report published in 1968 merits close attention.

Whereas the A.C.T.O. Report on Prison After-care and Mountbatten Report on Security represent contrasting viewpoints, the Radzinowicz Report, as it has come to be called, takes a median position analysing the concerns of both, not as mutually exclusive but as necessarily complementary. It is not without significance, particularly since Alec Paterson's dictum about not being able to train men for freedom in conditions of captivity has sometimes allowed management to acquiesce in the sloppy assumption that treatment can be



equated with the open-ness of the institution and not with the quality of the regime. "Open" equals "good" and "closed" equals "bad", an equation which has led to a vast over-appraisal of the success of open, and crippled many closed establishments where progress has been slow, often because it was believed unattainable.

The false dichotomy of the custody/treatment split has been pointed out by many researchers. It is encouraging to discover an official report analysing the arguments and making practical, workable suggestions, soon to be implemented.

RADZINOWICZ COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

It had two main tasks to consider. It had to decide on the appropriateness of whether to concentrate men of the highest security risk in one fortress prison or to disperse them around a number of security prisons in which they (high security risk men) would never be in the majority. Once this decision was reached it had to decide on the kind of regime which ought to be developed according to the needs of both staff and prisoners.

It is not my purpose to elucidate the arguments which led to the committee advising against the proposed new small maximum security prison on the Isle of Wight. It was a far more finely balanced decision than is often realised but it accords with the general historical development of our Service which has in the main always dispersed its worst criminals. The same is not true of many other countries.

Concentration was rejected largely because of the difficulties of establishing a satisfactory regime in a prison containing the worst prisoners. The fear was that the atmosphere would become predominantly custodial with excessive staff strain and prisoner discontent. The facilities and resources available in such a small prison would also discourage the variety that is necessary to form the basis of a liberal regime.

What are the requirements for a dispersal prison? Security arrangements must be of the nature to minimise staff anxiety about the possibilities of escape. Only then can the development of facilities for inmate betterment be pursued. Two high wire fences with dead ground between should be erected and placed under constant surveillance day and night. Internal security is of equal importance and should be brought about by an adequate, alert and well-trained staff operating with a high degree of

professionalism aided by modern security devices and good police liaison. The staff ratio must be higher than in other prisons and control assisted by the provision of a segregation unit. The regime that then develops should embrace training and treatment objectives seen respectively as the acquisition of skills and the changing of attitudes.

There are six dispersal prisons: Albany, Gartree, Hull, Parkhurst, Wakefield and Wormwood Scrubs. The decision to make Long Lartin the seventh was taken in 1968.

In the middle of January this year its construction was sufficiently advanced for it to open as a category "C" prison to relieve overcrowding elsewhere. Two of the three living units will be used for this purpose. This will allow for the completion of the building programme and the installation of security devices necessary for dispersal opening in mid-1972.

What is the significance of Long Lartin. I have argued its importance in attempting to link concepts of containment and treatment.

Perimeter security is not a startling innovation. The full use of a centralised automatic control system based on a digital computer is. Its aim is to control the movements of inmates within the prison and in conjunction with closed circuit television, electronic security and alarm systems, relieve supervisory staff for other duties whilst maintaining maximum security. As yet we do not know the effects of automating procedures on staff or inmates. Industrial experience of introducing computers indicates that the pay-offs are not always in the direction originally envisaged.⁷ The relationship between staff and inmate is bound to change. For example, both will be dependant on an outside agent to give them access from one part of the prison to another. The potential is there and the form it takes will depend largely on the overall management structure ultimately arrived at.

Its regime owes much to research since the war on the social structure of closed communities which has shown "that the inmate social system and the prisoners' acceptance of its norms and values are at least in part a response to the experience of imprisonment. They are not merely manifestations of a criminal culture outside the prison".⁸ It will, therefore, attempt to give prisoners more responsibility, more variety, to mitigate what Sykes⁹ has called "the pains of imprisonment" and to neutralise the worst aspects of the labelling processes involved in the allocation of a man to a prison such as Long Lartin.

IAN DUNBAR . . . deputy governor of Long Lartin, graduate of Keele University, London School of Economics and Reed College, Oregon, U.S.A., was formerly an assistant governor at Leyhill and for some years a member of the teaching staff at the Prison Service Staff College, Wakefield.

The management implications in planning and executing such a complex task, are enormous. At the outset the project had to be carefully co-ordinated at Headquarters. At the apex stands the commissioning team whose task is to prepare Long Lartin in all its aspects for operational use. It is advised by five working parties; on security, on the central automatic security control system, on staffing, on population and research and on the regime. Any problem arising which affects policy and cannot be solved at commissioning team level is referred to the Long Lartin guiding committee.

Sufficient staff to man the prison to category "C" prisons' requirements were in post by 1st January this year and were involved in a week's training. One of the most important aspects explored being the running of the prison in such a way as to allow a regime to develop which meets the needs of category "A" and "B" prisoners by midsummer 1972. Just before the first prisoners arrived local residents were invited to visit and a crowd of 3,796 attended.

The task of the prison, with which all staff are familiar, is to create and maintain an atmosphere in which security and treatment can be achieved in a dispersal prison containing long-term prisoners of the highest security risk. It will require a high degree of co-ordination only possible if all staff are involved in policy making. For this purpose the regime is based on a series of work groups integrated throughout the organisation. The full potential of staff is more likely to be realised if they are members of one or more effectively functioning work groups having a high degree of group loyalty and task performance which builds the individual's sense of personal worth and importance. Staff participation has to be real, not mouthed. Already the central management group is meeting weekly, as the main decision-making body. Its membership consists of the heads of departments and representatives of all grades and levels of staff.

The security committee, central treatment group, industrial and works group, research group and training group, all with cross-sectional membership, must recommend policy within their own

areas to the central management group. Following discussion and agreement, decisions are implemented as management instructions. The groups have as their responsibility the long term practical application of policy decided both locally and centrally.

The sophisticated electronic control and communication features are the background against which it is intended to develop a humane and constructive regime which will preserve and encourage self respect. It will endeavour to allow men as much personal responsibility and freedom to exercise choice as is compatible with the considerations of control and security.

One immediate advantage is the end of slopping out. The bizarre and odious parade each morning is replaced by individual cell unlocking throughout the night. The men are in units of 28 with access to ablution and lavatory facilities and within each unit one man can leave his cell at any time—at the push of a button. (At present the cells are not locked, giving free access to toilet facilities at all times.)

Another is the flexibility of security status at management's finger-tips to change at will. At association time, maximum freedom of movement can be organised. In emergency, or at night, the security perimeter can be tightened to the confines of the cell. Each cell will be fitted with a privacy lock, the key in the prisoner's possession and a master with the staff which will allow men to opt in or out of association and to prevent the unwanted intrusion of other prisoners when occupants themselves are elsewhere.

A week's "break"?

Eighty per cent of the population will be employed in two large workshop complexes provided with the necessary training facilities. The pace of industry will be geared to outside practice with incentive earnings and a five-day, 40-hour week. Work is not an end in itself and only starts to enhance self respect when the prisoner feels he is contributing to the making of worthwhile commercially viable products. Similarly he must have the opportunity to spend his increased earnings so that his leisure time becomes more meaningful.¹² Prisoners will be paid in cash which they will be able to spend on a large variety of goods available in a shop open most of the week. No one should be expected to work continuously without a break for a number of years. The long-term prisoner needs reference points in time¹³ and one suggestion being seriously considered is that after two years of sentence

he should be able to earn a week's industrial break. He would be actively involved beforehand in planning how to spend this period.

No matter how high the standard, institutional food always palls at some stage and can never quite meet the individual fads and fancies. The provision of cookers on wings and certain foods in the shop is another way of encouraging a greater scope for the spending of earnings and the expression of individual taste.

The comprehensive education programme being planned should help those with a low educational attainment and go some way in restoring the prisoner's confidence in his own ability.

Above all, choice, responsibility, self respect, only have meaning to each of us if we have some control over part of our environment; if we are involved with others in the structuring of our lives. The regime is designed to help men return to a free society by reproducing the challenges of normal life so far as this is possible and providing advice and support in facing the problems of release. To this end, inmate committees have already been formed on a wing basis and when the prison is fully functioning an institutional committee consisting of wing representatives will meet with staff to discuss matters affecting their lives. "Treatment" is the sum of all experiences a man will receive at Long Lartin. His attitude towards himself, his peers, his family and society will be further shaped and modified by what happens there. The basis of relationships will be at the wing level and section officers responsible for groups of men will have a crucial role to play in determining the character of each wing and the success of the prison.

Temporary "withdrawal"

From time to time the social controls which operate in any society break down. With a volatile and anti-social population this is an ever present reality which must never be dismissed. Management must have plans for all eventualities and one such aid at its disposal is the segregation unit, an instrument of control, not punishment. The man being subversive or disruptive can be removed from the community until he is prepared to accept again the constraints and responsibilities of social living.

Tight security could inhibit contact with the outside world but steps are being taken to ensure that local and specialist resources are mobilised to keep the prisoner in touch, where possible, with his family and external events.

The staff complement will be high to meet increased security and treatment needs. For years staff have striven to develop a role away from the "turn-key" image. Long Lartin with its electric locking and regime provides this opportunity. It can succeed only by thorough, ongoing training at all levels where each man's ability is used to the full and staff and management become highly professional in each of the different tasks allocated.

Society will always have to cope with its most intractable problems before they are capable of solution. A long term maximum security prison exists as a monument to such a dilemma. There are no answers. Yet if we can contain some of the most violent and difficult men society has produced and in the process develop a constructive regime providing an ongoing learning situation for all its members, then we may yet be able to encourage the study of further development in those institutions, the plight of whose inmates is less conspicuous but whose need is equally as great.

REFERENCES

1. With apologies to Bernard Levin.
2. *Penal Practice in a Changing Society*. "Aspects of Future Development (England and Wales)". H.M.S.O. Command 645, 1959.
3. "The Organisation of After-care." Report of the Advisory Council on the Treatment of Offenders. H.M.S.O., 1963.
4. The 24th Conference of the Prison Officers' Association, held at Dover in May 1963 unanimously adopted the following resolution:
"The conference, being gravely aware of the dangerous trend in criminal behaviour within society today, agrees that the Association should endeavour to define what should be the role of the prison officer in connection with the rehabilitation of the prisoners. It further agrees, that in order to enable the prison officer to take his full share in this responsible task, to be trained to (a) assist and advise during the course of the sentence and (b) assist in after-care following an inmates release in so far as this may prove practicable."
5. Report of the Inquiry into Prison Escapes and Security. H.M.S.O., December 1968. Command 3175.
6. "The Regime for Long-term Prisoners in Conditions of Maximum Security." Report of the Advisory Council on the Treatment of Offenders. H.M.S.O., 1968.
7. See for example: "Tempering the Revolution" by J. M. RIGBY. *New Scientist*, 4th June 1970.
8. Quotation from paragraph 79 of the Radzi-Nowicz Report commenting on a survey of research by Dr. RICHARD SPARKS.
9. GRESHAM SYKES. *The Society of Captives*. 1958.
10. D. MATZA. *Becoming Deviant* 1969.
11. See J. KELLY. "Organisational Behaviour" on the integrated organisation with special reference to the work of Professor R. Likert.
12. See E. GOFFMAN. "On the Characteristics of Total Institutions" in *Asylums*, 1961, where he discusses the different meaning of work inside, to outside, the institution.
13. See COHEN and TAYLOR. "The Experience of Time in Long-term Imprisonment." *New Society*, 31st December 1970.

Behind the Cartoon

A. Taylor

ALAN TAYLOR, an officer at Onley Borstal has been a regular contributor since 1966.

OVER the past few years I have had the satisfaction of seeing some of my cartoons appear in the "Journal" and I hope I have given some pleasure to readers by showing the lighter side of the offender's world.

I have always felt that there is a need to ensure that the problems we face with regard to offenders never become so "over-demanding" that we lose our perspective. It is for this reason that I submit my work, for I am sure that if we can laugh at ourselves we are better equipped to understand others.

What is a cartoon? Basically, a true fact or incident enlarged to such an extent that it becomes humorous. Nevertheless, as it is based on fact it can still make a valid point.

For instance, this cartoon. It is based upon a theory that I have heard from members of the Prison Service, a theory of which I have seen the lighter side but let me place it before you and give you the opportunity to evaluate it.

The theory is this: we in the Prison Service place a great deal of emphasis upon physical recreation within our borstal system in the hope that we may build into our charges a sense of achievement and well-being. On the face of it, a fine ideal but let us take a closer look. Many of our young offenders come into our charge from places such as London, Birmingham, Manchester or Liverpool.

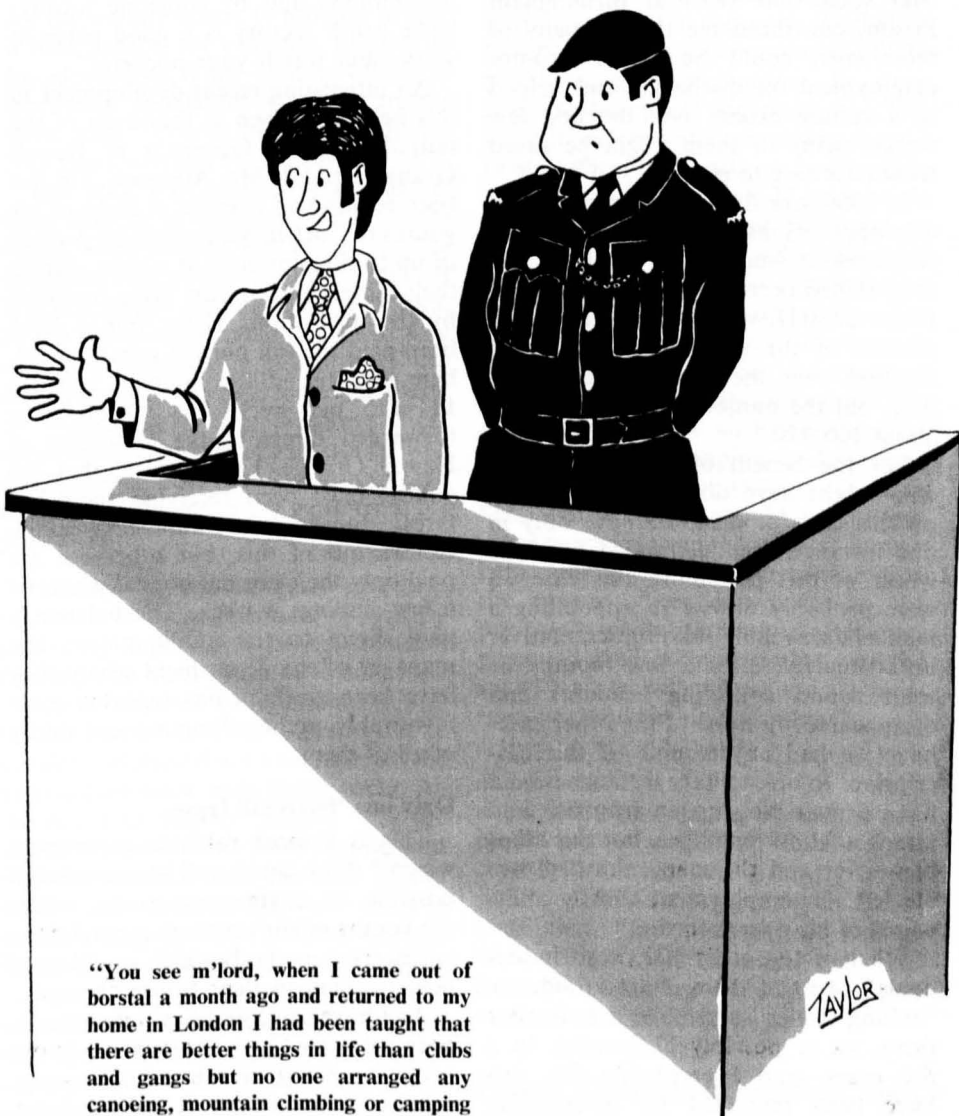
Let us say, for example, that we have a boy from such a city who is placed into borstal and is faced with the challenge that such activities as canoeing, mountain-climbing and camping can offer a boy, not to mention inter-house football, basketball and table-tennis. He will, no doubt, as do most borstal trainees, enter into the challenge in some way and may even become noted as a "model" trainee.

Then consider the same boy after release and what do we find? It cannot be denied that we have probably increased his physical standard, possibly his mental alertness, even his awareness of others, all of which must be good for the boy but have we helped him socially? When he returns to his home in the city

or town he will find that such recreational facilities are lacking for I do not know of any local authority who can offer its teenagers the facilities available at the average borstal. Are we in danger of adding to the lad's anti-social behaviour pattern by showing him that society "outside" just doesn't care as much?

It would, on the other hand, be easy to place the blame at the feet of the local authority, but it is we who treat offenders who say "prepare them for life outside" and are we doing this if we race ahead and give our charges facilities that are hard to obtain "outside"? Our aim must be for a perfect society but we must be aware of the danger of creating a perfect society "inside" and therefore making rehabilitation into "outside" society a more difficult task.

Let me say that it is by intention that I have made no effort to solve the problem. I do, of course, have my own ideas upon the subject but let me hope that I have given you some cause for discussion and, of course, some cause for laughter.



"You see m'lord, when I came out of borstal a month ago and returned to my home in London I had been taught that there are better things in life than clubs and gangs but no one arranged any canoeing, mountain climbing or camping trips for me so I thought if I stole a car you might send me back before I become too old to have the chance!"

**L. G. HARRIS, a leading Midlands' industrialist,
(and prison visitor) looks back at 14 years of . . .**

Employing Ex-prisoners

THE Editor has asked if I would contribute a short article on the experiences of my firm, in the employment of ex-prisoners.

I should explain that the factory employs a total of about 550 people engaged in the manufacture of various types of decorating and household brushes, also a variety of painters' tools, such as scrapers, etc. The works is situated in a pleasant country area about four miles from Bromsgrove (population 37,500) and some 18 miles from Birmingham.

My experience as a prison visitor over some nine years at Birmingham Prison, convinced me that if many of these men could be found prompt employment on discharge, and helped to a certain extent over the first few weeks, many of them might be saved from returning to prison.

In 1956, our firm commenced accepting applications from ex-prisoners for employment, mostly in unskilled and semi-skilled occupations in the factory. Unfortunately, we have not kept exact records of the number of these men engaged over the 14 years since that date, but the number probably runs to about 100-120.

For the benefit of other employers who might have doubts about taking on this class of men, we have only in one instance been defrauded over the whole of this period. In this case we were probably unwise in appointing a man as a travelling sales representative; unfortunately, after a few months he went round collecting accounts and disappeared. In none of the other cases have we had any trouble of this description. In one solitary instance we did have a man pick up an iron bar and attack a fellow employee, but this affair blew over and the man calmed down. He left our employment shortly afterwards of his own accord.

What of the other 100 or so individuals? Most of them, I am afraid, are "rolling stones" and have left us after three, six or possibly 12 months. In a few cases—and I emphasise few—we have been rewarded by outstanding loyalty, hard work and enthusiasm. We still have a hard core of a few men who have been here several years, most of whom are very good workers indeed.

The reception of these men by our other employees has been quite friendly and helpful. We do not, of course, disclose anything relating to the man's background, but, since our factory is in a country village, I think most of our staff have come to realise the firm's interest in men of this type, and I suspect in many cases a pretty shrewd idea gets around as to where the man comes from. We have never had any complaints from any of the ex-prisoners about their treatment by other employees, but, perhaps I should mention an odd remark which came to my ears a few months ago by someone locally: "The brush factory is a good place to work—but watch your pockets!"

An interesting recent development in this field has arisen as the result of the initiative of the Governor of Hewell Grange Borstal, Mr. Atkinson. He has been sending an average of eight of his youths to work in our factory for periods of up to three months at a time, during their sentence, transport being provided by the institution. These youths have been paid the full normal rate for work here (average at the moment between £11-£15 per week) the wages being forwarded direct to the Governor of Hewell Grange. I understand that the youths have been receiving their bus fares, lunches and some working clothes out of this, but otherwise are paid only their normal borstal wages of a few shillings a week. The balance is paid direct to the public purse. The manager of the department where they have been working has reported most favourably on the willingness and ability of all of them.

Only one 'financial' lapse

This is a most valuable experiment which I think could well be extended, if possible, to engineering works, where the youths might get some grounding in engineering methods which would be of help to them in their future careers.

As I have said, we have only actually been defrauded by an ex-prisoner in one instance; many of the men, however, require financial support and we almost invariably have to loan money to help the men over their first few weeks. This is usually repaid by deductions from wages.

Living accommodation, however, has been our chief trouble. There are practically no houses or apartments to let in the district, and, as most of the men are unattached, we have had to do our best to find them lodging accommodation with local landladies. For some years we have been maintaining three caravans at the rear of the factory to accommodate some of these men. This is not very satisfactory, but it is the best thing that could be done in many circumstances.

In a certain number of cases, the men are either divorced or separated from their wives, and if only a small house could be found such as are being provided by the St. Leonard's Housing Association in various parts of the country, this would be the means of enabling a man to rebuild his family life and would be a major contribution to his keeping straight in the future.

We have now, at long last, bought a small house in the district and the St. Leonard's Housing Association has acquired another one, so that we have two houses of this type. These will both be occupied by ex-prisoners and their families in the near future.

Discharged prisoners' hostels of the type run by the Margery Fry Memorial Fund and the Langley House Trust, are an extremely valuable aid to getting these men settled. There are five such houses in Birmingham, but, unfortunately, in our case the distance is too far for the men to travel backwards and forwards to our factory unless they have their own transport. We may be able, shortly, to acquire a large Victorian house in the Bromsgrove area with accommodation for 24 men. This will be a major help in solving the accommodation problem.

The longer I have had, personally, to deal with these men, the more I realise that in many cases they are inadequate and weak, due partly to parentage and partly to early environment. In our experience, it is of little use criticising them for their shortcomings, the right course is to try and encourage them to do their best and help them in every way one can.

To sum up—and we are not, of course, by any means the only employers in our area who will engage ex-prisoners—our experience has been that we have lost very little by giving these men a chance, and in a few cases, as I have said above, we have been rewarded by a loyalty and a willingness to work which is quite exceptional. If we have contributed even in a small degree to their rehabilitation, the trouble we have taken has been well worthwhile.

Turnkey, Jailer . . . names from the past . . .

Warder. . . officially "dead" nearly 50 years, but still appearing in print and speech . . .

Old "images", like old soldiers, never die . . .

Today's Prison Officers, with a new image, seek new roles . . .

Is there a Social Work Role for Prison Officers?

asks ROBERT FOREN

A LARGE weight of informed opinion has, for some time past, held the view that social work in prison should not be undertaken exclusively by the professionally qualified social worker, but is an activity to which other members of staff can make a contribution.

The Prison Commissioners' Report for 1962¹ stressed the fact that the appointment of welfare officers did not "entirely relieve governors, assistant governors, chaplains and staff generally of the responsibilities for taking an interest in the welfare of prisoners", and in my view an important principle is involved here. Although the London Branch of the National Association of Probation Officers has expressed a contrary opinion², there must be dangers in setting a too rigid line of demarcation of function in this field. In the hospital setting—to which the prison has many similarities—the problem was identified by Goldberg³: "Sometimes I wonder whether there is some element of collusion between doctors and social workers . . . The doctors tend more and more to regard the social workers as the experts in regard to social and psychological problems. This absolves the doctors from the necessity of tackling these difficult and intractable components of illness and enables almoners to do worthwhile and interesting casework and feel themselves part of the therapeutic team . . . I feel deeply uneasy about this division of functions which splits the patient into a physical organism, a case, an illness to be dealt with by the doctor; and a person with social and psychological needs to be attended to by the almoner".

While one would not want to suggest that everybody on the prison staff should be expected to do everybody else's job, there is some force in the argument that prison staff need to be helped to change their orientation still further toward a therapeutic concern for the individual inmate. Conversely, the prison social

worker may need to identify himself a little more with the custodial function of the institution and recognise that a failure to exercise its positives is not in the interests of his clients. The more all the staff can speak with the same voice the better it will be for the inmate. As Timothy Cook⁴ has put it: "It is valueless for the welfare officer to attempt to help a man accept, for example, the fact of his alcoholism if the landing officer or workshop instructor is saying to the same man: 'You've been off drink for four years, so it can't be a problem now'".

But staff participation goes further than this. It is necessary that *all* the social work should not be left to the specialist welfare officer, if only because if it is it simply cannot be done by him, or if it is attempted it can, as the history of social casework in prison only too clearly shows, only be done superficially or inadequately. The welfare officer *needs* other members of staff not only to assist and support him, but also to take the weight of some of the work from his shoulders.

He may—indeed he must—give help in return to those members of staff by providing supervision or consultation facilities; he must continue to act as the "normal channel of communication" (as the Home Office⁵ describes it) but he cannot and should not undertake all the face-to-face work with the prisoner. As the A.C.T.O. Report⁶ puts it: ". . . the social worker should be in regular and frequent contact with the rest of the institutional staff *through whom much of his work may be done*" (italics added). Moreover, it is clear that it was envisaged by the A.C.T.O. sub-committee⁷ that the social worker would rely considerably upon referrals of suitable cases by other members of staff. To pursue the analogy with the medical social workers again, we should remind ourselves that it was not until the almoners abandoned the task of trying to see everybody and began to rely on referrals from other

members of staff that they began to be able to offer a worthwhile and effective social work service in the hospitals.

The A.C.T.O. Report⁸ states that *all* the sub-committee's witnesses (and there were about 80 of them, including all the bodies professionally concerned) agreed that prison officers *can* and *must* play a vital part in the work of rehabilitation. After discussing some of the problems of overcrowding in some prisons, the report⁹ goes on to say: "We hope it will become customary for the prison officer in all prisons positively to assist the social worker. If he is to do this, he must be better equipped to understand prisoners as individuals with problems, and to develop a positive and helpful relationship with them. For these purposes the prison officer needs training which will make him aware of new methods and skills and enable him to understand how such work can be reconciled with discipline and security. Courses at the Prison Officers' Training School at Wakefield should, we suggest, place more stress on the study of human behaviour, group work, the contribution the prison officer can make to the prisoner's rehabilitation and after-care, personally and in collaboration with the social worker with whose special functions he should be made familiar".

This is in line with the A.C.T.O. recommendation (now widely implemented) that auxiliaries should be employed somewhat similarly in the after-care field outside the prison. Indeed some recent American research¹⁰ suggests that "lay counsellors" are as successful or more successful than professional counsellors—which should give some of us food for thought!

Prison Officers themselves seek new roles

In the same year as the A.C.T.O. recommendations were published (1963) the Prison Officers' Association pub-

lished a long memorandum¹¹ which they had submitted to the Home Office and which stated quite clearly that the prison officers themselves were seeking a new role. Four years later, in 1967, international support was forthcoming. The Council of Europe's European Committee on Crime Problems, discussing the functions of basic grade custodial staff in an important report¹², said: "The essential task of the basic grade custodial staff has been, and is, to ensure the safe custody of prisoners and to maintain good order in the prison. Without in any way minimising the necessity for this essential task, it is apparent that basic grade prison officers can and should be actively associated with modern methods of treatment of prisoners". This was reflected in the Home Office Report on the work of the Prison Department for the year 1966¹³: "Two needs were recognised with growing clarity as the year passed. The first, apparent before in many prisons, was for more welfare officers and improved facilities for their work. The second was the need to develop the partnership of discipline staff with welfare officers in the task of dealing with prisoners' immediate social, financial and family problems and their deeper personal inadequacies . . .".

There are many other references in the American and Canadian literature which make the same point.¹⁴ Driscoll¹⁵, in an article in this journal, refers to the fact that everybody keeps saying the prison custodial staff need to be much more involved in therapeutic and rehabilitative work with prisoners, but nobody ever seems to *do* anything about it. Another writer¹⁶ (also in this journal) ascribed this failure to exaggeration of the difficulties and "... the gloomy picture . . . painted by some staff members of their present limitations and . . . their apparent lack of determination to overcome these". He suggested that the "reactionary" element is more vociferous and more likely to be heeded by authority than are the supporters of a new role for the prison officer because the former's view has "an historical, firm foundation", whereas the latter's proposals are "untried".

New Label . . . same Product

One cannot, of course, impose new role expectations upon prison staff without providing a great deal of preparation and training and without underpinning this with regular supervision and consultation facilities. There is a danger, if this is not recognised and

acted upon, that in a large and bureaucratic organisation like a prison, some personnel may "go through the motions" of accepting change by carrying out their new tasks in a ritualistic way, following the letter rather than the spirit. Changing the label without changing the nature of the contents of the package appears to be a weakness to which the English seem particularly prone, if one is to judge by the history of social administration in this country; and one cannot get people to change their attitudes merely by telling them that they must.

Sympathy by Numbers!

An article in a newspaper¹⁷ and reprinted in the PRISON SERVICE JOURNAL was accompanied by a picture bearing the caption "A Sympathetic Hearing in the Interview Room". It showed a prisoner sitting in a chair surrounded by no less than *four* large, uniformed prison officers, all wearing their caps and looking most official. Scarcely an ideal way of conducting an interview or of eliciting confidences in a "sympathetic" atmosphere, one might think! An American example of giving the product a new label is a picture in an American journal¹⁸ of a "Group Counselling" session in operation—large numbers of prisoners sitting in rows facing a lecturer!

Robert Foren joined the Schools of Applied Social Studies in the University of Bradford in 1950, following long service as a Probation Officer and a brief spell as a Home Office Inspector. He is the co-author of "Authority in Social Casework" (1968), "Promotion Profiles" (1170), "Planning for Service" (1971) and the author of innumerable articles in the professional social work journals. He continues to be actively engaged in the training of Probation Officers (and other social workers) and has made a special study of casework in prisons.

As it becomes more and more recognised that prison officers are expected not only to "assist the social worker" (as the A.C.T.O. Report¹⁹ put it) but also to assume some of his functions, and as they become more and more actively involved in doing this, "distance" between themselves and inmates (and between themselves and professional staff) should reduce. The extract from the A.C.T.O. Report quoted above makes it clear that prison officers will need training in acquiring new skills and also some help in understanding "how such work can be reconciled with discipline and security". Mark Monger²⁰ takes up this point and emphasises the

vital role of the prison governor in this regard. It is necessary, says Monger, "for the governor to be *acting* upon the belief that the entire work of his prison should as far as humanly possible, be geared to 'the genuine rehabilitation of each prisoner . . .'. This is, in effect, to require that prisons should undergo a radical change in orientation in which the basic assumption of the regime will be that there should be participation by all the staff, of whatever grade, in the therapeutic task of the institution.

Some penologists (e.g. Cressey²¹) have argued that even in these ideal conditions there would be inherent contradictions in the role of the custodial officer. Although I would not want to underestimate the very considerable problems involved, it seems to me that such objections are analogous to the argument that casework and authority are incompatible—a proposition which I and a colleague spent some two years of our limited leisure time in attempting to discredit²². Herbert Thomas²³ has argued that, for theoretical as well as practical reasons, the custodial officer is the person *most* suited to establish a continuing treatment relationship with the sociopathic inmate. Moreover, the rapid development of group counselling (which includes all grades of staff) in many penal institutions is indicative that the problems are not insoluble. In extending staff participation into some aspects of *individual* counselling, one might avoid some of the weaknesses in the group counselling projects which have, almost everywhere, lacked the ongoing support of expert case supervision and consultation facilities.

Timothy Cook²⁴ argues that "if all the staff are to be fully involved this means that the social workers must act as consultants to the staff rather than in direct consultation with the inmates". One might question, however, why he should necessarily exclude the social worker from direct work with *some* inmates. Could not the welfare officer combine both tasks? There will be many cases where he would not have any face-to-face contact with the inmate (or perhaps only at the first or final interview); there will be some cases where he and the prison officer share the work; and there will be some cases where it is more appropriate that he should undertake all the casework with the prisoner.

Cook cites the Glaser study²⁵ of a sample of post-release "successes" which showed that only 3 per cent attributed their success to the influence of the case-

worker and over 50 per cent to the influence of their work supervisor in the prison, though it should be said that other studies have not confirmed this finding.

Nevertheless, I should want to argue strongly²⁶ that for most purposes it is the prison officer on the landing, the man who has most opportunity for continuous contact with the prisoner, who can, with help, be the most influential factor and the most able to assist the prisoner with his personal problems. It remains for us to find ways of helping that officer to undertake such a task—a task which, I am sure, he and his association would welcome if only because it would give him added status and a much more satisfying job.

REFERENCES

1. Home Office (1963). *Report of the Commissioners of Prisons for the Year 1962*. Cmd. 2030. H.M.S.O., London.
2. National Association of Probation Officers: London Branch (1968) *Social Work in Prison—The Report of a Working Party on Prison Welfare in London*. N.A.P.O., London.
3. GOLDBERG, E. M. (1961). "The Social Worker in the Sixties." *The Almoner*, 14 (3).
4. COOK, TIMOTHY (1967). "Care Before Release." in *New Thinking About Institutional Care*. Association of Social Workers. London.
5. Home Office Probation and After-Care Department (1967). Circular No. 130/1967. 31st July. *The Role and Functions of the Prison Welfare Officer*.
6. Home Office Advisory Council on the Treatment of Offenders (1963). *The Organisation of After-Care*. H.M.S.O., London. Para. 79.
7. *ibid.*, para. 80.
8. *ibid.*, para. 86.
9. *ibid.*, para. 87.
10. CARKHUFF, ROBERT R. (1968). "Differential Functioning of Lay and Professional Helpers." *Journal of Counselling Psychology*, 15 (2).
11. Prison Officers' Association (1963). "The Role of the Modern Prison Officer—A memorandum submitted to the Home Office." *Prison Officers' Magazine*, 53 (11).
12. Council of Europe—Strasbourg—European Committee on Crime Problems (1967). *The Status, Selection and Training of Basic Grade Custodial Prison Staff*. Page 17, para. 23.
13. Home Office (1967). *Report on the Work of the Prison Department 1966*. Cmd. 3408. H.M.S.O., London.
14. For example: PEIZER, S. B., LEWIS, E. B. and SCOLLON, R. W. (1956). "Correctional Rehabilitation as a Function of Inter-Personal Relations." *Journal of Criminal Law, Criminology and Police Science*, 46 (5); THOMAS, H. E. (1964). "The Dynamics of the Inter-Disciplinary Team in the Adult Correctional Process." *The Prison Journal*, 44 (2); and BRAITHWAITE, J. W. (1965). "Treadmill or Treatment?" *The Canadian Journal of Corrections*, 7 (1).

15. DRISCOLL, A. W. (1966). "Key Men." *Prison Service Journal*, 5 (20).
16. THOMAS, J. E. (1965). "After Care and the Prison Officer." *Prison Service Journal*, 4 (16).
17. Isle of Wight County Press (1968). "Albany Prison: Communication, Co-ordination and Co-operation." Reprinted in *Prison Service Journal*, 7 (28).
18. CLARKE, J. E. (1967). "The Texas Pre-Release Program." *American Journal of Correction*, 29 (2).
19. *op. cit.*, para. 87.
20. MONGER, MARK (1967). *Casework in After-Care*. Butterworths, London. Page 77.
21. CRESSEY, DONALD R. (1959). "Contradictory Directives in Complex Organisation: The Case of the Prison." *Administrative Science Quarterly*, 4 (June). Reprinted in HAZELRIGG, L. (ed.) (1968). *Prison Within Society*. Doubleday and Co., New York.
22. FOREN, ROBERT and BAILEY, ROYSTON (1968). *Authority in Social Casework*. Pergamon Press. Oxford.
23. THOMAS, H. E. *op. cit.* (note 14 above).
24. *op. cit.*
25. GLASER, DANIEL (1964). *The Effectiveness of a Prison and Parole System*. Bobbs-Merrill, New York.
26. For a much fuller treatment of this, and related topics, see FOREN, R. J. W. (1969). *An Investigation into the Origins and Development of Social Casework in Prisons*. Unpublished M.A. thesis. University of Bradford.

MENTAL HEALTH REVIEW INDEX
An Annual Bibliography of Books and Book Reviews in the Behavioural Sciences Vol. 15, 1970. \$10. Publ. Council on Research in Bibliography, Research Centre for Mental Research, New York University, U.S.A.

The entire bibliography, now comprising 4,793 books with more than 30,000 references to reviews, is based on the selections made by the editors, book review editors, and reviewers representing 250 pertinent journals. In the current volume, the cumulative effect of recording these selections has been used in order to throw light upon the literature derived from invited lectures, which can be of particular interest for the study of the literature and history of the behavioural sciences. These often elusive publications need a special treatment in bibliography, as examples given in this volume illustrate. The editorial: "Lectureships in the Behavioural Sciences—an introduction to Sociobibliography", discusses some distinctive characteristics and contributions of these lectures and endowed lectureships, pointing out how they have changed during their little noted development from the 17th century to the present.

To the Editor

SIR,

I work in the Hampshire Probation and After-Care Service and at the moment am seconded to Parkhurst Prison. I was most interested in Andrew Rutherford's article "New Careers for ex-Offenders" (PRISON SERVICE JOURNAL, No. 1, January 1971).

He presented some useful and thoughtful material from his experiences in the U.S.A. which might seem to contrast with penal rehabilitative work being attempted in this country. Perhaps we have been slow and unimaginative in the use of community and self-help resources. I feel it should be said, nevertheless, that the Probation and After-Care Service (seen these days as "establishment" rather than "radicals") has shown hopeful signs that it has both the resourcefulness and imagination to adapt to new roles, new tasks and new needs.

The wider and more regular use of community resources (Hampshire has been well to the fore in this) is already well known. A recent Government Report* also seems to be pointing the same way. But the self-help philosophy has not made the same gains. A.A. groups in prisons are now widely accepted, but gamblers anonymous, drug groups and recidivists anonymous are only just beginning, let alone moving into prisons (Chelmsford and Pentonville would seem to be the exception rather than the rule).

Rutherford's article is a constructive contribution to this development.

Yours sincerely,

ADRIAN STANLEY.

*Report of the Sub-Committee of the Advisory Council for the Penal System on non-custodial and semi-custodial penalties.

HOME OFFICE
PRISON WELFARE SERVICE
H.M. Prison, Parkhurst
Nr. Newport
Isle of Wight

MARTIN WRIGHT, Librarian of the Cambridge Institute of Criminology, looks in some out of the way places for . . .

Periodicals and Pamphlets about Prison

THESE summaries are a very small selection from the large amount of literature which might be overlooked because it is published in out-of-the-way places. The summaries cannot, of course, do justice to the articles, and readers are advised, where possible, to obtain the originals. Nearly all periodicals are available at the National Lending Library, and can be borrowed or photocopied through a public library or the library of the Prison Service Staff College.

The editor hopes to hear readers' comments on this feature. What subjects should be covered? Would a larger number of briefer abstracts be more helpful?

Prisoner management and control

Ed. by M. S. RICHMOND. Washington. U.S. Bureau of Prisons, 1969.

Assuming that prisoners are never likely to be completely satisfied with their situation, what are the factors which can aggravate their dissatisfaction to danger point? This booklet published by the United States Bureau of Prisons suggests, among others, real or imagined disparity of sentences, overcrowding and attitudes of the outside world. But perhaps the most important is the feeling that those immediately in authority over them are indifferent towards them or even reject them; there is danger in insensitivity or harshness, but also in laxity.

Preventing unrest involves: (a) reducing the damaging effects of confinement; (b) minimising the offender's alienation from the rest of society; (c)

maintaining dignity and self respect; and (d) developing a sense of constructive purpose. If released prisoners are bitter, hostile or further incapacitated by the experience of confinement, the institution has done nothing to contribute to the control of crime—to say the least.

The booklet stresses the importance of offering career prospects to prison staff, and removing job dissatisfactions.

Prisoners' ordinary human rights should be observed: adequate food, tolerable clothing, a considerate attitude when giving orders or conducting searches, and so on. Equally important, the prisoner should feel that his legitimate complaints get attention. Some jurisdictions provide a special post-box in a prominent place in the institution, where letters can be placed for prompt, uncensored dispatch to certain appropriate government officials.

Censorship and prison discipline must be exercised fairly, and reasons for deci-

sions explained to the prisoner. The author lists nine basic rules for the treatment of offenders placed in segregation.

The last section deals with emergencies. In dealing with escapes, the most important thing is to have a detailed plan for sounding the alarm, mobilising resources, searching, and writing a report afterwards on lessons to be learned. The ideal as regards riots is of course to prevent them, by being aware if a bad "climate" develops and if possible getting to the root of dissatisfaction. But if a riot does occur, it is important that all staff should know in advance what to do. First the participants should be urged to select one or more spokesmen to confer with the governor; if this fails, the drill for riot squads and the use of water, gas or, in the last resort, firearms should be known to everyone.

A note on the dilemma of custodial officers in counsellor training

R. A. CRADDICK. *Canadian Journal of Corrections*, 1970, 12 (2), 117-119.

In a British setting this title would lead the reader to expect some reflexions on the difficulty of being authoritarian at one moment and a sympathetic listener at another; but this contribution by an American professor of psychology considers how to cope with the feelings of a prison officer who, having acted as a counsellor to a prisoner, may be called upon to shoot him if he ever tries to escape

Stripteasers: the anatomy and career contingencies of a deviant occupation

J. K. SKIPPER, jr., and C. H. MCCAGHY. *Social Problems*, 1970, 17 (3), 391-405.

The sociology of deviance is attracting much attention at present, and these two authors have chosen to study how and why girls become stripteasers. This is not a high-status profession—most of the girls preferred to use other descriptions of themselves, such as "entertainer". The money was, of course, a big attraction: none got less than \$200 a week, and some as much as \$1,500, and only one had the talent, education or training to earn more at any other legal occupation. As one said: "It sure beats going out and working". But the explanation was not as straightforward as that: a combination of factors evidently operated. One was physiological: nearly all were very attractive,

LESLIE LUMB

The Editor and members of the Board wish to place on record their appreciation of the services given to this Journal by Senior Officer Leslie Lumb, who died in March after retiring, on medical grounds, in February.

Joining the Prison Service in 1948, he served at Wandsworth until 1964 and since then at Norwich. Known to many staff because of his work for the Prison Officers Association, he became a member of this Board in 1963 and in the last seven years of his career had been a most conscientious and considerate colleague and one whose judgment we valued very highly. He enjoyed working for the Journal and was responsible for bringing in many contributions from staff of all ranks.

In expressing our sympathy to his family we would endorse the tribute paid by the Administration Officer of Norwich Prison, Mr. L. T. Stebbings: "I liked Leslie Lumb and know of no one who didn't."

or had unusually large busts, or both. One was environmental: three out of five came from broken and unstable homes, and many had left home before they were 18. Over two-thirds had previously held jobs in which the display of physical attributes was an integral part: dancers, artists' models, and so on. Thus it is not surprising that most had friends or employers who not only suggested stripping, but could give them the name of the person to contact. Finally, there was the chance factor: only two girls had always wanted to be strippers, and for most of them the decision to take up this occupation preceded their first appearance by only a few days, and in several cases by less than an hour. Certain findings remain unexplained, for example, that 31 out of the 35 girls interviewed were the first-born in their families (including five only children), as against about 30 per cent in the general population.

One further question remains: why do sociologists undertake such investigations? One unworthy explanation is disposed of by the fact that in all but one case, two researchers were present at each interview. But this article shows striking parallels between the factors which lead girls into a deviant occupation, and those which lead boys into delinquency. There does seem to be a case for criminologists to go out and study offenders in their natural habitat, as recommended by Polsky (*Hustlers, beats and others*. Chicago. Aldine, 1967), rather than to use a sample arbitrarily selected by the chance process of being caught and sentenced.

Time out from reinforcement: a technique for dethroning the "duke" of an institutionalised delinquent group

G. D. BROWN and V. O. TYLER, jr.,
Journal of Child Psychiatry and Psychology, 1968, 9, 203-211.

Although the title needs translating into plain English, this article is written in (mostly) everyday language. It is about dealing with a bully.

John, the "duke", had a typically deprived upbringing: his parents separated when he was four and a half, he wet his bed until he was twelve, and his mother could not control him. He was sent to an institution where he fought, stole, and intimidated other boys. Knowledge of his background did not help the staff: in many group and individual counselling sessions they confronted him with his inappropriate behaviour and focussed discussion on

pro-social alternatives, but his responses were defiant and surly. It became difficult to do anything with the other boys. It was also difficult to catch John in the act, since often his threats to other boys were non-verbal.

The authors examined the situation in terms of learning theory, and found that everything "reinforced" his conduct, i.e. gave him gratification. If he made another boy submit, he was pleased, if he "got away with" something against the staff, or even when he was punished, he was a hero. So he did it again.

A plan was worked out for removing John from this reinforcement by placing him in isolation when incidents were suspected. The programme and the reasoning behind it cannot easily be summarised and should be read in the original.

The number of incidents rose during the first month, but reverted to about the previous level in the next two months. John, however, was found much easier to deal with, and even discouraged other boys from doing things which would result in his being placed

in isolation. Even if this improvement were only superficial, it gave the staff a chance to spend time on the other boys.

Radio broadcasts by prisoners: a means of promoting a more educative institutional atmosphere

R. ZELLER. [In German]. *Zeitschrift für Strafvollzug*, 1970, 19 (2), 83-87.

Before the security authorities explode, it should be mentioned that only tape-recorded "broadcasts" are suggested. The aim is that a group of inmates should produce, say, 90 minutes of programme time per week, and in so doing should learn to work together. Programmes could include music, interviews, discussion programmes and so on, competently presented: staff and inmates should be involved, and also outsiders. Themes might include "The situation after release", "Better ways of expressing requests", and many others. The plan should be fully explained to staff before its introduction.

MARTIN WRIGHT

Looks at Books

Our reviewers this issue—

Mrs. STEPHANIE BRAITHWAITE, Psychologist, Holloway.

ALAN D. MORRISON, (Deputy Principal Probation Officer)

Probation Adviser, Staff College, Wakefield.

JOHN W. T. CAPE, Social Studies Department, Staff College, Wakefield.

COL. J. S. HAYWOOD, Assistant Director (Staff Training)

BRITISH JOURNAL OF CRIMINOLOGY—OCTOBER 1970—JUBILEE EDITION

MEMBERS of the Prison Service have long been used to the watchful eye of organisations such as the Howard League of Penal Reform and the Institute for the Study and Treatment of Delinquents. We do not all feel that their suggestions as to how we could better do our job are completely amiss, indeed some of us belong to these organisations and members of the Service attend their meetings and summer schools. In the last few years the Prison Service has become the focus of an increasing amount of academic research and we should, of course, welcome this. However, some researchers are so concerned by what they find, that they question the whole

concept of imprisonment. Not many months ago a movement entitled R.A.P. (radical alternatives to imprisonment) was founded on the idea that imprisonment is useless and to this end evidence is being accumulated by an attractive brunette called "Roz" who plainly is in business to put us out of business, perhaps appropriately R.A.P.'s headquarters is situated in Newgate Street, London!

So it is with some apprehension that one approaches reading an article entitled "Penal Reform as History" by Gordon Rose, Reader in Social Administration, University of Manchester, in this important edition of the B.J.C. The title gives an indication of how he tackles the subject: "penal reform is history in the making". Further on he writes: "We have been presented with problems of human engineering for

which our technology is not equipped". We have a new set of beliefs which make impossible our current human resources, and the older practices which used to be effective are denied in the name of humanity.

After a fairly general introduction in this vein he examines a number of factors from which I select those which struck chords of response in me.

"The Importance of Marginality" is seen to be a process by which we suffer inappropriate decisions to be forced upon us. Mass apathy turns to anger when specific situations become dramatised. As an example, the Mountbatten Report is cited. "The report shows little interest in the actual figures of escapes, and makes no attempt to relate them to population or staffing; and it is totally uninterested in escapes from open conditions which rocket from 127 in 1962 to 314 in 1965, and which raise particularly difficult issues for establishments, which are much more dependent upon the goodwill of the surrounding population than are secure prisons." I am not sure if staff of recently-opened security prisons would agree with this. However, he goes on to criticise the report's recommendations and their acceptance in two respects. First of all he feels the introduction of security classifications of prisoners and prisons to be ill-considered. Secondly, he feels the appointment of an inspector-general as an attempt to substitute a charismatic figure for much-needed real structural change.

However, he does concede that it may be necessary to prevent escapes which can be dramatised, in order to let the rest of the system operate without constant upsets. He recognises that important structural changes have taken place, albeit rather slow in arriving.

On the other side of the coin he notes that the adverse glare of publicity which is reflected in two approved school public inquiries has not spilled over into the borstal system which receives similar types of offender and uses similar techniques, and, of course, has also experienced a decline in success rates.

Finally, under this heading he includes the abolition of capital punishment. He sees the debate and actual legislation being far more important to political history than to penal change.

I next move to a paragraph called "the importance of grossness". By this Rose seems to be identifying a process whereby finely argued, narrowly defined theories, become distorted into wide

generalisations which can become not only generally accepted ideas but also a matter of legal action. He writes: "Another example of distortion through grossness has been the use of psycho-analytic theory concerning family relationships. This probably reached its extreme in Bowlbyism, a theory built upon a research basis which was too narrow to carry its weight, but which nevertheless heavily reinforces the trend towards formally-centred treatment".

"A further example is the gross generalisation about institutions derived from inadequate research in the special conditions of American prisons and mental hospitals, and used without the qualifications and complexities suggested by the authors." A view I heartily endorse.

"The generalisations of values which underlie legislative and administrative action is, of course, inevitable. What tends to happen as a result, however, is that each generation emerges with a set of beliefs which centre round the wrongness of certain methods of dealing with people. The resulting reaction tends towards a dangerous enshrinement of their positive beliefs in a system which is also ill-suited to the actual needs of the situation. This reaction may lead to a system somewhat better adapted to those real needs than before. But it may not." Reactionaries take heart!

In a paragraph on "electronics and other devices" Rose enumerates what he implies are the advantages of an electronically-operated prison. He then says: "In England the insistence on security has not been taken to the extreme of building a specially secure prison, which is technically possible. The argument that increased, and more unobtrusive security is a move towards a more relaxed situation within the prison, has thus been only moderately attractive to the English Prison Service". I don't think Mr. Rose has done his homework well here. Even were he right, it is irritating to be left high and dry. Does he agree with the "argument"? Who is to say that the electronic prison does in fact bring a more relaxed situation? What is its real effect on human relationships?

However, to move on to "management techniques", Mr. Rose seems to respond favourably to the new management structure at the top of the Prison Department even if he does say that "controllorate" has the analogy of "protectorate". He implies, but does not actually say that the controllorate of

planning, freed of short-term considerations, and having the resources of the chief psychologist attached to it, has possibilities. Also he likewise seems hopeful about regionalisation and the inspectorate.

In "the approach to treatment technology" he feels our approach towards treatment processes has, for the most part, been anecdotal and instinctive. He finds heartening the development of the Californian studies and treatment experiments, but feels that the English therapeutic community experiments have been insufficiently tested for their applicability to other settings. "Good social experiments, like good wine, travel badly."

The final paragraph "population, pressure and priorities" stimulates, perplexes and offers a little comfort. He suggests that although population pressures are important facts of life, with consequent shortage of resources, a more real problem might be that the values we are trying to pursue are contradictory. Could these values also have the effect of making resources too restricted? He goes on to make the point that we might be tied to success rates, with the goal of reducing crime. Obviously the penal system cannot of itself be accountable for the crime rate which depends on many other factors which are inter-linked. Do we want to improve some factors possibly at the expense of others? He argues that a real attempt at classifying offenders and observing their passage through the penal system would enable us to identify how different parts of the system affect offenders at differing stages of their careers.

"These few bits and pieces, inadequate as they are, hardly seem to support the general impression that the penal system is on its last legs; and the assumption that as a whole it has become more ineffective is impossible to affirm or deny in the present state of knowledge."

J.C.

INTRODUCTION TO SOCIAL WORK

ROBERT BESSELL

B. T. Batsford Ltd., London. 80p.

THIS book is intended to give an introductory account of the various fields of social work and available training facilities for students and interested

sixth formers. The fields covered are medical social work, probation and after-care, psychiatric social work, local authority health and welfare services and child care. The final chapter gives a brief account of social work methods and possible future developments in the social services.

As an introduction it has much to commend it and should appeal to a wider group of people than those considering a career in social work. The historical perspective so necessary to understand current organisation and prospective developments is given, both in general terms in the introduction, and subsequently in the five specific fields. There is much comment about current practice and Mr. Bessell has identified problem areas throughout his account, presenting conflicts in a critical manner. This has added considerably to the interest and realism of the book. Reference is made to the 1969 Children and Young Persons Act and to the consequences of this for the Child Care and Probation Services, which is useful and informative.

The chapter on "After-Care Responsibilities of the Probation Officer" is of particular interest to those working in the penal field, and some of Mr. Bessell's comments may well cause some surprise. He argues that the parole system could have a seriously adverse effect on the Probation Service's involvement in voluntary after-care with community participation. To counter this he hopes that either parole will not have a wide-spread effect or that a separate service will be established to avoid the confusion about the probation officer's role with regard to prison. It seems clear that neither alternative is likely, but also it could be argued that this aspect of the probation officer's role is being clarified through greater involvement with the Prison Service and that the parole system is facilitating this development. However, although the author's point of view may be criticised he gives a comprehensive account of areas of work, and the section on voluntary after-care with community involvement is particularly valuable.

The final chapter on "Social Work Method and the Future" covers briefly: social casework, family therapy, group-work, social organisation and development (community work) and social action. The changes taking place both in methods and organisation are outlined in a comprehensible way which is no mean achievement considering the complexity of the present situation.

"Introduction to Social Work" will

be useful to those for whom it was intended but also to readers in allied fields who have little knowledge of social work. It is comprehensive, realistic, critical and above all clearly written and very readable.

A.D.M.

CRIMINOLOGICAL IMPLICATIONS OF CHROMOSOME ABNORMALITIES

Ed. D. WEST.

Institute of Criminology,
University of Cambridge, 1969. £1.25.

THIS collection of papers serves as a stimulus to further interest in what is a complex and still largely unexplored area of knowledge.

Contributors consist of geneticists, an E.E.G. specialist, criminologists, psychiatrists, a prison medical officer, and a medical officer from the child guidance service. The range of articles is fairly wide within such a specialised field, but because it is such a specialised area, the data and references are sometimes repetitive. The bibliographies have been combined, thus avoiding more repetition.

The characteristics attributed to the XXY, the XYY, and males with other chromosome anomalies, vary considerably to the way the sample is selected and the way it is then examined. All the articles focus on chromosome abnormalities (mainly the XXY and the XYY) and the different ways of investigating these phenomena, which include chromosome studies in prisons and remand centres, in special hospitals, family and behavioural histories, general examinations, criminological implications, historical views, cerebral functioning, legal accountability and an individual study.

Principally the samples used are people of varying ages in prisons, remand homes and special hospitals: Rampton, Moss Side and Carstairs. All samples of abnormal chromosome groups however are inevitably small, and it is difficult as well as precarious to draw conclusions from such a small number. Both the findings and techniques vary. Many areas were investigated, e.g. past history of mental illness; subnormality, criminology and mental illness within the family; parental loss; number of previous convictions (i.e.

person or property offences); alcoholism; homosexuality; other sexually deviant behaviour; behaviour in institutions; rate of achievement; psychological test scores of intelligence and personality factors; height; ratio of stature and transverse chest diameter; armspan/height differences; E.E.G. abnormalities; G.S.R. reactivity; endocrinological investigations into amounts of testosterone and oestrogens produced; radiography; dermatoglyphics; and aspects of criminal law.

It seems a thorough and detailed account of the field at the present time, and it includes some recommendations for the future from its contributors, e.g. "future samples should not focus on the anomalies of the sex chromosomes alone, and furthermore, selection for height is not desirable in these studies", that "presence of an extra chromosome plays only a small part in predisposing to delinquency" and that it is "premature to allow presence of an extra X or Y chromosome to be used in legal proceedings", and that more follow-up with regard to "adjustment to the outside world" be done, and last but not least, that more investigations to find the true incidence of these abnormalities within the normal population are necessary in order to place the above findings in perspective.

Although many findings have been made known in the book, the following statements still apply: "there is no evidence which indicates that the XYY male is bound inextricably to develop anti-social traits" (Court Brown *et al.* 1968); "It is possibly that the XYY complement may have been a less important medico-legal implication than at first might have been supposed . . . it may rather take its place amongst the multitude of predisposing, partial or contributory factors, such as lesser degrees of impaired intelligence, or a long history of behaviour disorders resistant to remedial measures". Scott and Kahn.

It is difficult to assess who the book was written for. Some of the papers are highly technical, others more or less jargon-free, so that the reader with a little knowledge of genetics can appreciate it. Diagrams would have been an improvement and may have made the book less forbidding to would-be interested parties. The book may well reveal the fact that this kind of research is still in its infancy, but from its range of approaches to the subject, has indicated the various aspects that may prove profitable to pursue in the future.

S.B.

THE ENGLISH PENAL SYSTEM IN TRANSITION

J. E. HALL WILLIAMS, LL.M.

Butterworth. £2.80.

THE dedication of the book shows at once the purpose of it: "To my students, for whom it is written," it runs. It fulfils its purpose because it draws a precise picture of the main features of the English Penal System: it is brief but interesting in its historical areas; it is careful in its detail of technical matters; it is accurate in its descriptions of types of establishments; it is wide enough to include reference to all aspects of the philosophy and practice of dealing with offenders before, during and after sentence; it is easy of reference; it adds considerable authority to any collection of works on penal matters.

The book does not pretend to be a study in depth, but is one which will give a broad picture of our system, backed by a wealth of notes and references to which a more serious student of criminology can turn with confidence.

In producing a review of this nature, there is a temptation for a prison man to write a book alongside it. I have resisted the temptation!

J. E. Hall Williams divides his book logically into six sections and so equally logically I find it convenient to look at each part or section in the same order.

He begins his work with sentencing and this included "The Aims of Punishment and The Sentencing Process". I must say at once that it is refreshing to find a modern criminologist going to some lengths to point out that public opinion is an important element in punishment. Perhaps he should have gone further (as I would) for I would always put "Satisfaction of Society" (or something of that character) alongside those other aims which have in mind processes for more effectively dealing with the offender and those who are like-minded.

I find the chapter on "Punishment", a short, but valuable, view of the main areas beginning with the plea for a new word to replace "punishment" and ending with a generous compliment to the Prison Service. Magistrates should find this chapter of great value dealing as it does with the various institutions, punishments, alternatives available and to practicalities of sentencing. The author in this part points out once more the differences in the practices (of sentencing) followed by Courts and Judges. He adds Robert Kennedy's argument that the solution to the prob-

lem of sentencing "does not rest in making sentences equal, but in making sentencing philosophies agree".

In his section on "Imprisonment for Adults", Mr. Hall Williams rightly points out the difficulty in establishing a balance between safe custody on the one hand and training and treatment on the other. There is no doubt about the difficulties, but equally there is no doubt that difficulties and differences are overcome in the practical situation, though the cost may be great. We, in the field, will always assert this. Perhaps there never can be a complete resolution of these problems and the cost will always be great, but they should not be allowed to hold up the work in these areas. Perhaps staff too need "encouraging and assisting", especially by criminologists. In this connection I always find it strange that authorities in the penal field seem to pay little attention to staff training. Surely this is a vital element in the whole problem. The proper deployment of adequately trained staff must be in the forefront of any thinking on management. The Central Training Organisation of Prison Department with its staff at Headquarters, Staff College, two officers' training schools, in the regions and at local level, represents a most important investment in training for all natures of staff and in the whole area of staff deployment.

We must all be glad that the author points out the necessity for more research, but he goes on to say that we must look more and more at the total situation of the offender. In addition to an examination of penal measures we must not neglect the many influences in the home, in employment and in the community in which the offender has his being.

His chapter on "Remission, Pardon and Parole" shows his own great interest in the latter method of treatment. In a few short paragraphs he gives a very good account of the working of the parole scheme.

There is a chapter on "Female Offenders", but like Mr. Hall Williams we are all "waiting for Godot", in the shape of the new Holloway. Everything in this part of the field is overshadowed by the new project at Holloway. In a way this is a pity, because, although no one denies the necessity for a new establishment, there is so much of interest and value to be found elsewhere in this particular part of the system.

Part IV of the book deals with non-custodial measures and the author takes the opportunity of presenting a history of probation, its present practices and its short and long-term future. His views

on that important part of the service operating in prison establishments, the prison welfare officer, are found elsewhere in the book.

In dealing with "Offenders under Twenty-one", it is natural for the author to spend some time in dealing with borstals since this type of treatment is now under examination. He points out the problems in overcrowding and especially when pressures for accommodation are influencing the amount of time spent under training. He goes on to support the borstal after-care director who expresses "confidence in the inherent value of borstal training and is undismayed by depressing figures for the success of the system. The figures do not lie, of course, they simply do not reveal the truth".

Mr. Hall Williams spells out some of the criticisms of the borstal system but then goes on to make frank and generous remarks about it. He speaks of the effects it has had on the training of staff of all grades, "many of whom later find themselves posted to work in prisons. The 'borstalisation' of the Prison Service, while never complete, has been a gradual process . . . if our prisons were as good as our borstals we should have less cause for concern". He then makes a very welcome addition by saying "many of them (prisons) are almost as good and are becoming in many respects indistinguishable from borstal institutions".

I will make no comment on his views about detention centres except to draw attention to his final remark on the subject and that is a report from Council of Europe which has given the English detention centre system a favourable report!

"Future Trends" ends this book, but obviously Mr. Hall Williams has much more to say and I would think another good book will one day appear. This depends on many people and one of those is his wife, "without whom it (this book) would not have been completed", for she took upon herself the task of typing every word. That is what "dedication" is all about.

Finally, let me join issue with my friend on "Transition". I hope the movement to "a scientific and well thought-out variety of regimes and measures" does not imply that the present system is without aims and patterns or that there will be no room in the future for attitudes that recognise that wherever you turn in the prisons you see human beings and their needs and these do not necessarily respond to pure systems.

J.S.H.

The Media and the Message

ALAN RAYFIELD

THERE is a social theory that in times of peace, prosperity and Protestant supremacy, the treatment of offenders is at worst harsh and at best patronisingly severe. All is done for the best possible reasons and all are agreed that after a period of social indoctrination malefactors see the error of their ways and try to earn an honest profit like everyone else. Unfortunately, this particular path to grace led to the mushrooming of so many Pentonvilles which, due to the confidence of our ancestors in the rightness of their ways, were built to last for as long as God saw fit to sustain Englishmen in their predominance. Nowadays with those wretched foreigners refusing to let us play in their Market even though we ruined a perfectly good currency on their behalf and with unemployment reaching Ramsay MacDonald proportions, we see things differently. Social reformers pray that Pentonville will crumble into ruin whilst accountants examine the costs of the new Holloway and pray it does not. All this is a rather roundabout way of saying that the Press, television and the magazine world have given the Prison Service and its problems a fairly sympathetic hearing during the last few months. It culminated with the various Press reports and editorials commenting favourably on Lord Mountbatten's remarks to the N.A.C.R.O. Conference expressing his concern for the way in which the recommendations in his famous report were being handled. However, since experience has shown that one way to relieve a social conscience is to indulge in Home Office bashing whilst refusing to accept responsibility for the way it is forced to operate, I will reserve judgement on *that* particular subject.

MATCH SPLITTING

In fact, the unveiling of the plan for the new Holloway provided the main item of news in all the media, with B.B.C.

television giving it the full "Man Alive" double feature treatment. The first programme went out on 3rd March and was called "The Way It Is". Harold Williamson was the reporter and he was given considerable freedom to interview both prisoners and staff: it was clear from the responses he obtained that this freedom was recognised by the inmates as a reality. He spoke with several women, all of whom responded very easily and spoke with considerable animation about their experiences. The producer created the impression of human beings making the best of things in a dreadful physical building which no doubt created the right psychological atmosphere for viewers to accept the plans for the new building when they were later revealed. Staff were given limited but sympathetic publicity but in the main the programme concentrated upon the inmates. Williamson did his best and dutifully plugged "prison is a deterrent" line but the prisoners implied that Holloway was no such thing, and cheerfully introduced him to ways of "making out", such as splitting matches in four and telling him how to fiddle a diet. One interesting point for the sociologist was the way in which inmates and staff used both public and private language during formal or public occasions such as discharge and reception boards. This subject in itself would make a fascinating programme but here it passed unnoticed.

The following week brought the usual "Man Alive" discussion programme with Desmond Wilcox in the chair. I wish I could view these Hyde Park Corner confrontations with more confidence than I do but the basic structure of the event makes a logical public debate almost impossible. The usual assorted mixture were present ("take two reformers, an ex-prisoner, three members of the public and stir") and the usual dogmas were asserted. Mrs. Kelley was present and was allowed to

put the official viewpoint with very little interruption and she was followed by a female magistrate whose main philosophy was "keep 'em out of prison and put 'em in hostels and hospitals". Later on in the programme this lady asserted that prisoners *have* to develop insight, whereupon an ex-prisoner said that intellectually she had had this insight at the time of her offence which confounded the good magistrate not at all. However, Mrs. Kelley did not have to do much defending as it turned out because also on the programme there appeared a man who called the inmates the "lowest dregs of our society" and who stoutly maintained this high standard of prejudice throughout the programme. He drew all the fire and left Mrs. Kelley unscathed. One has to hand it to the B.B.C., they find these splendid creatures alive and well in deepest Surrey when all had thought them virtually extinct. The programme ended with the message that the public must accept responsibility and provide viable alternatives to prison, in the form of hostels for addicts, for example, if they do not want women in prison. One interesting point was that the word "holiday" was used at least twice instead of "Holloway" in the discussion: I draw no conclusions from this.

"NEW SOCIETY"

New Society came up with an article by Katrin FitzHerbert on 25th February called "New Holloway?" in which she makes the point that just as the old Holloway reflected the faiths and beliefs of the society which built it so will the new one say more "about our values than about the potential for change of those who will be treated there". A sobering but true thought.

Returning to the box, there were two other items deserving of comment: these were the "Crime and the Criminal" series which appeared over a nine-week period on B.B.C. 2, and "Omnibus" on B.B.C. 1 for Sunday 14th March. The "Crime and the Criminal" series appeared to be loosely connected with the Open University programmes on B.B.C. 2 and were really an idiot's guide to popular myths about crime. They were at their best when ex-inmates and villains talked about their motivation and experiences and at their worst when the Baroness Wootton was given five minutes to examine the pros and cons

of probation. In other words, the programmes helped paint a picture by numbers but were useless for the appreciation of an Old Master if the Baroness will forgive the unintentional implication of the metaphor.

I had no such reservations concerning the "Omnibus" programme. It was inspired by the Koestler awards to prisoners and was an anthology of poetry, painting, music and thoughts called "A World of its Own". It was narrated by Zeno, himself a recipient of a Koestler award, and was linked together by extracts from his book *Life*. The point was well made that prison gives a man time in which to indulge in fantasies ("they are all we have") and Zeno's book illustrated poignantly the meaninglessness of time. The film contained scenes from several prisons and prisoners spoke their own thoughts about the arts and how they helped them to cope with their feelings. It is a curious thought that the art room could be more important than the control room in the security of an establishment when it comes to helping prisoners control and express their violence. Guilt plus time plus latent talent plus need to express feelings equals prison art and this programme more than any other seen recently should provide an answer to the "holiday camp" school of penal criticism.

Tostig in his regular column in *New Society* for 11th February examined the case of a difficult 15-year-old girl in the care of the Islington children's department and how that department had been taken to task by the popular Press for the "scandal" of its treatment of her. The whole point revolved around the fact that the girl was allowed some choice in her own destiny and was given a chance to live in open society by working in a small hotel near her home. Unfortunately she later appeared before the Courts and was found guilty of soliciting. The full facts will probably never be laid before the public, which does not prevent public judgement being passed on the children's department, but Tostig's point is that if difficult and delinquent people are to be allowed a say in the way that their lives should be run then "risks must be run and we will not be so carefully insulated by institutions from the sins and suffering that

are a part of life". If we in the Prison Service are ever to apply Sir Alexander Paterson's dictum "that you cannot train for freedom in conditions of captivity" then the public must be prepared to accept that risks will be taken. As for the fate of the Islington children's department, we have suffered that in the past often for much less cause: if we must have "scandals" let them at least be worthwhile!

Finally, Geoffrey Parkinson emerges from the winter in an article which appeared on 18th March in *New Society* called "How to become a social worker". In this article he describes the various attempts he made to get into social work in those halcyon pre-Seebohm days of yesteryear. Parkinson writes with considerable uncomfortable insight into the motivation of those who would "help" others and concludes that "If I could not get paid for helping others, I am not sure I could get paid for doing anything else". These sentiments will no doubt be echoed by those who provide the raw material for our spanking new social work departments and we all know what prisoners say of prison staff. One can agree with Parkinson up to a point, to examine one's own motivation is usually a painful process, but he does himself and social workers less than justice to imply that a talent for helping people is less worthy of exploitation than, say, a talent for mending cars. It is this attitude which is the despair of professionals and helps to keep social workers' salaries at a low level.

Regular readers will have noticed that my comments are restricted to television, the Press and *New Society*. I make no apologies for this since these are all I can reasonably cover with any degree of thoroughness. My predecessor also managed to lend an ear to the radio but I confess that apart from its valuable contribution to my pre-breakfast timetable I do not pay it that Reithean regard. However, should any film come my subjective way I will attempt to do it justice but I would remind readers that Wakefield is not exactly the West End and opportunities for seeing the latest biting social commentary from Europe or America come late and rare. Nevertheless, when "Carry On in Prison" is eventually made I can guarantee a review not more than six months old.

The Howard Journal of Penology and Crime Prevention

**Fiftieth Anniversary Issue
1971**

*Edited by Hugh J. Klare, C.B.E., and
issued under the auspices of the
Howard League for Penal Reform.*

The *Howard Journal* is essential reading for all who need to keep up to date with advances in the understanding of delinquency and in the treatment of offenders. Each annual issue contains contributions from specialists in the various branches of penology and crime prevention, not only in this country but in other parts of the world. Readers are therefore able to keep abreast with developments in other countries which may often be applicable to British problems.

This year the *Howard Journal* commemorates its fiftieth anniversary with a special issue, the contents of which are as follows:

The Treatment of Murderers

David Hewlings

Prison Welfare?

G. W. Appleyard

Professionals and Volunteers in Prison Aftercare

Hugh Barr

Sex Offenders and their Psychiatric Treatment

Dr. W. Paterson-Brown

Group Work with Offenders in Institutions

Dr. O. Wilfert

The Redevelopment of Holloway Prison

David Faulkner

Imprisonment Today

Professor K. Sverl

There is also a section devoted to reviews of books on related topics, and an Editorial by Hugh J. Klare.
£1.40 net

Despatch Charges: Orders of £3 or less, add 20p; £6 or less, add 30p; £10 or less, add 40p; £15 or less add 50p; £20 or less add 60p; over £20 add 70p;

**Butterworths, 88 Kingsway,
London WC2B 6AB**

**Showroom: 11-12 Bell Yard,
Temple Bar, WC2**

Copies may be obtained from
HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

49 High Holborn, London, W.C.1
Brazennose Street, Manchester, M60 8AS
13a Castle Street, Edinburgh, 2
50 Fairfax Street, Bristol, BS1 3DE
109 St. Mary Street, Cardiff, CF1 1JW
258 Broad Street, Birmingham, 1
7 Linenhall Street, Belfast, BT2 8AY

or through any bookseller

Printed in England