APPENDIX N

Assistance Actually Rendered

As pointed out in Appendices L and M, some of the statutes specify that "assistance" in leading law-abiding lives shall be rendered to paroled and discharged convicts, and in others the permission to render active aid is implicit. What is definitely absent from the legislation is provision of the means for such assistance. In an effort to find out how much aid actually is given, specific inquiries were addressed to the heads of state parole organizations. The replies received indicate clearly that, however well intentioned those officials may be, the lack of means and facilities is such that real aid from state sources, as distinct from private organizations, is practically non-existent.

The inquiries were these:—

"2. When a prisoner is released at the expiration of his sentence, what effort is made by state officials—as distinct from private agencies—to get him a job?

"3. Is anything done, by the state, to provide help in finding new jobs, or to provide him with food and shelter until he can find self-supporting work?

"5. Is anything more done for persons who are paroled before the expiration of sentence than is done for those who are released only because the full term has been served?"

The replies received were as follows:

Alabama.

2 and 3. There is no provision for efforts by state officials to secure employment for those prisoners released at the completion of sentences. There is in existence a combined state and federal project known as the State Employment Service wherein all unemployed including those released from penal institutions may register and are placed in and are called for work by this agency when openings occur.
5. More is done for those people paroled before the expiration of sentence than is done for those released at the completion of sentence. All those released on parole are aided toward securing employment, and if they become unemployed while on parole, the parole officer is charged with the duty of attempting to locate employment. Such parolees are instructed to carry any and all problems to their parole officer, and this officer has full instructions to consult with the parolee during his supervision rounds on matters which might contribute to a rehabilitation of the subject.

**Arizona.**
2. None.
5. Generally prospective parolees are given positions of trust for a period prior to release.

**California.**
2. Before being released on parole a prisoner must have employment which meets with the approval of the state parole officer. Jobs are not secured by state officials. Discharged men do not require jobs.
3. The state does not provide help in finding new jobs. There is a fund for the aid of discharged and for old men, providing they have no other means of support.
5. No. No distinction is made between paroled and discharged men.

**Delaware.**
2. None by state officers.
3. Nothing except through the medium of the state parole board.
5. The paroled prisoner is assisted in securing employment and a home.

**Florida.**
2. Only occasionally.
3. No.
5. No.

**Idaho.**
2. Very little. The state parole officer (there will be two after May 8) sometimes is able to secure employment for a man. Neither is there any recognized private agency carrying on such work.
3. Nothing more than number one above. (1. An outgoing prisoner receives $15 in cash and the warden spends not to exceed $15 in seeing that he is clothed.)

5. There is no particular distinction in furnishing assistance as between parolees and those who complete their terms.

**Illinois.**

2. Usually no effort.

3. There is nothing done.

5. Yes, in a great majority of cases in Illinois. (The gist of the reply is that since the statute requires that before release they must have a home, sponsor, and employment free from criminal influence, the board assists them in finding such a set-up.)

**Indiana.**

2. When a prisoner is released at the end of his sentence no effort is made by state officials to get him a job unless he asks for such assistance. This happens infrequently. In some cases, however, both the institution officials and this department do assist in finding employment for discharged men.

3. Nothing is done by the state to provide help in finding new jobs or to provide him with food and shelter until he can find self-supporting work other than has been described above. Naturally he has access to the state employment service. I feel sure that any one in our organization would assist such a man if he asked for assistance, but certainly no effort is made to get him to ask for it.

5. If the prisoner cannot propose a satisfactory home, sponsor and employment, then this department undertakes to secure these for him and he is not released until they are secured.

**Kansas.**

3. Persons released on parole must have employment or support. If the parolee or his relatives or friends have been unable to secure such employment he is held until such time as the parole officer is able to properly place him. The parole officer personally checks or receives regular reports from parolees under his supervision. In case any one of his parolees is having difficulty with his job or loses it, the parole officer does all in his power to secure reemployment for him. (Though the reply does not specifically so state, apparently nothing is done for the person released because of expiration of sentence.)
Kentucky.

2. Upon release at the end of the sentence, the state does nothing per se, but the warden or some of the employees may and frequently do render personal help in getting the person released a job.

3. To provide help in finding new jobs, or to provide the released person with food and shelter until he can find self-supporting work, the state makes no provision.

5. (The gist of this reply is that the state requires a person to have a job before release on parole and that officials help him to find it.)

Louisiana.

(The gist of the reply is that the Department of Public Welfare has been substituted for the Board of Parole. The Department is not responsible for prisoners who have been released from the penitentiary at the expiration of their full term. When a prisoner makes application for parole "he frequently has a definite plan at the time he makes his application and in almost every case he has a promise of employment. This employment is usually secured for him by his sponsor or first friend. The investigation of the parole is made by employees of this department who contact the persons who know the applicant for parole. In this work, plans for the employment for the parolee are determined. If the parolee is eligible for public assistance, this may be provided by the Department of Public Welfare." "Employment is a prerequisite of parole, but there is no organized or routine help available to the prisoner who has served his sentence and is receiving his full discharge. In a few instances prison officials are able to assist the man who is being discharged, or put in his way opportunities for employment, but only in a few.")

Maine.

2. If paroled, every possible effort is made to procure employment for him, but this is not so if he is discharged.

3. If paroled, he is assisted in finding employment before parole and at any time during his parole period, but no provision is made for providing food and shelter.

Maryland.

2. The state parole department has no employment service but, in case of prisoners approved for parole, assists in the obtaining of
satisfactory jobs through the state employment service, community placement bureaus, and by a limited amount of employment contacts made by parole officers.

3. In case of prisoners approved for parole, the parole department, in addition to assisting in an arrangement for jobs as set forth above, refers worthy cases to the Prisoners Aid Association of Maryland for maintenance until satisfactory employment is arranged.

5. The division of parole does no work for prisoners who are released by expiration of sentence. The Prisoners Aid Association of Maryland, a private agency, does considerable work with such released prisoners.

Massachusetts.

2. When a man is released, having served his maximum time, there is not very much done for him in the way of assistance. In fact, we have found that a man who has served his full time shows very little initiative or interest in allowing us to be of any help to him, so I would say the assistance given to such men is very little.

3. When a man is released on parole in this state he comes out on an approved home and job. The jobs are procured through the efforts of the parole officers in the respective district in which the man is going to live.

5. There is decidedly more assistance given to men on parole than to those who have served their full time and leave the institution without parole supervision. . . . Besides the various relief agencies, a great deal is done through our employment program which has been set up, wherein the parole officers devote one-half day each month in contacting the various employers of help in districts assigned to them, and in this way acquaint the employers with the capabilities of some of their men.

Michigan.

2. The prison officials and the parole and probation officials do everything possible to find employment for former inmates. However, there are no funds available with which to provide former inmates with food and shelter until they can find self-supporting work.

3. Each inmate is required to have an approved work and home contact prior to his release from the institution on parole. The in-
mates have to do most of the work in finding the jobs, but our parole officers are doing very fine work in placing these men in private industry and on farms. The parole office has a small fund from which money is loaned to parolees to tide them over the rough spots, but this fund is very small and not nearly enough to be of much help.

5. Should a person serve his maximum sentence and leave the prison on a discharge, we have lost all jurisdiction over him, and consequently have no further contact with him. Prisoners who have been discharged from prison are given every assistance by parole and prison officials if and when needed.

**Minnesota.**

2. When a prisoner is released by expiration of sentence usually no effort is made by state officials to secure employment for them. There may be exceptions to this statement, but whatever action is taken is purely voluntary on the part of the person who helps the prisoner.

3. Nothing whatsoever is done by the state. The $25 plus any savings that the prisoner may have made from his earnings at the institution is what he must rely upon until he can find self-supporting work.

5. When released on parole, persons are not permitted to leave the institution until a bona fide job has been located.

**Mississippi.**

2. No effort is made to secure work for him.


5. The Governor in granting suspensions or paroles usually requests those securing suspensions for a prisoner to guarantee employment.

**Missouri.**

2. (Nothing is done for the few who are kept in confinement until the end of the term.)

5. If the subject is released on parole he must have employment before he is released, or at least be assured of maintenance in a home. ... Every effort is made to see that their employment situation is satisfactorily taken care of. ... Should one be released with no additional funds and no job we have an agency in St. Louis.
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and one in Kansas City which will give temporary assistance to such people. Our probation and parole officers exert every effort to properly place the fellow in a job.

Montana.

2. No attempt is made to secure work for a released prisoner.
3. No.
5. No.

New Hampshire.

2. State parole officer assists in finding a job.
3. A small fund is provided by the state for this purpose.
5. Yes. (The answer does not say in what respect.)

New York.

2. Every indeterminate-sentence inmate released in this state must have a job prior to such release. If he loses this after he becomes a parolee, we have an employment bureau which attempts to place these men. In addition, we have just secured the services of an additional employment man to attempt to make inmate placements for those men who have exhausted their own resources and who would be released except that they have been unable to get work.

So far as I know the Department of Correction does not take responsibility for after-care of men who have served their maximum. But should some of them voluntarily come to us we would of course give them what service is possible. At least we could refer them to agencies equipped to deal with the particular problems presented.

Ohio.

2. Apparently nothing is done for persons automatically released at expiration of the sentence in the way of finding a job. Generally before he is released on parole we try to have definite employment or work already lined up for him. However, if he does not already have a definite job, our parole officers aid and assist him in securing work as soon as possible.

3. Those who are paroled from our institutions are not permitted to leave the institution until they do find a sponsor or some one who is willing to provide food and shelter until he can find self-supporting work.
5. Both groups are treated practically the same.

**Oklahoma.**

2. When he is so released, nothing is done by the state to aid him in finding employment.

3. No provision is made by this state to aid a released prisoner in finding a new job, or to provide him with food and shelter until he can find self-supporting work, except the usual relief agencies.

5. Nothing more is done for persons who are paroled before the expiration of sentence than is done for those who are released only because the full term has been served, except that by the conditions of their parole they are required to report in writing to this office once each month.

**Oregon.**

2. The State Board of Parole and Probation endeavors to secure employment for those men who have been ordered paroled and have not been successful in obtaining employment themselves or through their relatives and friends. In this connection the State Parole Department has working agreements with the Federal and State Employment Offices, the State Welfare Commission, and the Works Progress Administration for the securing of employment.

3. The State Board of Parole and Probation lends its efforts toward the finding of employment for either a discharged prisoner or one who has previously been released on parole who has lost his job. Our efforts however are limited solely to service and we have no capital expenditure provided to provide temporary relief. However, our experience has been that the welfare office and the Red Cross and the Salvation Army have adequately met all emergency demands.

5. While the State Parole and Probation Department is willing to help prisoners who have completed their maximum sentences, the call upon us in this connection has been very small. Our efforts to secure employment is mainly for those men who have been ordered paroled or are on parole. There is no rule, regulation, or law to this effect, but this seems to be the way it works out from a practical standpoint. The man who is discharged does not make his wants or needs known to State officials, and we know not whence he goes after he is released.
Pennsylvania.

2. Before a release on parole is effected, it is necessary that the prisoner have a suitable employment plan. In the event he is unable to procure employment through the efforts of relatives or friends, agents of the Department of Justice make suitable contact and do in a great number of cases obtain employment.

3. If a discharged prisoner is unable to adequately take care of himself between jobs or in finding a new job, our agents assist. If he is without funds, money is advanced to him and shelter provided for.

5. Wholly discharged prisoners and paroled prisoners are accorded equal treatment.

Rhode Island.

2. An inmate serving full time is a free lance on discharge and no effort is made at present to secure employment for him. However, an inmate seeking parole must have legitimate employment to go to when paroled. In some cases the Division of Probation and Parole aids him in this respect.

3. No effort is made to provide employment, food or shelter for indigent ex-inmates. However, there are two bills pending in our State Legislature to provide for proper care and supervision of this type of inmate on discharge.

5. Much is done for parolees during their period of supervision, such as—aiding them in making proper social adjustment, retaining employment, etc. Inmates discharged at expiration receive no supervision of any kind.

South Carolina.


3. Not Directly by State.

5. No.

South Dakota.

You will be interested to know that a group of inmates of the state penitentiary has recently formed an “Employment Advisory Council.” The purpose of the Council is to secure the cooperation and support of state officials, judges, civic, social, fraternal and religious organizations in an effort to aid the released prisoners in rehabilitating themselves. The Council suggests that each organization might act as a
sponsor for one man who will be released, obtain a job for him in his line of work and appoint one member of their organization to act in an advisory capacity to whom the man could turn for advice should problems arise.

2. Nothing.
3. No.
5. Yes, it is necessary for an inmate to have a job before being released on parole.

**Texas.**

2. When he is so released no effort is made by state officials to get him a job.
3. Nothing is done by the state to provide help in finding jobs, or to provide him with food and shelter.
5. Persons who are paroled before the expiration of sentence are furnished an outfit of clothes, a ticket to the place of conviction and five dollars in money. Such persons are required to report to the Voluntary County Parole Board of the County where he will reside. Prisoners are generally required to have a promise of employment before being recommended for parole. Persons who because of lack of outside contact are unable to secure employment before release are assisted in that matter by the County Parole Boards.

**Washington.**

2. The State, through the supervisors of this Department, makes every effort to secure employment for parolees. They contact industries, farmers and employees generally and certain church workers also render valuable assistance.
3. The State makes no provision to provide help except by the help of our parole supervisors who attempt to find suitable employment for them.
5. Our efforts toward help in the way of securing jobs is directed in behalf of parolees only, for we find persons who have served their maximum, seldom, if ever, request or expect any help from the State or our Department.

**West Virginia.**

2 and 3. West Virginia has no means whereby prisoners being released at the expiration of their sentences may have jobs awaiting
them. Our Probation and Parole Officers, of which there are now eight, do endeavor to find employment for those under their supervision. In the event the officers can aid those released, they do so, but not many call upon them for their services.

5. As promptly as possible the Probation and Parole Officer investigates cases assigned to him and sends in his report to the Director of Probation and Parole. In these reports are given the prisoner's background, future outlook, home, employment, etc. If, in the Director's opinion, the case presents a proper outlook for parole, the Director then passes the case, with his recommendation, to the Governor for his signature. If the Governor signs the release order, it is then forwarded to the Parole and Record Clerk at the institution at Moundsville. There the prisoner is given supervision report forms for his use during the parole period. The Probation and Parole Law provides that the parolee shall be on parole for his maximum sentence. He is under supervision of one of the Probation and Parole Officers during that time and reports to him at regular intervals.

In most instances, our parolees have employment before they are released. This is the work of the Probation and Parole Officers. In the event a prisoner is released without a job, then his supervising officer contacts him and discusses with him the type of work for which he is best qualified. Every effort is made to find such work. The parolee is advised prior to his release that his supervising officer will aid him in any possible manner. He is to contact him immediately in the event situations arise which trouble him and which in some way may be the cause of his violating the conditions of his release.

Wisconsin.

2 and 3. If a man is released by parole, of course, he would have to have a job before he can go out. He is encouraged to make every effort through friends and relatives and others to find a job, but in addition to that, the officers of the parole department do everything possible to secure a job for him. They have had considerable success along that line I must say. If a man goes out by way of discharge without parole, some effort is made on some occasions by the members of the probation and parole department of the state to also secure a job for the man. Their first effort is to find jobs for those that go out
by way of parole however, but in special cases they also are of help to men who go out by way of discharge. In fact, when a man inquires about it, it is always suggested that he go to the parole officer in his district and ask for suggestions and help even though he has been finally discharged.

5. A great deal more is done for persons who are paroled than for those who stay here until the end of their sentence. After a man goes out on discharge, we have no hold over him and can only give him a little extra service when he specifically requests it. For those that go out on parole, however, there is the guidance and the backing and the help of a parole officer during the entire remaining part of their sentence.

Wyoming.
2. No particular effort.
3. If necessary, is cared for through County Departments of Public Welfare.
5. No.