

## PRISON REFORM LIVE ISSUE IN ALL COUNTRIES

Tendency to Substitute Industrial Employment for Ancient Methods.

FATHER O'SULLIVAN  
WHO HAS MADE STUDY

Of the Question Gives Much  
Wise Counsel as to Methods  
Which Should be Employed

Reform and improvement in prison conditions and methods of dealing with the criminal classes is a matter which absorbs the attention of many people whose thought is given to the social betterment of the world. The tendency of late years in all civilized and progressive countries and communities has been to institute a system of industrial employment combined with humane and intelligent treatment for those condemned to undergo terms of punishment. Enforced labor by automatic machinery such as the tread-mill, crank and shot drill has been condemned as unsatisfactory, as has been the system of cellular or solitary confinement except in special and extreme cases.

Father O'Sullivan of St. Thomas Aquinas church, who is an ardent advocate of work as a means of reformation, has calculated to cure many of the world's social and economic ills, and has advanced a new theory which has in it much that is worthy of serious consideration on the part of those whose task it is to deal with the criminals of the country. During his opinions chiefly on his observations during the recent war when he was acting as an army chaplain, the scheme proposed for reformation by Father O'Sullivan is that every man who is tried and sentenced for some minor crime shall be given, not a month or two or three months in prison, but, shall instead be sent to a farm or some responsible person, and made to work out his term of punishment with the labor of his hands and the sweat of his brow, under natural and normal conditions.

The labor problem, especially with Canadian farmers just now is an acute one, and many of them would, in Father O'Sullivan's opinion, be glad to take advantage of such an opportunity to secure assistance. Stringent conditions would necessarily have to be enforced regarding the terms on which the prisoners were sent out and the farmers who received them would have to be carefully selected, and have sufficient power to prevent them from escaping or carrying on any nefarious or criminal practices. They would go to the farm as a prisoner under sentence and he would be so marked before being dispatched as to make identification easy at any time. He would be under surveillance, while every one in the neighborhood would be aware of the fact that he was there as a prisoner doing sentence, and not as a freewill laborer.

Nevertheless, in spite of the strict supervision which would necessarily have to be exercised over him, and the publicity necessary to warn his neighbors and associates of his character in order to safeguard them in the event of his proving incorrigible, by this means prisoners would be individualized instead of being herded together as they are under all present schemes of prison labor, a system which makes the criminal in the first stages of his descent liable to fall still further, and does nothing to raise the hardened sinner from his iniquities.

Moreover, under Father O'Sullivan's scheme, a very drastic deterrent would be placed upon the criminal, i.e., those who make a habit of committing minor crimes in order that they may be sentenced to a term of imprisonment, and who have no intention of ever mending their ways, or earning their living by decent and orthodox methods while there are hospitable government institutions which will shelter and feed them for nothing.

Thus a threefold purpose would be served, whereby the useful labor for farm production would be secured, the segregation of minor criminals would be provided for (whereby a complete change of environment and occupation may be influenced towards a more worthy mode of life and many might be influenced towards moral rectitude) and a tremendous saving in government expenditure would be effected.

As a proof of the financial and economic value to a nation that may accrue from prison labor Father O'Sullivan points to the example by France and Germany of the men taken by them as prisoners. In both countries, during the war, every able bodied man was utilized in whatever trade or branch of labor he was skilled or proficient, or if he had no definite trade he was used for the unskilled manual labor of the country. French farmers were supplied with German prisoners who tilled their soil and harvested their crops, the farmer being responsible for their safekeeping, and being given power to shoot on sight any man who attempted to make his escape. In Germany the same conditions prevailed, and neither country kept and fed an idle man, whereas in England, even during the days when food was at its scarcest, and when land that was badly needed for productive crops lay untillied because there was no labor available to plough, seed or harvest, thousands of able bodied men were kept in idleness behind barbed wire entanglements, consuming food that should have been given to the British population or earned by the sweat of German brows.

In all present systems of prison labor, productive though it is, the prisoner is forced to work in gangs of fellow prisoners, having as his companions and associates only those who are morally frail as himself and often worse. He has no opportunity to turn himself out of the mire of crime and sin into which he has plunged, often through some hasty and ill-considered act, or some sudden lapse into weakness, rather than from an innate depravity, and he emerges from the prison gates, having served his sentence it is true, but in the majority of cases

a worse and not a better man for his punishment. Various methods of gang labor have been experimented with in different countries, all having the same results as regards the value of the production, and the deterioration of the moral stamina of the prisoner. In some countries open-air work has been instituted—in England much of the road making, the manufacture of bricks and other manual work is performed by prisoners. In Austria-Hungary large tracts of waste land have been reclaimed and brought under cultivation, and water courses have been diverted. Russia made use of convict labor in the construction of the Trans-Siberian railway. Military operations in the South Sea Islands have been aided by a source of labor. In 1904 Italy passed a law which enacted that the reclamation and draining of waste lands should be carried on by prisoners undergoing long sentences of punishment, and Franco has for many years used her minor criminals for open-air labor.

In some of the United States a contract system has been tried, whereby a contractor hires prison labor from the government, but though this has proved profitable in so far as production is concerned, it has always resulted in the detriment of the criminal. In the Southern States there was a leasing-out system of prisoners into convict camps, which, however, were condemned for the harshness of treatment vouchsafed the prisoners, and the poor results, obtained except in a monetary sense.

Up to the present no country has experimented with any such system of individual reformation as is proposed by Father O'Sullivan, and should any such scheme be put into operation it would appear that what applies to male prisoners might equally well apply to female convicts. It is admitted by all who know anything about prison life that the system of forcing a girl or a woman who has taken her first step in the downward path, and who perhaps has come from the more refined and educated ranks of society, into the close companionship of women who are coarse and unrefined invariably results not in the upliftment of the old criminal but in the rapid deterioration of the young one. There is any amount of scope for women labor on the isolated farms and rural districts of Canada and undoubtedly many farmers' wives would be glad enough of the chance to secure help which is badly needed, and at the same time use their own power and influence to assist the fallen ones of their sex to redeem their past. Of course, in the case of women prisoners a more careful selection would have to be exercised both as to the woman sentenced to one or three months domestic labor and in the

RATTRAY'S  
**LA MARITANA**  
3 for 25c.  
Always A Rich, Pleasing Taste

home to which she was sent. Nevertheless the system for both sexes would bear both consideration and experimentation. The nearest approach to anything of the kind so far attempted in the prison farm at Guelph, Ontario, where certain men undergo sentence of punishment. But here again the segregation of the individual from the fellow criminals is impossible, though the same as regards not only production but also the benefits accruing through the improvement in health of the prisoners, and the in many cases, general toning up of the men's mental and nervous condition through the enforced open-air existence have been so gratifying to those who originated the scheme that it would seem that such experiments might be carried still further, and individuals be lifted entirely out of the environment of prison and prison guardship—and atmosphere; the percentage of cases which proved to be regenerated through such a scheme would be interesting and instructive to watch and follow while the urgent and imminent question of supplying the necessary labor for the farmer, and consequently maintaining the food production of Canada at its needful level would be at least partially solved.

### HEAVILY FINED FOR NEGLECTING TAX LAW

Five Men of Windsor, Ont.,  
Failed to Make Income  
Returns When Ordered to Do  
So.

Windsor, May 11.—Five Windsor men, Nathan Cohen, William Teahan, George Teahan, William Armstrong, and Arthur Selby, were each fined \$500 in the Police Court this morning.

at the rate of \$100 a day for every day that they failed to send income tax returns, for 1918, to the proper authorities. J. W. Piewes, Assistant Inspector of Taxation, who prosecuted, said he sent registered letters to the defendants ordering them to send in their income tax returns which, he said, they failed to do. The defendants claimed that their incomes were below the minimum income liable to be taxed. The inspector claimed that persons must make income tax returns if ordered to do so, although their incomes do not warrant a tax. Magistrate Miers upheld Inspector Piewes in this contention and stated that he had no discretion in the matter, but must fine the defendants according to the Act. This is the first prosecution in the local courts for failure to make income tax returns.

### ON FRIENDSHIP MISSION TO U. S.

Head of Congregational Union  
Will Preach Gospel of Co-  
Operation Between That  
Country and British Empire

London, May 12.—(Special.)—Dr. A. E. Garvin, the new chairman of the Congregational Union, will visit the United States shortly on an Anglo-American friendship mission. The British Empire and the United States, by their common religious and moral ideals, stand in the forefront of human progress and it would be a vast mistake for them to stand aloof from each other. Acting together they could do more than any other nations to secure world-wide conditions which tended to make the world a better place to live in.

**WRIGLEYS**

For mother, father, the boys and girls. It's the sweet for all ages—at work or play.

The beneficial goody.

When you're nervous and tired, see how it refreshes!

The Flavor Lasts

**WRIGLEYS**  
DOUBLE MINT  
CHewing GUM  
PEPPERMINT  
CHewing GUM  
JULY FRUIT  
CHewing GUM  
THE FLAVOR LASTS  
**WRIGLEYS**  
SPEARMINT  
THE PERFECT GUM  
MINT LEAF FLAVOR

Sealed Tight—Kept Right

## Business Cards

W. Simms Lee, F.C.A.  
**LEE & HOLDER**  
Chartered Accountants.  
QUEEN BUILDINGS, HALIFAX, N. B.  
Rooms 15, 20, 21. P. O. Box 723.  
Telephone, Sackville 1212.

**CHARLES ARCHIBALD**  
A. M. E. I. C.  
Civil Engineer and Architect  
Surveys and Reports  
RITCHIE BUILDING  
50 Princess Street, St. John, N. B.  
Or 'Phone Main 558.

We have fifty double service tires, guaranteed, 30x3 1-2, \$12.00.  
Other sizes on application.  
Dealers write for special agency.  
**United Auto Tire Co., Ltd.**  
104 Duke Street, St. John, N. B.

**HAROLD A. ALLEN**  
Architect.  
Special Offer to Parties That Propose to Build at Once.  
P. O. Box 23 Telephone Connections

**BINDERS AND PRINTERS**  
Modern Artistic Work by  
Skilled Operators.  
ORDERS PROMPTLY FILLED.  
**THE McMILLAN PRESS**  
98 Prince Wm. Street. Phone M. 2740

**W. A. MUNRO**  
Carpenter—Contractor  
134 Paradise Row  
'Phone 2129.

"G. B."  
**CHOCOLATES**  
The Standard of Quality  
in Canada.  
Our Name a Guarantee of the  
Finest Materials.  
**GANONG BROS., LTD.**  
St. Stephen, N. B.

**HARD COAL**  
Try Pea Coal in your  
Range.  
**COLWELL FUEL CO., LTD.**  
'Phone West 17-90.

**H. A. DOHERTY**  
Successor to  
F. C. MESSENGER.  
**COAL AND WOOD**  
375 Haymarket Square  
'Phone 3030.

**ELEVATORS**  
We manufacture Electric Freight  
Passenger, Hand Power, Dumb Wait-  
ers, etc.  
**E. S. STEPHENSON & CO.,**  
ST. JOHN, N. B.

**F. C. WESLEY CO.**  
Artists, Engravers  
WATER STREET.

**FARM MACHINERY**  
OLIVER PLOWS,  
McCORMICK TILLAGE AND  
SEEDING MACHINERY  
P. LYNCH, 270 Union Street.  
Get our prices and terms before  
buying elsewhere.

**FIRE INSURANCE**  
WESTERN ASSURANCE CO.  
(1851)  
Fire, War, Marine and Motor Cars.  
Assets exceed \$5,000,000  
Agents  
**R. W. FRANK & SON,**  
Branch Manager. St. John

**QUEEN INSURANCE CO.**  
(FIRE ONLY)  
Security exceeds One Hundred  
Million Dollars.  
**C. E. L. JARVIS & SON**  
Provincial Agents.

FOR—  
"Insurance That Insures"  
—SEE US—  
**Frank R. Fairweather & Co.,**  
12 Canterbury Street. 'Phone M. 653

Headquarters for Trunks,  
Bags and Suit Cases.  
We have a large assortment which  
we are offering at moderate prices.  
**H. HORTON & SON, LTD.**  
9 and 11 Market Square  
'Phone Main 4-8

**FERTILIZER (standard crop)**  
Hen Feed, Chick Feed, Oat Meal,  
Ground Oyster Shells  
**St. John Fertilizer and Stock  
Feed Co.**  
8 CHESLEY ST.

His Status.  
"In religious matters my Uncle Lam  
Dunk was always a fanatic," admit-  
ted the gaunt Missourian. "He was  
willing enough to believe, but, some-  
how, he kids couldn't."—Kansas City  
Star.

**VICTORIA HOTEL**  
Better Now Than Ever.  
87 KING STREET, ST. JOHN, N. B.  
St. John Hotel Co., Ltd.,  
Proprietors.  
A. M. PHILLIPS, Manager.

**EXIDE BATTERY SERVICE**  
17 Union Street  
All types Batteries repaired.  
**C. J. MORGAN & CO.**  
43 King Square

**ROYAL HOTEL**  
King Street  
St. John's Leading Hotel.

**RAYMOND & DOHERTY CO., LTD.**

**POYAS & Co., King Square**  
**JEWELLERS**  
Full lines of Jewelry and Watches.  
Prompt repair work. Phone M. 2955-11

**SIGNS—EXTENSION  
LADDERS AND TRETTLES**  
**H. L. MACGOWAN**  
HOUSE AND SIGN PAINTER.  
'Phone Main 697 78 Brunswick St.  
ST. JOHN, N. B.

**J. FRED WILLIAMSON, Ltd.**  
MACHINISTS AND ENGINEERS.  
Steamboat Mill and General  
Repair Work.  
INDIAN TOWN, ST. JOHN, N. B.  
'Phones M. 229; Residence, M. 2368.

**WM. E. EMERSON**  
Plumber and General  
Hardware  
81 UNION STREET.  
WEST ST. JOHN. PHONE W. 175

**FRANCIS S. WALKER**  
Sanitary and Heating  
Engineer  
No. 14 Church Street

Established 1870.  
**G. G. MURDOCK, A.M.E.I.C.**  
Civil Engineer and Crown Land  
Surveyor.  
74 CARMARTHEN STREET.  
'Phones M. 63 and M. 655.

**PAINTS AND BRUSHES**  
Varnishes, Enamels, etc. and  
all other necessary supplies for  
renovating the home.  
**A. M. ROWAN,**  
331 Main St. 'Phone M. 398

**AUTO INSURANCE**  
Ask for our New Policy  
FIRE, THEFT, TRANSIT,  
COLLISION  
All in One Policy.  
Enquiry for Rates Solicited.  
**Chas. A. MacDonald & Son**  
Provincial Agents. Phone 1536.

**MARRIAGE  
LICENSES**  
Issued at  
**WASSON'S, Main Street**

**VIOLINS, MANDOLINS,  
and all String Instruments and Bows**  
Repaired.  
**SYDNEY GIBBS,** 81 Sydney Street

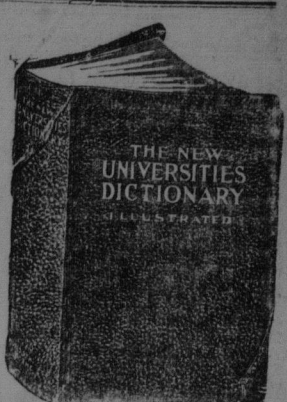
**PATENTS**  
**FETHERSTONHAUGH & CO.**  
The old established firm. Patents  
everywhere. Head office Royal Bank  
Building, Toronto, Ottawa offices, 5  
Elgin Street. Offices throughout  
Canada. Booklet free.

**NOTICE**  
The Sanitary Cafe, 32 Charlotte  
Street, will be closed until the first of  
the week, during which time it will be  
thoroughly renovated and will resume  
business under the name of the  
"Prisco Cafe."  
Dated this tenth day of May, A. D.  
1920.

"PRISCO CAFE."

**WILLIAM E. MCINTYRE, LTD.**  
34 St. Paul St.  
Montreal. P. O. Box 1990.

**JOHN J. BRADLEY**  
208-219 McGill Street  
P. O. Box 1479,  
Montreal, Quebec.



**Rich Red Blood**  
means health—  
vigor and physical  
strength.  
What women in  
particular need  
to purify and  
enrich the blood—  
build up and  
brighten the complexion—is  
**Dr. Wilson's  
PINKETTES**  
It is a true blood purifier—Blood  
food—made from Nature's healing  
herbs—and has given new health and  
happiness to thousands of women  
during the 50 years and more it has  
been before the public.  
The Braxley Drug Company, Limited  
At most stores, 35c. a bottle; Family  
size, five times as large, \$1.

**DOMINION  
COAL COMPANY**  
LIMITED  
DOMINION  
SPRINGHILL  
SITUMINOUS  
STEAM and  
GAS COALS  
GENERAL SALES OFFICE  
112 ST. JAMES ST.  
MONTREAL  
R. P. & W. F. STARR, LIMITED  
Agents at St. John.

**ANTHRACITE  
PEA COAL**  
For Furnaces and Ranges.  
Excellent quality.  
Low prices.

**R. P. & W. F. Starr, Ltd.**  
49 Smythe St., 157 Union St.

**BOILER TUBES**  
Boiler tubes are almost famine  
scarce, and consequently, high in  
price.  
Our stocks here have been recently  
replenished by the arrival of a  
number of shipments ordered  
from the mills some eight months  
ago.  
The sizes usually in stock vary  
from 1 1/2 dia. to 4 in. dia. and  
in a great variety of lengths.  
Please inquire for prices.

**I. Matheson & Co., Ltd.**  
BOILER MAKERS  
New Glasgow Nova Scotia

**Dr. DeVan's French Pills**  
A reliable Regulating Pill for Women.  
\$5 a box. Sold at all Drug Stores, or  
mailed to any address on receipt of  
price. The Seabell Drug Co., St. Catharines, Ontario.

**PHOSPHONOL FOR MEN**  
Restores Vigor and Vitality; for Nervous  
and Brain; increases "gray matter";  
Tonic—Will build you up. \$1 a box, or  
two for \$2, at drug stores, or by mail  
on receipt of price. The Seabell Drug  
Co., St. Catharines, Ontario.  
Sold in St. John by The Ross Drug  
Co., Ltd., 100 King Street.