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CURRENT TOPICS.

The infrequency of serious crime in this province has hitherto afforded some cause of congratulation. In the present year the record is not so satisfactory. In Quebec, as well as in Ontario, the list of capital offences has been unusually full. Attempts to defraud insurance companies were the motive in some of these cases, as, for example, the Hendershott case, in which a young man was brutally murdered for the sake of the insurance on his life. Greater care on the part of insurance companies in refusing to insure for amounts wholly out of proportion to the insurer's interest in the life would remove the temptation to commit crimes of this kind. It must further be remembered that some of the most notable crimes ever disclosed in Canada were committed by newly arrived immigrants. A distant land seems to hold out a temptation to the parents of a troublesome son, as a method of relieving their home from disturbance, but such an arrangement does not often result to their satisfaction.

The accumulation of reported decisions in the United States may be judged from the fact that one law publishing house has issued a notice of a "National Case-law Warehouse," in which "reports of 150,000 late decisions