

shoot at them when they are not looking. The present trial at Medicine Hat will probably result in breaking up this sect.

In Winnipeg, Toronto and Montreal crime is on the increase, due in a considerable measure to the number of criminals who have arrived here in the last year. It could hardly be expected that out of a quarter of a million immigrants, we should not have a few criminals. Criminals migrate as much as honest people. The only point is that great precaution should be exercised at all ports of entry, and deportation should be promptly employed when the criminals are discovered.

The problem of how to fill up a new country and still keep it sane and sound is one which has not yet been solved. Canada must take a little of the bad with much of the good. All we can do is to take extraordinary precautions to limit the dangers. By enforcing the laws against criminals quickly and perhaps severely, continued residence here will not be popular among these unfortunates. Moreover, wise and prompt treatment of each case may result in changing some of them from idlers and mischief-makers to industrious citizens. Those in charge of our police, our courts and our prisons have great responsibility just now. On them depends much of Canada's reputation as a country singularly free of crime and loose living. The slightest leniency or lack of promptness in dealing with the criminal classes at the present moment would be extremely disastrous.

#### FACTS AND FANCIES.

THE socialists who wanted to hold a meeting on May 1st in Montreal were dispersed by the police. A socialist who tried to talk on the street-corners in Toronto, was arrested and fined. Yet we boast of having inherited the British principle—liberty of public assembly and speech. Our police authorities seem to think this is Russian territory.

The Toronto *Sunday World* has had a quarrel with the newsboys for some weeks and the *Daily Star* is now issuing a late Saturday night edition with a hope of catching some of the trade. The newspaper competition in Ontario's capital city seems to be getting keener and keener, with the *Star* setting a furious pace.

May 1st is clean-up day in St. Thomas when all front and back yards are annually robbed of all accumulated dirt. Ottawa's day for the same purpose has not yet been settled upon definitely.

The other morning, the Mayor of Hull issued twenty liquor licenses for the year. In the afternoon the provincial authorities refused six of them. This is the quickest case of license reduction on record.

If you were Premier of a Province and were preparing for a general election, would you take full advantage of your influential position to handicap the Leader of the Opposition? Don't answer the question rashly. Human nature is never wholly unselfish and all politicians are human.

Because your business is not expanding as fast as it did in 1905 and 1906 is no proof that you have lost your "grip" nor that the country has come to the end of its development. This is Canada's resting period after ten years of wonderful progress. It is only an intermission, however. Have faith and do not be impatient.

Mr. H. B. Ames, M.P., with his lantern slides has introduced a new feature into political campaigning. Nor is it Mr. Ames' first contribution to political methods. His organisation ideas have travelled through all city constituencies and profoundly affected canvassing methods. These ideas are all based on the card system as used in most large business offices. The lantern slide is attractive and its use allows voters to employ their eyes as well as their ears. Its effectiveness lies in the fact that two senses are better than one.

Now that interest in Cobalt seems to be reviving, the romance of its discovery is being recalled. The blacksmith LaRose, who has been getting all the credit for having found the first bit of silver ore, has lost a little of his reputation through the publication of a letter from Mr. J. B. O'Brien, of Toronto, one of the owners of the O'Brien mine. He points out that a Mr. King, of Haileybury, found silver there in May, 1903, whereas LaRose did not happen upon it until September. It is rather unkind of Mr. O'Brien to thus rob the story

of its romantic flavour. "Mr. King of Haileybury" is not to be compared in interest with "LaRose, the French-Canadian blacksmith."

Mr. Fyshe and Mr. Bazin have refused, in the witness-stand before Judge Cassels, to give any further information concerning the officials of the Marine and Fisheries Department. They practically tell the new court of inquiry that it must do its own investigating. The position is a reasonable one. The Civil Service Commission made a report and was discharged. Its members are once more private citizens, and they should not be asked publicly for any information which was not in their report. Privately they might give the new investigators pointers as to where to seek for evidence, but as they were not detectives, they should be absolved from the task of testifying as to the characters of individuals whose names would be mentioned. However, their refusal makes Judge Cassels' task much more difficult.

The Ontario Hydro-Electric Commission has issued its estimate of the cost of a transmission line from Niagara Falls to Toronto, Guelph, Stratford, London and intermediate towns. The cost of construction is placed at \$3,610,000 and the yearly maintenance at \$140,000. This cost is to be divided among the fifteen municipalities to be served. All that now remains is for the municipalities to sign the contracts and the work will be commenced—perhaps.

Consideration for the Knights of the Grip has led Mr. Whitney to hold the Ontario General Election on a Monday.

The Hindoos are doing well. They have won out against the British Columbia Government which tried to apply the "Natal" Act to them and they have entered seventy actions against the Dominion Government for illegal imprisonment. The Hindoos have great faith in British justice as administered in Canadian courts.

Mr. A. B. Crosby, recently elected Mayor of Halifax after a spirited contest, is likely to be Mr. R. L. Borden's running mate in the Dominion elections. Halifax is now represented in the House by two Liberals, Messrs. Roche and Carney.

Sir Thomas Shaughnessy is busy in London hammering the Bishop of Sligo's Halifax-Blacksod steamship route. It seems strange that Canada's premier Irish knight should be so hard on Ireland's hopes and ambitions.

Dalhousie University is crying out for increased accommodation. Its students are too numerous. If Acadia and Kings could be united with Dalhousie, Nova Scotia might have one fully equipped university, generously backed up by the provincial government. In the meantime, Dalhousie gains in strength year by year.

Three or four British warships, of the smaller series, have been destroyed recently by collisions. If such events were to occur in the Canadian navy, there would be an even greater storm in the Marine department. Of course, our boats are not expected to go out at night or during unpleasant weather.

Lieutenant-Governor Tweedie went down to open the New Brunswick Legislature last week, accompanied by a General and ten Colonels. He was received by a guard of honour and saluted by fifteen "guns" from the Woodstock Field Battery. New Brunswick is not a large province but it never forgets its dignity.

The leading question of the day in Halifax: "Does the military contract at Halifax call for ROLL bacon or BREAKFAST bacon?" In St. John: "Will Premier Hazen get cheaper school-books?" In Quebec: "Will the Champlain Tercentenary be a fizzle?" In Winnipeg and Regina: "Will Sir Wilfrid Laurier agree to build the Hudson's Bay Railway?" In Edmonton: "Will the Peace River country hold ten or twenty million people and will Edmonton be as big as St. Paul or Chicago?" In Vancouver: "Will Sir Hibbert Tupper get the Conservative nomination for the Commons?"

Winnipeg is to have a "Crow Club" because the black villains are destroying game birds and songsters. Crow shoots will probably be a greater incentive to skill with a rifle than even the honours and prizes of the military rifle associations.