

These should be carefully sifted out and placed in custodial institutions where with suitable employment they could earn at least a reasonable share of their cost of maintenance. They are now sent to prisons and penitentiaries, not because they ought to be there but because no other provision has been made for them. Their frequent arrest, trial, conviction and re-incarceration constitutes one of the heaviest items in the cost of criminal administration. It would be a great relief from constant menace and great economy to the state, as well as simple justice to those unfortunate creatures if special institutions were provided for them.

THE DRUNKARD.

The thirty day sentence for habitual drunkards has been amply demonstrated to be perfectly useless as a deterrent and yet it continues to be administered in many places. Drunkards often come under the heading of defectives and should be given indeterminate sentences in special homes as already outlined, and there should be in every large community at least one institution for the mentally sound victims of alcohol, where they could be sent for a sufficiently long term to enable them to overcome the habit. As a matter of business it would pay the distillers and brewers to maintain such institutions at their own expense but as this is not likely to be volunteered the state would be fully justified in imposing such an obligation.

MORAL HOSPITALS.

When the problem of crime, poverty and human misery is more thoroughly and scientifically grappled with the daily police court will be re-organized into a moral hospital—not as at present to merely punish guilt, but primarily to study the causes of wrong doing, and to attempt the restoration and upbuilding of those who have fallen, often from causes beyond their own control. Then will the constable be given a higher status as a moral and social reform agent, and not regarded solely as the avenger of a broken law. Less publicity will also be given to human frailty and the weak and defective more fully regarded as adult children needing guidance and protection instead of punishment.

THE MOTIVE.

In all work for human beings, whether of a preventive or reclamatory character, the thought should run through all our efforts, like a golden thread, that it is not law, or system or institutions that save, but only the personal influence of good men and women, thoroughly imbued with the spirit of love and compassion for the children of misfortune and temptation. As the Christ of Calvary gave his life for mankind, so must the successful social worker be inspired by that great example to fully consecrate his life and talents to the fulfillment of his Divine Task—and with such a consecration who can doubt what the results will be?