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ST. JOHN STAR.

ST. JOHN, N. B., JULY 23, 1907.

CRIME IN CANADA.

The appendix to the report of the minister of agriculture, giving criminal statistics for Canada, although bringing the records only to September, 1905, contains much information of interest, among which is the following:

During the year ending Sept. 30, 1905, there were 10,651 charges for indictable offences in the Dominion as against 9,901 in the previous year; out of these, 2,275 were acquitted in 1905 and 3,039 acquitted in 1904. There were 29 detained for lunacy in 1905 and 10 in the previous year; and 23 in 1905 and 48 in 1904 escaped sentence from various other causes. Thus the convictions totalled 7,824 in 1905 and 6,754 in the preceding year, this representing an increase of 10.65 per cent. of charges and 12.83 of convictions. In Manitoba the percentage of convictions to charges was highest, being 81.38; in New Brunswick, fourth on the list, it was 71.19, while the territories were lowest with a percentage of 52.93. The convictions in 1905 increased in all the provinces with the exception of Nova Scotia. New Brunswick jumped from seventh to fourth place in the list of charges which became convictions, indicating not that crime in this province is on the increase, but rather that efforts to enforce the laws are better directed, and that greater care is exercised in handling prosecutions. Indeed the number of charges in this province for 1905 was only 177 as against 213 in 1904, while the convictions were 126 to 122. Taking the figures of the last census as a basis the ratio of convictions to population is only 2.76 for each 10,000 inhabitants in New Brunswick, a very creditable record, which is beaten only by P. E. Island where the ratio is 3.66. The average for the whole Dominion is 3.18 and British Columbia heads the list with a percentage of 23.95 per 10,000 of population. Generally speaking crime increases the further west one travels.

Out of the total number of persons convicted in 1905, 46,443 or 81.51 per cent. were sentenced with the option of a fine, 2,761 or 5.03 per cent. were committed without option, and 5,731 or 10.46 per cent. had their sentences deferred, as compared with 41,236 or 85.67, 2,359 or 4.90 and 4,547 or 9.43 respectively in 1904. The amount of fines, costs or damages imposed in 1905 was \$388,282, of which amount \$304,311 was paid in the following ratios per 100: Quebec, 23.9; Ontario, 23.8; the territories, 16.3; Manitoba, 28.4; Nova Scotia, 16.5; New Brunswick, 7.5; British Columbia, 6.5, and P. E. Island, 1.4. The average fine imposed in each province was as follows: P. E. Island, \$25.93; the territories, \$12.87; New Brunswick, \$12.43; British Columbia, \$11.50; Quebec, \$10.52; Nova Scotia, \$9.57; Manitoba, \$6.50; and Ontario, \$5.15; making a general average of \$9.36 for Canada. Of the total amount paid in fines, 33.37 per cent. was contributed by offenders against the liquor laws, 21.51 per cent. by persons fined for drunkenness, and 9.24 per cent. by persons keeping or frequenting houses, the three making 64.12 per cent. of the total amount of fines paid.

Summing up the indictable and summary convictions there was a total of 62,559 in Canada for 1905, as compared with 54,946 in 1904, an increase of 13.85 per cent. which reduces the population for each offender from 102 in 1904 to 92 in 1905. New Brunswick shows a decrease in the number of convictions of all kinds, of 6.1 per cent. and a corresponding increase of 4 in the number of inhabitants per offender from 122 to 128. The prerogative of mercy was exercised in 1905 in 411 cases, of which 387 were males and 24 females, as compared with 323 males and 20 females in 1904. In these instances 213 were liberated under ticket-of-leave in 1905, as against 195 in the year before. Six of the twelve death sentences pronounced in 1905 were commuted to life imprisonment.

Alderman McGoldrick states that he does not desire the position of director. Such a feeling will prevent disappointment on his part later. But why should the general assembly insist on doing much of the work himself, without remuneration, when he has been instructed by the council to take steps towards filling the vacant position?

FLITTING TIME.

(From the Denver Republican)

We are rushing about now as our house, as busy as busy can be; for some of us head for the mountains and some of us head for the sea; we have filled up the big Saragons for Molly and Amy and Lou. They're stuffed to the brim with cream and every one of 'em new!

Pa wanted to cut down expenses, but Mother, dear Mother, said nit. For the call of the summer is on us—we must flit, flit, flit!

The dressmaker's working her head off to get the last ruffles all done. For without the glad clothes in mid-season there's never an engagement won!

We are fussing and fretting and fuming—the tradesmen are kept on the go! There's cutting and slashing and snipping, and trouble and worry and woe!

Pa says it ain't worth what it's costing—in fact doesn't like it a bit—But the call of the summer is on us—we must flit, flit, flit!

There's a mountain of baggage all ready, and soon we'll be speeding away!

It's something to show those old neighbors when your trunk more than fills up a dray!

But the smile that Pa gives is quite sickly, and I think he just muttered "By heck!"

When Mother said: "Now you be sure, dear, to send us each day a large check!"

He'll be totting away in the city, mulling bills that will give him a fit. But the call of the summer is on us—we must flit, flit, flit!

FELL INTO BAD COMPANY.

(From Reynolds' Newspaper.)

A canny Scot was brought before a magistrate on the charge of being drunk and disorderly. "What have you to say for yourself, sir?" demanded the magistrate. "You look like a respectable man, and ought to be ashamed to stand there."

"I am verra sorry, sir, but I can't up my bad company fra Glasgow," humbly replied the prisoner.

"What sort of company?"

"A lot of teetotalers!" was the startling response.

"Do you mean to say teetotalers are bad company?" thundered the magistrate on the charge of being drunk and disorderly. "What have you to say for yourself, sir?" demanded the magistrate. "You look like a respectable man, and ought to be ashamed to stand there."

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3.47, and P. E. Island 1.70 and 2.84. The number of persons convicted for drunkenness shows an increase of 10.73 per cent. during the year and represents 7.30 per cent. of the total convictions for that offence in 1905 as compared with 7.50 per cent. for the previous year. The convictions for drunkenness in all Canada numbered 21,621 as against 18,395 in 1904.

Out of the total number of persons convicted in 1905, 46,443 or 81.51 per cent. were sentenced with the option of a fine, 2,761 or 5.03 per cent. were committed without option, and 5,731 or 10.46 per cent. had their sentences deferred, as compared with 41,236 or 85.67, 2,359 or 4.90 and 4,547 or 9.43 respectively in 1904. The amount of fines, costs or damages imposed in 1905 was \$388,282, of which amount \$304,311 was paid in the following ratios per 100: Quebec, 23.9; Ontario, 23.8; the territories, 16.3; Manitoba, 28.4; Nova Scotia, 16.5; New Brunswick, 7.5; British Columbia, 6.5, and P. E. Island, 1.4. The average fine imposed in each province was as follows: P. E. Island, \$25.93; the territories, \$12.87; New Brunswick, \$12.43; British Columbia, \$11.50; Quebec, \$10.52; Nova Scotia, \$9.57; Manitoba, \$6.50; and Ontario, \$5.15; making a general average of \$9.36 for Canada. Of the total amount paid in fines, 33.37 per cent. was contributed by offenders against the liquor laws, 21.51 per cent. by persons fined for drunkenness, and 9.24 per cent. by persons keeping or frequenting houses, the three making 64.12 per cent. of the total amount of fines paid.

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LOSE A BURRO, FIND A GOLD MINE

According to History it is the Surest Way.

Columbus of the Desert Owed His Wealth to a Faithful and Well-Behaved Donkey.

It would seem that the surest way to find a gold mine is to lose a burro.

Something over 20 years ago a diminutive "mountain canary" demonstrated the possibilities of this method of mineral exploration when it led the way to the discovery of the Bunker Hill and Sullivan mines at Wardens, Idaho, and made its lucky owners richer by some \$4,000,000. Nobody can be quite certain that Jim Butler's burro had never heard of the Warden episode. But whether its genius was imitative or original, the fact remains that if Butler's faithful four-footed companion had not strayed in search of pastures new the opening of the wonderful gold fields of Nevada might have been deferred for another generation, writes Casper S. Yost, in the Detroit News-Tribune.

James L. Butler is the man who made the original discovery of gold at Tonopah, the first in point of chronology of the mining camps of the Nevada. When this Columbus of the desert made his memorable prospecting trip he was accompanied by a sedate and well-behaved donkey, one of those remarkable quadrupeds without which no prospector who had any regard for his life will venture into the sagebrush wastes of the southwest. While Butler slept peacefully in his camp at the spring the Indian called "Tonopah," the burro wandered away. It is a serious thing to lose a burro in the desert, and as soon as Butler opened his eyes in the morning and saw that his pack animal was not in sight, as an Irishman might say, he lost no time in picking up the trail. It led up the hill from camp, and a few hundred feet away the animal in scrambling over a ledge had broken off a piece of rock. When Butler saw the fractured face of the ledge he stopped and examined it. That is a habit of all prospectors. It wasn't a particularly promising piece of rock, but you never can be absolutely sure about such things. Butler knocked off a little souvenir and proceeded in search of the deserter. He did not know then, nor for a long time after, that he had made one of the greatest discoveries in the history of gold mining, but he took the piece of rock with him to his home at Belmont, Nev., left it with an assayer there to be examined at leisure, and as a reward for his services a few miles from town. He expected a little and was so incensed at the results of his examination that he wrote before he sought the assayer and asked for a report, and then he found that the bit of rock knocked off where the burro scraped the ledge showed gold to the value of 125 and silver 385 ounces to the ton, but not a word about the gold and silver. Butler was not at all satisfied with the result of the assay, and he made his claim with the utmost deliberation, and it was not until three months after he had written the assayer that he learned that the assayer, T. L. Odde, whom he had taken into his confidence and partnership, had made the location. The mine they opened up made millionaires of both of them. Butler was one of the great men of the state and Odde is talked of for United States senator. The spring in the desert has become the site of the business and one of the richest towns of the West, and it has given birth to other towns, northward and southward, all thriving with the sleepless life of the successful mining camp. Out of Butler's discovery and its consequences has grown a mining industry that has spread across the continent and carried the name of Tonopah into every hamlet; yet it is but a small part of the story of the discovery and the fortune that it has made for its discoverer. It is only sold in packets, neatly labelled—blue and white.

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