

The Standard



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SAINT JOHN, THURSDAY MORNING, SEPT. 8, 1910

CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION.

The dilatory methods of Inspector Dew and Scotland Yard as an organization were the subject of some criticism recently at the hands of the New York police and a section of the press in the United States. About the same time a scathing indictment against their own country's methods was being written by Judge Holt, of the United States District Court, of New York.

Judge Holt not only scores them for dilatoriness, but he points out that thousands of crimes of daily occurrence, such as murders, lynchings, embezzlements, riots and highway robberies are never followed up or punished at all. From the calculations which he bases on lynching statistics he concludes that there are 100,000 uncharged murderers of the lynching type at large, and that there are more than 150,000 Americans alive today who have shown themselves ready to shed blood in unlawful riotings. In his opinion the remedy for this would be promptness rather than severity, as too much of the latter would probably excite the sympathy of the crowd. There should be speedy trial and punishment and no delays except in capital cases.

By way of contrast a writer in the New York Evening Post gives an interesting insight into the methods of Scotland Yard which he considers the greatest crime-detecting organization in existence. Any person, he says, versed in detective work will admit as much. No country has a more effective bureau. The New York Central Office is not its equal—certainly not its superior, taken as a whole. Its men have many characteristics which seem unflitting—even absurd—from an American viewpoint; but the things they accomplish are great. Sir Edward Richard Henry is present commissioner of police in London, and receives £2,000 a year. He is the man who suggested thumbprints as a means of identifying criminals. This system has been adopted in most of the countries of the civilized world. Sir Melville Leslie Macnaghten is at the head of the detective service and receives £1,200 a year. The police headquarters of the metropolitan district of London is at Scotland Yard, and from this fact the C. I. D., or Criminal Investigation Department, takes its name. Frank Frost, whose name has appeared frequently in the London cables on the Crippen case, is the superintendent of Scotland Yard.

The writer points out that there are not so many serious crimes committed in England as in America, and the police bend all their energies to prevent crime, so that they will not have to go to the effort of hunting down the criminal after the wrong has been committed. They have a huge number of stool-pigeons and informants. None of these is ever known as being in the employ of "the Yard," but they go their accustomed way, mingling with their own sort, be they murderers, thieves, anarchists, or what not, and from time to time they give the police hints of what is going to happen, and the police see to it that the plot is frustrated.

Meetings are held in Hyde Park, and Socialists make violent speeches. There are always a few agents of Scotland Yard in the audience. They are not those tall, square-shouldered, square-toed fellows, such as a sophisticated New Yorker can pick out of almost any street crowd as "plain-clothes men." They look like all the others. Perhaps one of them is that very hot-head who is going to get up presently and make a speech suggesting that the King be hanged and that the Parliament buildings be burned to the ground. He is the fellow who, if a plot ever is formed to put his advice into effect, will inform Superintendent Frost secretly in time to have the ring-leaders clapped into irons. There are hundreds, indeed, probably thousands, of these informants in the pay of the Crown, although their names never appear on any payroll. The existence of this great staff of stool pigeons is one important difference between the London and the New York police systems.

Scotland Yard is under the Home Office of Great Britain, and the Crown pays its informants liberally. So it comes to pass that most of the crimes in England never take place at all. They are headed off, and the criminal seldom knows how the police found out what was afoot. It is necessary to get ahead of the criminal, because, once a crime has been committed and a man arrested on suspicion, the arrested man has the benefit of all doubts. The entire burden of proof is on the police and the prosecutor.

"The London detectives have one great source of assistance," says the writer in the Post, "which is only in a small degree available in New York. This is the great army of public cabmen and expressmen. By contrast, suppose a case in which the New York detectives arrive at a steamship pier a half hour too late to apprehend Mr. Cadbury Thwaites, who has just arrived from Europe after swindling a confiding widow out of \$25,000. They go across West Street and ask John Eckhardt, the expressman, where he took the trunks of the elusive Mr. Thwaites. Perhaps he tells; but, if he has been properly managed by Mr. Thwaites, he will be more likely to tell the wrong address. The detectives have no way to make him tell the truth.

"In London the licenses of all the hackmen and expressmen have to be passed on by Scotland Yard. When a man from the C. I. D. walks up to a London cab-driver, therefore, and says: 'Hawkins, where did you drive that gentleman with the auburn hair and the bottle-green suit at 7:19 this evening?' Hawkins is very likely to answer correctly, as well as promptly, for he knows that one well-authenticated lie on his part is enough to cause the revoking of his license."

IGNORING THE EVIDENCE.

In an editorial note, the Times is moved to remark that "the organs of Mr. Hazen may continue to attack Mr. Bentley until this time next year, or ten years hence; but that will not convert a bad road into a good one. The roadwork must be done on the roads, and not in a newspaper office." Presumably the Times is referring to the gentle but much needed stimulus which this journal found it necessary to apply to Mr. Bentley in order to bring him to a proper sense of his short comings. While we quite agree that this course of treatment will not convert a bad road into a good one, we are not without hope that it may induce Mr. Bentley to remove his pulp-wood which, by the latest report, is still obstructing the highway to St. Martins.

But be that as it may, we quote the Times more for the purpose of directing attention to the statement that "the road work must be done on the roads, and not in a newspaper office." While this is beyond dispute, it is equally true that the purpose of a newspaper, with any pretension to fairness, is to give the news and comment on it, and, as occasion arises, to expose the motives underlying any campaign of misrepresentation such as the Times, the Telegraph and other organs of the discredited opposition have been prosecuting with respect to the condition of the highways and bridges of the province.

The Times, and others of its kind, would doubtless like a free field to send broadcast without fear of contradiction, their misleading and partisan statements. The unsolicited testimony to the greatly improved condition of the highways and bridges, which has been received from all parts of the province during the last few weeks and published in The Standard and elsewhere, must be convincing evidence to the Times and the other organs of the opposition that they are playing a losing game.

The Times would have it believed that this province is making no progress in the direction of good roads and bridges. The last issue of the Woodstock Press contains a report from Mr. Jackson, the bridge superintendent in Carleton County, which is an example of the work the Hazen government is doing. Mr. Jackson reports as follows:—

"At Florenceville Bridge across the main river, the piers are to be rebuilt and new steel spans put on.

"Acker Creek Bridge, probably the highest bridge in the county, has been taken down for a depth of about forty feet, and is being rebuilt. New material is being applied as the old has become bad.

"McQuarrie Bridge in the parish of Woodstock has been built new throughout and completed.

"Bull Creek Bridge in the parish of Woodstock has been repaired.

"Work is to be begun immediately on the bridge at Tapley's Mills in the parish of Woodstock.

"Sutton Bridge in the parish of Kent being built new throughout, is under construction.

"New cover and railings are being put on the Little Chickadehawk Bridge, Bristol, the Big Chickadehawk Bridge having been completed recently.

"At the Red Bridge in the parish of Aberdeen, materials have been delivered and construction will begin immediately on the completion of the Sutton Bridge.

"New bridges are to be built before the end of the present year at River de Chute, two bridges on the Royall Road, the Ingraham Bridge in the parish of Simonds, the Jones Bridge in the parish of Brighton.

"Tenders will be called for shortly for the construction of the Elliott Brook Bridge in the parish of Aberdeen, the bridge across Chickadehawk near Glassville, the bridge on the North Branch of the Becaguimac known as Shaw Bridge, the McBride Bridge on the North Branch of the Meduxnakik, in the parish of Wakefield.

This report of the work in one county alone gives the lie direct to the statements of the opposition organs that the province is making no progress in building and repairing bridges. A correspondent writing to the Press gives some particulars of the Nevers Bridge between Rockland and Bannock, and recently built under contract, which are also instructive. "The bridge," he writes, "is constructed as a stonefill, and is the most permanent possible kind of bridge, and will stand with practically no repairs for generations. This is the same bridge on which the old government, under Mr. Allan Dibble's management, spent over \$200,000 and got nothing but a poor cheap railing with some slight repairs to the bridge. Not worth twenty dollars.

"Contrast that waste of public money, for the public got practically no return, with the present permanent bridge structure, which only cost \$245,000, and you have a striking contrast of the difference in the way in which bridges are constructed under the Hazen government and the way in which the work was carried on under previous governments. Had the money spent a few years ago by the old government on this bridge not been thrown away there would have been no necessity for a new bridge in so short a time.

"It seems to me that this is an illustration of why the Hazen government have so many bridges to build and have to incur a large expenditure in their construction."

The same testimony comes from all over the province. The old government, which was rotten to the core with graft and corruption, wasted and misapplied the people's money and the roads and bridges suffered in consequence. When the organs of the opposition point to some section of road or some bridge still in need of repair they only emphasize this fact. Honest administration of funds and honest work on the highways are the remedy the Hazen government is applying. It cannot cure in a year, or in two years, a condition of things which took eighteen years to create, but it is none the less sure, and of that the improvement which has already been shown in every part of the province is the best evidence.

CURRENT COMMENT

(Ottawa Citizen.)

Sir Wilfrid Laurier has cleared up the tariff problem. It was just as easy for the premier as rolling off a log. At Nelson, B. C., Sir Wilfrid disposed of the vexed question as follows:—"We are asked on either hand by different interests for free trade and protection. It will be our aim to evolve a tariff suitable to all men and calculated to benefit the whole country. We will make progress. The tariff is not yet perfect, but one thing we have done. The cardinal feature and expanding principle of the tariff is the British preference, and so long as we stay in office it will remain." Any white man who will have the miserable disposition to arise in the future and interrogate the government as to whether its policy is to be one of protection or of free trade, after reading Sir Wilfrid's straightforward and unequivocal declaration, should be classed as a mugwump of the most hopeless variety.

(Sobacaygon Independent.)

It is a pity that Roosevelt did not put himself out at pasture on Oyster Bay when he returned from the European tour. A twelve-months' rest politically and publicly would have done himself and the country a heap of good. Now he is getting into a scrap with his own party, and prospects are shaping mightily for a Republican rough-house. The contestants in a family of rough-house never look pretty after a scrap, and their characters suffer less from enemies than from relatives.

THE M.R.A. LTD. EXHIBIT
A FEATURE OF FAIR

Splendid Showing of Valuable
Fur Goods, Evening Gowns
and Paris Hats—Centre of
Attraction for Ladies.

It is altogether right and fitting that St. John's greatest business house should be represented at the Dominion exhibition by what is probably the most costly and valuable display in the industrial buildings. This is the very fine showing made by Manchester, Robertson and Allison, Ltd. The exhibit is situated in the gallery and is easily recognizable by the constant crowd of admiring ladies who surround the choicest furs, hats and evening gowns has never before been shown by this firm and they have always been well to the front in the previous fairs.

The exhibit is housed in a style which corresponds with the value and beauty of the articles shown. A handsome case of glass occupies the whole of the space and the effect is the same as looking through an elaborate show window.

Costly rugs and appropriate furnishings serve to set off the handsome articles of apparel to the best advantage. Included in the goods shown are valuable furs and garments, the very latest creations in Parisian millinery and some evening gowns which are of a class to arouse the spirit of admiration in the breasts of all lovers of the beautiful. A beautiful gown arouses much the same sentiment in the mind of the woman who can appreciate it, as a beautiful picture does in the heart of the artist who creates such pictures. Those who can create beautiful things appreciate beauty wherever it is seen and this is one of the reasons why the M. R. A. display at the fair is a magnet for people of artistic tastes.

In the line of furs there are very handsome articles in the choicest furs. These include mink muffs and stoles ranging in price from \$40 to \$75 for muffs and from \$50 to \$180 for stoles. The latest patterns are shown in all the fur lines and judging from them, mink will be attractively clad this winter for the styles are prettier than usual. Beautiful rich Russian sable are displayed in attractive style and their beautiful colorings were the subject of admiring comment from all the ladies who stopped in front of the case and these included practically every one who visited the fair for the exhibit could almost be called a special attraction, so much attention has it drawn. The Russian sable stole, however, is not for the poor man's wife, for the very handsome one shown is marked \$1350. There are also fine silk-velvet for stoles at \$340 and Hudson Bay sables ranging in price from \$150 for the muff to \$220 for the stole.

An especially attractive novelty shown is the latest New York craze in the fur line, viz.: Australian opossum in muffs and stoles. These are of pretty color and attractive design and are certain to become popular with the ladies who wish to be well attired.

In the every beautiful and glossy sealskin garments, the exhibit is rich. Among the most popular of the garments shown is a sealskin coat marked at \$875. A handsome mink coat is shown at \$1400.

Another feature of the display is fine opera cloaks and wraps in the newest materials and patterns. These range in price from \$22 to \$40. Beautiful evening gowns are also shown tastefully arranged on lay figures in a manner which brings out their beauties in marked degree. They range in price from \$35 to \$40.

One feature of the magnificent display which is particularly attractive to the ladies is the showing of the latest models of Paris hats. These are in very pretty design, but it is beyond the power of a mere man to present an intelligent description. Suffice it is to say that they are in line with the other beautiful things shown and that they range in price from \$20 to \$50.

While the space occupied by the exhibit is large it is not large enough for this firm to show anything but a very few samples of the lines they carry in stock but the samples shown have been chosen with taste and discriminating judgment and the arrangement of the exhibit reflects credit on those who had it in charge.

JUDGING RESULTS

Continued from page 2.
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Teneriffe—1st, J. B. Corson, Toronto.

Tatting—1st, J. B. Corson, Toronto; 2nd, Miss May Starkie, Woodstock.

Netting—1st, Mrs. D. J. Leavitt, St. John; 2nd, Mrs. McLaren, St. John.

Irish Crochet—1st prize, Miss L. M. Cutcheon, Toronto; 2nd prize, J. B. Corson, Toronto.

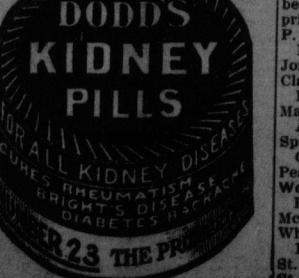
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