

Helps Men to Mend their Ways

A GOVERNMENT official who is something more than a machine who knows when to draw his salary, is W. P. Archibald, Dominion parole officer. The secret of Mr. Archibald's success with hardened offenders—and he has been very successful—is that he always sees the man beneath the prison garb. His faith in his fellow-man is of a very vital and enduring character, and it would need to be, for, as he says himself, "a man who is determined to be of practical help in the rescue of discharged prisoners must practise the perseverance of the saints, and at the same time he will see a great deal to convince him of the persistency of devils."

Speaking before the Canadian Club of Victoria a couple of weeks ago on some phases of his work, Mr. Archibald said: "I am anxious to create a deeper interest and a conscience among the people of this vast Dominion to see that no one is left standing outside of a Canadian penal institution on the day of his or her release, without a friend to aid or the opportunity of following up the good impressions often made while under authority."

"My own experience with convicts has been chiefly with discharged or paroled prisoners. What strikes me most of all is not their resentful and ferocious disposition so much as their infantile helplessness. They seem to be poisoned with the pauper virus, and require tonics and training. It is a grievous social wrong to turn this rudderless derelict loose upon the troubled paths of life's sea, for I find a large number of our discharged prisoners are incapable of using an unconditional freedom without an oversight. We must strive earnestly for the day when patrons or friends will be on hand to receive the discharged prisoner, having employment and a helpful environment to assist the unfortunate and the erring into a life of good citizenship. What the discharged man needs is a friend providing practical assistance in his hour of need by giving the man an opportunity to rise on the causeway of redemption."

Boundary Line Bungles

OUR relations with the United States is always a good staple hot weather topic in editorial sanctums, when news is scare and the sea serpent is not chasing bathers at the summer resorts. There still seems to be a disposition in some quarters to "Remember the Maine" boundary line, and some other international incidents, as the following from the "Walkerton Herald" of recent date will show:

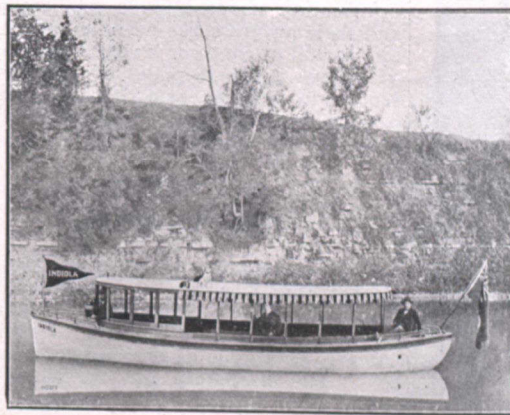
"A little speck no larger than a man's hand, is creeping up on the political horizon between Great Britain and the United States, which may eventually develop into dangerous proportions. Great wars have arisen from smaller causes. The United States wants to establish naval training stations on the Great Lakes between Canada and the United States, contrary to the treaty in that behalf between the two nations."

"The United States is constantly encroaching on the rights of Canada, in defiance of treaties, merely because it feels able to do so; and Great Britain is just as constantly giving way to their arrogant demands, merely because it desires to avoid the dangers of war by refusing to conciliate them. It might just as well undertake to conciliate the father of evil. Through the operations of this spirit, we lost the State of Maine. From the same cause they have driven us out of the seal fisheries in Behring Sea; they have beaten us out of a big slice of Alaska; they are fishing out our inland waters, within the three-mile limit of our shores, and now they want to establish themselves in command of the Great Lakes, Superior, Huron, Erie and Ontario, by putting war vessels on these waters."

"If Great Britain allows it, Canada may as well quit the pretense of being a self-governing country. We will either have to submit to the United States, or face the very serious problem of fighting for our national existence."

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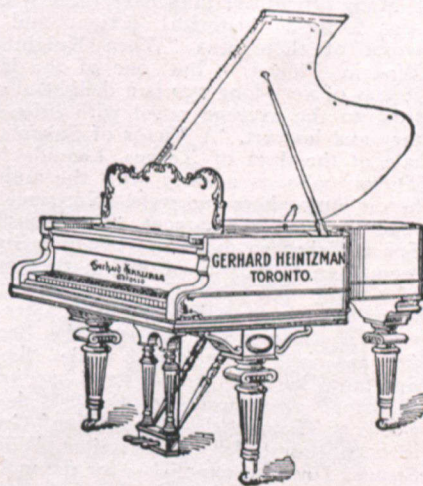
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