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REVISE U. S. PROCEDURE IN EFFORT TO CHECK GROWTH OF CRIME IN COUNTRY

Barristers' Convention Hears Startling Disclosures of Conditions.

Minneapolis, Minn., Aug. 29.—Startling disclosures of the extent and rapid increase of crime in the United States were submitted before the American Bar Association yesterday by a special committee on law enforcement, which urged that the whole code of criminal practice in the 48 states of the union be rewritten so that the long arm of the law might also become swift, sure, constant and, on occasion, merciful.

Data on numbers of crimes, methods of trial and treatment of prisoners in England, and France were cited, in comparison with which this country showed to a decided disadvantage.

The blame was laid partly upon the structure of the law and the manner in which our courts function, but principally the increase of crime and criminals was attributed to "the apathy and indifference of the American people toward law enforcement."

Failures of Justice.

"Terrible failures of justice have occurred in all parts of the country," says the committee. Truth still clings to Chief Justice Taft's statement that "the administration of criminal law in the United States is a disgrace to civilization. The trial of a criminal seems like a game of chance, with all the chances in favor of the criminal and if he escapes, he seems to have the sympathy of a sporting public."

Charles S. Whitman, former Governor of New York, is chairman of the committee, which includes Marcus Kavanagh, Charles W. Farnham, Wade H. Ellis and Annette Abbott Adams. Besides conclusions drawn from personal observation as eminent members of the American Bar, they gathered an immense amount of statistics on crime not available from the census. Three members of the committee made an exhaustive study of the criminal courts in England and France—forms of indictment, trial and sentence, sitting through whole murder trials and hearings of appeal, and inspecting penal institutions.

An astonishing laxity was discovered in the American method of recording crime statistics. Some states did not keep records of the number of persons in prison, as late as 1921 in 16 states where statistics were available the penal population was shown to have ranged since 1910 from a decrease of 3.2 per cent. in Nevada and 87.5 in South Carolina to an increase of 1.5 per cent. in Kentucky and 171.3 in Rhode Island. Gains in civil population were taken into consideration.

On information furnished by police and court clerks in 48 principal cities of as many states, it was estimated that "while the general population of the country from the year 1910 until 1922 was increased 14.9 per cent., the criminal population has increased 76 per cent." It was ascertained further that the growth of crime was steady and almost regular up to our entrance into the World War; during the war crime decreased greatly, but upon the resumption of peace criminals resumed their depredations with increased activity all over the country.

In 1921, for instance, there were 9,200 homicides as compared with 8,000 in 1920. In no year during the last 10 did the number fall below 8,000. In other words, since 1910 no less than 85,000 of our citizens have perished by

poison, the pistol, the knife or other unlawful and deadly injury."

Comparisons.

As compared with England and France:

In the last year for which facts were available there were 88 murders in England and Wales; 888 in France. In the 48 American cities where live one-fifth of the population there were 1,962 murders.

In London there were seventeen murders. Only nine of these were classed as first degree. Scotland Yard ended the year with none of them "unsolved." During the same period Chicago had 197 recorded murders, and New York 260—the latter city obtaining three convictions.

The annual homicide rate per 100,000 population in Hartford, Conn., is 1.4. It is 86.8 in Memphis, Tenn.

"The largest proportionate ratio of crime is in our cities of less than 200,000 population," says the committee. "It therefore may be conservatively estimated that in this republic last year there occurred 7,800 murders. To these may be added 6,700 cases of manslaughter and other unlawful killings, totalling 14,500 unjustifiable homicides."

England is severe in punishing murders. The death penalty often is imposed, although prison sentences usually are brief compared to ours. In France, where crime is less severely punished, murder is more frequent.

Eight states of the union have abolished capital punishment. In five others it has been outlawed, but now is reinstated. Thus there were 92 executions in this country in 1919.

"But to prove that our failure to inflict the death penalty did not proceed from an excess of tenderness," the committee points out, "two successful prosecutions followed."

Justices visiting English and French courts on behalf of the American Bar reported several commendable features in each. Justice was expedient. A criminal was tried, convicted and punished while details of his crime were still fresh in the minds of the public and the "horrible example" theory of punishment was therefore effective. This country is notorious for its long delays in the trial of criminals.

Two or three years elapse between the crime and the execution, and the preliminary judgment forms merely the preliminary skirmish.

Discussing the prospect of speeding the trial of prisoners in the United States; of eliminating the disappearance of witnesses, falsification of defenses and loss of testimony, the committee concludes:

"The first great work to be accomplished in bringing about a better enforcement of law must be the awakening of the public to a sense of their responsibility for it. Improvement in our laws can accomplish little unless accompanied by a determination on the part of our citizens to have those laws enforced."

W. H. Turner, of the Millville Club, said he was quite satisfied with the explanation made, and at his request the protest was withdrawn, so the members of the officers of the Renforth Club who came first in the race in question will be placed on the cup.

Mr. Power, of the Lorne Club, Halifax, thought that there were some sections of the by-laws that should be revised, and Mr. Cheney, of the St. John Rowing Club, was of the same opinion, and this matter caused considerable discussion. On motion the president was authorized to appoint two members from New Brunswick and two from Nova Scotia to look into the matter, also to pay particular attention to the grading of oarsmen and prepare a report. The president was authorized to appoint the members of the committee and the said committee were given power to act.

The Officers.

The next business of the meeting was the election of officers, which resulted as follows:

President, R. T. Macleith, Halifax; first vice-president, J. C. Chesley, St. John; second vice-president, W. H. Wakely, Halifax; secretary, W. W. Hoyt, Halifax; assistant secretary for New Brunswick, Harry Erwin, St. John; treasurer, W. W. Hoyt, Halifax.

The executive is composed of the following: P. T. Power, Lorne Club, Halifax; J. W. O'Neill, St. Mary's Club, Halifax; J. E. Burns, Jubilee Club, Halifax; Councilor Walker, Macleith Club, Halifax; F. R. Hart, North West Arm Club, Halifax; G. R. Forbes, Bannock Club, Halifax; W. H. Turner, Millville Club, St. John; Elmer Ingraham, St. John Rowing Club, St. John; F. W. Coombs, Renforth Club, St. John; W. Ross, Pictou Rowing Club, Pictou, N. S.

Certain diseases are being diagnosed in their early stages by photography, the camera showing a rash before the eye can detect it.

It's free from ink faults

CARTER'S

ST. JOHN MEN ARE AMONG NUMBER

Chosen Officers of Maritime Rowing Association—Revise Rules.

The annual meeting of the Maritime Provinces Amateur Rowing Association was held in the Union Club last night with R. W. Macleith, of Halifax, in the chair.

Those present were as follows: W. W. Hoyt, Halifax, secretary; J. C. Chesley, St. John Rowing Club; J. H. Burns, Jubilee Club, Halifax; W. H. Hann, Millville Club; F. E. Williams, Millville Club; Elmer Ingraham, St. John Rowing Club; W. R. Wakely, Lorne Club, Halifax; F. W. Coombs, Renforth Club; G. R. Forbes, Bannock Club, Halifax; W. C. Ainsley, Renforth Club; E. Power, Lorne Club, Halifax.

A protest by the North West Arm Club, that the two men C. and F. Twigg, were professionals, the rules show that no person can be employed in the use of an oar of paddle, reusing to their containing in an amateur event. The men admitted pulling an oar in a boat, helping to haul trawls, and worked on a fishing vessel with their father, for which they received clothes, food and pocket money.

Another Protest.

A protest made by the Millville Outing Association last year to the effect of Hilton A. Byles, of the Renforth Club, in the senior fours for the Fulton Cup, was next brought up. The committee appointed to investigate the protest was composed of W. H. Turner, of Millville Club, A. P. Patterson, of the Renforth Club, with A. W. Corey, president of the Canadian Union, of the Renforth Club.

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YOUNG PITCHER GETS FORTUNE

Rader Must Go to College to Receive a Bequest of \$75,000.

New London, Conn., Aug. 29.—A neighbor's boy who had gained his admiration, largely because of ability as a baseball pitcher, will receive the bulk of the \$75,000 estate of Robert W. Hallan, retired Meriden Cutlery Company superintendent, whose will has just been filed here.

The instrument leaves \$10,000 in trust to a sister, who has died, and \$1,000 each to four nieces, \$6,000 each to the Rev. E. G. Reynolds, a retired minister of Glastonbury, and Floyd Robinson, who were friends of the deceased. To two neighbors is left \$800 each and to another, Mrs. Alice Powers, \$5,000 in trust.

The residue goes to Elmer F. Rader, aged 18, son of Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Rader, with the provision that he go to college. In the event of his death without issue it is stipulated that the money be divided among All Saints' Church, Y. M. C. A., Boys' Club, &c.

Young Rader was graduated from Meriden High School last June, where he pitched on the baseball team. Mr. Hallan took a liking to the boy and cheered him frequently for his pitching, while Rader's little acts of thoughtfulness made a deep impression on Mr. Hallan and his wife. The latter died about a year ago, no children being born to the couple.

Young Rader's share of the estate will total nearly \$75,000 and will include the \$10,000 bequeathed to the sister who has died since the writing of the will. He receives one-half of the legacy now and the remainder in five years. His father is a factory employee.

E. ST. JOHN SCOUTS FOOTBALL VICTORS

The game of football which was to have been played last Saturday at the Edith Avenue Sunday school-East St. John Community Club picnic, but was postponed, was played last night at East St. John. The contending teams were the East St. John Scouts and Community Club, the former winning by two goals to one. O. J. Lawson was goal tender for the winners, and Albert Lewis for the losers. The East St. John scouts are open to meet any troop in the city at football.

HEAVY LOSS IN NEWCASTLE FIRE

In a spectacular fire at Newcastle yesterday damage of \$75,000 to \$100,000 was done, a mill and content destroyed, along with about 500,000

GOLDEN ROD

BRIGHT CHEWING TOBACCO 10¢ a fig

Sealed Tins Insure its Freshness

feet of sawn lumber and 1,000 cords of pulpwood, and the wharf of the C. N. R. was badly damaged. The fire is supposed to have started from a spark from a passing tug. The mill had not been used for some time. The heat was so intense that several of the firemen were overcome for short periods and had to retire from the fight.

The principal losers are James Robinson, Millerton; the W. A. Jackson estate, joint owners of the mill; H. V. Berry, Port Plain, New York; W. M. Mackay, St. John; Moses Schaffer, Blackville, and Charles Sargeant, New-

castle. The loss is partially covered by insurance.

Words Are Softer.

Action may be better than words, but the umpire would rather be bawled out than have pop-bottles hurled at him.

C. R. W. Dodwell, Engineer of Public Works of Canada, Halifax, has been promoted by the Civil Service Commission to the position of Superintendent Engineer of the Maritime Provinces. His new position, which is an important one, will be chiefly as consulting engineer. Thomas Locke, assistant engineer, has been promoted to the position occupied by Mr. Dodwell.

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Briar Pipes

"The Standard of Excellence"

They are accepted as the Best! They are the Best!

Light and Dark Briar Bowls—\$2.50

TUBULAR, dark Briar Bowls with aluminum tubes—\$3.50

The Show That's Worth While

And That Everyone Is Coming To, Because It Is

WORTH WAITING FOR

NEW BRUNSWICK'S BIG FAIR

FREDERICTON EXHIBITION

SEPTEMBER 17-22

SOMETHING DOING ALL THE TIME—CONTINUOUS ROUND OF AMUSEMENT

Combined with the Best Educational Features.

The Marvellous Weldonas in their Thrilling Aerial Act.

The Fraser Highlanders in their Wonderful Musical Novelty.

THEN THE ROLLICKING MIDWAY

With its Merry-Go-Rounds, Ferris Wheel, Whip and all the other Side Shows.

3 DAYS RACING

AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRIAL LIVE STOCK POULTRY

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AUTO SHOW HORSE SHOW BABY SHOW DOG SHOW

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GRAND OPENING OF ST. JOHN EXHIBITION

Saturday, September 1 at 8 p. m.

THE PROGRAMME

INCLUDES:

Addresses by President Terry, of the St. John Exhibition Association, His Worship Mayor Fisher, Premier Veniot, His Excellency Lieut-Governor Todd and Prominent Speakers from beyond the province.

Selections by the 62nd Band! Vocal and instrumental numbers by Leading Local Talent, and Other Features to be announced later. Special Labor Day Programme for Monday, Sept. 3. Grand Display of FIREWORKS (weather permitting).

Noisy Pike

Ferris Wheel

The Midway

The Whip

Band Concerts

Tented City

Laughing Mirrors

Dining Room

Big Poultry Demonstration

Exhibits of Special Interest St. John Art Club

will offer an especially interesting feature in the form of a Loan Exhibit of some of the finest paintings of the late ALEX. WATSON besides a very fine collection of Etchings, Steel Engravings and some excellent work by members of the St. John Art Club.

Health Centre Women's Work Butter Cheese Fruits Agriculture

General Admission5 Tickets for \$2.00

Grand Stand5 Tickets for \$1.00 plus tax

Come Early and Bring Your Family.

One Colossal Whirl of Pleasure and Profit.

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SEPTEMBER, 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8