

unfortunate chauffeur, dashed up the stairs of the bank and appeared before the cashier's window with a demand for all the money in sight on his desk. When the cashier hesitated, he promptly shot him through the breast, fortunately not fatally; and when the president of the bank came rushing out of his office another bullet from the revolver crashed through his brain. Shifting both revolvers to one hand, the boy calmly gathered up with the other all the bunches of bills he could reach through the grated window, thrust them into a sack that he had brought, walked down the steps and disappeared around the corner before the horrified crowd could realize what had happened.

So insanely public and open was his attack, so well was he personally known in the town that his arrest was a matter of only a few hours.

Next morning his eye was clear and bright, his countenance smiling and undisturbed and his manner as unembarrassed and at ease as if he had been a favored guest brought to the cell by invitation. On being asked if he had slept well he replied:

"Oh very fairly, thank you, considering that it was my first night in a strange room." And this with the faces of his victims fresh before him and the howling and curses of the mob of his midnight flight still ringing in his ears.

And the writer pertinently asks "Who is most to blame, this wretched half witted boy, or the society calling itself intelligent and civilized, which had allowed him unhelpt and unhindered, to nurse and nourish and brood over his insanity until it suddenly exploded in that awful crime?"

As already stated, the case is an extreme one and one fortunately rare. But are the conditions that produced it so very rare? Innumerable children are born into the world diseased, weak and moody and grow up unheeded and unhelpt by parents, teachers and the community at large till perchance they land in our police courts, there to be branded forever where they belong. Nor can we wonder at the outcome. Science is deeply moved over the problem of how insanity can be prevented. How to prevent criminals is the very same problem. In the latter case just as in the former prevention is not only better but easier than cure. We shall have taken a long step towards the prevention of criminals when society fully realizes that it simply can not under any circumstances afford to allow any child born into it to grow up without a square deal from the start; and when, too, it demands in the policemen as