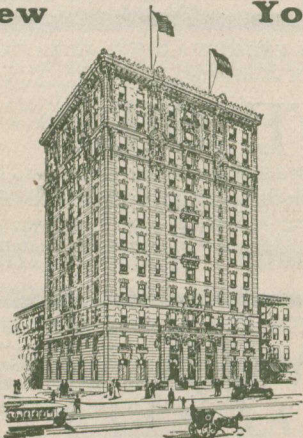


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## What Canadian Editors Think

### FOREIGNERS' AND CRIME.

(Toronto Star.)

**D**URING the ten years ending with 1905 there were 1,527 charges of shooting, stabbing, or wounding laid in Canada. This was a yearly average of 153. In the single year of 1906 no less than 281 similar charges were laid—very close to double the ten-year average. The number of such charges in Ontario alone in 1906 was 197, or 44 more than the average for all Canada in the decade ending with the year previous. The cause of this alarming increase in the most dangerous form of felony is known to all. It is due to the large additions made of late to the streams of immigration from countries in which the carrying of knives is the common practice. The remedy for the evil lies in rigorous punishment of convicted offenders, together with a vigorous missionary effort intended to inculcate in the minds of these aliens the same respect for law and order that is part of the mental equipment of the normal native of this country.

\* \* \*

### CLASSES AND MASSES.

(Toronto Globe.)

**T**HERE are many surface indications that in the slow evolution of American parties the line of cleavage will be between the classes and the masses. At present no such cleavage is discernible. Socialists and trades unionists of irreconcilable views nominate their own candidates and regard each of the old parties as beyond their consideration. These parties have a fairly equal share of Labour representatives, who think that their interests can be better served from within than from without the established parties. But the mere fact that the party cleavage has no logical basis is tending to furnish a cause of divergence in the partiality of the masses for the Democratic organisation, and of the classes for that of the Republicans. The struggle between the house of have and the house of want is endless and seemingly inevitable, and under the modern genius for organisation will naturally bring the opponents into hostile political camps.

\* \* \*

### SIFT THE IMMIGRANTS.

(St. John Globe.)

**N**O one will greatly regret that there is a falling off in the number of immigrants which have come to Canada this year as compared with last year. In the past six months the total was 96,000 as compared with 169,000 in the corresponding six months of 1907. There is plenty of room in Canada for all the people who may come for many years, but it takes some little time to get the numerous newcomers settled, adapted to our ways and taught the difference between our institutions and those which they have left behind. Canadian civilisation will not suffer from the slower process of settlement. Apparently a little effort will bring to us from the less desirable parts of Europe all the people we may want. The country will not suffer from the slower process for a time.

\* \* \*

### PARTYISM VS. THE INDIVIDUAL.

(Ottawa Journal.)

**O**NE of the main defects of the party system in politics as it has been worked out in Canada is that it has had a tendency to discourage initiative in the individual in Parliament, and therefore to deprive his constituents and inferentially the people at large of a considerable measure of the possible value of his services. It would be difficult to abandon the party system itself since no one so far has been able to produce an intelligible substitute proposition, let alone a practicable substitute. But under the party system as it is operative in Canada to-day in Dominion affairs and in the affairs of most if not all of the provinces the individual is not encouraged to develop his individuality.

\* \* \*

### NAVY STOPS HORN-BLOWING.

(St. John Telegraph.)

**T**HE British have abandoned the old plan of bellowing their war plans to the world through a megaphone. The Japanese lately demonstrated the value of silence and secrecy. The British have taken at least half a leaf out of the Japanese book. The recent naval manoeuvres in the North Sea were the most impressive the world has ever known. The British naval authorities, however, have not courted publicity. The world hears something of the story, knows the number and power of the vessels engaged were unprecedented, observes that a squadron of submarines made a record-breaking run of forty hours, and reads that the wireless was used more successfully than ever before; but there is little national horn-blowing about it.

\* \* \*

### THE NEEDED RURAL POLICE.

(Toronto Globe.)

**T**HE problem is to provide a rural constabulary capable of responding to sudden demands without at the same time creating a dangerously idle element. Non-producers stationed in rural communities and without the military discipline and continuous surveillance of urban police organisations might easily degenerate into loafers and perhaps into disturbers of the peace. We must not fall into the common error of attributing perfection to those who will administer a prospective system. The conditions under which the British Columbia police and the Mounted Police of the Territories are serving are entirely different from those existing in rural Ontario. Some form of provincial organisation and direction is necessary, and this could be established with the minimum of disturbance by bringing the well-trained and disciplined men of the city forces within call of the provincial authorities.

\* \* \*

### EVERY PROSPECT PLEASES.

(London Advertiser.)

**E**STIMATES of the western wheat crop vary widely, but even the minimum calculation gives a record wheat yield. Few place the figures below 100,000,000 bushels, and many make it 120,000,000. Oats are estimated at 100,000,000 bushels, and barley at 25,000,000. These three crops, if the present harvest promise is fulfilled, will have a money value of \$115,000,000 to \$125,000,000. As for banking accommodation, the general manager of one of the great chartered banks expresses the opinion that there will be no difficulty if the farmers sell their grain as it becomes ready for market, instead of holding it for fancy prices. This autumn the banks will have in reserve the issue of the emergency currency provided for in Mr. Fielding's amendment to the banking act last session. As there is little likelihood of a revival this year of the land speculation which caused the banks to tighten their purse-strings a year ago, there should be sufficient money to move the crop without inconveniencing the business interests of the eastern provinces.



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