

# THE Canadian Courier

A NATIONAL WEEKLY

Published at 61 Victoria Street, Toronto, by The Courier Press, Limited

Subscription: Canada and Great Britain, \$4.00 a Year; United States, \$5.00 a Year

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## PUBLISHER'S TALK

WE shall now take up a new topic. Civil Service Reform and general Electoral Reform will still be kept to the front. Our voting competition to discover who are the Ten Big Men of Canada will continue. But in addition to these and our general work we have decided to take up Prison Reform. This is a wonderfully interesting topic and it is one which has been too much neglected. We propose to pay considerable attention to it in the next few months. We begin this week with an article by Mr. James L. Hughes, Inspector of Public Schools in the city of Toronto. Mr. Hughes has just returned from a visit to Great Britain where this subject is also attracting considerable attention, and while there he made some study of the English practices and the ideas of the English reformers. This will be followed by several articles by Mr. Joseph P. Downey, M.P.P., who was appointed by the Ontario Government last year to conduct a special investigation into prison labour. Mr. Downey visited many of the large prisons in the United States and gathered a wealth of information. Other articles along this line are being arranged for.

In this connection the following paragraph from the *Kingston Whig* is worth reproducing:

"The prisoners in the Toronto jail are confined for thirteen hours out of the twenty-four in solitary darkness. Prisons are meant to restrain and reform men, not to make them crazy. Civilisation in Toronto is not advancing very fast."



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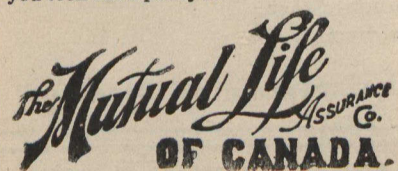
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