

Criminal Records

(From the Winnipeg Telegram.)

LAST year there were 8,967 murders committed in the United States, and 86 out of every 87 murderers escaped the extreme penalty. There are eight times as many murders in that country as in England in proportion to population. The United States has over seventy murders per million of its population; Italy has less than five per million; Canada has less than eighteen per million, and Great Britain has less than nine per million. Statistics of crime are interesting as pointing to its rise and fall in different countries, and perhaps indicating preventive methods which may ameliorate the conditions of the future. There is obviously something rotten in the administration of justice in the United States, and it seems on the face of it to be the fact that the electric chair is more and more becoming the last resort of the law for capital offences. As the terrors of death recede from the criminally inclined portion of the population it would seem that safety of human life decreases. The chances are eighty-six to one that everyone who commits murder in the United States will escape death. This is a sorry comment on the much vaunted civilization of our neighbours. In evolving new methods of justice the United States is fostering crime.

There is a lesson for Canada in all this. Here our murder record is altogether too high at present, and the only hopeful feature to which we can point is the fact that it is not showing any grave increase. Reading of the mistaken sentimentality which has become only too great a feature of murder trials on the other side of the line, there may be a tendency here, too, to let our sympathies get the better of our sense of justice. This we must guard against. In the effort to build up a virile people, strong physically, morally and intellectually, we must adhere strictly to that administration of the law which has made British justice the synonym of safety the world over.

RUNNERS OF THE AIR

(Continued from page 14.)

Andrews had been twice to Amsterdam, but with small consignments only. The enormous bulk of the diamonds, in sealed leather bags of which their guardians knew not the contents, still rested in the vaults of the Bank of Servia at Nish. Andrews had also been in England, discreetly laying diplomatic trains, and in Montenegro, discussing problems of interest with Prince Nikola, who had developed a sudden amazing penchant for his society.

Gregory was in his own Black Mountain. He was busy organizing and arming, with secrecy unmatched and a most comfortable amplitude of funds, bands in Bosnia, bands in Herzegovina, bands in Dalmatia, bands even in long tranquil Slavonia. But he had plans beyond all precedent for the future of guerilla warfare and had ordered two Antoinettes and two Farmans to be delivered at Dulcigno by October.

Mother Maria and her son, after a pampered sojourn at M'latza, where their epic narratives had given them great vogue, had found a pig-farm beyond their wildest aspirations, on the banks of the Morava to the west of Krucevac.

And old Ivan. With five of his fellows, Ivan had died as he would have elected to die, after emptying many saddles, in a skirmish with the mounted patrol at the crossing of the Drina. He had covered the retreat; he had got his charges safely over and he had won for his name an illustrious place in the hearth-songs of his Montenegrin village.

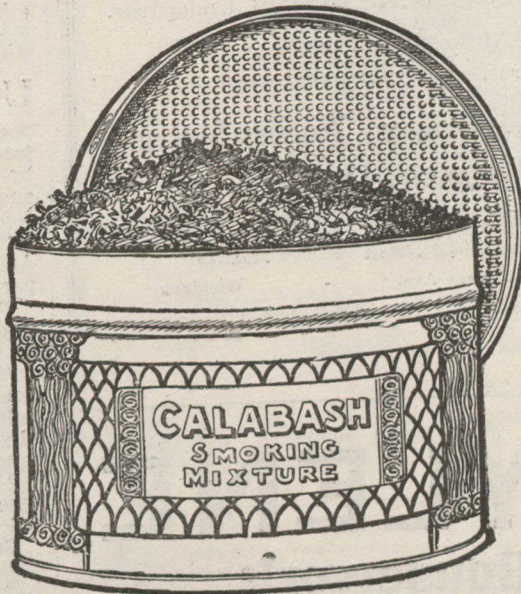
On the quays, Sergius and Andrews noted the great white boat for Budapest swinging out from its pier and, in the distance, the dark hulls of Austrian river-monitors nosing upward against the Danube current. This time, however, there chanced to be four of them and the Englishman smiled, thinking of the four powerful

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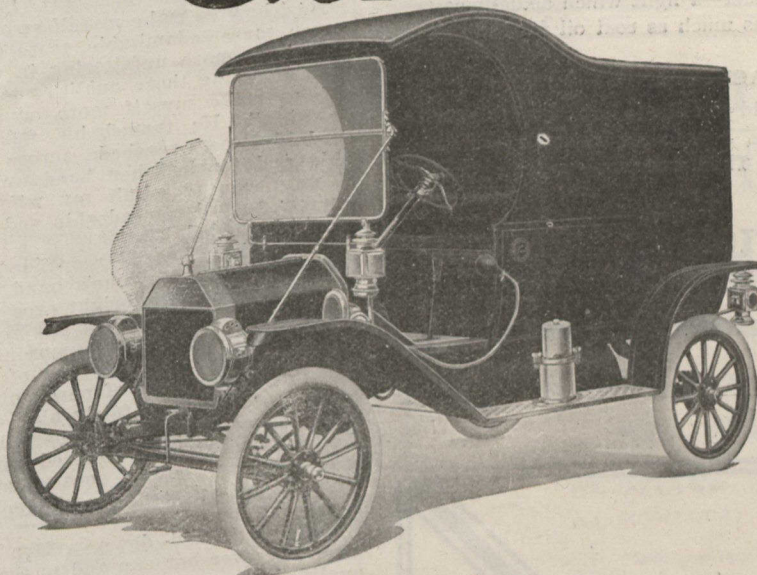
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