

detectives and a dashing fine fellow who leads a jolly romantic and successful life and uses oaths and revolvers and wine in every chapter. Our criminal code aims to prevent juvenile offenders from associating with hardened criminals, but we have no effective law to prevent this form of companionship with criminals which is brought about by the sale to boys of the soul-poisoning stuff so easily procurable and in every page of which there lurks moral bacteria. Persons who have fair opportunities of observing the record of young criminals state that this sort of "literature" is often an inciting cause of crime.

It is not within the province of this article to dwell upon one great cause of crime, the absence of true religious faith and practice.

11. Concluding observations.—In conclusion, it is hoped that a revision of the code will remove existing ambiguities so that our code will be characterized by lucidity, simplicity and effectiveness, and approach the ideal of Bentham, the great English law reformer, "a code which would not require schools for its explanation, or casuists to unravel its subtleties, and which would speak a language familiar to everybody and which each one might consult at his need."

The foregoing observations are not contributed because specially new or original, but were written because it was suggested that in view of the approaching revision of the statutes of Canada, some words upon the criminal legislation and the practical working of the code might be opportune and might direct attention afresh to subjects vitally affecting the welfare of the whole community.

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