

true solution to this very important question. We do not for a moment say that if the city aids the Weston Sanatorium good work would not be done for the city by it.

THE INFANTICIDE BILL IN BRITAIN.

An effort is 'being made in Britain to have a law enacted that will give the judges some discretion in trials for infanticide. At present if a woman is convicted of infanticide the judge has no alternative but to pass the sentence 'of hanging.

This is never carried out. The object of the proposed legislation is to give the judge some freedom of action when all the evidence is heard and the infant 'under one year of age. The judge may, in lieu of the death sentence, impose imprisonment for a term of not less than three years.

CAPITAL PUNISHMENT.

The trend of opinion is very clearly in the direction of getting away from the death penalty. In this country recently three out of four 'convictions have been commuted in imprisonment. The case of Jardine appealed to us as one specially for executive 'clemency. There was enough to show that he was of low mental organization. The crime of which he was convicted was revolting in the highest 'degree; but this is true in most murders. The death of the victim is the main thing to be considered; and not that it was 'caused by one or twenty stabs of a knife, or that the remains were mutilated. Such events only go to show the brutality of the murderer, and, if of any moment, rather plead 'for merciful consideration, as indicating an abnormal mind.

Murders may be done in self-defence, in 'the heat of temper, from revenge, for the greed of gain, or because of mental defects of some sort. It is quite impossible to appraise all these conditions 'justly; and yet the death penalty is the same punishment for all. A certain number of years in keeping with the nature of the crime 'would be more in keeping with the real ends of justice.

Many argue that it is necessary to adhere to the 'death penalty to restrain people from killing each other. This has been argued out and found to have no foundation in fact. The 'murder rate per million is lower in Italy than in the United States. People that act under the impulse of the moment or in temper never 'think of the law. Those who are abnormal do not consider the consequences. Whereas those who kill