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LONDON, SATURDAY, MARCH 24.

The Penitentiaries and the Parole System.

The annual report of the Minister of Justice shows the population of the penitentiaries for 1905 to have been 1,359, compared with 1,256 in 1904. In 1899 the inmates numbered 1,447, and there has been little, if any increase, in the past ten years, a satisfactory showing, in view of the growth of the country.

Of the prisoners last year 169 were under 20 years of age; 595 from 20 to 30 years; 334 from 30 to 40 years; 170 from 40 to 50 years; 64 from 50 to 60 years, and 35 over 60. Those of Canadian nationality numbered 875; English, 150; United States, 121; Irish, 46, and Scotch 27, the remainder belonging to a score of other races. Three hundred and nineteen were illiterate, and 1,048 could read and write; 197 were abstainers, 654 temperate, and 516 intemperate; 913 were single, 411 married and 43 widowed. The gross expenditure was \$429,537 63, and the revenue, \$55,766 51.

The remarks of the Inspector of penitentiaries upon prison labor are worthy of public attention. Hard labor is a necessary element in prison discipline, and while it may not be desirable to employ prison labor in the manufacture of articles that compete with the products of free labor in the open market, it is not unreasonable to expect that the Government will utilize the labor of its wards in supplying its own wants. This system has been tried in several of the neighboring states with satisfactory results, and the Inspector suggests that the propriety of adopting similar legislation in Canada be considered. In the State of New York, for example, prison labor, or its products, may not be farmed out, contracted, given or sold to any person or firm, but may be utilized for any public institution, owned, managed, or controlled by the state, or for any industries for the benefit of the state.

An instructive chapter on the parole system is contributed by the Dominion parole officer, W. P. Archibald, formerly of the Salvation Army. Since the adoption of the parole system six years ago, 1,082 prisoners have been released on parole. Of this number, 657, or 61 per cent, have completed their sentences, under license, without violation of the conditions imposed; while 325, or 30 per cent, have thus far respected the conditions of their license, which are still operative. Those who forfeited their licenses by subsequent conviction and who may be thought to represent the criminal element of those under license, number 24, or but a little over 2 per cent. The remaining 7 per cent have been recommitted for non-compliance with the conditions of the license, but without charge of criminality against them during the period they were at large.

It costs the state \$254 per capita per annum for the maintenance of convicts. The 222 men released last year on parole have become producers. The state has not only been relieved of the cost of their keeping in the penitentiaries, but these men are working outside at laborers' wages (\$1.50 per day), and earn over \$100,000 per year for the support of their families and themselves. Some are earning \$3 or \$4 per day as mechanics. During the year Mr. Archibald had been able to find employment for 286 men upon their discharge from the penitentiaries, in addition to the paroled convicts. The fundamental principle of the parole law, Mr. Archibald explains, is reconstruction. Society will always cry "punish the evil-doer," the parole system answers, "Let us fit him for citizenship." He adds:

"Prevention did not begin soon enough to entirely prevent crime. To prevent crime, as in preventing ill-health, we should begin at least a century before the criminal is born. We are just beginning to approach an ideal by insisting upon better homes for the poor and vicious; by child-placing in well selected homes; and by the provisions of the juvenile court. While even these excellent agencies cannot affect those whose early life is not touched by their beneficent influence, yet preventive measures may be applied to them at any point of their progress downward, and keep them from drifting farther.

"My experience of years has proven that many young men, especially first offenders, have, by the parole system, been kept from drifting into confirmed criminality. To furnish better opportunities for all young men, before, during and after imprisonment for crime, is our practical object."

He may fairly claim that the parole system has been justified by results. Certainly the department of justice is to be congratulated upon securing Mr. Archibald's services for this important and difficult duty. He qualified for it by his long experience as a

Salvation Army officer in connection with the prison gate movement. It was a labor of love, and it was with reluctance that he left the active staff of the Army when his present post was pressed upon him by the Minister of Justice.

A Progressive Step in Great Britain.

Attention has been frequently called to the headway which the principle of the taxation of land values is making in the old land. Many influential public men place it in the forefront of political issues, and the Liberal party is expected to affirm it in legislation. A petition for land value taxation, signed by five hundred and eighteen municipal councils throughout England, Scotland and Wales, has been presented to the ministry by a deputation headed by the mayor of Glasgow and the mayor of Manchester. The speakers represented the matter as one of urgency, the line of argument being that the ever-increasing burdens upon the ratepayers should be alleviated by the restoration to public uses of a portion of the increasing wealth which was created by the whole community. No such combination of responsible rating authorities had ever before organized for a reform.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr. Asquith, who has been a persistent advocate of land taxation reform, made a sympathetic response. He said he supposed that almost alone in the category of social and fiscal reforms the taxation of land values was one which met practically the unanimous approval, without distinction of politics or party, of all the great municipalities. He regarded this movement, properly understood, as being not a derogation from, but an assertion of the rights of property. He added:

"What are the two principles upon which, as far as I understand it, it is founded? They are very simple. They seem to me to be based upon common sense and equity. The first is that those who benefit by public improvements should contribute their fair share of the cost of them. The next is—and I think it is right and just—that the community should reap the benefit of the increased values which are due to its own expenditure and its own growth. These two principles appear to me not to be inconsistent, but are a necessary corollary of the doctrine of the rights of property if equitably applied."

As a preliminary step Mr. Asquith suggested that it was necessary to place a separate assessment on site values. He promised that a bill, for the taxation of land values would be drafted and presented to the House as quickly as possible, a statement in which his colleagues, Hon. Mr. Bryce and Hon. John Burns, concurred. This legislation, which will be, in some degree, an acceptance of the single tax theory, will be the first of its kind in any country, and will arouse a universal interest.

Elevated Tracks.

The Grand Trunk's proposal to elevate its tracks has much to commend it from the standpoint of public safety. Every year lives are sacrificed to the deadly level crossings on some of London's busiest thoroughfares. Many municipalities in the United States are seeking legislation to compel the elevation of railway tracks, and the grade crossing in large centers of population must eventually disappear. It is not only a public menace, but a public nuisance, delaying pedestrians and vehicular traffic. Elevated tracks are so desirable that it is unfortunate that engineering difficulties will not permit the Grand Trunk to raise them from one end of the city to the other.

The rails are to be carried on an embankment which need not be an unsightly affair, or detrimental to the southern portion of the city. The immunity from danger and from the interruption of street traffic will be worth a good deal to the people who are obliged daily to cross the present tracks. Residents of the western portion of South London, who are restricted to two or three thoroughfares in crossing the river, have had a grievance in the narrowness of the viaduct at the Wortley road, but this is to be widened to 56 feet. The width of all the proposed viaducts, and the clearances, are such that they will not disfigure the streets. The embankment will not to any extent face or run along residential blocks, but for the most part will be flanked by factory premises and backyards. The Grand Trunk officials say it will not be an eyesore, but will be added and kept in trim. The city might make this a condition of any arrangement with the company, and so minimize objections to the company's plan on the score of appearances.

A strike in the hard coal mines has no terror for the public in the spring, but a soft coal strike will be disastrous at any season of the year.

The Provincial Secretary says he bows to public opinion, and will with-

draw the proposal to issue liquor licenses on steamboats. His good judgment must have deserted him when he drafted the clause.

The weakness of the Temiskaming loan is that it tends to discredit the credit of the Province.

An Englishman in Canada writes the Lord provost of Dundee asking for a "hard-working" girl for a wife. Perhaps he is after one who will support the family.

An Ohio capitalist declares that Hastings County has enormous deposits of granite and marble. The discovery is a great stroke of luck for a county which has been fertile in nothing but politicians.

The customs receipts are mounting, and the expenses of collection are proportionately much less than ten years ago. Perhaps Mr. Paterson may see his way clear to do for his staff what Mr. Hyman has done for the employees of the public works department. There is no statutory salary increase in the customs service, so that many of the employees have been hard hit by the increase in the cost of living.

"At 3 in the morning of March 21, the vernal equinox can be plainly seen with a piece of smoked glass."

—Toronto Star.
"Considering that the vernal equinox is an astronomical imagination in space where the sun crosses the invisible equator from south to north, it is evident that anybody who could discern the vernal equinox through a piece of smoked glass at 3 o'clock in the morning would be in a pretty sad way."—Ottawa Citizen.

Our usually wide-awake Ottawa contemporary must have been in a pretty sad way when it failed to see the Star's very obvious joke.

Unfair to Insurance Companies.

The yellow press of Canada has begun a similar campaign to that which was pursued by the yellow press of the United States all through the course of the insurance investigation there. Everything done by the insurance companies, no matter how innocent, ordinary or necessary, was distorted and misrepresented as extraordinary and evil by the United States yellow journals, especially in their headings and editorials, and a few of the Canadian newspapers are following their example. The normal fact that an insurance company estimated its securities as of different values at different times, "wrote them off," "wrote them up," and "wrote them down," is placed all over these papers as if it were a monstrous proceeding, whereas, every bank, every financial and commercial institution, is doing the same thing all the time. All investments in bonds and stocks have a liquid quality, and rise and fall according to their condition and the state of the market, and must be set down as of different present market value almost every time a balance sheet is made out. Every bank has among its collateral many securities of uncertain value with which it does not encumber its books, until their value is established, and when any shade of uncertainty attaches to any of it, if the bank can afford it, it removes from the active list. No public bank or private business should be brought under popular condemnation by such licensed detraction as this. This is done under pretence of defending the public's interest at the very time when these are being wilfully injured.

Helps People Up.

[Exchange.]
Smiggs—There goes a man who has done much to arouse the people.
Smiggs—Great labor agitator, eh?
Smiggs—No; manufacturer of alarm clocks.

Needed a Subject.

[Life.]
Mother—"What do you mean by pushing your baby brother down that flight of stairs?"
Dorothy—"Why, mamma, I've just joined the society for the first aid to the injured at school, and I want a subject to practice on."

Then He Kissed Her.

[Tit Bits.]
Miss Beautiful—Oh, but mamma objects to kissing!
Jack Swift—Well, I am not kissing your mamma, am I?

Couldn't Come.

[Houston Post.]
"Out of a job, eh? Well, come around to the factory at 7 in the morning and I'll put you to work."
"I can't come tomorrow, sir."
"Why not?"
"I've got to be in the parade of the unemployed that takes place tomorrow."

The Sad Part.

[Chicago Record-Herald.]
Two St. Louis women have been fined \$10 each for criticizing another woman's hat. The sad part of it is that their husbands will have to put up the money.

Interest Aroused.

[Philadelphia Press.]
"I could die for you!" he cried.
"You don't say!" retorted the girl, indifferently.
"And," he continued, "my life is insured for \$25,000."
"I am yours," she cried—"till death."

A Grunt From Hogtown.

[Toronto Star.]
London's water commissioners have received the water rates by \$10.000 but it is doubtful if even this concession will cause some of the citizens to use water as a beverage.

A WOMAN'S SMOKING-CAR

[From the New York World.]
Staid old England again shocks its friends by installing a smoking-car for ladies on one of the main railway lines between London and Liverpool. The audacity of this departure is likely to cause as much alarm as the recent invasion of the House of Commons by a lot of Labor members who have not had a university education and wear soft hats.

On the continent it is a common sight to see women smoking in cafes and other public places. No up-to-date American socialist would think exclusive pages a Russian or Spanish beauty who did not puff at a cigarette over her card-table. The moral American audience is apt to gasp for breath if an actress adds piquancy to a scene of flirtation by nonchalantly trying to blow rings in the air. It feels that she has had only due punishment if she comes near choking in the attempt.

But for the English gentlewoman, the plink of all proprieties, to smoke in a public car seems incredible. Of course in the privacy of her own home she may have indulged her little weakness for tobacco, or in company of other fair smokers even over the secluded dinner table. That is quite a different matter from boldly traveling in a car bearing the public label "Ladies' Smoking." On the continent she would have had to join the men, but she would have them for an excuse that her clothes smelled of tobacco smoke. Whatever else may be said of it, the new English venture indicates that some English ladies have a very practical way of being frank and honest about their petty vices.

POEMS THAT LIVE

At the Grave of Burns.

Too frail to keep the lofty vow
That must have followed when his brow
Was wreathed—"The Vision" tells us
how
With holly spray,
He faltered, to and fro,
And passed away.

Enough of sorrow, woe and blight;
Think rather of those moments bright,
When to the consciousness of right
When wisdom prospered in his sight
And virtue grew.
Sweet Mercy! to the gates of Heaven
This minstrel lead, his sins forgiven;
The radiant river,
With vain endeavor
And memory of earth's little heaven
Ere lost forever.

But why to him confine the prayer,
When kind thoughts and yearnings
bear
On the frail heart the purest share
With all that live?
The best of what we do and are,
Just God, forgive!

CURE THE MOST EXTREME CASES

Stone in the Kidneys Cannot Stand Before Dodd's Kidney Pills.

Mr. S. A. Cassidy, of Ottawa, Permanently Cured After Years of Suffering by the Great Canadian Kidney Remedy.

Ottawa, Ont., March 23.—(Special.)—While all Canada knows that Dodd's Kidney Pills are the standard remedy for all kidney complaints, it may surprise some people to know they cure such extreme cases as stone in the kidneys. Yet that is what they have done right here in Ottawa.

Mr. S. A. Cassidy, the man cured, is a well-known proprietor of the Bijou Hotel on Metcalfe street, and in an interview he says: "My friends all know that I have been a martyr to stone in the kidneys for years. They know that besides consulting the best doctors in the city, and trying every medicine I could think of, I was unable to get better.

"Some time ago a friend told me Dodd's Kidney Pills would cure me. As a last resort I tried them, and they have cured me.

"I could not imagine more severe suffering than one endures who has stone in the kidneys, and I feel the greatest gratitude to Dodd's Kidney Pills."

If the disease is of the kidneys or from the kidneys, Dodd's Kidney Pills will cure it.

The wagons of one of London's leading breweries now traverse the streets bearing the motto: "Thickest thou because thou art virtuous there shall be no more cakes and ale."

The total production of distilled spirits in the United States for the last fiscal year was 153,239,379 gallons.

When the Food Does Not Digest

Slow passage of the food through the intestines, where the most difficult part of digestion takes place, is the usual cause of indigestion, and gives rise to such symptoms as belching of wind, sour taste in the mouth, smothering sensation in the chest, pains about the heart, palpitation, headache and dizziness.

To overcome these distressing symptoms the liver must be awakened to action and a good flow of bile passed into the intestines to aid digestion.

There is no more prompt or satisfactory means of curing indigestion and biliousness than by the use of Dr. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills. Stomach medicines are of no avail in intestinal indigestion, which is the most common and serious form of this ailment. Dr. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills are prompt and lasting in their benefits, because of their direct action on the liver.

Dr. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills, one pill a dose, 25 cents a box, at all dealers, or Edmondson, Bates & Co., Toronto.

J. H. CHAPMAN & CO

We're Always Ready With Specials.

Whenever you come, or whatever you come for, you find us ready with special values. Store open tonight as usual.

MILLINERY OPENING Tonight

Since Wednesday our Millinery Showroom has been the center of attraction. The spring season is now fairly started. Many of our prettiest hats have found owners, and it was very noticeable that the new spring styles, as shown here, were satisfactory to everyone, and becoming to the face. Not the slightest dissatisfaction was expressed with the modes Dame Fashion has decreed that one shall wear, in fact, the opinion was generally formed that she has been very kind to her daughters in bringing forth such a variety of styles that the individual face can be suited exactly.

The opening continues tonight. Come and bring your friends and together discuss the styles. (Millinery Section—take elevator.)



Ladies' Spring Coats \$6.50

Saturday special in Dressy, Hip-Length Covert Coats, tight-fitting back, lined throughout with satin, fancy flat collar, full pleated sleeve and turn-back cuff. Remarkable value at \$6.50.

WHITEWEAR 35c, 59c, \$1.10.

Corset Covers, made of cambric, full front, with two rows of lace insertion, lace edging, finished with beading and ribbon. A bargain at35c
Drawers, umbrellas cut, made of good cambric, deep flounce of embroidery. Special59c
Slip-over Night Gowns, good cambric, delicately trimmed with embroidery, at\$1.10

EMBROIDERY WASH COLLARS

Special for Saturday and night, 30 dozen Embroidery Wash Collars, finished to perfection, to withstand constant washing. Extra at 20c Each.

New Neck Frilling, White and colors, at yard.....25c

"PHONAC" CORSET

Crompton make of imported cotton, gray and white, bias cut, with long hip; hose supporters on front and side; suitable for medium figures. When you are getting a new gown is the proper time to get corsets. Try these this time. Price\$1.00

Vests—Ladies' Swiss Ribbed Vest, sleeves, half sleeves, and long sleeves, for spring, at25c

J. H. Chapman & Co., 126, 128, 128½ Dundas St.



You Don't Wash With the Box!

Both box and wrapper of Baby's Own Soap are plain, business-like and cheap. All the money is in the Soap itself, which is as "wholesomely" pure and fragrant as money can make it.

Baby's Own Soap

is much imitated as to appearance, but delicate skins soon show the difference. "Baby's Own" costs YOU no more than the imitations—frequently less.

ALBERT SOAPS LIMITED, MFRS., MONTREAL.

Flattering compliments are being paid those who are wearing

The New High Bust Straight Front

D. & A. Corset

No Corset suits present styles as well.

Hunt's Diamond Flour

Better than all-Manitoba for general household use, being a blend of Manitoba and Ontario wheat.

HUNT BROS.