

PRISON REFORM.

WHAT IS WANTED.

1. FROM THE DOMINION GOVERNMENT: (a) The proposed Reformatory for young men located near a large town or city, so that the Protestant inmates may receive the benefit of the sympathy as well as the moral and religious instruction of the members of the local Ministerial Association, and also that of the local Young Men's Christian Association. (b) Commissioners appointed by the Government to enquire into the working of reformatories in other countries, and to mature a well-considered scheme for the organization and management of the reformatory, before taking further steps in the matter. (c) Larger powers granted to the Provincial Governments to pardon, parole and deal generally with juvenile offenders, as has already been conceded to the Province of Quebec. (d) Placing under proper supervision first offenders discharged on suspended sentence, or the adoption of the Massachusetts probation system. (e) The adoption of the principle of cumulative sentences for old offenders, and the indeterminate sentence system for first offenders. (f) The establishment of a training school for prison officials. (g) An annual grant to promote prison reform in the Dominion, as well as to promote the maintenance of a Board or Conference of Charities and Correction.

2. FROM THE ONTARIO GOVERNMENT: (a) A Reformatory for inebriates. (b) Re-organization of Boys' Reformatory, Women's Reformatory, and Refuge for Girls. (c) A new block of cells at the Central Prison, on the English local prison system, for the isolation of confirmed criminals. (d) More of the reformatory element introduced into the Central Prison, including better educational facilities. (e) Public aid to organize and maintain a Conference or Board of Charities and Correction. (f) Sending lunatics from Toronto and vicinity to the Lunatic Asylum direct, without the ignominy and circumlocution of jail incarceration.

3. FROM THE COUNTY COUNCILS: (a) Re-organization of the County Jail system—providing efficient classification of, and proper industrial employment for prisoners. (b) Providing the prisoners with wholesome literature, and giving them material aid upon their discharge. (c) Making independent provision for the poor of the county, and providing County Industrial Homes where required. (d) An annual grant to the Prisoners' Aid Association, to aid prisoners discharged from the Central Prison and Mercer Reformatory.

4. FROM THE TORONTO CITY COUNCIL: (a) A workhouse on farm land near the City, where tramps and vagrants may be made to contribute to their own maintenance. (b) Asking the Government to make other provision for the custody of the insane. (c) Making separate provision for the care and medical treatment of chronic inebriates.