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LUNATICS AT LARGE

Father Schmidt, a German, and a paranoic, who murdered the young woman with whom he had improper relations, has escaped conviction, for the present. The trial jury disagreed.

It transpired that all the jurors were, in the first place, of one mind, as to the insanity of the prisoner. They were disposed to pronounce him guilty of a capital crime on condition that he would be imprisoned for the balance of his life.

More and more it is becoming apparent that many people, at large, are mentally unbalanced, and that to this fact is due the general increase of crime. It is caused by the union in marriage of mental incompetents, and with the result that there is a degeneracy of the race.

London will have Sunday cars as a result of the vote, two to one, on the question on New Year's day. The Lord's Day Alliance was knocked out in the deal.

NEW PRISON EXPERIENCE

The Prison Reform Commission will resume its sessions on Tuesday, and it is assumed that there will be a summing up presently of the evidence, if it has not already been done, prior to the preparation of the report.

But he can be treated as a convict and as a man. He can be made to realize, early in his incarceration, the value of that behaviour which merits confidence and favour and a gradual approach to conditions which mean parole or reduction of terms.

There may be a return to the dining-room, for the service of meals, and to the use of something like table manners in the eating of foods. The men have been sent to their cells with their allowances, and made to eat like animals, because attacks were made at sundry times upon the officers.

the viciously disposed are small in number, and why should all the convicts be humiliated on their account? There may be also a resort to various trades for three purposes—(6) giving occupation to many who are willing and eager to work, (2) giving young men a chance to learn a trade which they failed to do while free men, and (3) enabling the employed to earn not only enough pay for their maintenance, but to contribute to the care and keep of their wives or dependants outside the prison.

One thing more. The Commission will probably recommend some form of diversion to lift the gloom of prison life and make the reform of the convicts more attainable. The American prisons are in advance of the Canadian prisons in this respect.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer is not campaigning against his own party on the armament question. But he is stating a great truth when he says England cannot afford to sink £100,000,000 on armaments.

A VERY GREAT SAVING

The Hydro-Electric Commission's assistant engineer, who was here recently, has come to the conclusion that an electric pump, costing \$10,000, can be added to the water plant, and operated with power from the central plant without adding to the boiler capacity.

By the way the corporation of Brockville, in contracting expenditure under the Commission, is suggestive and also educative. This Commission proposes this year to make improvements to the extent of \$69,000, and the money goes to a new building, new boilers, new electric pump, and white way, and the Chairman of the Finance Committee of the City Council, reports:

"Under the old way this money was provided by a vote of the people. Under this new way it is optional to take a vote of the people or to comply with the Commission's request and apply to the Ontario Railway and Municipal Board, who are a commission appointed by the government free from partisanship for the express purpose of investigating and safeguarding municipalities in acts of the present nature."

"It was felt by the Council that a board of able and experienced men, having powers by legislation and means at their command, to employ expert advice and counsel were more eminently qualified to scrutinize and exact the merits or defects of the Commissioners' application than even the Council or the ratepayers themselves."

The change means a large saving of money. The by-laws have not to be advertised, (which the poor publishers will regret, as they will be out the little they get for all the service they render, and most of it gratuitous); there will not be the expense of calling for a vote, with all the incidentals of polling booths, returning officers, scrutineers, etc.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

John A. Willys, the automobile manufacturer, spent \$800,000 in advertising last year, and it paid. He was busy when other firms became bankrupt. This year he will spend \$1,500,000 in printers' ink.

A Berlin judge refused to administer the oath to a man who was not a member of the church. If this ruling became common there would be a very limited use of the Bible in the courts, and it would be a great thing for the Bible.

The calling of the local legislature has been delayed through the illness of Sir James Whitney. The session will have to go on, of course, and the premier's presence and personal influence would be seriously missed if he could not be in his accustomed place.

Great Britain declined to participate in the Panama Exhibition in San Francisco. It has not £100,000, to spend uselessly, but, says the London Chronicle, it has a million to squander on armaments.

der on armaments. The mother country may change its mind on this subject, but it will do so reluctantly.

The new year, in the United States, and to the average tradesman, brings an increase of wages from 25c. to 50c. a day each. This will help towards the increased cost of living, but half a dollar a day more in the expenses of a place like New York is not much.

The papers that announced New Year's honours for men who did not receive them feel had enough. Another warning that it does not do to take anything for granted. It could not be, of course, that the honours were recommended by the government and not acted on.

England's postmaster-general, Mr. Samuel, is taking the necessary steps to secure the legislation that will make a naturalized subject of Canada a subject of the empire. Why this has not been the case all along is the surprise of the hour.

On a Slushy Day.

That chap who just passed in his auto must be a politician. Why so? Didn't you notice the way he was chroving mud?

PUBLIC OPINION

Latter Day Humberg. Syracuse Post-Standard. Dr. Cook is getting \$1,000 a week lecturing in England. What P. T. Barnum said about us goes for the British, too.

Oil in Alberta. Edmonton Bulletin. If oil is struck in every locality that has been struck by the local fever, Alberta will become the oil barrel of the universe.

You Don't Say. Windsor Record. The Borden government is said to be at sea on the navy question. To make matters worse there is a H. C. of L. storm brewing.

Will Be Our Aim. London Morning Advertiser. In your inventory at the end of 1914 may thrill, decency, health, honesty, unselfishness, industry and sobriety, score 100 per cent.

Montreal is Dry. Saskatoon Phoenix. It is costing Montreal a very considerable sum of money to be a dry town. The recollections of former congenials is no doubt quite keen in the metropolis just now.

A Clever One. Canadian Courier. The knowing politician who cleverly selects his minorities, can always defeat the academic public man with his head in the clouds—who ranges himself impressively on the side of the majorities.

Kingston Events 25 YEARS AGO.

The weather is so fine, that another excursion from Cape Vincent, to Kingston is talked of. Richard Draper, Sr., of Glenburgh, paid his fifty-fifth years' subscription to the Whig this week. He would not do without it, as he says he knows the value of a good newspaper.

SOCIAL EVIL DRAMAS.

When a writer's purpose is sincere, when he honestly essays to better existing conditions, then, and then only, he may say what he will. If his medium is the stage, very well. The drama can only gain by it. Of course certain questions were far better discussed in the intimacy of the home than in public.

At last, he sighed, "we're alone. I've been hoping for this chance." "So have I," she said, very frankly. "Ah! you have guessed, then, that I wanted to tell you that I love you?" "Yes, and I want to say 'No,' and get it over with."

Extreme Regularity. "Is Mike a good worker?" "Oh, yes; fair." "Regular?" "Regular." "Strokes every hour?"

Wise and : : Otherwise

Straight Up. "They say he's a fine, upstanding fellow." "Every bar within a radius of a mile of here knows it!"—Judge.

When Knights Were Bold. Wife (drearily)—Ah, me! The days of chivalry are passed. Husband—What is the matter now? Wife—Sir Walter Raleigh laid his cloak on the ground for Queen Elizabeth to walk over; but you get angry simply because poor, dear mother sat down on your hat.—Pathfinder.

Opportunity. The man who waits for opportunity, and when he sees it takes it, is not so good a man as he who does not wait, but makes it. If I were asked what is lacking in the majority of men, I should say initiative, coupled with judgment.



The Point of View. You can make your Christmas pleasant. Or unhappy. If you will. The Optimist sees the present. The Pessimist sees the bill. —Life.

Angel Food. Mrs. Nicker—Do you have eggs for breakfast? Mrs. Bocker—No; but we have a phonograph record of a cake.

Availability in Prospect. "I fear I am not worthy of you." "Never mind about that. Between mother and myself I imagine we can effect the necessary improvement."—Chicago News.

Explaining His Taste. "Binglewood has put that wild boy of his on a farm and the youngster writes home that he likes it." "Likes it? Well, farming ain't what it used to be."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

In Vacation Time. The dish had just run away with the spoon. "Jones wouldn't wash us while his wife was away," they explained.—Judge.

Home Hints. Here are two sure ways to find a collar button that has dropped on the floor and rolled away where you can't see it: Rule 1—Walk around the room in your bare feet. You will soon find the collar button imbedded in your heel.

Eminent. "He is in 'Who's Who,' I believe." "Yes, but he is much more prominent in 'Here's How!'"—Houston Post.

A Tip. "Light-haired people, it is said, as a rule, live longer than those having dark hair." Remember this when choosing a mother-in-law oggying your hair.

The Art Critic. The artist's woman friend was being shown around the studio. "Oh, perfect!" she exclaimed, looking at a picture; "those ostriches are simply superb. You should never paint anything but birds."

Both Waiting For It. "At last," he sighed, "we're alone. I've been hoping for this chance." "So have I," she said, very frankly. "Ah! you have guessed, then, that I wanted to tell you that I love you?" "Yes, and I want to say 'No,' and get it over with."

A Suggestion. "How did that young architect come out, Silthers?" asked Dubbleigh. "Oh, we had to fire him—he bungled everything," said Silthers.

Those Artful Girls. Maud—Didn't Jack kiss you by surprise last night? Betty—Oh, no. He only thinks he did.

Extreme Regularity. "Is Mike a good worker?" "Oh, yes; fair." "Regular?" "Regular." "Strokes every hour?"

SUIT SALE OVERCOAT SALE BIBBY'S JANUARY SALE 69c Shirt Sale 50 Dozen Tooke Bros. Crescent and Star Brand 69c. \$1.00 and \$1.25 Shirts for 69c. Sizes 14 to 17. Neat Black's and Whites etc. All new and dainty designs. See our window display of these shirts. Half Price Shoe Sale \$5.00 Shoes for \$2.50 Pair. Seventy-five Pairs of Hart's Patent Leather Shoes, sizes 5 to 8 1-2, all good shapes, \$5.00 Stamped prices, while they last \$2.50 Pair. Boy's Overcoat Sale, \$7, \$7.50 Coats for \$5.00. Men's Glove Sale, Dent's \$1.25 Gloves, Kid lined for \$1.00, all sizes. BIBBYS LIMITED 78, 80, 82 Princess St.

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