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site was bought for \$242,000. It was assessed at \$151,000, or 44.1 per cent. For dock sites on the east side, the owner wants \$400,000. The property is assessed at \$113,470, a little over 28 per cent.

Providence has nothing good or high in store for one who does not resolutely aim at something high or good. A purpose is the eternal condition of success.—T. T. Munger.

A PORTLAND ASSET

THE efforts for an Oriental line out of Portland are not to be dropped. The committee of the chamber of commerce will continue its endeavors.

Nothing is of more importance to Portland. We cannot always subsist on immigration. We must do something besides advertising the state. There must be something to do for those who settle in Oregon.

We are doing splendidly now. We have experienced a marvelous expansion. For six or seven years there has been a wonderful activity. All the barometers of business and industry are in the high notch.

But nobody will deny that we have been enriching ourselves by speculation. We have prospered by boosting values.

We cannot always go forward on town lot margins. We must build a secure understructure. We must put pillars in the business fat-tic.

Our sawmills can sell lumber in the Orient if there is means of transportation. The more they sell, the more employment they have for labor.

Our flouring mills in and out of Portland can sell flour and feed in the Orient if they have means of transportation. More sales mean more employment, more homes, more business and more wealth for everybody.

Every ship that comes into the Portland harbor spreads business in every direction. Every pound of cargo it carries away to distant ports is new business. It is no draft on original capital.

Portland's most splendid asset is her waterways and the opportunity she has for turning them to account.

HELPING YOUTH

THE London County Council has taken the step foretold some months ago, and has established bureaus throughout the metropolis where applications can be made by boys and girls who desire employment, and by employers seeking their services.

The endeavor is made to ascertain the special adaptability of each applicant, and the school record and school character are examined by the bureau before putting the name on the books. There are already 21 of the government unemployment agencies in operation in the metropolis. These are all connected with the new agencies for minors.

Consent of the parent is required before the employment of the child is passed by the bureau.

It will be noted that this plan is at variance with that followed and recommended in some of our eastern cities, where the school house is put to use as an employment agency. In that plan the intimate knowledge of the teacher of the character and adaptation of the boy or girl is taken advantage of, not only to suggest the best line of employment, but also to answer questions along that line put by any intending employer.

Certainly the American method seems to be both more thorough and more effective than the English plan above described.

A TAXATION ABUSE

IN yesterday's Journal, J. K. T. Harris complained because the law requiring property to be assessed at its "true cash value" is not applied. He urges passage of a statute giving the county the option of taking the property at the assessed price.

One of the greatest of all taxation abuses is the fact that some property is assessed at 25 per cent of its true value, while other property is taxed at sixty or seventy per cent. By the process, one owner is favored, and the other cinched.

Glaring instances of this abuse appear when real property is wanted for public uses.

Thus the city purchased half a lot on Second street near Oak for \$35,000. It was assessed at \$9550, or 27.5 per cent of its true value. A postoffice site was bought at \$340,000. It was taxed at \$135,000, or 39.7 per cent of its value. A library

SEA POWER

IT WILL be found in the proceedings of the London conference that began yesterday that Greece will carry a weight out of proportion to her area or her achievements in the war on land, by virtue of her long stretches of sea-coast, her harbors, and the demonstrated efficiency of her small fleet. It will be recognized that if she secures, as she should, the final addition to her kingdom of the many islands in the Aegean sea, she will become a power to be reckoned with in the Mediterranean by all the nations. Her friendship for either the triple alliance or the triple entente may be the determining factor in the distribution of the fleets of the great powers.

An enlarged and growing Greece will be able either to aid or to render impossible the recent arrangement between France and England which justified the withdrawal of the English Mediterranean fleet to the North

sea, leaving to the French fleet the charge of the Mediterranean.

So would be affected the balance of fleet power in the North sea between Germany and Britain which, so long as it endures, renders hostilities between those great powers most unlikely.

One of the most interesting figures at the conference is the chief representative of Greece, M. Venizelos, the Greek premier. To him is chiefly due the revival of the national spirit of Greece, the reorganization of her army and navy, the regulation of her finances and her readiness for the active part she has taken in this war of liberation.

It rewards men for giving false valuations by lessening their taxes through lowered valuations. It penalizes honesty and puts a premium on perjury.

There should be statesmanship at Salem to remedy this abuse. It is wrong to continue what is virtually a crime against society.

There would be some help in a law under which property for public uses could be taken at 35 or some other per cent of its average tax value for five years, with reasonable allowance for improvements. The subject is well worth the attention of the legislature.

Almost every nation that has opera at all, has it in its native tongue. France, Spain, Italy, Germany and even Russia each has the masterpieces sung in its own language.

Only we who speak English look wise and listen to song that we do not understand. We array ourselves in our gayest raiment, pay seven dollars per, and proceed to watch motions on the stage that might as well be rendered in pantomime.

They say English is not a singing language. Mr. Bispham himself, in his renditions, proves that it is a singing language. English contains some of the most beautiful songs ever sung, and some of the greatest of singers have found delight and profit in rendering them in the tongue that Americans most love.

They say some of the inner beauties are lost in the translation from the original into English. Does it lose more than in the translation into Russian?

Is it not better to lose some of the inner beauties by the translation than to lose them all through their rendition in a jargon that nobody understands?

BEATING HIS TOMTOMS

DENONCING the initiative and referendum, Attorney General Wickersham said in his New York speech:

In Oregon, for example, its constitution was not changed between 1859 and 1902—a period of 43 years. Between 1902 and 1910—eight years—it was amended 12 times.

Is change a crime? Must states and nations not go forward? China clung to the same old order several thousand years. Her people beat tomtoms and set off explosives to frighten away the eclipse of the sun. Is that the way we ought to do?

India clings to an old order. For thousands of years she has had her castes, her ranks, her stagnation and her superstitions. Should we be like India—never change? Should we emulate the example of the Eskimos, the Igorrotes and Fiji Islanders—stand still?

True enough, Oregon has changed her constitution several times. But in half the period, she built more railroads than she built in 20 years before. She increased in population faster than she ever increased before. Her cities grew faster than they ever grew before.

In the period, the manufacturing establishments in Oregon increased from 437 in 1904 to 2500 in 1912. The capitalization increased from \$19,775,000 in 1904 to \$50,000,000 in 1912, and in the latter year the output has mounted to \$100,000,000.

In the period political conditions changed from bossism to people's rule, changed from disgraceful and corrupt senatorial deadlocks in the legislature to people's selection of senator, changed from election days of armed deputies, police interference, disorder and shot gun voting to peaceful, orderly voting, free from bribery, boss domination and ruffianism at the polling places.

Mr. Wickersham is not a statesman. He is beating a tomtom in the United States to scare away the eclipse. He is glued to the stone age.

It is confronted with federal grand jury proceedings in New York on charges of criminal conspiracy.

It is threatened with a congressional inquiry in Washington.

It is subjected to arraignment by the Interstate Commerce Commission for a series of avoidable accidents.

It is menaced with threats of drastic legislation in Massachusetts and New Hampshire.

Its efforts have been more devoted to crushing out competition under the J. P. Morgan ownership than to carrying passengers in safety, more to the accumulation of dividends than to operating efficiency.

It faces a costly reckoning.

A GLARING DEFECT

ON THE ballot in the state election, the equal suffrage measure had this title: "Equal suffrage amendment, extending the right of suffrage to women."

they vote no as an expression of their indignation.

Such titles injure the efficiency of the initiative. They lessen the efficiency of the voter. They are the worst defect in the system.

The identification of the measure ought to be swift and easy. The title should be so clear that there would be no room for the shadow of a doubt in the voter's mind. If there must appear in the title a summary of everything in the measure, then there should be some simple means of identification as appeared in the title of the equal suffrage amendment on the last ballot.

No change that could be made would do more to add to the working efficiency of the system.

REPUBLICAN PERIL

A BITTER denunciation of the initiative, referendum and recall was made by Attorney General Wickersham, of the Taft cabinet, in a speech Saturday night at the Waldorf-Astoria, New York.

Here is one of the reefs on which Mr. Taft led republicanism to wreck. It is one great rock on which the party split. It was the known hostility of the president and his brigadiers to popular government that drove Republicans by regiments and brigades to Roosevelt.

It was the speeches of the Wickershams that hamstrung Taft. It is such speeches as that of Saturday night that stand in the way of resurrecting the Republican party. It is useless to try to restore the party so long as Wickershams are the mouthpieces. They drive away Republicans by platoons and companies.

The great difficulty to be encountered in reviving republicanism is that the leaders are in the rear. The brigadiers and colonels are all camp followers. They are trying to stand still while the people in columns and brigades are moving swiftly forward.

That is why Roosevelt got nearly 4,000,000 in popular vote while Taft got half a million less. One grasped the mood and movement of the masses and the other didn't. While the Wickershams, the Ballingers and the Tafts on one side were thundering against the initiative and referendum, Roosevelt was commending popular government. It was only a state issue, it is true, but the measurement of men on state issues is their measure on national issues.

Wickersham is a high Republican official, and his speech is semi-official in character. Every added one like it puts republicanism in more and more peril. Roosevelt is already afield for 1916. Beside the conflict four years hence, the struggle through which republicanism has just passed will be a nothing. Recruiting has already begun at Armageddon, and Wickersham is supplying abundant material for Bull Mooseism.

Republicanism is in greater peril now than it was when Roosevelt first took the field. It must either chloroform a lot of its present leaders or they will cocaine it.

A COSTLY RECKONING

AS a result of deadly accidents through operating inefficiency, the New Haven railroad is facing prosecution in Connecticut for criminal negligence.

It is confronted with federal grand jury proceedings in New York on charges of criminal conspiracy.

It is threatened with a congressional inquiry in Washington.

It is subjected to arraignment by the Interstate Commerce Commission for a series of avoidable accidents.

It is menaced with threats of drastic legislation in Massachusetts and New Hampshire.

Its efforts have been more devoted to crushing out competition under the J. P. Morgan ownership than to carrying passengers in safety, more to the accumulation of dividends than to operating efficiency.

It faces a costly reckoning.

A GLARING DEFECT

ON THE ballot in the state election, the equal suffrage measure had this title: "Equal suffrage amendment, extending the right of suffrage to women."

It was a fit title. It was a perfectly plain statement of what was to be voted on. Every elector could easily understand it. No voter had the slightest difficulty in identifying the equal suffrage amendment.

In consequence, the highest vote on any measure was cast for suffrage. The total vote on it was 118,369, or several thousand greater than any other ballot measure received.

The title to the third measure on the ballot was as follows:

For an amendment of Section 1, Article IX of the Oregon constitution, providing for a uniform rule of taxation excepting on property specifically taxed, providing for the levy and collection of taxes for state purposes and for county and other municipal purposes on different classes of property, and for the ascertainment, determination and application of an average rate of levy and taxation on property taxed for state purposes, and for apportioning state taxes among the several counties as county obligations by reasonable and equitable rules.

Even a lawyer could scarcely tell to what measure this title referred. On account of the ambiguity, few can tell whether it was the proposed amendment of Article IX of the constitution that provided "for a uniform rule of taxation." Not one voter in 100 was able at the polls, except by reference to the numbers, to identify the measure.

It failed. Many a man voted against it because he was in doubt. A great many men vote no when they are in doubt. It is dangerous to surround a ballot title with doubt, and

they vote no as an expression of their indignation.

Such titles injure the efficiency of the initiative. They lessen the efficiency of the voter. They are the worst defect in the system.

The identification of the measure ought to be swift and easy. The title should be so clear that there would be no room for the shadow of a doubt in the voter's mind. If there must appear in the title a summary of everything in the measure, then there should be some simple means of identification as appeared in the title of the equal suffrage amendment on the last ballot.

No change that could be made would do more to add to the working efficiency of the system.

LETTERS FROM THE PEOPLE

Communications sent to The Journal for publication should be written on only one side of the paper, should not exceed 300 words in length and must be accompanied by the name and address of the sender. If the writer does not desire to have the name published, he should so state.

Single Tax in Alberta.

Portland, Or., Dec. 14.—To the Editor of The Journal.—We are assured from time to time by some of the friends of the present tax system that the people do not have the single tax in Alberta and British Columbia. Undoubtedly they do not have the full application of the principle in practice, but they must have some considerable approach to it as is evidenced by their literature.

From the secretary of the Board of Trade of Lethbridge is being sent out in 16 page leaflet of envelope size which outlines the following: "Lethbridge has adopted the single tax system. All revenue is obtained from the taxation of land values only. This means that the working-man's house is not taxed, neither are business blocks or the residences of wealthier people. The buildings and machinery of industries are also exempt from taxation under this system. In fact business of all kinds is exempted, land values forming the sole basis of assessment."

Lethbridge is about the size of Salem. It has increased largely because of its progressive and energetic people and its natural advantages. It is only 45 miles in an air line from the United States. Six years ago it had a little over 2000 people. The taxation has not driven population away from Lethbridge. It has not driven capital away, for its clearing house shows for the first seven months of 1912 nearly eight million and half millions for its nine banks, and its banking permits for the first nine months of 1912 show over \$1,300,000. It has not confiscated anybody's farm in that vicinity, the rural districts likewise raising all revenue on land values only, for 17,000 boxcar loads of wheat this year to convey the cereal products from the one town. Farmers would not be pouring into southwestern Alberta if there were confiscation going on. The elevators of this town alone have a capacity of 2,000,000 bushels and are too small. Nor has it been confiscated the land to be confiscated by the state, for the farming land runs from \$20 to \$200 an acre, according to quality, situation, etc., and non-irrigated land from \$14 to \$35 an acre.

The Canadian cities of the northwest are beginning to advertise the fact that improvements are not taxed. It is found to be a strong attraction to farmers in the United States.

Of course, to compete with Oregon, Alberta may need this tax system its citizens calmly speak of as "single tax." It is not a "single tax" in the usual sense of this same system would it not be a mighty fine thing to put in our leaflets?

Suppose we exempted, as a starter, improvements and personal property upon a home or farm of \$2000 or even \$1000. Suppose we allowed any city like Albany or Astoria to do as Lethbridge is doing. Would anybody say it could do any harm?

ALFRED D. CRIDGE.

Sent to the Rockpile at 82.

Portland, Dec. 8.—To the Editor of The Journal.—In a recent issue of The Journal I read the following: "At the age of 82 years George Lillis was Monday sentenced to 60 days on the rockpile for being a vagrant." How Portland should swell with pride at that report! The majesty of her law has been vindicated. After a fair and impartial trial with all the evidence, George Lillis, 82 year old man, was sentenced to 60 days on the rockpile. I do not know George Lillis and have not heard of him before, but I do know what 82 years of age means. It means a feeble and flickering mind and body, tottering on the brink of the grave. A child again, with manhood's strength and vigor gone, whether wasted or not it is gone. "Once a man and twice a child" is as true as life. There would have been as much sense and just as much credit in sending a 16-year-old child to the rock pile.

It must have been an inspiring scene when the court in all its pomp and dignity called "the case of George Lillis" and under guard of three or four if not five armed men, his legs and arms shaking with delay, was brought before it. "What's the charge?" says the court? "Ye honor," says the policeman, "he's been caught stealin' shoes and a lot of other stuff and he had his pockets filled with Socialistic literature and he says he's worked all his life and now the world owes him a living." "Sixty days on the rock pile," says the court. "Away with him." And the guards take him tottering away, while he mumbles incoherently. "Have we no more respect for age than that? Is there no other way to care for an aged and senile man but to put him on the rock pile? Couldn't he have been sent to the county farm and cared for? But they say 'he stole.'" How silly. As well sentence a child for stealing. Eighty-two years of age and sentenced to the rock pile for 60 days for vagrancy. It should bring the blush of shame to every face in Portland.

Blames the Lawyers for It.

Woodstock, Or., Dec. 14.—To the Editor of The Journal.—In answer to Colonel Wood's letter in Wednesday's Journal I will say there was no excuse for mistaking the ballot on capital punishment, unless the voter was very ignorant. I think it is the canting and legal tactics that such lawyers resort to as every opportunity that are the cause of so much crime. The Journal some time ago had a good editorial on that subject. A good many of the common people nowadays believe that lawyers, by their slippery methods, are responsible for the crime of murder. Some of the courts to find guilty and punish criminals. They do it, why? Dollars, is the answer, and to make a reputation as a good criminal lawyer in order to get more dollars. Otherwise how can it be explained that the Humphrey brothers, that blood-thirsty resort to an attorney, are allowed a rehearing? When the jury elect, to make our laws, farmers and others with good common horse sense, instead of putting in lawyers to draft legal tangles and technicalities to confuse the jury, they should have the same's. Many have lost of the crim-

COMMENT AND NEWS IN BRIEF

SMALL CHANGE

Get happiness out of others' happiness. Storms help to make big crops and big men. Woman has a talking cat. Bet it can't beat her. Is there anything that hasn't become trifled?

The city wants no Christmas gifts of candidates. It's rather late now, but better this late than later. What a cruel joke on Dad it is to give him a purse.

Next year and thereafter Santa Claus will be a large patron of the parcels post. A Missouri hen sold for \$800, but she will not create any stir or louder on that account.

Instead of gloomily meditating on how bad it is, reflect on how much worse it might be. Also a butter trust. But it is a sick concern, and expect to slide through the government net.

The whisky that caused the deaths of three Spokane women must have been rather worse than the average. The world may be growing better and people more prosperous, but more people are in jails than ever before.

The Turk also insists on due consideration of his "dignity." Let all else be lost if "dignity" can be saved. In the case of animals, prizes may be deservedly distributed, but it is not always in the case of human beings.

Maybelle Gilman Corey says Americans make the best husbands. She means, those who are very rich and very foolish. At last there is a possible explanation of the mystery as to where the Mexican revolution got the money, or at least much of it. Congressional committee traces it to big American financial and business interests. Can't they do enough mischief in this big country?

OREGON SIDELIGHTS

Hornist Herald: Hornist now possesses two green houses growing vegetables, etc., commercially. Baker Herald: The assumption of work on the harbor dam in such an earnest manner is decidedly gratifying to those who believe the project will greatly help this vicinity.

Independence Monitor: Independence has the distinction of having the only large school in Polk county that has adopted the manual training and domestic science courses as part of the school work for the regular high school classes. North Bend Harbor: The recent frosty mornings are rather unusual to Oregonians, but to the easterner seem like the good old times, and an enthusiastic advocate of outdoor exercise said it made him feel just like getting out and husking a load of corn.

Estacada Progress: The new road to George, to which Estacada business men contributed a year ago, is rapidly being built. The road will be about 10 miles long and will bring two miles nearer town and the road has a much lighter grade than the one now used.

The Dalles Chronicle: An auto truck equipped with blaze fighting apparatus is proposed for the city fire department. The auto truck, that is under consideration, has a speed of 30 miles an hour, carries a large amount of apparatus and will carry seven or eight men. It costs \$6000.

Enterprise Record-Chief: A new bank is being organized in Lostine. Quarters have been conditionally engaged and the building will be put up for the exclusive use of the bank. Promoters of the new institution believe it will receive the support of the Lostine business men and farmers, generally.

Canby Irrigator: During the month of November, the Canby Irrigation district has received from its customers over \$10,000 worth of material. That means in excess of \$100,000 a year. Many business houses in Canby think they are doing fine on a fact. We feel that we are entitled to boast a little on the general prosperity of our many establishments.

LUXURIES COST US \$250,000,000

Importation of luxuries into the United States is now running at the rate of a million dollars a day. Of course the term "luxuries" is an elastic one and its application determined to some extent by the viewpoint of the class of people to which it is applied. It is at least a fact that during the month of October, 1912, the imports included \$14,000,000 worth of art works; \$5,000,000 worth of tobacco, cigars and other smokers' materials; \$4,000,000 worth of diamonds, and other precious stones; \$4,000,000 worth of lace and embroideries; over \$1,000,000 worth of feathers, natural and artificial; more than a million dollars' worth of decorated china; over a million dollars' worth of toys; nearly a million dollars' worth of champagne, cordials, liqueurs, and other articles of this class; nearly a million dollars' worth of cabinet woods, of which mahogany formed the principal part; and sundry other articles usually considered as luxuries, bringing the total imports of this class of materials for the month of October up to \$22,000,000.

While the heavy importation of articles of this character naturally occurs during the closing months of the year, the figures of October are exceptionally high, probably the highest on record as regards importations of luxuries, this being due in a considerable degree to the unprecedented importation of art works, this single item having amounted to practically \$14,000,000 in the month of October, against \$4,500,000 in October of last year; while for the 10 months ended with October the total importation of art works was \$49,000,000, against \$18,500,000 in the corresponding months of 1911.

These high figures for October and the accumulated months ended with October suggest that the imports of articles which may fairly be classed as lux-

uries, will probably aggregate \$250,000,000 in the calendar year 1912. Of this sum art works will, according to the latest estimate of the statistical division of the bureau of foreign and domestic commerce, approximate \$70,000,000 dollars; precious stones, about \$40,000,000; lace and embroideries, about \$40,000,000 and \$50,000,000; cigars, cigarettes, and other articles for use of smokers, between \$40,000,000 and \$50,000,000; and numerous other articles of less value, including toys, approximately \$9,000,000; champagne, about \$5,000,000; feathers, natural and artificial (including such feathers), about \$10,000,000; beads and bead ornaments, a couple of million dollars; automobiles, a couple of million dollars; and perfumes and cosmetics, nearly \$2,000,000.

All the world profits by this distribution, for luxuries, of \$250,000,000 a year of American money. Of the art works imported, of course the bulk come from Europe, most of them the product of labor performed many years ago, since a very large proportion of the art works now being imported are 20 years old or over and a considerable share 100 years old and over. The forty-odd million dollars' worth of diamonds and other precious stones imported, though chiefly drawn from Europe, are in most cases the product of South Africa; and this is true also of the several million dollars' worth of cabinet woods imported. Of the forty-odd million dollars' worth of tobacco, cigars and cigarettes imported, the largest single contributor is Cuba, though probably \$10,000,000 worth of the total originates in the Dutch West Indies, half way round the globe, and considerable quantities in the near orient, chiefly Turkey in Europe, Asia and Africa. Of the forty-odd million dollars' worth of lace and embroideries imported, a very large proportion is from Europe.

As soon as the imperative need of standardizing the dollar as a protection to business is fully realized there will doubtless be many other suggestions for coping with the problem of gold and credit inflation. This is one of a number of great problems which, it is hoped, may be considered by the much-needed international conference on the high cost of living.

Irving Fisher in North American Review.

There is strong reason to believe that for many years to come the world's money in circulation will continue to expand at not less than 2 per cent per annum (which is 1/2 per cent less than at present); its velocity at not less than 1/2 per cent per annum; deposits at not less than 5 per cent (1/2 per cent less than at present), and their velocity of circulation at not less than 1 1/2 per cent (the present rate), while the volume of trade promises to increase at not more than 4 1/2 per cent per annum (1/2 per cent less than at present). On the basis of these estimates we conclude that the total facilities for purchasing goods will probably increase at least at the rate of 6 1/2 per cent per annum, while the volume of trade will increase at most at the rate of 4 1/2 per cent, making necessary a probable average annual increase in prices of at least 2 per cent per annum.

But what, it may be asked, is, after all, the harm in rising prices? Is not the element, for the reason that good sense will prevail and they can be found guilty and punished.

California is referred to as a capital punishment state. True, it has such a law, but how is it enforced? Some time ago, I believe, in the paper was a story of a wife murderer hanged for a crime committed five years before. Washington is also pointed out as a capital punishment state that has so much crime. It, too, is reaping the reward of law's work. If you will refer back about 10 or 12 years you will, I think, find where one Colonel J. Hamilton Lewis, defended and kept from hanging for eight years, a cold-blooded murderer. The statesman was, I believe, made at the time that the murderer, being a foreigner, couldn't even talk to the lawyer and didn't know who he was. Of course the lawyer made a great reputation as a criminal lawyer and is looked upon in Seattle as one of their greatest men.

The above are only two cases that come to mind at present. No doubt there are hundreds of similar cases in these two so-called capital punishment states. That's the kind of dope, I call justice, that makes crime increase in such states. One can hardly get around the fact that where punishment for crime is swift, severe, and sure that crime will surely decrease. Ask some old gold miner of '49. They did things in those days without delay and did the talking afterwards. No lawyers there, but justice was swift and certain. I wish we could get them all to dry up this business. If the fanatics would like to murder our taxes, maybe we poor devils could save a few dollars.

AXEL ANDERSON.

No Longer at Their Mercy.

From the St. Paul Dispatch.

City engineer Clausen has made a flattering showing with his asphalt paving plant. Its first season's operation has paid for the plant in the amount of money saved upon asphalt repairs. A

Our Penal Policy

The Statesman would like to see Oregon take high ground in penology. The high ground defined by the founders of our country when they wrote into the fundamental law the following words, found in section 1 of article first of the state constitution: "Laws for the punishment of crime shall be founded on the principles of reformation, and not of vindictive justice."

That was high ground for those days, for the world had not then progressed very far from the old standard, which demanded "an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth," and a life for a life.

Great progress has been made since then in defining a definite program both for "punishment founded on principles of reformation," and for protection of society from the so-called criminal classes.

This definite program has come now to embrace the following: 1. An absolutely indeterminate sentence or commitment for every person convicted of a crime. 2. Reformatory treatment for prisoners, with grades established—at least three grades, the middle for all newly committed, the lower grade for those who shall have been shown to belong there, and the upper or parole grade. 3. A parole law, allowing every one committed his or her liberty when it shall have been shown to the satisfaction of the proper authorities that he or she may become a self-supporting, law abiding and useful citizen; and in all cases only when the paroled person shall have found or his or her friends shall have found for him or her a place, an occupation.

That is the program. It means that once committed the delinquent is in permanent ward of the state. If never capable of being turned loose under the provisions and regulations, he will remain always a prisoner. If sent out on parole, he may stay out as long as he shows his ability and willingness to comply with its provisions. If he lapses, he may be brought back. Under this system, there will be no second trials. There will be no Garissons, like the man Garrison hanged yesterday, who had served five prison terms. Vast sums will be saved in the stopping of second and subsequent trials. There will be no need for the noose, under this system.

Then the new system contemplates another thing. It contemplates the sterilization of the so-called "natural born criminals." There are no natural criminals. But a percentage, perhaps 5 per cent, of the people committed to prisons is composed of persons who are born weak; weak physically and mentally, and who are incapable of knowing right from wrong. In a proper environment, they may never commit crime. But they are capable, in bad environment, of being the most brutal of criminals. These men and women ought not to be turned loose upon society with the capacity to propagate their kind. The breed