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 SOURCE OF TRUE HELP.—My help cometh from the Lord, which made heaven and earth. Psalm 121:2.

REFORMATION IS NOT CODDLING

The hard-boiled prison man or policeman of the old school, and the hard-boiled newspaper writer who believes that most criminals are born into a criminal class, are prone to continually call the attempted reformation of convicted men as "coddling," which they mean in the sense of the definition of the word coddling as spoiling, or treating with excessive kindness; but used in contempt.

And these hard-boils are wrong, as usual.

The first class prisons of the United States, which are self supporting or on the way to self support, and in which the highest average of reformations are made, do not coddle.

But on the contrary they maintain the strictest kind of discipline; some of them, like the New Jersey penitentiary, having military discipline, just like that maintained in an army on the march.

If criminal tendencies were hereditary, most of the principal families of Australia would be crooks, for their ancestors were sent from England to that continent, which was used as a penal colony. So would a lot of the first families in America, for this country in Colonial times was used as a dumping ground for criminals by England.

Strict discipline in prisons is not cruelty, as many soft-headed and tender-hearted people suppose. It is on the contrary the highest sort of kindness, considering the welfare of the prisoner, as a possible subject for salvage for decent and law abiding society.

For there can be no high percentage of such reformation without both employment for every inmate and a wage for the work, and the strictest kind of discipline, coupled with common sense and justice.

Just the opposite of coddling.

AN INSULT TO CIVILIZATION

Tchicherin, Russian foreign minister, just interviewed by George Slocombe, a British journalist, said, among a lot of other idiotic things:

"America's delaying resumption of diplomatic relations after the departure of Mr. Hughes is partly the result of the general slowness and cautiousness of American diplomacy."

In other words, according to Tchicherin, Secretary of State Hughes, having "departed," there will be a resumption of diplomatic relations with Russia in due time.

Though it is somewhat delayed by the slowness and cautiousness of American diplomacy.

Which shows the childishness of the mind of this supposedly greatest and slickest of the Russian statesman of the present school.

For Mr. Hughes has not "departed," neither has the sanity of the American people whom he represented. There cannot be, must not be any sort of recognition by the United States of a country governed by crooks. Our country must not and will not open up an avenue for soviet propaganda in the United States.

OUR SANTIAM REGION CAN HELP

"Some of the basic factors in business have shown very suggestive improvement within the past few days. Another advance of 1/8c in the price of copper indicates the closer readjustment that has taken place between supply on hand and volume of purchases."

The above quoted paragraph is from the current weekly financial review of Henry Clews & Co., Wall Street authorities.

The world's use of copper, due largely to electrical development every where, is catching up with the supply, and the demand will keep on growing.

This is one of the reasons why our Santiam mining district ought to be developed. Those mountains up there have enough copper to make all the region at the front door of Salem highly prosperous; to make it a great mining camp.

A CLEVER RUSE

The efforts of Kelley and Willos to make it appear that they should not be held responsible for the murder of the guards during the recent prison break shows no lack of mentality or cunning.

To credit these men—desperadoes when in former confinement and with only a few years to serve and now in solitary confinement, trying to shift the blame for murder on other heads—with weakness is either error or sentiment. They are keen enough to recognize the gallows through technicalities of law. Will anyone believe that they would not have followed, in their escape, the example of Jones and Murray? The plan of the quartet was to gain their liberty at any price. The result of their plan was two guards killed and two wounded.

Willos held a gun at the back of the Newman boy on the way to Portland and all three held their guns in readiness, it is reported—what for, unless prepared to kill?

Did Kelley or Willos lay claim to innocence of attempted killing of the guards, while at the Newman home? Their claim now that they did not shoot is no doubt an attempt to

escape the hangman's noose. But this attempt thus to shift the burden of crime to others should excite no sympathy.

A DEEP SUBJECT

A member of the Portland Housewives' Council wants to know why it is that the consumer must pay in Oregon 36 or 40 cents a pound for bacon while in London, consumers pay for the American brand 21 cents after the cost of shipping it two thousand miles is paid.

The vocabulary of the average editor who buys bacon is inadequate to frame a satisfactory reply. There is not the shadow of a doubt, however, that the meat packers can produce volumes of explanatory reasoning which would arouse an uncontrollable desire on the part of the consumer to pay even more. Meanwhile the government should tell us in the reports on foreign trade.

And it is just such conditions as represented by this nearly 50 per cent less cost of an American product in a foreign market that causes radicalism to develop and to exert itself here.

WATER PLANS DELAYED

Progress toward the purchase of the present water plant by the city is said to be retarded owing to lack of funds for the employment of an engineer to appraise the plant. It will be recalled that the initial plan is for the water company to furnish one appraiser and the city a second; and if these two are unable to agree they are to select a third.

This business-like plan should be put into operation without delay. If the special committee can not find or devise means for raising the few hundred dollars required, another public meeting should be called to consider this phase of the plan.

MY HUSBAND'S LOVE

Adele Garrison's New Phase of REVELATIONS OF A WIFE

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CHAPTER F93

What Jim Showed Madge and the Promise He Requested

Mother Graham eyed me sarcastically.

"Why do you try that wistful, meek attitude on me, Margaret?" she demanded. "You know you don't want my advice about asking Jim to look for that escaped bootlegger, any more than a cat wants two tails, so why do you waste your time and mine with pretense?"

She gave me no time to protest her strictures, even if I truthfully could have done so, but jumped, instead, to the question I had hoped she would ask, for I knew that the answer would provide her mind with enough melodrama to keep her busy—or so I hoped—for a few minutes, at least.

"You said those little children were hungry and their father and mother were in jail. That's where half the people around here ought to be, but it must have been something unusual to land one of 'em behind bars. What have they been up to?"

I seized the Heaven-sent opportunity avidly, and as rapidly as possible told her of the discovery of the still and mash by the troopers who were hunting for the escaped bootlegger and of the hurrying to jail of the man and woman who lived across the road.

"Serves 'em right!" she said with a vicious little cлик of her teeth, when I had finished. "But isn't there a baby over there?"

"Yes, and it's a sick little thing, too. Katherine wants the mother brought back home as soon as possible."

"Then what are you dawdling around here for?" he snapped. "Here's about the only time that fool badge of yours will have a chance to be of any use. You probably can get the woman turned over to you for awhile, anyway, but don't wait till the baby's dead before you get her."

"It May Be—"

"I'll start right away," I promised, and taking down my motor coat and hat, hurried outdoors before she could change her mind.

I had long guessed that my ridiculously melodramatic old mother-in-law was jealous of the tiny badge of the diplomatic secret service which my work with Lillian entitled me to possess, but she never had put her feeling into words before and I was anxious that she should not suspect the mirth which her absurdity lent to me.

My car stood in the driveway, just as I had driven it in from Mrs. Tier's, but I did not at once get into it. Instead, I walked on to the barn, and found Jim standing by one of the small windows which overlooked the woodland to the rear of the farm buildings. He did not turn as I entered, but spoke in a low, tense voice.

"I think that fellow the troopers are hunting is in that first clump of evergreens, Mrs. Graham," he said. "If he is, he can't cross to the other part without my getting him. But of course I may be mistaken. It may be just a tramp, or even

the more sheltered places. Many of the evergreen bushes in the open spaces were completely destroyed by the frost last winter.

Bits For Breakfast

Make it snappy—

The handling of the convict murderers—

Not for revenge; that would be against our state constitution; but for an example.

Ella McMunn writes the Bits for Breakfast man from Ler home near Quincy, on Monday: "Immense amount of shooting yesterday (Sunday) and Sunday previous. Poor baby pheasants, some of them the tender babies just released in this section by game wardens. Nobody has license to shoot now."

A little vigilance of the game wardens in that locality might put the fear of God in the hearts of the killers of the young pheasants.

Correspondent at North Howell says the people out that way are indignant at Salem's head-in parking system, and talk of going elsewhere to do their trading. It is to be hoped that they may cool off and not take it so seriously. There are faults with every kind of a parking system.

Man is getting \$200 for the peppermint oil from 10 acres of Lake Labish land; the plants having been put out last April. He gets the mint hay, besides. That almost pays the price of the land in one year. Lake Labish land is worth \$1000 an acre. Sells for

that; and some of it cannot be bought for that.

Onion growing down there is great, usually. But some of the growers wish they had mint instead, this year. Onions are down, and peppermint oil is up.

OIL BLAZE DAMAGE HIGH

BLAZE IN REFINERY CAUSES LOSS OF \$500,000

MARTINEZ, Cal., Aug. 25.—(By Associated Press.)—Damage estimated at half a million dollars was caused by fire tonight at the refinery of the Associated Oil company at Avon, four miles from here. The flames which for a time threatened the entire \$5,000,000 plant, started shortly before 6 o'clock by an explosion in the pre-heating system on one of the stills. The fire was brought under control after more than two hours fighting.

All available firefighting equipment of Martinez as well as that of the Associated and Shell oil companies was used in combatting the blaze. About 500 men were used in bringing the fire under control.

The chief loss was the main pump house and two stills which were completely destroyed. Smaller buildings, including the machine shop and a tool house, also were destroyed.

CAR SERVICE DISCUSSED

SUPPLY OF FREIGHT CARS FOR NORTHWEST ASKED

OLYMPIA, Aug. 25.—By Associated Press.—Final details of plan advanced by the car service section of the American Railway association to insure an adequate supply of freight cars for the Pacific Northwest will be worked out Wednesday and Thursday in Portland. It was announced here by O. O. Calderhead, supervisor of transportation in the state department of public works who left Olympia Tuesday night to attend the meeting.

The organization committee will hold a general conference Wednesday for the purpose of completing the organization of the advisory board while the board will meet Thursday with shipping interests of the various communities affected. Supervisor Calderhead will attend only the committee meeting; Wednesday he said.

Gooch—New sawmill opened for cutting timber recently.

Medford building permits for July totaled \$42,705.

South Americans Begin Long Trip on Motorcycle

BUENOS AIRES—Two Argentine sportsmen, Messrs. Braun and Schik, are at present engaged upon an attempt to reach New York by motorcycle, with sidecar, their machine being of American make. The travelers left Fort Madryn, Patagonia, May 17, and recently passed through Buenos Aires. They intend proceeding via Rosario, crossing the Bolivian frontier at La Quiaca to La Paz, proceeding thence through Peru, Ecuador, Colombia, Central America and Mexico to New York.



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