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Grounds of Punishment.

It was shown in the first lecture that in primitive society there was no punishment proper, which arose only in an organized community, through the intervention of a ruling authority. Various grounds for punishment had from time to time been advanced; expiation, retribution, deterrence, prevention of the criminal from repeating or continuing his unlawful conduct, reformation. Which of these was the most appropriate? Taking each separately as the aim of punishment, arguments for and against were available. Not one in itself was adequate for a complex society. The best way was to eliminate expiation and combine all the others, so as to make social utility the only ground and aim of penal administration. Thus, crime was nothing other than an anti-social act, a danger to the community, and punishment was imposed for purposes of social defence, security, and well-being. So the moral, religious, and metaphysical responsibility gave way to the safer and more practical criterion of social accountability. In earlier days of social accountability, flogging, tortures, &c., the death penalty, flogging, tortures, &c., were the regular stock-in-trade of the penal system. Nowadays civilization was different; a gentler and humaner view prevailed. Flogging was a relic of barbarism; it was brutalising to the victim, to the inflictor, to the witnesses, and to the public. The whole scene was humiliating, heartrending, and ghastly. To capital punishment the same considerations applied. The only sound argument in its favor was that it removed a danger to society. But this could be provided by imprisonment. Further, the various additional objections to the death penalty were overwhelming; it was irrevocable, it was uncertain of adoption owing to acquittals against the evidence, and it was imposed for vastly different and unequal forms of homicide.

The final lecture will deal with the modes and expedients of imprisonments. Various suggestions will be submitted and interesting statements about life in gaol and at the Yatala prison will be made.

ional sign, to stand for a race of men, distinct biologically, facially, mentally, morally, with the brand of Cain upon them, inhuman, monsters, predestined to evil and social hostility. Besides, did the peculiar physical and mental constitution lead to crime or did criminal activities bring about a certain look, or certain physical characteristics? Dr. Young's investigation had entirely overthrown Lombroso's view, and had revealed a wider physical divergence between Oxford graduates and Cambridge graduates than between criminals and either of them.

Disease, Theory, and Sentimentalism.

"A special danger of regarding crime as a disease and sentimentalizing upon criminals as predestined to crime," the lecturer pointed out, "is that it negatives personal responsibility, and puts criminals on the same basis as patients at a hospital, or as lunatics at an asylum. The criminal's trouble is moral and social, and is due to the extreme form of selfishness, which disregards the rights of his fellow creatures. Further, criminals make use of this view as a pretext and excuse for their doings, and lay the blame on society or their forbears. The notion that he could not help yielding to temptation weakens, through the influence of suggestion, the power of resistance in the hours of temptation. Further, the criminal comes to believe it, and so sets himself all the more against society, and its laws, and is the more strongly induced to prey upon his neighbours."

Society's Right to Punish.

"Even if crime is a disease or hereditary, society has the right to punish. The contrary declarations of such men as Tolstoy involve self-contradictions, and, if adopted, would land society into primitive savagery and chaos. We apply remedies to diseases of the body and the mind. The tendency to crime is a moral trouble, a trouble of the will. The resisting power of the will is weak, and is overborne by the temptation. Hence we must strengthen the will-power by adding another motive—namely, the fear of punishment—so as to overbalance the force of the temptation. It was shown in the first lecture that in primitive society there is no punishment proper, which arises only in an organized community, through the intervention of a ruling authority. Various grounds for punishment have been advanced, expiation, retribution, deterrence, prevention of the criminal from repeating his unlawful conduct, reformation. Which of these is the most appropriate? Taking each separately as the aim of punishment, arguments for and against are available. Not one in itself is adequate for a complex society. The best way is to eliminate expiation, and combine all the others, so as to make social utility the only ground and aim of penal administration. Thus crime is nothing, but an anti-social act, a danger to the community, and punishment is imposed for purposes of social defence and well-being. So the moral, religious, and metaphysical responsibility gives way to the safer and more practical criterion of social accountability."

Flogging and the Death Penalty.

"In earlier days of administrative ferocity and inhumanity, and death penalty, flogging, tortures, and so on, were the regular stock-in-trade of the penal system. Nowadays, civilization is different; a different and more humane view prevails. Flogging is a relic of barbarism; it is brutalizing to the victim, to the inflictor, to the witnesses (usually the visiting justice and the medical officer), and to the public, the whole scene is humiliating, heartrending, and ghastly. As to capital punishment, these considerations apply. The only sound argument in its favour is that it removes a danger to society. But this can be provided by imprisonment. Further, the various additional objections to the death penalty are overwhelming; it is irrevocable, it is uncertain of adoption owing to acquittals against the evidence and it is imposed for vastly different and unequal forms of homicide."

The final lecture will deal with the modes and expedients of imprisonment and various suggestions will be submitted. Professor Phillipson will deal with gaol life, particularly at the Yatala Labour Prison.

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WOODMAN, SPARE THAT TREE!

A FORESTRY REVIVAL.

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1.—By the President S.A. Branch Forest League (Sir William Sowden).

One result of the Great War was a striking demonstration of the foolish and futile policy of "Waste and want," which had characterized British (and not merely British) methods of dealing with national forests. The necessities of the war services rendered it imperative to despoil seriously such forests as there were. The area under forest in the United Kingdom immediately before the declaration of war was little more than 3 million acres, and of this only 74,000 acres—amounting to 2.5 per cent.—belonged to the State. The annual yield of the trees was less than one-third of what it might have been with scientific management. In these circumstances it was not wonderful that beautiful estates should have been "combed over" by various war departments so as to select the finest oak and other trees for use across the Channel. This outrage on sentiment through the stern needs of the time doubtless had something to do with a great public awakening, emphasized by positive alarm; and the demand practically in all other settled countries, as well as the motherland, for businesslike and prompt attention to the forest problem. In England a Royal Commission on Afforestation was appointed, and a simultaneous movement was made all over the Empire for the creation of a sort of Public Vigilance Committee, which should watch the interests of the people generally in connection with this exceedingly important national and industrial matter.

A Great Scheme.

A few weeks ago the Prince of Wales formally inaugurated in London the Empire Forests' Association, and spoke with earnestness and significance concerning the state of the national forests. He said that, although between four and five years had passed since the close of the war, not more than 5 per cent. of the trees on the million acres which had been sacrificed in the emergent conditions described had been replaced. Besides this million acres, there was an additional area of 3 million acres, suitable for trees, which had not been afforested. Prior to the delivery of the Prince's speech, the royal commission had recommended the planting of 1,700,000 acres, which would provide permanent employment for 33,000 men. The commission stated also that, if 4 million acres were similarly devoted to forestry, 80,000 men, comprising with their families 300,000 persons, would be supported by the forests. The commissioners calculated that in the first year of the inauguration of the great scheme there would be a net deficit of £90,000, which would rise progressively until in the fortieth year it would be £3,131,250. After that time, however, the forests would be not only self-supporting, but revenue producing also. At the expiration of 80 years the annual net revenue of a forest of 9 million acres, at present prices of timber, would be £17,500,000. The State would then possess a property worth £562,000,000, a sum £107,000,000 in excess of the total cost incurred in its creation, calculated at 3 per cent. compound interest. A further point made is that, through availing itself of surplus labour in times of special depression, the Government, by extending its forest area, could by relief works increase the capital value and at the same time relieve the industrial situation. An Empire-wide aspect of the general problem is displayed in the statistical fact that before the war the annual importation of timber to the United Kingdom was about 10 million tons worth £27,000,000, on an average of several years, and more than 85 per cent. of it came from Russia, Norway, and Canada. Not 20 per cent. of the supply, however, was sent by any of the British possessions.

A Widespread Movement.

The alarm expressed in the United Kingdom regarding the prospect of a timber famine, unless that catastrophe should be prevented by rapid afforestation, is being evinced in many other parts of the world, even where the pressure of the problem is not so direct or so serious as it is in England. In the United States of America, enormous expenditure is being authorized for the rehabilitation of despoiled forest, and the establishment of new groups of trees on an extensive scale; and coinci-

which had usually been allotted an inconspicuous position on the biological section, was placed by definite resolution on the agricultural section; and several interesting and instructive debates on the question were heard during the conference. The members also passed unanimously a motion expressing thanks to the New Zealand Government on account of its advanced forestry policy, and urged upon the Commonwealth authorities the wisdom of encouraging the growth of forest trees by all reasonable means as an exceedingly important feature of Federal enterprise. The World's Science Congress which met in Melbourne and Sydney in August and September, 1923, discussed forestry with much vigour, and resolved that Australia needs to develop a much more progressive forestry policy; for, during the last 18 years, on an average, the Commonwealth had imported about 40 per cent. of the timber used by it. One of its closing resolutions was:—"That it be suggested to the Commonwealth Government that the scope and activities of the Institute of Science and Industry be extended by the establishment and maintenance of an efficiently equipped forest products laboratory; and, having regard to the limited extent of forested land and the prospects of a large increase in population, the permanent reserve for forestry of all suitable timber-bearing areas in the Commonwealth, Australia is urged in the interests of national safety. Having regard to the approaching world's shortage of coniferous woods, it behoves all Pan-Pacific countries to give immediate attention to the subject of planting; and that this resolution be brought specially under the notice of the Federal and State Governments of the Australian Commonwealth." The Associated Chambers of Commerce, at a meeting in Brisbane this year, carried a significant resolution:—"That, bearing in mind the immense quantities of timber which will be required with the normal expansion of population in Australia, and the depletion of the sources of supply in foreign countries from which so large a quantity of timber is now imported into the Commonwealth, this conference urges upon the various State Governments the need to accept their responsibilities so as to provide a forest policy in each State that will ensure continuity in the planting, management, and development of the forests of Queensland and of the other States, and less dependence on foreign products in the future."

Local Action.

The Adelaide Chamber of Commerce promptly endorsed this resolution, and sent to intimation to that effect to our Government, which replied that it appreciated the need of reforestation, and had for many years been carrying on this work to the extent permitted by the financial position of the State. On July 24 the Australian Forest League, South Australian branch, wrote to the chamber, requesting its co-operation in any steps which might be taken to encourage forestry, and the President of the chamber was good enough to give me an opportunity to move in the matter in the dual capacity of a member of the council of the chamber, and President of the local branch of the league. At its meeting on August 31, the Chamber resolved:—"That the South Australian branch of the Australian Forest League be informed that the proper development of forestry has been, and is strongly advocated by this chamber, which will gladly send delegates to any representative conference that may be convened to consider definite and united action regarding the matter." Meanwhile the State Government has announced its intention, subject to Parliamentary approval, to plant 2,000 acres with forest trees between Frances and Naracoorte by prison labour, but this scheme is still pending finality. Almost simultaneously the University Council intimated its decision to establish on the Peter Waite bequest-lands an arboretum and public park—an area of 67 acres—to demonstrate the value of forestry in an educational and practical sense, and to that end to cover the reserve gradually with forest trees of different kinds, which would be an advantage and an example to every district in the State. The Canadian Forestry Conference, which finished its work on September 8, emphasized the necessity for conservation of the world's softwood supply, and resolved to urge all countries within the British Empire to grow as much coniferous timber as possible. Two days later, at the inaugural meeting of the Agricultural Bureaus in Adelaide, His Excellency the Governor (Sir Tom Bridges) specially stressed the pressing importance of the forestry problem; and these references are rather indicative than exhaustive. Clearly, therefore, the subject of national forestry has become a distinctively "live" one; and at the same time much attention is being paid by business men and the institutions conducted by them to the working of forests as a profitable private industry.

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IS CRIME A DISEASE?

Society's Right to Punish.

In the Prince of Wales Theatre, Adelaide University, on Tuesday night, Professor Coleman Phillipson, before a large audience, delivered the second of his series of three lectures on "Crime and Punishment."

Professor Phillipson stated that some contended that crime was a disease, and that criminals, more especially habituals, had no real responsibility, as their conduct was due to their diseased, defective, or abnormal condition. There were, he said, two forms of that view. First, some people claimed that their conditions were due to an adverse social environment, so that the responsibility would be shifted to the community. That view was untenable, because other circumstances played a part. Adverse conditions did not usually beset criminals, and offenders abounded despite the absence of such adversity. It was superficial and unfair to make society the scapegoats. Man was not merely a slave of environment, but could, and did, make his environment. Secondly, others said the criminal was a product of heredity. That view disregarded social and educative influences, and the way a hereditary handicap was frequently overcome; and frequently it was a mere arbitrary assumption. Connected with that theory was the assertion that there was a distinctive criminal type or class. The anthropological school of criminology headed by Lombroso, spoke of "instinctive" or "born" criminals, foredoomed to a life of crime, and distinguished by various physical traits, especially in physiognomy. That theory, Professor Phillipson asserted, was as erroneous as it was dangerous. It was erroneous because of its haphazard generalizations, and the omission to define a normal law-abiding man. It was dangerous, because there might be a tendency to use the different physical marks as evidence of criminal conduct, and to take the word "criminal," which was a purely conven-

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NEW IDEAS AND IDEALS IN EDUCATION.

The conference on New Ideas in Education at the University should prove of special interest to South Australian teachers and educationalists, for under the syllabus of papers set down for discussion all aspects of new developments are being examined and explained by men and women who are giving practical effect to the changes in the schools of Australia.