

THE DOOR OF HOPE FOR PRISONERS

(Editorial from the Asheville Citizen)
Speaking of State prisoners and his policy toward them, Governor McLean says: "I am determined to reverse Dante's 'all hope abandon ye who enter here,' so far as it effects the State's prison. I want the prisoners to have hope, and intend to hold the door of hope open."

And so the Governor, believing in the wisdom of tempering the severity of the penal code with common-sense, justice and mercy, is carrying on the policy of granting commutations and indeterminate sentences, which was begun by Governor Morrison. Then Governor McLean describes a work of simple yet long neglected justice that will commend itself to every citizen who has ever taken time to reflect upon the errors and oppressions that are bound to creep into the administration of justice under the customs existing since time immemorial. The Governor says:

"In addition, I have asked Mr. Sink, the pardon commissioner, now that he has cleared some of the work that had accumulated when he was appointed, to go through the central prison at Raleigh and the several camps and look up some of those for whom no intercession had been made. There are old men there, and some old women, folks who have never had anybody to present their cases. I want these cases looked into. I want to find out who they are."

Other North Carolina Governors have taken thought for these friendless men and women who, from one cause or another, have been condemned to endure punishment beyond all fair limits of measuring offense and penalty; and Governor McLean, too, is convinced that the State is withholding liberty from some who have paid in full their debt for breaking the laws of the State.

Some day this principle will be carried further in North Carolina's penal discipline. Men and women without relatives or friends will not be thrust into jail to wait months on a jury trial, sometimes unjustly denied or unable to give the law any security for their appearance. There will be in every county some official friend of the friendless culprit, actual or alleged, who will provide the legal advice and aid which offenders with money may have in such abundance that the law is hard put to it to prevent their receiving justice. This upire of the law will be familiar with jails from frequent visits, and his reports on how the jail population lives will foster a public opinion strong enough to guarantee that men and women shall live in decent surroundings while serving or awaiting trial.

The growth of humane feelings toward prisoners in North Carolina is not maudlin sentimentality. Governor McLean for that matter, is no sentimentalist. His ideas about the just punishment of crime are rigid enough to suit any reasonable upholders of the laws as they are on the books. But the Governor and an increasing number of his fellow-citizens are determined that the "majesty of the law" shall not be despoiled by deliberate or thoughtless cruelties and brutalities committed upon helpless humanity.

A SENSIBLE PROPOSITION

(Editorial from the Raleigh Times)
The investigation which Governor McLean now proposes to have made of Caswell Training School to us seems an eminently common sense affair. He is naming a committee of experts and laymen to inventory the stock of students on hand and see whether they are the sort of matriculates for which the school is intended.

It is common knowledge that many of them are not. Some of them, instead of being feeble minded, just aren't minded at all. It was never intended to attempt to train these and Caswell was not erected for the purpose of taking care of them.

The institution, however, was covered up in a deluge of idiots and monstrosities. Whose fault it was does not matter at this time. There would be a tremendous howl if the management of the school itself started to clean house. Manifestly the help of the Governor and of the Legislature both will be needed before the institution is given a chance to function as intended. As a bluffer between the people who have wittingly or unwittingly victimized the school a committee of disinterested persons should serve a useful purpose.

Recommendations made by them may be accepted by the Governor and with his endorsement perhaps some of them may be put into force by the management. At the next session of the Legislature, anyhow, if the new broom continues of a mind to sweep, something can actually be done to make a training school of the institution.

Men Appear to Have Little on the Ostrich

The next morning we forded scores of small streams, so cold that they were like ice water, as they are fed by melted snow from Mt. Kenya. Up to this time we had seen little game, as the plains animals don't come into the mountains; elephants and rhino and buffalo could be found in the forests towards Kenya, but they are seldom seen from the road. Now we commenced to see the Kenya hartebeeste, small herds of common zebra, many ostriches and a few Grant's gazelle.

The ostriches are funny creatures; they would feed until we were opposite them, then they would start running along parallel with us. We would put on all our power and race them for a mile, but they always beat us. As soon as they were a hundred yards ahead they would put on an added spurt and cross the road, often slipping and falling as their feet struck the hard roadbed. When they had reached the other side they would stop and watch us go by, seemingly perfectly contented and satisfied that they had crossed the road. This would happen a dozen times in an hour—they always did the same thing, no matter which side of the road they happened to be grazing on.—Martin Johnson in the World's Work.

Most People of Siam Pass Lives on Boats

The ordinary Siamese citizen may be said to possess no home at all. He lives with his wife and naked babies on a boat in a canal, writer Lyman Bryson, in the Atlantic Monthly. Costumes are adapted to water living, and a people addicted to bathing can slip off their front porches, that is, their front decks, into water at any hour of the day or night.

Along the shores are the gilded, glittering, flame-like temple spires, and even a few ugly business buildings on a blazing hot and dusty main street. Scattered about in compounds and paradises are the dwellings of princes, most of them in European style.

His majesty's throne room palace of Italian marble, which cost millions of ticals, began to settle in the mud when it was half built. It rides now in an understructure of concrete, an ingenious boat which was put under it, and supports it as long as the chugging engines keep the water pumped out of the basement.

Dress for Dinner

Dressing up for dinner is not excluded to the class of people we call society. It should be a practice in every home, even though the dressing up consists of a clean gingham dress. And it should not be excluded to the wife and mother, but each individual should observe this rule as well. Children should be taught the habit in the high-chair days.

This custom not only takes the family out of the "shiftless class" but aids digestion as well. An unkempt person at the table spoils the appetite of the rest of the family and makes the dinner less appetizing and less attractive. And when the member of the family who has cooked that dinner has labored so hard over it that she is "just too tired to dress" she has defeated her purpose.—Exchange.

Fair Warning

A china store, situated at the intersection of two Paris streets much frequented by motor trucks and taxis, very often receives the engine of an omnibus or the wheel of a truck or a taxi carburetor through its plate glass show window. Consequently, two watchmen have been posted before the door, on either side of which is a notice reading, "No Thoroughfare." No doubt the plate glass will now be safe from the impetuosity of drivers whose feet itch for the accelerator.—From Le Figaro, Paris. (Translated for the Kansas City Star.)

Famous Old Castle

The ancient castle of Lochleven is situated on an island in Lochleven, Scotland. It is famous not only as the place of imprisonment of Mary Queen of Scots, in 1567-68, but also as the scene of her escape May 2, 1568. While there, Mary was compelled to sign her abdication in favor of her infant son, James, and to accept the earl of Murray as regent of the kingdom. An interesting account of these events is given in Sir Walter Scott's novel, "The Abbot." The castle was built in 1257, and served as a royal residence in the time of Alexander III. It was besieged by the English in 1301, and again in 1335. Patrick Graham, first archbishop of St. Andrew's, and the earl of Northumberland, were imprisoned there. The former died within its walls in 1447.—Kansas City Star.

Fruits Save the Teeth

Dentists now come to the front with authoritative statements that fresh fruits are the best desserts for the teeth and that they act as a dentifrice. Pastry and other sweets are well known to be not so good for the teeth. Fresh fruits have a cleansing effect on the teeth, the dentists say, not only because of their cellulose fibers but also because the vegetable acids they contain stimulate a flow of saliva which keeps the mouth clean. Fruit juice in infancy is known to be valuable adjunct to the proper development of the teeth, and continued through childhood to furnish the sweets and keep up the work of keeping the teeth sound.—Kansas City Star.

Change of Life

"When change of life began on me," says Mrs. Lewis Lisher, of Lamar, Mo., "I suffered so with womanly weakness. I suffered a great deal of pain in my back and sides. My limbs would cramp. I didn't feel like doing my work, and there are so many steps for a woman to take on a farm. I was very anxious to get better. A friend recommended

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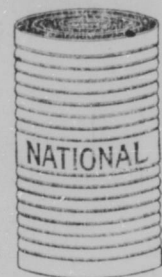
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