

Third Section
Fourth Question
Abstract

Intemperate Criminals: How ~~are~~^{are} they ~~to be~~ treated *in Ireland.*

By J.S. Gibbons, President of the Irish Prison Commission.

There are two kinds of reformatories for intemperate criminals, one "certified" and one maintained by the government.. The former are established by local authorities or by religious or philanthropic associations and the expenses are defrayed in part by the state. They are specially designed for ~~recidivists~~^{those who have been repeatedly arrested}. The for drunkenness. The expenses of the state institutions are met entirely by the state, ~~and~~^{are} are meant for recidivists who have committed a serious offence under the influence of drink. Two certified reformatories have been established in Ireland, one for Roman Catholic men and one for Roman Catholic women, both under religious orders. As the Irish are peculiarly susceptible to religious influences great hopes are entertained with reference to these attempts to cure inebriacy.. A state reformatory was opened in 1899 for both sexes and all communions. for criminal drunkards Working in the garden affords one means of employment for the inmates.. Each has recreation halls and small workshops. The ~~buildings~~^{buildings} are comfortably furnished and warmed. Newspapers, chess men, checkers, dominoes etc are provided. Each inmate has a room to himself with a table, a chair, a wash-stand, a bed, a ~~clothespress~~, a looking glass, a hair brush etc. The beds are comfortable, with woven wire springs, hair mattresses and plenty of covering, with a strip of carpet by each bed. On ~~the~~^{each} table is a collection of selected books..

The government names every year a board of inspectors, composed of five justices of the peace, who visit the institutions once a month..

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reformatory at Ennis. Of these 128 were released, 27 conditionally, 101 by expiration of sentence or by commutation. Of the 200, 72 were arrested for neglect or abandonment of their children, 34 for theft, 16 for attempting suicide. In age the youngest was 19, while there were three of 60, the greatest number, 64, between forty and fifty. . Three were there but six months, 49 for 3 years.. Only 37 had never been convicted before, eleven had been convicted but once, while seven had been convicted from one hundred to 333 times!.

In general the treatment is that of the ordinary prison, with certain modifications. They are allowed to be together by day, at work, which is mostly out doors. The hours of work are shorter than ~~in the~~ ordinary prison; their rooms, beds and food are better ~~and~~ they are allowed to earn more for their own pleasures. They are allowed to smoke occasionally and to hear lectures and concerts. Good conduct gives them the privilege of going outside the grounds to walk, on parole, and they may be released under certain conditions.

The principal means employed for reformation are total abstinence from drink for at least 18 months, secular and religious instruction, good reading, hard work combined with plenty of recreation, good surroundings, proper food, firm and severe discipline.

The occupations for the men are gardening, carpentry, work at the forge, shoe-making, weaving mats, cutting firewood, masonry, plastering and keeping the buildings in order. For the women: cooking, laundry work, sewing, embroidery, shirtmaking, dress-making etc.. Prizes in horticulture and in women's work have been

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taken by the reformatory at some of the expositions. Reading, writing and arithmetic are taught, each inmate receiving at least four hours of ^{instruction} ~~schooling~~ a week.

During the year there were but two punishments, consisting of cutting the diet. The presence of a baby, the child of one of the women prisoners, had an excellent influence upon the women. ^e Gymnastics form part of the regular instruction. The courts sentence to these reformatories for a period not to exceed three years. They ^{convicts} ~~are~~ are not eligible to conditional liberation under 18 months and then only on good conduct. The convict must also give good reason to believe he will abstain from liquor. There must also be some one outside who agrees to report on his conduct and these details have to be submitted to the inspection committee before the convict can be liberated. This ^{committee} ~~authority~~ secures permission for the release. The work has been helped by the pastors, by the prisoners aid societies, the societies for the prevention of cruelty to children, and by the police. The results have been excellent.

As to the use of drugs as a remedy for intemperance the departmental committee, made up of distinguished medical authorities, does not approve of it. Even if such treatment were applicable to non-criminals it would not be in the case of men sentenced for long terms.

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Third Section
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The Treatment of Intemperate Criminals.

By/ Dr. R.W. Branthwaite, Inspector , under the
Inebriate Acts, Great Britain.

For ten years intemperate criminals and recidivists could be sent to reformatories for a term not exceeding three years. , but the law has not been applied as freely as its promoters expected. Since 1898 fifteen reformatories have been established, but three have been given up . Since 1898 the total number sent to these reformatories is 443, some crime or misdemeanor was charged against all of these, 350 being ^{for} ill-treatment of their children ; 33 for attempted suicide and 35 for stealing . A list of fourteen offences is given. .

Under the second section of the law any drunkard who has been found guilty of drunkenness three times within a year may be sent to a reformatory for drunkards , tho they may not be criminals, if they have violated the sense of decency and public order. . . . This class is made up largely of persons incapable of staying sober, in spite of kind treatment, good advice, imprisonment. They spend their lives in going between the street and the court-room . The number of those sent to the reformatories of this class in ten years , was 2589, absurdly few in proportion to those who should have been sent.

The promoters of the law of 1908 had two objects in view: the reformation of the offender if possible; if not, the protection of society . The success or failure must be judged according to these objects. The probability of reforming drunkards depends largely on their mental condition. Those of ordinary mental

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ability are more susceptible to reformatory treatment. According to a scientific classification, making four groups of these intemperate persons, only ten or fifteen per cent of the third group, - those least abnormal mentally, and forty per cent of those with ordinary mentality, have proved susceptible of amendment. It is extremely difficult to give accurate figures, but there is good reason to believe that 20 per cent of the whole number of these persons imprisoned for drunkenness have been improved and perhaps fifteen per cent learned to abstain and to become useful members of society. When the law is so amended that they may be incarcerated earlier in their career of intemperance the results will be better. Under present conditions better results cannot be expected.

The success of the law in the way of protecting the public is undoubted. It is a great thing to have been able to clear the streets of this class. A drunkard is a nuisance in a community. He injures others as well as himself. He is prone to crime, to bring his family on to the public for support and to neglect and abuse his children. The public has a right to protect itself from such evils and his detention in an institution would be justifiable even without the possibility of amendment. . . The committee which has made an investigation of the working of the law recommends the continuance of the law and an enlargement of its field.

As to the ^{medical} question whether special treatment should be applied for intemperance in these reformatories, after ten years experience with intemperate criminals and more than thirty years experience with non-criminal drunkards I have no confidence

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in any specific treatment . Like the insane the intemperate should have individual treatment and there is no special medical treatment which can cure drunkards any more than there is any one specific that will cure crazy people. . Obligatory abstinence through a long period, ordinary medical treatment to restore the health, good food , regular habits, and stimulating the power of the will these are the things to be sought in treatment. Anything that will help to strengthen the power of the will will aid. For this education in the advantage of sobriety and the ill-effects of alcoholism, religious exercises, hypnotism, even colored simples labelled "Secret, infallible remedy" , or any other ~~judiciously xxxxxxx~~ quackery judiciously applied, may be efficacious, provided the subject really believes in the efficacy of the remedy to be applied. But we know no remedy, no special treatment of any kind, which so diminishes the desire for drink , and increases the power to resist that desire , as compulsory residence in an institution for drunkards. . But the physician of such an institution should be free to choose his treatment. To impose special treatment would be a retrograde and undesirable step.

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Third Section
Second Question
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Tramps and Beggars
By. Mr. Brück-Faber, Luxembourg.

Vagabonds and mendicants may be divided into four classes:
1, Children, who cannot yet earn their own living; 2, old and infirm persons who can no longer work; 3, workmen temporarily out of employment; 4, tramps and beggars who may be called professional *idlers*, who without being criminal are still parasites on humanity.. For the first three classes charity is proper; for the last the work house is the thing.

I have the honor to submit the following propositions:

1. Every sentence for vagabondage or mendicity incurred by persons other than those having a fixed residence in the place where the sentence is imposed, is to be reported to the central anthropometric station of the country of the condemned.
2. The report of the sentence should contain, or be accompanied by a *slip* with the fingerprints of the condemned.
3. For every tramp or beggar arrested who is unknown to the police the public minister should make a demand on the ^{central} anthropometric station for any information it may have about the accused and a copy of his finger prints.
4. The period of imprisonment of tramps and beggars should be ~~from~~ from one to ten years with power to prolong the term if at the expiration of ~~that~~ *that* period the convict still shows a tendency to *idleness*.
5. The régime of workhouses should conform to those of prisons with a mixed system, with the exclusion of the element of *expiation* and perpetual imprisonment.
6. The inmates should be employed ~~or~~ according *to* their ability either out doors or within doors.
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Third Section
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Special Institutions for Intemperate Criminals.

By Dr. Legrain, Head Physician of the
Asylum of Ville Evrard.

For insane criminals special institutions are gradually being organized. For habitual drunkards similar institutions are needed. The question is asked whether those that have been in existence for the last ten years have been a success. Unfortunately there are few documents from which to gather replies.

The Inebriate Act of England, 1898, provided for two classes of the intemperate: 1. Those convicted of crime directly or indirectly the result of drink; 2. ^{persons} the intemperate guilty of a ^{misdemeanors} certain number of ~~offenses~~ attributable to intemperance. Three kinds of institutions are at the disposition of the law: two state asylums; certified reformatories, or private institutions, ordinarily founded by religious orders which receive drunkards through the courts or by transference from the state asylums; 3 retreats which receive those who desire treatment and those who have been guilty of misdemeanors and who sign a paper before the justice of the peace that they desire to be treated.

Little is said in the reports of the results, but it is fair to conclude that the English law, which has made happy progress compared with most legislation, has farther to go before it will be perfect.

After characterizing the laws of several Swiss cantons, and of the United States, Dr Legrain concludes as follows:

I. From the short and limited experience of institutions for the prolonged detention of intemperate persons it is evident that this method of treatment is useful and ~~fruitful~~ profitable. Permanent reform has followed in many cases.

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I. From the short and limited experience of institutions for the prolonged detention of intemperate persons it is evident that this method of treatment is useful and sometimes profitable. Permanent reform has followed in many cases.

For the success of the cure there should be oversight to see that the subjects keep up the practice of abstinence which is the essential agent in the treatment.

II. The treatment should be given as early as possible and the expense reduced to the lowest limit.

III. It would seem that the best way is to leave this work to private initiative, aided by the government, leaving to the government the incorrigible cases.

IV. From examination of the practice of different countries as to the point at issue, to wit, the intervention of the law in cases of evil-doing through the influence of cerebral poisons, it would seem that the best results, and the least costly, are the laws which permit the prolonged detention of habitual drinkers. In spite of themselves.

V. The method of Judge Pollard of St. Louis is to be highly approved. It has excited interest in Sweden and England and has been adopted in some courts of Great Britain. This method consists in offering to delinquents who are intemperate, whom alcohol alone has led to commit their offenses, conditional liberation on condition of their taking the pledge of total abstinence. That may make some smile, but it is a serious matter when urged by a judge of the quality of Judge Pollard and some others. Thanks to their efforts 95 per cent of such delinquents have been brought into the right way.

We commend also the excellent prophylactic method in vogue in Germany which entrusts to the municipalities themselves the oversight of institutions for keeping the people from the use of alcohol, but looks after them when they have become addicted to its use, through the police, through asylums, abstinence societies &c

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The Treatment of Habitual Drunkards.

By Dr. H.B. Donkin, Prison Commissioner
for England and Wales.

The law of 1898 stipulates that the court cannot ~~xxxxxxx~~ condemn a man without sufficient proof that he is a habitual drunkard. The law takes cognizance of two categories of such persons. First, those who are condemned for having committed a crime making them liable to prison or penal servitude. If, in such case the court has proof that the crime was committed under the influence of drink, or that drunkenness was one of the factors, and that the accused was a habitual drunkard, he can be imprisoned in the reformatory for a period not exceeding three years. This may be added to another condemnation or take the place of one.

Second, those who commit a misdemeanor, ~~§~~ (one of those mentioned in the first article of the law), and who in the twelve months preceding have been arrested at least three times for similar offences. These, who are known as intemperate recidivists, may be imprisoned for a period not to exceed three years, in the reformatory. The great majority of those who have been sentenced under this law belong in the second category.

Of all the persons who have been sentenced to these reformatories fully 25 per cent have been released before the expiration of the period and the license for release has been revoked in a third of those cases. Seven per cent of the

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whole have been resented to the reformatories.

It is fair to say that as to reformation, ^{the results have} ~~has~~ not been good. In only a few cases can one say that reformation has taken place :. The great majority of those sentenced to the reformatories have been women and nothing has been spared to improve the physical and moral condition of the inmates. So long as it is inveterate drunkards who are sent to these institutions little advantage can be expected except freeing society from their presence. . It is probably true that some deterrent influence has been exercised on others . Allowing for the possibility of other reasons for recalling the permission for release, it is safe to say that not more than 16 per cent of the total number sent to these reformatories have been sensibly bettered.

As to the second part of the question, whether special medical treatment should be provided by law , the reply should be squarely in the negative. It is clearly unjustifiable to restrain the free action of the physicians who are attached to these institutions. Intemperance is too complex in its nature and requires too many shades of treatment, to have any special medical treatment prescribed. . Those who can be cured are the ones who are determined to overcome the habit. . Personal influence is often very strong in helping men to overcome the habit. An earnest desire to be cured and faith in the method are often successful without medication.

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2nd Sect.
4th Quest.

Have the experiments of the last ten years made in certain countries providing special establishments for the detention of the inebriate criminals, even recidivists, for long periods (two or three years) been successful or not? Is it necessary to complete the penitentiary discipline of these establishments by special medical treatment?

By. Daniel Phelan M.D.

Surgeon, Dominion Penitentiary, Kingston, Canada.

Restraint, with abstinence from alcohol, and correct diet are the great factors in the treatment of inebriates. The criminal inebriate is either a criminal from instinct, and his drinking is a symptom of his degeneration; or he is a criminal because of his continual use of spirits, which has destroyed his moral sense and self-control. Both classes should be deprived of liberty and confined in special institutions where military discipline, hygienic supervision and practical work can be employed in their treatment.

Observations seem to show that American criminal inebriates recover more certainly than those born in other lands. Owing to alcoholic indulgence in ancestral lines the foreignborn seem to lack a certain vigor and spirit which makes them more difficult.

Detention for a year would be enough in many cases. A predetermined sentence of two or three years is discouraging. His condition physical and mental should be the criterion by which to judge whether a criminal inebriate should be set at large after treatment.

3rd Feb
1925

Have the experiments of the last ten years made in certain countries providing special establishments for the detention of the inebriate criminals, even reformatives, for long periods (two or three years) been successful or not? Is it necessary to complete the penitentiary discipline of these establishments by special medical treatment?

By Daniel Phelan M.D.

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Restraint, with abstinence from alcohol, and correct diet are the great factors in the treatment of inebriates. The criminal inebriate is either a criminal from instinct, and his drinking is a symptom of his degeneration; or he is a criminal because of his continual use of spirits, which has destroyed his moral sense and self-control. Both classes should be deprived of liberty and confined in special institutions where military discipline, hygienic supervision and practical work can be employed in their treatment.

Observations seem to show that American criminal inebriates recover more certainly than those born in other lands. Owing to alcoholic indulgence in ancestral lines the foreignborn seem to lack a certain vigor and spirit which makes them more difficult.

Detention for a year would be enough in many cases. A predetermined sentence of two or three years is discouraging. His condition physical and mental should be the criterion by which to judge whether a criminal inebriate should be set at large after treatment.

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Given an institution for the criminal inebriates carried out on these plans special medical treatment in the penitentiary would not be needed.

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