

Roy Haynes. Treaties were desired, it was explained, to handle the Canadian border situation and to better control exports of liquor from Cuba, the Bahamas, Bermuda and to this country.

Prohibition officials also have under discussion a proposal for declaring rum-running vessels to be pirates through negotiation with foreign nations looking to the cancellation of the registry of such ships. Many of the larger liquor ships carrying illicit cargoes of alcohol, it was said, anchor just outside the limit of customs jurisdiction and send the cargo ashore in small boats. The war upon these craft is being successfully waged, officials asserted, but the cargo vessels are beyond the reach of the law. If they sailed without proper registry papers they would be

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branded as pirates, outside the law and the lawful prize of every navy in the world.

At the State department it was said no proposal for negotiations of this sort are under consideration as yet. International discussion of American prohibition would involve many difficult diplomatic questions, it was declared.

RESPONSIBILITY FOR CRIME

On April 4 Fritz Meinhausen killed Mrs. Anna Peters and wounded his wife. Friday a coroner's jury recommended his discharge from police custody. The jury "do not hold him criminally responsible for the death" because Meinhausen was intoxicated when he did the killing.

The killer was drunk. The jury, presumably, was sober. We can understand how a vicious man will kill when inflamed with drink. We do not understand how a jury of sober men of normal intelligence can absolve him from blame and let him go free.

No wonder Chicago enjoys a record of a killing a day. This verdict is an invitation to every brute to go as far he likes. No one need hang for killing. Patronize a bootlegger and get a license to shoot any one who may displease you.

Of course, this jury was exceptional. Chicago would indeed be hopeless if it were not. But the callousness to the taking of life, the perversion of moral standards, the sloppy and misdirected sentiment, the lack of common sense, and of any clear conception of moral or social responsibility exhibited in this verdict appear persistently in our dealing with offenders. We complain, and justly, of many evils in the administration of criminal justice. But they would soon be corrected if our social attitude toward crime were what it ought to be.

The moral fuddlement shown in the discharge of Meinhausen is likely to defeat justice in any case. It may appear again to cheat the gallows in the sordid tragedy of the unknown unfortunate, murdered by the conductor, Roach. By his own confession this man is without decency. His wife had gone to a hospital. He said, therefore, he was "free," free to take another woman into their home and kill her there. If he was drunk while he did this and has the good luck to fall into the hands of such men as freed the slayer of Anna Peters, he will soon be free again, free to drink and kill.

A jury that frees a criminal because he has committed crime while drunk is as dangerous to the community as the criminal himself. Being sober in its offense, we rather think it is more dangerous. If sober men will hold a man not responsible because he has by his own will parted with his responsibility, there is no responsibility for any one, drunk or sober.

There is something radically wrong with a good many of us in our attitude toward crime and punishment, a social disease that calls for drastic treatment.—Chicago Tribune.

GOAT GLAND TREATMENT

San Francisco, dispatch, dated March 12 says: Warden J. A. Johnson of San Quentin penitentiary doesn't know what makes the women wild—but he knows what makes his convicts wild.

Goat glands! Ever since Mr. Johnson allowed Dr. L. L. Stanley, prison physician, to rejuvenate lazy prisoners by the goat gland process he has been losing them.

After being given the glands of the crag-leaping goat the most "peppless" prisoners just naturally scale the walls and all the warden's men haven't been able to find them.

Recent escapes by goat-glanders were staged by Harry Palmer, re-

ported to be a "regular lounge lizard" before the operation, and Willis Knowles, one of the warden's most experienced robbers.

"Dilute" the goat glands, Dr. Stanley has been advised.

MACNIDER LAYS FIGHT ON BONUS TO BIG BUSINESS

A Washington dispatch, dated April 24, says: Opposition to a soldiers' bonus comes from a small minority constituting what may be termed "big business" and financial interests, Hanford MacNider, national commander of the American Legion, told the Senate finance committee today.

Mr. MacNider says these interests have used every form of argument available to prevent passage of a bonus bill. He called attention to the "referendum" of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States, a leader of the opposition, and asserted the referendum was not fairly taken and does not represent the country's sentiment. He submitted a long list of chambers of commerce, civic organizations and state legislatures which have indorsed the bonus.



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