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## Editorials

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## Henry Horner: 1878 = 1940

The Governor of Illinois who died on October 6 was a scholar, statesman and humanitarian. To him "nothing human could be squalid."

Henry Horner will be remembered by the readers of this Journal for his cogent message to the Legislature in which he vetoed a bill that would have made the Parole Law in Illinois of no effect.<sup>1</sup>

Line by line that message should be reread lest we be sometime baffled by the "hue and cry" by which critics of the parole system now and again seek its undoing.

"No trial judge . . . can accurately predict when a convicted person can

be released with a reasonable prospect of safety to the public. A trial judge is required to hear nothing which does not bear upon the question of guilt . . . (he may) not know of a former criminal record. It is impossible for a trial judge . . . to determine (the effect of punishment in advance) . . .

" . . . If in the trial of the case he . . . gathered facts and circumstances regarding the prisoner that were not admissible as evidence . . . and the sentence were based (thereon) . . . it is probable that the case would be reversed . . ."

ROBERT H. GAULT.

<sup>1</sup>The Veto Message was published in this Journal, Volume XXVIII, 1937-38.

### PRISONERS ÉVACUEES:

#### A Problem for State Administrations and Penologists

Evacuees are not children only: all dependents, including prisoners, must be evacuated from military zones.

Two questions are prompted by this fact: 1)—What has been done with these groups? 2)—What can and should be done with them in the United States if a part of our coast and areas up to the mountains should become military or occupied zones?

The first of these is a topic on which the Editors of this Journal would like to have information in manuscript

form with a view to publication. We invite our readers and friends abroad to communicate with us.

What can and should be done in the United States is a problem for our Penologists to consider. It is not for the military; their forces should be freed of all non-military problems.

It may be necessary to transport all types of evacuees from the coastal regions into the mid-Continental States—children, insane, prisoners, seniles,

those in sanitarium for the tuberculous, and others.

Transportation may best be administered between States: New York's evacuees might be sent to Illinois; New England's to Michigan; Pennsylvania's to Indiana; Washington's, New Jersey's and Delaware's to Ohio; Oregon's to the Dakotas; California's to Nebraska and Missouri, etc. The administrative and record office might be in Indianapolis or in Lexington. Each State would assume the expense of transportation and custody and care as long as

it is able to do so, and furnish such supplies and staff as possible.

Two in a bed and two on the floor where one person alone in a room had been the usual situation is an example of the crowding to be expected in the midland institutions to which the evacuees may be sent. These "safe" or central institutions might now do well to begin quadrupling their water supply, sewage systems and kitchens.

No American need be the victim of a potential enemy, viz., "woe and death to the weak."

HAROLD S. HULBERT.

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## NON-CRIMINAL PRISONERS:

### A Field for Inquiry

Observations in connection with custody of "non-criminal prisoners" should result in useful contributions to Criminology and Penology. Among these are enemy prisoners of war, soldiers who have been courtmartialled by their own officers, imprisoned actual or suspected spies and saboteurs, political and religious prisoners, incarcerated exiles and refugees, those who have violated decrees that are not statutory law, and all alien non-military prisoners in concentration camps.

What of their psychology? Has it been changed by imprisonment or other custody, and, if so, how? Do they come out of it crushed and defeated in spirit, or more rebellious than before? What kind of prisoners do they make? What sort of citizens do they become? Dependents? Loyalists?

There are many such in the warring world of today. The Editors of this Journal are eager to have from com-

petent European students whatever data they may have that are pertinent to the above questions. Manuscripts are solicited, therefore, and any that may be received will be considered for early publication.

We are receptive also to manuscripts from our military officers as well as from others who have experience with non-criminal prisoners.

Peace will sometime follow upon war and it will be more enduring than the latter. From the data we are seeking Criminology and Penology may be the gainers. In that case we can probably improve the management of some of our problems in relation to "criminal prisoners" and make a nearer approach toward a situation in which we shall be able to avoid the destruction of personality that, we are convinced, too often arises from current methods of dealing with our convicted criminals.

HAROLD S. HULBERT.