CRIMINAL TRIALS IN ITALY

System There, Though Simple, Differs Radically From That in This Country.

The reports in American papers of the trial of the Camorrists at Viterbo have made many people wonder if there is any system at all about criminal trials, and if there is, what the system is like. There is a system, and a very simple one it is, though utterly different from that which governs procedure in American or English courts, says an exchange.

The trial takes place before three judges and a jury, to which are added a certain number of extra jurors who are sworn and are present in court to hear the testimony, and are held ready to take the place in the jury box of any juror who may in the course of the trial be incapacitated from further service. The depositions of all the witnesses have been taken in writing and signed before the trial begins. Each of the judges has a copy of these before him. The prosecutor and the counsel for the accused furnish to the court a list of the witnesses they desire called, and these are summoned all by the court, which has power to punish nonattendance.

The first thing that happens when the trial begins is the questioning of the accused by the presiding justice. In Italy, as in most of continental Europe, a man accused of a crime is considered by the law to be the very best witness to his own guilt or innocence. In England and America the accused need not testify unless he choose. In Italy he is the first and most important witness.

The accused is allowed the widest scope in defending himself. He has a right to tell his own story in his own way, to offer anything he can in the way of justification or palliation; even hearsay evidence is admissible. The judge has absolute discretion as to what testimony may be received and what excluded, and any judge who exercised this discretion unfairly would be an object of execration. Bias on the part of one judge is possible, but there are always the other two judges on the bench with him, and they are a perfect check against unfairness.

When the accused has given his testimony he is confronted personally with his accuser. The accuser is necessarily the principal witness against him. Strictly speaking, the prisoner has no right to interrupt his accuser, while the latter is telling his story, but in practice the judges permit it, and the confrontation sometimes becomes a three-cornered debate between accuser, accused and judge, the latter giving the accused the widest leeway to demonstrate his innocence.—Case and Comment.

Price of Damnation.

Judge Hiram C. Flack of West Liberty said the other day, speaking of the notorious disfranchised vote sellers of his native Ohio:

"Some of these men, I understand, even claimed they did not know it was wrong to sell one's vote. They were worse than the voters of Cashel.

"All the voters of Cashel used to sell their votes, and a reform candidate once got the preachers of the town to preach against the sin of such scandalous conduct.

"The day after the sermons the reform candidate said to a party leader:

"'Well, how will the election go?'

"'It will be close and difficult and expensive, sir,' was the reply.

"'What do you mean?' said the candidate.

"'Well,' said the party leader, 'the boys didn't understand that vote selling was a sin before and they always let their votes go at two dollars apiece; but now they know eternal perdition is awaiting them. I understand that every man jack of them has put up his price to four dollars.'"—Reboboth Sunday Herald.

The Cholera Suspect.

We are taking precautions against cholera. At Montpelier recently it was thought there was a well-defined case of Asiatic cholera. The mayor at once took all precautions authorized by law. Two days later a man was brought to the hospital as a suspect. The hospital interne, as he came near to the patient, quickly threw back, saying, "How you smell rum!"

The answer came with a drunken leer: "Certainly. I have drank a good deal of rum. It's excellent against cholera."

The interne allowed him to remain in the night. In the morning the patient was entirely cured. An hour later he returned. "You'll have to take care of me here. My house has been closed and is guarded by four gendarmes for seven days, allowing no one to go in or come out. If you don't take me in as a patient I shall be arrested for vagabondage."—From Le Cri de Paris.

His Reward.

"It's an unsatisfactory, disappointing kind of world," said the old soldier. "I fought four years for the Union. I was in sixteen battles, including Antietam, Gettysburg, Fredericksburg and the Wilderness. I was wounded twice and spent four months in Andersonville. I tramped hundreds of miles in the dust and the mud and the snow. I got rheumatism from sleeping in the wet and I almost died with typhoid. I lived two months on three pieces of hardtack, and did work that wasn't fit for a dog.

"I started as a corporal and came out of the war a private, and then they put my name wrong on my discharge papers."—Puck.

Mrs. McLaughen, 512 Jay St., Milwaukee, Wis., writes that she was relieved of pains in her back and kidneys, on account of kidney trouble. "I got some of Foley Kidney Pills and after taking them for a few days there was a decided change in my case, for the pains left my back and kidneys entirely. I feel there is such merit in Foley Kidney Pills." Sold by Denton Md.

UNUSUAL INTEREST IN HOGS

Visitor to One of Large Western Fairs Notes Attention Paid to Live Stock Exhibits.

(By B. E. LINDSAY.)

During a visit to one of the large western state fairs this fall I noted with much interest the features which attracted the most attention among farmers and their wives. The live-stock exhibits were always surrounded by crowds, but of these more interest seemed to center in the hogs than anything else. The hog pens were always the center of intense interest and so great were the crowds that at times it was almost impossible to pass through the aisles. Much of this interest may be attributed to the fact the high prices for hogs which have ruled for the last year or so, make these animals the biggest money makers on the farm. One farmer said to me:

"I have always raised hogs, but never paid much attention to breeds before. Just raised a good average animal, fed corn mostly, took what the market offered and let it go at that, but now, when I see a fat pig bringing from $15 to $20 and even more I have determined to improve my breeds. I find it costs no more to feed a hog that will produce $20 than it does one that sells for $15, and therefore I am down here at the fair ready to invest a few hundred dollars in good breeding stock."

It would be interesting to know whether the sales of high class stock have been larger this year than usual, but judging from the intense interest taken by buyers at this particular fair which was attended by as many as 50,000 farmers in a single day, I should say that the sales were larger than they have been for many years.

FEEDING CORN TO THE HENS

Mistaken Idea That It Is Not Good for Layers—Aids Fowl to Retain Necessary Animal Heat.

In times past many thought that corn was not good for laying hens, but that was long ago, and now the most successful poultrymen are feeding it, especially during cold weather. It is remarkably heating, and helps the fowl to retain that animal heat so necessary to life.

The principal danger in feeding it has been its tendency to fatten, but by careful feeding this has been overcome, and now we find it one of our staple foods. It may also be partially roasted, and be liberally fed without danger if given at night. Fowls should go to roost for the night with hunger fully appeased, but should come off in the morning hungry and ready for more.

A light feed should be given then and a more generous supply at night. They should be kept busy scratching all day, as the hen that works and sings will lay.

Don't be afraid to feed corn, but be sure to feed it right; your hens will lay better and keep healthier when they have it.

Packing and Shipping Turkeys.

Turkeys are packed sometimes in barrels and sometimes in boxes, but the better grades usually go forward in boxes. Very little, if any, packing is used. The box is lined with paper and the turkeys packed solidly in it with the heads bent under at one side and breasts up. The boxes are packed so tightly that when the cover is on there is no room for the contents to shift during their journey to market.

Occasionally straw is used for packing, but this sometimes leaves unsightly lines or marks in the skin of the carcasses which injure their sale. Only one grade should be shipped in the same box, for if several grades are included the entire consignment is likely to be sold at the price of the lowest grade.

The Wire Fence Wind Break.

Many poultrymen make the mistake of thinking the wire fence is not adapted for winter use, but the fact is that it is just as valuable during the coldest days of winter as it is in the summer. Of course, the wind can sweep through it, but it does not occur to some that straw, corn stalks, brush, etc., can be stacked up against it and make it a fine wind break.

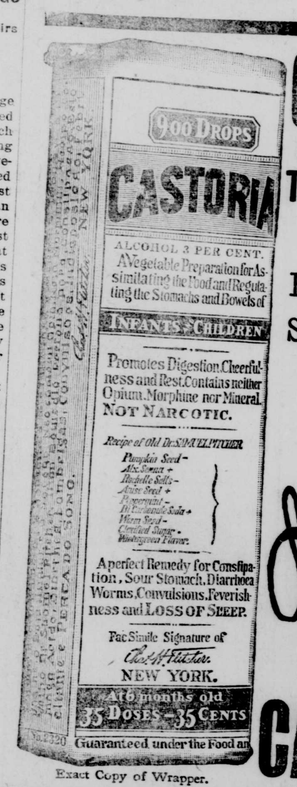
The fowls can rest under its protection a large part of the day and yet not be cold. When the sun shines on the stalks or brush the hens enjoy getting under it and resting in the rays of the sun. The wire fence is easily removable, but when it can be used both winter and summer it is very foolish not to make good use of it, even in the coldest weather.

Hauling Out Manure.

Probably there is no better way to handle manure than to draw it to the field as soon as possible after it is made. A good plan is to have a wagon expressly for that purpose and let it stand where the manure can be easily thrown on or else wheeled on with the wheelbarrow, and as soon as a load accumulates draw it out. A good way to use a part of it in winter is to spread it on the grass land.

How Fire Blight Attacks.

Fire blight is caused by bacteria. cankers on the tree. The tree is bruised by picking apples, injured by borers or in some other way. Through the bruised portions the bacteria enter.



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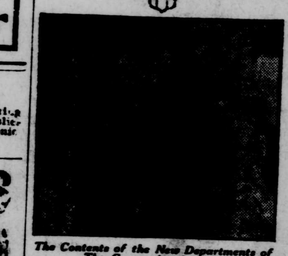
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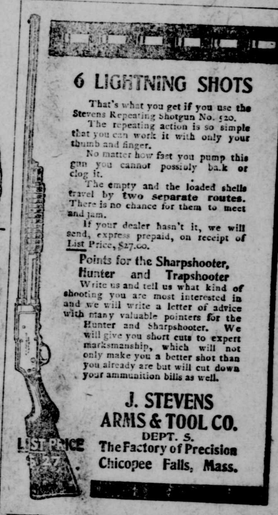
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