OUR SHARE IN THE MURDERER'S GUILT—MOST CRIMINALS NOW ARE BOYS AND YOUNG MEN.

To Be Exact, Over Eighty Per Cent. Of Them Are Less Than Twenty-Five — Years Of Investigation Demonstrates Offenders Committed Crimes Because They Had Bad Associates.

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A dozen years of investigation and experience in these matters have demonstrated that the vast majority of all the youthful offenders committed crime because they had bad associates and were not under the proper influences in the years when boyhood was turning into manhood—between the ages of twelve and eighteen. years. That is the most important period in a boy's life. Then his ideals are acquired, his character formed.

This condition is a challenge to the manhood of our community. What are we men doing? Tens of thousands of boys are nightly on our streets looking for amusement, seeking adventure, yearning for companionship. Many of them have no fathers, and the parents of many others give little or no heed to the places their boys visit or the companions they choose. Do we men owe no duty to these boys? Can we longer remain blind to the perils that beset them? Should we not provide places where such boys may meet and play and be entertained and instructed, and all the time be under the influence of the men of the right kind?

This is a practical thing. It can be done. It has been done in a small way and with wonderful results. Why should not we undertake it in a big way? We can lessen the crimes in our midst by giving our attention to the youths. They need a man's guiding hand and helpful personality. They need the example of a true man's life in forming their character.

Justice Cropsey said Brooklyn can be made better. Whether it will, depends upon us, its men. Shall we turn our backs and ignore existing conditions or shall we accept the challenge and lend ourselves to the task? It's a man's job and it needs red-blooded men who will put something of themselves into the undertaking.

"Men, this is a call to us. Are we awake? Do we hear it? Will our consciences let us ignore it? Shall we not help to make better the boys of today? Should we not begin at once?"

Religious education is coming back, says the Rev. Walter M. Howlett, Secretary of the Religious Education Department of the New York Federation of Churches and of the Metropolitan Federation of Daily Vacation Bible Schools. "Regular daily hours of worship, combined with systematic instruction in things spiritual, will soon be included in the routine of every child of public-school age in New York if a movement now under way is completely successful." Protestants, Catholics and Jews, are uniting in the movement. Now, however, religious instruction has been abandoned to a large extent, says Mr. Howlett in an interview with Charles W. Wood, published in the New York World, "and America is just now paying the penalty." Experience has shown that the public school, college and university are not places for religious instruction, and the home, which was once "logically relied upon as the place where this education should take place, is not the place it used to be" because of the social transition through which we have passed.

So "under the circumstances we can hardly wonder that the moral condition of large groups of young people, especially in our American cities, is giving cause for alarm. They are lacking in reverence. Their sense of the sacred has never been developed. They do not know the attitude of worship. They have no conscious knowledge of God.

"Looking at it only in its social aspect, this has brought about an unendurable situation. Such crimes as that of the Diamond brothers make us realize with a shock this utter lack of moral sense within a section of our community. Those boys happen to be Jews, but their partners in crime came from Catholic and Protestant homes. We Protestants have hitherto centered our thoughts upon extending Protestant religious education. Today we must see the equal necessity of t ehCatholic and Jewish children developing their religious life."

Catholics and Jews are in full accord with this view. America has insisted on complete separation of Church and State, says Archbishop Hayes, who was also interviewed by Mr. Wood. But the Archbishop is sure that America never intended to divorce religion from life, and he says that there is a very general feeling that the spiritual rights of our little ones should not be violated. Though fully aware of the present situation, Archbishop Hayes is not pessimistic, and he says:

"The very fact that the situation is being recognized so clearly is cause for congratulation. But there is no time to be lost. Whatever one's religious views may be, all must agree that it is not fair to the children to neglect them as they are being neglected today. That it is not fair to society at large is also true, but my heart aches for the little ones. They need to be delivered from the aimlessness and boredom, to say nothing of the more acute tragedies of the godless life.

"Socially, also, this involves much more than the problem of crime. Even without the murders and atrocities which have so shocked us lately, there would still be an urgent social need to resume religious instruction generally. Where there is no religion there is no purpose in life. And modern life woefully lacks purpose."

For the problem as it exists now a radical remedy is suggested by William McAdoo, Chief City Magistrate of New York City. He would have the police go into the breeding-places and haunts of the criminals, and arrest them out of hand and lock them up as vagrants. From the biological standpoint, writes Judge McAdoo, "this army of young criminals is emotionally deficient; that is, they are strangers to love, affection, pity, sym-

(Continued on Page 6)

GEORGE JESSEL

In Wintergarden's "The Passing Show," at the Auditorium next week.

"THE PASSING SHOW" NEW 1923 EDITION, AT AUDITORIUM.

The Messrs. Shubert will present the New York Winter Garden's annual revue, "The Passing Show," new 1923 edition, at the Auditorium Theatre, week commencing Monday evening, April 28. The presentation of a new Winter Garden entertainment is an event of national interest. It is promised that this new revue, despite the high cost of production, is to be the most gorgeous in point of scenery and costumes of any New York Winter Garden entertainment produced to date. "The Passing Show" will be in two acts and twenty-eight scenes. It will mark the eleventh "Passing Show" produced at the Winter Garden, the first having been seen in 1912. The book and lyrics are by Harold Atteridge and the music by Jean Schwartz and Sigmund Romberg. The production was staged by J. C. Huffman, under the supervision of Mr. J. J. Schubert. Included in the cast are such well-known names as Ted Lewis, popularly referred to as the "high-hatted tragedian of song," with his famous musical clowns, George Jessel, Frank Gaby, Flannigan and Morrison, Edgar Atchinson-Ely, Will Philbrick, Jan Moore, Vera Ross, Joe Browning, Vestoff, Libby and Sparrow, Parry Askam, Hattie Darling, Ann Lowenworth, Trado Twins, Jack Rice, William Pringle, Jas. Hamilton and an Aurora Borealis of bewildering beauties.

The new "Passing Show" is not only more sumptioush that its predecessors, but more ambitious. There are scenes of unusual spectacular brilliance and at times the show attains the dignity of a pageant, especially in the scene showing a "souper dansant during the second empire in Paris" and another scene showing the San Culottes at the outbreak of the first French Revolution.

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MARYLAND.

Not for many seasons has vaudeville houses a sketch provocative of so much laughter as "Apartment to Let," brilliantly played by Janet Becher, Olive Wyndham, Violet Kemble-Cooper and Harry C. Brown. This quartette of celebrated dramatic artists made their joint debut in the varieties at the Palace, New York, and within one minute after the rise of the curtain had the situation planted and were developing its comedy value as only such skilled and experienced players could do. Their success was the talk of Broadway in a few hours and "Apartment to Let" will have a long life in vaudeville. As far as a strike goes the Misses Beecher, Wyndham and Kemble-Coooper and Mr. Browne have nothing to worry about. The music halls will take care of them joyfully.

The story of the combination of legitimate celebrities for vaudeville began a few weeks ago when Miss Wyndham and Mr. Brown closed in "The Fool," after a full season together in the Channing Pollock play. It will be remembered that Mr. Browne followed James Kirkwood in the leading role. The pair thought that it would be pleasant to go into vaudeville and Miss Beecher, Miss Wyndham's sister, and Miss Kemble-Cooper volunteered to go in with them, provided a suitable sketch could be found. James Forbes and Cosmo Hamilton both said that it would take too much time and thought to write a vaudeville act taking care of four famous players adequately in twenty minutes or so. Howard Lindsay and Elliott Nugent heard of the music hall ambitions of the eminent four and immediately began work on "Apartment to Let," which they submitted to Lewis and Gordon, who has taken the direction of the aspirants.

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BOULEVARD HAS ATTRACTIVE BILL.

"Why Men Leave Home" with Lewis S. Stone, will be shown at the Boulevard on Monday and Tuesday, and Douglas MacLean in the "Yankee Consul" on Wednesday and Thursday.

The finish-up of the week, with Jacqueline Logan in that wonderful play, "Flaming Barriers," is one of the biggest pictures of the year.

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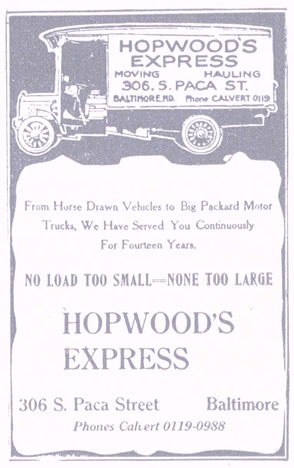

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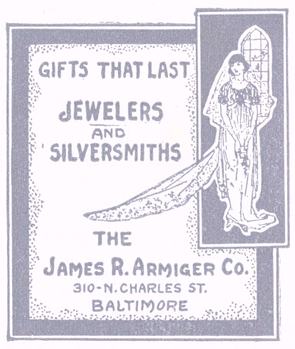

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