

and has to his credit in Peking a number of useful though humble citizens who have been able to make a fresh start with the knowledge of crafts and books acquired in the Model Prison.

The gaol has also been valuable to statisticians for it furnishes the first reliable figures upon Chinese crime in a purely Chinese community. Needless to say Chinese criminals are recruited largely from the ranks of the indigent and helpless and petty theft is the commonest of all crimes. Crimes of violence are few indeed and there are more prisoners who are over 50 than those who are under 20, which contrasts with Occidental records where criminal careers begin early. That economic conditions rather than criminal proclivities prompt the Chinese offender is borne out by the character of the crimes in the first place and by the age of the prisoners in the second. One hundred and seventeen of the inmates are under 30 years, and 526 are over thirty—some over 60.

MR. WANG'S THOROUGH TRAINING.

Mr. Wang Yuan-cheng graduated in 1906 from a school in Japan after devoting most of his study to prison administration. For two years after his graduation he worked in Japanese penitentiaries, and then set out upon a tour of foreign institutions of correction which took him to England, Russia, Germany, France, Italy, Austria, Belgium and Holland. When Yuan Shih-kai commandeered his services he undertook the work on the condition that he should have a free hand, and this he has had. He was trained for his work and he persists in doing it, in spite of the example set by other experimental government departments to take things lightly, play politics, and smother progress with theory and debt. Until yesterday's unfortunate *contretemps* brought him to the attention of the public, Mr. Wang's star has perforce lighted a very limited sphere, so it can be said without fear of being misunderstood that the incident is not wholly regrettable.

SIR Havilland and Lady de Sausmarez left Shanghai on Thursday for a holiday in Japan.

Mr. John Johnstone left for Weihaiwei on Thursday by the I. C. S. Kingsing, and by the same steamer Mrs. J. J. Dunne left for Chefoo, and Messrs. R. Fano and G. P. Forster for Tientsin.

A Chinese who was caught on Dr. Parker's premises was charged at the Mixed Court with being on enclosed premises for an unlawful object. It was explained that Dr. Parker's house had been broken into three times during the past month and the prisoner was sentenced to 18 months' imprisonment.

THE Health Returns for the week ended last Sunday show six deaths from scarlet fever among Chinese but no new cases among foreigners.

MR. F. L. Marshall acknowledges receipt of cards, games puzzles, etc., for sick and wounded soldiers from "Ancn," "Taikoo," Officers of the str. Hsin Peking, Masonic Club, Mrs. F. W. Barff, Mrs. Jamieson, Tongshan, Messrs. C. J. Williams, J. C. Thomson, J. E. Denham, A. Jessiman, W. A. Willis, H. F. Bell, B. P. Lalcacca, N. B. Ramsay and E. Q. Cooper.

Two German ladies, wives of prisoners of war, who are residing at Kurume, are reported to have insured their furniture with the local agent of the Fukuju Fire Insurance Company in July. The circumstance becoming known to the police, says the "Nagasaki Press" the agent is now being examined on a charge of violating the Enemy Trading Ordinance. The ladies are at present at Karui-zawa.

ALTHOUGH there were no reported cases of heat prostration, there were two deaths on Sunday indirectly due to the heat. A hawker, being exhausted, sat on the Soochow Creek bunding to get a breath of air and a rest; he fell over backward and sank immediately. Boatmen recovered the body an hour later. A mason at work in Great Western Road Extension found it so hot that he decided to cool off in an adjacent pond and was drowned.

By the T.K.K.S. Tenyo Maru on Monday, Mr. E. A. Prince left for Nagasaki. Messrs. B. Thams and C. Humphrys for Kobe; and Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Godfrey, Mrs. M. Denegri, Mrs. Herlofsen, Mrs. H. M. Gorton, Dr. Downa, and Messrs. J. Ambrose and F. O. Reynolds for Yokohama.

MESSRS. THOS. COOK & SON courteously inform us that they are in receipt of a telegram from the Tientsin-Pukow Railway stating that from August 10 mail trains will run to and from Chengtang-chuang and from thence passengers will be re-transported from and to the International Bridge, French Concession, Tientsin. Messrs. Cook are advised that they may still continue to issue through tickets.

WHAT might have been a very serious accident occurred shortly after 9 o'clock last Friday morning, during demolition prior to the rebuilding of the upper portion of the Great Northern Telegraph Office. The Bund. A large portion of the cornice fell from its position at a considerable height into the private road leading to the Chinese Telegraph Office and the temporary quarters of the P. W. D. Fortunately, although there was as usual during the business hours a large number of foreigners and Chinese in the vicinity, the block of masonry which fell struck the ground at the psychological moment when the private road was unoccupied.

The Signature.

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