

# Taft Says Crime Will End When America Wakes Up

Citizens Will Demand Better Enforcement When They Realize Conditions.  
INTERVIEW IS GIVEN

Chief Justice Scores Weakening of Judges' Powers.

William Howard Taft, Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court, and the nation's only living ex-President, gave to the United Press an exclusive interview, dealing with the crime situation in the United States—a subject now occupying keen interest of private and public organizations throughout the country. It includes two installments. The first installment, which follows, contains an analysis of legal phases of the crime situation. Tomorrow's installment contains some of the more human elements of the situation.

By CARL D. GROAT  
United Press Staff Correspondent.  
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POINTE AU PIC, Murray Bay, Quebec, Aug. 23.—Defects in administration of American criminal law were explained in an exclusive interview with the United Press, by William Howard Taft, chief justice of the United States Supreme Court as due briefly to:

Weakness of judges' powers by restrictive State statutes.  
Lack of sufficient expenditures properly to detect and prosecute criminals.

Lack of organization of the judicial force so as to make an adequate number of judges where business of prosecution is congested.

Optimistic View  
But the defects, he held, are not beyond remedy, and he took an optimistic view as to the future of American disposition of crime cases.

He expressed delight at America's awakening to the situation involved in lax administration of crime laws. He predicted that the American people, "when they realize the grand total of destruction of life and property due to the failure of the administration of law to make provision, financial and otherwise, for adequate police, for adequate detection of crime and adequate machinery for prosecuting, will make the legislators responsible and will insist on the organization of protection from criminals."

He expressed himself further as not greatly alarmed at the element of "maudlin sentimentality" that caused crowds to cheer criminals and send them roses. Such persons, he said, belong "to the lunatic fringe of society."

The interview took place on the porch of the chief justice's charming cottage looking out over the St. Lawrence to the gray-blue hills beyond.

Seated on the porch the chief justice spoke of his health, his interests and the associations in the region and then the talk veered to questions close to his present sphere of activity, chief justice of the Nation's highest court.

He's Delighted  
"I am delighted," he said, "to note that the attention of the public is directed to the defects in the administration of our criminal laws."

"The prosecution of persons accused of crime is properly surrounded by what is called in the State constitutions and in the Federal constitution a bill of rights, and those guarantees are not empty. But what came from the bill of rights and the other great liberty-protecting statutes of England, and which are still in force in England quite as fully as they are here."

In England  
"And yet no one complains that the criminal laws of England are not most satisfactorily enforced; that crime is not detected; that criminals are not punished, and that the innocent are not protected."

Now why is that so there and not here?  
"Well, of course, there should be a premise that we have a very different set of criminals to deal with and we have problems growing out of our 'melting pot' that a population like that of England—homogeneous—doesn't present."

Strike Cited  
"The law-abiding impulse of the English people is most remarkable and it was manifested in the late strike to a degree that is noteworthy in the history of peoples, for it controlled not only the public at large, but also the strikers themselves so that in that tense situation, there wasn't, as I recollect it, any disorder resulting in death."

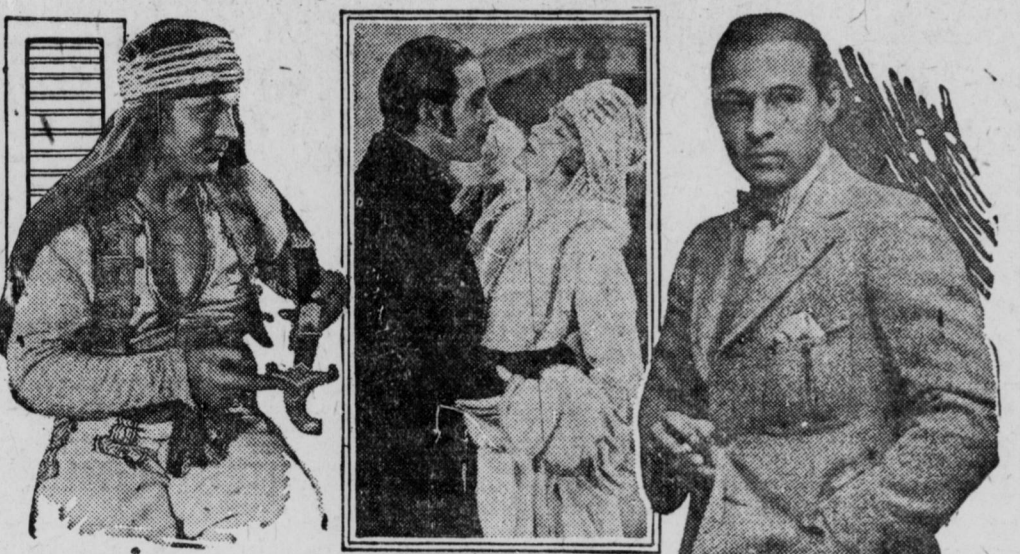
"That couldn't have happened in our congested population, so many of non-native races that are not imbued with that respect for law that is possible among a homogeneous people."

"So it is that the machinery for the arrest and prosecution of criminals in confronted with obstacles in the character of the peoples themselves that no other country has. But notwithstanding those difficulties, the administration of the criminal law might be greatly improved."

Judges Weakened  
"In the first place, in many jurisdictions—I mean among the States—the judges of the courts in the trial of criminal cases have had their powers weakened by restrictive statutes. In the matter of charging the jury and helping the jury to understand what the issue is before them; in the conduct of the trial generally; and in winning out from the evidence the irrelevant and unsubstantial so that the jury may gain a sense of proportion as to the value and weight of evidence, many of the courts are so restricted that a judge at a trial doesn't amount to more than a moderator at a religious conference."

"These restrictions are imposed by statute and they indicate a commendable fear of abuse of power, but a lamentable failure to appreciate what is necessary to give judges the function that they may exercise reasonable assistance to the jury in reaching a sound conclusion without in any way taking away from the jury the right to be the

## Famous Screen Star's Own Story of His Life Given



The Sheik

The Lover

This is Rudolph Valentino's own story of his life. He wrote it for the Indianapolis Times shortly before he was stricken in New York.  
By Rudolph Valentino  
(Copyright, 1926)

In my early studio days I once tried to sell the story of my life as a scenario. It was rejected as being "too wild and improbable." To have one's life thus characterized by a company which specializes in the most frigate serials was rather disconcerting.

Now as I try to view my own historical record with detachment I can see clearly what the scenario editor meant. The hero of my tale is not at all consistent, like a movie hero. In fact, I am not sure that he is the hero. At times he has all the appearance of "the villain."

Yet again, he seems to have good impulses, which a movie villain never has. Nor does my life run true to dramatic form. It should mount in a straight line to a climax. Instead of that it bounds, like a kangaroo.

A Real Name  
I was born in the little village of Castellana, Italy, May 6, 1895, and was shortly thereafter christened Rudolph Alphonso Raffaello Pierre Filibert Guglielmi di Valentina d'Antonguilla.

Can you imagine how that would look in electric lights in front of a theater? My real surname is Guglielmi. My mother was the daughter of a learned Parisian doctor, and my father in his youth was a captain of Italian cavalry.

When I was 11 years old my father died and I was sent off to Dante Alighieri College, which corresponds to a high school in this country. I finished the course at 13 and then went to a military school. But I was more interested in romantic novels than I was in my

studies, so the authorities sent me home.  
My mother was heartbroken and I was truly contrite because of her suffering. I determined to do better for her sake and enrolled in the Royal Academy of Agriculture to learn to be a scientific farmer. I was graduated with the highest honors in my class, much to the gratification of my mother.

Slips From Grace  
Following this accomplishment I again slipped from grace and went off to Paris and Monte Carlo to see the world. After all my money was gone I returned home a prodigal son.

My family decided that I was apt to disgrace them and that it were better that I be shipped far, far away. So my mother scraped together \$4,000 to finance my voyage to America, where I was to seek fame and fortune.

I arrived in New York just two days before Christmas, Dec. 23, 1913. The new land was very strange to me and I was very lonely. In order to find companionship I frequented the cafes. This took all my money but I did learn to dance, which was to be beneficial to me later.

When my funds were all gone I got a job as superintendent of the Long Island estate of Cornelius Blass, Jr. This lasted only a short while, as I showed an irresponsible nature and was courteously dismissed.

Not a Citizen  
My next "position" was as an apprentice landscape gardener in Central Park, New York City. After a month of this I went to the civil service bureau to get a regular job, but found I was not eligible because I was not a citizen.

I had no job and no funds. I was forced from one lodging to another. I went hungry and slept in Central Park. One hot summer day I walked five miles to the city hall looking for

money spent; there is not sufficient organization of the detecting and prosecuting machinery. There is not, through the country districts certainly, enough constables or policemen.

Not a Pessimist  
"And it also is true that in many congested districts where crime is excessive the sympathy of the neighborhood is too often effective to obstruct the procuring of evidence and the thorough prosecution of persons reasonably suspected of crime. I am not a pessimist, however, with respect to conditions in general or with respect to the character and governing capacity of the American people."

"Their difficulty is in their optimism, their narrowing attention to the thing immediately in hand, and their disposition when everything is going with them fairly well to say that George will attend to the rest."

"But what I am very hopeful of is that when they realize the grand total of destruction of life and property due to the failure on the part of legislatures to make provision, financial and otherwise, for adequate police, for adequate detection of crime and adequate machinery for prosecution, they will make the legislators responsible and will insist on the organization of courts, of prosecutions and of executive detection of crime that shall bring about what we ought to have in that regard."

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## TWO HOLD-UPS NEAR CITY LIMIT SUNDAY NIGHT

Two-Gun Men Take Cash and Keys From Motorists —Two Burglaries.

Two hold-ups by young bandits, near Southport on the Madison Rd. Sunday night and three other hold-ups and burglaries over the weekend, were investigated today.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles M. Richardson, 544 Agnes St., told police Sunday night at Madison Ave. and Lawrence St., bandit auto, bearing three men, drove alongside of their auto and two of the men, with handkerchiefs over their faces and with revolvers, searched Richardson and took \$20, a bill fold and keys. The third man had a sweater pulled about his face. All appeared between 20 and 25 years old.

Are Two-Gun Men

Charles Friel, 923 University Ave., was held up seven miles south of the city on the Bluff Rd. Friel said two of the men each had two revolvers. The third, who searched him, but took nothing, carried one. They crowded him to the side of the road, knocked one tire from his car and took his auto keys. He gave police the number of the bandit auto.

Twelve autos, valued at \$5,675, were stolen from parking spaces Sunday night.

D. L. Alvey, Standard Oil filling station attendant, 3335 W. Washington St., was held up by two bandits, one masked with a handkerchief, who took more than \$100 from the safe which they forced him to open.

Six Bandits

Six young bandits, took \$15 from Edward Theising, 1536 Roosevelt Ave., while he stopped to repair his steering wheel at Sixty-Eighth St. and Keystone Ave.

Bryant Hirt, 1028 W. Twenty-Eighth St., taxi driver, hauled a Negro passenger, who not only refused to pay, but drew a gun and took \$4.

Everett Phillips, 3309 E. Washington St., found a man hiding in an upstairs closet. The man ran past him and downstairs. He took nothing.

Police sought one Negro, to clear up a combined shooting, affray, robbery and fight, at 860 Torbett St., early Sunday.

The officers found Dewey Gatlin, Negro, of 1235 Oregon St., and his wife, Mary, both badly beaten up. Gatlin was either shot or stabbed on the arm. He charged his wife had been robbed of \$30. Police arrested George Brown, Negro, 37 of 860 Torbett St., on charges of assault and battery and robbery. They say he had a gun and fired several shots.

John Jones, 23, Negro, of 860 Torbett St., was charged with assault and battery. Like charges were preferred against Gatlin. His wife was charged with vagrancy.

Burglars Steals Cherries

Mrs. Allen Linkfelt, 1242 Beecher St., said her home was entered and

a sack of flour and nine quarts of cherries, valued at \$15, were taken. James Patton, 1531 Montcalm St., said a watch, valued at \$67.50, was taken from his trousers while he was swimming in Eagle Creek, near Tenth St.

The Kroger grocery, 843 Church St., had 130 pennies and candy valued at \$7 taken.

John Nicholson, Edinburg, Ind., told police he was stopped by a Negro woman, in the 600 block E. Court St., and she took his purse and \$61.

## FORTY MELLETT QUIZ WITNESSES

To Appear Before Grand Jury Convening Wednesday.

By United Press  
CANTON, Ohio, Aug. 23.—More than forty witnesses will appear before the grand jury convening here Wednesday to consider evidence gathered by investigators seeking to fix blame for the murder of Don R. Mellette, it was learned today.

About half the witnesses will be provided by Ora Slater, Stark county investigator, and half by Joseph Roach, special police counsel. These witnesses will implicate at least five persons, according to their sponsors.

Roach criticized Prosecutor C. B. McClintock as preparations were made for the jury session. He charged McClintock, Republican candidate for Congress, fears political consequences of the probe. An assistant prosecutor is expected to be named today.

Federal authorities conducting an inquiry into liquor aspects of the case promised further arrests. Three already have been charged with conspiracy.

WINS BALLOON RACE

Akron (Ohio) Man First in Detroit News Competition.

By United Press  
DETROIT, Aug. 23.—John A. Boettner of Akron, Ohio, won the Detroit News balloon race which started here late Saturday with a flight of 104 miles to Mt. Brydges, Ontario, in the Goodyear IV.

Five other entries, which left the Ford airport here with Boettner shortly before close of the second annual airplane reliability tour, finished a storm, which swept Lake Erie and Lake Ontario, caused early termination of the race.

GOT HIS 'STATIC' EARLY

New Yorker Receives Shock While Erecting Aerial.

By United Press  
NEW YORK, Aug. 23.—Alex Zeithu got something on his radio before it was set up. An aerial wire he was erecting crossed a power wire and he got a shock that sent him to the hospital.

PLAN HUFF REUNION

Twenty-first annual reunion of former pupils of Miss Lou Huff, 87-year-old Indianapolis school teacher, will be held at Broad Ripple Park, Thursday afternoon. A basket dinner will be served at noon. Miss Huff is president of the reunion and John Good, vice president.

## MEXICANS THINK PEACE MAY NOT BE FAR DISTANT

Opposing Forces in Church War Reach Point of Conference.

By United Press  
MEXICO CITY, Aug. 23.—Catholic Mexico today had visions of peace and compromise in the struggle between the church and state which has entered its fourth week, with the opposing forces at last having reached the point of conference. But so far the positions of the disputants remain unchanged.

The government's victory has been firmly established to date, and for that reason President Calles was able to receive the church's preliminary advances for elimination of some of the alleged misconceptions pending the result of the bishop's campaign for legal relief from what they describe as anti-religious laws.

Courses Open

Three courses were open to the church today:

1. To seek a court injunction against the application of the objectionable law.

2. An appeal to congress for amendment of the constitution.

3. To permit the registration of priests as required by the newly promulgated law.

Appeals to Congress or the courts are not likely to gain the desired relief.

Registration of priests, even if interpreted by the church merely as an administrative procedure, would amount to a tacit admission of governmental control of the church.

Nevertheless, the beginning of the fourth week of the struggle found Mexico more hopeful than ever before of ultimate solution of her great problem.

It generally was believed that the desperate desire of the clergy to return to the temples which they deserted three weeks ago, asserting that no priest could discharge his duties under the regulations announced by the government, had caused the episcopate to seek further instructions from Rome regarding registration of priests.

Clergy Couldn't Return

If the church agreed to registration, the clergy could return to the churches, the government would have won a technical victory and the church would have suffered but little loss of dignity owing to Calles' assurance that the registration merely is an administrative matter.

When Archbishop Ruiz, Bishop Pascual Diaz, two laymen and President Calles conferred Saturday night, optimism was high, but the United Press learned from an authoritative source that this meeting did not prepare the way toward solution of the fundamental problems.

Both Calles and Diaz stood by their original positions. According to Diaz, Calles said he would not permit Diaz personally to appear before the congress in behalf of the church nor permit the question to be carried to the people by means of propaganda or plebiscite.

## FUNERAL RITES HELD

Girl Victim to Be Buried Wednesday in Crown Hill.

Funeral services for Edna Frances Steiner, 9, of 209 Indiana Ave., instantly killed by an automobile at New York and Illinois Sts. Saturday, were held at 10 a. m. today at Flanner and Buchanan mortuary, Fall Creek and Meridian St.

Episcopal burial rites were conducted by the Rev. John W. Dohsen, rector of Holy Innocents' Episcopal Church.

Burial of the child auto tragedy victim in Crown Hill cemetery was postponed until Wednesday, pending arrival of relatives from a distance. Another funeral service also will be held Wednesday.

## SHIP CLOTHING EAST

More Than Car Load Collected in Relief Movement.

More than a car load of old clothes was collected for the destitute of the Bible lands, according to Mrs. Hugh McGibeny, chairman Near East Relief, which directed the movement.

The gifts will be shipped to New Orleans by the Illinois Central railroad, Mrs. McGibeny said. The car will be loaded the latter part of this week at the Strohm warehouse, 212 W. McCarty St.

Until the car is ready to start, clothing donations will be accepted at headquarters, 528 Peoples Bank Bldg., Mrs. McGibeny said.

## HEAP BIG CHIEFTAINS

Chippewa Indians Lend Color to Pow-Wow.

By United Press  
SUPERIOR, Wis., Aug. 23.—Chippewa Indians from Superior, garbed in the splendor of their native costumes, are lending color and action to the pow-wow now in progress at Cass Lake, Minn.

The reservations of Winibigoshish, Red Lake, Leech Lake and White Earth are among those represented, eh-o. ZO etai shrd cmfvyv bg k

## MIDDIES TO EMBARK

Naval Reserves Slated for Cruise on Great Lakes.

Indianapolis members of the United States naval reserve were to embark today from Toledo, Ohio, on a fifteen-day cruise on the Great Lakes. The local unit of 125 accompanied by reserves from other Indiana cities left Indianapolis Sunday.

The Indiana group is divided into three divisions, commanded by Lieut. Kenneth D. Coffin and Lieut. Ray E. McCoy of Indianapolis and James M. Krouch of Michigan City, Ind.

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