

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, and the only living ex-president, has given to the United Press an exclusive interview, detailing his views on the crime situation in the United States—a subject now occupying the attention of the press and public organizations throughout the country. It includes two instalments. The first instalment, published yesterday, dealt with the legal phases of the crime situation. Tomorrow's instalment will deal with some of the more human elements of the situation.

By CARL D. GROAT
United Press Staff Correspondent
(Copyrighted, 1926, by the United Press. Copyright in Canada.)
Unauthorized reproduction in full or in part prohibited.

POINTED 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—

Weakening 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 mass 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 law 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 on the part of legislatures 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 had 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 pleasant associations in this 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 nothing, 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; or 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 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 is 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."

Judge 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 to 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



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.

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 Alfonso Raffaele Piero Filiberto Guglielmi di Valentino d'Antonoguia.

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 reading novels than I was in my

ultimate judge of the facts in the case.

Federal Courts

"Now in the Federal Courts, the judges have the same power that the English judges have, but in many of the State courts, it has been taken away, and the jury system as it is administered in such courts is not the English common law system at all and it greatly weakens the probability of the conviction of criminals that war on society."

The chief justice paused meditatively and chuckled good-naturedly before continuing:

"It's a curious result in those communities where the weakened power of the judge exists. The people first take away the power and then they criticize the judges for not conducting courts in which crimes are punished. Some official in the court has to be trusted and I don't see but that the system of the English law where the judge is, has vindicated itself in the administration of English justice."

"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 protection 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."

"Thirdly, there is not enough space in the criminal law to cover all the cases. There are too many cases to be tried in the criminal law and the criminal law is too often ineffective 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 protection 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."

"Thirdly, there is not enough space in the criminal law to cover all the cases. There are too many cases to be tried in the criminal law and the criminal law is too often ineffective 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 protection 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."

"Thirdly, there is not enough space in the criminal law to cover all the cases. There are too many cases to be tried in the criminal law and the criminal law is too often ineffective 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 protection 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."

"Thirdly, there is not enough space in the criminal law to cover all the cases. There are too many cases to be tried in the criminal law and the criminal law is too often ineffective 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 protection 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."

"Thirdly, there is not enough space in the criminal law to cover all the cases. There are too many cases to be tried in the criminal law and the criminal law is too often ineffective 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 protection 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."

"Thirdly, there is not enough space in the criminal law to cover all the cases. There are too many cases to be tried in the criminal law and the criminal law is too often ineffective 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 protection 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."

"Thirdly, there is not enough space in the criminal law to cover all the cases. There are too many cases to be tried in the criminal law and the criminal law is too often ineffective 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 protection 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."

"Thirdly, there is not enough space in the criminal law to cover all the cases. There are too many cases to be tried in the criminal law and the criminal law is too often ineffective 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 protection 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."

"Thirdly, there is not enough space in the criminal law to cover all the cases. There are too many cases to be tried in the criminal law and the criminal law is too often ineffective 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 protection 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."

"Thirdly, there is not enough space in the criminal law to cover all the cases. There are too many cases to be tried in the criminal law and the criminal law is too often ineffective 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 protection 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."

"Thirdly, there is not enough space in the criminal law to cover all the cases. There are too many cases to be tried in the criminal law and the criminal law is too often ineffective 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 protection 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."

"Thirdly, there is not enough space in the criminal law to cover all the cases. There are too many cases to be tried in the criminal law and the criminal law is too often ineffective 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 protection 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."

"Thirdly, there is not enough space in the criminal law to cover all the cases. There are too many cases to be tried in the criminal law and the criminal law is too often ineffective 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 protection 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."

"Thirdly, there is not enough space in the criminal law to cover all the cases. There are too many cases to be tried in the criminal law and the criminal law is too often ineffective 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