

STRIP ALL IMMIGRANTS.

RADICAL SUGGESTION OFFERED BY JUDGE RIDDELL.

Would Take This Means to Insure
That No Deadly Weapons Are
Brought Into **Canada**—Praise for
the Police.

Radical measures to protect citizens from the menace of **foreigners** armed with weapons were suggested by the Grand Jurors in the Criminal Assize, in their presentment to Mr. Justice Riddell at the close of their duties yesterday, and in reply, his Lordship suggested the stripping and searching for weapons of all immigrants entering **Canada**.

The presentment said in part:—
"We suggest that some means should be adopted for depriving the foreign immigrants who are coming in such large numbers to our shores, of the deadly weapons, which are not only unlawful here, but entirely unnecessary, and lead to increasing the number of serious crimes all over Canada.

"We would further suggest that the sale of all such deadly weapons be prohibited unless by permit and under some form of license."

Conditions at the jail were praised, and the suggestion made that two wings be added at the northeast corner, and the old offenders be kept apart from the other prisoners.

"And we further recommend," said the report, "that the sick be separated from the insane. To oblige the sick to lie and listen to the rambling talking of one insane appears inhuman."

The jurors urged that the city provide increased accommodation for the Children's Court and for the detective staff. They suggested that the Police Court be removed upstairs, where it would be more quiet. A warm tribute was paid to the Toronto police force for its efficiency.

In replying to the presentment, Judge Riddell said: "I concur wholly in what you say in regard to disarming **foreigners**. Recently I was engaged in trying a charge of brutal murder in an adjoining town, in which an aged woman was brutally done to death and her aged sister nearly killed. The evidence of the doctors in the case was to the effect that the young man charged with the crime was a moral imbecile—that is to say, he was able to distinguish between right and wrong, but was unable to apply it to his own conduct. The doctors agreed that the slightest examination would have shown that this young man, who came into our country in May last, was a moral imbecile. Now, the alternative is that either he will be hanged for his crime, or be kept in prison for life at the expense of the country, either of which would be outrageous.

"My firm belief is that all immigrants entering our country—I mean not merely Italians and Spaniards and Macedonians, but English, Scotch, Irish, American, and the like—should be examined at the boundary to see if they are the stuff from which decent citizens can be made. They should be stripped and examined, and all deadly weapons taken from them. There is no need for deadly weapons in this **Canada** of ours. I think every man should be able to handle a rifle, for the defence of his country, but there is no need for knives and revolvers and air guns.

"I am glad to hear you praise the police force," he said. "There has been a tendency to blame the police for what is called 'the third degree.' I have yet to find a case in which the police force have gone beyond their proper rights. Would you want to pay a police force that would not ask a person a question after he had been properly warned?"