

able now to state that L. D. Young, jun., was the first white male child born in the Valley. The fact has not been successfully disputed.

### THE WAR AGAINST ANARCHY.

One of the gravest questions of the day is the increasing boldness of anarchists. With the ferocity of wild beasts, members of that organization revel in scenes of carnage, and, assume of them at least seem to be utterly indifferent to their fate as well as that of their fellow men, the punishment of one has apparently no effect upon the others. The execution of Vaillant did not deter Breton from wrecking the Terminus hotel, causing the death of two persons and wounding a large number of others. With demonic glee he contemplates his work and defies the whole world. And wild threats are already made byreds that a fearful revenge will be taken for the death of Breton, when that wretch shall have been guillotined. The probability is that more outrages will be committed. It looks as if the existing laws were insufficient to check this crime and that new measures must be adopted.

Anarchy ought to be suppressed, however, at any cost. And it is evident that the present condition of affairs requires speedy action. The danger is that, unless the guardians of law and order find an efficient remedy against the growing evil, it will acquire such proportions as to be beyond control. Some concerted international action would seem to be called for by the emergency.

The anarchistic leaders are mostly persons with confused ideas of right and wrong. They have that little education which is said to be a dangerous thing, combined with a desire to prey upon society, which is still more dangerous. They hold society responsible for all their misfortunes, real and imaginary, and hate it. They are the real enemies of law and order. But fortunately these are comparatively few and would as such be powerless. There exists, however, a large class of people who are honest enough at heart but who, under the existing conditions, are unable to make much material progress. They toil, toil, toil and yet never come near many of the comforts of life which others seem to have thrust upon them without effort. They look upon their own lot of life as one of wretchedness. Among such the anarchist preachers find ready disciples and adherents. These look upon such doctrines as a true gospel and the advocates of it as martyrs. They are deluded and nothing more. It has been observed that few anarchist leaders have been brought to justice. It is always some wretch that is caught, who will rather die than divulge the names of accomplices, while the real plotter hid somewhere in a dark cellar, or perhaps lives as a gentleman at a fine hotel, where the police never dream of looking for a villain of that type.

In the war against anarchy these facts must be considered. Let the governments of the world and the representatives and the nations make it clear to the ranks of the toiling masses that their condition is a matter

of concern to them; that they are endeavoring to ameliorate their condition and help them along; let the rulers, in brief, be in harmony with the majority of the people they represent rather than with the money gatherers—and anarchy will be no more. That will be its death blow. The soil in which it has grown will then no longer receive it. And as for those who would still be endeavoring to sow the weeds, they could easily be sent to a place where no harm could be done by them.

This is probably the only way to stamp out anarchism. History points to this lesson, that whenever the masses feel that the authorities placed over them are their true friends, they in turn will uphold the latter in their efforts to build up society on the foundations of law and order.

### PREFERRED CREDITORS.

In pursuance of a long established custom, a bill has been introduced in the present Legislature to prohibit bankrupt assignors from making preferred creditors. In support of this proposed legislation is the one plea to the effect that it is unjust for some of the creditors of the assignor to be paid in full, or nearly so, while others get little or nothing. In reply, it is urged that a debtor has a natural right to choose which creditor he will favor first, this right being, from an ethical point of view, governed in its exercise by the attending circumstances. It is further insisted that a law which would prevent provision being made for preferred creditors would have the effect to precipitate assignments which, but for such a law, would be avoided. For example, a merchant who is perfectly solvent if given time to make collections or realize on assets, being pressed by his creditors applies to a banker, states his condition and secures a loan on the promise that, should the worst happen, the banker will be made a preferred creditor. If there is a law prohibiting the merchant from doing this, the banker will not accommodate him, and he is forced to make an assignment for the benefit of his creditors.

An assignment hurts everybody connected with it, in most cases. It results in a sacrifice of assets which, if judiciously handled and free from pressure, would produce sufficient to pay a much heavier percentage to creditors than the latter are often compelled to accept. It ruins the assignor, impairs the credit of his neighbors who are in no way associated with him in business, disturbs the market, creates distrust, and in other ways does harm in the community. The higher statesmanship is that which will so frame the laws as to cause them to obviate, rather than precipitate, bankruptcy assignments.

In addition to the usual and staple arguments against a proposition to prevent the making of preferred creditors, there is another which can be urged at the present time, and which is perhaps stronger than them all. At a time when the relations between debtor and creditor are so strained as they are now in so many cases, it would be the height of folly to enact a law preventing the

designation of preferred creditors, because such a law would hasten, if it did not actually cause, commercial catastrophes which all good citizens would deplore.

Again the News utters a protest and warning against attempts on the part of the Legislature to remodel our financial laws at such a time as this. Arguments that might be entitled to weight, and even to victory, in a time of prosperity and confidence, ought not to be deemed worthy of consideration now. The bill now pending in the Council "to regulate voluntary assignments for the benefit of creditors," ought to be radically amended, if it is to pass at all; better than this, it ought to be killed.

### RECLAIMING THE WAIFS.

In most civilized countries there are institutions for providing for and reclaiming destitute and homeless children and starting them in the way of becoming respectable members of society. A report has been received from one of the organizations of this nature, "Dr. Barnardo's Homes," the principal office of which is on Stepney Causeway, London, but which has many branch homes throughout the kingdom, in which about 5,000 children receive shelter and training. These "homes" have more direct association with "the slums" than does any other charitable organization in Britain, their work being among the lowest of the lowly, where ordinarily it is anticipated that few beside natural criminals will be found.

Since their organization, Dr. Barnardo's "homes" have reclaimed and started on the road to success in honest lives, more than 25,000 of the waifs and strays of Great Britain—the children of the gutters and of homes more degraded and destitute than can be imagined by people of this part of the country who never viewed anything approaching the lamentable scenes so common to some parts of the Old World. These "homes" are sustained chiefly by voluntary contributions from philanthropic people. The policy of their management at present is to find homes in Canada for such of the children as they consider have been redeemed from their ways of crime, and judging by the report this plan is proving eminently successful.

The work of Barnardo's "homes" has been chiefly among those children of the slums for whom there was absolutely no outlook except a vicious life, only by the children being removed from their evil surroundings—the latter being the special work of the institutions. The most potent factor in placing the children in their unfortunate situation, Dr. Barnardo says—and his knowledge is gained by long and practical observation—is the use of intoxicating liquors. Ale and beer drinking contribute more than all other causes. "Through drink," he says, "we see, first the fall of parents, a descent involving the loss of character, of home, of clothing. Then ensues all disregard of respectable appearance; and on the heels of that quickly and surely follows a deeper degradation still, until the case might well appear, to even the most