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banks would be complete, and by which all of us, old children as well as young, are for the moment, at least, naïvely pleased.

The novelty of the play is the long, sinuous stock whip used by Australian cattlemen to-day. As wielded by our hero it plays strange tricks, ensnares enemies, and snatches away from the villain the card which proves Don Q's innocence of the murder of which he is accused. One might almost say that the whip shares the honors with Douglas. Its possibilities are exhibited on the open stage by an expert as part of a prologue in which Spanish dancing, music, and costume are used effectively. The incidental music throughout is appropriate and well done.

"Don Q," like its popular predecessor, "The Mark of Zorro," has the background of early California, although the action takes place in Spain. Mr. Fairbanks plays the parts of son and father with skill and illusive force. Indeed, there is not a little good acting in the play; Mary Astor as Dolores, Mr. Oland as the sportive Austrian Archduke (whose sudden killing ends the romance and begins the melodrama with startling suddenness), and two or three others are excellent, for this is by no means a one-part play.

There is glamour as well as gymnastics in "Don Q," novelty as well as excitement. It will beyond question have a great run. But it has a fault common to many well-filmed and costly photo-plays in that it piles up the action too fast and furiously at the end instead of developing a really dramatic and unified plot.

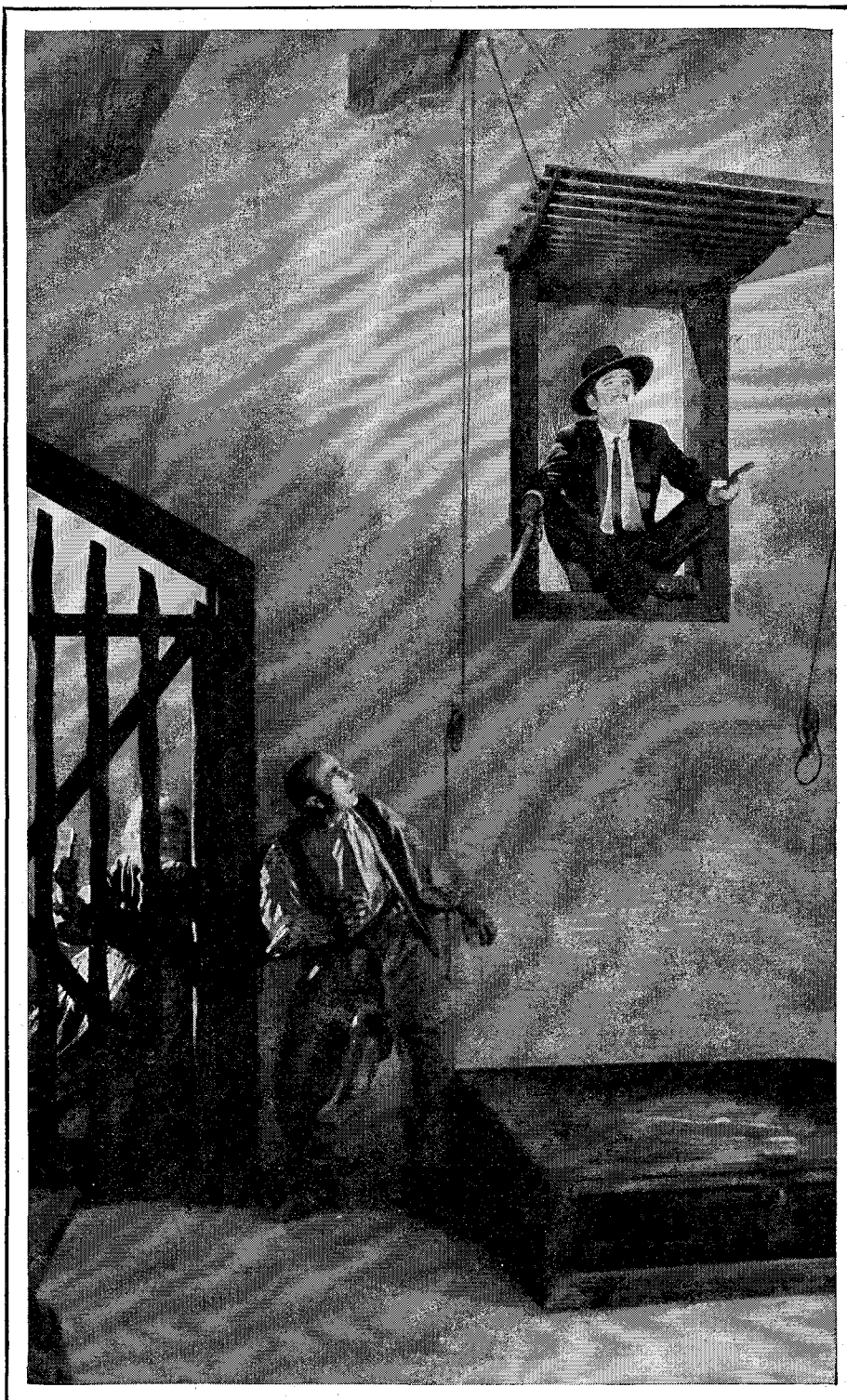
### "The Bugaboo of Annexation"

DURING the past few weeks two remarkable statements—remarkable because so completely opposed—have been made in England in regard to the future of Canada. One was by an anonymous writer in the "Spectator," and the other by Sir Robert Falconer, President of Toronto University, in the course of a lecture at Oxford. The position taken up by the "Spectator" correspondent will, to say the least, come as something new to most people in the United States. He insists that on both sides of the border annexation is not only a question very much alive but that the possibility of such a development is almost imminent. Powerful forces, he maintains, are at work; United States

capital is to an enormous extent invested in Canada, and every year the sum grows greater, while the advocates of Pan-Americanism are tireless in their efforts. "Its elaborate organization in Washington seldom sleeps," he declares. "It has no direct connection with the American Government, yet American politicians wink at operations of the Pan-American Bureau within a stone's throw of the Capitol."

Well, it is not too much to say that to any one who knows England and knows Canada and knows the United States such statements must appear to be, what

they are, mere scare-mongering. It is perfectly true that the interests of Canada and the interests of the United States tend to approximate ever more closely; that as Canada consciously develops that full independence of action achieved by her, along with the other British Dominions, since the war, she will be brought into still closer connection with the United States. But between this and annexation there is a wide gulf fixed, and one that is not likely to be bridged. The United States does not want Canada, and the people of Canada, justly proud of their place in and the



Douglas Fairbanks in one of those poses which he usually assumes when he is about to leap from somewhere to somewhere else



part they have played in the upbuilding of the British Empire, do not want to throw in their lot with the United States. As William Morris Hughes, of Australia, remarked wisely enough to a representative of this paper some time ago, speaking of the Japanese question, "A man may like a friend immensely without feeling any desire to ask that friend to come and live with him permanently."

This was practically the attitude taken by Sir Robert Falconer at Oxford. He recalled how when President Harding, a few days before his death, visited British Columbia, the first American President to visit the Dominion, he was received with a welcome that no other ruler than King George himself would have been given as the representative of a people with virtually the same ideals and institutions. Yet President Harding, far from seeing in this any revival of the theory of annexation, regarded it rather as proof of a fear outgrown. No passage in the President's speech, it may be ventured, touched a more responsive chord on both sides of the border than that in which he said: "The bugaboo of annexation having become extinct long ago, let us go our own way along parallel roads, you helping us and we helping you." And he turned the subject off with a request that Canada should not attempt to annex the United States.

### British Justice and American Hijackers

BRITISH justice, with American attorneys looking on, has again maintained its tradition for swiftness.

This time the victims happened to be citizens of the United States, engaged in violations of the British laws while, by their own testimony, preparing to violate those of their own country. Two American hijackers plying their trade along the international boundary-line between the State of Washington and the Canadian province of British Columbia have learned, at enormous cost, the traditional difference between legal technicalities as practiced in the American courts and in British courts.

On June 19 Owen Baker and Harry Sowash, residents of Seattle, were sentenced in the Victoria Assize Court to hang for the murder of William G. Gillis and his seventeen-year-old son, William E. Gillis. According to the testimony, the murders were committed one evening last September while the Gillises were engaged in rum-running from Vancouver

Island to the Washington coast in Georgian Strait.

A few weeks after the launch Beryl G., which had been operated by the Gillises, was found adrift off Victoria British Columbia officers arrested Paul Stromkins, who confessed complicity and told how he, Baker, Sowash, and Charles Morris, also a resident of Seattle, had conspired to hijack the cargo of liquor carried by the Beryl G. and "cache" it in one of the numerous coves along Puget Sound for illicit sale in the State of Washington.

Stromkins related to the officers how in a fight which ensued aboard the launch Gillis and his son were shot to death, their bodies bound together, weighted with a grappling anchor and a heavy chain, dragged from the deck of their boat, and sunk in a hundred fathoms of water. British Columbia officials had the waters of Georgian Strait dragged, but the bodies of the slain men were never recovered.

The officers knew the whereabouts of Charles Morris, implicated by Stromkins, and he was immediately arrested in Seattle. His extradition was ordered in a State court in Seattle. He immediately sought a writ of habeas corpus in the United States District Court in Seattle, and upon its denial appealed to the Circuit Court of Appeals, and has so far escaped extradition. Baker was captured in New York and Sowash in New Orleans. They did not fight the extradition orders of the committing Federal magistrates and were returned by British Columbia officials to Victoria, Baker in February and Sowash in March last.

### The Corpus Delicti

AT the trial of Baker and Sowash the point of the absence of the *corpus delicti* was among the first raised by defense attorneys. They claimed that the absence of the bodies of the victims left a doubt as to whether murder had been committed or, in fact, whether the Gillises were actually dead. The Court ruled that the statement of the circumstances of the murder by the witness Stromkins was enough to prove the *corpus delicti*. Sowash, in a large part, corroborated the testimony of Stromkins and appeared to seek to place the blame for the actual killing on Baker.

Stromkins, the Crown's prosecuting witness, was granted immunity for his evidence. He was indicted for murder by the grand jury. Upon his arraignment,

however, the prosecuting attorney told the Court he had no evidence upon which to try Stromkins and recommended his dismissal. The Court accepted the recommendation; Stromkins was dismissed and the other cases were immediately called. Stromkins took the stand against the others. A jury deliberated seventy minutes and returned a verdict of guilty of murder in the first degree. All this was done between Monday morning and Friday afternoon.

American attorneys, engaged by the British Columbia Government, assisted the Crown in the prosecution. Others acted as observers for Washington State enforcement officials. It was the first time in which persons engaged in rum-running along the international border in the Northwest had faced capital charges. These American attorneys, upon their return to the United States, expressed doubt as to whether, under the same circumstances, convictions would have been secured in American courts.

American attorneys who observed the case in court wagged their heads and suggested that the hijackers picked "the wrong side" of the international border for the safety of their enterprise.

### Enforcement in Earnest

THERE have been encouraging indications within the past year that the Washington Government is taking its responsibilities under the prohibition laws more seriously than it has done since the passage of that measure.

The active campaign against the rum fleet is now followed by a reorganization of the Federal Prohibition Enforcement Forces which ought to bring about much closer co-operation between the Treasury and the Department of Justice.

Under the new arrangement, the enforcement service in the Treasury is divided among twenty-two areas which coincide with the jurisdictions of the Federal District Courts. A radical shake-up of personnel is indicated and a concentration of Government energy upon the sources of supply of the illegitimate liquor trade is foreshadowed. If the plan works out as it is intended, legitimate users of alcohol will be relieved of the handicaps under which they have suffered and fly-by-night concerns whose only purpose is to divert alcohol from industrial channels into the beverage trade will find their difficulties greatly increased.

In each of the twenty-two new dis-