

# SAYS PENAL CODE FOSTERS CRIME

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## Speaker at Independent Progressive Club Criticizes System of Punishing Lawbreakers.

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The penal code is all wrong and much harm is being done to society and to criminals themselves, by the present mode of dealing with crime, declared S. M. Slonim in an address at a meeting of the Independent Progressive club, held last night in Kalamazoo hall.

The speaker said that the present method of punishment only hinders justice, and instead of preventing crime, educates young men and boys to commit theft, robbery and even murder. There is great opportunity for reform, he said, in dealing with criminals. The reformatory movement, the speaker asserted, which provides for treatment of criminals by trained attendants, offers the best solution to the problem. By it criminals may really be reformed and turned into the world to become honest, self supporting citizens. He mentioned places where this is being done successfully.

There were addresses by two other speakers. A. Flax talked on "Education in Ancient Times," and Max Conoval gave a 15-minute address on "Territorialism," or a "Jewish Government."

A. Deiman gave a recitation in Yiddish. Other literary numbers were given by members of the club. The organization, which was formed for educational purposes, is rapidly increasing its membership.