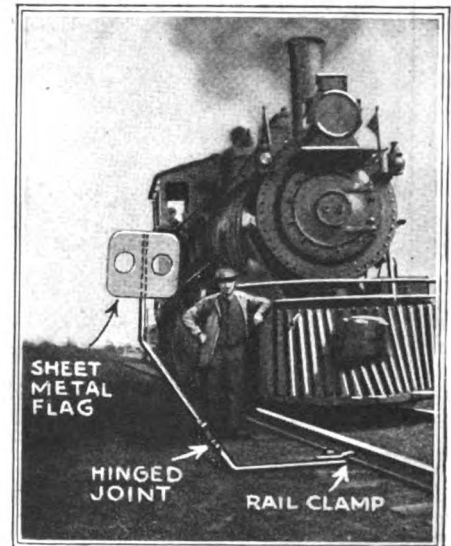


## The Flag that Never Wavers in the Wind

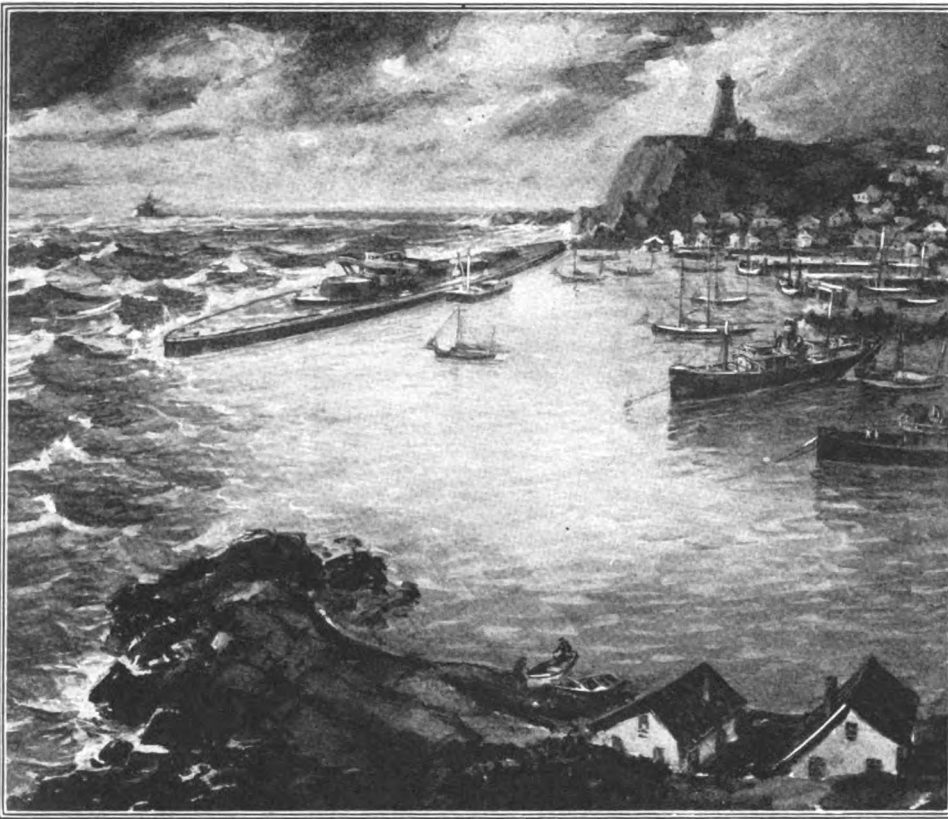
**R**AILROAD accidents are usually due to improper signaling—flagging, for instance. The flag is often mounted on a stick thrust into the ground beside the tracks. The wind blows it down, and the engineer is unwarned.

Alexander Currie, of Sorel, Canada, has invented a flagging signal that can't possibly go astray. It consists of a metal rod mounted on a base that can be clamped securely to any track. The rod is made in two telescoping sections. The metal flag is bolted to the top of the rod and is at right angles to the track.

The whole signal can be packed, carried to the track, and set up in a very short time.



No accidents due to false signals can happen when this new signal is used



An aged vessel is filled with cement and sunk to form part of a breakwater

## Converting Old War-ships into Breakwaters

**G**IVE us the old discarded battle-ships," say the people who live in the coast cities of England. Why do they want them? Of what use is a ship whose days as a fighter are past?

From the war-ships that are no longer serviceable on the sea, all of the equipment is removed that might be still of service. The hulls of the ships, filled with stones and concrete, are

then towed to points along the coast where breakwaters are needed, and sunk. Thus the discarded war-ship forms an efficient breakwater. A vessel such as the obsolete *Prince George*, after twenty-five years of usefulness, will continue to guard the coast, but in this new capacity.

The ship will make a breakwater 390 feet long.

## Tools that Released Men from Prison

**T**HREE desperate criminals escaped from the Charlestown State Prison at Boston, a few months ago, by means of an ingenious contrivance that they had manufactured in the prison shops.

One of the escaping prisoners was a mulatto, and it was afterward discovered that this man possessed an almost diabolical cleverness in the handling of tools. It was he who manufactured the apparatus pictured on this page, which unlocked a cell door the lock of which was out of reach of the tallest prisoner. This mechanical device is regarded by prison officials as the height of ingenuity. It was an improvised piece of mechanism made up of more than a score of parts, and perfectly put together.

Its body is a rod an inch

in diameter and one and a half feet long. The "head" contained a loose part, semicircular in shape, through which was a neatly carved groove. Into the groove projected a screw that was used to keep secure a key when placed in the groove. The whole part at the "head" was controlled by a piston at whose end was a thumb-

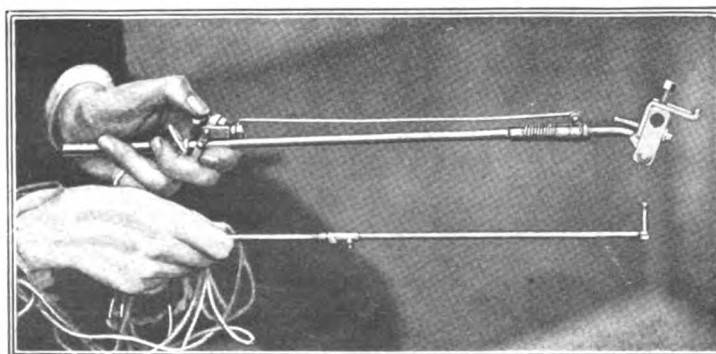
presser. One press allowed the part to revolve.

The device was unquestionably of prison make, many of the parts being recognized as coming from various workshops in the prison.

A trusty aided the three convicts in making a getaway.

Cleverly arranged dummies were left by each man on their cots, so that guards passing their cells would suspect nothing even though the convicts were then making their escape.

The police officials declare that there isn't an institution in the world, or an organization within an institution that is infallible in preventing the escape of such men as these. Not one of the men has ever been captured.



The contrivance, made of parts stolen from the prison shops, that unlocked a cell door and released three desperate prisoners