

SLASHED WITH RAZOR



MICHAEL ANKUDINOW (alias George Wilson), who was slashed across the face in an hotel brawl on Tuesday afternoon.

things of the "cat" and no metallic material must be used to give them weight (as was often the case in the old days) there is no doubt that a flogging is not the shockingly barbarous thing it was.

The last man flogged in Fremantle gaol was a Chinaman and although the cat is popularly supposed to mark a prisoner for life, it is common knowledge that this man was not permanently scarred. Indeed on frequent occasions a modern whipping of twelve strokes did not draw blood.

All whippings nowadays are

SUPERINTENDED BY THE DOCTOR

and no man is permitted to undergo the punishment unless he is certified as medically fit and if he shows signs of collapse during the ordeal it is in the doctor's power to order it to stop.

Although the authorities could not get anyone to birch two boys at Fremantle some months ago we are in a position to know that there will be no difficulty in securing a person to administer the whipping if it is to be carried out in the present case.

That is the position regarding a whipping to-day. Admittedly it is not carried out

mittedly it is not carried out with the barbarity of the convicts' era, but at the same time it is still the most dreaded by prisoners of all the punishments in the criminal code.