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DEVOTED TO PRISON NEWS

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EDITED BY A PRISONER

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Joliet, Illinois, pending.



The prisoner who looks only for sympathy in this paper will be disappointed. We hope that he who recognizes his own shortcomings will find encouragement in every number.

*Obligations to

GOVERNOR EDWARD F. DUNNE

The prisoners at this penitentiary are inclined to give Warden Allen credit for everything which pleases them. They should not forget that Governor Dunne appointed the Commissioners, who in turn selected Mr. Allen, who, in his turn, named Mr. William Walsh as Deputy Warden.

While on this subject it is well to go back farther. The people of the State of Illinois elected Governor Dunne and they are satisfied to give the prisoners a chance to improve in both character and health, so that they will have a better opportunity to prove themselves worthy of citizenship after their release.^E

EDITORIAL

A WARDEN IS A TRUSTEE

If one reads the statutes he will learn that a warden of a penitentiary has duties toward both the state and its prisoners, who are entrusted to his custody. In fact, a prisoner is a ward of the State and the Warden is their guardian, acting under orders from the Governor and the Commissioners of the Prison Board.

In the nature of things much must be left to his discretion and the result is that his position becomes very similar to that of a trustee.

A Warden's duties to the State are generally understood, while his duties toward his prisoners are not so clearly recognized.

The fulfillment of the obligations of a Warden to his prisoners call for the best that is in a man of honorable character, profound wisdom, unlimited generosity and abundant goodwill.

Any man may be proud to prove himself an efficient Warden of a penitentiary.



Especially for Knockers

A sneak may escape being a scandalmonger, but a scandalmonger is always a sneak. Every large community has its percentage of scandalmongers, so it is not to be wondered at that this penitentiary has at least a few.

A scandalmonger is no better than a stool pigeon, a snitch, or a trusty who runs away. The former convicts himself of cowardice out of his own mouth.

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What Can Coercion Accomplish?

A prisoner can be compelled to work but cannot be compelled to think.

This prison is a very large industrial plant and it cannot be run successfully as such, without the co-operation of the prisoners.

A prisoner can be compelled to carry brick from one place to another, but he cannot be forced to keep books or do good steam fitting. He may prefer either to carrying brick and in consequence he usually does the higher grade work, but if that is the only inducement he will usually do as little as possible.

Prisoners respond readily to encouragement and it is not difficult to get them to give to the State the best service they are capable of.



Prisoner Endorses Prisoner

One of the greatest sources of mischief during prison life is that the prisoner is surrounded by so many who are anxious to encourage him in the belief that he has been wronged by society.

He is seldom, if ever, questioned about the effect of his crime or crimes upon his victims.

*

That society and individuals sometimes wrong the prisoner is well known to everyone who understands the administration of the Criminal Code, but this does not signify that every prisoner should be encouraged to look upon himself as a victim.



No More Facing the Wall

The story is current that the first day Deputy Warden Walsh was on duty, he saw a number of prisoners who were waiting to interview him standing with their faces close to the wall. He said nothing at the time, but after he had disposed of them he experimented by standing in the same manner for several minutes. He soon satisfied himself that it was a very disagreeable experience and he ordered the practice discontinued, directing that henceforth the prisoners could stand as they wished; thus, a man with a heart, by only a few words, stopped a degrading and humiliating custom, which had been enforced without exception for over fifty years.

EDMUND M. ALLEN

ON PRISON REFORM

At the Joliet State Penitentiary

(Interview by the Editor)

It is my intention to make life in this prison as nearly normal as it is possible to make it in an institution of this kind.

So far as practical each prisoner will be employed at the work to which he is best adapted. Shortly after I became Warden I transferred two physicians from manual labor to the hospital as assistants to the prison physician. Now they assist in the treatment of patients and are highly efficient head nurses.

A prisoner who was driving was made stable boss four months ago. The officer who had been in charge was transferred. The entire management of the stable—where twenty prisoners are employed—was turned over to the prisoner. His services have given entire satisfaction; the condition of the horses has improved; no complaints have been received from the employes; operating expenses have been reduced, besides the saving of the salary of the officer who was transferred.

A plumber and steam fitter of seven years experience, who had earned six dollars per day, was changed from polishing furniture to work at his trade, at which he has given entire satisfaction.

I could recite many more instances of responsibility placed on prisoners with satisfactory results. My experience justifies me in stating that there are many prisoners who will do better work without a guard than under one. At this time many of them are doing their utmost to help make my administration successful. I believe that I am reforming prisoners in this way, besides saving money to the tax-payers.

I do not believe in the combination of shop work by day and cells by night. Outdoor employment will be given the prisoners just as fast as such work can be procured for them. There are a few prisoners who, by reason of their character and the nature of this institution, must be employed in shops.

The laws of this state regulating the competition of convict labor with free labor will be strictly complied with. At this time only twenty-eight per cent of the prisoners are employed on products to be sold on the market, while under the law I am permitted to so em-

ploy forty per cent of the total number of the men and women imprisoned here.



By the passage of an act entitled "An Act to authorize the employment of convicts and prisoners in the penal and reformatory institutions of the State of Illinois in the preparation of road building materials, and in working on the public roads," at the last session of the Legislature, and approved June 28, 1913, Illinois became the ninth state in the union to adopt the honor system for the use of convict labor for improving roads. This act provides that prisoners owing the state five years or more do not come under its provisions. On September 3rd, 1913, the first company, consisting of fifty-one men, left the prison as honor men. The destination was Grand Detour, a village near Dixon, Illinois. Two experienced officers, Capt. T. F. Keegan and Guard Chas. Hardy, were in charge. The prisoners were dressed in citizens clothing; the officers carried no weapons; leg-irons, hand-cuffs and balls and chains were left behind, and this fact was made known to the men before they started. Each had been promised on behalf of Governor Edward F. Dunne one day additional good time for every three days, depending only on industry and good behavior. They started with confidence, determined to make good, knowing that they bore the responsibility of pioneers in a great event, and that the hopes of the 1400 prisoners left behind depended upon their good conduct.

There are other prison camps, but this is the first and only camp in the world from a penitentiary where the officers are without weapons and shackles. The trip was made by trolley cars and train. Arriving at their destination the preparation of "Camp Hope" commenced. The outfit consisted of twelve 9x9 foot tents, to be used as sleeping quarters, and three 18x30 foot tents; one is used as a dining room, another is a general lounging room and for chapel services and the other is a store room and home for the officers. (The tents were all furnished by the Adjutant General.) The kitchen is frame covered with tar paper and banked with dirt. Immediately after camp was made the road work was commenced.

The progress to date is satisfactory to the community at Grand Detour, and also to me. The conduct of the men has proven them wor-

thy of the confidence I have placed in them. There were persons in the neighborhood of the camp who at first were suspicious of convicts, but these have long since acquired confidence in those at this camp.

These honor men have almost every privilege which a free man enjoys. Amongst the restrictions placed on them are, (1) they are not permitted to go away, (2) drinking alcoholic liquors, gambling and profanity are prohibited.



The prison authorities have recently purchased a farm of over one-thousand acres, upon which at some future time a new prison will be erected. This farm, which is located near the present prison site, will be worked next year.

During extremely cold weather, when road work cannot be done, the company now at Camp Hope will be employed and housed on this farm, and preliminary work in contemplation of farming next year will be performed.

During 1914 I will employ about three-hundred prisoners on this farm. The property has gravel beds and they will be worked. The gravel will be used for public improvements in road work. A large truck garden will be established. The products will mainly be used at the prison. Grain for our cattle will be grown and the excess will be sold in the market. Standard cattle will be purchased as a start towards a herd. A model poultry plant of sufficient capacity to supply eggs for the officers and prisoners will be started.



I have not decided what my plans for road work will be next year. I am holding back for permission from Governor Dunne to improve about forty miles of continuous road, having a terminal in Springfield, Illinois. If permission is given me I intend to work from two hundred to two hundred and fifty prisoners on this job. I desire to do the work on a road having Springfield as a terminal so that the members of the Legislature may readily see the work done by my men. I am opposed to working men in camps at widely distributed points, because by scattering the work I can see that we will not get proper credit for what we do.



I believe that all prisoners who, under temp-

tation, prove that they are loyal to the pledge they give me will stand a good chance to obtain honorable employment, without practicing any deception as to their past lives when they are released. They should then be in good health and inured to hard work. I will give them written recommendations testifying that they have kept their pledges as honor men, and that should entitle them to at least some confidence at the hands of employers. I frequently receive letters from business men, suggesting to me that I send honor men to them when released. Many of these letters contain promises to give employment and lend a helping hand.



Governor Dunne has promised me his aid in securing from the next Legislature an amendment to the law as it is now written, so as to do away with the restriction which prevents prisoners who owe the state over five years from working on roads. I desire to have this restriction removed altogether, so that, in the discretion of the Commissioners, even those serving life sentences may be included in the benefits of this law.

Professional road builders will attempt to defeat our purpose. They see in the successful operation of this plan and the extension of its provisions to a constantly increasing number of prisoners permitted to work on roads, the gradual reduction and ultimate extinction of their profitable business enterprises. The opposition may be national in its scope, because if prisoners from this penitentiary are successfully employed on roads, one big problem will have been solved for every state in the union, as there is no other state where conditions are more complex than in Illinois. The cry of "danger from convicts" will be raised and all forms of arguments inspired by fears of pecuniary loss will be employed.



With examples of successful operation to point to, I predict that all obstacles will be overcome. I expect to demonstrate to the Legislature that road work by selected honor men, who have first made good behind the walls, is both feasible and profitable, and of benefit to society and prisoners.



A very large percentage of my life prison-

ers are trustworthy. I sympathize with every man who is doomed to die within prison walls. Every life prisoner hopes for an amendment to the "Convict labor on public roads law," so that he too may be eligible to share in its philanthropic and useful provisions, and he hopes that ultimately, after honorable conduct and perhaps even many years of road work, he may receive as his reward a commutation of his sentence, or perhaps even a pardon at hands of a Governor of Illinois.



The honor system has recently been introduced for the benefit of the prisoners within the walls. It contemplates the rewards and encouragements for all who obey the rules and are loyal and helpful. After a full explanation of its benefits and obligations the prisoners were permitted to sign pledges of good conduct if they so desired. Out of a possible 1468 I received 1251 signed pledges. Three grades were established. The signing of the pledge placed the prisoners in the first grade. New arrivals are first placed in the second grade, but good conduct for thirty days permits them to sign pledges and be enrolled in the first grade.

Whenever a prisoner in either the first or second grade is punished for an infraction of a rule, he is relegated to the third grade.

An "honor button" is furnished to every prisoner in the first grade; upon losing his standing his button is taken from him, and he loses the privileges that go with it.

Prisoners in the first grade are permitted, at the suggestion of the Governor, to write a letter once a week instead of once every five weeks as heretofore. They are permitted to receive visits from friends once a week instead of once every four weeks as formerly.

Prisoners in second grade are permitted, at the suggestion of the Governor, to write once every two weeks, and to receive visits once in two weeks.

Prisoners in third grade are, at the suggestion of the Governor, permitted to write once every five weeks, and to receive visits once in four weeks.

Upon a showing of necessity special writing permits are obtainable on application to the Deputy Warden.

Selections of men for road work, away from

the prison, are made from prisoners who are in the first grade.



A grade of "industrial efficiency" will shortly be established. It will be extended to prisoners in the first grade who are also highly valuable to this institution by reason of exceptional efficiency. This grade will carry further privileges and advantages, the exact nature and extent of which will be determined soon. I believe that many will strive faithfully to make this grade, and to those who do so I will extend every possible encouragement. The greater the number who succeed the better for all. The average of prison work has always been universally poor. I hope to improve the work done at this prison by the methods outlined above.



Many prisoners are expert tinkers and the novelties they make are frequently both attractive and useful. Only first grade men will be permitted to tinker, and then only after working hours in their cells. I will do my utmost toward having their productions offered for sale.

During this winter the benches will be taken out of the chapel and we will hold a fair to which the public will be invited. Among the attractions the novelties will be offered for sale and the proceeds will be credited to the account of the maker on the books in the office.



Applications from prisoners in the first grade for the restoration of lost time by reason of misconduct in the past will be considered by the Board of Commissioners, which under the law, has the power to restore lost time. Favorable action may confidently be expected by those who can convince the Commissioners that for a considerable period of time their conduct has been flawless.



As a health measure, I permit recreation on every working day. The weather permitting, the prisoners are allowed one hour, fixing the time from when they stop work until they resume. This allows them forty-five minutes at play. In my opinion it is very rare-

ly that work is so important that there should not be reasonable time for play.

At first neither my officers or prisoners knew what I meant by recreation in a penitentiary. At the time, Mr. Henry Sims of Chicago, who had served as Deputy Warden under my immediate predecessor, Mr. E. J. Murphy, for eight years, was my Deputy Warden. (He has since died, to the sorrow of us all.) Mr. Sims was in thorough accord with my policies and he loved to carry good news to the prisoners. He thoroughly enjoyed the new regime.

When the first company was marched out of its shop to the hastily improvised recreation grounds, where some benches had been placed, the guard in charge directed the men to these benches and had them seated. Then he ordered them to sit still. At this time the Deputy—who was swinging his cane vigorously, as we all remember him doing when ever he was very happy—approached and looked the prisoners over very critically. He saw that they were not at all sure that they cared for that kind of recreation, even if the sun was shining on them while seated out doors for the first time since they entered the prison. He was happy over the message he carried to them, but he could not repress his whims for comical situations, so he continued for some time looking them over. Soon he smiled and said, "boys, you don't seem to like your recreation," and then he shouted, "boys, everything goes except fighting!"

At that the men were on their feet and shouts of joy came from every throat. These few words were the opening to a new sort of life, and carried permission beyond the expectations of even the greatest optimist. It was the first time in the history of the institution that the men shouted for joy. So far as play was concerned the "lid" was off.

Soon after a few balls and bats were provided and the great national game was played for the first time within Penitentiary walls in Illinois. Within a few days clubs were organized and match games were played six days every week. On a small space, not large enough for one contest, three games were usually in progress. The fielders for the different teams were in each others way; the ground was uneven, and there were rocks in abun-

dance, but nevertheless many good games were played daily.

When the weather turned cold, marching around the prison yard by companies was substituted for play. This is less fun but it is just as healthily.

From November to April the prisoners will view moving pictures in the chapel on every other Friday.

All expenses for recreation and amusement are paid for out of the prison library and amusement fund, which is sustained wholly by the sale of admission tickets to visitors viewing the prison.



A plot of ground 420 feet long and 400 feet wide adjacent to the prison has been rented at three hundred dollars per year. It has been fenced in and graded at an expense of two thousand dollars. A grand stand costing one thousand dollars will be built in the spring. This enclosure will be used as a recreation park. All these improvements are at the expense of the library and amusement fund.



During November, 1913, twenty eight prisoners were punished for misconduct after a trial before the Deputy Warden. This is the lowest record in over fifty years. The punishment consists of solitary confinement under sanitary conditions. The diet is bread and water; the beds are of wood. The length of time depends upon the circumstances of each case, but is usually from one day to one week. Handcuffing men to the doors has been abolished.

Upon release from punishment the prisoner is taken to the clothing department and dressed in "stripes," which he continues to wear until I am satisfied that he earnestly desires to obey the rules. By dressing culbrites in stripes I am able to separate the obedient prisoners from those who have disobeyed, and then I can easily control the treatment of both classes.

I am opposed to punishing all for the faults of one or a few. By distinguishing those who are undeserving, I can continue liberal privileges to all the others. Discipline is maintained by rewarding good behavior and by punishment and segregation of offenders.

Once in every two weeks I meet all the prisoners in the chapel. Usually I am alone; sometimes Mr. William Walsh, my Deputy Warden, is with me. No other officers are permitted to be present at these meetings. Here I talk to the men on prison topics and when I have finished each one who desires to do so is permitted to speak and make known his troubles regarding prison matters.



All officers are under instructions to be firm and just. I require the application of sound judgment in handling the prisoners. The officers must help the men in order to keep them out of trouble. Willful misconduct must be reported immediately—usually in writing—to the Deputy Warden, who is also the disciplinarian of the prison.



The prisoners are receiving the best care I can possibly give them in this antiquated, broken-down and over-crowded prison.

Under my management the working hours of the officers are longer than they were during the former administration. Whenever I see a way to benefit the large number of prisoners (who are not at liberty to leave) at the expense of time and labor for myself and my officers, (who are here from choice) my inclination is with the prisoners.



I have no use for tale-bearers and spies. Complaints may be made to me by any prisoner at the regular meetings in the hearing of those present, but not in any underhanded way. I feel that I am here to elevate the character of the prisoners and not to debase them, which I would do if I tolerated spies. As to the enforcement of discipline I feel that I do not require the help of prisoners. I shall be able to manage this with the assistance of my officers.



Prisoners are permitted to help one another in every legitimate way. I encourage the spirit of fellowship along proper lines.



Newspaper reporters will be admitted at reasonable hours on working days only; they

may talk with whomsoever they desire. I feel that the more the public know about this institution the greater will be the interest in it, and that this will help the prisoners both while they are in custody and after they have been released.



I do not want the world at large, and particularly the people of Illinois, to believe that these ideas are all my own. Some were copied from other prisons or were suggested by Governor Dunne, and all of them have been approved by him before being put into effect. I have been favored by the active support of the Prison Board of Commissioners, consisting of James J. McGrath of Ottawa, Illinois, President, Charles W. Faltz, Somonauk, Illinois, Secretary, and Ralph R. Tilton, of Catlin, Illinois. Mr. William Walsh of Chicago is of great assistance to me as Deputy Warden.



I am anxious to point out that these changes do not in any way reflect on any of my predecessors. I have accomplished that which, in my opinion, they could not have done. This is by reason of the change in public opinion.

If not done in the beginning no Warden can make radical changes afterward. As he begins so he must finish. I was convinced before I commenced my present duties that whatever radical changes I had to make must be made at the outset, for the reason that after once your atmosphere is created you must hew very closely to the lines, from the moment your first order is given until you are through. As late as when my immediate predecessor, Mr. E. J. Murphy, first took charge of this institution, the public were not ready to accept these progressive steps in criminology, consequently, even he had to start and work along other lines. After having done that for several years it was an impossibility for him—as it would be for anyone else—to radically change the order of things.

I stepped in at an opportune time, when the public were insistent on humane, progressive ideas, and I put them into effect at once. I did that by creating an atmosphere of confidence early, and that atmosphere I hope to maintain.

I fully realize that I am dealing with human

beings and I propose to deal with them along human lines. In doing that I expect, in the very nature of things, to meet with many jars and bitter disappointments, but I realize just what I will have to contend with.

I am prepared, with the kindly aid of the Governor and the Commissioners, the assistance of my efficient Deputy Warden, and with the help of my officers to go through.

I feel that in general I am carrying out the ideas of my father, who was Warden here from 1893 to 1897. He was not so fortunate as I have been in that, in his day, the public were not ripe for this kind of prison reform.

Note—Mr. Allen became Warden of the Joliet Penitentiary on April 26th, 1913.



"Uncle Cal," said a friend, "your brother Wash's boy's been arrested in the city for forging a check."

"Dar, dat's what comes o' dish yere eddication," said the old man excitedly. "I got ten chillun, but I give thanks fo' ter say as not one on 'em won't never learn to read nor write."—The Voter.



Social Agitator—"Isn't it a shame the way they work the help in this store? Fifteen hours a day, and the wages almost nothing!"

Companion—"Why do you trade here?"

S. A.—"Oh, they sell things so much cheaper."—Chicago Times.



Amongst men worthy of the name, the occasion of speaking of another as a grafter or a thief, is (1) When the accused is present. (2) When the one making the charge can prove it. (3) When the speaker can be held to account. (4) When some good can come from the charges.



There is no load that will break a man down so quickly and so surely as a load of revenge. The man who tries to get even with others has few opportunities of satiating hatred, but he is all the time corroding himself.—William J. Bryan.

WILLIAM WALSH DEPUTY WARDEN

On "Four Months at the Joliet Prison"

(Interview by the Editor)

The reform measures so far introduced at the Illinois State Penitentiary by Warden Allen have already improved the character of many of the prisoners who are confined in this institution. There are some who have not responded to humane treatment, but they too will be benefited in time.

By improvement in character I mean that as fast as the confidence of a prisoner is gained he becomes somewhat more dependable and next he begins to realize that kindness extended to him makes him feel more kindly towards others.

I can safely say that at this time there are not over twenty men in this prison who do not wish the Warden well in all his undertakings, whether they themselves are affected thereby or not.

The atmosphere here now makes it possible to manage the prisoners with a light hand compared to what has in the past seemed necessary.

In judging the prisoners I am guided mainly by their general behavior, including their attention to their work and also by what they say to me whenever I talk with them. It stands to reason that where a large number of men eat, drink, play, work and sleep in a small enclosure, it is not difficult for one in my position to know in a general way what the feeling is, and also what is going on. I know that there has been great moral improvement in many of the prisoners confined here.

I do not overlook the fact that this improvement is due in a large measure to prudence, and that every prisoner knows that his comfort and happiness lies in the continued good will of Warden Allen and of the officers under him.

Each prisoner knows that some one is going to be Warden and that, if Mr. Allen should leave for any reason he would be succeeded in office by another warden, and that then they might not fare so well.

Granted that this has great weight with the prisoners, I claim that the public, the officials, from the Governor down to the guards of the second class, and the prisoners are all greatly benefited by the progressive reform measures which have been recently introduced in this institution.

Inhumanity, even when practiced in a penitentiary, adversely affects the good traits of character of all concerned in exact ratio to the responsibility and intimacy of contact.



The sun is a great purifier; in a prison it is almost as beneficial towards elevating the character of prisoners as in improving their health. One is dependent on the other.

A prisoner who, for a long period, only sees the sun for a few minutes each day—which is only when he marches to and from the cell house, the dining hall and the shop, cannot indulge in healthy thoughts. As time goes on he becomes less normal, and this inevitably injures his character.

Prior to Mr. Allen's arrival here as warden the prisoners who worked in shops were permitted to enjoy a very restricted space in the yard for three hours once a year. This was every fourth day of July. They anxiously looked forward to this event for six months, then, during the following six months their thoughts reverted back in fond remembrance to those few hours. Note the difference! Under Warden Allen they play or march in the sunshine every pleasant working day instead of only once every year. It is impossible to make any comparisons! The difference is too great! Even as late in the year as at this time the prisoners are covered with a coating of tan in consequence of outdoor exercise.

Immediately after the inauguration of daily recreation the efficiency in the shops was reduced. For a long time Warden Allen said nothing about it to the men. He knew that they were so unsettled by their good fortune that it was only reasonable to expect that all work would suffer temporarily.

After the prisoners had learned to accept play as a part of the daily routine Warden Allen told them, at a meeting held in the chapel, what the results of daily recreation had been to the industries, and he recalled to mind his first promise to them, which was, that he would

meet them half way if they would meet him the other half. He asked if he had kept his promise, and when an affirmative answer was shouted back he said: "Well boys, from now on I expect you to give me a square deal all around, but at this time I particularly call your attention to the reduction in the work you are doing in the shops. You have embarrassed me in more ways than one. Recently at a meeting of wardens, where I was advocating daily recreation as an important feature of prison reform, I was asked how play had affected the efficiency in the shops, and I was forced to answer that the work was seriously injured by reason of the introduction of recreation, and then, I had to make excuses for you which I did not relish. By placing me in this position you injured the cause of prison reform, which cannot succeed without the co-operation of prisoners."



The meetings held every two weeks, at which the Warden speaks to the prisoners and then allows them to talk to him about whatever any of them may think about bettering conditions, are fruitful of very good results. It is not so much what Mr. Allen and the prisoners say that counts, that too, is important, but insignificant compared with the big thing, which is that the prisoners believe that when he shows so much interest in them, he must have their welfare at heart. He gains their confidence and that helps every officer under him. This atmosphere is particularly helpful to me in my position as Deputy Warden and disciplinarian.



Reports by officers involving misconduct of prisoners are always made to me and they are usually in writing. When a complaint is made I always send for the prisoner affected and hear what he has to say for himself. I try to do my duty by the institution, and at the same time I desire to do full justice to every prisoner.

When a complaint is made against a man and it is not very serious, I try a little heart to heart talk and fatherly advice. Warden Allen's treatment of him gives me the opportunity for that kind of talk which I believe makes him think. Having gained this it is but a step farther to make him regret that he has caused any trouble.

Prisoners appreciate kindly words and, as a class, they resent sullenly all efforts at bulldoz-

ing. This is so in jails and, so far as my limited experience goes, it is so in penitentiaries.

I abhor all violence. During twenty-five years service on the police force in Chicago I never used my club on anyone.

To me it appears that I am not here primarily to exert my power—which in the matter of ordering punishment is almost unlimited—in fact, I use as little of it as possible, because the less I use the more I have in reserve.

Being human it must be that I make mistakes by excusing men from punishment who have violated the rules, but what of that? The man who fools me does not get beyond my reach. Having fooled me he will behave himself if he is at all smart, and that is what I desire. If he is stupid, or thinks he is smart, he may, by reason of the ease of his first escape, take courage to again violate the rules, but if he does and is caught at it he comes before me again. If, meanwhile, he thinks he has gained anything over me, he is welcome to have indulged in that delusion temporarily.

During the four months I have been here I have only met two men who were obstinate while in punishment. Each was kept in a solitary cell until he was convinced that I could wait longer than he cared to.



Under previous administrations prisoners almost invariably lost time for every offense when they were confined in the solitary cells. This loss usually amounted to thirty or sixty days for each offense. Since I came here, on August 1st, 1913, only two men have lost time.

I do not believe that a man lives, who can handle any fifteen hundred angry men, who are cowed, as easily as I can the same number if I have their confidence.



The late Henry Sims of Chicago who was my immediate predecessor, had served as Deputy Warden for eight years when he died. Surely, after his death, the prisoners could no longer hope for leniency or favors from him. Yet today he is held in fond remembrance by nearly every prisoner who was at any time under him.

His death caused deep sorrow, and every man who had credit for money in the office

subscribed liberally for flowers to be placed on his casket. So far as I know this is the first time anything like this was ever done in any institution of this kind. The funeral services held for him in the prison chapel were an inspiration to me by reason of the unmistakable evidences of esteem and affection in which his memory was held. The men regarded him as the friend who had striven constantly against great odds to improve their condition.

Shortly after his death I mentioned his name at a meeting with the prisoners in the chapel and the result was that they clapped and cheered as if they desired to lift the roof off the building. This occasion was very impressive to me. I think it well worth while for any Deputy Warden to establish for himself such esteem. Such relations are a benefit to the officials and prisoners as well as to society.



I hope in time to gain the esteem of the prisoners confined here, but I believe I shall never be able to equal the success of Henry Sims in this respect. I know I can never surpass him. He labored under disadvantages which I am not compelled to contend with.

If anyone chooses to scoff at my ambition, to win the esteem of men serving sentences for crimes, I wish to say that I am here to guard the prisoners and to make better men of them. If I can teach them to think well of me as their Deputy Warden I can do my full duty, otherwise I can at best only hold my job.



These four months have been a new experience to me. I have learned to view many matters from a different angle, but the most impressive of all to me is the newly acquired knowledge, that there are very few positions to which a man can bring more graces, than to that of Warden of a prison.



"A synonym," explained the lad, "is a word you use when you don't know how to spell the one you thought of first."—Brooklyn Life.



Severe discipline has done untold harm, not only to prisoners, but to society at large.

FATHER L. BREITENSTEIN, O. F. M.
Chaplain at the Illinois State Penitentiary

THE PRESENT SITUATION

(Interview by the Editor)

The prisoners of the Catholic faith have every opportunity for the observance of their religious duties at this prison.

Mass is said and a sermon is preached at seven forty-five every Sunday morning. High Mass and sermon on great feasts.

General religious services for all who wish to attend are held by me every other Sunday morning at ten o'clock.

I give Catholic instructions during the winter months four evenings in every week, hear confessions every month, and give individual instructions to the members of my flock at all times; besides I look after the welfare of the prisoners irrespective of creed or religion.

The public at large is under the impression that when a man is sent to prison he ought to undergo all kinds of punishments, forgetting that the greatest punishment that can be inflicted on a man is to deprive him of his liberty, and no matter how good the food, how kind the general treatment in a prison, a place of punishment it will always remain.

Punishment must always be administered so as to atone for the offense, to heal and to build up, or what people call it, to give a chance to reform. This is—and I am glad to state it—the aim of the present administration.



The general improvement in the health of the prisoners as the result of outdoor recreation, milder discipline, wholesome food and better treatment in every way is very marked. In consequence the prisoners are in better spirits. As a direct result of this change I get better response from them in religious matters.

I do not know of any institution where the inmates get better medical care than in this prison under the management of Dr. John P. Benson, the prison physician.



Those who do not reform now have only themselves to blame, as everything possible is being done to create an atmosphere to bring out the good traits of character of the inmates.

Many are the changes made under the administration of Warden Allen, and they have all proved beneficial from every standpoint.

I favor progressive prison reform of the Edmund M. Allen type.

REV. A. J. PATRICK
CHAPLAIN
Of Illinois State Penitentiary

(Interview by the Editor)

I am in hearty accord with all of the progressive prison reform measures so far introduced at this institution by Warden Edmund M. Allen, and also with his plans for the future so far as he has disclosed them to me.

As to the results of his policies upon the inner thoughts of the prisoner I, perhaps, am the best qualified to speak, because my relations with the prisoners are different from those of any official. My position permits of intimate and friendly relations with all the inmates; in consequence I have the inside track to the feelings, thoughts and consciences of these people.

I meet them as their religious instructor; the superintendent of the school and as librarian; besides, I am their friend at all times. I spend much time with the prisoners on their recreation grounds and frequently act in the capacity of umpire at their ball games



I did not come to this prison as a skeptic on prison reform measures, but if I had I could not have withstood the logic of Mr. Allen's utterances and much less the unquestionable evidences of the successful effect of his administration as seen by me during close observation.

Mr. Allen is looked upon by all the prisoners here, without a single exception, so far as my observation goes, as the greatest friend they, as a class, have ever had, and if I must say it, their number includes men of wide experience in prisons everywhere in this country and abroad. To them he is the foremost warden of the age.

It seems almost inconceivable that such feelings can exist to the extent it prevails here, when I bear in mind that Warden Allen represents the state, which, at least temporarily denies to these men their freedom.

I have for many years been a firm believer in prison reform, but now it is no longer a belief with me. I have seen the results; I know that Warden Allen's policies are right, and

that he will, in good time prove this to all skeptics.

His treatment of the men has compelled a response which is remarkable. This is evidenced in many ways, and it is beyond my powers of expression to give an adequate description of the consequences of his initiative and endeavors.



The prisoners are fast improving in health; they are more contented; many are trying to win his approval for its own sake; they are overcoming their extreme peevishness; they are more friendly to one another; they are not as jealous as they have been; they are more peaceful; they are more obedient; in short, they are approaching the normal.

The results enumerated cannot fail to favorably influence their future conduct. Many who under an old fashioned prison administration would be returned to freedom unfit for a natural life will succeed because of the new thoughts he has instilled in them by his great kindness and unlimited sympathy.

Many of these men were formerly accustomed only to brutality in some form or other, mostly among themselves, but sometimes at the hands of officers of the law and citizens. To some this is the first experience of having constantly in their minds a man who holds the scales of justice evenly by doing his full duty to his office and also to his wards.

Mr. Allen is constantly in the minds of his prisoners and, coupled with it, is the thought of his generous treatment of them. This makes the application very personal and, as water will in time wear away a stone, so must the constant and kindly thoughts which the prisoners have for their Warden, soften and improve their characters day by day.



In Warden Allen's presence we are all small figures by comparison. He overshadows us so that, compared with his achievements, our undertakings seem small, and may this be taken into consideration when I mention my best endeavors as one of his many loyal supporters.

In my position as chaplain, and as a Protestant clergyman, I preach to the men every other Sunday morning. In my sermon-lectures I aim to give them renewed hopes by

stimulating them to better thinking and living. At our weekly Sunday School I furnish good teachers and do my best to encourage attendance, attention and study. At our monthly Volunteers' Prison League meetings I encourage these men to particularly forego profanity and urge them on to the determination to lead honest, upright lives.

As superintendent of the school I direct the studies usually taught in the public grammar schools.

As Librarian I furnish the prisoners with the best books which are procurable for their wants.

As their friend I attempt general moral instructions and try to give them a living example of a Christian gentleman. I treat the prisoners as my brothers and show them the better side of life.

I umpire their ball games because I like base ball and enjoy being with them, and I find that my presence at recreation has a good effect in checking profanity.

I reason that the more I interest myself in their daily lives the stronger my influence with them will be because of the confidence thus gained.



The prison day school, which is under my supervision, was started in October and will be continued at least until May. It may be suspended during the hot weather. As a day school it is an innovation, as, previously, the prison had known only evening schools, and these were limited to two sessions every week, of one and one-half hours duration each. These were held in one school room in each wing, where fourteen classes recited at one time.

The new administration has provided four school rooms, and every prisoner who so desires may absent himself from work for one hour per day in order to attend. This privilege depends only upon good behavior in the school and application to the studies.

This is the first time in the history of this prison that education has been treated as of greater importance than work.

The equipment of the school will compare favorably from every standpoint with the average of public schools.

The school has five one hour periods, six days per week, and only one class at a time re-

ceives instructions in a room. This eliminates all confusion. The teachers are prisoners. There is no guard in the room during instruction, which permits the students to forget all about restraint excepting such as would prevail in a well managed school outside of a prison.

The experience of the last three months has demonstrated that the prisoners can manage by themselves during classes, as there has not been any occasion for official interference. The progress of the prisoners is very encouraging. This I attribute to causes easy of explanation. (1) Out of fifteen hundred prisoners it is not difficult to select four as teachers who are very competent. (2) The pupils have over three hours per day to spend in their cells before retiring. Not being able to go about seeking amusement, it is natural that they devote much time to study, and this, coupled by daily instructions by competent teachers under favorable conditions, is sure to lead to gratifying results.

The enrollment is about three hundred and twenty five, or over twenty per cent of the prison population. I have great hopes that the attendance will increase. Many of the prisoners who do not attend school would come if it were not for the influence of those who pretend to look down upon a grown man studying like a child.

The opportunity is here for every man to receive instructions in reading, writing, arithmetic, geography, English and history. Any man who shows sufficient aptitude and application can at least obtain instruction up to a point where he could readily pass an examination for entrance into High school.

On alternate Saturdays the scholars attend stereopticon lectures on some interesting country. Our first lectures were on the Philippine Islands and China. This feature is of recent introduction.

In general it has been noticed that the foreign born students, who know little or nothing of the English language, and who are thus handicapped, learn faster than our American born men. This indicates that the early school training is better in the European countries than in the United States. To the foreigners of recent arrival in this country the school is of unusual value in that it gives them excellent opportunity for acquiring knowledge of English. The foreigners realize this and, al-

most without exception, they try their utmost to receive the maximum of benefit. Their example in application and improvement should challenge the ambitions of American born prisoners who should be unwilling to be outstripped.



Our enrollment ought to be doubled. No prisoner should discourage any other from attending, and those who do not come by reason of this unwarranted interference should stop heeding it. A man should be proud to go to school and should be ashamed of himself if he remains ignorant when the opportunity for securing an education is afforded him. Instead of being ashamed to go to school every ignorant man should be proud to show that he has the manhood and the character to desire to improve himself and, after commencing attendance, he should take particular pride in his progress. Such ambitions are laudable.

In this day and age education is essential to every man and woman and our school offers advantages of inestimable value to nearly all, but particularly to those who, by reason of previous conditions and environment have remained in ignorance. In these busy days of the twentieth century the man who succeeds must know more than he of the last century. The work of the world is now moving very fast and to him that works with his head as well as with his hands there comes the larger and quicker returns by reason of that knowledge which can be obtained only by reason of systematic study.

Studying the English language prepares one to read and write intelligently and this is necessary for every one. History and geography qualifies us to understand more thoroughly the current events and furnishes the proper foundation to enjoy the greatest books of literature.

Arithmetic is not only indispensable on account of its value in our every day life, but its problems furnish a means of developing the mind and teach us to think and to reason. There are many boys who can work examples well, but when it comes to reasoning the statement of a problem, they find difficulty because their minds have not been drilled to think clearly.

The prisoner should look upon this day

school as a privilege and he should respond accordingly. He should see in this opportunity for education that the State does not desire his downfall. By means of this school the State shows its willingness to help its prisoners. The school costs money, yet the authorities are glad to spend it. The one hour every day during which the prisoners are excused from labor could be turned into money, but the State prefers that the men should improve their minds, and thus equip themselves for success in the future.

Every prisoner in the institution should appreciate the generosity of the State in providing a modernly equipped and efficient school; he should do what he can towards its success and should see in it a promise for the future.

Studying makes imprisonment more bearable in that it affords the opportunity to keep the mind from dwelling too much on morbid thoughts, and also helps to pass the long hours more rapidly and pleasantly.

What is good for the prisoner is good for the State. Progressive prison-reform measures are dependable for general adoption upon the recognition of this fundamental proposition.



DR. JOHN P. BENSON PRISON PHYSICIAN

On Medical Treatment at the Illinois State Penitentiary

(Interview By the Editor)

Considerations of health come first and foremost in a prison as well as outside of one.

The most important feature of prison reform work is to treat all prisoners with as good care as can be bestowed upon any patient in private practice. Prevention of illness is my foremost aim. We have unexcelled drinking water. All prisoners, who are not disabled, exercise out of doors excepting Sundays and holidays. Well prepared, wholesome food is furnished in abundance. The prisoners are well clothed and the cell houses are ventilated as much as possible even though we have to work our heating plants overtime in order to maintain proper temperature. Sanitary conditions are thor-

roughly looked after. Everything must be clean.

Each prisoner has been given an aluminum, collapsible drinking cup and no two men are allowed to drink out of the same vessel except in the dining hall, where all crockery and glassware is scalded after each meal.

We have sick call at 7:30 o'clock a. m. every day in the week. All those who desire consultation and treatment may come. After sick call prisoners must obtain special permission from their respective guards and a higher officer. In emergencies regulations are disregarded.



The hospital is well equipped and first class. The maintenance is looked after. A modern sterilizing plant for surgical work has just been installed. The equipment in the operating room is sufficient. The plumbing and appliances are sanitary. The building has proper sewer connections. There is a laboratory for microscopic work and for purposes of diagnosis.

Two prisoners, who are licensed physicians, act as my assistants and as head nurses.

Surgical operations are performed whenever necessary. The diet is first class. Spectacles are furnished to those who require them.



In the assignment of work consideration is always given to the prisoner's physical condition. Those unable to work are not required to perform any.

Editor's Note:

There are improvements now in progress with regard to the hospital. We hope to have an interesting account from Dr. Benson for publication in the February number.



December 22nd, 1913.

To the Editor:

Perhaps the Chicago Tribune does not know of a community which will welcome the quacks. If the Tribune will use its influence up to a point where the quacks get credentials making them eligible for this institution I can promise, on behalf of our large and growing community, that we will give these gentlemen enthusiastic welcome.

Respectfully,

"Unanimous."

CHRISTMAS 1913

By Peter Van Vlissingen, a Prisoner

Fully two hours before time to get up this morning the cell houses resounded with the calls of the very early risers, who were determined that the late sleepers should arise. Such indecorum is possible only on a holiday when the prisoners all know that they are allowed every legitimate freedom.

Joe—in his little four by seven feet room—called to Dick, who was on the same gallery, and the exchange of greetings was the usual "Merry Christmas." By way of variation I heard, "Harry, are you going to the show?" and "Slim, what is for dinner today?" then "Hurrah for Christmas!" and so on.

Within a few minutes after the earliest risers had decided that all must get up, the cell houses rang with the exchanges of good natured remarks and kind wishes. Not a vulgar word was spoken and not one suggestive remark indulged in.

After entering the Dining Hall for breakfast I noticed a large Christmas Tree—which had been installed secretly during the night—at the north end of the room. After all the men were seated the electric lights in the Dining Hall were turned off and as curtains covered the windows the hall was momentarily in total darkness. An electric button was turned and the largest Christmas Tree I have ever seen was illuminated by a thousand electric lamps of all the colors in the rainbow.

At that the voice of Captain Michael C. Kane filled the room saying, "Warden Allen wishes you all a Merry Christmas!" Then pandemonium broke loose and continued until the Captain called the men to order and suggested that if they wished to cheer Warden Allen he would show them how to do it. Waiting a moment for silence Captain Kane proposed three cheers for Warden Allen, which brought the maximum response from every throat. I have never experienced a sensation in my life equaling that moment. I realized that, for the first time in many years the spirit of Christmas was here, and that this day would lift more men, at least a little, towards a better life than any previous day since the entrance to this institution of its first inmate.

The Christmas Tree was the first one I have

seen since coming to the prison. I have attended all sorts of occasions where this symbol of good will was the silent feature; I have heard Germans sing "O Tannebaum," but I have never felt such surging at my heart as during those moments. This unexpected reminder of Christmas produced varying effects on the prisoners around me. I heard one say, "This is the first Christmas when I have not received any mail from home and friends but that tree makes up for it." Another remarked, "I can hardly bear to look at it as it reminds me too forcibly of what this day means in the world outside." An old man serving a life sentence bowed his head and prayed and when at last he looked up his eyes were filled with tears.

The prisoners at once guessed that they were indebted for this sympathetic attention to two ladies who walk the prison yard in perfect safety among gun-men, murderers and forgers, because every inmate has great respect for both the mother and the wife of Warden Edmund M. Allen.



After breakfast those who desired to do so attended Mass in the chapel. At half-past nine the prisoners marched to the chapel to enjoy the theatrical performance. They appeared a laughing, happy lot today! No heads bowed down; no surly officers. The chapel was soon crowded and the prisoners viewed for the first time the new, beautiful "back-drop" painted by R. P. H. Wolle and John Rudnick. The men were allowed as much freedom as they would have in a theatre anywhere. Prior to the performance and during the intermissions every man spoke freely to those seated around him and the officers had nothing to do except to look on and enjoy the occasion as much as their prisoners.

Chaplain A. J. Patrick first introduced the artists who had painted the "back-drop" and they were enthusiastically received. Both wished all a Merry Christmas and bowed themselves out amidst tumultuous applause, which indicated the prevailing good feeling. Then the outside talent rendered the regular programme which was thoroughly enjoyed. The performance lasted one and one-half hours and at its close the fourteen hundred prisoners returned to the cell houses. There was no attempt at the customary military formation: the

men walked out as they wished, all talking, laughing and exchanging greetings. Some walked with hands on the shoulders of their companions without being prohibited by the guards. Every man returned to his place in the cell house promptly without directions from the officers.



At one o'clock all the prisoners went into the Dining Hall and sat down to roast pork with dressing, boiled potatoes and gravy, mince pie and coffee. For the first time in the history of the institution the prison band played in the Dining Hall during the meal and this feature was thoroughly enjoyed.

During dinner I was seated beside an old negro, who was born in slavery and who told me that he had been here ten years and during that time he had "never seen such 'doins.'" He was enthusiastic over everything, saying he could not see how anyone could misbehave under "these people."

I asked him when he was to be released and he answered "in a year." Questioned as to what he was going to do for a living when free he told me that he had a good trade, that he was a first-class whitewasher, and that he could still work as good as any man with a pick and shovel. He gave his age as seventy-four and when I last saw him he was leaving the Dining Hall singing softly.

After dinner I heard continued, loud "hurrahs" emanating from the cell houses. Upon going there I learned that the prisoners were rendering an impromptu demonstration of their appreciation, shouting "hurrahs" for the officers. The guards did not attempt to quell the racket.



During the afternoon all the prisoners were allowed the freedom of the corridors in the cell houses for one hour, which ended the festivities. While the men were in the corridors I questioned one of the guards, who has worked here for many years. I asked him what he thought of this kind of a Penitentiary Christmas. He said that I should look at the men in the corridors for his answer to my question. He added that, as cell house keeper, it was his duty to attend to the distribution of presents between prisoners. He had never seen anything

like it. The men who had money to purchase oranges, apples, dates, nuts, etc., had so plentifully supplied those without funds with the good things which were to be bought only for this day that the result was that those who were penniless had more than did those who had purchased.

After the prisoners had returned to their cells I learned from the Captain of the day that in spite of the unusual occurrences the day had passed without occasion to reprimand a single prisoner.

During the evening the cell houses hummed with the conversations carried on in low tones between cell mates.



At nine o'clock, after the night bell had sounded, the cell houses were silent. Christmas Day at the Joliet Prison was at an end. The memory of it will never fade from the minds of many of the men who are experiencing new emotions prompted by kind treatment.



TOO TRUE

By A. Judson Booth, a Prisoner

Convicted men will have better opportunities for reform if society will look upon prisoners more kindly.

What they particularly require is the support from family and friends. Many prisoners have—if their crimes may be overlooked—been good fathers, husbands, sons, brothers and friends, and unfortunately for them and society it happens too often that their good deeds are forgotten and that they are judged solely by the one conviction, and that, in consequence, the prisoner finds himself deserted.

This, in many, engenders feelings of intense disappointment and the result deters reformation.



The treatment of prisoners under severe discipline has resulted in debasement of nearly all prisoners, and it has been a stain upon the society which tolerated this system.



The system of control under severe discipline attempted the repression of all natural impulses and the substitution of abject fear.

WITHIN THE WALLS

O, is life a tangled problem,
 Pal O' Mine?
 Have you failed to read its message,
 Or its purpose to define?
 Are the throbs of life beyond us
 Fraught with bitter mockery,
 Or the sounding of a promise
 Of a life that is to be,
 Pal O' Mine?

Do the open places call you,
 Pal O' Mine?
 Do you crave for fragrant meadows
 And the scent of forest pine?
 Does it seem the forbidden Eden,
 Or, in fancy now and then,
 Can you see the roadway's turning
 That will lead you back again,
 Pal O' Mine?

And does Memory bare the hidden,
 Pal O' Mine?
 Do the old familiar faces
 Pass in melancholy line?
 Is faith lost as well as freedom?
 Has the false displaced the true,
 Or will handclasps grip the tighter
 When the gates swing out for you,
 Pal O' Mine?

Are the home folks very weary,
 Pal O' Mine?
 Are you listening, vaguely waiting
 For a more responsive sign,
 Or a simple benediction,
 Does the laden message fall?
 Do you feel the load has lifted
 At the sounding of its call,
 Pal O' Mine?

Oh! Life's a knotty problem,
 Pal O' Mine?
 And still we are the builders,
 Tho' the planning is divine,
 And hope is ever shining,
 Everlasting as the stars,
 And Love will find its entrance
 Thru the barrier of bars,
 Pal O' Mine?

—By K. N. O.

A Letter From Governor Dunne

December 9, 1913.

Hon. E. M. Allen,
Warden Joliet Penitentiary,
Joliet, Ill.

Dear Sir:

I learn with much pleasure from yours of the 8th instant, that you expect to publish a newspaper in the penitentiary for the benefit of the inmates of the institution, and trust the same will prove a complete success.

While the law demands satisfaction by punishment of men who transgress its provisions, the policy of those in charge of the men and women in prison should not be vindictive in imposing unreasonable burdens upon the imprisoned.

During the idle hour or brief time which elapses between labor hours and sleep, I see no good reason why a convict should not improve that little time by reading that which will help to educate him, keep him informed of current events, and relieve the tedium of his restraint.

I hope the convicts will appreciate your paper, and respond by strictly observing the rules of your institution and by preserving perfect discipline.

Very truly yours,

E. F. Dunne.



The improvement of the food served to prisoners under the present management is due to three causes; (1) The food now furnished costs two cents per day per man more than it did under the former warden. (2) Warden Allen personally supervises the bill of fare, and he displays good judgment in the selections. (3) The food is better prepared and the service is better.

The fact that the present administration serves better food than the previous one did only proves that, in this respect, the prisoners have benefited by the change.



Under severe discipline good conduct, loyalty, efficiency, generosity and helpfulness were rewarded only by escape from punishment.

OPPORTUNITY

By Walter Malone

They do me wrong who say I come no more,
When once I knock and fail to find you in;
For every day I stand outside your door
And bid you wake and rise to fight and win.

Wail not for precious chances passed away,
Weep not for golden ages on the wane,
Each night I burn the records of the day,
At sunrise every soul is born again.

Laugh like a boy at splendors that have fled,
To vanished joys be blind and deaf and dumb.

My judgments seal the dead past with the dead
But never bind a moment yet to come.

Though deep in mire, wring not your hands
and weep.

I lend my arm to all who say I can.
No shame-faced outcast ever sank so deep
But yet might rise and be again a man.

Art thou a mourner? Rouse thee from the
spell.

Art thou a sinner? Sins may be forgiven.
Each morning gives thee wings to fly from hell,
Each night a star to guide thy feet to
Heaven.

Mr. William J. Bryan was written to for a contribution for publication in the first number of this paper. He replied by sending the foregoing poem, stating that it expressed his sentiments so well that he does not feel that he can add anything to it.—Editor.



Some Age

One of our inmates, who is ninety-one years of age, received notice from the General Accountant's office that the sum of one dollar was sent to him by his mother and duly credited upon the books.



Whoever commits a crime and complains of punishment is a "welsher." There must be punishment for crimes, and serious crimes calls for severe punishment.

A Letter From Louis F. Post

Washington, D. C.,

December 22, 1913.

To the Editor of The Joliet Prison Post:

No one could welcome your paper with greater satisfaction than I do.

My impressions regarding papers of this kind carry me back over a period of nearly fifty years, when an attempt was made—the first attempt of the kind so far as I know—to publish such a paper from the State Prison of New Jersey, my native state. A former editor and proprietor of the country weekly on which I learned my trade as a printer, had been convicted of some offense—bigamy, I think it was—and in consequence had been sentenced to that prison. Being a printer, a pretty good writer, and perhaps not so bad a man altogether as the crime might imply he suggested beginning reform in prison methods by the publication of a paper.

His suggestion was adopted but the venture did not last long owing to the blind prejudice which existed at that time against permitting any freedom whatever to convicts. An outcry arose (the echoes of which were heard from one end of the state to the other) at this “wicked” and “dangerous” liberty to “the criminal classes” of allowing them to come in contact with the outside world through the thick walls of their prison by means of type and printers’ ink. It was really considered a dangerous experiment by the good people of New Jersey at that time.

Since then, as is quite generally known, the publication of papers in prisons by the inmates, though hardly as common as it ought to be, is not altogether uncommon, and it is no longer regarded as dangerous.

I am trusting that the experiment at Joliet will go a point further than to prove that this kind of reasonable liberty is safe. I hope it will go to the point of proving that it is positively beneficial, alike to those who engage in the publication of the paper, to the institution from which it is published, and to the people of the State as a whole—saying nothing of the people beyond the State, whether in prison or out of prison, who may be directly or indirectly influenced. I congratulate the prisoners at Joliet, and even more than the prisoners do I con-

gratulate the people of Illinois, upon the social progress of which the new regime at the Joliet Penitentiary is prophetic, and to which this periodical gives testimony.

It is trite in these days to say that all bad men are not in prison. It may be trite to say that all good men are not out of prison. But trite or not, and whatever the truth as to either may be, I am sure that the nearer those in prison come to be like those who are out, in respect of the elevating associations they may enjoy, the confidence reposed in them, the freedom accorded them, and their consequent opportunities for industrial, intellectual and moral development, the sooner will the world see that there are better ways of suppressing crime than by vindictive penalties.

I wish I might say something in appreciation of the paper itself, but I can hardly do so in advance. I can, however, extend to it and to its editor and to all concerned in its publication, as well as to every one who may find interest in reading it, my very best wishes and my earnest hopes for its good influence, both without and within the walls of the prison at Joliet, in promoting a higher civilization than any of us have ever known.

Very truly yours,

Louis F. Post.

**Prisoners' Aid League**

Auburn, N. Y., Dec. 21.—Thomas Mott Osborne, chairman of the State Commission for prison reform, announced today the formation recently of the Prisoners' Aid league, known among the convicts of Auburn prison, where it has been informally tried during the last seven weeks as “the pals,” a name derived from the initials of the league.

The society is composed of men from outside, acting as a board of visitors, who without sentimental impulses endeavor to bring the human touch to the isolated men, advising them in personal matters, keeping watch for opportunities to obtain positions for men who seek parole, and filling the place of relatives among those convicts whose friends are unable to come here to visit them.

John B. Riley, Superintendent of State Prisons, is in accord with the purposes of the league, which will be extended to all state penal institutions in time, according to present plans. —Chicago Tribune.

THE GIFT OF ST. NICHOLAS

A Christmas Fantasy

'Tis said of the Saint on his errand of love,
 Walls, turreted high, caught his sight,
 Gray, sullen and grim, looking darkly at him
 Like a menace from out of the night;
 And their shadows were falling,
 Like phantoms appalling,
 In the flood of the moon's mellow light.

With interest awakened; with zeal in his heart,
 To the base of the towers he ran,
 Looking up and around, bending close for a
 sound—
 For the voice or the laughter of man;
 Then with gift bag clutched tightly,
 He scaled the walls lightly
 As only a Santa Claus can!

A city of silence encompassed him 'round,
 And it never had beauty or fame;
 For its people were bent with the years they
 had spent
 In the toiling forever the same;
 And his eyes softly glistened,
 Ah! No longer he listened,
 For the city had spoken its name!

Saint Nicholas murmured, "Rest tranquilly
 now,
 Ye estranged from Society's fold;
 Retain faith in your soul and believe not the
 whole
 Of the message of life has been told.
 Lo! A gift at your waking
 Shall be yours for the taking
 More delightful than treasures of gold."

"And kingdoms have crumbled since freely it
 came
 Noble cities have gone to decay;
 For riches are frail, nor can armies prevail,
 But its beauty and chastity may.
 And the craftsman ne'er made it,
 Neither barter can trade it,
 And the world cannot steal it away."

"It banishes rancor, for none may be told
 Of its secret unless reconciled;
 And it bringeth relief where is doubting and
 grief,
 From the marts to the wilderness wild;
 'Tis in hovel and castle,
 And Love is its vassal,
 And it's carved in the soul of a child!"

He called to his reindeer and sped thru the
 night,
 For his journey was yet to be long;
 There was much to be done ere the gladdening
 sun
 Unfolded the rose-lights of dawn;
 Ere the children awakened
 With their faith all unshaken
 In the message of Christmas morn.

In the bloom of the morning the turretted walls
 Rose as ever so sullen and bare;
 Still the city enclosed in its silence reposed,
 But contentment pervaded the air.
 Thoughts mother-ward drifted—
 The home latch was lifted,
 For the *Spirit of Christmas* was there!

—W. L. T.



One year when the youngsters of a certain
 Illinois village met for the purpose of electing
 a captain of their baseball team for the coming
 season, it appeared that there were a number
 of candidates for the post, with more than the
 usual wrangling.

Youngster after youngster presented his
 qualifications for the post; and the matter was
 still undecided when the son of the owner of the
 ball field stood up. He was a small snub-nosed
 lad, with a plentiful supply of freckles, but he
 glanced about him with a dignified air of con-
 trolling the situation.

"I'm going to be captain this year," he an-
 nounced convincingly, "or else father's old bull
 is going to be turned into the field."

He was elected unanimously.—Chicago
 News.

ARGUMENT AGAINST "STRIPES" FOR PAROLE VIOLATORS

By George Williams, a Prisoner

I was very much pleased to hear Warden Allen announce that after a prisoner had been punished in the solitary for violation of the rules, he would, as additional punishment, be dressed in "stripes" until the Warden was satisfied that the culprit intended to behave in the future.

It pleased me, because I realized that, under the present administration, it is to our advantage to behave ourselves by observing the rules of the institution.

Every prisoner I have spoken to likes this rule for the reason I have given. Enough time has elapsed under the new administration for us to have adjusted ourselves to our new conditions, and from now on the willful offenders should be placed in a class by themselves, and it should be easy to distinguish them.

Dressing a prisoner in "stripes" is one form of punishment and those who misbehave deserve to be so clothed, but the efficacy of this punishment depends upon the number who are distinguished in this manner. If one-half of the prisoners here were dressed in stripes those wearing such clothing would not be punished nearly so much as would those, if only a few men had them on.

If stripes are to be worn by culprits for violation of the rules within the walls why should parole violators be dressed in the same way for six months after his return to the prison?

Dressing one who violates the prison discipline in stripes will cause him to be more careful, and it does good in that way, but does it have the same effect on the parole violator? He usually returns because he drinks alcoholic liquors, or has committed a misdemeanor or crime, or has had mighty bad luck. The knowledge that he will wear stripes for six months after his return to the prison will not keep an alcoholic sober. If he has so little self-control that the fear of going back to prison does not keep him from drinking, the stripes will not.

He who violates the terms of his parole by committing a misdemeanor or crime and thus risks returning to the penitentiary will not hesitate by reason of the striped clothing, while he who fails by reason of mighty hard

luck usually cannot help it, and surely the prospect of stripes is not going to influence his luck favorably.

Is it not a fact that a parole violator gets all that is coming to him by reason of his additional detention in prison—which is seldom less than one year?

Why should a parole violator be dressed in stripes when a second timer who comes back because he has committed a felony is dressed in blue?

The points I wish to make are these: (1) If dressing parole violators in stripes is discontinued then the punishment by means of the "stripes" for discipline violators will be made more severe, because then only a few men will be dressed in this way and they will wear the garb for misconduct in the prison; then this uniform becomes the badge of willful misconduct within the walls; (2) Dressing parole violators in stripes will not decrease the number of such violators; (3) Parole violators get their punishment by means of their imprisonment and they should not get two kinds of punishment; (4) Parole violators, who usually come back for light offenses, as compared with felonies, should not be punished harder than the repeaters who come back by reason of the commission of a crime so serious as to carry a new penitentiary sentence.

I hope that in the near future the authorities will add to the many improvements they have made here by dressing only those who violate the rules relating to the discipline within the walls, in striped clothing.



A Warning

Dec. 23rd, 1913.

To the Inmates of the Illinois
State Penitentiary:

My attention has been called to the fact that some of the men take inwardly, for medicinal purposes, the sulphur, which is used in the broom shop, for bleaching broom corn.

This is a very bad practice, as sulphur in its crude form, is harmful to the health if its use is general.

Crude sulphur is not a pure drug like the sulphur which is used in medicine.

If any inmate is sick and needs medicine it can always be obtained at the hospital.

Dr. J. P. Benson,
Prison Physician.

ALLEN'S THE MAN

By George Williams, a Prisoner

We read that men of force and brain, that
 presidents and kings,
 By scrawling down their signature can thus
 "accomplish things."
 A rather "nifty" sort of way it always seemed
 to me,
 To sit upon a pedestal and grin complacently!
 So elsewhere must you turn your face, the
 biggest man to pick;
 You'll find its ever, ever he who turns the
 biggest trick!

Chorus

And he is the man, remember boys,
 Who put "Jolly" in Joliet;
 Knocked out the sorrows and slid in the joys—
 Say, how can a fellow forget!
 Jolly is there with a capital "J"
 Joliet without "Jolly" looks queer any-
 way;
 O, Allen's the man,—beat the trick if you
 can,—
 Who put "Jolly" in Joliet!

'Tis an easy going sort of world, you have to
 travel far
 To find the one dissatisfied with conditions as
 they are.
 So when a man puts hustle on and makes
 things fairly hum,
 The world sits up and notices and says: "He's
 going some!"
 To find him in the common crowd—to label
 him right quick
 Pick out the man who's big enough to turn
 the biggest trick!
 Chorus: And he is the man, etc.

We read of fighters in the ring, of jockeys on
 the mount,
 Yet sometimes one must ever lose to take the
 fatal count.
 We're looking for the armored man—we love
 to hear his name,
 Who's good at giving knockout blows—who
 wins his every game!
 A chip indeed of a seasoned block, an "A-One"
 fired brick,
 Who's played his very greatest game, and
 turned his biggest trick!
 Chorus: And he is the man, etc.

HENRY SIMS

By N. K. N.

1859-1913

To be with us
 He counted not on worldly lure
 Or selfish gain; he sought and spent
 The life worth while; 'tis ever thus
 With gentle men of faith and power.
 The ringing message of the hour
 He caught with all its full intent;
 O, favored state, when life implies
 A sacrifice!

He knew there dwelt
 Inherent good in every man;
 And tho' to duty sternly bound
 Before Homes' altar fair he knelt!
 Pure fellowship his richest find,
 The swollen rapids of the mind
 He quite ignored; but sought and found
 The deeper springs and so retained
 The love first gained!

And we believe
 Disease ne'er took him from our midst;
 As well we know no wondrous skill
 Could stay the gentle taking—leave—
 Could keep the living breath within;
 Ah! no; 'twas something more akin
 To bitterness than human ill
 That bade the tortured soul depart—
 A broken heart!

What hopes and fears
 Crowd in this fortified acreage!
 How earnestly he eased the grief
 That fraught the narrow tale of years!
 That Sympathy, with fruitful aim,
 Within his heart enshrined became,
 Is not alone our full belief;
 No—in the Somewhere of the mists
 It still exists!

O, Joliet!
 Fling not thy tragedy of life
 To curious ears! Speak, speak to men
 Of thy imperishable debt!
 Of all the good that has been done—
 Of all the plans that must be won;
 The vagaries of How and When
 Can ne'er impede; thou canst command
 His outstretched hand!

"My Parole is Authorized"

A prisoner serving an indeterminate sentence receives what is usually called a "white ticket" when the Parole Board decides that it is willing to permit him to be paroled. The prisoner who receives such a ticket always announces "I am paroled." Then if there is delay about getting out he may be heard to complain that he has been "paroled three months" and still remains in prison.

What are the facts? The "white ticket" simply means that the Parole Board has authorized the Warden to permit the prisoner who receives it to go out on parole as soon as certain provisions of the parole law have been complied with.

The Parole Board cannot parole a prisoner, it can only authorize the Warden to do so. The Warden paroles the prisoner when he permits him to go out at the front door.

After the Parole Board has authorized the Warden to parole a prisoner the Warden does so as soon as certain features of the law are complied with—and he cannot parole a prisoner until this has been done.

The parole law stipulates that, before the Warden can parole a prisoner, suitable employment must have been found for him with an employer who is a citizen of this state, and he must be a responsible person who can himself furnish steady employment within the state. Such employer must sign a document commonly spoken of in this prison as "parole papers."

The above statement does not cover all the requirements of the law, but it substantially states that which has a bearing on the subject here discussed.

It is the Warden's duty to use good judgment in the matter of approving of the citizen who offers to sign the papers and of the employment offered, and this necessarily calls for an investigation, which takes time.

This delay in being paroled, after the Warden has been authorized by the Parole Board to admit the prisoner to parole, and before the requirements of the law have been met, is the ground for much complaint, particularly from those prisoners who cannot produce a responsible citizen to sign their papers.

If prisoners will stop saying "I am paroled,"

which is an inaccurate statement, and if they will state the proposition right by saying "my parole has been authorized," and if then they will keep in mind what the Warden is, by law, required to exact before he can release the prisoner on parole, there will not be so much complaining.

Editor's note:

The parole law will be discussed more extensively in an early number of this paper.



WANTED A DENTIST

By John Brady, a Prisoner

As a class we are very poor. Very few of us have more than pennies, and many have not even these.

The state lays its strong hand upon us and confines us for periods ranging from eleven months to life. During this time we earn no money.

No provisions are made for dental work, excepting the services of the visiting dentist, who charges prices which would be reasonable outside of a prison. Where does this leave a man with a tooth ache who has no money?

It is true that the prison physician will extract our teeth upon request, but it would only be a step further to cut off our toes for corns or ingrowing nails.

Many prisoners endure tooth aches for years in the effort to retain their teeth until they can reach a dentist after freedom is regained. As there is not one prisoner in twenty who can afford to employ a dentist, many compelled by insufferable pain submit to the extraction of their teeth.

Deformed mouths are seen all around us. Decaying teeth, and few or no teeth, ruin the health, particularly in a place like this where one cannot choose his food.

I do not know what action is necessary to provide us with a prison dentist, but I do know that we need a dentist here as soon as possible.



The Women's Prison

Very little is said in this issue about the Women's Prison. This is by reason of lack of time.

In the February number the Women's Prison will be discussed.

NO CHRISTMAS GIFTS FOR ME

(By a Prisoner in a State Prison)

I wonder who will think of me,
Now that Christmas time draws near,
When lights will glow upon the tree
And all the world is filled with cheer.

There'll be no Christmas gifts for me,
While living in this mansion grand
With walls so high; it makes me sigh
To think what I must stand.

I do the best I can while here,
As I think of friends who once were true;
Though I'll have no Christmas gifts with cheer
I can think of pleasant things I'd do.

But here I am so sad and lonely,
Now behind the prison bars;
Locked up in a felon's cell,
I cannot see the moon or stars.

I sit tonight, this song indite;
I know there're more than me
Who are alone so far from home;
No Christmas gifts they'll see.

There'll be no Christmas gifts for me,
Sadness in my heart doth dwell.
While the Christmas bells so sweetly ring,
To be locked up in a prison cell.

And so I think and look about;
I grieve, and think, and then I pray;
I ask the Lord to take me out—
O Lord, dear Lord! Take me
Away.

Oh, may kind friends now think of me,
When the Christmas time draws near,
When lights will glow upon the tree
And all the world is filled with cheer.

Years may come and years may go;
It is all the same to me.
I'll feel as if I had a Christmas gift,
The morning I get free.

Poets are born and there is no law against
it.—Editor.

Peters Manufacturing Co.,
304-310 East 22nd Street.

New York, December 23rd, 1913.
The Joliet Prison Post,
1900 Collins St.,
Joliet, Ills.

Dear Mr. Editor;—

In reply to your circular letter of December 20th, received this morning, we hasten to send you our check for \$5.00 as a general contribution; we have thought the matter over and cannot see where an advertisement in the Post would be useful, in our line of business.

We wish the boys in the stone-bedrooms as merry a Christmas as possible. Tell them, that, for the new year, the best idea they can get fixed in their heads is that there is no money in anything in this world except honesty and any man who has not got sense enough to know that and win out by staying honest, can't hope to win by being dishonest, for all dishonest men are fools.

It is a good deal like the man who cannot run the hundred yard dash in ten seconds, being fool enough to bet he can run it in five seconds, with his Life up on the bet.

Cordially yours,
Peters Manufacturing Co.
Wm. F. Peters,
Presdt.



No man was compelled to sign the honor pledge or receive the honor button. We can have respect for the few who did not sign, even though we question their good judgment.

Having signed the honor pledge every prisoner should keep his promise unsullied, and there is only one way to do that, which is to do nothing you would regret to have the Warden know about.



An editor who started about twenty years ago with only fifty-five cents is now worth \$100,000. His accumulation of wealth is owing to his frugality, good habits, strict attention to business, and the fact that an uncle died and left him \$99,999.—Lansing, Mich., Penitentiary Bulletin.

Bill Dayton's Philosophy

"Fellow prisoner, its our duty to work together in harmony and constitute our best intentions, in doing the right thing; and to be fair and square to the Warden and Deputy Warden—who are both working with all zeal to better the conditions here, who are working for our welfare.

What have we to kick about? We get plenty to eat and fresh air every day. Live up to the standard of the Warden's policy and be fair and square and things will run along more smoothly, and in the course of time this institution will be the model prison of the world. It cannot all come in a bunch—these good things will be all worked out in time through the instrumentality of two men whose names will ever live in the hearts of us all.

We should form and plant our best intentions on good impregnable ground, and if we do this, we have all to gain and nothing to lose. It's the best policy to live up to.

If we ever expect to gain anything in this world, we should do a little for ourselves, and not be like a class of bigots who have no reasoning power and whose machinery is rusty—like a side track in some little jerk-water town.

Stop and think for a moment and delve down into the recesses of your heart, and throw out what shouldn't be there and have a right heart and then you can act right, work well, sleep well, and your days will be more contented ones, and your life far more happier.

Everybody can learn to know something and know it well, even the ignoramous, regardless of his faults or what they may be.

Again we should break away from these antagonistic differences that creep in on us at times and get the best of us. We should not get jealous of a fellow-prisoner just because he gets a better job than we have.

Again we must have patience, and if we do, we will derive a good deal more from holding that key to the heart of indifference. The difficulties we meet with in this world are our friends, for they sharpen our wits and cause us

to struggle on with patience, and in the long run we will gain that what's worth while.

You do not have to be a stool pigeon in this prison in order to get a good job. It's the industrious individual who is given more consideration, respected and thought more of, and not the one who carries a hammer around with him to knock some one every time he sees the opportunity. He does not get anything for his "gab"—not under Allen's administration. The knocker nowadays has a back seat on the log train and is dead to this administration.

Men, be fair and square to the Warden and Deputy. A square deal is all they want. We are getting it and we should reciprocate their kindness, and be men—a combination of men—that the Warden and Deputy Warden will be proud of, and in the end we will thank ourselves and will be thought more of.

Let us do our part and be fair and square, and let us give the two high officials a square deal.

We are getting ours. "BE MEN."



New "Back-drop" for Chapel

R. P. H. Wolle, the artist, and his assistant, John Rudnick have just finished painting a "back-drop" for the stage in the chapel. The picture represents the marble staircase at the Dearborn Street entrance to the First National Bank in Chicago.

The painting, which is in water colors, measures eleven and one-half by nineteen feet, and it required three months time to complete it.

On Christmas morning the prisoners viewed it for the first time at the theatrical performance, and the artists were accorded an enthusiastic reception.

No matter how unfortunate Messrs. Wolle and Rudnick may be in sojourning with us, the inmates and the authorities are certainly to be congratulated upon their work in the prison studio.



"If a man kills another man is he always put in jail, mama?"

"Not always. Sometimes he is paid by the Government to do it; and if he can only kill enough he will have monuments erected to him."—Life.

LETTERS FROM THE INMATES

December 27th, 1913.

To the Editor:

The month of December now drawing to a close also marks the end of the year 1913, the most eventful one in the history of the Illinois State Penitentiary at Joliet. There are some of us who, looking at the symbols numerating the fading year, consider that we have been more or less unlucky on account of the superstitious fear that any day, or year, designated and represented by thirteen is synonymous with ill luck, but if there is or has been anything unlucky with those mysterious figures in connection with the conditions in and surrounding the fifteen hundred inmates of this Penitentiary the writer has failed to locate same and can produce only tidings of gladness and joy from his fellow prisoners who have partaken of many treats which were unknown and unthought of by former administrations at this prison.

If we can conscientiously say it was luck when Edmund M. Allen was appointed Warden of this institution then we should say that the inmates were predestinated for better times, for since Warden Allen stepped across the threshold of this institution he has wrought wonderful changes in its management to the benefit of its inmates, and at no additional expense.

In the humble opinion of the writer, who has had nineteen years experience, and seen many vain and fruitless attempts at the reformation of fallen manhood that the present method of handling men by appealing to that which is good within them is the only proper manner in performing a lasting good and of securing the everlasting reformation of those downtrodden men.

There is one point I wish to bring out forcibly regarding the disciplining of men: The inmate may unconsciously or impulsively infract a rule and no serious offense committed and be sorry for it the moment after. Give this person a good plain talking to and if the response of ninety per cent is not that they

are sorry then the writer believes that human nature must be a deeper study than he claims to have made.

Generally a prisoner can get the confidence and secret thoughts of his fellows better than the officers in charge, but in this institution none have the confidence of the inmates as much as Warden Allen. To him many of them unburden their troubles and tell just what is in their hearts and nearly every man that the Warden has placed confidence in has made good their word of honor.

The writer spoke to some of these men *before they left in the following vein: "Well, Bill, be square with the Warden, and if there is any secret move of a double cross on the part of any of your crowd do not be afraid of being called a "stool" by telling that man it don't go; for, Bill, I have been here a long time, and if you fellows make good that may give others a chance in the near future of enjoying God's air and sunshine on the outside."

Bill's answer was something like this: "If there is a double crosser in this honor bunch of forty-five and he tries to spoil the chances of men I leave behind I will not be a bit backward about telling them so." So you see, dear readers, that the year 1913, with its trail of sorrows also brought abundant joy in having a man at the head of this institution who places confidence in a transgressor's word.

It gives the writer pleasure, if he has to be confined, to have as his superior a man whom all can look upon as his friend, and with all of 1913 luck let us hope that 1914 will be luckier.

Respectfully,

John Carey.

*Referring to the forty-five honor men who were sent to Camp Hope.



The married man who hesitates is bossed.

A rich young widow and her weeds are soon parted.

Nothing makes a man so sad as to have a girl jolly him.

The more friends a woman has the more she 'as to talk about.

The man who follows his inclination never gets very far from the bottom of the ladder.—
Chicago News.

December 24, 1913.

To the Editor :

Having served time here for more than eighteen years I have seen constant improvements in our conditions, but never so fast as during the past eight months.

It will probably be in your province to write of the more important recent changes and on this assumption I wish to mention improvements which you may overlook.

It is over eighteen years since any courtesies have been extended to me by ladies, excepting those visiting me. On July fourth last, the Warden's mother and his wife and a number of their lady friends came into the yard to serve refreshments and how nice it was to be waited on by ladies who tried to make us feel that they enjoyed serving us.

We now have slippers in our cells so that when we come home in the evening with tired feet and, perhaps, wet shoes, we can put them on. I do not believe this will put any additional burden on the tax payers, as, by wearing our slippers we save our shoes, which cost more.

Then we have pencils and paper in our cells, and what a help these are in passing the time.

On holidays we are permitted to leave our cells and move about in the corridors of the cell houses, where the air is much better than in the cells.

No one who has not had the experience can realize what it means for two men to be confined on a holiday in a cell four feet wide, seven feet long and seven feet high, with over half the space occupied by a two story bed, and the only relief from monotony is the short trips to the Chapel and the Dining Hall. In the past when a holiday fell on a Monday, it meant that we were confined in these cells from Saturday evening until Tuesday morning. How I have dreaded these holidays. Now by reason of the privileges of the corridors they are robbed of their terrors, and this at no expense to the state.

What a fine thing it is to have games, such as checkers and dominoes so that one may play with his cell mate and, to a limited extent, forget his troubles.

Under Mr. Allen, if two cell mates are antagonistic to one another, upon the request of either, they are separated. How, in the past, it

has added to dislikes once engendered for two cell mates who were 'uncongenial to be forced to be in each others company for over fourteen hours every day, and what deeply rooted hatreds have resulted.

Then in the matter of clothing, what a lot of ragamuffins we were eight months ago. I wore brogans for many years and they hurt my feet all the time, now I wear soft shoes, which, I am informed, cost less money and wear longer.

Then, too, on dark Sundays and holidays the electric lights are turned on in our cells and instead of moping around in the dark we can read and write and tinker to our heart's content.

Those of us who are of the Catholic faith must not overlook the fact that, under Mr. Allen, we have Catholic services every two weeks, and Mass every Sunday instead of once a month. I feel confident that our Protestant brothers rejoice with us over this.

Then, last but not least, another economy and a humane improvement; for over eighteen years I, in common with the other prisoners have worn the same heavy coat in summer which served in winter. Oh, on how many hot days have I dreaded going to meals because I was under orders to wear that heavy garment. This summer we have worn the thin coats, made of shirting, every day and they cost only about one-tenth as much as the winter coats.

I say, long life to Warden E. M. Allen and Deputy Warden William Walsh and to their many officers who leave us alone so long as we behave properly.

We are with the Warden and will by good behavior and industry do our share towards maintaining discipline.

Just let us know what you wish, Mr. Allen, and at least ninety five men out of every one hundred will respond without the occasion for the use of intimidation or force on the part of any of your officers.

J. C.



Severe discipline recognized no occasion where one prisoner could legitimately help another.



A prisoner must learn to criticise himself before he can reform. Finding fault with others stands in the way of his reformation.

Dec. 23rd, 1913.

REPRINTS

To the Editor:

The "Good Time Law" was intended as a humane measure calculated to give convicted men the opportunity of having their sentences reduced as a reward for good behavior. Has it worked out this way?

Judges and juries are usually informed with regard to the provisions of the good time laws and prosecuting attorneys have been known to call the attention of jurors to its provisions.

It is safe to say that every judge and jury knows that when a sentence is fixed at fourteen years the good time law operates to cut it down to eight years and three months; or, to reverse the proposition, when a judge or jury decides to impose a sentence of eight years and three months they fix the sentence at fourteen years in order to get the desired results. If this is so the "Good Time Law" becomes in effect a "Bad Time Law" because it enables prison authorities to add to a prisoner's sentence for infraction of rules.

So, after all, the good time law bestows no benefit on prisoners who were convicted after the law became operative.

George Williams.



Booth Tarkington, like most litterateurs, writes a wretched hand. Of this he said in New York recently:

"Once, when crossing to Naples, I sat in my deck-chair with pad and fountain pen, at work on a short story. A young Peorian stopped before me.

"By gosh," he said, 'I wish I could write as well as you do.'

"I smiled, and the Peorian resumed his promenade. The next time he passed me he said again:

"Gee, what a hand! If I could only write like that!"

"Again I smiled a flattered smile, and the Peorian made another round of the deck. Then he said a third time:

"Oh, if I could only write a hand like yours!"

"Nettled a little by this third interruption, I said:

"Well, what would you do if you could?"

"Go to China," said the Peorian, 'and write labels for tea boxes.'"—New Orleans States.

MISPLACED SYMPATHY

The Curse of Self-Pity

" 'Tis good and noble to be kind;
But charity should not be blind."

The human heart naturally craves sympathy. The song we sometimes sing, "The world is dying for a little bit of love," is a true sentiment. The little child perishes without it, and grown up folks will do better with a little human sympathy now and then.

Jesus in Gethsemane, when all alone bearing the sin of the world, sadly expressed his heart hunger for sympathy when he said to his sleeping disciples, "What, could you not watch with me one hour?" And it would seem that his conversation with the woman of Samaria was prompted by this inner craving for sympathy from the depths of the human heart.

Yet however good this may be, nothing is so destructive to every atom of moral stamina and self-respect, as misplaced sympathy. To sympathize with a man when he has done a flagrant wrong or even a petty wrong for that matter, is to invite calamity in its direct form to his heart and life. It helps him to frame up excuses for his wrong doing, and finally he is justifying himself for having done the wrong.

Of course in a sense we sympathize with every wrong-doer, in that we are sorry that he was so short-sighted as to do the wrong, but he should never be given the idea for a moment that he is being sympathized with because he has landed in jail. What he needs is to feel keenly that all right thinking men and women look with contempt upon his deed of wrong. There needs to come to him a deep feeling of remorse and shame for the sin committed. It is absolutely necessary before any reform can be accomplished, that he go through the agonies of an offended conscience. The deeper the grief so much sooner will the sin-stained life be cleansed.

Too many folks in prison sit down to pity themselves, when they ought to be pitying the ones sinned against.

It ought to come very forcibly to their minds that perhaps folks outside are suffering infinitely more than they who are in prison, because of the very sin they have committed.

Forgiveness is nearly always ready for the wrong-doer if he owns his guilt, and begs pardon. True, some people will never forgive, but there is a great host who will. How contemptible it is for any one who is really guilty to deny the fact. It only adds more shame and humiliation to the already sin-burdened life.

The writer was conversing with a prisoner concerning his case. He very frankly but humbly said:

"A man who does what I did deserves no pity when he lands in prison." But somehow you just could not help sympathizing with him. It was in fact no misplaced sympathy. Truly such a humble confession was evidence of a strong manhood.

Sympathy then should never be doled out like paregoric as a soothing syrup to the sinner. Like that pernicious drug, it puts to sleep all the finer qualities of manhood, and leaves the wreck to drift on from bad to worse.—*Lansing, Kansas, Penitentiary Bulletin.*



URGES CONVICTS WORK ON ROADS

North Carolina Delegate to Philadelphia Congress Outlines Plan—Incentive Necessity

Philadelphia, Pa., Dec. 10.—The practicability of using convicts in the construction of public roads was discussed at today's session of the American Road Builders' association, and several speakers agreed inmates of prisons should be so employed, both from a moral standpoint and as a saving for the state.

Joseph Hyde Pratt, state geologist of North Carolina, introduced the subject of convict labor. He advocated that prisoners in penitentiaries be divided in three classes and that they be given an opportunity by good conduct to reach the first class. He favored the employment of prisoners in the construction of public roads.

P. J. Wilson, state highway commissioner of Virginia, one of the three eastern states working convicts on the roads, indorsed the suggestions of Pratt.

"Starting on the principle that a convict is merely paying a debt to the state, and that if you treat him well he will respond," Mr. Pratt said, "my idea is that the convicts should be divided into three classes. The first group should not have to wear stripes or any dis-

tinctive uniform, and should be put on honor to do its stated share of work and not escape. The second group should wear a distinctive uniform but not stripes. The third group should wear stripes and have their heads shaved, if necessary.

"By paying the first group men more than the second for their labor and the second more than the third, you set up a natural rivalry which will make all try to work their way into the first group.

"Only when a man has proved he cannot be trusted should he be dropped into the third class and kept there. Even the worst prisoner should have a chance to work his way back into the select company of the honor men.

"A certain amount of outdoor work is necessary for the health of prisoners. The state should not be vindictive and ruin his health and starve his family while making him pay the penalty of a crime. If used on the roads the men should be paid fair wages, with the actual cost of their keep subtracted and should be paid a fair amount for overtime or extra work.

"House the men well in sanitary, scientifically constructed camps. Give them good food, and see to it that the guards play square with them.

"Personally, I believe long term men can be trusted to keep faith. Encourage the families of prisoners to stick by them, to visit them often and to write to them. Make it plain that when they serve their sentence the state is willing to give them a fresh start. Let the state board of health have control of the camps. Give the men books and magazines. The state will be a hundred times repaid, not only in new roads, but in new citizens who will be a credit to the community."

The Rev. Frank Moore, superintendent of the state reformatory at Rahway, N. J., opposed the project.

"I do not believe it is fair to compel the prisoners to work outside," he said. "Some men would regard employment as prisoners in the public view as so humiliating that the harmful effect might never be overcome.

"I am also opposed to any state exploiting convicts or making money out of their labor. When a state exploits the convict it makes a permanent criminal out of him."

—Chicago Tribune.

THE "GUN-TOTER"

The gun-toter is as dangerous as he is foolish. He is dangerous and a constant menace whether he be vicious or not. To illustrate: A man goes out as a highwayman and kills somebody deliberately, and another goes out, not intending to do any harm, but, because of having a gun in his possession, kills a man. The motive inspiring both the deeds are vastly different in fact and in law—but which of the people killed is the most dead?

The daily papers tell every day of deaths occurring at the hands of the gun-toter. Why not eliminate him? Who needs him in society or anywhere else. Is he not a constant menace to mankind.

We talk of the prohibition of the liquor traffic—which is right and proper; but can we not slip in a word edgewise upon the prohibition of the "gun-toter?" You say "we have laws on the subject"—then let us preach the rigid enforcement of these laws!

But, best of all, why manufacture the miserable instrument of death at all. If it had not been for the dangerous revolver, Lincoln, Garfield nor McKinley would not have been assassinated—at least not so easily. The pistol may be so easily concealed that the victim seldom realizes he is in danger until the assassin has fired the deadly bullet.

Many people are now serving terms in prison who would be free had it not been for the deadly revolver. Of what use is it? Can anyone offer a reasonable excuse for its existence?

Then why not prohibit the manufacture and sale of this detestable machine of death?—Lansing (Mich.) Penitentiary Bulletin.



The amount of rock quarried annually at the Joliet Penitentiary amounts to about 87,500 cubic yards; this, figured at seventy-five cents a cubic yard, totals \$65,625.00.

It is all furnished, free of charge, for road improvements upon application of the highway commissioners of the various counties in the state.



Severe discipline left room for neither generosity or good will on the part of the prisoner.

OL' MISTAH TROUBLE

Ol' Mistah Trouble he come aroun' one day,
An' say: "I gwinter git you, so you better
run away!"

I like to see you hustle. Dat's de way I has my
fun;

I knows I kin ketch up to you, no matter how
you run."

I says: "Mistah Trouble, you have been
a-chasing me

Ever since I kin remember, an' I'se tired as
I kin be;

So I'se gwinter stop right yere an' turn aroun'
a-facin' you

An' lick you if I kin, an' fin' jus' what you kin
do."

Ol' Mistah Trouble, he looked mighty
ashamed;

He acted like a buckin' hoss dat's suddenly
been tamed;

An' den he turned and traveled off a-hollerin':
"Good day,

I ain't got time to fool aroun' wif' folks dat
acts dat way!"

—Washington Star.



If vindictiveness is the underlying principle of prison detention, then Warden Allen's progressive methods are all wrong.



Announcement

We print in this issue the Constitution of the United States, with amendments, and hope that all the inmates of this institution will take advantage of this opportunity for perusal of same.

This will be followed with the Constitution of the State of Illinois in the succeeding issue.

Then the laws authorizing the parole of convicts in Illinois will be presented.

With the February number a series of instructive articles, explaining to the inmates of this institution those fundamental principles of criminal jurisprudence which directly affect them, will begin.

The Editor

CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES 1787—(1)

We, the people of the United States, in order to form a more perfect union, establish justice, insure domestic tranquillity, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.

ARTICLE I

Section 1. All legislative powers herein granted shall be vested in a Congress of the United States, which shall consist of a Senate and House of Representatives.

Section 2. 1 The House of Representatives shall be composed of members chosen every second year by the people of the several States, and the electors in each State shall have the qualifications requisite for electors of the most numerous branch of the State legislature.

2 No person shall be a representative who shall not have attained to the age of twenty-five years, and been seven years a citizen of the United States, and who shall not, when elected, be an inhabitant of that State in which he shall be chosen.

3 Representatives and direct taxes shall be apportioned among the several States which may be included within this Union, according to their respective numbers, which shall be determined by adding to the whole number of free persons, including those bound to service for a term of years, and excluding Indians not taxed, three fifths of all other persons.(2) The actual enumeration shall be made within three years after the first meeting of the Congress of the United States, and within every subsequent term of ten years, in such manner as they shall by law direct. The number of representatives shall not exceed one for every thirty thousand, but each State shall have at least one representative; and until such enumeration shall be made, the State of New Hampshire shall be entitled to choose three, Massachusetts eight, Rhode Island and Providence Plantations one, Connecticut five, New York six, New Jersey four, Pennsylvania eight, Delaware one, Maryland six, Virginia ten, North Carolina five, South Carolina five, and Georgia three.

4 When vacancies happen in the representation from any State, the executive authority thereof shall issue writs of election to fill such vacancies.

5 The House of Representatives shall choose their speaker and other officers, and shall have the sole power of impeachment.

Section 3. 1 The Senate of the United States shall be composed of two senators from each State, chosen by the legislature thereof for six years; and each senator shall have one vote.

2 Immediately after they shall be assembled in consequence of the first election, they shall be divided as equally as may be into three classes. The seats of the senators of the first class shall be vacated at the expiration of the second year, of the second class at the expiration of the fourth year, and of the third class at the expiration of the sixth year, so that one third may be chosen every second year; and if vacancies happen by resignation, or otherwise, during the recess of the legislature of any

State, the executive thereof may make temporary appointments until the next meeting of the legislature, which shall then fill such vacancies.

3 No person shall be a senator who shall not have attained to the age of thirty years, and been nine years a citizen of the United States, and who shall not, when elected, be an inhabitant of that State for which he shall be chosen.

4 The Vice President of the United States shall be President of the Senate, but shall have no vote, unless they be equally divided.

5 The Senate shall choose their other officers, and also a president *pro tempore*, in the absence of the Vice President, or when he shall exercise the office of President of the United States.

6 The Senate shall have the sole power to try all impeachments. When sitting for that purpose they shall be on oath or affirmation. When the President of the United States is tried, the chief justice shall preside, and no person shall be convicted without the concurrence of two thirds of the members present.

7 Judgment in cases of impeachment shall not extend further than to removal from office, and disqualification to hold and enjoy any office of honor, trust or profit under the United States, but the party convicted shall nevertheless be liable and subject to indictment, trial, judgment and punishment, according to law.

Section 4. 1 The times, places, and manner of holding elections for senators and representatives, shall be prescribed in each State by the legislature thereof; but the Congress may at any time by law make or alter such regulations, except as to the places of choosing senators.

2 The Congress shall assemble at least once in every year, and such meeting shall be on the first Monday in December, unless they shall by law appoint a different day.

Section 5. 1 Each House shall be the judge of the elections, returns and qualifications of its own members, and a majority of each shall constitute a quorum to do business; but a smaller number may adjourn from day to day, and may be authorized to compel the attendance of absent members, in such manner, and under such penalties as each House may provide.

2 Each House may determine the rule of its proceedings, punish its members for disorderly behavior, and, with the concurrence of two thirds, expel a member.

3 Each House shall keep a journal of its proceedings, and from time to time publish the same, excepting such parts as may in their judgment require secrecy; and the yeas and nays of the members of either House on any question shall, at the desire of one fifth of those present, be entered on the journal.

4 Neither House, during the session of Congress, shall, without the consent of the other, adjourn for more than three days, nor to any other place than that in which the two Houses shall be sitting.

Section 6. 1 The senators and representatives shall receive a compensation for their services, to be ascertained by law, and paid out of the Treasury of the United States. They shall in all cases, except treason, felony and breach of the peace, be privileged from arrest during their attendance at the session of their respective Houses, and in going to and returning from the same; and for any speech

or debate in either House, they shall not be questioned in any other place.

2 No senator or representative shall, during the time for which he was elected, be appointed to any civil office under the authority of the United States, which shall have been created, or the emoluments whereof shall have been increased during such time; and no person holding any office under the United States shall be a member of either House during his continuance in office.

Section 7. 1 All bills for raising revenue shall originate in the House of Representatives; but the Senate may propose or concur with amendments as on other bills.

2 Every bill which shall have passed the House of Representatives and the Senate, shall, before it become a law, be presented to the President of the United States; if he approve he shall sign it, but if not he shall return it, with his objections to that House in which it shall have originated, who shall enter the objections at large on their journal, and proceed to reconsider it. If after such reconsideration two thirds of that House shall agree to pass the bill, it shall be sent, together with the objections, to the other House, by which it shall likewise be reconsidered, and if approved by two thirds of that House, it shall become a law. But in all such cases the votes of both Houses shall be determined by yeas and nays, and the names of the persons voting for and against the bill shall be entered on the journal of each House respectively. If any bill shall not be returned by the President within ten days (Sundays excepted) after it shall have been presented to him, the same shall be a law, in like manner as if he had signed it, unless the Congress by their adjournment prevent its return, in which case it shall not be a law.

3 Every order, resolution, or vote to which the concurrence of the Senate and House of Representatives may be necessary (except on a question of adjournment) shall be presented to the President of the United States; and before the same shall take effect, shall be approved by him, or being disapproved by him, shall be repassed by two thirds of the Senate and House of Representatives, according to the rules and limitations prescribed in the case of a bill.

Section 8. 1 The Congress shall have power to lay and collect taxes, duties, imposts and excises, to pay the debts and provide for the common defense and general welfare of the United States; but all duties, imposts and excises shall be uniform throughout the United States;

2 To borrow money on the credit of the United States;

3 To regulate commerce with foreign nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian tribes;

4 To establish a uniform rule of naturalization and uniform laws on the subject of bankruptcies, throughout the United States;

5 To coin money, regulate the value thereof, and of foreign coin, and fix the standard of weights and measures;

6 To provide for the punishment of counterfeiting the securities and current coin of the United States;

7 To establish postoffices and post roads;

8 To promote the progress of science and useful arts by securing for limited times to authors and inventors the exclusive right to their respective writings and discoveries;

9 To constitute tribunals inferior to the Supreme Court;

10 To define and punish piracies and felonies committed on the high seas, and offenses against the law of nations;

11 To declare war, grant letters of marque and reprisal, and make rules concerning captures on land and water;

12 To raise and support armies, but no appropriation of money to that use shall be for a longer term than two years;

13 To provide and maintain a navy;

14 To make rules for the government and regulation of the land and naval forces;

15 To provide for calling forth the militia to execute the laws of the Union, suppress insurrections and repel invasions;

16 To provide for organizing, arming, and disciplining the militia, and for governing such part of them as may be employed in the service of the United States, reserving to the States respectively the appointment of the officers, and the authority of training the militia according to the discipline prescribed by Congress;

17 To exercise exclusive legislation in all cases whatsoever, over such district (not exceeding ten miles square) as may, by cession of particular States and the acceptance of Congress, become the seat of the government of the United States, (3) and to exercise like authority over all places purchased by the consent of the legislature of the State in which the same shall be, for the erection of forts, magazines, arsenals, dockyards, and other needful buildings; and

18 To make all laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into execution the foregoing powers and all other powers vested by this Constitution in the government of the United States, or in any department or officer thereof.

Section 9. 1 The migration or importation of such persons as any of the States now existing shall think proper to admit, shall not be prohibited by the Congress prior to the year one thousand eight hundred and eight, but a tax or duty may be imposed on such importation, not exceeding ten dollars for each person.

2 The privilege of the writ of habeas corpus shall not be suspended, unless when in cases of rebellion or invasion the public safety may require it.

3 No bill of attainder or ex post facto law shall be passed.

4 No capitation, or other direct, tax shall be laid, unless in proportion to the census or enumeration hereinbefore directed to be taken.

5 No tax or duty shall be laid on articles exported from any State.

6 No preference shall be given by any regulation of commerce or revenue to the ports of one State over those of another; nor shall vessels bound to, or from, one State be obliged to enter, clear, or pay duties in another.

7 No money shall be drawn from the treasury, but in consequence of appropriations made by law; and a regular statement and account of the receipts and expenditures of all public money shall be published from time to time.

8 No title of nobility shall be granted by the United States; and no person holding any office of profit or trust under them, shall, without the consent of the Congress, accept of any present, emolument, office, or title, of any kind whatever, from any king, prince, or foreign State.

Section 10. 1 No State shall enter into any treaty, alliance, or confederation; grant letters of marque and reprisal; coin money; emit bills of credit; make anything but gold and silver coin a tender in payment of debts; pass any bill of attainder, ex post facto law, or law impairing the obligation of contracts, or grant any title of nobility.

2 No State shall, without the consent of the Congress, lay any imposts or duties on imports or exports, except what may be absolutely necessary for executing its inspection laws; and the net produce of all duties and imposts laid by any State on imports or exports, shall be for the use of the treasury of the United States; and all such laws shall be subject to the revision and control of the Congress.

3 No State shall, without the consent of Congress, lay any duty of tonnage, keep troops, or ships of war in time of peace, enter into any agreement or compact with another State, or with a foreign power, or engage in war, unless actually invaded, or in such imminent danger as will not admit of delay.

ARTICLE II

Section 1. 1 The executive power shall be vested in a President of the United States of America. He shall hold his office during the term of four years, and, together with the Vice President, chosen for the same term, be elected, as follows:

2 Each State shall appoint in such manner as the legislature thereof may direct, a number of electors, equal to the whole number of senators and representatives to which the State may be entitled in the Congress; but no senator or representative, or person holding an office of trust or profit under the United States, shall be appointed an elector.

(4) The electors shall meet in their respective States, and vote by ballot for two persons, of whom one at least shall not be an inhabitant of the same State with themselves. And they shall make a list of all the persons voted for, and of the number of votes for each; which list they shall sign and certify, and transmit sealed to the seat of the government of the United States, directed to the president of the Senate. The president of the Senate shall, in the presence of the Senate and the House of Representatives, open all the certificates, and the votes shall then be counted. The person having the greatest number of votes shall be the President, if such number be a majority of the whole number of electors appointed; and if there be more than one who have such majority, and have an equal number of votes, then the House of Representatives shall immediately choose by ballot one of them for President; and if no person have a majority, then from the five highest on the list the said house shall in like manner choose the President. But in choosing the President, the votes shall be taken by States, the representation from each State having one vote; a quorum for this purpose shall consist of a member or members from two thirds of the States, and a majority of all the States shall be necessary to a choice. In every case, after the choice of the President, the person having the greatest number of votes of the electors shall be the Vice President. But if there should remain two or more who have equal votes, the Senate shall choose from them by ballot the Vice President. (5)

3 The Congress may determine the time of choosing the electors, and the day on which they shall give their votes; which day shall be the same throughout the United States.

4 No person except a natural born citizen, or a citizen of the United States, at the time of the adoption of this Constitution, shall be eligible to the office of President; neither shall any person be eligible to that office who shall not have attained to the age of thirty-five years, and been fourteen years a resident within the United States.

5 In case of the removal of the President from office, or of his death, resignation, or inability to discharge the powers and duties of the said office, the same shall devolve on the Vice President, and the Congress may by law provide for the case of removal, death, resignation, or inability, both of the President and Vice President, declaring what officer shall then act as President, and such officer shall act accordingly, until the disability be removed, or a President shall be elected.

6 The President shall, at stated times, receive for his services a compensation, which shall neither be increased nor diminished during the period for which he shall have been elected, and he shall not receive within that period any other emolument from the United States, or any of them.

7 Before he enter on the execution of his office, he shall take the following oath or affirmation:—"I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will faithfully execute the office of President of the United States, and will to the best of my ability, preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States."

Section 2. 1 The President shall be commander in chief of the army and navy of the United States, and of the militia of the several States, when called into the actual service of the United States; he may require the opinion, in writing, of the principal officer in each of the executive departments, upon any subject relating to the duties of their respective offices, and he shall have power to grant reprieves and pardons for offenses against the United States, except in cases of impeachment.

2 He shall have power, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, to make treaties, provided two thirds of the senators present concur; and he shall nominate, and by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, shall appoint ambassadors, other public ministers and consuls, judges of the Supreme Court, and all other officers of the United States, whose appointments are not herein otherwise provided for, and which shall be established by law; but the Congress may by law vest the appointment of such inferior officers, as they think proper, in the President alone, in the courts of law, or in the heads of departments.

3 The President shall have power to fill up all vacancies that may happen during the recess of the Senate, by granting commissions which shall expire at the end of their next session.

Section 3. He shall from time to time give to the Congress information of the state of the Union, and recommend to their consideration such measures as he shall judge necessary and expedient; he may, on extraordinary occasions, convene both Houses, or either of them, and in case of disagreement between them with respect to the time of adjournment, he may adjourn them to such time as he shall think proper; he shall receive ambassadors and other public ministers; he shall take care that the laws be faithfully executed, and shall commission all the officers of the United States.

Section 4. The President, Vice President, and all civil officers of the United States, shall be re-

removed from office on impeachment for, and conviction of, treason, bribery, or other high crimes and misdemeanors.

ARTICLE III

Section 1. The judicial power of the United States shall be vested in one Supreme Court, and in such inferior courts as the Congress may from time to time ordain and establish. The judges, both of the Supreme and inferior courts, shall hold their offices during good behavior, and shall, at stated times, receive for their services, a compensation which shall not be diminished during their continuance in office.

Section 2. 1 The judicial power shall extend to all cases, in law and equity, arising under this Constitution, the laws of the United States, and treaties made, or which shall be made, under their authority;—to all cases affecting ambassadors, other public ministers and consuls;—to all cases of admiralty and maritime jurisdiction;—to controversies to which the United States shall be a party;—to controversies between two or more States;—between a State and citizens of another State;(6)—between citizens of different States;—between citizens of the same State claiming lands under grants of different States, and between a State, or the citizens thereof, and foreign States, citizens or subjects.

2 In all cases affecting ambassadors, other public ministers and consuls, and those in which a State shall be party, the Supreme Court shall have original jurisdiction. In all the other cases before mentioned, the Supreme Court shall have appellate jurisdiction, both as to law and to fact, with such exceptions, and under such regulations as the Congress shall make.

3 The trial of all crimes, except in cases of impeachment, shall be by jury; and such trial shall be held in the State where the said crimes shall have been committed; but when not committed within any State, the trial shall be at such place or places as the Congress may by law have directed.

Section 3. 1 Treason against the United States, shall consist only in levying war against them, or in adhering to their enemies, giving them aid and comfort. No person shall be convicted of treason unless on the testimony of two witnesses to the same overt act, or on confession in open court.

2 The Congress shall have power to declare the punishment of treason, but no attainder of treason shall work corruption of blood, or forfeiture except during the life of the person attainted.

ARTICLE IV

Section 1. Full faith and credit shall be given in each State to the public acts, records, and judicial proceedings of every other State. And the Congress may by general laws prescribe the manner in which such acts, records and proceedings shall be proved, and the effect thereof.

Section 2. 1 The citizens of each State shall be entitled to all privileges and immunities of citizens in the several States.

2 A person charged in any State with treason, felony, or other crime, who shall flee from justice, and be found in another State, shall on demand of the executive authority of the State from which he fled, be delivered up to be removed to the State having jurisdiction of the crime.

3 No person held to service or labor in one State, under the laws thereof, escaping into another,

shall, in consequence of any law or regulation therein, be discharged from such service or labor, but shall be delivered up on claim of the party to whom such service or labor may be due.

Section 3. 1 New States may be admitted by the Congress into this Union; but no new State shall be formed or erected within the jurisdiction of any other State; nor any State be formed by the junction of two or more States, or parts of States, without the consent of the legislatures of the States concerned as well as of the Congress.

2 The Congress shall have power to dispose of and make all needful rules and regulations respecting the territory or other property belonging to the United States; and nothing in this Constitution shall be so construed as to prejudice any claims of the United States, or of any particular State.

Section 4. The United States shall guarantee to every State in this Union a republican form of government, and shall protect each of them against invasion; and on application of the legislature, or of the executive (when the legislature cannot be convened) against domestic violence.

ARTICLE V

The Congress, whenever two thirds of both Houses shall deem it necessary, shall propose amendments to this Constitution, or, on the application of the legislatures of two thirds of the several States, shall call a convention for proposing amendments, which, in either case, shall be valid to all intents and purposes, as part of this Constitution, when ratified by the legislatures of three fourths of the several States, or by conventions in three fourths thereof, as the one or the other mode of ratification may be proposed by the Congress; Provided that no amendment which may be made prior to the year one thousand eight hundred and eight shall in any manner affect the first and fourth clauses in the ninth section of the first article; and that no State, without its consent, shall be deprived of its equal suffrage in the Senate.

ARTICLE VI

1 All debts contracted and engagements entered into, before the adoption of this Constitution, shall be as valid against the United States under this Constitution, as under the Confederation.

2 This Constitution, and the laws of the United States which shall be made in pursuance thereof; and all treaties made, or which shall be made, under the authority of the United States, shall be the supreme law of the land; and the judges in every State shall be bound thereby, anything in the Constitution or laws of any State to the contrary notwithstanding.

3 The senators and representatives before mentioned, and the members of the several State legislatures, and all executive and judicial officers, both of the United States, and of the several States, shall be bound by oath or affirmation to support this Constitution; but no religious test shall ever be required as a qualification to any office or public trust under the United States.

ARTICLE VII

The ratification of the conventions of nine States shall be sufficient for the establishment of this Constitution between the States so ratifying the same.(7) Done in Convention by the unanimous consent of the States present the seventeenth day of September in the year of our Lord one thousand seven

hundred and eighty-seven, and of the independence of the United States of America the twelfth. In witness whereof we have hereunto subscribed our names,

Go: Washington—

Presidt. and Deputy from Virginia

New Hampshire

John Langdon

Nicholas Gilman

Massachusetts

Nathaniel Gorham

Rufus King

Connecticut

Wm. Saml. Johnson

Roger Sherman

New York

Alexander Hamilton

New Jersey

Wil: Livingston

David Brearly

Wm. Paterson

Jona: Dayton

Pennsylvania

B. Franklin

Thomas Mifflin

Robt. Morris

Geo. Clymer

Thos. Fitzsimons

Jared Ingersoll

James Wilson

Gouv Morris

Delaware

Geo: Read

Gunning Bedford Jun

John Dickinson

Richard Bassett

Jaco: Broom

Maryland

James Mellenry

Dan of St. Thos Jenifer

Danl. Carroll

Virginia

John Blair

James Madison Jr.

North Carolina

Wm. Blount

Richd. Dobbs Spaight

Hu Williamson

South Carolina

J. Rutledge

Charles Cotesworth

Pinckney

Charles Pinckney

Pierce Butler

Georgia

William Few

Abr Baldwin

Attest

William Jackson

Secretary

Articles in addition to, and amendment of, the Constitution of the United States of America, proposed by Congress, and ratified by the legislatures of the several States pursuant to the fifth article of the original Constitution.

ARTICLE I (8)

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the government for a redress of grievances.

ARTICLE II

A well regulated militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear arms, shall not be infringed.

ARTICLE III

No soldier shall, in time of peace be quartered in any house, without the consent of the owner, nor in time of war, but in a manner to be prescribed by law.

ARTICLE IV

The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures shall not be violated, and no warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause, supported by oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized.

ARTICLE V

No person shall be held to answer for a capital,

or otherwise infamous crime, unless on a presentment or indictment of a grand jury, except in cases arising in the land or naval forces, or in the militia, when in actual service in time of war or public danger; nor shall any person be subject for the same offense to be twice put in jeopardy of life or limb; nor shall be compelled in any criminal case to be a witness against himself, nor be deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor shall private property be taken for public use without just compensation.

ARTICLE VI

In all criminal prosecutions, the accused shall enjoy the right to a speedy and public trial, by an impartial jury of the State and district wherein the crime shall have been committed, which district shall have been previously ascertained by law, and to be informed of the nature and cause of the accusation; to be confronted with the witnesses against him; to have compulsory process for obtaining witnesses in his favor, and to have the assistance of counsel for his defense.

ARTICLE VII

In suits at common law, where the value in controversy shall exceed twenty dollars, the right of trial by jury shall be preserved, and no fact tried by a jury shall be otherwise re-examined in any court of the United States, than according to the rules of the common law.

ARTICLE VIII

Excessive bail shall not be required, nor excessive fines imposed, nor cruel and unusual punishments inflicted.

ARTICLE IX

The enumeration in the Constitution of certain rights shall not be construed to deny or disparage others retained by the people.

ARTICLE X

The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people.

ARTICLE XI (9)

The judicial power of the United States shall not be construed to extend to any suit in law or equity, commenced or prosecuted against one of the United States by citizens of another State, or by citizens or subjects of any foreign State.

ARTICLE XII (10)

The electors shall meet in their respective States, and vote by ballot for President and Vice President, one of whom, at least, shall not be an inhabitant of the same State with themselves; they shall name in their ballots the person voted for as President, and in distinct ballots the person voted for as Vice President, and they shall make distinct lists of all persons voted for as President and of all persons voted for as Vice President, and of the number of votes for each, which lists they shall sign and certify, and transmit sealed to the seat of the government of the United States, directed to the president of the Senate:—The president of the Senate shall, in presence of the Senate and House of Representatives, open all the certificates and the votes shall then be counted:—The person having the greatest number of votes for President

shall be the President, if such number be a majority of the whole number of electors appointed; and if no person have such majority, then from the persons having the highest numbers not exceeding three on the list of those voted for as President, the House of Representatives shall choose immediately, by ballot, the President. But in choosing the President, the votes shall be taken by States, the representation from each State having one vote; a quorum for this purpose shall consist of a member or members from two thirds of the States, and a majority of all the States shall be necessary to a choice. And if the House of Representatives shall not choose a President whenever the right of choice shall devolve upon them, before the fourth day of March next following, then the Vice President shall act as President, as in the case of the death or other constitutional disability of the President. The person having the greatest number of votes as Vice President shall be the Vice President, if such number be a majority of the whole number of electors appointed, and if no person have a majority, then from the two highest numbers on the list, the Senate shall choose the Vice President; a quorum for the purpose shall consist of two thirds of the whole number of Senators, and a majority of the whole number shall be necessary to a choice. But no person constitutionally ineligible to the office of President shall be eligible to that of Vice President of the United States.

ARTICLE XIII (11)

Section 1. 1 Neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, except as punishment for crime whereof the party shall have been duly convicted, shall exist within the United States, or any place subject to their jurisdiction.

2 Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

ARTICLE XIV (12)

1 All persons born or naturalized in the United States, and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States and of the State wherein they reside. No State shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States; nor shall any State deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws.

2 Representatives shall be apportioned among the several States according to their respective numbers, counting the whole number of persons in each State, excluding Indians not taxed. But when the right to vote at any election for the choice of electors for President and Vice President of the United States, representatives in Congress, the executive and judicial officers of a State, or the members of the legislature thereof, is denied to any of the male inhabitants of such State, being twenty-one years of age, and citizens of the United States, or in any way abridged, except for participation in rebellion, or other crime, the basis of representation therein shall be reduced in the proportion which the number of such male citizens shall bear to the whole number of male citizens twenty-one years of age in such State.

3 No person shall be a senator or representative in Congress, or elector of President and Vice President, or hold any office, civil or military, under the United States, or under any State, who, having

previously taken an oath, as a member of Congress, or as an officer of the United States, or as a member of any State legislature, or as an executive or judicial officer of any State, to support the Constitution of the United States, shall have engaged in insurrection or rebellion against the same, or given aid or comfort to the enemies thereof. But Congress may by a vote of two thirds of each House, remove such disability.

4 The validity of the public debt of the United States, authorized by law, including debts incurred for payment of pensions and bounties for services in suppressing insurrection or rebellion, shall not be questioned. But neither the United States nor any State shall assume or pay any debt or obligation incurred in aid of insurrection or rebellion against the United States, or any claim for the loss or emancipation of any slave; but all such debts, obligations and claims shall be held illegal and void.

5 The Congress shall have power to enforce by appropriate legislation, the provisions of this article.

ARTICLE XV (13)

Section 1. The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of race, color, or previous condition of servitude.

Section 2. The Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

ARTICLE XVI (14)

The Congress shall have power to lay and collect taxes on incomes, from whatever source derived, without apportionment among the several States, and without regard to any census or enumeration.

- 1: This reprint of the Constitution exactly follows the text of that in the Department of State at Washington, save in the spelling of a few words.
- 2: Partly superseded by the 14th Amendment.
- 3: The District of Columbia, which comes under these regulations, had not then been erected.
- 4: The following paragraph was in force only from 1788 to 1803.
- 5: Superseded by the 12th Amendment.
- 6: See the 11th Amendment.
- 7: After the Constitution had been adopted by the Convention it was ratified by conventions held in each of the States.
- 8: The first ten Amendments were adopted in 1791.
- 9: Adopted in 1798.
- 10: Adopted in 1804.
- 11: Adopted in 1865.
- 12: Adopted in 1868.
- 13: Adopted in 1870.
- 14: Adopted in 1913.



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Alias Wm. Rodgers, Alias Wm. Mulvihill

Received Sept. 24, 1912, Chicago, Cook County, Robbery, Etc.

RECORD: 4 terms Joliet, Ill., Penitentiary; one term Pontiac, 5 years.

AGE, 36. Height, 5 ft. 11¼ in. Hair, Chestnut M. Eyes, Yellow green slate. Weight, 178.

REMARKS: Woman in short dress on left fore arm. Se 3 L palm 3d F. 2nd ph. Left hand.

Bertillon: Height, 81-7; Head Lgt 19-7; Left foot, 27-9; Outer arms, 82; Head width, 15-7; L. M. Fingers, 12-6; Trunk, 97-6; Right Ear, 6-2x; L. L. Finger, 9-6; Forearm, 48-5; Eyes, G. R. Slate; Complexion, M. D. K.

Escaped from Illinois State Penitentiary December 1st, 1913.

Arrest and telegraph

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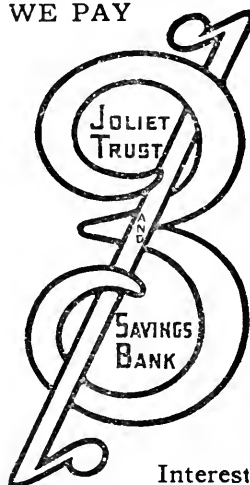
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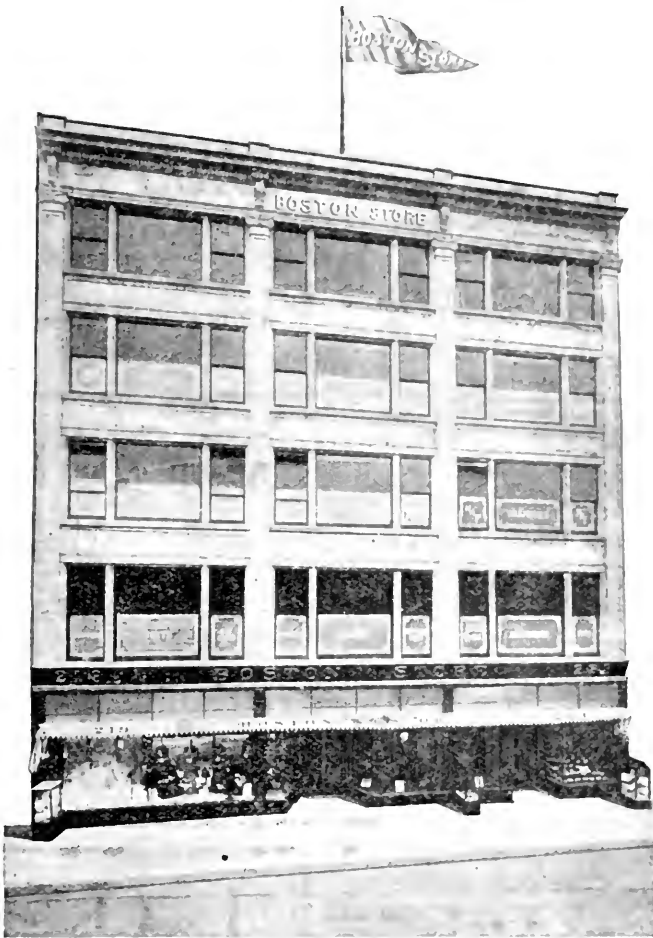
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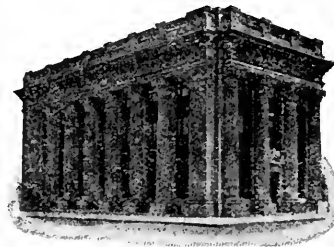
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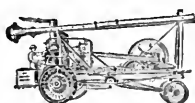
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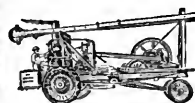
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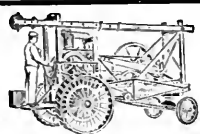
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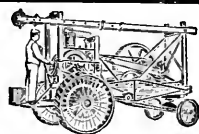
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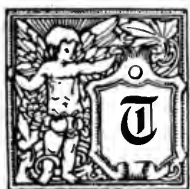
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THE JOLIET PRISON POST

VOL. I.

JOLIET, ILLINOIS, FEBRUARY 1, 1914.

No. 2

EDITORIAL

The Whipping Post in 1914

From the accounts published in the Seattle (Wash.) Times, the Springfield (Ohio) Sun and other newspapers we learn that Governor Charles L. Miller of Delaware approves of the law now in force in his state which provides for the punishment of certain classes of offenders by publicly whipping them with a lash on their bare backs; exposing them to the public gaze while locked in pillories and then by confining them in uncomfortable jails for long periods.

He favors the infliction of all three modes of punishment each to the fullest extent of the law and asks to have these methods given the widest possible publicity in order to inspire fear and thus reduce crime in Delaware.

He is of the opinion that all punishment is to prevent crime and remotely to cure the criminal, and that the Delaware method reduces the extent of crime in that state.

He is convinced that the contempt, ridicule, humiliation and punishment which, in his state, is visited on convicted men and women, has a good effect and that prisoners are "whipped curs" after the Delaware authorities are through with them.

According to Governor Miller this method of punishment is very popular with the judiciary and the populace of his state.

He informs us that once in a while some half drunken loon enters a house at night, and when arrested and convicted he gets all that the State of Delaware has to give in the shape of punishment.

The Governor asserts that hysterical women, weak men, bullies, cranks and blackguards from all parts of the United States have writ-

ten to him demanding that he prohibit whipping and pillorying in his state.



It may be that torture, humiliation and confinement in uncomfortable jails for long periods reduces crime in Delaware, but if that is the only object why stop at these half way measures? Why not make a thorough job of it by executing all prisoners after they have been thoroughly and publicly lashed, pilloried to the fullest extent of the law and confined in jails of the Delaware type for long periods? Such a program might prove even far more efficacious in preventing crime.



Delaware is the only state in the union which finds the whipping post and the pillory necessary, consequently, the following questions seem pertinent:

1. Is Delaware the only state in the union that knows how to punish crime properly?
2. Are all the other states behind the times by not inflicting public whippings at a whipping post; by refraining from pillorying and by attempting to conserve the health of their prisoners; by aiming to provide some comforts for the inmates of their jails, reformatories and penitentiaries?
3. Is punishment for crime of greater importance than the redemption of the criminal?
4. Does the state of Delaware do its full duty towards its sister states by looking upon prevention of crime within its own borders as the important matter, and by treating the cure of crime as of secondary consideration, while it permits its criminals to move to other states and encourages such removals by means of visiting unusual punishment upon offenders against its laws?
5. What would be the result if all the states in the union passed laws similar to those now in force in Delaware?

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Joliet, Illinois, pending.

6. Do the people of the state of Delaware take into consideration the futures of the men and women who are made to feel that they are "whipped curs?"

7. Are the professional lashers of Delaware brutalized by the exercise of their calling? If so, how about the members of the community who hire the work done and look upon the agonies of the criminal at the whipping post and in the pillory?

8. What is the effect on the officials of the jails by reason of their constant contact with prisoners who are detained in uncomfortable jails for long periods?

9. Are there no good and sane men and women amongst all those who have written to Governor Miller urging upon him that he prohibit cruel and unusual punishment in his state?

10. If Delaware is wrong in its treatment of criminals what is the remedy?

11. Does the infliction of corporal punishment in Delaware call for an amendment to the Constitution of the United States so that this one state may be deterred from a continuance of its present practices?



Medical Care.

Can anyone who has not experienced prison life have any conception of the state of mind of an ailing prisoner in a prison where medical attention and proper care is considered as of secondary importance to the discipline and work?



Many ailing persons outside of prisons suffer for the want of proper medical attendance through poverty or ignorance, but when they stop to consider it they find that it is under circumstances more or less of their own making.

In prison the thoughts go to a different channel. Prisoners, if they think clearly, blame themselves for being in prison and feel that their imprisonment is a just punishment, but they believe that neglect is unwarranted in view of the fact that they are not in a position to do anything for themselves. There is only one official prison physician for prisoners to go to and if he neglects them they have no other recourse; consequently, neglect in medical care in a prison always results in discouragement and discontent.



There is nothing that will appeal to prisoners more heartily than intelligent and sympathetic medical care, and the official prison physician who lives up to his obligations towards his patients as a man and a doctor should, becomes an object of admiration and esteem to the prisoners in the institution.



Health as a Cure for Criminal Tendencies

In those institutions which have so far not responded to the reform movement, a term in prison generally means shortening of life for the inmates and it follows that those who outlive their sentences are usually injured in health when released.



It is difficult to understand how society gains by this, as a man who is released from prison must have food, shelter and clothing, and if he is in good health he stands a better chance of earning a living honestly than if he is in poor health, and in consequence is unable to secure employment at living wages.



There may be differences of opinion as to the kind of punishment to be meted out to offenders against the law, but there can be no such difference with regard to the harm done to society by setting free a lot of prisoners whose healths are undermined; no one will contradict this.

It follows that persons convicted of crime must either be executed or cared for with due regard to their health; there is no other alternative.



As no community cares to increase the list of crimes for which executions may be had, there can be no doubt that the health of all men and women must be conserved. All gov-

ernments which maintain prisons in which the health of their inmates are injured, are remiss in their duties; and when ever a government fails in the performance of its obligations, disrespect for the law is created by reason of the bad example set by the government. Under the old order there are many men who accepted as inevitable in their cases a life of several convictions with the monotony broken by an occasional vacation from prison. Many men who after their release would have re-established themselves if they had left prison in good health, have incurred subsequent terms because they left prison irreparably ruined in health after having served their first sentence.

It would have been different in many instances if the men had left prison in good health.



Few men who have served one term in a prison desire to commit crimes, and thus take the risk of being returned; nearly every man who is healthy in mind and body at the time of his release leaves the prison hoping that he will succeed by honest endeavor.



A Penitentiary and Publicity

When prison authorities announce publicly that "newspaper reporters will be admitted at reasonable hours on working days only, and that they may talk with whomsoever they desire," there can be nothing to conceal from the public in that place, and a warden who can make and live up to this statement must be sure that the prisoners are satisfied with the treatment he accords to them.



The warden who makes such announcement knows there is nothing wrong in his prison, otherwise he would invite disaster, as reporters can outdo detectives or investigating committees in getting at the facts.



If prisoners could be asked what kind of a prison they preferred, one open to reporters or one closed to every one who could be kept out, they would be a unit for the prison which admitted the representatives of the press, and there is an obvious reason for this. Was it ever necessary in a properly managed public institution to make secret of what was going on?

Equality of Prisoners

The promise made by our Warden that he will shortly establish an industrial efficiency grade for prisoners in the first grade who are valuable to the institution by reason of exceptional efficiency, knocks into a cocked hat the pernicious talk about all prisoners being equal.



It may be almost accurate to claim that all prisoners should start even when they enter prison; but inside of a prison as well as outside distinctions will prevail.



The prisoner who curses and is vulgar and lewd in his conversation is not the equal of him whose conversation is clean and wholesome. The scandal monger is not the equal of the man who speaks kind words. He who makes trouble for the officers is not the equal of the prisoner who obeys the rules and who does his best to be helpful. The prisoner who neglects stock entrusted to his care is not the equal of the one, who recognizes and lives up to his duties towards dumb animals, who are wholly dependent upon him. The uneducated man who does not avail himself of the benefits of the school and thus proclaims that he is willing to wallow in his ignorance is not the equal of an uneducated man who, by attendance and application, tries and overcomes his educational deficiencies.

The prisoner who gives the Warden his word of honor and then is placed in a position to easily make his escape, and then runs away is not the equal of the man who stands fast by his pledge in spite of all temptations.



There is as much difference between prisoners as there is amongst free men, and it is always he of the lowest order who insists that all prisoners are equal.

Modern prison reform becomes an impossibility if the equality of all prisoners is conceded.



The Spirit of 1914

A year ago the majority of the prisoners at this institution were a nervous lot of men. They were quarrelsome and nearly every man was sure that every other man in the prison was demented, and he was not at all confident that he himself did not have a cracked brain. One could safely tell any inmate in the prison

that he was crazy, as that was the only proposition he would agree to; anything else was likely to be disputed. All conversation between prisoners a year ago was forbidden except so far as the business of the institution made it necessary between those men holding clerical positions and between cell mates while in their cells and the main reason for the prohibition against conversation was that speaking led to fighting.



If on any day a year ago the men had spoken with one another, as they do now, there would not have been enough handcuffs in the institution to shackle the men confined in the solitary for fighting. The spirit of 1914 permits the usual conversation between men, and we believe that there is less quarreling amongst the fifteen hundred inmates confined in this prison than there usually is amongst that same number of men of average intellect outside of prisons.



What Tinkering Means to Prisoners

During the winter months prisoners are locked up in their cells at half past four in the afternoon and during the summer months the inmates reach their cells an hour later. They retire at nine o'clock. On Sundays and holidays they are in their cells nearly the entire day in addition to the evening hours. It will readily be seen that they average about five hours a day in their cells before it is time to retire. The cells are well lighted, each having an incandescent electric bulb. It has always been a problem with prisoners what to do with their spare time, as few men care to read five hours per day even if enough reading matter is available.



Within the past few months the authorities have permitted the prisoners to tinker in their cells. This enables them to occupy their time at work requiring skill, and the trinkets and novelties which they manufacture are afterwards sold, and the amounts realized placed upon the books in the office to the credit of the producer of the articles.



The actual money realized is trifling compared with the time expended; a prisoner who earns one dollar per week in his spare time is fortunate. This seems small pay, but prisoners have few expenses, consequently what

would seem trifling to a citizen looks large to a prisoner. With the money earned he can buy some necessities and luxuries, such as tooth powder and brushes, which are sold at cost in this prison and he can subscribe for newspapers and magazines.

A prisoner who serves a long term may accumulate enough money to aid him towards establishing himself after his release. Many will doubtless send money home to their families after the system has been in vogue for a sufficient length of time.

The busier a prisoner is kept, so long as work does not become drudgery, the better he is off.



Many Governors Favor Road Work

According to a compilation of their discussions recently issued by the national committee on prison labor, twenty-five governors favor the working of prisoners on roads. These governors advocate this system because of the healthful nature of such work, and that men employed in this way can more readily find employment elsewhere when released; added to these reasons are the benefits of good roads to the public.



Gov. Oddie of Nevada who was instrumental in securing the passage of legislation in his state providing road labor for prisoners is one of its most enthusiastic supporters. He says, "There is no question but that the passage of this law has had a wholesome effect on the prison system, in my state and that it has been the means of giving a new start in life to a large proportion of the discharged and paroled men."



Gov. Hanna of North Dakota, Gov. Cox of Ohio, and Gov. West of Oregon maintain that outdoor work is to be considered a privilege to be earned only by good conduct.



Gov. Mann of Virginia testifies to the efficiency of the prisoners when employed on roads and gives figures to prove the economy of such work.



Gov. Hunt of Arizona is in favor of paying 25 cents a day for road work to prisoners saying that the splendid work done by prisoners on roads entitles them to some compensation.

The consideration given to convict road work and the honor system by the governors is an indication of the importance attached to the matter by the people throughout the country.



The Atmosphere at Joliet

Before the advent of the present administration any prisoner who was known to be favorable to the officers was at once dubbed a stool pigeon by the prisoners in general. There need not be any foundation whatever for the appellation because the true meaning of the word stool pigeon is almost unknown in this prison, but the statement will answer to illustrate the sentiment which existed and which has been replaced by an opposite feeling.

The only men who were with the officers were those who were intelligent enough to "get by" under the former rules and discipline. It was fashionable to be sullenly against the administration, and many of the prisoners who gave the subject thought made the mistake of thinking that the inmates constituted a class where this spirit was a natural characteristic of nearly every man.



It is different now. One seldom hears a prisoner say a word against the administration. As we look around in the Dining Hall and note the expressions on the faces of the inmates, we see a large number of men who seem to be at peace with themselves and with one another. Adverse criticism of administration methods is no longer encouraged by the inmates.



Trusties Who Remain

There are at present ninety-nine trustees at this prison. Forty-three prisoners without a guard over them are employed outside of the walls, upon the farm and as runners. Thirty men are stationed at Camp Hope, near Dixon, Illinois. Twenty are employed during the evening inside the walls after the wall guards have quit work. Three work all night as fire guard and three watchmen are employed outside of the walls and remain on duty all night. Most of these prisoners are under long or life sentences. This is about as it has been for the last nine months since Mr. Allen became Warden.



In all two trustees have escaped; not one of the others has made an attempt to.

Why We Have Printed the Constitution

We printed the Constitution of the United States in our January number for two reasons: (1) Every man should know at least the fundamental principles of the government under which he lives, and frequent reading of the Constitution is educational and helpful. (2) Until recently there were a number of orators in this prison who claimed to know everything in and about the Constitution and who could point out to any prisoner just why the latter's conviction had been obtained in violation of the Constitution. Knowing that no one could disprove their positive assertions, these "attorneys," in order to appear right, placed into the Constitution everything which they found necessary to support their arguments.



We have deemed it worth while to attempt to put a stop to this irresponsible talk and find that the mere furnishing of a copy of the Constitution to each inmate has had the desired effect. The talk about the Constitution has ceased because the man who speaks of it now is addressing men who have a way of checking up his statements. There were far too many "constitutional lawyers" in this prison, many of whom had never read the Constitution. They have been put out of business and it will prove of benefit to the inmates because, it injures men and women when they are led to believe that they have been illegally convicted, when such is not the case.

We shall not attempt to disprove the many mis-statements which have been made with the regard to provisions of the Constitution as the copy of that document is in the hands of every inmate, and speaks for itself.



Those prisoners who now think that they are in this prison in violation of the provisions of the Constitution of the United States, or who are worrying about others whom they think are so situated, are invited to write to us regarding these cases, and we will publish all legitimate discussion and inquiries, reserving the right of editorial comment.



Here's True Prison Reform

There are many prisoners in this institution who do their utmost to help make the Warden's administration successful and in doing this, at the same time earn the approval of their fellows.

Boys Behave

The prisoner who thinks that good conduct while in prison does not have a tendency to shorten his sentence is mistaken. No where on earth is good conduct more recompensed than in a well conducted penal institution.



Wardens do not advertise their influence with pardoning boards, but they frequently have great power. They know better than anyone who the men are that help make prison routine run smoothly and as they are human it stands to reason that their good will and esteem can be gained by helpfulness, and that in consequence when the opportunity presents itself they will give the applicant for a pardon or a parole a helping hand.

When a prisoner's outside record is bad it frequently happens that the warden cannot overcome it, but even in those cases the prisoner will be repaid for good behaviour and helpfulness by reason of the job he earns and the privileges he is allowed.



An inmate who thinks that in his position he can successfully "buck" the officers, who have the power of the entire state behind them, is an ignorant fool.



Not At All Forced.

It may sound paradoxical, but it is nevertheless true, that a well meaning and intelligent prisoner has a greater interest in the welfare of the prison where he is confined than any officer can possibly have. There is almost no limit to the hold a warden has upon his prisoners and an inmate with brains will recognize this on the instant. If the warden uses his power humanely he will get a response which is impossible elsewhere.

The secret of using the power humanely lies in treating the inmates as men.



Take Your Choice.

There is as much difference in the situations of inmates of a prison as there is between the rich and the poor outside of prison.

The inmates who, by good work and obedience, gain the confidence of the officers are like the rich, while they who shirk their work and disobey the rules may be compared with the poor.

Punishment

Under severe discipline the prisoners' minds dwelt too much on the solitary cells which are usually spoken of as "the hole." They realized that the detection of trifling infractions of the rules, and some times an accident, would land them there. Some became hardened to punishment, others were in constant dread of it, and undoubtedly the fear of punishment did more harm than even the actual sufferings in the solitary cells.



Under the present management this dark cloud has been removed and none of the inmates give the "hole" a thought. This more than anything else is responsible for the peace of mind which now pervades this institution.

The prisoners know that now no man is condemned to the solitary unless he wilfully breaks the rules, and as few care about doing that, the "hole" is now more of a memory than a reality.



Discipline at the I. S. P.

Occasionally we read in a newspaper that discipline has been destroyed in this prison by the present management. This may be true and it may not be true, depending entirely upon the interpretation given the word "discipline."

If it means unnecessary punishment, then it has been destroyed. If it means general good conduct on the part of the prisoners under just enough and not too much restraint, then it has been installed recently.



Wherever discipline has been destroyed in a prison the inmates will suffer first because of the aggressions of the stronger against the weaker. The general run of prisoners want discipline, and until they begin to complain of lack of discipline it may safely be assumed that order is maintained.



Honor System in Nebraska

The honor system was introduced at the Nebraska State Prison a year ago. It has worked out very satisfactorily to the Warden and the inmates.



Prisoners are often given permission to leave the prison without guards and remain away for three weeks at a time working for

farmers, contractors and others. Every prisoner has kept his word by returning to the prison on time and handing over to the warden his earnings. When their time expires this money will be returned to them. They earned nearly \$40,000.00 during the year.



The payroll at the prison has been reduced as a result of the honor system as a smaller number of guards are now required.



The prisoners have been shown that society is not altogether opposed to them, but is willing to trust them, and give them a chance to show that they can be trusted, and the prisoners have responded by working for their own interest and that of the institution, the two being inseparable.



Why Jerry O'Conner's Portrait Was Published

The honor system has drawbacks to those who think that a progressive warden is necessarily an easy mark, and also to those who think that a square deal is a one sided arrangement to be taken unfair advantage of.

The honor system has two sides, it contemplates making life as nearly normal for the prisoners as it is possible to make it in an institution of this kind and it intends that prisoners shall live up to their word. Jerry O'Conner gave his word of honor to Warden Allen and it was accepted, the man was trusted and he immediately took advantage of his opportunity and walked away. This was a direct attack upon the Honor System—Jerry O'Conner tried to save himself at the expense of the officials and every prisoner in the world.



Under the circumstances it was deemed necessary to print his portrait with an offer of a reward for his capture and it was the intention to continue the advertisement for all time or until his apprehension. He is with us again, so that his portrait will no longer be published.

It is perhaps timely to say that this is the policy of The Joliet Prison Post and that every prisoner who attacks the honor system will receive the attention of this paper.

Those prisoners who have not signed the honor pledge or who have not run away while acting as trustees will not arouse the initiative of this paper by making their escape.

INTERVIEWS

DR. JOHN P. BENSON THE OFFICIAL PRISON PHYSICIAN On Medical Treatment at the I. S. P.

(Interview by the Editor)

In endeavoring to keep abreast with the humanely progressive policy of the present administration, strong efforts have been made to improve the hygienic and sanitary conditions and to raise the standard of health to a much higher plane than it has been in the past.

Although confronted by a big handicap in the crude unsanitary and ventilation ideas of the ante-bellum days which can be corrected only by a new modern prison, I believe we have in a great measure checkmated the spread of tuberculosis in our midst. Among the few measures that we have initiated in our attempt to minimize the number of its victims, one of the most important is the segregation of those so afflicted. Of course, under present conditions, it is impossible to segregate them completely. Plans are under advisement to provide a suitable building for their needs, where they may sleep and eat apart from the other men.

At present the tuberculous men do not cell with those free from the disease. They are not allowed to eat at the same table with healthy men. They are given outside employment and light work in the open air. These men are permitted to have milk at their meals and all receive as good medical treatment as they could obtain outside of the walls.

As was mentioned in the previous issue of The Joliet Prison Post each man is provided with his own drinking cup, which we all know is an ounce of prevention in checking the ravages of this disease.

We furnish each cell house every day with a sufficient quantity of salts to meet the demands of the men. They can be supplied each morning before breakfast upon making a request of their keeper. Heretofore they have been receiving them at the regular sick call hour after breakfast, a custom not consistent with proper medication.

Since I have assumed the position of Prison Physician many changes have been made in the hospital and I can safely say that ours now ranks on a par with those outside. I have as my assistants two regularly licensed physicians, inmates who have been faithfully "on the job"

and who have given me excellent support in my efforts to raise the medical department to a proper standard. We now have a modern operating room, equipped up to the minute with new instruments and other apparatus; we have installed a fine new sterilizing plant in which we can properly sterilize all paraphernalia utilized in a modern operating room.

We also have a well equipped surgical dressing room where from twenty to twenty-five surgical cases are treated daily. More operations have been done in the past few months than in the past few years, and more requests from inmates for operations have been received than can be performed in the next two months.

We have equipped a new laboratory diagnosis room where various microscopical and other analyses are made daily. Nearly all medicines dispensed are compounded and put up in the hospital. A new feature introduced lately is the administration of Salvarsan (606) for specific disease. While the state has made no appropriation for its use among the inmates I have undertaken to administer it to men who need it at the cost price of the drug.

In conclusion I wish to state that while I believe the many changes that have taken place in the medical department has wrought considerable good for the health of the inmates, I attribute much of the success to the psychic influence brought about by the revolutionary changes that have occurred under the present administration. Health is governed largely by our emotions. Where a few months ago one was met everywhere by long faces, embittered feelings and innumerable tales of woe, now cheerful, smiling, health glowing countenances greet us on every hand. Privileges hitherto unknown; kind words scattered here and there, the honor system recently initiated, whereby a man is given responsibility and placed upon his honor all have engendered in the men feelings of self-respect and self-dependence. Their troubles no longer assume gigantic shapes; they are lead to believe that they can become useful members of society and life has taken on a different meaning. This, I believe, all tends towards the maintenance of good health.

[Note—Pen, ink and paper cannot adequately portray the beneficial improvements in the medical department, which have resulted from the efforts of Dr. John P. Benson and his two able assistants—Editor.]

MISS MARIA S. MADDEN MANAGING MATRON Of the Woman's Prison

(Interview by the Editor)

Until sometime in November 1896 the female inmates of the Illinois State Penitentiary at Joliet were confined on the upper floor of the Warden House. During that month the prisoners were moved to the present prison, which is of substantial construction and can almost be pronounced modern. There are one hundred rooms for the inmates—built against two outside walls, and they are ten feet long, seven feet wide and nine feet high. Each has a double sash window to the outside and is equipped with electric light, running water and a toilet, and all are entirely free from objection from the standpoint of health. The building is well lighted and is kept in good repair. It is as clean as any of Uncle Sam's Men of War, and it is needless to state that the usual prison odor is never in evidence. Adjoining the prison building is a yard one hundred and twenty feet wide by two hundred feet long, surrounded by a high stone wall; this yard is provided with settees and a platform for dancing.



There are at present confined sixty-one inmates, twenty-five being white women and thirty-six negroes. Each woman has a room containing a single iron bed, a small dresser, a comfortable chair and two or more rag carpet rugs on the floor. Each prisoner attends to her own apartment. In every room one will see the woman's touch in the shape of decorations of various kinds.

This women's prison is more like a boarding school than a prison, except for the fact that the women work instead of study. There is only one shop, and there rattan cane seats are woven, which is very light work. The women who do not work in the shop are employed in the laundry, at house work, around the building or at sewing. The laundry work is done for the two administration buildings, and the sewing consists of the making of sheets, pillow cases, table linen also for the two administration buildings and clothing for the women prisoners.

The laundry work averages 20,000 pieces per month washed and ironed. Much of the ironing is done by hand. With a credit of two

cents for plain clothes and three cents for the starched pieces our credit amounts to from five hundred to seven hundred dollars per month. The cooking for the inmates is done in the kitchen of the men's prison.



The inmates are classified in three grades. Upon arrival a prisoner is placed in the second grade, where she remains for thirty days; if during this time her conduct is good, she is promoted to the first grade. Third grade is for willful offenders against the prison discipline; but there are no women in this grade at present. Prisoners in the first grade are permitted to write and to receive visitors once a week. Prisoners in the second grade are permitted to write and to receive visitors once in two weeks. Prisoners in the third grade are permitted to write letters and receive visits only once in four weeks and they are barred from recreation while in that grade. Recreation is permitted at least three times per week in periods of one hour each and oftener when the work permits of it. During warm weather the prisoners go to the yard for their recreation, while in cold weather it is held indoors. When the yard is used, the women dance upon the platform, and they run, jump and play base ball with soft balls and light bats.

Recreation indoors consist of conversation and dancing to the music of a Victor Victrola or piano.

In the matter of writing letters and receiving visitors reasonable exceptions in favor of the inmates are made whenever necessary. There is no punishment for women other than the loss of privileges and confinement to their rooms.



Each prisoner is permitted to draw from the prison library two books per week, and they are permitted to pass these books around amongst themselves, under my direction, during the week for which the books have been drawn. They are also permitted to subscribe for newspapers and magazines, and there is no limit placed upon the number of letters which they may receive.



A school has been recently started. There are so far but two classes, one being for those who cannot read or write, of whom there are seven in the prison and all voluntarily attend. The other class is for women with slight education, and the lessons are arranged to suit

the individual. There are two teachers, both inmates. Classes are held daily except Sunday from four o'clock until five o'clock P. M.



In the matter of medical care everything possible is being done both in preventive care and treatment. Our hospital consists of a beautiful light and airy room, in which there are four beds, and which has every convenience. Inmates during their stay in the hospital receive every attention and our facilities are such that they have better opportunities for recovery than in most homes. A trained nurse is always in attendance to assist the official prison physician who visits the prison once per day and oftener when necessary.



The relatives and friends of some of the women are very staunch in their support of them as evidenced by frequent letters and visits, while other prisoners seem entirely deserted.

I have never been able to comprehend how people can be cruel enough to desert those of their own flesh and blood who violate the law, but it is frequently done. My woman's instinct, augmented by my long experience as a Matron in a prison, forces me to state that if a relative of mine or even a friend should ever incur a prison sentence, no matter how hideous the crime might be I would not desert such person and I would consider my support particularly necessary during the period of incarceration. If my statement should be read by any of those relatives and friends who are neglecting a prisoner who is under my care, I fervently urge that they can help me in my work of reformation by resuming their interest in such prisoner and give evidence thereof by writing letters to her and by visiting her regularly during her years of sorrow.



In the past we have had eight life prisoners and seven of them have by reason of good conduct in the prison earned commutations of their sentences. One unfortunate woman died shortly after her arrival here. Her death was caused by fretting. My experience prompts me to say that I am opposed to life sentences for women, because of the constantly depressing effect of such sentences.

[Note—Miss Madden has been Matron of the Women's Prison for over twenty-two years.—Editor.]

EDITOR'S COLUMNS

Big Jim's Pardon

There has been a malicious story circulated about how "Big Jim" obtained a pardon. A scandal monger who knows the real facts has purposely started a false story, and as "chickens come home to roost," he and all his disciples will be given an opportunity to see in print just how far from the truth they have traveled.

Big Jim was helped by a fellow prisoner in this way. Long before the result of the elections, held in Nov., 1912, was known, this fellow prisoner asked permission of the former authorities to help Jim in having his case prepared. Consent was given and accordingly an attorney was secured for Jim, who, without any remuneration whatever, went to work and prepared the papers in his case and obtained recommendations from former officials as to Jim's standing with those officers. One of them who unqualifiedly recommended Jim for a pardon was former Warden R. W. McClaughry.

The petition with the letters of recommendation were filed with the Board of Pardons. That was the status of the case when the present Warden came into office.

Soon after his arrival the fellow prisoner asked the Warden's permission to continue his efforts for Jim, and he was told to go as far as he liked. This gave him courage to ask for permission to circulate a petition for the signatures of the officers still employed in the prison who had known Jim over one year, and consent was obtained. The petition when circulated was signed by every officer with the exception of one in the prison, and it was forwarded to the proper authorities. Many of the officers who signed the petition certified that they had known Jim over twenty years.

The attorney who had prepared the case was requested by the prisoner friend to Jim, not to appear before the Board of Pardons, on the theory that there was nothing that he or any attorney could say that would interest the Board, as all arguments which could be made in behalf of Jim were embodied in the petition for a pardon and in the recommendations filed with the papers in the case. There was no political drag, no underground work of any kind. The case was submitted entirely on the evidence in the documents filed, and Governor E. F.

Dunne, on the recommendation of the Board of Pardons, granted a pardon.



[Note—Space is given to this subject and this explanation is made so that for all time an end will be put to the malicious story which had been so actively circulated, and also to serve notice on scandal mongers that within the past two months something has been started in this prison which will ever be used when it seems necessary to put the members of the Ananias club to shame.—Editor.]



The New Chaplain

The appointment of Rev. L. Breitenstein to parochial work at Platte Center, Nebraska, has brought the Rev. Edward Lunney to us as our Catholic chaplain.

He comes to us with his heart full of compassion for the inmates of this prison. He brings to bear on his task profound wisdom, tact and diplomacy resulting from many years study and experience.

The advent of the new chaplain has come at a time when conditions are such as to give his abilities wide scope for the advancement of his charges, owing to the atmosphere which prevails throughout the institution.

To the inmates his coming presents an occasion for them to taste the joys of giving pleasure to another by conducting themselves towards him so that Father Edward will look upon his stay amongst us as the most satisfactory period in his life's work.

Father Edward appears to be a younger man than his age shows, but has had the experience of many years successful church work. He was born in Los Angeles, California, in 1870 and there acquired the early training for his theological education, which was completed at that educational place of many widely known Rev. Fathers, the Franciscan Seminary in St. Louis, Missouri.

His first allotment after graduation was as Professor at St. Anthony's College in Santa Barbara, California, and was followed by ten years parochial work in Sacramento, San Francisco and Los Angeles. During the past Five Years he has served his church as Professor at St. Francis' College in Quincy, Illinois.

While heretofore having had very little experience and knowledge of conditions existing in penal institutions the Rev. Father stated, upon being interviewed, that he was delightfully surprised in perceiving the atmosphere of

good will pervading this prison as he expected to find gloom and discontent prevailing.

He is impressed by the willingness of the prisoners to listen to him and by their exemplary conduct in chapel during services. He is much pleased to encounter so much politeness and kindness both amongst the officers and the inmates.—Editor.



Regarding the Parole Law

We have received several contributions regarding the operation of the parole law. This subject cannot be discussed at this time. In an early number the law relating to the parole system will be printed in full. After that has appeared, the columns of the paper will be open to legitimate discussion of the parole law, but we will not publish letters or articles written on this subject by prisoners who have not read the provisions of that law.

Those who have contributed articles regarding the parole system may submit new copy after the acts have been published.—Editor.



Dumb for Twenty Years

The St. Louis Post Dispatch is authority for the story that one Jasper W. Rainey, served twenty years time at the Kansas State Penitentiary at Lansing, and that after the first day of his imprisonment he never spoke until a few days ago, when he met Mr. Samuel Seaton, private secretary to Governor Hodges, to whom he made an appeal for a pardon.

Upon meeting Mr. Seaton in the corridor of the prison, Rainey fell on his knees and with copious tears coursing down his cheeks he croaked rather than spoke, "Please let me out. My record is clean, they'll all tell you so."

Governor Hodges investigated and found there was only one mark against Rainey and that was for a minor offence, and, after assuring himself that he would be cared for by relatives he issued a parole.

After his release Rainey talked freely to all comers, shouting at the top of his voice and seemed to desire to make up for lost time.

[Note—A person who refrained from using his voice for twenty years would probably be unable to resume speech at pleasure, so it seems likely that Rainey talked to himself when out of the hearing of others, and as he was employed in the fields outside the walls he had opportunity to do this.—Editor.]

Governor Dunne at Pontiac

Governor Dunne, accompanied by his wife and one of his sons, inspected the Illinois State Reformatory for boys at Pontiac Saturday, January 17th.

He made a short address to the inmates. He told them that the institution was founded to reform those sent to it, and not for vengeance; that wrong doing must be punished, and that the courts are conducted on the principles and elements of righteousness. He asked them if they were willing to do their part to make good records. He told them that the administration is anxious to get them started right and that they would be regarded by the officials as human beings with souls that need help.

[Note—We hope to have Governor Dunne and his family with us soon.—Editor.]



All Wrong

The Prison Post is a new publication started by the convicts of the Joliet prison. It is edited by an ex-Chicago banker with plenty of preachers on the staff, but has to be printed outside because there are no printers inside.—Observer, Petersburg, Ill.

[Note—The foregoing item is published as an example of newspaper inaccuracies. The Joliet Prison Post is edited by a former real estate man, there is no preacher on its staff, it is printed outside of the prison because the Republicans left no money in the state treasury for the Democrats, consequently the prison authorities could not purchase a printing outfit, and there are enough printers in this prison at this time to publish twenty papers like The Joliet Prison Post.—Editor.]



Above all things a prison guard should be an able bodied man, fitted by physique and condition to perform daily the work required of a soldier in the regular army while in active service.



A prison guard should conduct himself when off duty as well as when on duty, in such a way as to inspire sentiments of respect for his moral principles and character.



Under severe discipline the rule was that, where a few officers must control many prisoners, it was necessary to control them through intimidation or by force.

INDIVIDUAL CONTRIBUTIONS

THE SHYSTER LAWYER

By George Williams

A Prisoner

One of the many afflictions that beset a prisoner and from which he has little protection, is the shyster lawyer. The money he takes from the man behind the walls and his relatives is enormous. He preys upon the ignorance of his victims and he has no conscientious scruples whatever. The pitiful results of his operations never bother him.

He is generally a good talker, and to hear him tell it he has unlimited influence with the Governor, the Board of Pardons, the Warden and anybody and everybody that might possibly be of aid to the prisoner in securing his release. All he has to do is to give the order and the whole legal machinery of the state will be turned upside down.

His biggest assets are a glib tongue and plenty of cheek, and what he does not know about law he makes up for in "bunk." He is in evidence from the prisoner's arrest up to the time of his release. He can secure a pardon, a commutation of sentence, a "parole," a good job inside the prison or anything the prisoner desires, and all he asks for is a stipulated sum in advance to be used for "expense money."

All the information regarding his prospective client he is looking for is his financial resources. If the amount is satisfactory the Shyster obtains an interview with him, and after ascertaining his requirements he assures his client that "there is nothing to it;" all he (the shyster) has to do is to whisper in the judge's ear and "you'll be on the street next week." The prisoner naturally inquires what the lawyer's fee will be, and the shyster usually names a sum two or three times as large as the prisoner can command. Even when the amount the victim can procure is small, the shyster is willing to accept the case.

After securing the money—and forgetting to give a receipt—the shyster generally visits the relatives and friends of the prisoner and, by means of his usual tactics, obtains from them all the money he can. After he has obtained all that it is possible to collect, he usually forgets all about his client until he hears he has more money.

Many men are here for long terms, and in only a few cases is there any possible chance

of obtaining their release legally; but it is a curious fact that about ninety per cent of these men believe they have a good case and could get out if they had only a competent lawyer to fight for them. The shyster knows and takes advantage of this condition of mind, and when a proposition is put before the prisoner or the prisoner's relatives and friends that his release can be obtained only through Mr. Shyster's influence or legal ability, it can be readily understood how easy and how pitiful it is for him to rob his victims.

Many prisoners in penitentiaries are illiterate and both they and their relatives are very poor. This swindling by the shyster causes untold suffering in many instances; not only this, but it is positively cruel to many of the prisoners' mothers, wives and children who are dependent on the prisoners' support to raise false hopes when the shyster knows well they can never be realized.

The shyster is reasonably certain that he will never be called upon to account for his nefarious operations as his knowledge of the law and the character and ignorance of his victims furnish many loop holes by means of which he can escape if called to account.

There have been many complaints made of this class of confidence men but they never accomplished anything. It seems almost impossible to establish any means of protection against his operations.

A shyster lawyer is a disgrace to any community, even a penitentiary. He is without doubt a despicable, cheap grafter. He is on the same level with a quack doctor and a poor box thief.

[Note—The Bar Association would get rich pickings if it would send investigators to prisons to make inquiries regarding the conduct of lawyers who must of necessity be under suspicion.—Editor.]



TWO HUMANE IMPROVEMENTS

By Peter Van Vlissingen

A Prisoner

At the suggestion of Governor E. F. Dunne the inmates of this prison who are in the first grade have been recently given permission to write one letter every week instead of writing once in five weeks.

The value to the prisoners of this humane improvement can hardly be understood by any one unacquainted with prison life.

Under the former regulations, when a prisoner wrote to some one who loved him that he was ailing, he could not again report his condition for five weeks and the suspense which ensued can only be partially understood.

Under the parole law a prisoner may receive a sentence, the minimum term of which is one year and the maximum term is life. The prosecuting witnesses and the States Attorneys are permitted to be heard before the Parole Board. They have freedom to act and consequently can make their protest against the prisoner as strong as the situation warrants, while the prisoner was seriously hampered by his lack of opportunity to write often enough to be able to get letters, as to his previous character and to enlist the legitimate support of his friends. The result was frequently unfavorable to the prisoner and he was usually honestly convinced that he served more time because he could not adequately correspond with those who might help him.

Somehow it was overlooked when the indeterminate sentence law went into effect that a prisoner sentenced under its provisions had occasion to write letters, which did not exist under the old law, which provided for a definite sentence. Then a prisoner fought out the entire question of the length of his sentence at the time of his trial, but under the parole or indeterminate sentence law the important question as to how many years a prisoner must remain in prison is determined after he is in the penitentiary.

Prisoners frequently lost their friends because they could not answer letters which were received. As a result of the prisoner's silence he was in time forgotten, or at least he lost the active interest of his correspondents.

The prisoner's present writing privileges gives him a much better opportunity to keep in touch with his lawyer, relatives and friends, and that may effect his time favorably. The new order went into effect November first, 1913, and the figures furnished by the prison Superintendant of Mails are interesting. During September, 1913, the prisoners sent out 1275 letters and received 3133 letters. During October the outgoing letters numbered 1418 and the number of incoming letters was 3349. In November, 5109 letters were mailed by prisoners and they received 5396 letters.



The other suggestion of the Governor's was that the prisoners be permitted to receive visits

once every week instead of once in four weeks which was formerly the rule.

A visit is an event in a prisoner's life and this new regulation has done much towards making them more contented and has helped to create the good atmosphere which prevails in this institution at this time.



THE NOVELTIES WE MAKE

By W. R.

A Prisoner

The establishment of the making and selling of novelties by the inmates of this institution is a boon to the prisoner who has a mechanical or inventive mind and to the ones who find the time they are in their cells to be monotonous and mentally tiring.

This has only been in vogue for the past five months and is not generally known to the outside world.

When the present administration inaugurated this system, they had a manifold purpose in view at its creation; knowing that it would give incentive to the men and arouse their ambition to become industrious with the hope that they would retain that spirit after their release; it would furnish every man a chance to make some money to not only indulge in what small luxuries are permissible but to have something when released beside the ten dollars allotted by the State; to afford an opportunity and open up an outlet by which those men, who are gifted with some talent, could develop whatever ability they possessed along the lines best suited to their purpose.

This system is called the "Honor Industrial Department," and is attained by the men through their good conduct, and upon admission they are given a card signed by the Deputy Warden permitting them to tinker in their cells in the evenings and to have such tools and material as needed, which are furnished by the institution; but when they are unobtainable in here it is permissible for the relatives or friends to bring or send the required articles, or where the inmates have funds they are allowed to buy them at cost price through the Purchasing Agent of the prison.

These novelties are for sale to the general public and are to be found in the Visitor's Reception Room in the Administration building of this institution.

The intrinsic value of the trinkets lies in the workmanship.

Ninety per cent of the proceeds emanating from the sales of these articles are placed on the books of the institution to the credit of the maker, the remaining ten per cent is retained by the institution to cover the use of the material which had been furnished by the State.

Since the inauguration of this department the gross receipts amount to three hundred and thirty-one dollars and ninety-five cents. This may not seem large to one on the outside yet it means a great deal to those inmates who had not a penny to their credit.

The department is still in the infant stage, but it is growing fast and it is the hope and intention of the Warden to make the display one of the best of its kind in the country, and having that in view and to get the public more familiar with this "Infant Industry," he contemplates holding a Bazaar some evening during the latter part of the Easter season and invite the general public to attend.



HIGH LIFE IN PRISONS

By George Williams

A Prisoner

Many newspapers and individuals throughout the country are complaining about the "mollycoddling" of prisoners. They seem to think that the modern prison is a very nice place where all of the desires of the inmates are gratified, and that prison life is a path of roses. This erroneous impression is gained through the instrumentality of writers who are discussing a subject they have little accurate knowledge of.

Men in this prison, especially after a holiday often read of the splendid things they were given to eat and what joyous times were had. Fanciful menus and gay times exist only in the minds of the imaginative writers.

On days like Christmas, Thanksgiving and the Fourth of July we have splendid meals and joyous times, but outsiders do not seem to take into consideration that the terms "joyous" and "splendid" as used in describing these events are only comparative. For instance, last Christmas we had roast pork, dressing, mashed potatoes, coffee and pie. This meal compared to what we usually get is splendid, but some newspapers in describing this Christmas dinner publish a bill of fare that would make a first class hotel fearful of an exodus from its hospitality to penitentiaries.

As a clearer illustration of the way prisoners are "mollycoddled" it will probably surprise many to learn that during the months of November and December 1913 the cost of feeding the men averaged less than sixteen cents a day per man. This statement will be better appreciated by an extract from an article from the St. Louis Globe Democrat of January 1st, which says: "The Missouri Sheriffs' Association, which adjourned here today, will ask the next Legislature to give sheriffs a greater allowance than fifty cents a day for boarding prisoners. This sum was fixed by statute many years ago, according to Sheriff Ben Goodin of Cole County, when bacon which now sells at twenty-five cents a pound sold for seven cents and other items of jail provender could be had at proportionately low prices."

If the sheriffs in Missouri find it hard to board prisoners on fifty cents a day it does not require much thought to imagine how the prisoners in Joliet fare on sixteen cents a day. It should not be forgotten that jail prisoners are seldom incarcerated for more than three months while penitentiary inmates are confined for periods of from one year to life.

If these persons who fear that prisoners are being treated too well were to board with them at this prison for a month or two they would change their views. The greatest obstacle in the path of prison reform is ignorance on the part of the general public regarding prison methods.

[Note—On last Thanksgiving day the cost of feeding each man at this prison was twenty-five and nine one-hundredths cents and on Christmas day the expense was twenty-four and twenty-five one-hundredths cents per man. In both cases this cost was for the three meals, breakfast, dinner and supper.—Editor.]



THE PRISON PEST

By Charles M. Potter

A Prisoner

The most troublesome persons who exist among us are the chronic kickers with the eagle eyes. Considering their scarcity in numbers they make about ten times as much noise and create about one hundred times as much damage as their number should entitle them to.

They consider it their duty to look at existing conditions and daily happenings with morbid and pessimistic views.

Their eagle eyes are always alert for some act on the part of an official or a fellow prisoner to serve as the foundation for a story intended by circulation to spread discontent and ill feeling throughout the institution.

Not a day passes but what some little event occurs that enables these "publicity agents" by the exercise of their vivid imaginations to spread some tale wherein an innocent person is held up to ridicule or contempt. It requires but little effort on the part of these trouble makers to concoct a "yellow" story out of some ordinary occurrence which rivals the best efforts of lurid writers on the "Ananias Gazette."

Making a mountain out of a mole hill; criticising the actions of all, and circulating false rumors that might have a tendency to disrupt the brotherly spirit and good will that now prevails in this institution is their specialty, and a square deal is their war cry. They do all in their power to make themselves and others believe that they are getting the short end of the deal. By their knocking and their general disregard for the feelings, reputations and characters of others they show that they do not know the rudiments of a square deal.

For our own good we ought to humanize this small number by turning our backs to them whenever they begin to talk to us.

They are incapable of seeing good in any proposition no matter how meritorious it may be.

The honor system, opportunity and a square deal is being given to all of us by the present administration, and the chronic kicker with the eagle eye, by the exercise of his degenerate talents is doing more harm than all other prisoners combined. We are thankful that they are few in numbers, but what a noise those few do make!



ADVICE TO PRISONERS

By J. S.

A Prisoner

In letters to your relatives and friends, and when you receive visitors at the Usher's office, do not complain unnecessarily about prison life, but show that you can take punishment uncomplainingly.

Bear in mind that in many instances those you have left behind and who are without blame, are suffering through you and that you

only make their sufferings harder by trying to enlist their sympathy for your real or fancied hardships.

It is not manly to take advantage of affection freely offered you, by causing unfounded and unnecessary grief to your relatives and friends, by complaining. How much better it is to be cheerful in your letters and in conversation, so that mother, wife, family and the friends who either receive your mail or visit you, will be cheered by your account of your life instead of crushed by reason of exaggerated recitals of your hardships.



PUNISHMENT OR REFORMATION?

By George Taylor

A Prisoner

The prison reform movement, which at this time is almost general in most all civilized countries, has attained proportions which give definite assurance that within a short time prison life in general will be made milder.

In the past, punishment has generally been advanced into the foreground, and reformation has been deemed as of secondary consideration. This plan has not worked satisfactorily as evidenced by the constantly increasing number of inmates in prisons. The increase has been out of proportion to the increase in population.

This being so, it was only a question of time when the advance guard of prison reformers—inspired by humanitarian motives—would be joined by the many who desire the general protection of society and the advancement of peace and dignity of all government.

The combination of these two forces has brought about an incessant and assertive agitation for new methods in prison administration, and while there is no consensus of opinion as to what measures should be adopted, it is definitely known that civilization is willing to try milder methods in the treatment of all offenders against the law, with reformation as the main object, and punishment as of secondary importance.

What the results will be remains to be seen, but the experiences of the last few years have given ample reasons to hope that the new methods, as illustrated by the present administration at the Illinois State Penitentiary at Joliet will produce better results to the prisoner

and state than did the plan of severe punishment and the consequent dehumanizing of prisoners.

The next few years will cast much light on the subject of the proper treatment of criminals and it will soon be known which should be given first position in prisons:—punishment or reformation; in the end, what is for the general good will be adopted.

There are many who see far enough into the future to realize that the best brand of prison reform, which has so far been suggested, or placed into operation, will, at best only improve the situation, and that, for the ultimate cure of crime it will be necessary to go further back, and that is to the source.

This brings us to the education and care of children and youths, industrial conditions, the policing of communities, the detention after arrest and the administration of justice.

[Note—Local reformers, who are striving for immediate and lasting results should provide a way for communication in privacy with all prisoners, immediately after their arrest and until after trial, and they should proceed on the theory that in some cases, even the entering of a plea of guilty is not conclusive evidence of guilt.—Editor]



COMMENTS BY INMATES

TWENTY YEARS AND THEN SOME

We hail with joy the publication of The Joliet Prison Post as it may give us an opportunity to send a message to the world from our dreary cells.

We have been in prison since the fifteenth day of November, 1893, and if the verdict of the jury and the sentence of the court is carried out we will remain here until God calls us to our final account.

The law has said that we are guilty of the foulest kind of crime; "burglary in the night with weapons." We are supposed to have been surprised in the act of burglary and in order to save our miserable bodies we are further supposed to have killed two men and to have seriously injured a woman.

Burglary in the night, two men shot to death and a woman seriously wounded by a revolver ball and the men who were found guilty were not even hanged! Only a life sentence!

The law has said that there were three of us and that on the night of the fourteenth of November, 1893, we entered the home of James

Prunty and his family and that we there and then killed the said James Prunty, his son Peter Prunty and wounded his daughter, whose first name we have forgotten.

There were supposed to be three of us, and now we are two, one James Warren having died of consumption within three years of our joint conviction. He was not as strong as we. On his death bed he whispered these last words to his mother, "I am innocent and so are McNally and Kurth."

None of us ever saw James Prunty alive or dead. All three of us saw Peter Prunty at the hospital before he died and though he was rational he did not identify us.

On the evening after the murder we were all three taken to the Prunty home for identification and Mrs. Prunty and her two daughters said, "they are not the men." Two weeks later we were taken back to the house for identification and then the members of the family said, "they are the men," and we were subsequently convicted upon the evidence of witnesses who had at first pronounced us innocent.

Each one of us was promised leniency if he would confess and we all refused to do so. This is strange in view of the fact that we were only slightly acquainted with one another and we all faced the gallows.

We wonder who the men are who committed the crimes and what sort of cowards they are for allowing us to endure this living death. God have mercy on them!

We were tried in the Criminal Court of Cook County before the Honorable Henry V. Freeman and we submit herewith a letter which will speak for itself:

"Illinois Appellate Court

Chamber of

Mr. Justice Freeman

Chicago, October 27, 1909.

Mr. Charles Kurth,

Joliet Penitentiary, Joliet, Ill.

Dear Sir:

I believe a wrong was done you by the verdict of the jury and the sentence of the Court imposed upon you and McNally. Both the verdict and judgment were justified by the evidence, but at the same time I think the evidence which procured the conviction was worked up by the police and was not truthful, although I did not dream of such a thing at that time.

Yours truly,

(Signed) Henry V. Freeman."

We know that our word cannot be taken by anyone because the law has said that we are murderers, so we must content ourselves to refer those, who may be inclined to help right a wrong for information to Mr. J. Rosenbaum, 417 Postal Telegraph Bldg., Chicago; Mr. John McMahon, Lake Villa, Ill.; Sergeant Gus Weber, formerly of the Chicago Police force; Mr. John M. Haynes late Captain of Police in Chicago, he now lives on a farm in Michigan, and Francis Sullivan, formerly secretary to Judge Cutting of the Probate Court in Chicago. We crave an investigation of our case by the Bar Association of Chicago.

Charles Kurth
Thomas McNally

I have a few words to add on my own account. The day after my arrest I was brought to the office of the Maxwell Street Police Station before a number of people some of whom were newspaper reporters.

I was greeted by a gentleman, who said: "Why hello Tom" I answered "HELLO" he said "then you know me Tom McCall" I answered "I do not know you and my name is not Tom McCall" he answered "yes you are Tom McCall of the Pacific Slope, a train robber and confidence man," and I have forgotten what else he said I was.

Another gentleman came up to me and said, "You are the fellow who sold me \$10,000.00 worth of stock and then jumped off the train." Then two other gentlemen stepped forward and remarked that I was the man whom they had chased through the train. I wonder how it happened that all these people from the Pacific coast were in Chicago and ready to identify me so soon after my capture.

Then the first speaker said, "Tom we missed you for a few years," and another gentleman who claimed to be an official from the Bridewell stepped forward and looked me over and said, "Yes he has been with us for a few years." I had never seen any of them before and have never seen any of them since, but a good newspaper story had been started and an atmosphere favorable to our conviction had been created.

The moving pictures of today are made to appear real in just that way.

That day I became Thomas McNally, alias Tom McCall. I was never on the Pacific Coast. I was never in the Bridewell and I had never used the name Tom McCall.

The next day and for a long time after I read in the papers that I was Tom McCall the train robber, etc., etc., etc.

I was tried by a jury of men who probably had read the papers and at my trial not a word of evidence was introduced as to all the hocus-pocus I have described. I served in the army of the Potomac and was honorably discharged.

Yours truly,

Thomas McNally
Alias Tom McCall
Since Nov. 15, 1893

[Note—I have seen the original letter written by Judge Freeman which is herein quoted.—Editor.]



January 22, 1914.

To the Editor:

A penitentiary conducted on reform lines should have one shop where there is an abundance of hard work. The prisoners employed there should be the ones who look upon a well meaning warden as a good sort of man to take advantage of.

In this shop should be gathered all the prisoners who willfully violate the rules and, who, instead of making life easier for their fellows, are always trying to make it unpleasant for them.

A prison has its percentage of undesirables as viewed from the prisoners' standpoint, and these men should be segregated.

B. D.



January 28, 1914.

To the Editor:

There is one just criticism which can be passed on the Warden of this prison, and that is that he always thinks about the prisoners first and the Warden afterwards.

In the interest of the prisoners he should reverse the order.

G. A.



January 26, 1914.

To the Editor:

I have been in this prison over sixteen years and have yet to see a prisoner abuse a dog, cat, horse, or a bird, while I have seen them save their meat for dogs and cats; I have seen them protect horses entrusted to their care, and I have seen them leave the shelter of a building to go out into a pouring rain to save sparrows from being pounded to death by the elements.

J. S.

January 24, 1914.

To the Editor:

In these days of big happenings and new departures in prison administration, when the skeptic world is acquiring for the first time that fuller knowledge for which it has been groping since the dark ages, it is the privilege of your paper as well as its pleasant duty to touch on the aesthetic side of the lives of its inmates.

Men do not come to penal institutions with the expectation of living happily during their term of imprisonment. It is even doubtful whether the new arrival of to-day entertains any hope that unusual effort will be put forth in his behalf except covering those matters in which it is compulsory to do so under the laws of the Board of Health; even these matters have been woefully neglected by many institutions in the past.

To-day the searchlight of inquiry can reveal the new life within this prison. Its warden is not drawing upon his reserve energy in an endeavor to create happiness amongst the boys, but he is successfully bringing to their attention those things which must and do appeal to their better senses; then he takes a back seat and awaits results. He believes that the problem of contentment within these walls must largely be solved by the men themselves. If they are looking for such, those special influences are ever at work which can gratify their desires; if they remain callous to these influences, it must be inferential that they are quite content to remain within their hard and conservative shell—and still the administration has done its duty by them.

The result of this policy allows for an opening to reveal to a still doubting world a most pleasant picture of idle-hour life at Joliet. The orchestra of fourteen pieces is well drilled by a competent musician, and has caused much favorable comment from the many visitors who have heard it.

Two choirs are supported, Protestant and Catholic, and numbered among them are soloists of unusual ability.

The library is another medium for the enrichment of the mind, and the great majority of the men delight in taking advantage of this opportunity offered. The chapel at services is always crowded, and not infrequently prominent men in public life will offer their services on these occasions; the subjects, covering the entire range of right thinking and clean

living, are warmly appreciated as is testified to by the applause given.

The school is another important factor for the uplift of many men here. Special lectures are given from time to time on subjects appealing not only to those accustomed to the refinements of life, but also to that great majority who reap the peculiar benefit by such instruction through lack of early training and proper environment.

Amongst the pleasures of lighter vein may be mentioned the ever popular "Movies."

All this must strengthen and expand. If the men at Joliet crave for that which is inspiring, instructive and entertaining, it reflects an healthy and perhaps a new spirit in prison life; and so far as this prison is concerned, the achievement of these good ambitions in many individual lives here has proved conclusively that human nature is much the same everywhere.

N. C. E.



January 27, 1914.

To the Editor:

From second term men who had served their full time at first conviction, as well as from those who have been returned to the penitentiary because of violation to their parole pledge, there comes a note of protest not altogether unreasonable.

Men have been heard to say: "I attribute my second fall to the fact that when I was first released and stepped out into the world, I had but ten dollars in my pockets; this amount could not keep body and soul together very long in the attempt to adjust myself."

It is difficult at all times to succeed in the attempt of putting ourselves in the places of other people, thus clearly seeing the picture from their special viewpoint. But even those having no previous experience in matters pertaining to social reform, or even those disinterested in such matters, would foresee, that a strong temptation threatens the prisoner who enters the world under these trying circumstances after undergoing a long period of confinement.

Among the many benevolent institutions of the land, there are several whose aim and purpose it is to step in at this psychological moment of a man's life, and meet the emergency. The efficiency of these institutions as well as their general usefulness cannot be questioned, as statistics will prove.

But there are always a large number of men

who display a decided resentment towards affiliating themselves with these influences. Prisoners will believe, laboring under a sense of false pride, that they would be stooping to charity; others, excited and nervous over the prospect of being a free man once again, will welcome no obstacles in their path which they believe might curtail, even to a limited extent, the full freedom so long desired; others again offer no tangible reason at all for their independent attitude, and, curiously, these men are more prone to avoid the helping hand.

These men know, presumably, their own minds; certainly no one can make them embrace the opportunity which they may be offered. Looking at the matter, then, from their own peculiar and perhaps eccentric angle, there is a certain excuse, though not justification, for this falling into the mire after prison doors have swung outward.

What can be done to ameliorate these conditions without resorting to legislation? We might propose the organization of a society, the officers of which, or proper committees, would be duly advised when a full term man was about to receive his discharge. The prisoner can then be personally approached under pleasant conditions; it would be often, doubtless, a warfare between stubbornness and tact—but the latter would probably win the day. In numerous cases, such an approach would be welcomed fervently by even old offenders.

S. P. E.



January 18, 1914.

To the Editor:

I desire through the columns of the "Post" to record my testimony in behalf of the humane and generous administration of affairs under the present management, and my attestation is made chiefly from a comparison of the present and former administrations. I know whereof I speak, for I have been here before, and I am qualified to say truthfully, that the prisoners today have more privileges, fewer reports for violations of rules, less punishment, and at the same time there is a better and higher degree of discipline maintained than was ever before known in the history of the institution. Of course, men are sometimes punished severely, but it must be remembered that there are fifteen hundred men confined here for every crime on the calendar. These men cannot be handled with kid gloves; stronger measures are absolutely necessary to control them. This only

applies to a few of the inmates. Ten or fifteen of the number confined here are the ones who receive nearly all of the punishment, and in ninety-nine per cent of the cases these men absolutely force the authorities to extreme measures.

This is not written at the suggestion of anyone connected with the institution; neither is it done because I am a favorite with the officials. I am but a shoe shop man, have served every day of my sentence at hard labor. I have never asked a favor or had occasion to fear the frowns of anyone in authority, but I write because I believe the management deserve a word of praise for their efforts in behalf of those placed in their keeping and this praise should come from those who are the recipients of the increased privileges and comforts, which are allowed and accorded to us.

In conclusion let me say that at least one man who wears the gray appreciates the generous allowance of privileges and is ever ready and willing to say a word in defense of those now in charge of the Northern Illinois State Penitentiary.

D. K., Shoe Shop No. 3.



January 22, 1914.

To the Editor:

The prisoner who submitted in the January number the argument against striped clothing for parole violators, deserves to be congratulated upon his subject as well as on the weight of his argument. He would have won out only for one thing and that was, before the paper was off the press, Warden Allen ordered the wearing of striped suits by parole violators discontinued.

A Warden can give an order and have it carried out quicker than a printer can produce a finished magazine, and I can only advise the contributor to look around and see if he can point out something else which can be improved upon. The chances are that the Warden will beat him to it every time. A prisoner's handicap is too great.

Keep up the good work, George; you probably made the Warden hustle at that. Anyway, striped suits have disappeared except for those who are convicted of disobedience of prison regulations.

E. G.



January 27, 1914.

To the Editor:

The promise made to us by those in authority that life in this prison will be made as near-

ly normal as it is possible to make it in an institution of this kind, is the foundation of modern prison reform methods. There is so much that prison officials can do to lighten the burdens of prisoners, that when they do their best, the results are beyond estimation.

Whenever such a promise is lived up to, the prison is robbed of its horrors and the prisoner's loads are lightened so that we can bear up under them, and this lifts the fog which in the past has enveloped us so that we can again look hopefully into the future; and as we can now see farther, we can look forward to the time when we shall again enjoy freedom.

J. M.



January 25th, 1914.

To the Editor:

When the prison authorities invite the co-operation of prisoners it follows that we are looked upon as men, and that being the case incentive to respond will result and with it hope of recognition and reward for successful efforts.

This opens the way for friendly competition between prisoners, and that brings us to conditions similar to those in the world outside, and when we clearly understand that, we realize that in this prison life is worth living and that it is worth our while to exert ourselves and do our best, thus winning the respect and earning the reward which should result everywhere from successful endeavor.

B. E.



January 24, 1914.

To the Editor:

Out-of-door employment for prisoners takes a heavy load off their minds. Fresh air means more to prison inmates than it does to citizens.

Sweeping sidewalks are the best positions inside prison walls and that is why such jobs are facetiously called "politician jobs."

A. C.



January 20, 1914.

To the Editor:

Somehow I have been given a new meaning to the word "Convict." Formerly to me, it was the prisoner who wears a scowl on his face which distorts his features, delineates rebellion, and who barely suppresses his mumbled snarl. Don't be a convict. Instead be the one who works and plays, because God gives you strength of mind and body with which to do it.

Many will say, O, the poor women! Now, please do not pity us, for pity is mockery. Just give us a kindly smile, a kindly word, a generous tolerance of our weaknesses—which even the strongest men possess.

There are so few women in this prison, (and I would that there were less,) that we are daily, yes almost hourly, undergoing veritable dissection; being analyzed; given mental caricatures; silhouetted against the cause in our imprisonment; oftentimes scorned, and sneered at or openly censured while if the true nature or characteristics of the individual were known, it might be proven to be absolutely and directly opposed to that criticism.

I doubt if there is one here who cannot recall a question asked at her preliminary trial: "Is this your first offense?" Now, if this is our punishment for an offense, shall we not the better fortify ourselves against other punishment by making it our aim to see some good in every one, in every thing, in every day, in every hour, and in ourselves?

According to Law's precedence we are deprived of liberty. That is directly against human nature, yet we still have left what ever good there was in us; and why not adopt such habits, as nearly as possible, as will strengthen our good points?

Inmate, Women's Prison.



To the Editor:

January 21, 1914.

Here are a few lines from the Women's Prison, heartily thanking you for the "Post," and to say a word in congratulation of its birth.

May it live long and prosper and may its pages be an inspiration to all who sojourn behind the walls.

I believe I voice the sentiments of all here in saying that we enjoyed reading it, although we were a little disappointed at not having our innings in the first number.

We too have Deputies over here who should come in for a share of praise, and we desire to thank them for the privileges that we have received since they came to us for we appreciate the kindness by them shown to us.

The male inmates are not the only ones who have benefitted because Mr. Roosevelt knocked the Republican party into a cocked hat.

Wishing you success in your undertaking of reformation on a humane plane, I am, Sir,

Respectfully,

M. S., Women's Prison.

MISCELLANEOUS

SOMEBODY'S FRIEND

Written for The Joliet Prison Post

Somewhere, somewhere in the world
 Somebody's eyes there are which wait
 My troubled face to contemplate;
 With sympathy aflame, and still
 Unflinching eyes that strangely dare
 The mystery of my soul to bare,
 To seek the good if good is there—
 To scan the purpose and the will.
 I'm watching, as my way I wend,
 To find them shining in a friend
 Somewhere in the world.

Somewhere, somewhere in the world
 Somebody's sturdy hand I know
 Would clasp my own in weal or woe;
 Lingering there as tho' loath to leave,
 With pressure firm that seems to give
 The hope to win, the wish to live,
 A love and longing to forgive—
 A fresh desire to achieve.
 I'm watching, as my way I wend,
 To see it reaching from a friend
 Somewhere in the world.

Somewhere, somewhere in the world
 Somebody's smile would light for me,
 Feeling the heart with its golden key—
 Threading a path to its mystic core!
 Only a smile?—'Tis golden speech
 Telling what wise men fail to teach;
 Touching where caution fails to reach—
 Only a smile and nothing more.
 I'm watching, as my way I wend,
 To see it flooding from a friend
 Somewhere in the world.

Somewhere, somewhere in the world
 Somebody's ear would there incline—
 Somebody's voice would welcome mine,
 Bearing the message I need to-day.
 Telling of life without the sin,
 Teaching the pilgrim's way to win,
 Giving the plan to now begin—
 Calling me onward, else I stray.
 I'm listening, as my way I wend,
 To hear it sounding from a friend
 Somewhere in the world.

One time, somewhere in the world
 I held the hand that I would prize;
 I knew the smile, the quiet eyes—

Falleth the voice as an empty song.
 O, constant friend! I left your side,
 Upon my strength alone relied,
 Choosing the pathway, white and wide;
 And now I grope for the something
 gone,
 Still watching, as my way I wend,
 To find and hold another friend
 Somewhere in the world.

L. T. W.



VOICES THROUGH THE SPACE

Written for The Joliet Prison Post

'Tis calling at the waking hour, far distant,
 yet so near,
 The voice that whispers through the space the
 love-tale in my ear;
 Amid the evening silences its sweet complaint
 is breathed,
 And through the golden promise brought is
 hope of life conceived:
*"Dear wanderer, I'm calling you,
 Dear heart, return
 Where love is ever first and last,
 And home lights burn.
 The journey we must plan anew,
 With faith secure
 To bear the load, to meet the blast
 And still endure."*

How quickly then my answer comes! 'Tis but
 a simple word,
 Yet somewhere down the fields of space I know
 it will be heard;
 For someone sits the weary day an empty chair
 beside,
 And sets the watch-light in its place when falls
 the even-tide:
*"Beloved, I'm coming bye and bye,
 And at your knee
 Will marvel at the patient love
 Which summoned me;
 The gentle courage which could vie
 With stress and trial;
 The faith which brought the vision of
 The life worth while!"*

A. L.

GRAFTERS

By Spike Hogan

A Prisoner

Written for The Joliet Prison Post

In the life of every grafter
There are girlies, wine and laughter;
Yet there's something missing after

One has lived it very long,
You may snatch the cream and honey
And the "other fellow's" money,
But it's just as true as funny
You will wish you wasn't born.

You're an all-round good fellow
When you have the "green and yellow;"
Voices round you glad and mellow,
And the hand grips good and strong.
But the grafter is a boozier,
There's a girl—one can't refuse her;
You awake, a grumbling loser,
Girl and "friends" and money gone.

Though no ties of friendship bind them,
It is rarely hard to find them;
You're in front of and behind them
In the city's madding throng.
Can you tell me what survives by,
What a lonely kid derives by
Being Grafter, sot and wise guy?—

That's the problem of my song!

[Note—He knows, but will not tell—
Editor.]



AN APPEAL

By William Richards

A Prisoner

Written for The Joliet Prison Post

Just a thought is born within me as I ply my
pen along;
'Tis no selfish boon I'm craving—I would rec-
tify a wrong.
For the world seems all against us, ever shuns
the one who falls,
All unknowing there is goodness in the man
behind the walls.

Bear my message to the people who gaze at us
from afar,
That we're weak and only human-prone to er-
ror as they are.
Though we've wandered from the pathway
midst the happy fields of men,
We are hoping for a welcome when we face the
world again.

THE PLEA

Written for The Joliet Prison Post

To the ends of the earth I am sending
The plea all too feebly I make,
To the pitiless and the unbending,
That their reason and mercy awake.
The decree of the people has fenced us
Around with these towering walls,
But why should their hearts turn against us--
Why outcast the fellow who falls?

Not for sympathy's tears are we praying,
For the lesson was given to learn;
We are counted, we know, as the straying,
But are weary and long to return.
So a welcome we crave to receive when
Swing the gates of the cold prison wall,
That the suffering eye may perceive then
There are friends in the world after ail.

There's a God looking down from above us,
But my plea is not sent to His throne,
Who, all knowing, all seeing, can love us
And who counteth us still as His own;
With the pulse of the world I'm contending,
As its borne from the gray prison walls,
The plea I too feebly am sending:
Do not outcast the fellow who falls!

C. E. R.



Free Copies for Prisoners

Each prisoner received a copy of the Jan-
uary number without cost, and the same will be
done with regards to the February issue. The
expense of the copies distributed to the in-
mates is borne by the Library and Amusement
fund and it is the intention of the authorities
to continue this indefinitely, but discontinuance
is to remain optional.

For the present prisoners will be permitted
to mail their copy to any address in the United
States and the prison authorities will pay the
postage. To do this the inmate should hand
his paper to his keeper who will write the name
and address, of the person to whom it is to go,
legibly on a slip of paper and then send both
to the office of the Superintendent of Mails.

Under no circumstance should the name and
address or anything else be written on the paper
as this is against the rules. Inmates are not
permitted to pay for any paper or to subscribe,
nor yet to pay for the subscription of a friend.
In no way will the prisoners or any one of them
be permitted to pay any money to The Joliet
Prison Post.

The Editor.

WORDS OF CHEER

From William A. Sunday

From an Address to Prisoners

Boys, you can live down your past. Don't think that when you get out everybody will avoid you like a hobo avoids a woodpile. You can live down your past just as surely as others have. You'll find influences that'll help you go square, or you'll find influences that will pull you back with the old gang, if you let them.

A man can live down his past if he'll meet squarely and firmly the influences that dragged him down. It's up to you whether you go straight after you leave these doors, or whether you go back to the old life. It's the love of Jesus Christ that will keep you right.

How far are you men here in the pen on the Ohio from the time you knelt at your mother's knee and said, "Now I lay me?" None of you are here because you obeyed the Bible are you? If every man obeyed the Bible there would be no prisons on earth, there would be no electric chairs, no uniformed police.

I believe nothing blocks the way of a man to hell like the loves of a wife and child. And nothing can put courage into a man like little arms about his neck. Men, when you get out of here you've got to go straight. You can win if you only try. You'll find people to help you out if you really want them to. That's what I've come for to try and encourage you so you won't go back to the old crowd when you get out. This is my rest day, but if I can do anything to help you I'm mighty glad to do it. Men, let Jesus lead the way and you won't go far wrong.

I don't know anything about the circumstances that brought you here, but every man himself knows how his foot slipped.

The devil can make more promises and fulfill less than anybody else in the world. When you leave these doors say, "Good-bye pen, good-bye bean soup, good-bye iron bars, good-bye old uniform they can make rags of you if they want to, but I'm going to leave you forever."



It is the duty of prison authorities to reduce by education, the accumulation of ignorance which prevails amongst inmates in prisons everywhere, and in those states which by laws forbid compulsory education of prisoners the laws should be changed.

They Require a Light Rein

Some prisoners need just a little more restraint than society can enforce. This is illustrated by the trustees who are helpful and lead moral lives in prison, yet some would fail if there were no prison restraint.

Some men, who as trustees, would refuse whisky if it was offered to them would spend their last cent for it if they were free to purchase it.

Those men are not firm enough to be independent and they are too good to be kept in prison.



Going Some, But True

No one realizes the responsibility placed upon him quicker than does the prisoner. The higher officials in prison are usually good judges of character and when they trust a prisoner they go farther in extending their confidence than employers.



January 20, 1914.

To the Editor:

Ye Editor says in the January number the prisoner who looks only for sympathy in this paper will be disappointed.

Sure, we know that; you will find "sympathy" in the dictionary.

Anonymous, Women's Prison.



From The Governor of Illinois.

Springfield, January 15, 1914.

To the Editor:

I have read with much interest the first issue of The Joliet Prison Post and am much pleased with its appearance and contents, and hope that the prisoners will profitably employ some of their leisure time in reading and contributing to the paper.

Yours very truly,

E. F. Dunne.



From the Governor of Kansas.

Topeka, January 14, 1914.

To the Editor:

I have received a copy of The Joliet Prison Post and have read the interview with Warden Allen with a good deal of interest.

We have been following the same mode of procedure as to the care of the prisoners in this state for some time past.

Geo. H. Hodges.

From the Governor of Idaho

Boise, Idaho, January 20, 1914.

To the Editor:

I am thoroughly in sympathy with all that is contained in the interview with Warden Edmund M. Allen which appeared in your January number.

I believe that prisoners are human and that much may be accomplished through an appeal to their sense of manhood, honor and responsibility. I have no doubt that Mr. Allen is accomplishing a great work for prison reform, and I trust that the methods which he is employing will soon find favor throughout the entire United States.

Yours very respectfully,

John M. Haines.

**From the Governor of Connecticut.**

Hartford, Conn., January 13, 1914.

To the Editor:

I am in favor of the extension of the principle of outdoor labor for convicts and I have recommended legislation in that direction by this State. It must, of course, always be remembered in dealing with prisoners that they are in prison partly for punishment, partly for the deterrent influence on others and partly with the hope of reformation. The deprivation of liberty is a serious part of their punishment, and of its deterrent influence.

Yours very truly,

Simeon E. Baldwin.



Severe discipline encouraged enmity between prisoners on the theory that prisoners who hated one another would keep the authorities informed with regard to infractions of the rules.



The conduct of our "honor men" at Camp Hope will open prison gates throughout the United States and will save many a sinner from a consumptive's grave.



A prison guard who hopes that the Deputy Warden will punish the prisoner whom he reports, is unfit for his position. If the prisoner is excused from punishment by the Deputy Warden, the guard should receive him as though nothing had happened and he should hold no grudge against such prisoners.

PRESS OPINIONS AND REPRINTS**A Credit to Joliet Prison**

The first number of the Joliet Prison Post, a monthly journal published by the board of commissioners and the warden of the Joliet state penitentiary and edited by a prisoner, has been issued. It is a highly creditable publication reflecting much credit upon the humanitarian administration of Illinois' greatest prison.

The number contains forty-eight pages, mainly the work of prisoners. But it also has discussions of prison problems, a letter from Governor Dunne, a poem by Walter Malone, sent by Secretary of State William J. Bryan, and even a number of jokes and stories in lighter vein. A feature of much interest is a reprint of the Constitution of the United States, with the names of the original signers, members of the constitutional convention which adopted it.

In short, here is a monthly magazine which must, of necessity, be of large interest to the unfortunates confined in the Joliet prison. The very fact of its existence marks a great increase in humanitarianism and enlightened prison management, for it is a startling encroachment upon the old system which regarded a prisoner as a sort of inferior wild animal, only fit to be caged and abused.

We shall do much better in our prison administration if we recognize the fact that even prisoners have some rights, and that one of them is that they be not regarded as having entirely forfeited their claims to human sympathy and understanding. As a long step in this direction the establishment of the Joliet Prison Post may be hailed as a decidedly welcome innovation in the penal system of Illinois. —*Inter Ocean, Chicago.*

**Optimistic and Pathetic**

We are in receipt of a copy of the Joliet Prison Post, edited in Joliet prison, and containing a number of articles by the prisoners and in their interest. An optimistic tone runs through the number and no doubt its every line was most eagerly read by the inmates. Some of the articles have a decidedly pathetic touch, and especially is this true of the one penned by the convict who has been there eighteen long years.—*Republican-Register, Galesburg, Ill.*

Two Prison Publications

The Joliet Prison Post, "devoted to prison news," edited by a prisoner and published monthly by the board of commissioners and the warden of the penitentiary at Joliet, Ill., comes close to being all that a prison publication should be. It has something in it. The warden takes advantage of its columns to outline his purposes and talk openly with the inmates of the prison. A prisoner who was one of last fall's road gang tells what it means and speaks for the forty-five men who constituted the road working experiment with convicts when he reviews the work, the spirit in which the men took hold of it and declares its success from a reformatory standpoint. The prison physician and the chaplain have their word and contributions from convicts, letters from outside and clippings from other prison papers combine with some display advertising to make up a very creditable quarto magazine of forty-eight pages.

The main thing about the Prison Post is that it is worth reading by the men inside and by those outside who are in any way interested in the operation of prisons. It touches on matters of actual daily interest to those people within the walls. It is useful and interesting and worth the effort.

The Anamosa reformatory where a prison paper is being issued, should study the Joliet style and class. The Prison Press is as nearly the opposite of the Post as may be. The Press is well printed—and there's an end. The Post is a useful magazine which can not fail to be an effective aid to the process of reformation. —*Times-Republican, Marshalltown, Iowa.*



Brimfull of Good Reading

The Free Trader is in receipt of a copy of the first issue of "The Joliet Prison Post," a monthly paper devoted to the dissemination of news of the state penitentiary at Joliet. The paper is in magazine form and is brimfull of good reading matter.

"The Post" is edited by one of the prisoners and the editorial paragraphs are highly flattering to Governor Dunne, Warden Allen of the prison, and other officials there. The prisoners say they are receiving the best treatment under the Dunne administration ever granted by any set of state officials and they appreciate it highly.—*Free Trader, Ottawa, Illinois.*

Sound and Uplifting

Number one, of volume one, of the Joliet Prison Post has come to the Courier-Herald office. The publication is edited by the prisoners of the state penitentiary at Joliet and published by the board of commissioners and the warden of the prison. It is printed on an excellent quality of paper, contains forty-eight pages, eleven of which are filled with advertising.

There is a tone about the publication which is uplifting. Everything which the prisoners have written is clean and wholesome. There is sounded in each discussion something of a wholesome respect for law, a longing for liberty, and withal a desire for human betterment which speaks well for the influence of the state prison. Not a sordid line appears in the paper. It is filled with suggestions as to the improvement of the prisoners' life, with red-blooded poetry, with a letter from Governor Dunne, a poem sent by William J. Bryan and a letter from Louis F. Post. The Joliet Prison Post is indicative of awakening social interest in America, within prison walls as well as elsewhere.—*Courier-Herald, Charleston, Ill.*



"Our Protestant Brothers"

A change has been made in the Illinois State prison at Joliet. Edmund M. Allen, the warden appointed by Governor Dunne, believes in humane treatment of prisoners and the "Joliet Prison Post," a magazine published by the prison authorities and edited by a prisoner, tells of the improved conditions. In passing, it may be said that the magazine reveals workmanship and skill, literary and mechanical, that is superior to many a publication of free men.

Here is a paragraph from a letter of a prisoner who "has served time more than eighteen years" that is worth the attention of thousands and tens of thousands out of jail:

"Those of us who are of the Catholic faith must not overlook the fact that, under Mr. Allen, we have Catholic services every two weeks and mass every Sunday instead of once a month. I feel confident that our Protestant brothers rejoice with us over this."

Mark the phrase "Our Protestant brothers." Think on it well. How often is brotherly love, the kind of love that every minister and priest preaches from his pulpit, to his own congre-

gation, breathed with a sincerity so obvious, so disarming of suspicion—outside of prison walls?

When this man, with eighteen years of prison slavery behind him, speaks of "our Protestant brothers," you, reader, know that he means it. You will agree with him, too, that "Protestant brothers (in prison) rejoice" with him "that the Catholics now have the mass every Sunday," however you may not believe in the mass. Nor will you doubt, Protestant though you be, that your brother Protestants in prison are as tolerant and gentle in their view of the Catholic faith as this old prisoner is of theirs.

Must one go behind prison walls to find "charity" that "suffereth long and is kind?"

To Catholic and Protestant, alike free, respectable and prosperous, we commend the sermon that the prisoner of eighteen years has preached to them in forty-five words. Surely, if Christian love may stamp out sectarian animosity and vindictiveness in the life of the prisoner, it should have free play among the free!—*The State, Columbia, S. C.*



A Human Interest Magazine

The news counters are filled with "human interest" periodicals these days, but none bear so vital a message of genuine human interest as the "Prison Post," published monthly by the inmates of the Joliet Penitentiary.

While vigorously advocating the new idea of imprisonment as a means of reformation, rather than of vengeance, the "Prison Post" does not encourage sentimentality, as indicated in this introductory paragraph:

"The prisoner who looks only for sympathy in this paper will be disappointed. We hope that he who recognizes his own shortcomings will find encouragement in every number."

The point of view of "the man inside" is always interesting and frequently illuminating. To the man or woman concerned with the reclamation of those who have stumbled no periodical can offer more absorbing study than this monthly journal setting forth the reflections of those who bear the judgments of outraged society.—*The Peoria Journal.*



A Credit to the Prisoners

The News-Herald is in receipt of a copy of the first edition of the Joliet Prison Post, a magazine edited by a prisoner.

The new magazine contains 48 pages, a little larger than standard magazine size and is well printed.

The very first statement in the first page of the paper reads as follows: "The prisoner who looks only for sympathy in this paper will be disappointed."

The paper is devoted to prison news largely. Scores of convicts contribute. There is a long interview with Deputy Warden Walsh, a contribution by Governor Dunne and a great deal of interesting information about prison affairs generally.

The publication is exceptionally well gotten up. It has a good advertising patronage and is most certainly a credit to the prisoners who are getting it out.—*News-Herald, Litchfield, Illinois.*



Road Building in Alabama

The movement to take convicts from the mines and the lumber camps in Alabama goes ahead slowly. A meeting held last summer in Birmingham to agitate the question has borne fruit only within the past few weeks, when some fifty convicts have been put to work on road construction in Jefferson county.

No convicts have as yet been taken from the mines or lumber camps.

Newspaper articles, editorials and news stories in various state papers deal with it from day to day. Possibly the one most tangible result of the summer's meeting so far has been the creation of a strong public sentiment for it.—*The Survey, New York.*



Good for the Boys

Joliet prison honor men are continuing in road work, not heeding the little snow on the ground. They like the work and their tents have been equipped with stoves and as long as the mercury does not go very far below zero, they will prefer road building to any work that might be assigned to them in the big institution. They are doing excellent work and are causing not the slightest trouble. No doubt the gangs or squads will be increased just as fast as it is deemed safe. None but men who can be trusted are assigned to this work and the men themselves see to it that the confidence which is given them is not misplaced.—*Dispatch, Moline, Ill.*

The Love of Freedom

There is something over which to ponder in the joy of the liberated wild thing. A caged bird, used to the liberty of the air, the confined beast, born in the fastnesses of the wilds, will often pine and die for the very desire for freedom.

Not unlike the lower strata of beings is man, long confined, when he is liberated. The cause may vary. The delight with which the invalid takes his first tottering step, upon recovery, is good to see. He feels he is being freed from the clutches of his disease. A recent example lies in the presence of the convict road gangs from the Joliet prison. These gangs are constantly increasing. The men upon them are "trusties," in every case. Rather than enjoy the warmth and comfort of the prison home, these men are facing the winter's severe changes, in tents, and are working daily in the biting air, for the freedom from encompassing walls. The sense of helplessness is less acute, perhaps, even though no thought of escape from obligation enters the mind. In the sunlight and beauty of God's great out-of-doors, these shamed men can face their duty with steadier eyes and stronger hearts. Here the law cannot rob them of what every man has, good or bad, the incentive for right thinking and living. Penal students tell us that more men are reformed out of doors than under roofs. The freedom instinct generally prevails.—*Ledger, Canton, Illinois.*



Ready to Break Camp

The convicts who, without guards, without shackles or handcuffs, arrived here from the Joliet state penitentiary on September 3, 1913, will have completed their road work this week with a record of having "made good" as they said they would when Warden E. M. Allen started them on the work at Camp Hope.

The convicts have by their loyalty and good behavior demonstrated the fact that it pays to lend a helping hand to the "down and out."

Of the sixty-five men who have been at the camp in the last four or five months, Harry West, who is now clerk of the camp and has ten months yet to serve, said:

"The boys are all on the square yet and there isn't a man who hasn't kept his word of honor with the warden given at Joliet before we started for camp."

The men have worked eight hours every day since they started on road building, except

Saturday afternoons, Sundays, and holidays. The work accomplished has been highly satisfactory to the local commissioners and the people here.

Fifteen of the original party of forty-five men have been released by pardon or otherwise.

But as the convicts whose terms had expired were released from camp new "honor men" were sent from the state prison to take their places, so that Capt. Keegan has had forty-five men working under him at all times.

What pleases the men themselves most is that they have "made good" and that the confidence placed in them by Warden Allen has not been betrayed.

The Rev. A. B. Whitcombe of the First Episcopal church of Dixon, who has been chaplain of the camp since its establishment, and who has been a daily visitor, said he never saw a bunch of men so willing to work or who were more anxious to really "make good."

The road up over the hills from Grand de Tour, where all the work has been done, has taken more time to complete than expected at the start. This was due to the large amount of crushed rock that has been used, but was not called for in the original plans of State Engineer Johnson.—*Chicago Tribune, January 18, 1914.*



No More Penitentiaries

The Springfield Republican has this to say about Ohio's new method of treating criminals:

When America was a country of farms and villages, its ideal of caring for delinquents and dependents was in a big brick institution. Now that urban conditions have developed even to rather too great extent, we see a natural and wholesome reaction toward the farm colony as an ideal. Thus Ohio has a new place of detention beautifully situated in a virgin forest, which no one is to be allowed to speak of as a penitentiary.

Ohio has adopted a prison penalty with more sympathy than revenge in it, not condolence for the crime, but sympathy for the criminal. This very treatment will make crime ashamed of itself. A man sent to the prison for some crime will be apt to say to himself, "to think that I have attacked the peace and order of a state that treats me so considerately and kindly!" There is reformation in that kind of a thought and reformation is two-thirds of punishment.—*Ohio State Journal.*

Kentucky Road Work

The movement for placing convicts on the road received a fresh impetus last month, when a constitutional amendment was passed in Kentucky, permitting the use of prisoners upon the public highways. Previous to this, all Kentucky prisoners were employed within the walls of the institution under the contract system, but, pending the passage of the amendment, the prison commissioners refused to renew a contract soon to expire, so that convicts will be available for road work as soon as the necessary legislation can be enacted.—*Times Union, Jacksonville, Fla.*



Putting Men on Honor

It is officially reported that since the parole system was adopted by the Missouri state prison authorities, eight months ago, not one convict in 73 released, has again committed crime, or broken his parole.

This record is in line with that made last year by the "honor men" sent from the state penitentiary of Illinois to work upon the roads.

There is, indeed, some "honor among thieves"—and other malefactors.

There is at least a spark of honor in the vilest wretch alive.

It is not possible in every case, perhaps, to fan that spark to flame. But in it lives whatever hope exists of reformation of the criminal.

Putting men on honor tends to make men honorable.

Just as distrusting good men—showing them they are suspected—treating them like scoundrels—tends to make them scoundrels.

Trusting bad men is not going to make all of them trustworthy. Not any more than manifest distrust of better men will make them all dishonest. But there is temptation in the one case to justify confidence, as there is temptation in the other case to justify suspicion.

Like appeals to like, and like responds to like.

Comprehension of that rule is growing clearer and promises to make, some day, reformatories of our prisons.—*Register, Canton, Ill.*



Another Prison Farm

The first announcement of Dayton's new director of public welfare is that he proposes to abandon the city workhouse and establish a prison farm in its stead. In other words, Dayton will have a Warrensville.

Attention was called in these columns some weeks ago to the widening popularity of the prison farm idea. Ohio is to have a farm prison in place of the present penitentiary at Columbus. Other states have taken steps to the same end. But the cities led in the reform.

Cleveland's success at Warrensville has become famous. Kansas City has an institution similar in form and purpose, the work of which in the last two or three years has been highly praised.

Dayton is to profit by the experience of these and other cities which have already abandoned practices in penology which tended to degrade but not to reform men and women who fell under the law's displeasure. It is a hopeful comment on society's increasing humanity that so many wide-awake communities are ready to abandon old practices for new in the treatment of their less vicious offenders.—*Plain Dealer, Cleveland, O.*



Good for the Chicago Journal

Concerning five "honor men" sent to Camp Hope from this prison and who were recently released the Chicago Journal said, "These five men may not be wholly reclaimed, but they have a better chance of good citizenship than any who have gone before. They have had work which hardens their muscles, braces their minds and strengthens their self-control. They have learned by experience that it pays to be trustworthy, that the state can be parent and protector as well as policeman, that the law is willing to give a fellow a chance."



Self Criticism

Fault-finding, any man will find an excellent habit if directed only at himself. Expended thus, it will correct his faults, eradicate his vices and give him a tremendous advantage over the thousands that are sure to be entered in the race with him. Directed at others, it will get him nothing but enemies, and enemies are always dangerous.

Often the fellow who imagines that he is being neglected by his fellow-men, could secure all the attention he craves, by considering his own mistakes a little more and his fellow-men's a little less.—*The Better Citizen, Rahway, N. J.*

Our Police and Penal Systems

(From an address before the Omaha (Neb.) Philosophical society, by Laurie J. Quimby, Omaha.)

Until society learns to deal fairly with the criminal the number of criminals will increase. Society has tried punishment for untold centuries, and yet to-day the most intellectual and painstaking of the students of criminology are not in the least agreed that punishment has in any sense proved efficacious in the cure of crime. For no matter how severe the punishment, it cannot expel from the mind of the offender the desire to do that which he believes he must, and so long as any desire remains in the mind of man, that desire will eventually be satisfied. You may punish a man so severely that he may not commit a certain deed, but you cannot punish him so severely that he may not wish to do it. England for centuries tried the severest punishments against crime. During the reign of Henry VIII, about thirty-nine years, some seventy-two thousand people were put to death through the power of the state, and for all this time there is not an item to prove that crime decreased. Two centuries ago England had more than two hundred crimes, which her criminal code made punishable with death, but not until the state became less criminal, did crime decrease. It is not uncommon for some folk, whose own conduct is not always above suspicion, to say that one who breaks the criminal law puts himself out of all consideration by his fellow mortals; but when society hounds him who has once offended, and hounds him for that reason only, it is itself a worse offender, for it puts a club into its enemy's hand. Verily, in the majority of cases, it is the criminal who is more sinned against than sinning.

From observation and learning the opinions of others, I believe that the majority, if not indeed all, so-called criminally-disposed are more the victims of circumstances, environment and growth, over which they had no control. I am constantly more and more convinced that all of us really try to do the best we can. That we do not rise to the degree we should is more through our ignorance or from our under-development. From this premise, it would follow that society should treat the criminal more as a sick man—more as one in need of assistance—than as one upon whom it should pounce with distended talons, to rend and tear.—*The Commoner, Lincoln, Neb.*

"An Ambulance Down in the Valley"

By Joseph Malins

'Twas a dangerous cliff, as they freely confessed,

Though to walk near its crest was so pleasant;

But over its terrible edge there had slipped

A duke and full many a peasant

So the people said something would have to be done,

But their projects did not at all tally

Some, "put a fence around the edge of the cliff;"

Some, "an ambulance down in the valley."

But the cry for the ambulance carried the day,

And it spread through the neighboring city;

A fence may be useful or not it is true,

But each heart became brimful of pity

For those who slipped over that dangerous cliff,

And the dwellers in highway and alley

Gave pounds or pence—not to put up a fence,

But an ambulance down in the valley.

Then an old sage remarked: "It's a marvel to me

That people give far more attention

To repairing results than to stopping the cause,

When they'd better aim at prevention.

Let us stop at its source all this mischief,"

cried he,

"Come, neighbors and friends, let us rally;

If the cliff we will fence, we might almost dispense

With the ambulance down in the valley."

"Oh, he's a fanatic," the other rejoined;

"Dispense with the ambulance? Never!

He'd dispense with all charities, too; if he could,

No, no, we'll support them forever!

Aren't we picking up folks just as fast as they fall?

And shall this man dictate to us? Shall he?

Why should people of sense stop to put up a fence,

While the ambulance works in the valley?"

—*Lausing (Kansas) Penitentiary Bulletin*



Only One Too Many

Even Governor Blease must feel that he is pardoning rather too freely when he finds that he has pardoned one man twice.—*Enquirer, Buffalo, New York.*

Do Criminals Reform?

A representative of the New York Herald interviewed William A. Pinkerton on the subject of the reform of criminals. The following are some of the forcible statements by this great authority:

"Do criminals ever reform, really turn over a new leaf, and become good citizens?"

I fired the question at random, little dreaming what a wealth of interesting and convincing anecdote it would evoke. I expected the time-honored cynical reply, something to the effect of "Once a thief, always a thief." But I was disappointed—agreeably disappointed. For his answer was a quick emphatic, earnest "Yes."

And the man who said "Yes" was William A. Pinkerton, and he knows.

Probably no living man knows more intimate details about the individual members of the underworld, those who are active criminals to-day, as well as the notorious crooks of the past, than the head of the Pinkerton Detective Agency. And every crook will tell you, what every honest man who knows Mr. Pinkerton will tell you, that when he says "Yes" there is no possibility that the correct answer should be "No."

I know what the average man thinks—that a real crook never turns straight. But it isn't so. Thousands of crooks—and I don't mean one time offenders, but men in the class we call hardened criminals—have become honest men to my knowledge. It is not true, as some recent writer said, that as many crooks turn honest as there are honest men turn crooked, but I believe that one of the reasons is that so few men are willing to lend a helping hand. I don't mean that every crook is ready to reform if he is encouraged, but I do mean that society makes it hard for any man who has once been a criminal to lead an honest life.

"And I'll tell you another thing," continued Mr. Pinkerton; "I'm prouder of the fact that I have helped a few criminals to become honest men than of all the work I have done in putting criminals behind the bars. I'm proud of the fact that every criminal knows that Pinkerton will deal squarely with him if he will deal squarely with Pinkerton—that I believe it is as important to keep faith with a bank thief as with a bank president.

"I know a score of men in Chicago—not saloon keepers, but reputable merchants—who have criminal records. These men have done

time and have paid their debt to society for their crimes. I cannot tell you their names, for it would be unfair to them and to their wives and families, many of whom have no suspicion that there is anything wrong in the pasts of their husbands and fathers. Besides, when Society discovers that a man is a former criminal it is not content to cancel the debt, no matter how much imprisonment at hard labor the former crook may have given in expiation of his sin.

"I know men in trusted positions in New York who were convicts. In many cases only the man himself and his employer know the secret, and sometimes the employer does not know. I know men scattered all over the West—business men, professional men, many of them wealthy and prominent citizens—who have seen the inside of Joliet, Moyamensing, Sing Sing or Leavenworth. They have sons and daughters who never have suspected and never will suspect the truth.

"These are good men—as good men as any living. They have turned away from their old ways; in many cases have changed their names, and who shall say they are not as much to be respected as the honest man who never was tempted, never was forced into crime?"—*Good Words.*



Atlanta Prison

The prisons seem to be in for the same sort of exposure, which has been meted out, from time to time, to other institutions, or groups of individuals. If the prison of a state is not exposed, or at least criticised, it is almost safe to assume that the state has no prison. And now the federal prisons are having their turn. The criticism, made of Atlanta prison by Julian Hawthorne, has produced an inquiry on the part of the Department of Justice. A good deal of testimony has been taken already and it seems very likely that the charges made by Mr. Hawthorne will be found to have a certain amount of support. It is probable that the criticism of the prisons, for not living up to the standard set for prisons according to the older idea of them, will be succeeded by changes, which would have been regarded as sweeping, a few years ago. The people of the country have suddenly discovered that there are things, even in well-conducted prisons, of which they do not approve and are wondering how they should be changed.—*Advertiser, Boston, Mass.*

Malnutrition and Crime

A scientific schedule of diet for prisoners in the city jail is being arranged by Dr. A. F. Gillihan, health director of Oakland, in conjunction with Professor Myer E. Jaffa, professor of nutrition at the University of California, according to announcement today.

"Malnutrition is responsible for criminality in many cases, and by proper feeding of criminals their criminal tendencies may, to some extent at least, be removed," says Dr. Gillihan.

The objects of the experiments with the prison diet will be to prove the theory held by Dr. Gillihan that men and women with criminal inclinations, while in prison, may be subjected to such a diet as will relieve them of their tendencies and send them forth into the world better able to withstand temptation and less likely to revert to former customs.

Prisoners are to be allowed a variety of foods, these to be decided upon by the health director and Professor Jaffa. Dr. Gillihan contends that with proper food a person's mentality can be greatly improved.—*Evening Post, Chicago*.



A Good Name

In no place on earth does a good record go further than in the penitentiary. Some folks seem to gather the idea that because they are in prison a good name is not to be sought after, and that to be reckless is to be a hero. How erroneous is the idea.

The bible says, "A good name is rather to be chosen than great riches." This statement is made without qualification, and is as applicable behind prison walls as on the outside. If a prisoner has not a good name as a prisoner, he has absolutely nothing.

There are prisoners in this institution whose word is good, and their names, as prisoners, are above reproach. The Warden could, and would, if necessary, trust them anywhere. Think you that such a record stands for naught? Yea, verily, it is to be more valued than silver or gold.

When the minimum is about up there are some who come before the board for a parole, but they have a bad name. No action is taken in their case, and they blame every one but the right party. Other things being equal, they could have been released, but for the record.—*Penitentiary Bulletin, Lansing, Kansas*.

The Superlative in Stupidity

The prisoners are not allowed to write letters until they have been incarcerated two months. After that they are permitted to write only once a month. They can be visited only once a month—the visit, of course, being in the presence of an official—and they must not come in contact with the visitor, as by an embrace or a handshake. They must not speak to one another at all, except during fifteen minutes each day.

They must not even smile at one another. For smiling, a prisoner is made to stand in the corner, face to the wall, until the foul crime is burned and purged away. During the precious fifteen minutes they may speak only to those sitting next to them in the workroom; they can not move from their seats to speak to some one at a little distance.

Such are conditions in the women's prison at Auburn, New York, as described in *The Survey* by two female investigators who got themselves locked up for the purpose of finding out; but their equivalents can be found in scores of other penal institutions.

Just what a State thinks it will gain by maintaining an elaborate machine for dehumanizing prisoners, carefully squeezing every drop of human interest and sympathy out of them, we are unable to imagine. We expect the State is also unable to imagine.—*Saturday Evening Post*.



Bars Stripes

New York, Jan. 12.—The convict stripe is to be eliminated from the city prisons during the administration of Mayor Mitchel, according to Dr. Katherine L. Davis, corrections commissioner, who made her first visit to Blackwell's Island today.

"You can't reform a woman in bed ticking," she said. "I believe strongly in the psychology of clothes. A woman always has more self-respect when she has on her best clothes."—*Chicago Record Herald*.



"I Serve Him Truthfully"

Let the motto of every man in prison be, "I serve him truthfully that will put me in trust." And whether the trust be great or small, let him live up to it every day, and every hour of the day.—*Penitentiary Bulletin, Lansing, Kansas*.

Have a Grievance?

All convicts have grievances in common, legitimate and otherwise. Almost every man of them has a select few of his own, and to acquire a brand-new one has its advantages. A good grievance is always interesting, and, if nothing else, it enables him to discard one out of his old and shop-worn assortment. It furnishes a new outlet for stagnant thoughts, a new subject for conversation, and always commands an attentive and sympathetic audience. Then, too, it is so easily carried about that no lynx-eyed officer can detect it by bulge of pocket or of clothing in a spot where no pocket is supposed to be.

No prisoner ever tries to sidestep a grievance. A good set of grievances enables a fellow to divert his thoughts from his own sins and apply them to those committed against him. He soon crowds his own offenses into the background and conceives a sympathy for himself. It is fine to be a martyr.

Illiteracy is the real cause of many a man's coming to the Penitentiary, and they were serving their sentences and going out again, if anything worse off and with less equipment for life's struggle than when they entered, constituting a greater menace to society than ever before.

That the illiterate and ignorant are more prone toward crime is a fact easily understood. Their ignorance and lack of the mental and moral development, and even of the information that comes from reading, causes them to be more primitive in all their instincts, and more liable to commit crimes of violence and those against the person. Their only means of committing crimes against property are crude and usually involve actual or possible violence in the commission or hiding of the crime. There is more potent danger in one ignorant illiterate than in a number of men with some education, although criminally inclined.

The writer does not claim that there is less inherent honesty among the illiterate and ignorant than among persons having education to some degree, but observation and statistics convince that the majority of the major crimes, those offenses against which society needs to fight the hardest, are committed by the ignorant, and that the crimes of the ignorant are usually of that nature.

In this State, as in most others, we have been simply removing the criminal, a more

or less temporary expedient, as most convicts, regardless of sentence, are liberated sooner or later, and returning him to liberty certainly not bettered or strengthened in any way. He had been punished, that is all, and in an unintelligent manner, better calculated to instill rancor than repentance.—*News, Baltimore, Md.*



Illiteracy and Prisons

"Illiteracy is the real cause of many a man's coming to the penitentiary," says the superintendent of the intramural school at that institution in an article published in the *News* . . . on the work which the school is doing. That being the case, removing illiteracy is one of the best means of preventing prisoners from being sent back there when they have finished their terms and been given a new chance in life. We get a clear idea from the article of the direct manner in which the school operates to develop aspiration on the part of the convicts. This aspiration is much broader than the mere desire to learn how to read and write and to acquire the other elementary instruction that is given. It opens a new vista to men inclined to be discouraged and sullen, and the visible evidence of their own progress is a constant encouragement to them. We are not surprised at the statement that the warden considers the school his best constructive agency. It is but a year and a half since men were pooh-poohing the idea of introducing reformatory processes into the Maryland penitentiary. To such of them as remain, the evidence of what has been and is being accomplished through this one means of encouragement should be a revelation.—*News, Baltimore.*



Crimes Against Criminals

A recent headline in the *New York Press* announces: "End of torture for women in penitentiary promised." Isn't there volumes of commentary in that brief line upon our dark ages attitude toward the treatment of wrongdoers?—*La Follette's Weekly, Madison, Wis.*



Charges Unfounded

Julian Hawthorne's charges against the management of the Federal penitentiary at Atlanta were declared on January 12 to be without foundation by the special investigator in his report to Attorney General McReynolds.—*The Public, Chicago.*

RISE AGAIN

By a Great Meadows (N. Y.) Prisoner

If you fell in the mud,
Would you flounder around,
With your feet in the air
And your head on the ground?

No, you'd get on your feet,
And go on as you should,
And get rid of the dirt
On your clothes if you could.

Then why not do likewise
When from virtue you fall,
'Stead of whining around
Till you sicken us all.

There's naught to be gained
By parading your woes;
If you fall from grace,
Get the dirt off your clothes.

Then start on your way,
With a smile on your face,
And your head in the air—
You'll win at that pace.

Star of Hope.**Go in to Win**

"He conquers who believes he can," is a motto that every inmate would do well to keep constantly before him, for the men who have made good in this world have not been the ones who have gone forth with doubt or misgivings in their heart, but who have set out with the firm intention of "making good" and conquering, come what may.

It is a well known fact that the men who have been of the greatest use to the world and themselves have not been the men who were reared in luxury, but who have been launched upon the world in the midst of poverty and suffering. They have felt the world as it is, not as many think it ought to be. They have been brought face to face with pitiful hardships, they have had to take their knocks with the rest, and in the majority of cases they were good hard ones. But their courage and their conviction to do what was right saved them, and developed them from mere pygmies into the giants of our race.

It is said that human nature is naturally lazy, and people will not put forth their best efforts until something has forced them to do so.

There can hardly be any disputing about this point. The history of the world bears it out. Then, if this be true, are not hardships a blessing in disguise? Do they not rouse the best that is within us, and goad us on toward higher and nobler efforts? No one, who ever wants to make a real man out of himself, can escape the stern school of experience and hard knocks. Knowledge cannot be obtained from books alone—there is nothing that can supplant experience.

Let us not, therefore, regard our present state as the death to all our aims and ambitions, but make it serve as a stimulant to that which is better. Let us use it as a ladder to climb upward, and not as a rope to drag us downwards.

Let us set forth to conquer—not to be conquered, and if we keep this spirit in our hearts, adversity—hard as it may seem at the time—cannot deter us from our purpose; it can only serve to open our eyes, to see things as they are, and make us try all the harder to better ourselves in life.—*The Better Citizen, Rahway, N. J.*

**The Officer's Example**

The officary of a penitentiary have a great responsibility. Each officer's life is more closely scrutinized by the prison body than any person is watched on the outside. Everything they say or do is weighed according to the strictest standard, and if they vary from the rule of righteousness the whole scheme of reformation falls to the ground.

How are we to train men without a trainer? If an officer should so far forget himself as to indulge in profanity or the foolish diversion of telling stories off color, or doing anything beneath the plane of a gentlemen, he is no longer suitable for the service; for instead of training men, he debases them.—*Penitentiary Bulletin, Lansing, Kansas.*

**They Want Bread**

A helping hand should be given to every man whom the jail sends forth into the world to make another start. He should not only be allowed but helped to redeem himself. The best and only way to do this is to give him a chance to earn his bread honestly and in the sweat of his brow—to give the ex-prisoner a job.—*Chicago Tribune.*

Books Written in Prison

In a news dispatch from Atlanta a few days ago it was stated that the warden of the federal penitentiary at that place had issued an order barring Julian Hawthorne's writings from the prison. In connection with this it is interesting to note that the enforced solitude of prison life has given many literary men the opportunity of producing many notable literary works.

The most striking example of this is the case of John Bunyan, who was imprisoned for twelve years. During that period he spent most of his leisure time in producing works which have made his name famous. In 1672 Bunyan was released, but, boldly continuing to preach his unorthodox views, he was thrown again into prison. It was during the second period of his incarceration that he wrote the first part of the famous "Pilgrim's Progress."

The career of the famous Dr. Dodd is not yet forgotten. He was one of the most popular preachers of his time, and studied under various actors and actresses the most effective methods of reading and delivering his discourses. From miles around people flocked to hear him read the Litany. His fame led him to many extravagances in living and he forged a number of bonds, for which offense he was convicted and served a sentence in prison. While there he wrote "The Beauties of Shakespeare" and "The Joys of Solitude."

Lord William Nevill, who was sentenced to serve five years' penal servitude, suffered much from ill health while in prison, and on this account was unable to do much manual labor, and so gained time for the writing of his book on prison life.—*New York Sun*.



The Prisoner and Society

Upon being sentenced to ten years in a Wisconsin penitentiary after having pleaded guilty to a charge of robbery, a young man—he was barely twenty-two years old—became bitterly reminiscent before the court. His plight was all the sadder because it was Christmas eve. The prisoner blamed his native state of Ohio, and charged that persecution had caused his downfall. He declared that as a youth of seventeen he had made one mistake by stealing \$40 from a bank where he was employed, and that thereafter he had been hounded continuously. Just how much of truth there is in the

young felon's story is uncertain, for it has not been investigated. There is a chance that the prisoner told the absolute truth, and it is quite possible that he sought to shield his dishonesty behind an abnormal imagination.

Those familiar with police practice would find one element in the wail from the prisoner which would cause them to give him the benefit of the doubt. For the first offense he said he was sentenced to a reformatory. After being paroled he got another start in life—a new hold on society—and was doing well, he told the judge, but finally his record became known, and the police picked him up on suspicion whenever a crime was committed. He declared that he was accused of burglaries with which he had no connection, until his spirit was broken and again he found himself an outcast.

The police have their methods, often the result of their experience in the activities which protect society at large, but do they give the man who has fallen the benefit of the doubt? Frequently old detectives will tell you that it is necessary to use the dragnet when crime has been committed, and rake in all those who have "done time." Such a policy is open to debate at least, but it is certain that if the convict in question reviewed his career truthfully, society's crime against him is infinitely less pardonable than is his transgression against society.—*Harrisburg (Pa.) Telegraph*.



University Training for Prison Inmates

Through cooperation between the state, the state university and the state penitentiary, Nebraska is about to undertake an uplifting work whereof the simple contemplation justifies a reversal of Robert Burns' famous couplet on man's inhumanity to man. Only an improving sense of man's responsibility to man, of man's obligation to his brother in distress, could have brought about the reforms in prison management and discipline which this age is loudly demanding and often securing. It most assuredly speaks eloquently for the advancing humanism of our day when a university takes the thought and the time to inquire into the condition of the unfortunates at the other end of a state capital with the view to amelioration.

A hundred years ago, even twenty-five years ago, the idea of educating state convicts, some of them life prisoners, for the sake of enlightenment, would hardly have entered into the thought of a university faculty. Yet this is

precisely what is proposed by the University of Nebraska. Under an arrangement with the state board of control, the state will furnish the necessary books and the university will conduct a correspondence course for the benefit of the prisoners. This course will include arithmetic, American history, grammar, literature, bookkeeping and agriculture. It is mentioned as a pathetic circumstance that some of the convicts may never have an opportunity to apply what they shall have learned outside the prison walls. Perhaps not, but the good that may result from this work will not be confined to the prison. It will act as a moral leaven to human experience everywhere.

If it be true that "man's inhumanity to man" has made "countless thousands mourn," it is also true that man's humanity to man makes countless thousands rejoice. Whatever benefit the convicts may derive from this humane attention from the outside world will be as nothing, we think, compared with the good that the act contains for all mankind. The world has been soured by selfishness and neglect; it can be sweetened by unselfishness and charity. —*Science Monitor, Boston, Mass.*



For More Exact Justice

Tentative approval has been given by the finance committee of the city council to a proposed appropriation for a psychopathic laboratory. A similar appropriation is to be asked of the county board, in order that the laboratory when established may handle cases sent to it from state, county and municipal courts. Such a laboratory would have for its purpose the doing of more exact justice to certain classes of offenders and the giving of better protection to the community.

Chief Justice Olson of the Municipal court estimates that 25 per cent of the persons convicted of criminal offenses are defective, either mentally or physically, and require treatment rather than punishment. With respect to the insane, it is argued, punishment certainly is out of the question. But what of those in the borderland between normality and insanity, the feeble-minded, the degenerate, the defective, the epileptic, the moron? Are they to have the same treatment as persons of normal mentality and physical soundness who commit crimes?

The Germans answer this question in the negative. In all the larger cities of Germany are psychopathic laboratories, to which judges

may send offenders suspected of being abnormal. For the Germans hold, in their penal code, that "there is no punishable act if, at the time of the commission, the actor was in a state of unconsciousness or of morbid disturbance of the mental faculties which excluded the free determination of the will." Having been proved to be abnormal, the offender is treated according to his mental or physical requirements, and thus a reasonably exact measure of justice is given him, according to modern ideas of penology, which bar retaliation or retribution as the motive of punishment.

We in America fall far short of this humane and enlightened standard. Here criminals have been dealt with largely on the assumption that they are all normal persons who know what is right but who prefer to do wrong. In important respects our methods need readjustment. Establishing properly conducted psychopathic laboratories would be a rational step toward that desirable end.—*Daily News, Chicago.*



Mistakes

"There are two kinds of mistakes. Those that happen from ordinary human mis-thinking and those that come from carelessness and petty unthinking.

"No one ever gets too big to make mistakes. The secret is that the big man is greater than his mistakes, because he rises right out of them and passes beyond them.

"After one of Henry Ward Beecher's sermons in Plymouth Church, Brooklyn, a young man came up to him and said: 'Mr. Beecher, did you know that you made a grammatical error in your sermon this morning?'

" 'A grammatical error,' answered Beecher; 'I'll bet my hat that I made forty of them.' "

—*From "You Can," by Geo. Matthee Adams*



Revenge, of course, is officially discredited nowadays, though it is practiced as actively as ever under guises more or less civilized.—*Julian Hawthorne.*



In his treatment of prisoners as well as in the example he sets by personal conduct, a prison guard should always bear in mind that a penitentiary is not only a place of punishment but also an institution which intends the reformation of its inmates.

Jesse Sogers.

LOVE AND PUNISHMENT

Punishment rightly interpreted, involves the idea of saving or reformation, and inheres in all things and acts, with or without consciousness. For there is in all phenomena a tendency to disintegration, subsidence and death; which tendency love and intelligence spontaneously seek to arrest and counteract. To counteract or oppose an injurious tendency is to punish it, for all opposition, or thwarting of desire, is felt as punitive, as long as the desire persists. The final aim of punishment is, while restraining, to instruct and direct, until the injurious desire has been transformed into a beneficent one, in harmony with the love and intelligence, which thus transformed it.

Mineral substances tend to crumble; vegetable and animal ones to decay; arrest of these processes is a punishment, with economic love as its motive, and with restoration or preservation as its result; but, unless this beneficent aim were present, there would be no punishment; we should say, let the granite disintegrate; let the plant or corpse rot! Coming to the plane of consciousness, we tame animals by punishing their destructive impulses from a principle of love and intelligence. They presently cease to resist our restrictions, and reap the benefit in improved conditions for themselves, as well as in usefulness or pleasure to us. But, again, had not love and intelligence been the prompters, we would have let the animals run wild or destroyed them or left them mutually to destroy one another.

Arriving at the human degree, we are guided by the same ideas. Our children, in infancy, are not yet endowed with reason and judgment in either the moral or the physical realm, and, as we love them and intelligently desire their welfare and happiness, we seek to supply these deficiencies in them. This we accomplish by instruction—partly verbal, that is, by homilies, "lessons," and exhortations; and partly by punishments, which are lively illustrations of the folly or harm of pursuing their natural impulses and propensities. The children are made to suffer transiently and superficially in order that they may not hereafter suffer inwardly and permanently. At first they feel the pain without comprehending the object; later, when experience has revealed the love and intelligence that occasioned the pain, they begin to acquiesce and co-operate—at which point, punishment ceases and self-control and reformation are established.

But, here, once more, it is obvious that only love and intelligence could cause punishment to be inflicted; these lacking, we should leave the children to their own mischievous and destructive devices.

Now let us emphasize an important truth. Acts of punishment often take the form of the infliction of physical pain; the child which gets its feet wet or tells a lie is spanked, for example. It understands, sooner or later, that hurt of the spanking is not so bad as that of the fever or the loss of integrity which it was used to guard against. But a child may be, and is often spanked because it is merely troublesome or provoking to other people, and, therefore, not for its benefit but for their own convenience, or even from a spirit of anger or revenge. But anger and revenge are passions of hell, not principles of heaven, and, however manifested, are injurious both to giver and receiver. The spanking given in anger is still called punishment, but it is radically different therefrom according to our interpretation. The child soon perceives that love and intelligence had no part in it, and the consequences of it are, accordingly, not amendment and self-control, but fear, subterfuge, and finally hatred. And upon the selfish and cruel parent, the effect is quite as degrading and brutalizing. We may sum the situation in the assertion that punishment not prompted by love and intelligence is a crime against human nature. And a crime against human nature is an unpardonable sin. Punishment in the right spirit is salvation; it is damnation in the wrong.

The existing system of dealing with criminals is still based upon the idea of punishment; and, in theory, this is correct. But unless it can be shown that in practice it is animated and directed not only by intelligence, but by love, it is wrong and a failure. Punishment inflicted upon prisoners in any other spirit than that of love, are inflicted in an evil spirit—the spirit of cruelty, revenge, tyranny, egotism, brutal selfishness. The power of a prison official over a prisoner is greater than that of a parent over a child, for the official is supported by the authority of the State, and yet he is practically irresponsible; he can beat the prisoner into insensibility for a whim, he can torture him into insanity, he can kill him outright, and for all this he needs but to plead "justification." And his word will unhesitatingly be taken against the victim's, or against any number of eye-witnesses—if they be prisoners! He

not only can do all of this, but he has done it many times, as prison records and other records show. And even he has never ventured to pretend that he was actuated by love and intelligences.

It is a terrible mistake to give absolute power of punishment into the hands of any human being who cannot be trusted to punish only in love and with intelligence. How many jail officials meet this test? Yes, some do; but what proportion do they bear to the whole? And yet every jail is a place of punishment, both of mind and of body.—*Better Citizen, Railway, N. J.*



Pledge of Supt. Riley

In marking the introduction of a new idea in prison discipline, by which the convicts themselves will share in the maintenance of order, the inmates of Auburn Prison have sent to State Superintendent of Prisons John B. Riley a set of commendatory resolutions and entered into the new plan with the greatest enthusiasm.

The new idea is centered in what is called the Good Conduct League. Thomas Mott Osborne, Chairman of the State Commission for Prison Reform, suggested the new organization and is working it out, with Warden Charles F. Rattigan and Supt. Riley actively cooperating. The league will comprise all inmates of the prison, and membership in it is contingent upon a good record. The 1,500 convicts, after preliminary explanation of the plan, met in their various shops and held elections. They selected one man, to be known as a lieutenant, to represent each shop or company of convicts, in a central committee of approximately fifty members, to form the league.

The purpose of this new organization is to place some measure of responsibility for discipline in the men themselves, and to give them fair opportunity to earn privileges by good conduct instead of receiving them, as now, in the arbitrary decision of keeper or other officer. The rules will not be such that slight infractions will result in hopeless disgrace, as any one who loses membership may earn his reinstatement by mending his ways. As the convicts are allowed to share in the formation of the league and to make its rules, the public opinion of the prisoners will assist in the maintenance of order. Moreover, the elected lieutenants will share in the responsibility when the enlarged privileges are put into effect.

The league will provide, among other things,

better use of leisure, in which the convict will have opportunity to make this more profitable in effecting his regeneration.

The resolutions which were adopted follow: "Whereas, The Hon. John B. Riley, Superintendent of State Prisons of the State of New York, has by initiative, endeavor and encouragement inspired among the officers and inmates such a kindly spirit of physical, moral and humanitarian progressiveness as warrants the hope of more considerate management and supervision of the whole personnel than that which obtained in all the previous history of prison conduct, and

"Whereas, We, as one of the first fruits of the humane thought of the said Hon. John B. Riley, have been elected by ballot of the inmates of Auburn Prison a committee for the purpose of organizing some society or league within the prison, having for its aim the mental, moral and civic betterment of the inmates, we conceive it our duty as well as our great pleasure to express in some tangible form the appreciation of this committee and those we represent, and therefore be it

"Resolved, That our sincere thanks be tendered to Hon. John B. Riley and that we, individually and as representatives of all inmates of Auburn Prison, hereby pledge our best, honest endeavor and constant attention to the ultimate success of all such efforts as the said Hon. John B. Riley has already made or which he shall hereafter undertake looking to the general uplift and progressive regeneration of men and methods inside the walls of Auburn Prison; and be it further

"Resolved, That an engrossed copy of these resolutions be mailed to the said Hon. John B. Riley as a souvenir to recall the inauguration of a more promising future for those who for so many years have been considered outside the pale of human kinship."

The resolutions are signed by the convicts who were elected lieutenants of the Good Conduct League.—*New York World.*



A prison guard should report all willful infractions of the rules in writing to the Deputy Warden and when he fails to do this, he is remis in his duties.

If a prisoner indulge in what a prison guard conceives to be impudent and insulting language, he should not reply in like terms, but he should report such infraction of discipline to the Deputy Warden.

John A. Lyons.

Three Kinds of People

There are three classes of people. There is that princely class of folk who would do right if they were on an island as was Robinson Crusoe, alone. There are plenty of them too, though it is often spoken otherwise.

This is the class of men and women upon whom the world depends for leadership and example. They stand in the fore front of all reform. Such men as Gladstone of England, Lincoln of America, and such women as Francis Willard are examples of this noble class in leadership. Then in private life we see them in every neighborhood. The man and wife living quietly in the community, bringing up their little family in the way they should go. Nothing could induce them to do a wrong thing. The word "righteousness" is written all over their business affairs. May we have more of such people. The second class is that kind of men and women who are easily influenced either for right or wrong. They will be good if they are with good folks, but will be bad if with bad people. Now it pays to work with such a class; for if they are kept surrounded with a good influence, they will make good citizens.

But the third class is a hard problem anywhere. They have fallen below the plane of moral decency, and are, many times, too much decayed to stand up when put upon their feet. You might as well scatter wheat on a tin roof and expect it to grow, as to try to instill the seeds of righteousness into this class and expect results. Of course all things are possible with God, but in few instances do we find a moral backbone created where there is none. —*Penitentiary Bulletin, Lansing, Kansas.*



Men think there are circumstances when one may deal with human beings without love, but there are no such circumstances. One may deal with things without love; one may cut down trees, make bricks, hammer iron, without love; but you can not deal with men without it, just as one can not deal with bees without being careful. If you deal carelessly with bees you will injure them, and will yourself be injured. And so with men.—*Tolstoy.*



Under severe discipline each infraction of the rules meant cruel and degrading punishment, frequently causing loss of health and hastening death.

The man who thinks that honesty is the best policy and can find no other recommendation for it should come to prison and make room outside for some prisoner who has served too much time.



"A conviction for crime frequently carries with it a future of hounding and helplessness, of fear and hiding, of uselessness, and aimlessness, of insanity and base death."—*Julian Hawthorne.*



Hard, rough work in the open air, good food and the confidence reposed in prisoners will make reliable men of those in prison camps if there is any good in them.



Severe discipline contemplated treating all prisoners alike regardless of strength or temperament. Under this system officials without brains answered every purpose.



A prison guard's attitude towards the prisoners should be kindly but firm and he should have no favorites unless as the result of good conduct, industry and skill.



Severe discipline contemplated breaking the prisoner down instead of building him up.



Prisoners should not be at the mercy of guards who are not big enough to carry their own burdens in life.



A warden of a prison is under obligations to the community which clothes him with his power and to the inmates in his care; to recognize that he is also warden of whatever good there is in each of his prisoners.



Severe discipline usually resulted in either cowardly or desperate prisoners; under it many left at the completion of their sentences broken down in health and unfit for freedom.



Commitment papers may provide for hard work but they are always silent on cursing, striking or otherwise mistreating prisoners.



A prison guard should realize that the Deputy Warden rules on cases in the capacity of a judge, and that his verdicts should not be criticized by any officer of a lower rank.

EXTRACTS FROM THE CONSTITUTION OF ILLINOIS, 1870.

PREAMBLE. We, the people of the state of Illinois—grateful to Almighty God for the civil, political and religious liberty which He hath so long permitted us to enjoy, and looking to Him for a blessing upon our endeavors to secure and transmit the same unimpaired to succeeding generations—in order to form a more perfect government, establish justice, insure domestic tranquillity, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity, do ordain and establish this constitution for the state of Illinois.

ARTICLE II.**Bill of Rights.**

§ 1. All men are by nature free and independent, and have certain inherent and inalienable rights—among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. To secure these rights and the protection of property, governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed.

§ 2. No person shall be deprived of life, liberty or property, without due process of law.

§ 3. The free exercise and enjoyment of religious profession and worship, without discrimination, shall forever be guaranteed; and no person shall be denied any civil or political right, privilege or capacity, on account of his religious opinions; but the liberty of conscience hereby secured shall not be construed to dispense with oaths or affirmations, excuse acts of licentiousness, or justify practices inconsistent with the peace or safety of the state. No person shall be required to attend or support any ministry or place of worship against his consent, nor shall any preference be given by law to any religious denomination or mode of worship.

§ 4. Every person may freely speak, write and publish on all subjects, being responsible for the abuse of that liberty; and in all trials for libel, both civil and criminal, the truth, when published with good motives and for justifiable ends, shall be a sufficient defense.

§ 5. The right of trial by jury as heretofore enjoyed, shall remain inviolate; but the trial of civil cases before justices of the peace by a jury of less than twelve men may be authorized by law.

§ 6. The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated; and no warrant shall issue without probable cause, supported by affidavit, particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or the things to be seized.

§ 7. All persons shall be bailable by sufficient sureties, except for capital offenses, *60] where the proof is evident or the presumption great; and the privilege or writ of habeas corpus shall not be suspended, unless when in cases of rebellion or invasion the public safety may require it.

§ 8. No person shall be held to answer for a criminal offense, unless on indictment of a grand jury, except in cases in which the punishment is by fine, or imprisonment otherwise than in the penitentiary, in cases of impeachment, and in cases arising in the army and navy, or in the militia, when in actual service in time of war or public danger: Provided, that the grand jury may be abolished by law in all cases.

§ 9. In all criminal prosecutions the accused shall have the right to appear and defend in person and by counsel, to demand the nature and cause of the accusation and to have a copy thereof, to meet the witnesses face to face, and to have process to compel the attendance of witnesses in his behalf, and a speedy public trial by an impartial jury of the county or district in which the offense is alleged to have been committed.

§ 10. No person shall be compelled in any criminal case to give evidence against himself, or be twice put in jeopardy for the same offense.

§ 11. All penalties shall be proportioned to the nature of the offense, and no conviction shall work corruption of blood or forfeiture of estate; nor shall any person be transported out of the state for any offense committed within the same.

§ 12. No person shall be imprisoned for debt, unless upon refusal to deliver up his estate for the benefit of his creditors, in such manner as shall be prescribed by law, or in cases where there is strong presumption of fraud.

§ 13. Private property shall not be taken or damaged for public use without just compensation. Such compensation, when not made by the state, shall be ascertained by a jury, as shall be prescribed by law. The fee of land taken for railroad tracks without consent of the owners thereof, shall remain in such owners, subject to the use for which it is taken.

§ 14. No ex post facto law, or law impairing the obligation of contracts, or making any irrevocable grant of special privileges or immunities, shall be passed.

§ 15. The military shall be in strict subordination to the civil power.

§ 16. No soldier shall, in time of peace, be quartered in any house without the consent of the owner; nor in time of war, except in the manner prescribed by law.

§ 17. The people have the right to assemble in a peaceable manner to consult for the common good, to make known their opinions to their representatives, and to apply for redress of grievances.

§ 18. All elections shall be free and equal.

§ 19. Every person ought to find a certain remedy in the laws for all injuries and wrongs which he may receive in his person, property or reputation; he ought to obtain, by law, right and justice freely, and without being obliged to purchase it, completely and without denial, promptly, and without delay.

§ 20. A frequent recurrence to the fundamental principles of civil government is absolutely necessary to preserve the blessings of liberty.

ARTICLE III.**Distribution of Powers.**

The powers of the government of this state are divided into three distinct departments—the legislative, executive and judicial; and no person, or collection of persons, being one of these departments, shall exercise any power properly belonging to either of the others, except as hereinafter expressly directed or permitted.

ARTICLE V.**Governor.**

§ 13. The governor shall have power to grant reprieves, commutations and pardons, after conviction, for all offenses, subject to such regulations as may be provided by law relative to the manner of applying therefor.

ARTICLE VI.

Judicial Department.

§ 1. The judicial powers, except as in this article is otherwise provided, shall be vested in one supreme court, circuit courts, county courts, justices of the peace, police magistrates, and such courts as may be created by law in and for cities and incorporated towns.

Supreme Court.

§ 2. The supreme court shall consist of seven judges, and shall have original jurisdiction in cases relating to the revenue, in mandamus and habeas corpus, and appellate jurisdiction in all other cases. One of said judges shall be chief justice; four shall constitute a quorum, and the concurrence of four shall be necessary to every decision.

§ 5. The present grand divisions shall be preserved, and be denominated Southern, Central and Northern, until otherwise provided by law. The state shall be divided into seven districts for the election of judges, and until otherwise provided by law, they shall be as follows:

First District—The counties of St. Clair, Clinton, Washington, Jefferson, Wayne, Edwards, Wabash, White, Hamilton, Franklin, Perry, Randolph, Monroe, Jackson, Williamson, Saline, Gallatin, Hardin, Pope, Union, Johnson, Alexander, Pulaski and Mas-sac.

Second District—The counties of Madison, Bond, Marion, Clay, Richland, Lawrence, Crawford, Jasper, Effingham, Fayette, Montgomery, Macoupin, Shelby, Cumberland, Clark, Greene, Jersey, Calhoun and Christian.

Third District—The counties of Sangamon, Macon, Logan, DeWitt, Piatt, Douglas, Champaign, Vermilion, McLean, Livingston, Ford, Iroquois, Coles, Edgar, Moultrie and Tazewell.

Fourth District—The counties of Fulton, McDonough, Hancock, Schuyler, Brown, Adams, Pike, Mason, Menard, Morgan, Cass and Scott.

Fifth District—The counties of Knox, Warren, Henderson, Mercer, Henry, Stark, Peoria, Marshall, Putnam, Bureau, LaSalle, Grundy and Woodford.

Sixth District—The counties of Whiteside, Carroll, Jo Daviess, Stephenson, Winnebago, Boone, McHenry, Kane, Kendall, DeKalb, Lee, Ogle and Rock Island.

Seventh District—The counties of Lake, Cook, Will, Kankakee and DuPage.

The boundaries of the districts may be changed at the session of the general [*70 assembly next preceding the election for judges therein, and at no other time; but whenever such alterations shall be made, the same shall be upon the rule of equality of population, as nearly as county bounds will allow, and the districts shall be composed of contiguous counties, in as nearly compact form as circumstances will permit. The alteration of the districts shall not affect the tenure of office of any judge.

§ 8. Appeals and writs of error may be taken to the supreme court, held in the grand division in which the case is decided, or, by consent of the parties, to any other grand division.

Appellate Courts.

§ 11. After the year of our Lord 1874, inferior appellate courts, of uniform organization and jurisdiction, may be created in districts formed for that purpose, to which such appeals and writs of error as the general assembly may provide may be prosecuted from circuit and other courts, and from which appeals and writs of error shall lie to the supreme court, in all criminal cases, and cases in which a franchise or freehold or the validity of a statute is involved, and in such other cases as may be provided by law. Such appellate courts shall be held by such

number of judges of the circuit courts, and at such times and places, and in such manner, as may be provided by law; but no judge shall sit in review upon cases decided by him, nor shall said judges receive any additional compensation for such services.

Circuit Courts.

§ 12. The circuit courts shall have original jurisdiction of all causes in law and equity, and such appellate jurisdiction as is or may be provided by law, and shall hold two or more terms each year in every county. The terms of office of judges of circuit courts shall be six years.

SEPARATE SECTIONS.

Convict Labor.

Hereafter it shall be unlawful for the commissioners of any penitentiary or other reformatory institution in the State of Illinois, to let by contract to any person or persons, or corporations, the labor of any convict confined within said institution. [This section was submitted to the voters at the election in November, 1886, as an amendment, was adopted, and became a part of this Constitution.

[Note—We have omitted only those parts of the Constitution which have no possible bearing on the enforcement of the Criminal Code.



Under severe discipline the prisoner soon learned that there was only one side to his ledger account, and that was the debit side.



A prison guard should obey the orders of his superiors at all costs.



Severe discipline prompted animosity against official authority.



The fact that the State provides only ten dollars to a discharged prisoner is the excuse of many for again falling into evil ways. Think of it! Ten dollars and a bad reputation to start in anew.



Severe discipline is gradually being supplanted by humane methods of detention and correction.



A prison guard should be fitted by schooling and temperament to direct at least one hundred men.



When in a prison, the inmates are kind to one another it always follows that the Warden is a humanitarian.



Society has no accurate or vital knowledge of what penal imprisonment is, of its effect on the men subjected to it, and upon those appointed to administer it.—*Julian Hawthorne.*

WE assume that you have read this number of The Joliet Prison Post. The inmates of the Illinois State Prison, represented by the force in the Newspaper Office, will do their utmost to publish a paper of merit.

If you approve of the tone of this publication, you are respectfully requested to send to the Joliet Prison Post, One Dollar, in payment of subscription for one year.

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ESCAPED CONVICT

JEFF. SHARUM, No. 3009

Alias Richard Benton, Jeff. Davis; "Little Jeff"

Received June 12, 1913, United States Court, Chicago, Ill.

Forging U. S. Post Office Money Order; 3½ years.

Age, 55. Height, 5 ft. 5¾. Hair, gray mixed. Eyes, green slate. Weight, 119.

Scars: Dim scar 2c long outer thumb 3c below wrist. Small scar front forearm at wrist. Right knee cap broken, walks lame.

Bertillon: 19.7; 15.2; 1.5; 26.0; 45.1; 167.3; 8.4.

Escaped from Illinois State Penitentiary, August 27, 1913.

Arrest and telegraph

EDMUND M. ALLEN, Warden, Joliet, Ill.



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THE JOLIET PRISON POST

VOL. 1.

JOLIET, ILLINOIS, MARCH 1, 1914.

No. 3

EDITORIAL

Escaping From Prison

It is the law of the state of Illinois that a prison guard must do his utmost to prevent escapes and that he may take the life of an escaping prisoner in order to prevent such escape. The guard shall not be held responsible for taking an escaping prisoner's life unless he kills unnecessarily or wantonly. There could be discussion about what constitutes unnecessary or wanton killing of an escaping prisoner, the same as there can be discussion of everything, but as a practical proposition, a prisoner who attempts to escape, under the laws of Illinois forfeits his right to live.



The taking of a human life is always a frightful thing, and it makes no difference if the person is a citizen or a prisoner. All right-thinking men and women will feel sorry that Oscar Von Hagen recently lost his life in his futile effort to make his escape from this prison, and the only consolation that can be found lies in the knowledge that he was in full possession of his mental faculties. He took the chance and paid the penalty. One moment he was the living image of God's noblest work and a second later he was inanimate. Let us hope that he has not died wholly in vain; that his sad ending may deter others from attempting what he undertook to do.



During the past twenty-two years, thirty-eight men have escaped from this prison, and of this number, twenty-nine have been recaptured, leaving nine who have not been returned. Of these, five are known to be in other prisons, and

they will be returned here as soon as they are released from their present places of confinement. One is known to be dead, and those who are alive and free are fugitives from justice, wanderers who dare not communicate with relatives or friends; men who cannot make an honest living, because they must always be on their guard against every law-abiding citizen and all officers of the law.



An escaped prisoner never catches up with his time; it is always before him, and his only escape is by death.



Profanity and Vulgarity

Many ignorant men are profane and vulgar because they think it makes them appear smart. All the profanity and vulgarity used in connection with the English language can be learned by a man with a common school education in one day, so, after all, oaths and foul words are no indications of intelligence; on the contrary, the more knowledge one has, the less likely he is to use objectionable language. A profane and vulgar man usually thinks that he has the right to use such language as pleases him, but this is not true. No one will claim that any man has a right to inflict a foul odor upon another and, upon the same theory, no man has any right to force the sounds of his foully spoken words in any other person's ears.



Many ignorant persons are neither profane nor vulgar, but nearly every vulgar and profane person is ignorant. As a rule, the man who is vulgar and profane looks more like an ape than a human.

Published Monthly by the
**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS AND THE
 WARDEN OF THE ILLINOIS STATE
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EDITED BY A PRISONER

REPRODUCTIONS PERMITTED UNCONDITIONALLY

Entered as second-class matter, January 15, 1914, at the post-office at Joliet, Illinois, under the Act of March 3, 1879.



Our Counterfeiters

It would be interesting to know just how the five inmates of this prison who were recently detected at counterfeiting United States coin planned to gain any substantial benefit by their operations. We will concede them mechanical skill, but was there not one in the group who possessed even average common sense? These men had much to lose and little, if anything, to gain, yet they worked overtime to counterfeit nickels, quarters and half dollars.



Any man with some prison experience and a small amount of intellect would recognize at once that the plan was headed for disaster as soon as the first efforts to make the counterfeits had been started. When fifteen or sixteen hundred men live in a twenty-acre enclosure, the population is so dense that secrets are only remotely possible. Practically everything comes to light in a crowded penitentiary. Even the officers usually fail to have secrets from the inmates, but when the inmates attempt to have secrets from the officers, then it is one hundred to one that they will fail. It must be, in this case, that the spirit of mischief had driven ordinary common sense out of the minds of these exposed counterfeiters. Even if they had succeeded in manufacturing large quantities of superior counterfeit coins, how were they to be disposed of? How long would it have taken to trace the counterfeits back to their source?



Let us see what these counterfeiters stood to lose. The attempt will always be considered in

connection with their future applications for pardons or paroles; in addition to that, every man in the conspiracy who can be proven guilty may have to serve a term in a Federal prison for his efforts, after his release from here.



University of Nebraska Incident

According to the *Chicago Journal*, Kenneth Murphy, aged 21, serving a life sentence for murder in the Nebraska penitentiary, was recently paroled by Governor Morehead of that state, to enter the University of Nebraska, a state institution. Upon his application for admission he was, by the order of Samuel Avery, chancellor of the university, not permitted to register, because of his criminal record.



This occurrence presents a complicated situation. The university being a state institution, it would seem that the Governor's wish should not be thwarted. If the chancellor of a state university can bar a man from a state institution of education, the ex-prisoner, by reason of his prison record, could, for the same cause, be denied admission to a night school for adults held in the public schools. We assume that no one will claim that a man who has served a sentence for a felony would be barred from a public school on that ground.



If Kenneth Murphy desires to obtain an education, why should he be prevented, when he has the Governor's sanction?



On the other hand, a man who commits a crime and is convicted must know that he will never be welcomed in university circles. The students at a university most likely would resent having a paroled prisoner in their midst.



This incident is useful in illustrating the difficulties which an ex-prisoner encounters. To have one's sins follow him to the grave seems the inevitable fate of the man who falls. We have no remedy to suggest for this condition except to speak for generosity from society to the men and women who have paid the penalty.

The Dependents of Prisoners

With the prison reform movement sweeping over the country, it is but natural that the fate of those dependent upon the convicted men and women should come in for consideration. Warden William H. Moyer of the Atlanta, Ga., penitentiary has made a report to the United States attorney-general, which has recently been made public. He is of the opinion that depriving a family of necessary support by sending its head to prison, without making any provision for the support of the family, is a greater menace to future society than the benefits which accrue to society from the incarceration of the criminal. He believes that the innocent are more severely punished than the guilty under the administration of our present penal system, and he suggests that relief be given in some authorized way. He recommends proper compensation for the labor of the prisoner and that a part of the prisoner's earnings derived through his work should be devoted towards the support of the dependents of such prisoners. He points out that during the past ten years \$17,525 has been paid to discharged prisoners, which, on the average, figures less than one cent a day per man for every working day.



A proposal that wages be paid to prisoners is frequently objected to by taxpayers, on the ground that taxes would increase correspondingly, but such arguments beg the questions, which are: (1) Will society benefit in the long run by supporting in this indirect way the dependents of the prisoner? (2) Is it right in a civilized country to punish the innocent dependents of a convicted person? When these two questions are intelligently answered by the public, laws will be passed to attempt the support of innocent dependents of convicted prisoners.



Curing Drunkards and Dope Fiends

Those who study drunkards and dope fiends should come to the penitentiaries for a course of instruction. They would learn that the most confirmed drunkards and dope fiends soon recover from the shock to their systems by reason of the sudden absence of these agencies when they are placed where alcohol and drugs cannot

be had. It is most surprising to see how easily, behind prison walls, drunkards and dope fiends get over the longing which controls them when they are outside. We do not mean that these men would not use liquor or drugs while in prison if they could get them, but we do mean that within a few days after coming to prison the most confirmed drunkards and dope fiends get along comfortably without the use of these stimulants.



It is true that some prisoners will take long chances to get liquor or drugs, but it is done more in the gambling spirit than as the result of the real craving for those things. Prisoners who come here in extreme cases of alcoholism are usually up and about and working within a week after their arrival.



Missouri Makes New Contracts for Prison Labor

In spite of the universally recognized iniquity of contracting prison labor to commercial companies, which has always resulted in destroying inmates of prisons and injuring free labor, the State of Missouri has recently contracted its prisoners at seventy-five cents per working day, per man, to the following named concerns:

Star Clothing Company.....	1,000 prisoners
Parker Boot & Shoe Company.....	250 prisoners
Sullivan Saddle Tree Company.....	175 prisoners
Central Broom Company	150 prisoners
Ruwart Harness Company	75 prisoners

The contracts run until December 31, 1915.



That Missouri is only a little way behind Delaware, where the whipping posts are in vogue, will be appreciated, when we inform our readers that in penitentiaries where the contract system prevails the officers are paid their salary in full by the state which gives them employment, and the prison contractors usually pay these officers from ten dollars per month upwards, secretly.



When men who are avaricious enough to be willing to endure the stigma of employing prison labor for the sake of profits, are willing to pay

state employes from ten dollars per month upwards, it follows that they expect a profit on these investments and the only possible way in which such profits can be made is by perverting the State's employes from their legitimate vocations of prison guards to slave drivers for business men (?) whose ethics are lower than those of the prisoners whom they exhaust.



The higher the price is which the contractors pay for the work of prisoners the harder will the task be made for those prisoners and the less chance there is that any leniency will be shown to any of the large numbers of dying consumptives, who are inevitably produced in all institutions where long sentences are served and where the exploiting of prison labor is permitted.



Julian Hawthorne on Prison Methods

Julian Hawthorne's writings regarding the Atlanta, Ga., prison are just what might have been expected from a man guilty of crime who tries to befuddle himself into the belief that he is innocent. No prison can seem right to a man in that state of mind, because he is necessarily prejudiced before he enters the prison walls.



There are in every large prison at least three classes of prisoners: (1) those who are innocent of the crimes they are serving time for, (2) those who are guilty but who claim to be innocent, (3) those who are guilty and admit it. One should not expect logical views from either of the first two classes, because it is impossible for an innocent person to be reconciled to incarceration, and as to a prisoner who is guilty but who claims to be innocent, he is either untruthful or mentally unbalanced.



Some day an author will do to the present penal system what Harriet Beecher Stowe did to slavery when she produced "Uncle Tom's Cabin," and it seems likely such author will be a person who has served time, but if that is the case, it will be one who knows he was guilty

and who admits it, because only such a one can reason from the correct viewpoint.



Julian Hawthorne's articles on the Atlanta prison will attract temporary notice, and will shortly be forgotten.



He has written many fine paragraphs, but his articles as a whole are unsound and misleading.



In view of his talents, he might have made a lasting impression upon prison methods, but he has, unfortunately, let the opportunity go by.



We Do Not Lose Our Names

It is generally the opinion of society that convicted persons, upon entering penal institutions, lose their names and become numbers. This is in part a mistake. A prisoner, upon entering, is given a number, but he keeps his name. The number is a great convenience to the prisoners as well as the officers. It serves as a ready means of identification for the many John Smiths; it enables the laundryman to get the underclothing back to the right man, etc., etc.



Outside of a prison, the giving of numbers to prisoners is usually looked upon as one of the horrors of prison life, but the inmates do not look upon it as such. They are willing to do without a lot they get in prison, but they are perfectly willing to keep the number until they go out.



The Trusty's Enemy

The worst enemy of the "trusty" is the good-hearted fool citizen who, in a spirit of mistaken generosity, hands such a prisoner a bottle of whisky. Either the prisoner has no use for the poison or he falls before temptation and takes one or more drinks, with the result of losing his good job and being placed where that form of temptation cannot reach him. Out in the world a man may be able to take a drink without that

fact becoming known, but in an institution where no one drinks, a whisky breath can be detected across the room.



Many prisoners are here because they have been drunkards and that failing has led them to crime. These men become so far cured in this institution that they have not any craving for liquor until they see it; then the old desire comes back, and the man frequently is not strong enough to repulse it, and he falls. It is a terrible thing for the prisoner who has worked his way up to the position of trusty to lose out, for frequently he has many years to serve.



Spring will soon be with us, and then the prisoners who are selected for the work will be sent out as honor men to the camps, and as surely as this happens, the kind-hearted fool with his bottle of whisky will try to help the boys along a little. The man who gives a prisoner any alcoholic drink is in the same class with the fool who thinks that the gun is not loaded.



There and Here

There has been much press comment recently on the action of the Federal authorities at Fort Leavenworth, where stripes were discarded as a means of punishment, because it was said that many of the prisoners looked upon their fellows who wore stripes for misconduct as heroes and martyrs.



On the other hand, the warden of this prison has recently commenced dressing all prisoners convicted of serious infractions of the rules in stripes, and the result is that the few men in this prison who are so dressed can find no sympathy among the other inmates. Here they are not considered heroes or martyrs.



Wherever men are persecuted, the conspicuous victims are looked upon as heroes and martyrs. Wherever life is worth living, offenders against law and order—which in prisons is called discipline—are despised.

Prison Contract Labor in Chicago

In a report made recently by the efficiency division of the civil service commission of Chicago it was recommended that the inmates of the Bridewell be henceforth employed at municipal work instead of their labor being sold under contracts to private concerns.



Contract labor in institutions where inmates usually serve short sentences is not as reprehensible as when it is permitted in penal institutions where sentences are reckoned by years instead of by days and months; but the destructive competition of prison-made goods with free labor remains the same, and the slave-driving of helpless inmates by guards who are first paid by the community for doing their duty and then are secretly paid regularly by the contracting firms to represent their interest in getting the greatest possible amount of work done by prisoners who are helpless against unusual oppression, remains the same.



The state of Illinois has gone on record against contract labor, many years ago.



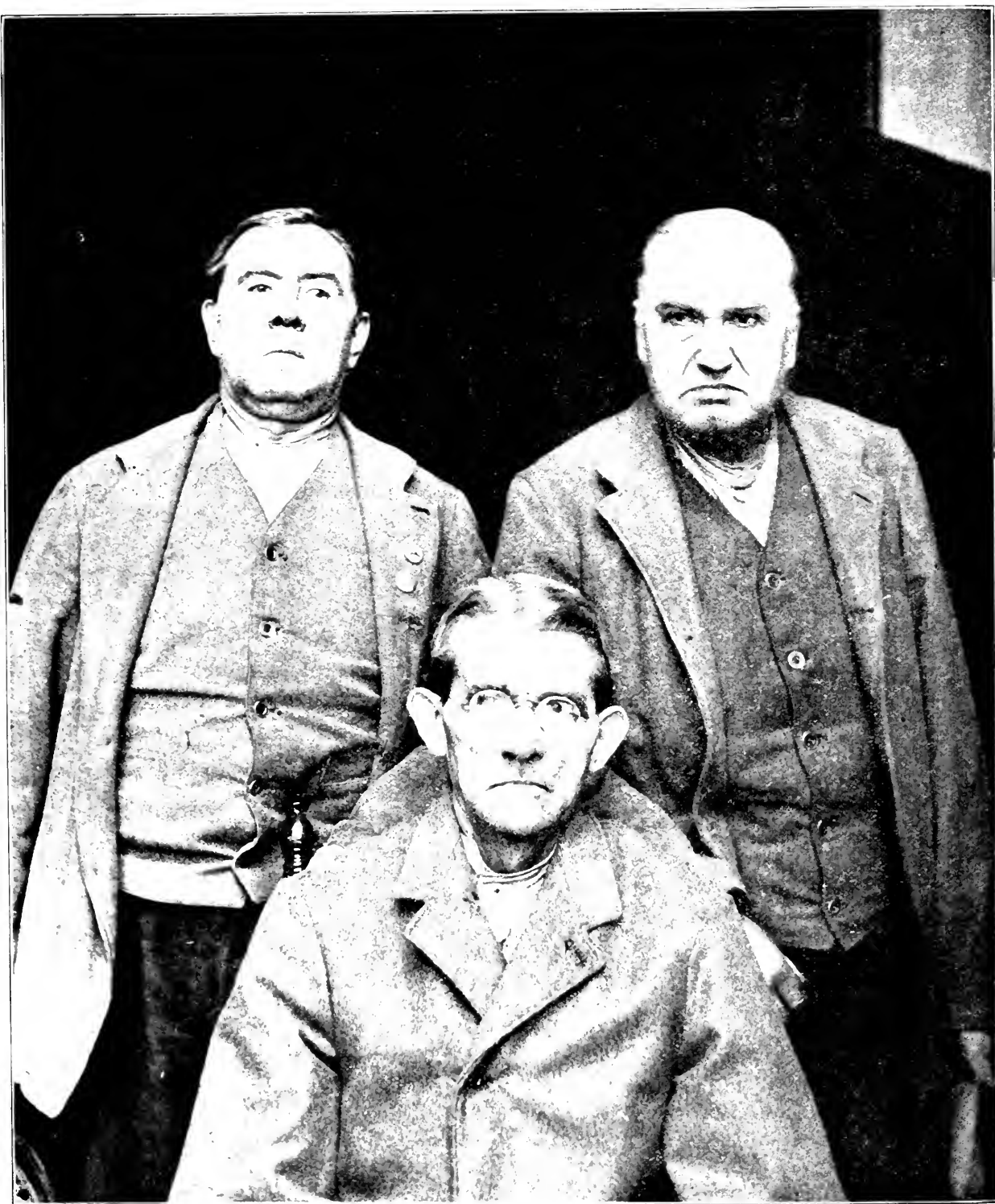
Senility in Prison

We publish in this issue a group portrait of three inmates of this prison who typify a class of prisoners who are in their second childhood. Some of them cannot explain why they are here. All they know about their life is that it is very uncomfortable and that the stone walls of their cells are an excellent aid to rheumatism.

Owing to their physical and mental condition, they are undergoing much harder punishment than are those prisoners who are in full possession of all their faculties, and this in spite of all that the authorities can do to alleviate their conditions.

In many instances these old men have been here so long that they have been forgotten by former friends and relatives. Does society demand that their punishment be continued?

What they need is to be helped by kind-hearted people and lawyers, and the editor of this publication is anxious to give full information to those that desire to aid them.



These men are serving life sentences. Reading from left to right they have served respectively twenty, eighteen and twenty-two years and are now sixty, seventy-one and sixty-nine years of age.

EDITOR'S COLUMNS

About Knockers and Snitchers

February 10, 1914.

To the Editor:

I have read in the Post a line or so regarding "knockers" and "snitches," and I wish to ask what your idea of such may be. I am going to tell you what I would call a knocker, and, if you feel inclined to do so, I would like to hear what you think about this subject, as it is causing a somewhat ill feeling in this prison. What I call a knocker is a man who is always trying to tell the officers little petty things that do not amount to anything and which are none of his business. His idea is that by doing so he is getting a stand-in with the keeper, whereas in reality he is injuring himself; that is my idea of a knocker. Now, here is what I call an honest man. In order to tell you what I mean when I say that telling is sometimes justified, I will tell of an instance which happened in this prison a number of years ago. A prisoner had obtained a bottle of "soup" (explosives), which he intended to throw against the wall on the Fourth of July while the men were in the yard, and in doing so blow out part of the wall and escape.

Now, another prisoner found out that he intended to do this, and he told the officers and they shook him down and found the dope. Now, here is what I want to know: was the informer in this case right in stopping a thing like that by telling a keeper or should he let the fellow throw the dope and perhaps kill a number of people passing outside in the street, the keepers on the wall and possibly some prisoners in the yard?



Here is another: is it right that if a prisoner knows that another prisoner is doing something that will injure the rest of the men and cause the prison a set back in its forward movement and reflect on a warden such as we have; to let him destroy all the good that has been done for us and make the people outside sore just at a time when most of us are trying to make good, and for the sake of a foolish piece of work by some men that do not appreciate what is being done for us, should we stand by and see them destroy our chances for advancement which the

public is giving us now or should we inform the officers and stop it? Is he in your opinion a knocker? Such a case happened here not long ago and the knocker is being cussed by some of the inmates. They call him a "rat" and all such as that. If such things as those fellows were doing were to become known outside and traced to this prison what would our warden have said about the man who knew, for not stopping it and what effect would it have on us? Is it right for all to suffer for the foolishness of two or three? I think any man that knows of such things going on that will injure all of us is not a man at all if he does not try to stop it.

AN INMATE.

Note—It will always be difficult to find the dividing line between duty and snitching. To a person of good character knowledge of wrong doing is always embarrassing.



People who lead clean lives in wholesome surroundings never worry about knockers and snitchers.

Those who commit the greatest crimes are most insistent upon closed eyes and sealed lips. Thus we see that the lower ones character is the more insistent he becomes that all others should possess the particular virtue which is necessary for his safety.



A prisoner can usually be square with all the inmates and the officers, but it requires some wisdom and tact. He should refuse to become a party to any secret and generally speaking he should mind his own business. He should try to make life a little easier for his "brothers in law," and should pride himself on fair dealing with his fellow prisoners. He should keep his word at all times, even to those who have become his enemies. He should never try to "get even" by disclosing information in order to hurt an enemy.

If any prisoner had "soup" (explosives) within the walls of this prison that fact would at the earliest possible opportunity be made known to the officers, if such fact were known by the—Editor.



The watchword of the age is energy; the goal, success.—*The Better Citizen*, Rahway, N. J.

Free Copies for Prisoners

Each prisoner received a copy of the January number without cost, and the same will be done with regard to the February issue. The expense of the copies distributed to the inmates is borne by the Library and Amusement fund, and it is the intention of the authorities to continue this indefinitely, but discontinuance is to remain optional.

For the present, prisoners will be permitted to mail their copy to any address in the United States and the prison authorities will pay the postage. To do this, the inmate should hand his paper to his keeper, who will write the name and address of the person to whom it is to go legibly on a slip of paper and then send both to the office of the Superintendent of Mails.

Under no circumstances should the name and address or anything else be written on the paper, as this is against the rules. Inmates are not permitted to pay for any paper or to subscribe, nor yet to pay for the subscription of a friend. In no way will the prisoners or any one of them be permitted to pay any money to THE JOLIET PRISON POST.—The Editor.



The foregoing instructions appeared in the February number, and are repeated because of the trouble the inmates and the officers have caused us by their disregard of these instructions. Numerous copies have reached us with names and addresses written on the magazines, instead of being written on a loose piece of paper laid inside the magazine. In many cases prisoners marked passages in the articles and wrote letters in the magazine.



We desire to state that we mail the paper under a second-class mailing privilege obtained from the United States government, and that the rules of the Post Office Department forbid any writing on or in a magazine which is mailed as second-class matter.

Last month we substituted new copies for all that had writing on, but we will not do it again. After this notice appears we will destroy all magazines which are sent to us for mailing with even one stroke of writing on them.—Editor.

Graded Feeding

A novel plan of keeping prisoners on good behavior has been thought of by W. O. Murray, one of the penitentiary commissioners. Believing that most men are more concerned with what they eat than hardly anything else, he thinks it would be a good scheme to have two different sets of tables at the Huntville penitentiary—one for those who are on good behavior, and the other set for those who are unruly and not inclined to do good work. The prisoners who have good records would be given better food and a more extensive bill of fare than the others. Mr. Murray believes that such a system would do more toward making the prisoners behave than all of the "bats" and dark cells ever made.—*Post*, Houston, Texas.



Note—Nearly every prisoner or ex-prisoner knows that Mr. Murray's suggestion is sound to the core.—Editor.



About Our Counterfeiters

Recently the warden of the Joliet penitentiary introduced many reforms looking to the amelioration of the life of the convict. They were allowed more privileges than they ever enjoyed before, and the first use that they made of their liberty was to coin counterfeit nickels in the machine shop. They already had passed \$100 worth of nickels and had prepared dies for quarters and dollars, none of which had been coined. Thus does the holy cause of reform get a setback.—*Star*, Peoria, Ill.



Note—The foregoing editorial is reproduced here in order to bring home to our would-be counterfeiters the fact that in attempting to please themselves they have injured the cause of prison reform.—Editor.



I Desire to Meet Him

The author of "My Wonder Night," which appears in this number, is requested to make himself known to the

EDITOR.

INTERVIEWS

P. D. CLARKSON

SUPERINTENDENT OF PAROLE AGENTS

**On the Paroling of the Prisoners from the
Illinois State Penitentiary**

(Interview by the Editor)

For convenience this article is treated as if the parole law applied only to men. It applies equally to women and everything in this article applies to women as well as men.—EDITOR.



Prisoners from the Joliet prison while on parole are looked after for the Warden by six parole agents, namely, myself, as Superintendent of the Parole Agents; William Christy, who is in charge of the Chicago office whenever I am absent; Henry J. Roesch, Samuel E. Erickson, James McFadden and Thomas L. Matthews. Our office is at room 202, 180 Dearborn Street, Chicago. James McFadden makes his headquarters at the Joliet prison and Thomas L. Matthews operates from Galesburg, Ill.

We give our undivided attention to the work of looking after paroled prisoners, and we are not permitted to hold any other employment. We are on duty regularly from eight o'clock in the morning until five-thirty o'clock in the afternoon. In cases of emergency, there is no limit to our hours of employment.



It is to our interest to have prisoners who are paroled from the Joliet prison succeed in establishing themselves as good citizens, and it is our duty to devote ourselves wholly to this object and we do our best to bring about the desired results. We meet with varying success. Frequently our efforts are rewarded by the gratitude of those prisoners who succeed; sometimes we are blamed by those who violate the conditions of their paroles and in consequence thereof are returned to the prison to serve more time under their original sentences.



It must at the outset be understood that under the indeterminate sentence law, many convicted men are sentenced to the Joliet prison to serve sentences running from one year to five, to ten, to fourteen, to twenty years and to life, while

both the minimum and maximum sentences vary according to the nature of the crime. Certain classes of offenders receive a fixed sentence in court and are not subject to the parole law. Under an indeterminate sentence a prisoner becomes eligible for parole as soon as he serves his minimum sentence, but it is in the discretion of the parole board to call upon him to do any part of his sentence over and above the minimum to the limit of his maximum sentence, less the good time allowed by law. Thus, a man who is convicted of manslaughter, which crime calls for a sentence of from one year to life, may be paroled when he has served eleven months or he may be kept in confinement for the remainder of his natural life at the discretion of the parole board.



Paroling a prisoner only means that the warden, acting under authority from the parole board, permits the prisoner to go outside of the walls (under restrictions), to show if he can, that he is fit to be returned to society. The length of time which a prisoner is required to serve on parole is at the discretion of the parole board provided that it, together with the time served in prison, does not exceed the maximum of the sentence, less all good time earned under the good time law. The usual period of probation on parole is one year.



We take pride in having paroled prisoners succeed and prosper. Many of them do, and we are usually regarded as helpers by such. Many of them who have earned and secured their discharges visit us after they are no longer subject to our control, thereby showing their friendly spirit.



Parole violators, after their return to the prison, usually have some unfounded tales of persecution and hard luck to tell, which, by reason of such stories always remaining uncontradicted, has a discouraging effect on the inmates who are to be paroled at some time in the future, thus to come under our supervision and control later on. We frequently find that these men are suspicious of us and labor under the impression that we desire their downfall and consequent return to the prison. We are anxious that all in-

mates who are paroled and who leave the prison determined to be industrious, law abiding persons, shall come to us trusting that we will prove ourselves their friends, counsellors and protectors so long as they do their best. They should in the first place recognize that they are not free men but paroled prisoners until they receive their discharge. This should not prevent paroled prisoners from having faith in the officials. I can confidently say that the governor, the commissioners, the warden, the members of the parole board and also the parole officers desire that all paroled prisoners shall so conduct themselves during the period of probation that they will earn their discharge and become useful citizens and, as one who knows, I am happy to give this information to the inmates of the Joliet prison.



We desire to befriend all well intentioned men who come under our care. We ask for the confidence of paroled prisoners and instruct them to come to us with their troubles. They should always tell us the truth without evasion or reserve, then we will help them if we can do it within the provisions of the laws of the state, which it is our sworn duty to abide by and enforce. Paroled prisoners who avoid us and who are reluctant to tell what they have done, are doing and intend to do, are the ones who arouse our suspicions and are frequently those who get into trouble, which results in their being returned to the prison.



All prisoners on parole should have it clearly in their minds before they leave the prison that so long as they are on parole,—which is until they get their discharge,—they are under the jurisdiction of the warden just as much as when in prison. If they always remember this they have a much greater chance to earn their discharge than if they erroneously think they are free. A paroled prisoner should not hide away from a parole agent any more than should a prisoner within the walls attempt to hide away from a prison official. So long as paroled prisoners have no reasons for evading a parole officer they have nothing to fear from him and they will never regret looking upon such officer as

their friend. A paroled prisoner cannot afford to prove stubborn.



Prisoners on parole violate their parole and are immediately subject to return to the prison if they (1) violate the criminal code, (2) are guilty of misdemeanors, (3) carry concealed weapons, (4) drink alcoholic liquors, (5) leave their places of employment without permission from the warden, (6) leave the state without proper permission, (7) carry burglar's tools, (8) remain from their homes after nine o'clock in the evening, (9) in any way demonstrate that they are a menace to society.



Just as soon as prisoners who receive indeterminate sentences enter the prison at Joliet their incarceration becomes a matter of interest to the parole board. The board investigates all prisoners' past records usually before they have served the minimum time of their respective sentences. While there is no legal obligation on the part of the parole board to give prisoners a hearing at any time, it is the custom to grant a hearing when the prisoners have served eleven months of their sentences—if one year be the minimum. In the case of repeaters at the prison they are not given a hearing until a longer period of time has passed, or in cases of conviction for horse stealing, which carries a minimum sentence of three years, the prisoners do not obtain a hearing until they have served three years less the good time they have earned. If, after the hearing, the parole board is of the opinion that it is safe to trust a prisoner outside of the prison walls on parole, the board may order him paroled. If the paroled prisoner succeeds in earning his discharge what remains of the maximum sentence is rebated, and upon receipt of his discharge he is free, but not before. This bears repeating.



After a prisoner has been order paroled by the parole board the warden is *authorized* to permit such prisoner to go out on parole provided suitable employment has been found for him with a responsible and worthy employer at living wages. After a prisoner is ordered paroled he is permitted to write to his friends requesting them to

obtain employment for him and when some one willing to give employment is found, an application blank is forwarded to such person to be filled in, signed and returned to the warden for his approval.



Under the provisions of the document which is to be signed by the employer he states (1) his place of residence, (2) his business and business address, (3) that he is able and willing to furnish employment and to continue the prisoner in his employ until he receives his final discharge (which will be at the pleasure of the parole board, but not less than twelve months from the date of his parole), (4) to keep such paroled prisoner steadily engaged for at least one year at employment (the nature of which must be stated), (5) to pay him the salary which has been fixed for his services, (6) to take a friendly interest in such prisoner and to counsel and direct him in that which is good, (7) to promptly report to the warden any unnecessary absence from work, any tendency to low and evil associates, or any violations of the conditions of his parole, (8) to see that the paroled prisoner forwards his monthly reports to the warden on the first of each month with the employer's certificate thereon as to its correctness.



The prisoner who has been ordered paroled may, after the employer has been accepted, by the warden, leave the prison to serve his parole after signing a parole agreement by which the said prisoner agrees (1) to proceed at once to his place of employment and report to his employer, (2) to make out a written report to the warden announcing his arrival; this report must be endorsed by the employer, (3) not to change employment nor to leave such employment unless by order or upon permission from the warden first obtained in writing, (4) to make report monthly to the warden on the first day of every month as to his conduct and success, which reports must be endorsed by his employer, (5) to abstain from the use of intoxicating liquors and avoid all evil associations and places of amusement, (6) to respect and obey the laws cheerfully and conduct himself in all respects as a good citizen, (7) in the event of sickness or loss of his position he must immediately report the

fact to the warden or have the report made for him. Violation of any of the foregoing requirements forfeits the parole contract on the part of the paroled prisoner and renders him liable to be returned at once to the penitentiary to serve out the maximum sentence or such part thereof as the parole board may direct.



The acceptance or the rejection of one offering himself as an employer is entirely in the discretion of the warden and the investigation regarding the qualifications and desirability of such person offering to become an employer is usually undertaken by me or one of the officers acting under my directions. In passing on the qualifications of one offering to become an employer we look to his character and reputation, his ability to furnish employment under favorable surroundings. We visit the prospective employer and learn from him if he has signed the application, if he understands it and if he is willing to carry out its terms and provisions.



A paroled prisoner may board wherever he likes, provided the place seems suitable to us. When we find that a paroled prisoner is living at a place where his surroundings seem unfit we tell him to move. When a prisoner asks us to help him find a suitable boarding place we do what we can for him in this respect.



We sometimes receive complaints from paroled prisoners that their employers take undue advantage of them. In such cases we always investigate the complaint and if we find that it is justified and that the employer will not treat the paroled prisoner as he should, we do all in our power to secure other employment for him.



In securing employment for paroled prisoners no two cases are treated exactly alike; each is handled according to what seems to us the requirements of the particular case. We have become experts in the matter of securing employment for prisoners out on parole because we are engaged in this work constantly. We have made valuable connections with some employers who

have opportunities and the inclination to lend a helping hand to these men. We sometimes succeed in placing paroled prisoners with large concerns but we place a great majority of our men with small business houses.



During the parole period we visit the employers to learn how the paroled prisoner is getting on and then we talk with the prisoner and learn what he has to report. We do our utmost to keep the fact that the man is a prisoner on parole from all but the employer. When a paroled prisoner becomes sick, and for this reason is no longer welcome in his home, we take him to a public hospital or to Hope Hall.



I have never yet found a policeman who con- vided to send a paroled prisoner back to the prison and I know of no hounding or interference with prisoners who are out on parole and who act the part of men. The paroled prisoner who behaves himself, shuns bad company and avoids all evil places, has no trouble whatever. The paroled prisoner who keeps bad company, goes to places of ill repute, or gets drunk, promptly attracts the attention of police officers and I consider this right.



When a paroled prisoner is arrested we are notified and we assist him to clear himself if we consider him innocent, but if he has violated his parole we return him to the prison. We frequently appear in the courts to look after the interests of these prisoners. We make allowances for hard luck and help the paroled prisoner who tries to do right but who is unfortunate. A paroled prisoner must remain in this state while on parole. No paroled prisoner is ever returned to the prison under the present administration unless he deserves it.



The prisoners who are ordered paroled and who are unable to secure an employer are taken out of the prison by Major M. A. Messlein, representing Mrs. Maude Ballington Booth. This usually causes a delay in leaving the prison of about three months. Major Messlein takes these men to Hope Hall, situated at the corner of

Ridge avenue and Norman street in Chicago. At this home the paroled prisoners are well fed, have home surroundings, good reading, fine beds, splendid example and great interest is taken in them, and are under no compulsory expense for board and lodging.



The paroled prisoner who acts the part of a man and who deals fairly and squarely with Major Messlein will be encouraged in every proper way and he will easily earn his discharge. We co-operate with Major Messlein whenever he calls on us for assistance but until then we leave the handling of the prisoners who are paroled to him entirely to his discretion. He has always kept us satisfactorily informed as to the men in his charge.



The parole violators who are sent back to the prison and who circulate stories to the discredit of Hope Hall or to Major Messlein in order to clear themselves from blame for their return, deserve nothing but contempt.



Under Warden Allen's management a very large proportion of paroled prisoners are earning their discharges. It is too early to give statistics because a year usually elapses after leaving prison before the paroled prisoner can earn his discharge.



THOMAS R. O'BRIEN

CHIEF ENGINEER AT THE ILLINOIS STATE PENITENTIARY

On the Work and Men in His Department

(Interview by the Editor)

I have under my supervision between one hundred and twenty-five and one hundred and fifty male prisoners, which includes blacksmiths, boiler-makers, bricklayers, carpenters, coalpassers, cinder pitmen, draughtsmen, electricians, engineers, firemen, moulders, machinists, painters, plumbers, porters, tinner, storekeepers, water tenders, clerks and bookkeepers. The majority of these employes have a familiarity united with dexterity in the performance of their work.

I find the inmates who are assigned as my assistants as a whole as capable and congenial as any men I have ever employed outside of prison. Some of my assistants are the most enthusiastic men at their work that I have ever met, and I would have no hesitancy in giving them employment if I were engaged in business outside of prison and in need of conscientious workers.



It sometimes happens that some of my men work thirty-six hours without sleep to remedy conditions that occur from time to time. They have always responded cheerfully in emergencies. Occasionally one becomes dissatisfied or tired of his work and requests a change to some other department; in such cases I use what little influence I have to transfer him where he desires to go or to some position more suitable to him.



That we have been busy since I took charge on August 20, 1913, will be seen from the following:

A two-story stone building, 47x62 feet, has been erected within the prison walls at the northwest corner of Broadway and Railroad street. It is now in part occupied by the yard master and his force of men, and the remainder will soon be occupied by the fire department and as sleeping quarters for the inmates who work at night and sleep during the day.

A new 20x45 feet building for the storage of oils outside of the walls has been built.

A recreation park, also outside the walls, has been laid out. It is enclosed by 1,540 feet of fence twelve feet high.

A complete and new line of pipes throughout the warden house has been installed for protection against fire.

A cement floor has been laid in the kitchen of the hospital and another in the basement under the store and library.

A new pump has been installed in the bathroom and piped, giving a direct supply of artesian water to the cell houses for drinking purposes.

A new electric air compressor has been installed, giving an added supply of water for fire protection.

A new iron and wooden gate has been made for the west wall.

The yard track scales have been repaired, which involved almost an entire new outfit.

Three schoolrooms, a school office and an artist's room have been built in connection with the chapel.

A new stairway from the chapel to the ground has been erected for use in case of fire and accident when the chapel is used.

A building is being remodeled for use as offices for the industrial agent and the newspaper staff.

Work is in progress for the extension of the ash pit through the power house to eliminate clogged conditions.

Our boilers Nos. 2, 3, 4 and 5 are being reconstructed to increase their efficiency.

A concrete retaining wall is in the course of construction between the Elgin, Joliet and Eastern railroad tracks and the quarry. This wall is twelve hundred feet in length, thirteen feet high and five feet thick at its base and twenty inches at the top.



In the near future work will be commenced on new fire mains leading from the main feed to the hospital building, the machine and lumber warehouses, the cooper and rattan shops and the women's prison.

A large water reservoir is to be rebricked and cemented.



The physical condition of this plant was at the breaking-down point when I took charge, and there is much more unavoidable constructive work to be done.



Severe discipline meant cruel punishment for laughing, gazing, talking in shop or yard, getting out of step, writing notes, and failure to close the iron cell doors on the second.



Severe discipline usually resulted in either cowardly or desperate prisoners; under it many left at the completion of their sentences broken down in health and unfit for freedom.

MISS FRANCIS COWLEY NURSE AT WOMEN'S PRISON

On Women in Penal Institutions

(Interview by the Editor)

Men, more than anything else, cause women to be imprisoned in penal institutions (1) by provoking jealousy, (2) by using women as a vice medium, (3) by ensnaring women in their evil deeds and deserting them unprotected, (4) by turning state's evidence to clear themselves after having been associated with women in the same crime.



The inmates under my care desire to be trusted. They are neat; have personal pride and appreciate good, clean literature. The majority of them have a fixed purpose to reform and all desire to have happy homes.



During incarceration women should be chiefly engaged in household work—not that of a drudge, but that rendering them capable of holding first-class positions.



I do not believe in the silent system for women in prisons without frequent talking seasons or periods. Wherever the silent system prevails there is much revenge or spite work planned, because of sphinx-like expression and tomb-like stillness.



A woman while in prison should be instructed in every possible way to get the best out of her every act and to value time and opportunity.



Women in prisons should have the privilege and encouragement from the authorities to attend class instructions in fundamental branches of education (public school course) a portion of the daytime being devoted to this instruction while the mind is in fit condition. I do not approve of evening classes for women prisoners after a hard day's work, and if the classes are taught by teachers who are prisoners, such teachers should not be required to perform any other work. I would by all means have domestic science taught the inmates.

NEWS NARRATIVE

Two Prisoners Attempt to Escape

On Tuesday morning, February 3, two prisoners, Oscar Von Hagen and James O'Neill, attempted to escape from this prison. Both men were at the time working in the quarry and by reason of repair work to the quarry fence there appeared to be an opportunity to escape by way of a temporary hole in the fence.

Von Hagen went through first and his act was seen by Guard Arthur R. Carver, who was on the ground and unarmed. Mr. Carver gave the alarm to Guard Jerry Collins, who was near by in an elevated lookout station, armed with a high-power rifle and an abundance of steel-nosed bullets. Mr. Collins saw Von Hagen running at top speed and twice called to him to halt, to which the fugitive paid no heed. When Von Hagen was within a few feet of the end of a long freight train, beyond which he would have disappeared, Mr. Collins fired at a range of one hundred and fifty feet. Immediately Von Hagen raised his arms and fell to the ground, face downward, and lay still.



As soon as the shot had been fired, prisoner James O'Neill, who was inside the quarry fence climbed it, and Mr. Carver thinking that O'Neill was simply curious to see what had occurred, ordered him to come down, which he did. O'Neill next dashed out through the same opening in the fence Von Hagen had gone through and started off in a southeasterly direction, past the prostrate body of Von Hagen, towards the end of a train of freight cars which was stalled, followed closely by Mr. Carver.



Officer Collins was at that moment busy at the telephone reporting to the officers at the warden house what had occurred. This enabled O'Neill to reach the freight cars, which shielded him from the view of Mr. Collins. When Mr. Carver reached the freight cars he kept running after the prisoner, but on the other side of the train, where Mr. Collins could see him. By doing this he hoped to attract the attention of Mr. Collins to the escaping prisoner. He succeeded in this, meanwhile keeping close to

O'Neill, who finally reached the end of the cars and sped out into the open. At this moment Mr. Collins fired four successive shots at the fugitive, but missed. By this time the escaping prisoner was beyond the range of the rifle, and as Mr. Collins was the last armed outpost in the direction O'Neill had fled, the latter was temporarily free except for Mr. Carver, who was keeping pace with him as he ran on across the prison farm. Soon the prisoner passed the boundaries of the farm and reached a small settlement, where he ran into a house. Mr. Carver, knowing that the alarm had been given and that officers might be expected at any moment, decided to wait outside the building, and he patrolled near by in order to prevent the fugitive from escaping unseen. After a wait of about fifteen minutes O'Neill came out, dressed in citizens' clothing and he started to retrace his steps, apparently unconcerned. Mr. Carver wishing him to believe that he was not recognized, approached and asked if he had seen anything of an escaping prisoner, and noticed that O'Neill had his right hand on his hip pocket. By a quick move Mr. Carver grabbed his right hand in both his own. This left O'Neill's left hand free, and he commenced to use it with full force on Mr. Carver, who devoted his energies towards preventing the prisoner from drawing a weapon. In the struggle Mr. Carver, who was the smaller man, got the worst of it, but he did not release his hold on the other's right hand. Mr. Carver supposed that he was fighting for his life and was willing to take punishment if by so doing he could prevent his prisoner from drawing a weapon. O'Neill then tried to choke Mr. Carver. By this time there were about fifty men and women and children present and Mr. Carver called upon the men to help him, but no assistance was rendered him. Then Mr. A. J. Duller of Rockford, Ill., a conductor on the C., M. & G. railroad, approached Mr. Carver, who called upon Mr. Duller to search the prisoner, but the conductor declined to do this. Then Mr. Carver asked him to strike the prisoner over the head, which request Mr. Duller complied with, striking O'Neill a hard blow on the head with his fist. At this moment Mr. Duller's train started to pull out and he ran to catch it.

The blow struck the prisoner by Mr. Duller weakened him and this gave Mr. Carter, who during all the struggle had been underneath, a chance to satisfy himself that O'Neill probably had no weapon, and then he commenced to fight to get the upper hand. In a short time Mr. Carver was on top. At this time a civilian came up and struck Mr. Carver a blow on the mouth with his fist and then grabbed him by the right shoulder, another civilian grabbed his left arm, but they did not again strike him. Meanwhile the two civilians advised O'Neill to run away, but Mr. Carver had grasped two fingers of the prisoner's left hand and held on for about five minutes with the two civilians keeping hold of Mr. Carver, the struggling prisoner meanwhile doing his best to get his fingers out of Mr. Carver's grasp. No more blows were struck at this period.



Finally the prisoner shook off Mr. Carver's grip on his fingers and started to run as at first in a southeasterly direction, away from the quarry. Mr. Carver soon shook himself loose from the two men who were holding him and started after the prisoner, who was fast losing his wind. O'Neill was soon overtaken and Mr. Carver struck him a hard blow with his fist on the left temple, both men going down with Mr. Carver on top. O'Neill then cried "enough," and promised that he would return with the officer peacefully if the latter would not strike him again.

He then sat down, exhausted, and Mr. Carver stood guard over him, surrounded by an unfriendly crowd. Deputy Warden William Walsh and a number of officers arrived shortly after and he took charge of matters. The Deputy Warden had been directed to the right place by a resident who had viewed as much as possible of what was transpiring, meanwhile remaining where the officers from the Warden House were likely to pass.

In all O'Neill had succeeded in getting about a mile away from his starting point.



When the body of Von Hagen was reached it was found that the bullet had entered the back of the head near the right ear and passed through and out under the left eye. This is

accounted for by the fact that Von Hagen was running with his head pretty well down when the bullet struck him. The physicians who examined the body stated that death had been instantaneous.



A coroner's jury consisting of four clergymen, to-wit: George Weish, J. M. Schneider, H. G. Sandross and A. J. Hoag, and two laymen pronounced the killing of Von Hagen justifiable under the circumstances and the law.



Death of Stephen Mariano

The accidental death of prisoner Stephen Mariano, which occurred in the powerhouse Sunday, February 8, was unusually sad. The coroner's verdict was that his death was "due to an accident caused by falling into a pit." The indirect cause, however, was overzealousness on the part of the victim regarding his work, in that he disregarded the rules and climbed over the railing—in spite of the written warning—to dislodge the coal so that it would pass more freely. He slipped, and before he could save himself, fell into the pit, and twenty tons of coal came tumbling on top of him. The coal was slack, and smothered him to death before he could be released.



The prompt and energetic action on the part of the officers and inmates failed to save him. The first intimation anyone had that something was wrong was when Mariano screamed after falling. Several of the men ran to his aid, at the same time shouting for help. There was only one way to release the victim, and that was to throw off the twenty tons of coal that covered him. Only a few men were available, on account of the rest being locked up in their cells, being Sunday afternoon, but these few went to work with a will, and after an hour's extremely hard work, succeeded in uncovering him. He was in an upright position, with his hands over his head.



Dr. Cleminson was on hand and directed the efforts toward resuscitation, besides relieving

some of the other men in the actual work. A call was sent in to the Joliet fire department for a pulmotor, and this was applied, and the work kept going for two hours, until the last spark of hope vanished.



Warden and Mrs. Allen and Chaplain Patrick were on hand and lent all aid possible. The inmates who helped so valiantly were Steve Kelleher, Frank Gagen, William Sanders, John Stacey, James Tawzer, Martin Brophy, William (Sunny) Dunne, Joseph Feinberg, F. Ruby and Dr. Cleminson. Everything possible was done in an effort to revive the unfortunate man, but to no avail. The news quickly spread, and an atmosphere of gloom pervaded the entire institution.



Mariano was an Italian by birth, and one of the most quiet men in the institution. Everybody liked him. He came here from La Salle county on December 6, 1912. He leaves a wife and two children. He was 28 years old and was buried by his relatives on February 10.



Good work needs no boosting other than the results obtained.

CONTRIBUTIONS FROM INMATES

HOW WE ARE PAMPERED

By George Williams

A Prisoner

Prison reform has a great many obstacles to overcome and not the least is the attitude of certain periodicals and influential people, who knowing little or nothing of prisons, regard any humane improvement in prisons as detrimental to society, and for such use the term "pampering prisoners."

At this time our prison is in the limelight because of the efforts our warden has made and is making to improve our conditions. Throughout the country people read of revolution in prison

methods; the abolition of the "silent system," which did not allow a man to speak to his fellow prisoner, no matter how urgent the reason; the daily exercise in the open air, which allows the prisoner the benefit of sunshine and pure air for a short time each day, thus helping to prevent consumption—the most dangerous enemy of all prisoners—from getting a better grip on its victims; the privileges of writing and receiving visits more often, which enables a prisoner to keep in touch with his relatives and friends, and, by more frequent communication with them, lessen the chances of being forgotten; the "honor system," which allows men to leave prisons without guards, with their word as the only guarantee that they will not escape, and to return when their work is finished, and many other improvements, all of which tend to lessen the rigors of prison life, and have a tendency to keep prisoners healthy and normal.

Because of these changes those periodicals and influential people seem to think that this prison is a place where there is no discipline and all the desires of the inmates are gratified, and their fear is that instead of keeping men out of prison it will cause many to "break" in. Nothing is more absurd.

If they were familiar with the facts they might not be so unreasonable in their attitude. They see only one side of the case and their cry is that we are being "pampered."

If being pampered means to wedge two prisoners in a cell seven feet long, seven feet high and four feet wide and to keep them there fourteen hours every day and eighteen hours on Sundays and holidays, to compel them to work the rest of the time without remuneration and then feed them on a diet that costs about five cents a meal, then we are certainly pampered to a very high degree.

Newspaper articles regarding the changes made in this prison deal only with the pleasant side, but a glance at the photographs which accompany this article will give outsiders some idea of a prison that seldom gets into print.

The first two photographs show the exterior and interior of the East Wing cell house. After viewing them it can be very easily seen how little sunlight and fresh air can get into the cells. The purpose of these photographs will be better un-

derstood when it is known that more than six hundred men "live" in this building. There is another cell house called the West Wing, which differs from the East Wing only in that it contains one hundred additional cells and about two hundred more men.

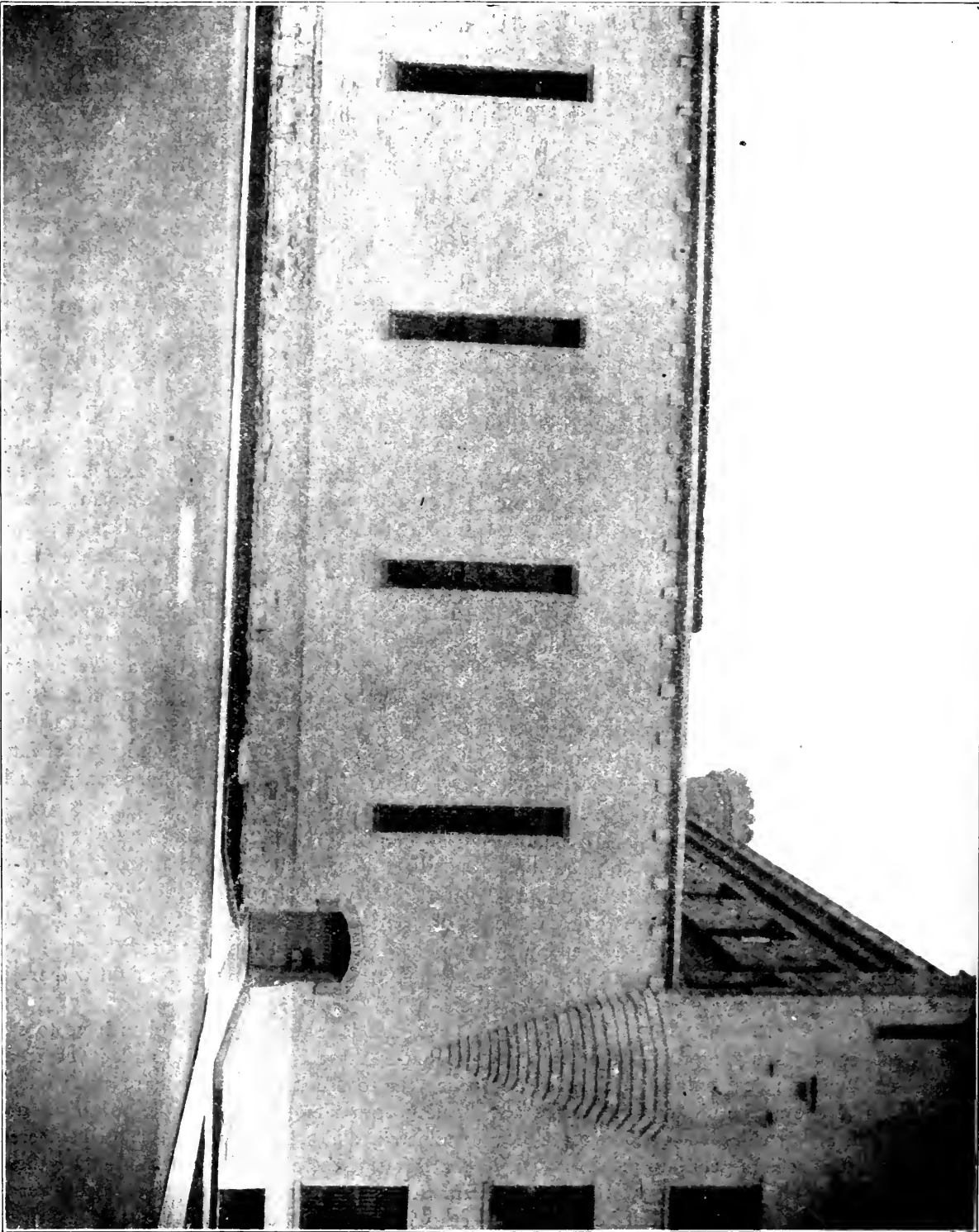
In the third photograph we have an outside view of the cells from the gallery and the fourth shows the cells as they look from the door. Note the man standing with his head almost touching the ceiling and the man sitting down with his back against the stone wall and his knees braced against the bed. Note the tin bucket alongside the man sitting down. This is the only sanitary appliance the cell affords. The walls, ceiling and floor are of stone, and the door is of bar iron.

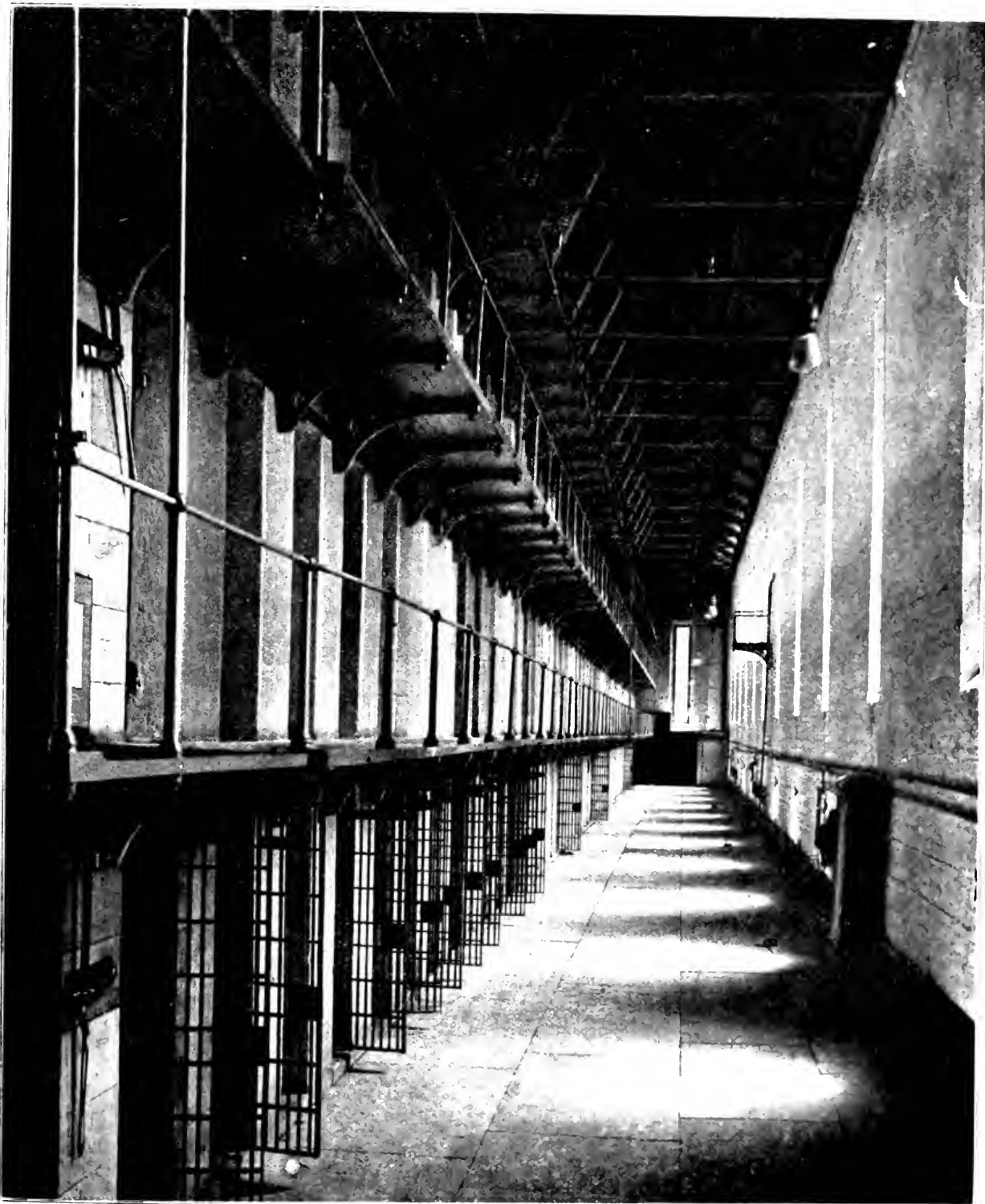
We wonder how some of these critics would like to work every day and then take their only recreation—there is no outdoor exercise in the winter—in these cells, where a man almost touches the ceiling with his head when he stands up, and cannot sit down, with comfort. About the only way a man can be comfortable in these cubby holes is to lie down and then he wants to be careful not to toss around too much.

If any of the readers of this article are interested enough to desire a practical demonstration which will illustrate the discomforts of these cells let them lay a rug seven feet long and four feet wide on the floor, put an ordinary couch on the rug, and imagine it to be a two story bed, place an ordinary water pail on the rug with two small stools, and then stay on that rug fourteen hours. If the experimentalists will do this they will then have some idea of what "pampered prisoners" endure in the way of discomforts, to say nothing of the absence of sunlight and fresh air.

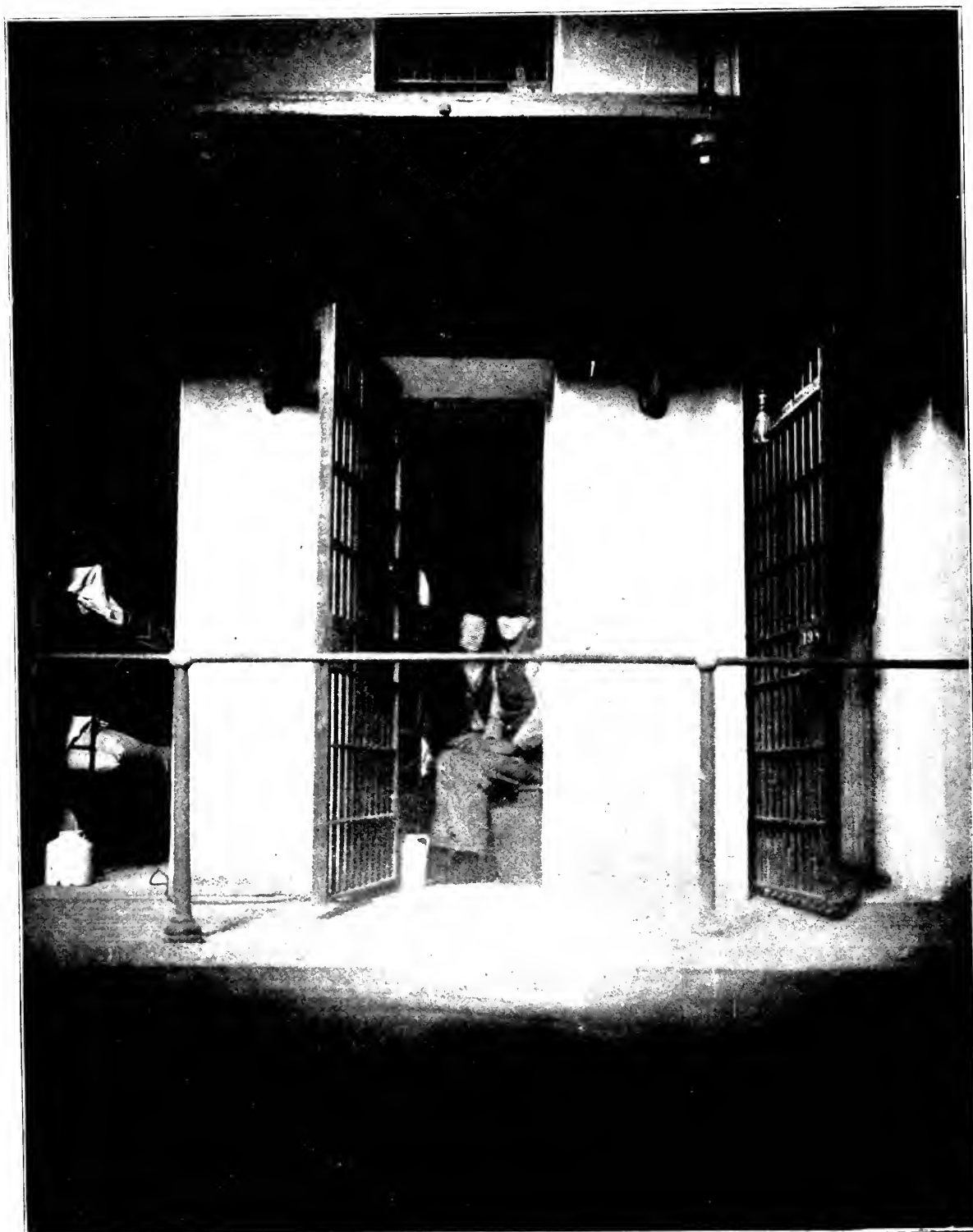
When it is remembered that men have to exist under these conditions for periods of from one year to life it does not require much imagination to understand how little prisoners are pampered, and when it is further remembered that some of these men have existed under these conditions for more than twenty years the readers will probably wonder what sort of a prison those critics would build who designate progressive prison reform methods as "pampering," and "encouraging men to commit crimes."

Portion of East Wing cell house, taken from inside the prison enclosure. North exposure. Note the inadequacy of light and ventila-

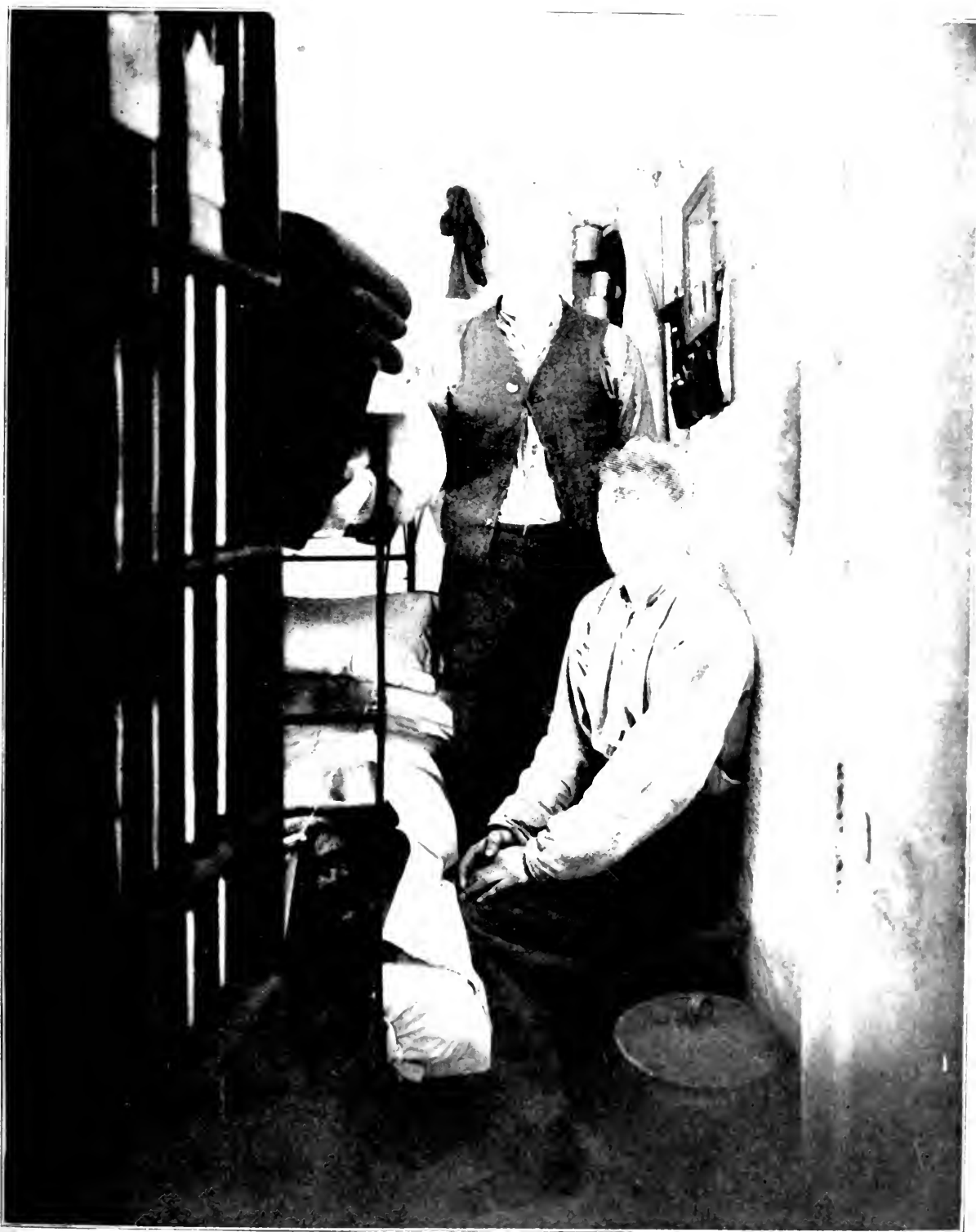




South corridor of East Wing cell house.



View of a portion of the West Wing cell house illustrating congested conditions.



Interior view of a cell illustrating the two story bed, the low ceiling and the cramped position of the men in the cells.

HOW I LICKED JOHN BARLEY-CORN

By George Swanson

A Prisoner

I was born and raised in a country where, at that time, a gentleman universally known as John Barleycorn was extremely popular. Indeed, I am quite sure that in no other land has he ever enjoyed himself more heartily than he did in Sweden about twenty-five years ago. Farmers, laborers and mechanics took him to their hearts, hailing him as their best friend, the never failing healer of body and soul; at the councils of business and professional men his assistance and advice was considered indispensable; artists, poets and writers called upon him for inspiration; at the universities he was as popular as any hero of the gridiron at our own seats of learning; yes, even eminent clergymen consulted him earnestly before entering their pulpits, and the pocket flask was as indispensable an adjunct to worship as the prayer book. A conceited, swearing, swaggering coxcomb he had become, confident of his unshakable sway; and yet even then the sexton was uncoiling the rope of his funeral bell, and today he is not dead, but his doctors are gravely shaking their heads and the undertaker is in the ante-room. John Barleycorn no longer swaggers through Sweden—he is scarcely able to creep.

I am not reciting these facts in order to cast any shadow upon my native land or its people, but in order to show you how almost inevitable it was that I should become a drunkard, and before I had left high school I had more than a nodding acquaintance with John Barleycorn—occasionally it had been a staggering one. Ever since, up to about fifteen years ago, I sought him for consolation in sorrow, for companionship in joy and for courage and strength in emergencies. It was about that time, however, that John tripped me up when I wasn't looking, and I had a fall which landed me in this penitentiary where the officials endeavored to cheer me up by telling me to "face the wall" and practice the deaf and dumb language. Well, I did not cheer up, but I sobered up, which was more to the purpose—and I have been sober ever since. In the daytime I sawed wood and said nothing; in the evenings I read and thought. Drop by drop the thoughts leaked from my

think-tank, forming a pool upon the floor of my cell in which I could read my fortune in much the same manner that old time witches used to read fortunes in the dregs of an empty coffee cup, and what I read there did not cheer me up anymore than facing the wall did. I saw John Barleycorn with that smiling, moon-faced mask of his removed. I saw his real face, a death face, with a sneer upon it; and in the mocking mirrors of his eyes I saw crime, ruin, poverty, death and hell. Go through the same process and you will see what I saw and if you intend to give John Barleycorn a fight when you go out of here, you must go through it or take a licking. Take the "thought cure" as I will call it, and take it hopefully, prayerfully and thoroughly.

I shall not weary you with a detailed account of the fight between myself and John Barleycorn, but when I went out of the gate one chilly September evening he was there to meet me, but I had previously put myself into the pink of condition for the fray by taking many doses of my thought cure, and a particularly strong one the night before, so I had decidedly the better of round one. In the subsequent rounds, however, he had me groggy at times, but I had able seconds and between rounds I never failed to take another swig of my thought cure, and every time the gong rang I tangoed up to my antagonist in the most approved style. (By the way, in a fight with John Barleycorn or any other renowned fighter, always tango up to the scratch, never hesitation waltz), I won the fight but it took me at least a year before I felt safe at all, and even after that I had occasional sparring matches with him; and when I go out of here this time he will no doubt be there to meet me again, but this time he hasn't a look in.

Now, you may ask: "What good has it done you; what are you bragging about? You are here again, and even though you did not drink you have violated your parole and you are apparently no better off than you would be had you been drinking." As to the first question, I have never been dirty or ragged; I have never been called a bum or bar-room loafer; I've never been completely broke; I've never woke up in the morning with a brown taste in my mouth, and the boiler makers working overtime in my head; and last, but not least, I've been able to respect myself and feel the pleasure that comes to every

one who has fought and conquered a fault or a weakness. Secondly, I am not bragging; if you have so understood me I have failed to make myself clear. I am here again, and I have violated my parole, but that is another story, and THE JOLIET PRISON POST is no place for us to air our private mistakes or grievances, fancied or real. Anyway, John Barleycorn had no hand in it this time.

Boys, if I have succeeded in setting you thinking I have accomplished the purpose I aimed at. Think! think! think! Thought created the world; thought peopled it; thought civilized it. Think then, but think right. Wrong thinking caused ninety-nine per cent of all the wars, all the crime and nearly all disease. Right thinking builds, purifies, enobles; wrong thinking destroys, sullies, makes beasts of us.



THE LETTER FROM HOME

By R. E. C.

A Prisoner

Every evening a very large majority of the inmates here are peculiarly alive to the footfall of the mail man. There are expectant looks on every face when his approach is heralded; likewise, shades of disappointment gather on those faces should the hurrying messenger, freighted with his precious burden, see fit to pass on without delivering the much beloved and expected letter.

And why not? The letter is the real link—the only link of consequence—which connects the inmate to the world of his interest; without it, life would be well nigh unbearable here. All the papers, magazines and books in the world could not act as a worthy substitute for the little white sheet which can bring what no printed page could ever bring—love and hope.

In these days we hear much about reform and reformers; we read of the influence for good that this new school of thought has upon the prisoner of today. It is a wonderful work that is being done, and what course the reformers may eventually pursue in the future we may assume will prove the determining factor as to the ultimate reform of the criminal. Still, I believe the real seed of reform is being constantly sown in this prison, while the man is

yet a prisoner within its walls. The seed comes to him, neatly sealed within a little envelope and with Uncle Sam's stamp of approval without. A little seed that, before starting on its journey, had been blessed, perhaps, by wife, sister, father or brother; more often dampened with the hot kisses of a faithful mother, always the last to put aside the paper and dry the pen forever.

This will not appear surprising should we take time to look into the subject deeply and seriously. I have had occasion to talk with many prisoners here, many of whom I knew but slightly, on the subject of home letters, and I have found them, without exception, strangely responsive. While it seems a personal matter to discuss, they did not resent any approach which might lead up to it. On the contrary, a new and altogether better side of their nature asserted itself. Their faces visibly brighten; their tone appears to soften; questionable expletives are not drawn upon when occasion arises to lay emphasis. They speak (and this almost without exception) of their record and past misdeeds, not boastfully, but regretfully and remorsefully. Often at this time they will express the desire to live straight—to make good. I have more than once thought, on listening to a man who was talking so earnestly of home and home folks that he would have been labeled as a decided bore in the outer world, that it only needed at that exact and precise moment the presence in the flesh of some member of his household to fully complete his reform, which his confinement had started. Whether or not it would have proved a permanent reform is another and still deeper question, the discussion of which is not wholly apropos to our subject and would take us from our present groove of thought. We are treating of the human emotions, not strength of character or hereditary tendencies.

So the "letter from home" will ever continue to come; it will continue to brighten and awaken the new thoughts for better things. It must always be so. It is the only thing which can reach and strike that chord which the most unfortunate of men have hidden within their hearts; the chord that can awaken the memories of home and its love, the mere recollection of which must work for the dawn of the new impulse—for reformation.

MY WONDER NIGHT

By E. C. C.

A Prisoner

The memory of the events of what I term my "wonder night" is as vivid and realistic to me today as on the occasion, now near a year distant, when I experienced them.

It was the night before Labor day. I, in common with other performers, had been detailed by our Warden to remain in the chapel until nine o'clock in the evening in order to enact a full dress rehearsal of the entertainment we were to present to our fellow prisoners on the following day.

We started our rehearsal at 6:30 o'clock. About an hour later, having nothing to do at that moment, I wandered idly down one of the aisles of the church, and passing through the door at the rear of the room descended the steps that led to the principal street of the prison. No keeper, officious and surly, molested me. In accordance with his plans of trusting somewhat to the honor of the men under his charge, our Warden had allowed us, to the number of nearly two score—a dozen or more of whom were "lifers"—to remain out of our cells after dark absolutely unguarded, with nothing between us and liberty save an unprotected, easily scalable wall—and, our word of honor.

As I slowly descended the steps, I ruminated on the dissimilarity of the policy of our Warden and that of his predecessors; the former trusting in the man, the latter in the payroll. As regarding myself, I knew full well which would procure the better results from me, and my feeling I believe to be natural to all prisoners who are normal.

I reached the bottom of the flight of steps, and opening the door before me, a step brought me into the open and into the night with a quietness so grave and sweet as to seem almost unearthly.

The feeling of delight, intermingled with awe, that swept over me at the sight that met my eyes is indescribable. For over a decade I had never been out of my cell after sundown. In all those years my only vision of the night had been a wall-like mass of blackness, a few feet square, in front of a cellhouse window.

I was in ecstasy. My spirits soared as though

I had quaffed a magic draught of the fabled Elixir of Life. I felt as young and buoyant as when I was a child; the weariness, frets and worries of my life dropped from me like a cloak from the body.

I inhaled gratefully the cool, damp night air deep into my lungs. The slight breeze played about me; now caressing my heated forehead, now departing, ever and anon returning, as though to invite me to join with it in its frolic. The suspended electric lights, set at irregular intervals along the streets, were swinging slightly by its force, seeming to draw the shadows after them in a never-ending movement, casting buildings into bold relief one moment and obliterating them the next.

Directly opposite me stood the Warden House, flanked on either side by the cell houses. Every window shone with light, and with its dark background of night the scene seemed totally unfamiliar.

Beautiful as it was to my unaccustomed eyes, this vision of my prison at night was eclipsed a thousandfold by the crowning glory that was above my head. Stars, myriads of them, gleamed and glittered above me, shedding a soft, silvery radiance on all beneath.

I stood enthralled, for I know not the space of time, but eventually there entered into my mind thoughts long unaccustomed to dwell there. For years, almost from the time I was old enough to reason, I had been beset by doubts relative to the religion I had been reared in. I would read or hear them analyzed and, perplexed, would interrogate myself: "How is this possible?" My perturbation of mind finally became so great that I dropped all thought of religion and became unconcerned spiritually. For years I had given absolutely no thought to God or His teachings.

On that wonder night, as I gazed at the diamond-studded sky high above me—"a fit floor for the heavens"—a knowledge of the immensity of God's power came to me. The doubts reared in my puny brain were dispelled; they were as nothing; confidence was implanted in their place. In the sweet quiet of the night God was very near, was about me—was beside me. I knelt down on the cold flagstone and, for the first time in my life I prayed, truly prayed,

Do you understand why that night to me is and always will be my "Wonder Night?"

It was then, by the grace of God, I received the greatest of all His blessings—Faith.



OUR OPPORTUNITY

By A. Theist

A Prisoner

We are here, we men and women, because twelve men in whom we put our trust have said that we are guilty of the crime with which we were charged; or we have taken a plea of guilty to obtain a light sentence. Whether we or our attorneys were lax in picking twelve men who did not happen to agree with our view of the case, or whether the police manufactured evidence and railroaded us, is entirely aside from the main issue; the salient fact is that we are here, came here through due process of law, and that the Warden and his officers are not to blame for it. Nevertheless, here we are, and we are going to stay (if we are responsible prisoners) until we are released by the same process of law which was responsible for our coming here. Now then, let's be square. Let us be big enough to pay our debts to the State without whining and cringing, even if we feel that the debt is unjust. Emerson said: "Strenuous souls hate cheap success." If we can help our Warden win the battle that he is waging, boys, it will not be a cheap success; it will be a victory of strenuous souls in every sense of the word—but we will have to get together. No one man alone can win a fight of this kind; it needs the cooperation of every one of us, and you and I can prove by our words and actions that it would be possible for the authorities to open the gates of this institution and leave them unguarded, knowing that the prisoners who are confined within realize that they are paying a debt and paying it honestly in the only coin with which debts of our kind can be canceled (the forfeiture of our liberty), and that they can be trusted to stay within certain precincts without the restraint of high walls, iron bars and armed guards.

Rome was not built in a day and the customs and usages of centuries of prison administration cannot be changed in a week or a year. But they are being changed, and it is up to us

to prove to the world and society that for centuries the men and women who have committed crimes have been receiving the wrong kind of treatment. The public is waking up to a realization of the fact that it owes the prisoners something; that men and women are not being sent to prison only for punishment, but also to protect society from their particular form of viciousness. A few years hence education will supplant hard labor and reformation will be more than a mere word; it will be a reality.

Do you not see the responsibility that rests upon the men and women who are now here? We are being given the acid test. If we do not prove pure gold, all the good things which we now enjoy, all the better things that are to come, all the hard work on the part of our Warden and his workers will be lost and this movement for our betterment will be set back a number of years. Wake up, you men and women of the I. S. P. Can you not see that every one of us is helping to make history? We are in a position to help one of the greatest movements in the history of the world—a movement towards a fuller, better civilization. Let's get together. Let us stop being convicts and once again become men and women. Any dead fish can float downstream, but it takes a live one to swim up. Are you alive? Then prove it every minute of the time that you are with us by your conduct. Set a standard for yourself and make everything you do measure up to it. Look over every proposition carefully, and if it does not come up to that scale, pass it up. Remember, men and women, there is one you cannot lie to. You might fool others, but 'way down, deep in your own heart you know whether or not you have been on the level with yourself. If you are square with yourself, you will not cheat anyone else very much—remember that. Let us keep every ounce of energy and good that we have in us. Men and women will be coming to this and like institutions for years after we have passed over the great divide, and we owe them a duty just as much as we owe a duty to ourselves and to the present administration, and that is to do the best we can to help our Warden show the world that the prisoners are responsible persons, that they can be trusted and will not violate that trust.

Do not be a hard loser. If you have a debt

to pay, do so with a smile. No one likes a welcher or a piker. Do not be one. Get into the band wagon with the rest of us and help our Warden make of this place one of hope; a place where a person who has never had a chance can come and learn and go into the world better qualified to make a fight for an honest living. Boost, boost, boost and smile. For you know that someone said that "while you smile, another smiles, and soon there are miles and miles of smiles, and life's worth while because you smile."



IT'S UP TO US

By William Richards

A Prisoner

Oh, Spring! We greet you with hearts full of joy, for you bring us hopes of better days, days that we had not hoped to see while inmates of the I. S. P. at Joliet.

This spring there are to be many contemplated changes in addition to the changes already wrought in this institution that will tend to the betterment of all that are confined within its walls. Many of us probably will be working outside of prison walls, and while not free in the true sense of the word, yet out in God's sunshine and pure air. Isn't it wonderful to know that shortly many of us men who have been behind these cold, gray walls with their miseries and intrigues (which are no more), may be, for the first time in many weary, hopeless years, enjoy the benefits of the new administration of this state. Let us hope that long may it rule, even forever and ever. Let us hope that as soon as the legislature convenes again they will pass a law allowing the life and long-time men the privilege of working outside of prison walls. They are the men who really ought to derive the benefits of the law which now only allows the short-time men the profits of its provisions. Let us who have but short time strive hard to make a path for the long-term men to tread that will lessen their burdens. Let it be a path of sunshine, happiness and hopefulness. It is our duty to help the life and long-time men in this prison, a duty which is so important that we who might go out on road work ought well to consider our responsibility towards the long and life-term prisoners. They will be judged by our ability

and deportment. It is up to us. Let us do what is expected of us to the best of our ability. As we sow so they shall reap. O, let it not be a harvest of bitter disappointments, heartbreaks and utter hopelessness. The disappointment would be cruel and hard to bear by the ones who had hoped for much through our efforts. Their future welfare depends on us. What shall it be, the utter hopelessness or a future of bright prospects? Let it be the latter. We *can* do the right thing and give confidence to our staunch supporters, so that when they take the matter to Springfield in the near future they will have an argument that cannot be successfully combatted, that of the good work done and the deportment of the tried honor men. It will be very much in our favor, I assure you, and it will not be a drudge or a hardship on any one of us to go out and do a day's work. We must work in prison, as it is. Why not outside of it? And keeping the lifetime men in mind, it ought to be a pleasure to try and ease their confinement. So let the harvest of our effort be a harvest of bright and cheerful prospects in future days for all men wearing the prison garb. It will give us much pleasure in after years to know that we have had a hand in the uplift of prison life. It's in us; let us show the world at large that we are not what they think us to be, the vultures of society. Seeing is believing. So let us open their eyes to the utmost. For only by doing our level best in a straightforward way can we hope to bring the prison situation to the desired plane—that of wide-open gates and every inmate his own keeper. Honor men, it's up to us; let us do that which is desired and, above all, gain the confidence of all that are interested in our welfare.



THE OLD TIMERS

By Abraham Montague

A Prisoner

There are two classes of "old timers" in this and every other penal institution. One class comprises the lifers and long-term men who have been in this prison for a number of years, and the other is composed of second, third, fourth timers, etc., to which the writer of this article

belongs. Various people have different opinions concerning us. The police say we are old offenders. Criminologists call us habitual criminals. State's attorneys call us—well, some people have won \$25,000 damage suits for having been called the same thing. It is about the second class of "old timers" that this article deals with. In the past few years there has been a general agitation and discussion about the primitive methods in vogue in our penal institutions and the treatment accorded the inmates. All right-thinking and humanity-loving people have contended that under the old system the inmates were not being reformed, but deformed. There was absolutely no incentive, except in isolated cases, for the inmate to regenerate himself. The stringent silent system and other strict rules of a like nature appealed to the worst that was in a man, and his thoughts and feelings were shaped accordingly.

In short, society has frankly confessed that its tolerance of past conditions in our penal institutions bred criminals. Therefore, society is to some considerable extent responsible for the evolution of the "old timers." We are very glad to be able to write truthfully that since our present Warden took charge of this prison in April, 1913, he has eliminated the antiquated crime-breeding methods of the past and is doing everything within his power for the uplift and moral betterment of the inmates. He has our good will, and when the warden of a penal institution has the good will and respect of the inmates in his charge he has placed them on the road to true reformation. Gov. E. F. Dunne has done many good things, but the best thing he ever did, from our viewpoint, was to give us our Warden. Nearly all of us are properly appreciating the humane treatment that is being accorded us now; the "old timers" more so for the simple reason that we know the actual difference between what was and what is. And, in behalf of my fellow "old timers," I have composed a parody on an old well-known song. There were several suggestive items in the first issue of the Post relative to the system "that was," and we feel that the editor will not discriminate against the following lines:

When we appear before the Board
To tell our tale of woe,
"Old Timers," as we are, we all
Deserve some kind of show.

We're products of a system past
That wasn't hardly fair;
A square deal is our only plea,
And we will play the square

It makes no difference what we did
Once in a bygone time,
We think the State is paid in full
For what we did in crime,
So when we go before the Board,
We hope to hear them say:
"It makes no difference what they *were*,
But what they *are* today!"

We hope the Board intends to start
With just the cleanest slate,
Just like the Warden here has done—
The Governor of our State;
If a fellow here can be a man,
Through treatment that's humane,
It stands to reason when he's out
He'll also be the same.

It makes no difference, then, I say,
In what I think or do;
If something can be made of us,
Mr. Board, it's up to you.
Just do as Warden A. has done—
You'll hear him daily say:
"It makes no difference what they *were*,
But what they *are* today!"



WOMEN LEARNING THE ALPHABET

By an Inmate of the Women's Prison

How happy the inmates of the women's prison are that conditions have changed! We now have a school and though but composed of two classes thirty out of the sixty-one inmates attend.

A few months ago the alphabet seemed to some only straight and curved lines, which they were willing to believe could have a meaning because they had been so informed. They are beginning to learn to put the letters together and are finding out that if used right these letters will spell their names, make known their wants, express their hopes and may even serve to utter their thanks to those who have extended to them the privileges of education.

These women in our classes are thoroughly in earnest and, while timid and nervous at first they are beginning to venture and when called upon they give evidence of eager desires to know how and why they improve by study. In the beginner's class the second reader is used as a text

book, not because the pupils are as yet fit for the second grade but because of the recurring use of simple and most necessary words. The class receives drilling in the use of words under special heads or branches, that is, those meaning articles of wearing apparel, food, household goods and subjects of history.

Our school room is well lighted and thoroughly comfortable. Our cell house matron is our principal and she is a wonderful teacher, who combines class instruction with individual teaching. Her method is: When pointing out an error, a correction is so placed or given that it becomes a comparison and the illustration is as clearly shown as that of a patent medicine advertisement of "before and after taking." Her illustrations are of untold value in convincing skeptical minds of the real truth of a statement.

If motion pictures were taken, showing the facial changes of the students in our school room, I am convinced that the smiles of satisfaction on the face of the pupil when a new word has been mastered or a correct answer given to an inquiry as to the meaning of two or more words, pronounced alike yet spelt differently, would prove that it is worth while to have this class.

One woman desired first to learn how to spell and write the three words "my," "dear" and "children," so that in her next letter to her former home she might in her own handwriting salute her babies, "My dear children." She was content for the present to permit someone who could write better to finish the letter for her. Another woman after short instruction wrote her first letter of only four lines to her husband, hoping that this new accomplishment might help her in retaining his affection of which she stands in need. That letter expressed a volume.



TO MAKE PRISON LIFE BRIGHTER

By an Inmate of the Women's Prison

When you rise in the morning form a resolution to make the day a happy one to at least one girl. It is easily done; a kind word to the sorrowful; an encouraging expression to the striving will go a long way. There is nothing perhaps so essential to us in this as a sincere, earnest and well-founded hope.

If our hearts are filled with bright, cheerful hopes, difficulties readily fade away. The girl who works without hope and with her mind over-burdened with discouragement and doubt works at an immense disadvantage. Her hopelessness causes her to be a target, exposed on every side to the winged arrows of disaster and failure. Much of the energy that should be expended upon the task at hand is used up in overcoming the inertia within. Such a girl is like a piece of machinery, so clogged in its joints and bearings that every ounce of steam is required to turn its wheels. She wastes so much of her powers overcoming internal resistance that it is not possible for her to get but a small return for her labor.

Try to see the good in every task set before you, for there is certainly some good if you will but look for it. Work done hopefully is an inspiration: to work hopelessly is wicked and degrading. Fill your soul with hope and you live. No matter how dark and stormy your prospects in life may appear, there is always a bright side to it somewhere, for no cloud was yet so heavy as to exclude forever the glory of the sun. View the future hopelessly and you must see naught but shadows; look upon it with hope and your shadows will become a background for a golden light.

So, girls, let us all lend each other a helping hand to make the days bright and beautiful.



WHAT SHALL HE DO?

By Robert F. F.

A Prisoner

A second termor who has been a bad man came to me recently for advice. He is due to be discharged in April. He told me that he wants to go straight. He did not say whether he considered honesty the best policy, or that he considered it wrong to steal. Take it either way, he desires to earn an honest living, and he came to me for information as to how to get employment in Chicago. Knowing him, I did not have to inquire as to his qualifications. In his particular line he is worth from twenty to twenty-five dollars per week; with a pick and shovel he could earn about thirty cents a day in competition with new arrivals from Southern

Europe. As he will have served his full time when he is released, he will have no claim on the assistance of the parole officers.

He seemed troubled because he is not going to steal any more, and he did not know how he could get a situation and keep it. He is in good health and when he leaves he will have ten dollars, which the state gives to all prisoners as a start in life.

I desired very much to give him encouragement. I told him that if he found employment with a large concern he would usually have to give a bond, and in doing so he would have to account for every year of his life since he left school. I told him that if he secured employment he would at least be required to furnish references, and that he might refer to the Warden. That did not seem to encourage him, so we sat down to think it over. He was anxious to find a way of securing honest employment at living wages and I was equally desirous of telling him how to do it. We thought it over for half an hour and then we parted without saying anything to one another.



A LIFER'S VIEWS

February 20, 1914.

To the Editor:

Among the many changes brought about here in the last year nothing impresses me so much as the improved conduct of the prisoners. I have now been here sixteen years and I must say that the last year has been very unlike the previous fifteen years. The old spirit of hate, envy, ill feeling among prisoners is fast going. It used to be a few words spoken between two prisoners in a low tone of voice and the next moment a fight. We have very few fights now.

A few weeks ago my friend Henry informed me that he was in trouble, having been reported by his keeper for disobedience. I told him not to worry about it but to promise Deputy Warden William Walsh, when he came before him for a hearing, that he would not disobey again, and then to keep his word, and to my great surprise Henry answered that he would much rather be sent to the "hole" for punishment than to face the deputy.

Henry's preference for punishment made me curious and he told me that he had been before Mr. Walsh last fall on a report for insolence to an officer and that when he appeared for trial at the deputy's office he was surprised to hear him say, "Sit down, Henry. Your keeper has reported you for insolence. What have you to say about it? Tell me all about it." He replied to the deputy that the officer was right and that he was sorry that it had occurred. Then the deputy had said to him, "Henry, the warden and I wish to do away with the solitary cells and the warden has put it up to me to get rid of them. Neither of us like to punish our fellow men because punishment is injurious to health and character, but we cannot get rid of that place without your assistance and that of all of the other prisoners. This appears to me to be a good time for you and I to come to an agreement. I want you to help me do away with the 'hole.' My impression is that after all the men get acquainted with me we will not need it here. When I first came here and learned exactly what punishment in a penitentiary meant it seemed to me that I could not do my duty and gain the confidence of the men, and I see no way out of it unless you and all the others will help me. I have been permitted to remove the restrictions against talking and against looking up from your work benches, and you are now permitted to have lead pencils and I make it a practice to examine into all reports for misconduct to satisfy myself that you men are getting a square deal, and I do not see how I can do much more for you unless all of you will help me, for there are rules we must enforce just as they have always been. We will permit no insolence or vile language towards either an officer or an inmate, and fighting is strictly forbidden. No officer will be permitted to nag men, but it is up to you boys to make it possible for me to run this prison the way the warden and I want it run. It is a very hard job, but if all the prisoners will help it will be easy. There is much the warden wants to do for you boys, but it is up to all of you to hasten or to delay him. Now go back to your shop and tell your keeper that I told you to apologize to him, and do so, and say to the officer that I will talk with him

about you this evening. You may go now, but remember that I want all of you boys to help me."

Henry told me that he had gone back to the shop and that he told the officer what the deputy had said, that he had apologized and that the officer had said, "That is all right," and had sent him back to his work. That the next morning the keeper had come to his cell and had said, "How are you this morning, Henry?" and Henry told me that he knew by this remark that the deputy had spoken to the officer about him as he had promised to do. Then Henry went on talking, saying, "You see, the deputy kept his word and I have broken mine with him. That is why I do not want to go back to him. Just think of it! Almost all the men have kept their word with the deputy, and I have broken mine. In former years I would not care. I would get a 'bawling out' and be put in the 'hole' besides, but Deputy Walsh reminds me of a father talking to his son telling him to keep out of trouble. I do not know what to say to him. What would you do if you were in my place?" I told him to tell the truth and leave the rest to the deputy. The next day I saw Henry again and I asked him how it came out. He said that the deputy looked worried when he came in, but he spoke in his usual low voice. That he had asked him if he had been disobedient, and that Henry had answered "Yes," and that the deputy had answered him, "Henry, I believe yet that you will be a good man, and I am going to give you another chance. I hope you will not forget that I always keep my promises to you boys, and that I want all of you to do the same with me."

Now, I want to ask all of the men in this prison how can we get away from a deputy like that? Are we going to try to take an unfair advantage of his kindness, or shall we do the best we can to act as he wants us to do? We have not any too many friends in the world, surely not so many that we can afford to spare any, and when we are lucky enough to have a deputy warden who wants to befriend us, there is only one thing for us to do and that is to prove to the world by our conduct that our deputy has the correct ideas on running a penitentiary. It may seem funny

to some of us that Mr. Walsh can put this kind of a "stunt" over a lot of men who on the whole have usually desired to hit back. Some of us feel lonesome because we cannot foster hard feelings against our disciplinarian, but, boys, he has us beaten and we might just as well own up to it and be glad it is so.

JESSE SOGERS.



We need a new prison, by gosh;
In a cell with two fellows it's "squash."
For we often collide,
(Which is undignified),
And we stand on one leg when we wash.



Camp Hoper's of old Joliet
May return with a sense of regret;
If good times befell them
The home boys can tell them
Right here they can be jolly yet.



I think, if we put it to vote,
The chef in the kitchen we'd smote;
While he does his good part.
We request a la carte
Instead of the old table-d'hôte.



The "Knockers" are in for a roast;
Of the warnings they'd better make most.
If the hints we have sprung
Cannot bridle their tongue
We will see they are hit by a "Post."



Our three sturdy plumbers appear
To be busy this time of the year;
Though their wrenches, I figure,
Are big, still is bigger
The wrench which has brought them down here.



Though the Sunday School seems rather slow,
In the subjects quite deeply we go;
But the fat man, so wary,
(Address: "Solitary,")
Is the most weighty subject we know.




"Let reverence for law be taught in schools and colleges, be written in spelling books and primers, be published from pulpits and proclaimed in legislative houses, and enforced in the courts of justice; in short, let it become the political religion of the nation."—*Abraham Lincoln.*


The Awakening*

BY HERBERT KAUFMAN

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I am soul-sore and bended and weary,
And my being is ancient and gray;
The heart in my bosom is dreary,
And I long to be up and away.
I want to re-spend what I squandered,
I seek but one chance to repay;
For last night my soul wakened and wandered
O'er the road to the gone yesterday.
Oh, the wrong that can never be righted!
And the wounds that can never be healed;
The darkness that could have been lighted;
The truths that too late were revealed;
The burdens so readily shifted;
And the thorns that I should have withdrawn;
The anguish that might have been lifted
From a heart that was thoughtlessly torn;
The clean things my foolish feet muddied;
The innocent ones I judged wrong;
The home that with sorrow I flooded;
The deaf ear I turned to life's song;
The struggler so easily aided;
The reckless one I might have checked;
The heartlessness that I paraded;
The dear ones I hurt with neglect;
The flower I robbed of its beauty
And tossed in a day to the slime;
The hour I faltered in duty;
The whim whose indulgence was crime.
Oh, God! though I face Thee repentent,
I ask not Thy mercy as yet;
I seek not to find Thee relentant
Until the tomorrow is met.
I thank Thee that Thou hast unshuttered
The blindness that darkened my soul.
My prayer to Thee now is not uttered
In hope to default conscience' toll,
I ask Thee to see me in sorrow
And grant me the prayer that I pray—
That I may make right on the morrow
The wrongs that I wrought yesterday.



*Published by the kind permission of Mr. Kaufman.

A Straight Talk to the World

(Concerning a Remedy)

Written for The Joliet Prison Post

Because for years you now have been maintaining

That prison systems well you understand,
We marvel that your tone is uncomplaining—
You seldom ask—less often make demand;
You give but briefest thought in ascertaining
The vital truth of things at your command.

'Tis true we hear you daily criticizing
With silver tongue, superbly eloquent;
We catch the words, "reclaiming," "civilizing,"
"Temptation," "tendency" and "penitent."
Sometimes your tone is wholly sympathizing—
Your chosen weapon of accomplishment.

And men of wealth, self-satisfied, all-knowing,
With hungry eyes upon their revenue,
Proclaim with zeal that we are undergoing
A wholesome change, undreamed of hitherto;
A long-range view—a tremulous tip-toeing
To catch a hasty glimpse of "something new."

The politicians, too, have congregated
Conditions here to earnestly debate;
Have argued, doubted and expostulated
As self-appointed moulders of our fate.
How many of them, though, have contemplated
To personally the field investigate?

Reformers sound their war-cry optimistic;
Their newest slogan is: "Attack the Root;"
Their goodness blending with the idealistic—
And yet we have no worthy substitute;
Discussing "bumps" and nature's "dualistic"
Is moving some—but by the longer route.

The daily press, when time is quite propitious,

Our cause is apt most fervently to plead,
Then, all-forgetful, fall to be malicious—
See not the flower, but produce the weed;
And thus the public, giddy and suspicious,
Forget the man and only note the deed.

The idle rich assume a blank expression
When "prison" sounds upon their cultured ear,
And then, recalling, make the frank confession
That once a rare and novel souvenir
By chance had fallen into their possession
While "slumming in that beastly atmosphere."

The blackest of us are not hydra-headed,
Nor are we dyed in deepest villainy;
To crime think not that we are fully wedded,
If lacking crest or ancient pedigree.
Yet often our release is deeply dreaded—
And so I ponder on—The Remedy.

The Remedy? O, be it inferential
That we, fast bound, the golden key possess?
Ah! no. 'Tis something subtle and potential,
And, like the realms of space, 'tis measureless;
Full well we know its giving is essential
To blotting out life's growing wretchedness.

O, narrow world! 'Tis ripe for thy unmasking—
Thy gilded altars to be overthrown;
For in thy strange conceit thou art but basking,
Yet dare wouldst judge the men thou dost dis-
own,
While from the depths thy castaways are asking
For just a *simple heart that knows their own!*

E. R. N.

Only a Vine

BY JOHN LYNCH—A Prisoner

Written for The Joliet Prison Post

Gazing at the steel barred window
Rising up within my view,
Once I stood and meditated—
Life passed by in mind's review.
Ghosts of all my shattered prospects
Seemed to pass in mournful file;
Darkened more the lonely moments
As I stood and thought the while.

How to ease the doleful hours
Came to me—O, fresh'ning thought!
Thus was born the new desire,
And the strength for which I sought.
'Twas a vine that brought the message—
Just one stem which always grew
Round the heavy grated window—
The narrow window of my view.

There I watched it through the hours—
Day by day it thrived and grew,
'Till a few out-shooting tendrils
Missed hold of bars and came to view.
Had they come, I thought, to cheer me?
Prisoners, too, they seemed to be
Banished from the living sunlight—
Creeping, reaching out to me.

But I knew the storms of winter
Soon would steal the leaves away;
So I watched them, sad and lonely
Through the lone and weary day.
Then I thought: the vine would later
Grow its tendrils, straight and true;
So perhaps my own redemption
From its lesson might ensue.

Then the sinful thoughts departed,
Trooped away to endless space;
Truth within my heart was ringing—
God had sent to me his grace.
For I felt His love quite near me,
Love so pure and so divine;
Thus to me there came a lesson,
Through God's mercy, from a vine.

Comrades

Written for The Joliet Prison Post

Behind the clouds the sun is ever shining,
 We see it not but know it's glowing there;
 O' comrade, let us bide the silver-lining
 To joyfully break upon our dull despair.
 And come what may, the fair or darksome weather,
 The blue skies restful or the leaden-gray,
 For us a smile—a sturdy pull together,
 Forgetful of the thorns of yesterday.



So, comrade, let us face the new beginning—
 Firm, standard bearers in the coming race;
 For rich the prize and dearly worth the winning,
 All brave the leaders who may set the pace!
 Look up beneath the crushing weight of sorrow,
 Let all the fresh and good desires play
 Forever in the hopeful, new tomorrow—
 Turn o'er the bleeding page of yesterday.



See, through the mists the light is softly creeping;
 Cheer up, my comrade, 'tis a goodly fight;
 Soon, soon for us the tired night of weeping
 Shall end in morning's cool and healing light.
 Then dawns the life for which we have been yearning,
 When loosened burdens shall be cast away
 Along the road to which is no returning—
 The hidden road—the road to yesterday.

E. S. T.

A Prison Round-up

Written for The Joliet Prison Post

He is with us in this prison on his cunning mischief bent;
 To abash old Ananias he is fully competent.
 And you need no introduction, nor give ear to his remark
 Would you take his mental measure—you can pick him in the dark.
 He's the "Knocker," lone and lonesome, and, no matter where or when,
 You will never find him chumming with the fellows who are MEN.

It's enough to stir the stomach to receive his evil smirk;
 It would take a hundred verses to relate his dirty work.
 But I have an inspiration—'tis a measure for "reform";
 If we fellows were but voters 'twould be carried through by storm;
 Let us round-up all the "Knockers," with no mercy to forgive,
 In a JAIL WITHIN THE PRISON where the devils ought to live!

T. S. E.

In Deer Cholly-yet

AS SUNG BY JOHN RUDNICK

Our German Comedian.

Yer may dalk of yur grent insdeedusions,
Yur hombs by der glidderink zees,
Nu Pord und drips in der moundens,
Bud dis blaze iss O Kay fur me.
Der kittcshen hes bean renowaydet
Der food is axemendt each day,
Und Walsh keeps his eyes on der menu
To zee der grub dond't get it away.

Chorus:

Down in deer Cholly-yet
Vat a shange ve've got yu bet.
For Walsh dond't led no von sving on yur chaw,
Or keebers to giff you a deal dat is raw.
Oh, it's nod der zame old blaze,
You kan zee it in mine faze.
Mitt dis food no dout
Ve vill all half der gout
In deer Cholly-yet.

Now dey dond sharge yu any atmizion
Dey giff yer a chop right away,
A shafe und a hare cud fur noddings
Und all yu kan eat efery day.
A blu suid't of kloose mitoud hesking
A bromize dey'l fid yu chust ride,
A keeber to vatch while you sleebing
Zo no von vill svipe you by night'd.

Chorus:

Down in deer Cholly-yet,
Vorden Allen's der man yu bet.
For Allen iss hear for to giff his boys cheer,
Ve've efery ding hear bud a skooner of beer,
Oh, its nod der zame olt blaze,
Yu kan ze it mine faze.
Mit foot balls und stake balls,
Base balls und round balls,
In deer Cholly-yet.

Sun's a-Shinin'

Written for The Joliet Prison Post

Keep a laughin', keep a chafin',
Chase de wrinkles off yer brow;
Git a joke off 'fore yu croak off
Wid de face yer wearin' now.
Wid yer grouch on an' yer slouch on
Yer a rummy lookin' jay!
Cut yer whinin', sun's a-shinin'—
Git yer fork an' make yer hay.

Back yer shoulders, grit yer moulders,
Git a gate an' take a climb;
Don't be balkin', keep a-walkin'—
Keep a-movin' all de time.
Show a feller dat no yeller
Streak is bobbin' 'round yer way;
Stop yer pinin', sun's a-shinin'—
Grab yer fork an' toss yer hay.

Kind o' tough, hey,—kind o' rough, hey,
In de inside lookin' out?
Grin an' take it as dey make it—
Be a gamey sort o' scout!
Git a hunch on, git a punch on,
I'm yer pardner every day;
Quit yer whinin', sun's a-shinin'—
Jab yer fork an' pile yer hay.

E. T. K.

PRESS OPINIONS AND REPRINTS

Warden Tynan's Views

"We are paying to the taxpayers of Colorado \$250,000 a year in road work," said Thomas Tynan, warden of the Colorado State Penitentiary. "In addition to that our cash earnings amount to \$32,000 from the sale of farm truck and stone from our quarries, and we are this year adding improvements of about \$200,000 value to the state penal institutions—all out of an appropriation of \$100,000 made for its maintenance."

"I select the men who are to go on the roads. We have an audience system under which any man confined in the penitentiary can secure an interview with me. He writes his request on an 'audience slip,' which is given to the jailor, and he has no trouble in getting to talk with me. Each Sunday I devote several hours to this phase of the work, and by that means I learn everything that is going on in the prison and the men come to me with their grievances.

"You have to sift men as you would sift flour. We must separate the sheep from the goats. Sixty per cent of the convicts can be worked out. They are put into camps of about fifty men each, under the supervision of an overseer and an assistant, neither of whom is armed, for the men are put on their honor. In some instances we have camps in the state under one overseer that are several hundred miles apart; yet we have few desertions, they amounting last year to only 11-5 per cent. And all those who run away are caught again and made to serve the maximum of their sentences inside—a rule that has a moral effect on would-be deserters.

"The men put in eight hours each day at hard labor. Then they are free to do what pleases them. If the camp be located near a stream, they may go fishing, provided they keep within certain bounds, and they are furnished with books and a phonograph. They may play ball if they wish or indulge in other athletic games.

"At the beginning of his camp life, if a man is not used to such work he is instructed to take it easy until he becomes inured to the work. Then he is required to do a good day's work, and if he does not, he is quietly told he will have

to do better, and if he persists in his recalcitration he is sent back to the penitentiary.

"Twenty-five per cent of our convicts worked on the roads are negroes, and they are the most trustworthy of all. Give a negro a chance to dig his way out of prison and he will do it—by working hard for a reduction in time. Another thing we find that is somewhat surprising at first is that one-third of our life-termers can be worked on the roads, for they realize that good work in this way for a period of years counts heavily in their favor before the board of pardons.

"We have built between 1,200 and 1,500 miles of state highways under this system at a cost of about \$389 per mile for labor. These roads are built of disintegrated granite and are fine boulevards—not ordinary roads. We are now driving a road through solid granite, sixteen feet wide and well surfaced, which costs us about \$1,000 per mile for labor, and that is the hardest kind of construction. The roads are maintained in good condition by the use of drags. They cost about \$4 apiece, and are effective in keeping the road well surfaced, if used after each heavy rain.

"The state does this work for the counties by furnishing a dollar in labor for each dollar that the county provides for road work. The money the state puts up is used to maintain the camps, an expense of 32c per day per man. It costs about \$5,000 to equip a camp; this was done in the first instance by a state appropriation providing for all the camps we proposed to establish. One or two since have been equipped by counties.

"The state highway commissioner, with the assistance of his engineers, lays out the roads to be improved, and then the county commissioners are notified that we are ready to help if they will furnish money in equal proportion.

"The system was first established six years ago. We started by employing armed guards, but soon found this was not satisfactory—the expense was too great and the men were disinclined to work. It is also interesting to note that when the guard system was employed we lost more men by desertion than we do at present, when we have no guards except an armed convict who patrols the camp at night.

"While we do not at present pay the men

anything for their work, I have been advocating the setting aside of a sum each day, which could be given to the families of married men for the family support during the prison term, or deposited to the credit of single men to aid them in making a new start at the time of their release.

"Eighty per cent of the men who leave our prisons now are making good citizens, after having had everything done to them that could be done. Those who run away from the camps, we find, are ones with other things hanging over them which they fear.

"This system does not interfere with free labor, nor take work from others. We are doing work that would not be done at all if this system were not in vogue, because we work only in those counties that have not the funds to employ free labor."

Mr. Tynan also described the rewards system as carried on inside the penitentiary among men not to be trusted with the road gangs, and which provides many humanities and indulgences for the convicts. He stated that under no circumstances should more than one man be confined in a cell, even in a "dark room," the use of which he deplored.

He criticised the fee system obtaining in western states and declared that city and county jails are but training schools for the penitentiary. "Each county jail should be a farm," he declared, "and each man should be taught something useful."

He declared that this system, or a similar one, could be used by Texas to put her convict farms on a self-supporting basis, citing as an illustration the fact that his men had worked an 800-acre farm under one superintendent for a period of one year, making a profit of \$20,000.—*News*, Galveston, Texas.



Missouri Prisons Competing With Russia

How the fear of being whipped drove ten political prisoners in a Russian stronghold in Siberia to try to commit suicide is told elsewhere in this issue. A few weeks ago, in one of our own state capitals, torture which, declares the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*, has been going on continuously for twenty days, drove a convict to make a false confession, in which he implicated

another convict, who was thereupon subjected to the same punishment which the first one had received.

Both prisoners were made to stand with their faces to the wall and their hands fastened in rings above their heads. They were not suspended, but they could do nothing to ease the strain on their muscles. An investigator who let himself be put in the "rings" begged to be taken out at the end of two minutes. It is a common thing in this prison to keep men in the "rings" for hours.

The prison is the Missouri state penitentiary at Jefferson City, the largest in the country, having 2,350 inmates.

Although the whipping post was made illegal some time ago, convicts are still whipped, the *Post-Dispatch* states, which has been making an exposure of conditions in the prison.

These facts about punishment have been admitted by the warden, D. C. McClung. He declines to discontinue the method, contending that it is the best he can devise. Before becoming warden, Mr. McClung was a clothing merchant in Jefferson City.

Punishment in the "rings" is used for all sorts of offenses. It is especially adapted to increasing the efficiency of the contract labor system which holds the prison in its grip. Over 1,600 men are said to be in the service of contractors, who pay the state 70 cents a day for each worker. If a convict does not finish his minimum stint each day, he is liable to be put in the "rings."

The uncovering of these conditions has called public attention to other evils. So congested is the prison—it is the only one in the state—that two, three and sometimes four men are crowded together in one cell. No provision is made for sports or exercise of any kind, other than that in the workroom, except on Christmas Day and the Fourth of July.

A grim phase of the present exposure has been the uncovering of a statute passed in 1907 providing that 5 per cent of the earnings of the prisoners should be set aside for the use of themselves and their dependents. Not a prisoner has received a cent of the money thus due him.

The abolition of stripes and a new system of granting paroles have brought some improvement recently, and it is expected that the present agitation will result in prohibiting the con-

tract labor system. A reformatory for first and young offenders is needed, and also a special reformatory for women.—*The Survey*, New York, N. Y.



Way to Employ Convicts in Texas and Make Roads

The *News*' dispatch from Austin reporting the closing of a contract whereby good roads district No. 1 of Smith county, Texas, is to have the use of fifty convicts is characterized as an experiment. It is hardly that, inasmuch as the same thing has been done in several states, many communities and for many years. Furthermore, the results in these other communities have been such as to prove that this is altogether a feasible method of employing convicts. This is not to say that the results have been always and everywhere satisfactory, for there have been failures enough to give plausibility to the arguments that have been made against this policy. But investigation has shown that the failures have been due to the mismanagement of those in administrative authority, and not to any inherent and incurable defect in the method itself. There is in every penitentiary a large number of convicts who, for one reason or another, can not be safely used in this way, but in every penitentiary there is perhaps an equal, if not a greater number, who can be employed in this way better than in any other. The most that may be said, by way of characterizing this contract, is that it constitutes an innovation as to Texas, but an innovation that, if fairly conducted, will become a practice, we believe.

As an innovation it is to be commended unqualifiedly, for if it should turn out well, as there is no reason that it should not, we shall be full set on a policy that will simplify, if not solve, a problem that has vexed us for many years. To the extent that it is practicable, this is not only the best way to use convict labor, but the ideal way. It gives such as are suitable for it the best possible employment. It keeps them in the open air and at a work that will not overtax the strength. Hence it is preferable to indoor employment and preferable even to farming, another form of outdoor employment; for farming does not permit a strict regulation of working hours. It is a form of employment which enables the convicts to en-

joy some share of the earnings, and thus either to help those who are dependent on them or accumulate a fund that will in some measure fortify them against the temptations that beset a released convict with peculiar seductiveness. And, finally, it is a form of employment which not only permits, but in a sense requires that the convict shall in some degree be put on trust. Some may abuse that trust; more, if those thus employed are wisely selected, will justify it, and in justifying it they will be exercising and strengthening their moral fibers, and thereby fitting themselves for the freedom they look forward to. Surely such results as these, even if they were only possible, must commend this method of employing convicts to those who bear in mind that reform is one of the highest ends of punishment.

Looked at from the economic standpoint this method of employing convicts is no less ideal. For one thing, it is the one method of using convict labor that brings it into least competition with free labor. Free labor does not seek road work when there is other work to do, and road work affords a smaller wage than most other kinds of work. Both their own welfare and the public interest require that convicts be kept at work, and here is a kind of work that satisfies that requirement perfectly, and yet without incurring the objection which is usually made for free labor. For when convicts are engaged in making roads, they compete with free labor in only a very negligible degree, if at all. Even more than this is to be said in favor of the policy of making this use of convicts. It is a policy of reducing the cost of roadmaking to a minimum, and in doing that it assures a more rapid extension of good roads mileage than we could otherwise expect, or even hope for. One has only to reflect on the incalculable economic and social benefits that accrue from good roads to be persuaded that if there were nothing else to urge this use of convicts it would be abundantly commended by this consideration alone. The benefits resulting from good roads would probably recompense the state for the cost of keeping the convicts even if they were not made self-supporting. In this way the convicts could not only be made to support themselves and profit themselves from their own labor, but they could be made to render, on these highly just terms, a public serv-

ice which atones for the injury they did to society.

It would hardly exaggerate this incident to call it epochal. Certainly it will be that if the results shall be what we think there is every reason to expect.—*News*, Galveston, Texas.



Prisons Neither Hells Nor Hotels, But Schools

The investigation at Moyamensing Prison is the outcropping of the public conscience toward the criminal. Poor food, poor cells, poor prison regulations are the incidental defects of a wrong doctrine of punishment. Whether there is a criminal class or not, it is clear that punishment is not revenge, but recovery. Chastisement means "to make clean." The soiled linen goes to the laundry and undergoes a severe process of cleansing, but this process is justified by the results. The linen comes out clean and white—such should be the ethical motive of punishment.

Vengeance never helped anybody. It does not belong to man to be vengeful. It is not the function of the courts to mete out vengeance. Punishment may require severity, but its end must be the remaking of the man. All true discipline is helpful—otherwise it is brutality. All surgery is hard, but health is its aim. Prisons are neither hells nor hotels, but schools.

Gradually we are awakening to the consciousness that we have been ill-treating humanity in the name of punishment. This awakening began with John Howard and Elizabeth Fry. Civilization has at last reached the prison cell, and in this way only may the occupant of the cell come back to civilization.—*Public Ledger*, Philadelphia, Pa.



It's Up to You

What are you going to do when you leave here? Oh, the joy of that moment when the warden calls you out of line and tells you to get shaved. Sleepless nights are forgotten, and all indignities suffered are forgiven, and you dress out. But what then? The avenue leads directly to town, and the town leads to what? You know. It certainly is a problem which must be solved before all who leave can be expected to make good. You leave here poorly equipped to fight the battle, but if you are sincere in purpose and if your experiences have taught you there is

nothing in being crooked and that the best you can do is the worst, then, and not until then, can you go out into the cruel, merciless world and make good.

There is never a time in a man's life when he must be dishonest. No, you don't need to go hungry either, but you must work. One who will not produce should not be a partaker. Of course this does not apply to people who, through misfortune, are physically unable to cope with life. But there are so many who think the world owes them a living, and proceed to steal it. Show me where you beat it from any angle, and I will admit that I am wrong.

Is not one's liberty and free agency worth more than all ill-gotten gains? It certainly is to me. Having tasted the bitter I want the sweet, and the only way to get it is to be a man. Make all around you recognize you as a man, and you will find it pays. It means a fight, but see how sweet the victory is. Was there ever anything of note accomplished that did not cost heart blood? Find the one that has gained that knowledge where he can say to all, "I am a man," and see if it was not gained by privation and sacrifice, and see too, if it could be purchased or otherwise obtained.

There are many roads for you to travel, but, my dear brother, there is only one safe one and that will have to be narrow. We must labor diligently and with patience, but the reward is great. We may not be able to enjoy all the little things we think are so necessary to us, nor be able to dress as nicely as some, but costly thy habits as thy purse can buy. Not expressed in fancy, rich, not gaudy, for while the clothes often proclaim the man, it does not necessarily make one, and if he stands as a man it will not be long before he is recognized as such. The past has gone, and no man knoweth what is in the future for him, so why worry? The ever present "Now" is the time to act. You can be the man of the hour in your own little world, and while you may never be a Napoleon, Washington, or a Lincoln, you will rise to heights you never even dreamed of. If we have taken to heart the lesson gained through our experience, we can go out into the world far better and wiser, for we are the ones that know, and knowing we can more easily avoid temptations

in the future and be of great help to our weaker brother.

It is said, "Opportunity knocks but once at a man's door," but I hardly agree, for it is in each of us to benefit by his experiences, for that is the mother of all learning. Opportunity, like time, never waits for anyone—we must be ready, and, if we are, there is no reason why we should not succeed, even if we have fallen once. There is now a good opportunity for all of us here to remodel our characters. Our old mould was faulty or why are we here?

We have abundant opportunity here to benefit ourselves to meet conditions that will exist when we again take our place among men. Let us be workers and not drones. We can live down the past, but we can not put anything over on the public. We must first stand 100 per cent perfect with ourselves.

To thine own self be true, and it must follow as the night the day, thou canst not then be false to any man.—*Lend a Hand.*



Day School at Joliet Prison

A school for convicts taught by convicts has passed the experimental stage at the Illinois penitentiary here. It was organized by Chaplain A. J. Patrick last summer and attendance is voluntary, but any convict who expresses the desire to attend the school is excused from other employment while the classes he enters are in session.

The principal is a Harvard man and has an Annapolis Naval Academy diploma. He is serving a sentence of from one to fourteen years for forging a check for \$3.—*Saturday Blade*, Chicago.



Ball Park for Prisoners

Having proved that penitentiary convicts can be put upon their honor and sent outside the prison walls without guards to do road construction work, Thomas Tynan, progressive warden of the Colorado penitentiary, proposes to go a step farther and build an amusement park for the prisoners. This plan is proposed to furnish more adequate outdoor amusement for convicts who are not in the "trusty" class and have not gained the privileges accorded prisoners who work in the road camps. In an

exclusive statement today, Warden Tynan discussed the plan as follows:

"While our 'trusty' prisoners have plenty of outdoor exercise in the way of sports, we have never been able heretofore to take care, in the same way, of prisoners not considered trustworthy. I have decided to create an outdoor amusement park for this class of men. We are now constructing a wall about a six-acre enclosure back of the prison, where such men can play baseball or indulge in other sports during their leisure hours.

"Of course, we have in the prison chapel the regular motion picture shows, yet there are a great many men, who are employed in our cell houses, prison shops, boiler-room, etc., who do not get enough exercise.

"It has long been my theory, and I think it has proved correct from the experience we have had with men in our road camps, that it is hard to build up a man morally or to strengthen his character without first building him up physically. We purchased all the buildings of the Fremont County Fair Association and are placing a grandstand in this inclosure for the use of the prisoners. There will be an opening to this enclosure, to what is known as the south gate of the prison, which opens onto the street, and one portion of the grandstand can be used by the public to see ball games or other athletic amusements participated in by the prisoners.

"The main feature will be that men, after completing their tasks for the day, will be allowed to go into the park for such exercise as will do them the most good. Each prisoner in the institution will be provided with an honor button and will be allowed to have access to the park during his leisure hours, so long as his behavior is what it should be. Should he violate any of the rules of the institution, he will be deprived of his button and will not have access to the park.

"We found, when we installed the motion picture apparatus at the institution, that it helped us to keep discipline, for the reason that men who violated rules were excluded from the picture exhibitions for all the way from three to six months. I feel that with the park in operation it will not only add to the efficiency of the work of the men, but it will have a tendency to reduce violations of the prison rules.

"Of course, our men in the road camps are well provided for in this way, and they constitute half of our prison population, but I have felt the need of something of this kind at the institution for a long time, and with the co-operation of the penitentiary commissioner, we are endeavoring during this year to put this park in operation."—*Star*, Peoria, Ill.



Luxuries for Honor Men

Columbus, Ohio, Feb. 5.—Ohio's "make men" policy, now governing what was formerly the most notorious State penitentiary in the country, will advance another step in a few days, when Warden P. E. Thomas will open his "hotel" for "perfect record" prisoners. One hundred and twenty yeggs, burglars, porch climbers, pickpockets, "bad men," embezzlers and plain thieves with "clean records" will be removed from their cells to a roomy, well-ventilated dormitory.

Every one of them will sleep at night in a comfortable iron bed of the hospital type; will have a locker, a bag, roomy rocking chair, a plain oak stand, and an electric drop light. A prison bar won't be in sight. After the day's work is done and the prisoner disrobes for the night he will neatly crease his gray regulation trousers, hang his coat on a hanger and place the apparel in a steel locker built for the purpose. On an upper shelf he will find his clean clothing and in a lower compartment he may deposit his shoes and draw forth a pair of bedroom slippers, seat himself in a big rocking chair, light his pipe and under the rays of his adjustable electric lamp read the latest papers and books.—*Saturday Blade*, Chicago.



Pampering Prisoners

In recent years along with all that has been said and done to better prison conditions, there has been as much said against such reforms. These antagonistic ideas can be summed up under the one head, used contemptuously and sarcastically, "pampering prisoners," and are, for the most part, advanced by demagogic politicians, narrow-minded journalists and ignorant or vicious officials, but regardless of their origin these ideas find a fertile field in the mind of the average taxpayer who asks himself why should

he be taxed to keep violators of the laws of the land in even comfort? They decide with but little thought that they should not be taxed, and when a new and advanced idea for the real reform of prison affairs is mentioned, they oppose it.

Here and there, but of the great general public, comparatively few, you will find a man who will ask: What are prisons for? Are they for the purpose of revenge or of reformation? Are they for the purpose of aiding fallen man to be a man again or for the purpose of damning him forever? Do they make worthy members of society or make enemies of law and of order? This thoughtful man will consider the enormous expense the State now goes to in protecting itself from the criminal, and he usually decides that the present system of handling the prisoner, in the majority of prisons, is radically wrong; but how can it be remedied. He certainly decides in this connection that men convicted of crime should not be pampered and live in luxury, and from the prisoners' standpoint *Good Words* can say that prisoners are the last people in the world who wish to be pampered. They do not belong to that class of people pink teas appeal too, and they prefer good soup to ice cream.

The question though can be asked: Why should not prisons offer an opportunity for self-culture and improvement, instead of being, as is the case in many prisons, the very hot-beds for the conservation and intensification of criminal tendencies, and for the organization of criminal enterprises? Nevertheless, there are now a few prisons conducted as far as the law and regulations will permit, where good results along the line of reformation and redemption of the prisoner may be confidently looked for, nor is there any doubt that these will be increased as the elements in the situation emerge and are recognized. These prisons are under the management of men who never dream of pampering prisoners, but who think of what the men under them will be when they are released and free to roam and do as their minds dictate.

The crowning curse of the prison system has been, and still is in some states, the convict lease system. Under it nothing but misery and degradation can come. The knell of this system has been sounded and its doom sealed, but the idea still prevails in most prisons that they are for

the purpose of punishment and "getting even," instead of reclaiming those unfortunates who have fallen by the way, and with this idea in the mind of the prison officials, prisoners are not made useful members of society, but instead are made confirmed and hardened criminals. The writer, has no thought of pampering when he suggests that prisons should be regarded as a place for withholding a man temporarily from the companionship of evil-doers and from his own worse self. Why should not the object of a prison be to preserve and build up rather than destroy the prisoner's manhood and self-respect, to teach him that potentialities for good are dormant and may be awakened in him and to afford him every available means for their awakening and development? Instead of despair and resentment as cell-companions he should be given rational hope for the future and intelligent interest in practical means for rehabilitating himself. Then his hours of solitude will not be spent in cursing his fate and plotting revenge on his enemies—real or imaginary—but he will take stock of his own instruments for useful co-operation with the world's work, in polishing those he finds that he possesses, and in acquiring such as would complete his equipment. Here, the prison authorities can come to his aid by supplying him with work commensurate with and suitable to his special powers and proclivities; and paying him for this work such wages as will give him heart to do it as well as he can, and will leave him a visible residue after the cost of his own support has been defrayed. The library should be arranged so as to furnish special books and courses of reading in various branches of science and industry. He should have substantial and palatable food, and the sanitary conditions should be of the best.

Evil deeds committed by normal man carry with them their own immutable punishment and the very acme of suffering is often reached before the term in prison commences—even if it is in the worst of prisons. Let our jails then be hospitals for human weakness and depravity, and send forth their patients strengthened instead of weakened for the further battle that awaits them. The whole problem of prison punishment is a complicated one, but the sentence which Dante inscribes over the gates of Hell—"All hope abandon, ye who enter here!"—should not be written

over the doors of our prisons. This inscription can be left off without "pampering prisoners."—*Good Words*, Atlanta, Ga.



The Superlative in Stupidity

The prisoners are not allowed to write letters until they have been incarcerated two months. After that they are permitted to write only once a month. They can be visited only once a month—the visit, of course, being in the presence of an official—and they must not come in contact with the visitor, as by an embrace or handshake. They must not speak to one another at all, except during fifteen minutes each day.

They must not even smile at one another. For smiling, a prisoner is made to stand in the corner, face to the wall, until the foul crime is burned and purged away. During the precious fifteen minutes they may speak only to those sitting next to them in the workroom; they cannot move from their seats to speak to someone at a little distance.

Such are conditions in the women's prison at Auburn, N. Y., as described in *The Survey* by two female investigators who got themselves locked up for the purpose of finding out; but their equivalents can be found in scores of other penal institutions.

Just what a state thinks it will gain by maintaining an elaborate machine for dehumanizing prisoners, carefully squeezing every drop of human interest and sympathy out of them, we are unable to imagine. We expect the state is also unable to imagine.—*Saturday Evening Post*.



Pointless Punishments

Governor Foss reports that over ten thousand persons were imprisoned in the Bay State last year for debt—that is, because they were unable to pay the small fines imposed on them; and he opined that the total commitments, numbering something over twenty-seven thousand, must have brought financial disaster to fifty thousand persons, many of whom were innocent children. Two-thirds of all commitments to penal institutions were made for drunkenness or in default of fines imposed for drunkenness.

Now what earthly good does anybody derive from putting a drunkard in jail? It would be

far simpler, far less expensive to the state, and incomparably better for the culprit and the culprit's family if the court, instead of sending him to jail for a week or a fortnight, merely kicked him three times in the ribs. He might be lame for a day, yet he could return to work with only a small loss of time; and the magisterial assault on his ribs would have at least as much effect in weaning him from a career of inebriety as a jail sentence does.

And no man should be locked up because he cannot pay a fine, until he has been given a fair opportunity to earn the money and discharge the debt. Where a man's culpability is so light that the state is willing to accept a small sum of money in acquittance, imprisonment should be the very last resort.

The truth is that at least two times out of three—as the Massachusetts statistics show—we send a man to jail because we do not know anything rational to do with him and will not take the pains to find out.—*Saturday Evening Post*.



Pushing the Booher-Hughes Bill

"The development of convict road work in practically every state of the union will be the natural outcome of the passage of the Booher-Hughes bill, now pending before congress, according to the American Automobile Association.

"This bill which will limit interstate commerce in convict-made goods by subjecting such goods to the laws of the state into which they come will strike a fatal blow at the contract system," states the prison committee.

"Under this pernicious system great quantities of prison-made goods are annually thrown on the open market, and because of the cheapness of their manufacture are sold at prices far below those at which similar goods manufactured under fair conditions can be sold. A cutting of the selling price of goods manufactured in free factories and a consequent lowering of the wage paid free workingmen is the consequence.

"Against this unfair competition organized labor has waged unceasing warfare, striving to overcome it by limiting the output of the prisons. Laws requiring the branding of convict-made goods and also a license for their sale have been written on the statute books of New York and a dozen other states. These laws, when tested

by the courts, have invariably been held unconstitutional on the ground that they interfered with interstate commerce. The Booher-Hughes bill has therefore been introduced into congress and is supported by the American Federation of Labor and the national committee on prison labor. This bill is modeled after the Wilson liquor law which restricts interstate commerce in spirituous liquors, and it is hoped in the event of its passage that the state branding and licensing laws will be possible of enforcement.

"New York city has long been the dumping ground for convict-made goods and once it is possible to enforce the New York branding laws, the profits to be derived from prison contracts will be reduced to a minimum. So great is the contractor's fear of the effect of such legislation as the Booher-Hughes bill that many contracts contain the proviso that on its passage they shall immediately become null and void.

"The destruction of the contract system would necessitate the building up of other systems for the employment of convicts. In the constructive program which would be worked out in each of the state's road work, indorsed as it is by the national committee on prison labor and other agencies for prison reform, would play a large part. The passage of the Booher-Hughes convict labor bill is therefore of definite importance to all interested in the movement for placing convicts on the public roads," concludes the statement issued by the American Automobile Association committee on prison labor.—*Record*, Fort Worth, Texas.



Real Prison Reform

We have heard quite a lot about "Great Meadows" prison reform; now we will give you some real and substantial reforms. In North Dakota we have grading and merit systems, the inmates are compensated for their labor to the sum of not less than 10 nor more than 25 cents per day, and all over ten hours is known as overtime work, for which the men receive 10 cents per hour. We have known men in this prison to make as much as \$50 in two months as overtime money. We have no prison rules, only those that are laid down by the statute books of the state; we have the best equipped cell house in the United States, the dining-room is equipped

with tables and tablecloths, the men walk in, take their seats and eat their meals the same as any other civilized man, the old relic of refusing the man in prison the privilege of speech is a thing of the past in this state, there is only one place in this prison where a man is not allowed to talk, and that is at chapel service, and any man with any self-respect will not want to talk there. We have a moving picture machine for entertainment purposes, we have a baseball team in the summer months, and not only play among ourselves, but go outside and play with outside teams; we have been as far as forty-two miles away from the institution to play an outside team. We have a life-term man herding cattle who is from one to ten miles away from the institution every day on horseback; we have a life-term man as the warden's chauffeur; this man goes all over the country in a high-power machine, sometimes not returning until 3 a. m. in the morning. When a man wishes to have his teeth fixed, or has any kind of sickness that he does not care to have the prison physician attend to, and has the money to pay expenses, he is sent to the best doctor in Bismarck for treatment. This is what we call prison reform. And for fear that some that read this article may think that Warden Talcott is giving the men too much privilege, we want to state right here that all of the privilege that is in the gift of the warden and Board of Control we receive. And what are the consequences? You never hear of any more assaults upon officers by inmates, you never hear of a fight between an inmate and his fellow worker, a thing that was an everyday occurrence not more than twelve months ago. The factory is running fifteen hours a day, the twine is better, because the men take an interest in their work; the report blanks of the officers are clear; seldom does a report have to be turned in.—*The Reflector*, Bismarck, N. D.



Rights of the Criminal

We have been shamefully neglecting our criminals until very recently. After hunting, convicting and imprisoning them, we have seemed to feel that our whole duty to them and society was ended. We forgot not only the duty we owed ourselves, which the words of President Hayes

well pointed out, but we forgot the duty we owed the man from whom we had taken liberty.

Depriving him of liberty, we hastened to assume, deprived him of all rights. Not so. Even a man condemned to death possesses certain rights. Especially does the ordinary convict possess rights which do not belong to the man who has never been convicted of a crime. For, in depriving him of his powers of initiative, we assume those powers. Therefore it is his right that he should receive from us the proper exercise of those powers of which we have deprived him.—*Century Magazine*.



Honor System in Ohio

"There's a spark of good in every man; the 'blood will tell' idea is bosh; if a man isn't a thorough criminal he can be trusted; normal men have honor and they can be relied upon to a certain extent, some more, some less." Thus prefacing an explanation of Ohio's new "make man" policy, Warden P. E. Thomas, the first expert criminologist ever in charge of Ohio's famous old penitentiary, told the United Press correspondent that the honor system among convicts is a success. Warden Thomas has experimented with the honor system in Ohio a little over a year today. Here are a few plain facts about the system as explained by the warden:

About 350 men are working in the open air on their honor. A big percentage of the men are building roads for the state. Guards aren't needed; an overseer bosses the work. The largest per cent of "honor men" are life termers. They wear blue overalls like ordinary laborers and have Sunday clothes. They go to church on Sundays. They work eight hours a day. They are paid five cents an hour; ninety per cent goes to their dependents, the rest to them. Less than one per cent have tried to escape in a year. Honor men have all served from one to fifteen years behind bars.

"The long term men are best," said Warden Thomas. And Warden Thomas is said to know his men from "A to Z." "Criminals are classified in four divisions," declared the warden. "They are the feeble minded, criminal by choice; criminal by circumstances and criminal by environment. The theory that 'blood will tell; like father like son,' is all wrong. Men are good for

three reasons: Those of higher mentality do right because it is right to do right; a second class do right through hope of reward; a third class do right through fear of punishment." It is the first and second divisions from which Warden Thomas recruits his honor men. Warden Thomas has accomplished other things aside from succeeding with his honor men. He has eliminated stripes and substituted a light grey material for prison uniforms; abolished inhuman punishments, such as water cures, chain stringings and whippings; put into operation the theory that a full stomach contributes to discipline; built new and better ventilated cells and established a dormitory for "good" prisoners where several hundred of them will soon have their own tables, chairs and beds with no bars in sight.—*Telegraph News*, Atlanta, Iowa.



The Honor System and Bullets

The honor system, so highly praised by penologists as the most enlightened way of dealing with prisoners in penal institutions, cannot be a complete success in prisons which restrain such desperate criminals as Chicago produces. Bold men who frequently have risked their lives in lawless enterprises are not likely to be less timid in facing death when freedom from legal bondage is the reward. Such incidents as the one yesterday at Joliet, where a prisoner was shot while trying to escape, do much to hinder prison reform.

When Warden Allen assumed control of Joliet penitentiary, last year, he went to Colorado and other states and investigated the application of the honor system. On his return he announced his enthusiastic belief in the reform, and he has been applying the most humane methods in governing the great state penitentiary, if reports represent the true facts. Every prisoner has been given his chance and is being trusted as he shows himself worthy of trust. The convicts who worked on the public highways last fall did so practically without restraint or guard, and they remained at their posts.

Kindness works wonders among normal men, but a large percentage of the prisoners in a penal institution are not normal. For such there must always be walls, bars and bullets. The act of two prisoners should not be sufficient to cause Warden Allen to dismiss as entirely impractical his

humane system. It should, however, convince him that the armed guard is as necessary for one class of prisoners as kindness for the other, and that a constant show of firmness may prevent the necessity of killing.—*News*, Springfield, Ill.



Humanity Toward Prisoners

When Superintendent Peyton of the Indiana Reformatory brought a boy prisoner to Governor Ralston with the argument that the lad would be harmed more than helped by serving his long sentence, he offered an illustration of the new element that is entering into the official treatment of offenders against the law and society, namely, the humane spirit, the friendly personal touch.

Thomas Mott Osborne, member of the New York State Prison committee, recently spent a week in Auburn Prison in the role of a convict for the purpose of learning how the condition of the inmates might be bettered. He was following out the same idea. The result of his observations is now shown in certain recommendations, the most important one of which is the absolute indeterminate sentence for crime—all crime. The only safe ground on which to build a prison, he says, is the principle of the reformation of the prisoner. He adds:

We can not and never will be able to tell just how guilty any man really is, because we can not look into his soul. As to a theory of prisons based on the deterrent effect they may have we are just as hopelessly off. It never will be possible to tell whether or not we are deterring a person from crime. Reformation is the only safe ground because it is the economic attitude toward the problem. It is the principle of keeping men from coming back to jail.

Dr. Katherine Bement Davis, the new commissioner of correction in New York, is proceeding on the same principle when she does away with striped suits and bedticking dresses for prisoners; when she demands more space for the prison pens in justices' courts, and plans for better ventilation and less crowding in the Tombs Prison. The same humane and enlightened spirit was manifested by Judge Collins, former judge of the Indianapolis Police Court, when he gave thousands of men and women a chance to reform by granting them freedom under suspended sentence or by applying the probation system.

It remains true, of course, that certain persons must be held under restraint for the good of so-

ciety, but the principle that every man should have a chance to reform and that he can not do it unless conditions be favorable—unless he is treated as a human being—is none the less sound. Even the worst offender is entitled to feel that he is not without a friend, and the right of convicts to kindness from their more fortunate fellow beings is the greater in that the most of the derelicts are weaklings and need a helping hand on that account.—*Star*, Indianapolis, Ind.



Uncle Sam Gives Free Legal Aid to Prisoners

Through the efforts of Warden Morgan and the United States district attorney, Fred Robertson, the department of justice has been persuaded to provide free legal aid for all convicts who are unable to provide their own attorney in preparing writs of habeas corpus. A bulletin announcing this fact will be posted in the prison shortly.

According to the new ruling, a prisoner who believes himself entitled to release on a habeas corpus writ may write to the district attorney, enclosing a copy of the indictment and commitment papers. After examining the papers, should Mr. Robertson decide that the man has any case at all, an attorney will be appointed who will prepare a petition of habeas corpus.

Mr. Robertson, appearing for the government, will respond to the petition before Judge Pollock, while the special attorney appointed will appear for the prisoner. As to whether the attorney representing the prisoner will receive compensation, Warden Morgan does not know. If he should, the money will be provided by the court.

Warden Morgan and Mr. Robertson decided definitely upon this reform while attending the Bryan banquet at Topeka. The Department of Justice gave its consent immediately.

"It undoubtedly will cause no end of trouble," said Warden Morgan yesterday, "as many men who have no case at all will want to take advantage of the new rule. But I am willing to withstand whatever discomfort it may cause me, in order to give those who are entitled to release an opportunity to present their case in the proper manner before the proper authority.

"Think of having men come up before you and say that another man, whose case was simi-

lar to theirs had been released simply because he had \$25 or \$35 to employ an attorney. In many cases that was true. Yet a person could do nothing."

Several prisoners have prepared their own writs, but none have been released, as there was always some technical error which made it impossible to obtain a release. Errors on commitment papers or indictments provided liberty for some men, and others on whose papers the same errors appeared were unable to obtain freedom, on account of poverty.—*Times*, Leavenworth, Kan.



Bridewell Labor

The announcement that after May 1 the contract system of disposing of the prison labor in the bridewell will be abolished, and that earnings of a man serving a sentence, after maintenance charges have been deducted, will go to his dependents, is encouraging. The misuse of prison labor has long been a blot upon the community. It thrived not because there was any merit or justice in it, but because certain politicians and their friends had to make easy money at the expense of the public some way.

There is much work to be done for the city that can be done by the prisoners in the bridewell. They can manufacture a number of articles and materials for which the city now goes to private employers.

Aside from the financial saving to the community, however, the abolition of prison labor contracts is certain to elevate the tone of the prisoner. He is likely to come out a better man after his term in the bridewell has expired. The self-respect which comes from being employed at useful labor and of getting the prevailing rate of wages is incalculable. It has proven so in other states.—*Tribune*, Chicago.



Prison Made Harness

Despite the protests of Missouri harnessmakers, the State Prison Board has closed contracts for working 225 convicts at harness manufacturing in the penitentiary workshops at Jefferson City. The contracts are for two years, which fact makes the harness industry of this state

face competition of the most ruinous character until the close of 1915.

This is a disgraceful action on the part of the state. It is undermining an industry in which hundreds of thousands of dollars capital are invested in St. Joseph, Kansas City, St. Louis, Springfield and other Missouri towns, and which provides employment for about the same number of actual bench and machine workers as will now do this labor in prison. However, far more employes are affected, for the prison-produced harness will also harm the traveling salesmen, clerks and stenographers now having profitable employment with the concerns whose business is thus made to suffer.

It will be a year before the people can get a chance at the Missouri prison contract system. It will be another year before the present contracts, closed last week, come to an end. But the expiration of these agreements should mark the abolition of the whole disreputable system.—*Gazette*, St. Joseph, Mo.



Prison Labor in New Jersey

Gradually, but surely, New Jersey is working towards a solution of the prison labor problem.

Three camps have been established and about one hundred prisoners from the state prison at Trenton are demonstrating the value of this work. The first camp was located last summer on the Newton-Andover state road in Sussex county, where the problem is to rebuild a state highway by widening the road, taking out a number of sharp curves, building bridges and laying suitable drains.

Camp No. 2 was established late in November, on Mt. Lucas, one mile from Rocky Hill and three miles from Princeton. The job here is to transform a very old and isolated farm road into a state highway from Princeton to Somerville. The camp is located in an isolated spot on a rockyridge, where there is much rock work, grading and filling to be done. The Rocky Hill camp at present consists of one building, built by the prisoners, 36x72 feet in size, with accommodations for thirty-five cots for the convicts and quarters for the officers. A mess hall adjoining contains kitchen and dining tables, with a storage cellar underneath. Suitable frame buildings have been set up for stable and shop purposes.

The third experiment is the state farm of 1,000 acres, lying two miles east of Leesburg, in the southern end of Cumberland county. This is pioneer work. The ground is covered with a growth of pine timber and much shrub and underbrush growth. The thirty-five prisoners there have been clearing more than an acre a day of this heretofore unused land. When the roots are grubbed out, the land will be ready for the planting of crops next spring. It is virgin soil and will produce bountiful crops. As this farm is to be a permanent thing, the present temporary buildings of frame construction, the lumber being obtained on the farm, will be replaced by brick buildings.

It is possible that the two road camps and the state farm will develop sufficiently to give employment to something like two hundred or two hundred and fifty convicts.

Another step in the program of employing state convicts is to be taken at an early date in demonstrating the use of prisoners in building county roads.

The freeholders of Salem county have agreed to undertake this under the direction of the state highway commissioner. They have purchased two acres of land as a site for a convict camp. The road to be constructed lies between Elmer and Malaga, in the eastern part of Salem county.—*The New Jersey Review*, Newark, N. J.



Legislation in Massachusetts

Nineteen bills dealing with the prison system of the Commonwealth are pending before the Legislature. They provide the new legislation which their author, the chairman of the Board of Prison Commissioners, believes to be essential to a humane and commonsense administration of Massachusetts prisons. His record in the West and his year of service here show Mr. Randall to be a conservative with ideals, who knows his problem, not through hearsay but by first-hand study. He suggests no legislative experiments. His recommendations are founded upon experience in other States and a searching examination of local conditions.

The last one of the Randall prison bills ought to pass. They are the nineteen necessities of this session. They make up a well-rounded program

of practical prison management. Their provisions reflect the experience of the past and the spirit of the present. When enacted into law we should no longer be humiliated by conditions in county prisons now beyond the control of the Commonwealth. These must be merged into a few State institutions so situated and administered that they are no longer breeding places for crime, but restore while they restrict, and not merely preach but teach rules of right living. We shall also end the iniquitous practice of jailing men without their day in court—for what else can we say of a system under which men too poor to hire counsel are sentenced without any pretense at defence? One of the pending bills provides for the designation of counsel by the Court in such cases.

In all jails and reformatories the delinquents must be segregated and adequate provision made for those suffering from tuberculosis. Needy and deserving prisoners who are discharged should not be turned loose and helpless upon a hostile community. To provide means by which prisoners can earn enough to pay the State for their keep and lay aside a little for their helpless families is in the long run governmental economy, as well as ordinary humanity. There are other provisions in the pending bills equally meritorious.

Unless Governor Walsh seriously disappoints the hopes of many of his well wishers he will make these nineteen necessities of the session the subject of a special message at an early day, and the Legislature will fail of its duty and fly in the face of an enlightened public opinion if it refuses to write these bills into the law before adjournment. The public expects the governor and the Legislature to work together and promptly to this end.—*Transcript*, Boston, Mass.



Intra-Mural Schools

Through the efforts of the *Baltimore News* the Maryland penitentiary, which was considered a model up to two years ago, has been thoroughly overhauled and an end put to the numerous glaring evils that existed. Constructive work has also been done, and one of the most successful innovations is the establishment of a system of intramural education, presided over by a

superintendent, who is himself a convict, and taught by volunteer prisoners who are educated. The superintendent of the school has written a series of five articles, which have appeared in the *News*, showing the astonishing progress made by the adult students. A Chinaman, 66 years old, for instance, after four months in the school, can now speak, read and write English in a measurably fair degree. Another student who could neither read nor write was able to pen a letter, after six months' instruction, that would do credit to any business man. A black-hand convict learned, in a few months, to write a legible hand, and gives a sample of his work in a letter to his wife. Another convict who could neither read nor write learned the art in six or seven months so well that he could write a letter home to his wife and children. Facsimiles of these letters are given, and also samples of the first exercises, where the novice was given a pen and told to make straight, vertical or slanting lines and other foundation figures on which the alphabet is built. The intramural school is doing a great work. It keeps the minds of the students profitably employed. Monotony is destroyed and the rays of intelligence are permitted to penetrate the darkened intellects of the unfortunates, who are thus given a broader and a clearer view of life, and are enabled to see beyond the mere brutish environment of the days of their ignorance. Other states could adopt this educational method with much profit. Ignorance is no crime, but ignorance is the cause of most crimes. Instructed men often become criminals, but the percentage is very small, as compared to the number of criminals who are held in the bonds of ignorance.—*Scimitar*, Memphis, Tenn.



He Played Safe

The juror who told the court that while he had no objection to capital punishment his wife had, and should he vote to find a man guilty of murder in the first degree, his wife would look upon him as but little better than the murderer, had to stand the laugh of others in the courtroom. Be that as it may, he was a good family man, who placed his home life above everything else.—*Examiner*, Chicago.

A Prisoner's Mail

It is very easy to account for crime in the United States if the daily newspapers exert the malign influence that many prison authorities attribute to them. In sixteen states—as appears from an inquiry conducted by the parole clerk of the Arizona state prison—inmates of penitentiaries are not permitted to see any daily paper.

It would be very interesting to examine these prisoners on their release for the purpose of finding out how much their moral attributes have been purified and strengthened by some years of careful isolation from the degrading daily press. We might then know whether the restriction is really worth while.

What good reason is there for any restriction of a prisoner's mail—except to see that drugs, weapons and the like are not delivered to him? Restriction is the rule, however, rather than the exception. In most states a prisoner may write only one letter a month or one a fortnight—or possibly one a week. In a prisoner's situation, what influence is likely to be more humanizing than letters?

These mail restrictions belong to the era—only now beginning to pass away—when the object of prison discipline was frankly to crush and dehumanize.—*Saturday Evening Post*.



Honor Men Made Good in Nebraska

One year ago today Warden Fenton took up his duties at the Nebraska penitentiary. During the year he has organized the work at the prison in many ways. The honor system has been used among the convicts, both in and out of the prison. At some times fifty men have been working in various parts of Lancaster county, unattended by guards and making no effort to escape. Not one prisoner has escaped from the penitentiary itself during the year. Warden Fenton is pleased with the spirit of co-operation which exists between the prison officials and the convicts. He says that most of the prisoners are assisting the authorities in maintaining order and that they realize that every effort to help them is being made. The suppression of the dope traffic is one of the reforms which Warden Fenton feels has been the most important act of his administration.—*State Journal*, Lincoln, Neb.

Honor System Not at Fault

All friends of humane administration of prisons will hope that the tragedy in the Oklahoma state penitentiary at McAlester will not cause a reaction in favor of rigid discipline and the depriving of all convicts of the privileges of the honor system. The quadruple murder at McAlester, at this length of time from its occurrence, shocks all who contemplate the details. The assistant deputy warden, the disciplinarian, was killed because he preferred to risk his own life to risking that of a young woman stenographer whom the escaping desperadoes used as a shield. The killing of a visitor in the office of the warden appears to have been an act of mere wantonness, as he had his hands in the air and was begging for his life. The assumption that he was mistaken for the warden is improbable, for the warden was personally known to every convict and he bore not the slightest resemblance, it is said, to Judge Thomas.

The insurrection in the Oklahoma prison, the reckless sacrifice and the utter disregard for human life displayed by the imprisoned men in seeking liberty from restraint, may result in much harm to the honor system, but it is hardly fair, after that, to charge to all prisoners the faults perhaps belonging to a comparatively few among their number.

And yet, it is for the prisoners in the several states to demonstrate that they are worthy of being trusted—that they have not fallen so low that honor has departed—before they can expect very general favor from their keepers.—*Times*, Racine, Wis.



Why Prison Mutinies Occur

Discussing the causes which produce the incidents such as occurred at the McAlester penitentiary the other day, resulting in the sacrifice of seven lives, the *McAlester News-Capital* pertinently remarks:

The great defect in the management and control of the Oklahoma penitentiary is the lack of employment for the prisoners, and this is no fault of the warden, as he has repeatedly urged upon the governor and the state legislature that the prisoners be given employment. He has built the institution with their labor, placed a 2,000-acre farm in a high state of cultivation and busied his brain in finding something for them to do. He is now almost at the end of his resources in finding employment for the prisoners. There is not

any money with which to work them successfully upon the public highways, and it has been demonstrated that they cannot be farmed out to the different counties of the state without too large a percentage of escapes.

The *News-Capital* has sized the situation up quite correctly. Idleness breeds crime, and crime begets desperate characters.

We have approximately 1,500 convicts in the McAlester institution, principally doing nothing. Our constitution forbids their employment as coal miners. The legislature, to date, has failed of making adequate provision for their employment at any useful or remunerative occupation. Aside from the work which Warden Dick has found for them to do in the construction of the penitentiary buildings and the cultivation of the prison farm, they have had little else to do than hold their hands.

It is but fair to state that the new prison board is already active in the matter of finding employment for the convicts. It has purchased some machinery lately and purposes putting a number of them to work in getting out granite for use in state buildings. But its hands are largely tied for the want of funds with which to do.

The next legislature, in spite of the general demand for economy in expenditures, should not fail of providing means with which to put every convict to work in some useful occupation. This thing of convicting men of crime and then maintaining them in wanton idleness is about as poor a piece of business as one is apt to find in a protracted search for popular follies.—*Oklahoman*, Oklahoma City, Okla.



Convict Labor Suggestion

From Virginia comes another suggestion for the useful and profitable employment of convicts who are made idle by the abolition of prison labor. The state purposes using the men in preparing limestone for use on impoverished farms. Thus the limestone will enrich the land, instead of being pulverized by horseshoes and rubber tires on rapidly disintegrating roads, and better material may be sought for the building of hard roads.

For some time there was doubt concerning the state's right to make this use of its convicts. When it undertook the experiment, certain man-

ufacturers of fertilizers objected. They got out an injunction and the industry was tied up until the courts could act on the subject. Recently it was decided that pulverizing limestone for use on worn-out lands is a legitimate line of industry for convicts to follow.

If the tendency to seek out new lines of employment for prisoners continues, it is possible that they will yet become useful factors in the industrial scheme; this, too, without seriously interfering with established trades.—*Dispatch*, Moline, Ill.



Trouble Ahead

Truck raisers around Nashville are making a strong protest against the suggestion that a part of Baxter farm be used for raising truck. They will appear this afternoon before the prison committee to protest against it. The committee has adopted the governor's suggestion that the honor system be used among convicts who will work the Baxter farm, and this system will be put in operation.—*News*, Chattanooga, Tenn.



Army Measure Passed by Senate

On February 9 a bill passed the Senate of the United States by unanimous vote, providing a revision of the articles of war—the military law of the United States, that has stood unchanged since 1806—and designed to make the soldier guilty of purely military offenses an object of reformatory discipline instead of a penitentiary convict, with the stamp of the criminal upon him.—*Inter Ocean*, Chicago.



The Prison's Twin Curses

Speaking before the City Club of St. Louis with the authority and detailed knowledge of a former Charities and Corrections Commissioner, Rabbi Bernstein declared that the State's methods in dealing with the practical problem of the convicted wrongdoer are a quarter of a century behind the times. On the one hand, the penitentiary exemplifies the worst evils of political control. On the other hand, it is a thoroughly commercialized institution under the contract labor system, as unjust to convict as to free labor.

Of antiquated construction and execrable physical appointments, mismanaged by reaction-

any penologists of narrow experience, turned into a school of crime by the impossibility of separating first offenders from hardened enemies of society and cursed by the twin evils of politics and that unscrupulous form of big business which exploits the labor of unfortunate inmates, the penitentiary presents no features in which intelligent, big-hearted Missourians can feel any pride.

The rabbi's description should assist in rousing the State to an appreciation of the true facts. The greedy prison contractors must be thrown out and along with them incompetent, uncomprehending, cruel officials. The autonomy of the penitentiary, of all reformatory and philanthropic institutions, from the machine must be proclaimed.

The next great movement on which Missourians engage must be a thoroughgoing reform of the entire corrections and charities system of the State.—*Post-Dispatch*, St. Louis, Mo.



Prisoners Resist Law for Operation

Fort Madison, Iowa, Feb. 18.—Inmates of the state penitentiary here today prepared to resist through the courts the enforcement of the Iowa law providing for the sterilization of insane, diseased and criminal wards of the commonwealth. A test case will be filed in the District court by R. A. Ryan, a convict.—*Journal*, Chicago.



Farm for Women Prisoners

Kansas City, Mo., Jan. 24.—Women municipal prisoners soon will be permitted to spend their days of detention in poultry raising, butter making, gardening and other farm pursuits as a result of an action of the city council today, appropriating money for a municipal farm for women.

Plans call for an institution similar to the municipal farm for men prisoners, conducted by the city for several years. The new plan was suggested by the Council of Women's Clubs, and is in line with the work of the Board of Public Welfare toward the substitution of healthful outdoor activity for the close confinement of the old workhouse plan.—*Globe-Democrat*, St. Louis, Mo.

Favors Road Work for Prisoners

Convicts have been worked on the public roads of Jefferson county, Alabama, for the last ten months and the *Birmingham Age-Herald* says "none of the calamities so freely predicted by those opposed to the system has come to pass."

The convicts' camps have been orderly and sanitary; there have been few escapes and no depredations; lastly, the cost has been smaller than was anticipated in spite of the fact that heavy expense was incurred in the purchase of equipment. "Splendid new roads have been built, substantial steel and concrete bridges have been erected, old roads have been repaired and all by convict labor."

Public sentiment is growing stronger all over the United States against the leasing of convict labor. At the same time the plan of using prisoners on the roads is increasing in popularity. Such opposition as there is, has been manufactured by the diligent efforts of persons or corporations interested in the continuance of profitable leases.—*Courier-Journal*, Louisville, Ky.



Apologizes to Convicts When He Sentences Man

Flint, Mich., Feb. 17.—(Special.)—In passing sentence upon Robert Carlos, convicted of betraying Grace Hillier, a girl of tender years, Judge Wisner delivered one of the most severe arraignments ever heard in a local court.

"I want to apologize to the murderers, safe blowers, robbers, and confidence men," the judge said, "confined in Marquette prison, for having sent you there and to oblige them to endure your presence for five years, but I send to them this little history, that they may know what manner of man you are and avoid contamination with you as they would a leper."

Carlos, who is married, wronged Miss Hillier under promise of marriage and obtained all her savings.—*Tribune*, Chicago.



"What I want to see," said a reformer, "is a city that knows absolutely nothing of graft."

"That's what I would like to see," replied the ward politician. "Say, wouldn't that be a gold mine for a fellow who knows the business?"—*The Umpire*.

HISTORY OF CAMP HOPE

Forty-five men, C. P. Hardy and myself left Joliet at 5:00 a. m. Tuesday, September 3, 1913, changing cars at Aurora and Geneva and on arrival at Dixon we were taken in automobiles to the camp (about six miles north, near Grand de Tour), where we were met by Warden Allen, Deputy Walsh and Mr. Sullivan. On our arrival at 11:00 a. m. tents had already been set up, and from two to three men were assigned to each tent. A large tent had already been put up for a dining room, and the cooks got busy at once and set up a stove in the open and had a good dinner (considering the disadvantages they were working under), by 2:00 p. m.



After dinner a tent 18x20 was raised for a commissary and office and the next day a telephone was installed in same. The camp was located on a sandy knoll (which the warden christened on the day of our arrival as Camp Hope), surrounded with woods on a higher elevation except east and southeast which is open farm land. We were very fortunate to have the forest on the north and west which shielded us from the cold winds later. There is a good well and a large reservoir near the cook house with a pump and wind engine that supplied us with pure soft water for drinking and other purposes. The warden announced that the working hours would be from 7:00 a. m. to 12:00, with one hour for dinner and 1:00 to 5:00 p. m., with Saturday afternoons off. He also stated that work would not be started on the road until Monday, Sept. 8, the balance of the week being devoted to getting the camp fitted up in proper order. The next day a lounging tent 18x40 was put up and in the next few days floors were laid in the large tents, and a cook house was constructed 12x24, built of common lumber covered with tar paper, and the stove we had been using in the open was moved in same.



About ten days after the camp was established we put up a tent 18x20 for laundry and bathing purposes, and on Saturday afternoons the men who did not wish to go to the river took a bath in same.

Mrs. Allen presented the camp with an American flag and also a pennant bearing the words "Camp Hope." On Sept. 5 a flag pole 42 feet high was raised, Mrs. Allen putting in the first shovel full of earth.



The camp was conducted on the same lines as any construction camp.



Our daily routine was roll call at 6:15 a. m., dinner at 12:00 m., and supper at 5:10 p. m., retiring at 9:00 p. m. On Sunday morning roll call was at 7:00 a. m., breakfast at 8:00 a. m., and dinner at 2:30 p. m. On Saturday afternoons whenever the boys wanted to go in swimming Charles Hardy would accompany them to Rock river, about three-quarters of a mile to the west, or the same distance to the east, as the camp was located on a peninsula about one and one-half miles wide. Some of the boys went in swimming as late as Oct. 1.



On Monday, Sept. 9th, active work was started on the north end of the road, cutting underbrush and small trees, and fair progress was made considering that we had only shovels and axes to work with. On Tuesday work was started on the new part of the road and about one-third of a mile of trees was cut down through the forest to the width of 70 feet, some of the trees being 18 to 24 inches in diameter. After the stumps were dug out work was started on the hill, but progress was not as fast as we would have liked as the first month or six weeks the township could not procure enough teams, as the farmers were all busy at that time and consequently there were only five to nine teams on the job daily. By the latter part of October they were able to procure plenty of teams, on one day in particular we had twenty on the job, and the work moved on at a lively clip. After removing some of the clay from the hill we began to run into shale rock. This could be picked out fairly well, but we soon ran into big ledges of rock and then the township furnished us with a traction engine, and we started the drill. But our troubles just commenced, as the rock we drilled contained a mixture of granite iron ore and silica, consequently very slow progress was made, and after

drilling two to four feet we would strike a layer of clay, and after blasting we would have to dig out the clay before drilling again. If we could have worked in solid rock we could have made double the progress.



When we had gotten about one-fourth of the rock out the township decided to put in a crusher and crush the balance of the rock, and use same as a dressing in place of gravel as originally intended, as the gravel pit was located about two miles from the job, and taking in consideration the long haul the crushed rock would make a better road, and the cost would be about the same as gravel. A traction engine was procured at Dixon to haul the crusher out to the job, but they could not get it any further than the bottom of the hill by night. It had rained slightly the day before and the crusher, which weighed eight tons, sunk into the mud and refused to budge.



The next morning it was jacked up and planks put under it, and with four to six teams attached to the front and the traction engine pushing behind, they could move it a few feet at a time and by 4:30 in the afternoon with the aforesaid teams, traction engine and advice given freely by the town people and farmers congregated, it was finally placed in position on the hill. You can get some idea of the grade of this hill when you consider that farmers would not think of going to Dixon (even with an empty wagon), by this route, without taking a log chain along to lock one of the wheels in going down same. Shortly after we arrived one of the teamsters went with a rack to a farm about a mile away to get some ticks we had filled with straw, and about the time he started for the camp it commenced to rain. When he got to the top of the hill he locked one of the back wheels as usual, but the team could not hold back the load (about 20 ticks), and the horses started on the run and the wagon slewed around and tipped over near the bottom. The driver and one of our men (a big blue-eyed baby), going over with the ticks on top of them, but luckily they were not hurt much, only shaken up. The crusher was supposed to have a capacity of 125 to 200 yards of crushed stone per day, but with four men feeding

it (the stone having to be lifted up and put into the hopper), the best day's work was 49 yards. We could cover only 90 to 112 feet per day, 8 inches thick and 14 feet wide. We had some diversions from the regular routine. In less than a month after we arrived one evening we had a telephone call from Mr. Portner (who has the first farm 1 1/4 miles northwest of us), stating that their barn was on fire. I notified the men that those that wished to volunteer their services could do so and we started on the run for the scene of the conflagration which could be easily seen by the reflection on the clouds. (The newspapers stated at the time that I led the men, but that was a mistake as I brought up the rear.) When we arrived we were pretty well winded, but got busy at once and assisted in saving the corn crib, and by that time the platform at the top of the windmill was in flames and some of the men climbed up with a rope and began to pull up water and succeeded in putting out the fire at that point, although the heat was terrific. Some of the farmers made the remark that they would not have gone up on that tower for any money, and thought our men performed something heroic, but they acted as if it was an everyday occurrence. We are pained to announce that the fire chief stood over by the fence and seemed to be lost without his hose. The barn and contents, 150 tons of hay, threshing machine, agricultural implements and a number of head of cattle and horses were completely consumed.



At another time shortly after 9:00 o'clock in the evening we saw two men with lanterns walking in a cornfield and hallooing every few minutes. They finally came to the camp and one of them, a man past middle age, stated with tears in his eyes that his child was lost. He said that his boy and another neighbor's boy had not returned home that night and as he never stayed out after 8:00 o'clock at night, his mother was nearly frantic with grief over his absence.



I got all the lanterns in the camp, and we started a searching party through the woods, and in about an hour and a half we saw a light in the woods about a mile away, and on drawing near saw two men (one about 21 and the other

20 years of age), digging in the ground. The man whose child was lost, said to the oldest: "Alfred, where have you been?" And he said: "See what we got," and he held up a dead polecat. The father said: "Gosh, all hemlock Al! his hide is worth \$5.00, if it is worth a cent." And Al said, "We have got another like him in this hole, if we ever get him dug out." The old man must have forgotten about the grief and anxiety of the mother, for he said: "Well, I guess I will stay and help Al dig him out." To say that we were disgusted is putting it mildly. We left at once and on our return to the camp where we were met by those who stayed behind, we were asked what success we had. When they learned the particulars, they certainly had the laugh on the crowd that went out to rescue two children and found that the supposed children were grown men digging for skunks.



We were certainly favored by Providence, or we never would have finished the road before spring, for when the newspapers reported eight inches of snow at Chicago and Joliet during the latter part of January, we had none whatever. About all the snow we had was on Dec. 23 (when it snowed one and one-half inches), excepting the last two days we were on the job, and we did not lose an hour's time again until Jan. 23, when we lost one-half day on account of rain. On Friday, Feb. 6, it started to snow and was quite cold, but we kept the crusher going until noon, when he had sufficient stone to close the last gap of 60 feet, open at the beginning of work that morning. In the afternoon we got the engine and crusher out of the way, and on Saturday, Feb. 7, although there was four inches of snow on the ground, by working all day, we were able to spread the stone where the engine and crusher had stood, and open up the ditches, and the road was complete. Counting from the day we started work, Sept. 8 to Feb. 7, we were practically five months on the job, and in that time the men put in 112 complete days of nine hours each. Very little time being lost, as you will see by the following:

Hours lost on account of rain or snow:	
Month of September.....	20¾
Month of October.....	22¾
Month of November.....	9

Month of December.....	22
Month of January.....	9
Month of February.....	5¼
<hr/>	
Total	87¾ hours
or 9 days 6¾ hours.	



There were times when we were able to work in the rock and stone, when the teams could not work at all.



Before closing we wish to state that a few remarks in reference to Rev. A. B. Whitcomb, pastor of St. Paul's Episcopal church at Dixon, who acted as chaplain to the camp, would not be out of place. He held services every Sunday afternoon, rain or shine, and was always at the service of anybody in camp. He went out of his way to do errands and favors for the camp, individually, as well as collectively, and we feel we never can repay him for kindness shown.

T. G. KEEGAN.



"The Better Citizen"

Those inmates of this prison who desire to read a really first-class prison paper of the "uplift" kind are urged to subscribe to *The Better Citizen*, published every second and fourth Saturday of each month by the inmates of the New Jersey Reformatory at Rahway, N. J. The subscription price is 25 cents a year. Every inmate who has a quarter to spare should subscribe to this paper, and after reading every word in it, he should pass it along to his friends and enemies—particularly the latter.—EDITOR.



When grown children desert an aged and feeble father, who is serving time and who would be released by the state in case the children would promise to care for him, they should remember that Biblical passage: "As ye sow so shall ye reap."



The majority of prisoners subject to the parole law would do well to carefully study that act, in view of the fact that it generally is misunderstood.

Parole and Indeterminate Sentence Law of Illinois

AN ACT to revise the law in relation to the sentence and commitment of persons convicted of crime, and providing for a system of parole, and to provide compensation for the officers of said system of parole. [Approved April 21, 1899. In force July 1, 1899.]

SENTENCE TO THE PENITENTIARY—TERM OF IMPRISONMENT.] § 1. That every male person over twenty-one years of age, and every female person over eighteen years of age, who shall be convicted of a felony or other crime punishable by imprisonment in the penitentiary, except treason, murder, rape and kidnapping, shall be sentenced to the penitentiary, and the court imposing such sentence shall not fix the limit or duration of the same, but the term of such imprisonment shall not be less than one year, nor shall it exceed the maximum term provided by law for the crime of which the prisoner was convicted, making allowance for good time, as now provided by law. [As amended by act approved May 1, 1901. In force July 1, 1901. L. 1901, p. 146; Legal News Ed., p. 127.]

DUTY OF PENITENTIARY COMMISSIONERS TO ADOPT RULES, ETC.—RECEIPT OF PRISONERS—EXAMINATION OF—BOARD OF PARDONS—REGISTER TO BE KEPT.] § 2. It shall be the duty of each board of penitentiary commissioners to adopt such rules concerning all prisoners committed to their custody as shall prevent them from returning to criminal courses, best secure their self-support, and accomplish their reformation. When any prisoner shall be received into said penitentiary, the warden shall cause to be entered in a register the date of such admission, the name, nativity, nationality, with such other facts as can be ascertained of parentage, education, occupation and early social influences as seem to indicate the constitutional and acquired defects and tendencies of the prisoner, and based upon these, an estimate of the present condition of the prisoner, and the best possible plan of treatment. And the physician of said penitentiary shall carefully examine each prisoner when received and shall enter into a register to be kept by him, the name, nationality or race, the weight, stature and family history of each prisoner, also a statement of the condition of the heart, lungs, and other leading organs, the rate of the pulse and respiration, the measurement of the chest and abdomen, and any existing

disease or deformity, or other disability, acquired or inherited. Upon the warden's register shall be entered from time to time minutes of observed improvement or deterioration of character, and notes as to the method and treatment employed; also all alterations affecting the standing or situation of such prisoner, and any subsequent facts or personal history which may be brought officially to his knowledge bearing upon the question of the parole or final release of the prisoner; and it shall be the duty of the warden, or, in his absence, the deputy warden, of each penitentiary to attend each meeting of the board of pardons that is held at the penitentiary of which he is the warden, for the purpose of examining prisoners as to their fitness for parole. He shall advise with said board of pardons concerning each case, and furnish said board of pardons with his opinion, in writing, as to the fitness of each prisoner for parole whose case said board may be considering. And it is hereby made the duty of every public officer to whom inquiry may be addressed by the clerk of the board of pardons, concerning any prisoner, to give said board all information possessed or accessible to him, which may throw light upon the question of the fitness of said prisoner to receive the benefits of parole.

WHEN PRISONER SENTENCED—OFFICIAL STATEMENTS OF JUDGE AND STATE'S ATTORNEY TO BE ATTACHED TO MITTIMUS.] § 3. It shall be the duty of the judge before whom any prisoner is convicted, and also the state's attorney of the county in which he is convicted, to furnish the board of penitentiary commissioners an official statement of the facts and circumstances constituting the crime whereof the prisoner was convicted, together with all other information accessible to them in regard to the career of the prisoner prior to the time of the committal of the crime of which he was convicted, relative to his habits, associates, disposition and reputation, and any other facts and circumstances which may tend to throw any light upon the question as to whether such prisoner is capable of again becoming a law-

abiding citizen. It shall be the duty of the official court reporter, at the dictation of the judge of the said court or the state's attorney of said county, to write the official statements of the judge and state's attorney above referred to at the time of the conviction of the prisoner, and it shall be the duty of the clerk of the court to cause such official statements to be attached to the mittimus with the copy of the judgment of the court at the time of issuing the same, and deliver the same, so attached to the mittimus, to the sheriff of the county for transmission to the penitentiary, at the time of the delivery of the prisoner to the warden; and it shall be the duty of the warden to report to the board of pardons the receipt of such prisoner with such other official information as the board may require within five days after the receipt of such prisoner.

BOARD OF PARDONS TO ESTABLISH RULE—FOR PAROLE OF PRISONER—VIOLATING RULES.] § 4. The said board of pardons shall have power to establish rules and regulations under which prisoners in the penitentiary may be allowed to go upon parole outside of the penitentiary building and enclosure. *Provided*, that no prisoner shall be released from either penitentiary on parole until the State board of pardons or the warden of said penitentiary shall have made arrangements, or shall have satisfactory evidence that arrangements have been made, for his honorable and useful employment while upon parole, in some suitable occupation, and also for a proper and suitable home, free from criminal influences and without expense to the State: *And provided*, further, that all prisoners so temporarily released upon parole shall, at all times, until the receipt of their final discharge, be considered in the legal custody of the warden of the penitentiary from which they were paroled, and shall during the said time, be considered as remaining under conviction for the crime of which they were convicted and sentenced, and subject at any time to be taken back within the enclosure of said penitentiary, and full power to enforce such rules and regulations and to retake and reimprison any inmate so upon parole, is hereby conferred upon the warden of said penitentiary, whose order or writ certified by the clerk of said penitentiary, with the seal of the institution attached, and directed to all sheriffs, coroners, constables, police officers, or to any particular person named in said order or writ, shall be sufficient warrant for the

officer or other person named therein, to authorize said officer or person to arrest and deliver to the warden of said penitentiary the body of the conditionally released or paroled prisoner named in said writ, and it is hereby made the duty of all sheriffs, coroners, constables, police officers or other persons named therein to execute said order or writ the same as other criminal process. In case any prisoner so conditionally released or paroled shall flee beyond the limit of the State, he may be returned pursuant to the provisions of the law of this State relating to fugitives from justice. It shall be the duty of the warden, immediately upon the return of any conditionally released or paroled prisoner, to make report of the same to the State board of pardons, giving the reasons for the return of said paroled prisoner.

Provided, further, that the State board of pardons may, in its discretion, permit any prisoner to temporarily and conditionally depart from such penitentiary on parole, and go to some county in the State named and there remain within the limits of the county and not to depart from the same without written authority from said board, for such length of time as the board may determine, and upon the further condition that such prisoner shall, during the time of his parole, be and continuously remain a law-abiding citizen of industrious and temperate habits, and report to the sheriff of the county on the first day of each month, giving a particular account of his conduct during the month, and it shall be the duty of such sheriff to investigate such report and ascertain what has been the habits and conduct of such prisoner during the time covered by such report, and to transmit such report upon blanks furnished him by the warden of the penitentiary to said warden within five days after the receipt of such prisoner's report, adding to such report the sheriff's statement as to the truth of the report so made to him by the prisoner. It shall also be the duty of such sheriff to keep secret the fact that such prisoner is a paroled prisoner, and in no case divulge such fact to any person or persons so long as said prisoner obeys the terms and conditions of his parole.

WARDEN TO PROVIDE PAROLE PRISONER WITH CLOTHING, MONEY AND TRANSPORTATION. § 5. Upon the granting of a parole to any prisoner, the warden shall provide him with suitable clothing, ten dollars in money, which may be paid him in installments at the discretion of the warden,

and shall procure transportation for him to his place of employment or to the county seat of the county to which he is paroled.

DUTY OF WARDEN—POWER OF BOARD OF PARDONS TO DISCHARGE PRISONER.] § 6. It shall be the duty of the warden to keep in communication, as far as possible, with all prisoners who are on parole from the penitentiary of which he is the warden, also with their employers, and when, in his opinion, any prisoner who has served not less than six months of his parole acceptably, has given such evidence as is deemed reliable and trustworthy that he will remain at liberty without violating the law, and that his final release is not incompatible with the welfare of society, the warden shall make certificate to that effect to the State board of pardons; and whenever it shall be made to appear to the satisfaction of the State board of pardons from the warden's reports or from other sources, that any prisoner has faithfully served the term of his parole, and the Board shall be of the opinion that such prisoner can safely be trusted to be at liberty, and that his final release will not be incompatible with the welfare of society, the State board of pardons shall have the power to cause to be entered of record in this office an order discharging such prisoner for, or on account of his conviction, which said order, when approved by the Governor, shall operate as a complete discharge of such prisoner in the nature of a release or commutation of his sentence to take effect immediately upon the delivery of a certified copy thereof to the prisoner, and the clerk of the court in which the prisoner was convicted shall, upon presentation of such certified copy, enter the judgment of such conviction satisfied and released pursuant to said order. It is hereby made the duty of the clerk of the board of pardons to send written notice of the fact to the warden of the penitentiary of the proper district, whenever any prisoner on parole is finally released by said board.

POWER OF STATE BOARD OF PARDONS.] § 7. In any case where prisoners have been transferred from the Illinois State Reformatory to either of the penitentiaries, the State board of pardons shall have power and authority, during the time such prisoners are in the penitentiary, to grant paroles to such prisoners in all respects the same as though they had been originally committed to such penitentiary; and said board shall also have the power and authority in all cases where, in the

opinion of the board, the prisoner is under the age of twenty-one years, to transfer said prisoner to the reformatory, and the board of managers of said reformatory shall have full power and authority to grant paroles to such prisoners while in said reformatory in all respects the same as though such prisoners had been originally committed to said reformatory.

PENALTY FOR OFFICER FAILING TO DO HIS DUTY UNDER THIS ACT.] § 8. Any public officer upon whom any duty is by the terms of this act imposed, and who shall willfully and negligently refuse or fail to perform such duty, shall be subject to a fine of not exceeding fifty dollars in each case, recoverable in an action of debt in the name of the people of the State of Illinois, the proceeds to be devoted to the library fund of the penitentiary of the proper district.

POWER OF PENITENTIARY COMMISSIONERS.] § 9. Each of the board of penitentiary commissioners shall have power and authority to appoint such number of parole agents as may be necessary: *Provided*, that the number of such parole agents appointed by the board of penitentiary commissioners for the Illinois State Penitentiary at Joliet shall not exceed five, and that the number of such parole agents appointed by the board of penitentiary commissioners for the Southern Illinois Penitentiary shall not exceed two. Each of the boards of penitentiary commissioners also shall have power and authority to prescribe the duties of said officers respectively appointed by them; that each of said parole agents shall at all times be subject to the orders of the board which appointed him as provided in this section, and shall receive a salary not to exceed fifteen hundred dollars per year, payable monthly, upon the certificate of said board and upon warrants drawn by the Auditor of Public Accounts, out of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated. (As amended by act approved June 5, 1911. In force July 1, 1911. L. 1911, p. 295.)

SENTENCE TO THE STATE REFORMATORY—THE TERM TO BE FIXED BY BOARD OF PARDONS.] § 10. Every sentence to the Illinois State Reformatory of a person hereafter convicted of a felony or other crime, shall be a general sentence to imprisonment in the Illinois State Reformatory, and the courts of this State imposing such sentence shall not fix or limit the duration thereof. The term of such imprisonment of any person so convicted or sentenced shall be terminated by the

board of pardons, but only upon the recommendation, in writing, of the board of managers of the said reformatory; but such imprisonment shall not exceed the maximum term provided by law, for the crime for which the prisoner was convicted and sentenced.

BOARD OF PARDONS—SALARY OF.] § 11. There shall be allowed to each member of the Board of Pardons the sum of one thousand five hundred dollars per year to compensate him for services performed under this act, said sum to be payable monthly on certificates of the board, approved by the Governor, and payable out of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated.

REPEAL.] § 12. That an act entitled, "An act in relation to the sentence of prisoners convicted of crime, and providing for a system of parole," approved June 15, 1895, in force July 1, 1895; also an act entitled, "An act to amend an act in relation to the sentence of prisoners convicted of crime, and providing for a system of parole," approved June 10, 1897; and Section 13 of "An act to establish the Illinois State Reformatory and making an appropriation therefor," approved June 18, 1891, and in force July 1, 1891, and all parts of laws not in harmony with the provisions of this act are hereby repealed: *Provided*, that such appeal [repeal] shall not affect any conviction heretofore had under said laws, except that any person convicted under either of the acts specifically named in this section may, with the consent of the board, receive the benefits of this act.



An old colored man, charged with stealing chickens, was arraigned in court and was incriminating himself when the judge said: "You ought to have a lawyer. Where's your lawyer?"

"Ah ain't got no lawyer, jedge," said the old man.

"Very well, then," said His Honor, "I'll assign a lawyer to defend you."

"Oh, no, suh; no suh! Please don't do dat!" the darky begged.

"Why not?" asked the judge. "It won't cost you anything. Why don't you want a lawyer?"

"Well, jedge, Ah'll tell you, suh," said the old man, waiving his tattered old hat confidently "Hit's jest dis way—Ah wan' tuh enjoy dem chickens mahse'f!"—*Chronicle-Telegraph*, Pittsburgh, Pa.

THE GOOD ROADS LAW

An act entitled "An Act to authorize the employment of convicts and prisoners in the penal and reformatory institutions of the State of Illinois in the preparation of road building materials and in working on the public roads."

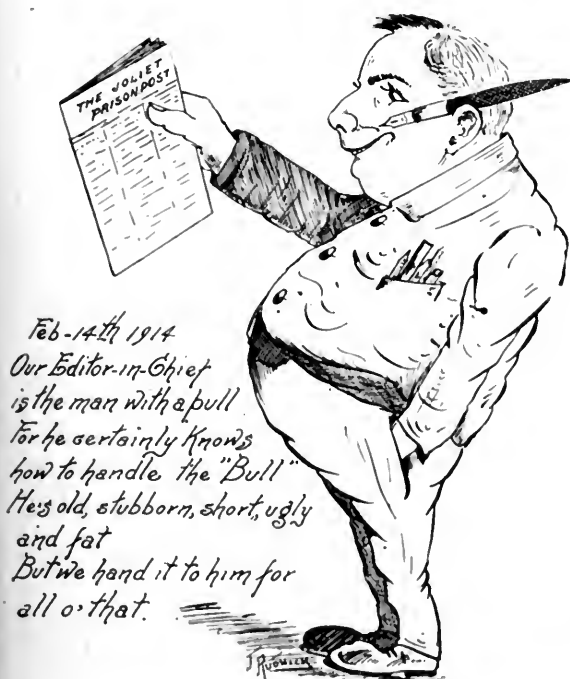
Section 1. Be it enacted by the people of the state of Illinois, represented in the General Assembly: That the commissioners of the Northern Illinois Penitentiary, commissioners of the Southern Illinois Penitentiary and the board of managers of the Pontiac Reformatory of the State of Illinois are hereby authorized and empowered to employ convicts and prisoners in the penal and reformatory institutions of this state who are sentenced to terms of not more than five years, or who have not more than five years to serve to complete their sentence, in working on the public roads or in crushing stones or preparing other road building materials at points outside the walls of the penal or reformatory institutions. Upon the written requests of the commissioners of highways of any township in counties under township organization or the commissioners of highways or boards of county commissioners in counties not under township organization, said penitentiary commissioners and board of managers of the Pontiac Reformatory shall detail such convicts or prisoners as in its judgment shall seem proper, not exceeding the number specified in said written requests, for employment on the public roads or in the preparation of road building materials, in the township, road district or county requesting the same, on such terms and conditions as may be prescribed by the said penitentiary commissioners or the board of managers of the Pontiac Reformatory.

Section 2. The commissioners of highways or boards of county commissioners, as the case may be, shall pay all additional expenses for guarding such convicts while working on the public roads or in the preparation of road building material outside the walls of the penal or reformatory institutions, in their respective townships, road districts or counties.

Approved June 8, 1913.



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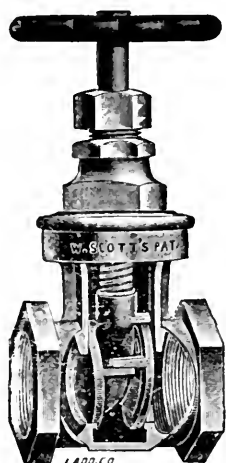
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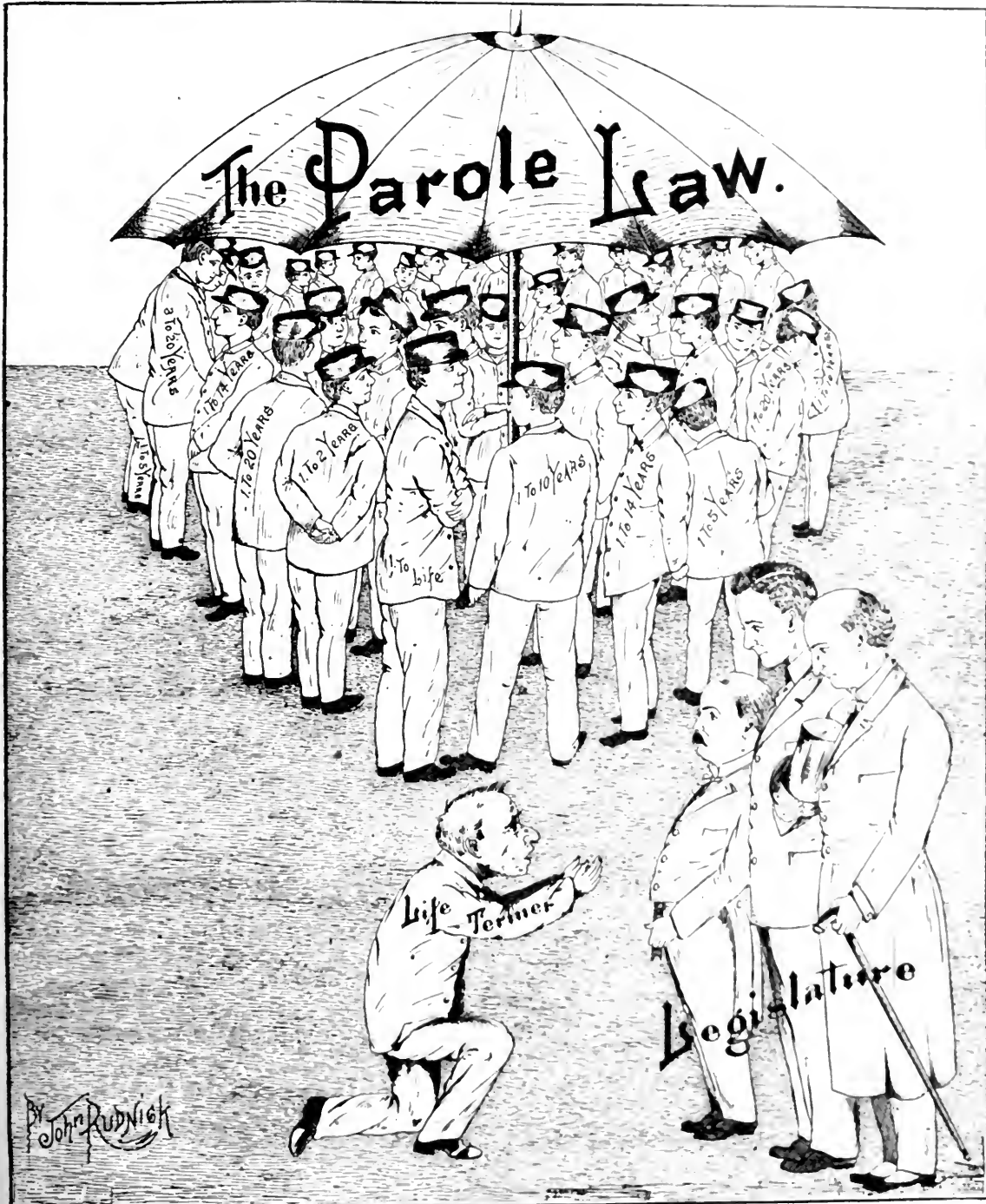
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VOL. 1. JOLIET, ILLINOIS, APRIL 1, 1914. No. 1



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Entered as second-class matter, January 15, 1914, at the post-office at Joliet, Illinois, under the Act of March 3, 1879.



EDITORIAL

Earning Back the Right to Freedom

Mawkish efforts at prison reform may receive passing notice but in effect such efforts will only retard the arrival of the genuine article.



Sympathy for the condition of the man who is sound in body and sufficiently equipped mentally to know right from wrong, who finds himself in prison as the result of the commission by him of a crime or a series of crimes, is misdirected.



True prison reform depends upon recognition of the essential fact by both free persons and prisoners that a *prisoner must earn back his right to freedom*. Prison management which does not teach this from the first day of a prisoner's incarceration until the moment of his release fails in its true purpose and is particularly harmful to the prisoner.



Every day of a prisoner's life should be devoted to his best efforts to earn back his right to freedom and with the passing of time his efforts should grow in seriousness and effectiveness. To this purpose should be directed the energies of prison management and there must never be any let up. The responsibility rests upon the prisoner as well as upon the prison management, but the initiative lies with the administration, as without its help the average prisoner can accomplish little or nothing.



If given the opportunity, coupled with proper counsel, the prisoner can earn back his right to

freedom; but it is a large task to properly guide the energies of each of a large number of men. As a practical measure it is impossible to give individual treatment, but it is feasible to group prisoners in the matter of giving them opportunities and counsel. In order to get good results it is necessary to make a study of each prisoner and of all the circumstances which led up to his conviction.



When crime is largely the result of ignorance the prisoner should be required to gain an education in order to comply with one of several essentials of earning back his right to freedom. In addition to this, he should be required to give unmistakable evidences of proper rehabilitation of character.



The prisoner should be made to understand that he is making progress towards earning back his right to freedom so long as he gives proof of obedience and helpfulness, with the latter of at least equal importance.



The right to his freedom can be earned back by prisoners in many ways. To illustrate:

During February, 1911, a serious fire occurred in the power house of this prison. The prison and Joliet fire departments proved inadequate to handle the situation, consequently the building burned for many hours. During this time fully sixty prisoners were busy saving adjacent property; not one of them was reprimanded, and so far as is known no man committed a wrongful act, and this in spite of the fact that the discipline was relaxed to such an extent that many of the prisoners to a large degree proceeded on their own initiative. One man who had been in the prison over twenty-five years seriously endangered his life to quench the fire at its inception and the clothing of many were iced through to the skin, yet not one stopped fighting the fire or saving movable property. The human interest feature of this occasion was that the prisoners, with no hope of reward, except a few cups of hot coffee, were battling with all of their power to save the property of the state which held them captives. Every man who did his full duty that day made progress in earning back his right to the return of his freedom. No officer could stand by on that day and see the actions of the prison-

ers and fail to appreciate that the instincts of those inmates to do right were controlling their actions.



A better illustration can be found in the human interest feature of the experiment with the company at Camp Hope. That those men did not run away, that they were helpful to a neighboring farmer when his buildings were on fire, that they accomplished a difficult piece of road building, is not of the greatest consequence in the matter of each man earning back his right to freedom. What is of the greatest consequence is that every man in this company who was in at the finish did his utmost to show that he was worthy of the responsibilities of his position. Every man in this company earned back his right to the return of his freedom because he did his utmost to make road work by prisoners a success, and because the motive with each man was an unselfish one as he was working for the ultimate good of all his fellow prisoners who were left behind in the prison and who were anxiously waiting their turn to go out; which event would never come to pass had the first company failed. Every man in that company earned back his right to freedom when he did his best under adverse conditions to bring the enterprise to success in order that the governor, the warden and the other officials and the public in general might be pleased with the outcome.



If enough reasons have not been advanced to prove that every man in this company has earned back his right to freedom it may be added that every one of them was free to return to the prison at any time and that when winter weather overtook them and the thermometer dropped below zero every man slept within a tent by night and worked out in the open by day, in order that it could not be truthfully said that the honor men had left their work uncompleted. In what other spot in the northern part of Illinois were men voluntarily sleeping in tents and working on roads until the seventh day of February, 1914? The ties which kept these men to their task during bitterly cold weather were (1) self-respect, (2) determination to do, (3) veneration for the officer who as the representative of the state keeps them captives.

Not all of the inmates of this prison would have done what these men did, but there are many more men here who would have done as well, though none could have done better.



Under severe discipline and cruel punishment there are but few opportunities for prisoners to earn back their right to freedom. Under progressive prison reform methods these opportunities occur frequently and in this difference lies the true superiority of the latter named method over the former.



A Poor Showing

Statistics recently compiled by the chaplain of the Ohio penitentiary show that out of a total of 1,558 inmates, 27 have attended college, 103 have graduated from high schools, 945 passed through the primary grade, 260 can read and write with difficulty, and 223 are absolutely without any education in letters.



The "Ins" Become "Outs"

Many persons care very little about inmates of prisons, of how they are treated and whether they have proper opportunities for reformation or not. They are content if the man who has committed a crime is convicted and put out of the way and they forget that he is eventually coming back.



The problem of the ex-prisoner is much greater than the problem of the prisoners. There are vastly more of the former. This institution alone has released over five thousand inmates during the past ten years, and most of these people are at this time living in this state, many of them have children who in time will become a part of the adult population, and consequently, citizens of Illinois.



The foregoing statement of fact requires but little consideration in order to bring home to our minds the realization of the interest the people out in the world have in those behind prison walls. There is an intimate relation between the "outs" and the "ins" which cannot be evaded.



In view of the foregoing, why is it not good

policy to give to the inmates of prisons every opportunity for their reformation?



A Lifelong Prison Pallor

The advocates of strict discipline and severe punishment should ask themselves if it is fair to inflict a prisoner, who has a three-year sentence, with a pallor that he cannot shake off during a lifetime.



A Material Saving in Time

On June 23, 1899, Fred arrived here with two sentences to serve. The first one for twenty-five years and the second one from one to fourteen years.

The first sentence being for a fixed period did not fall under the jurisdiction of the parole board, so Fred served all his time for it, namely, thirteen years and nine months, the reduction from twenty-five years being by reason of the good time law.



At the expiration of his first sentence, Fred started on his second sentence. A few days ago when he had finished a year of his second sentence he was called before the parole board and asked what he had to say for himself. He handed the chairman of the board a slip of paper; it was his pass, dated last September, signed by Deputy Warden William Walsh. The pass permitted Fred to go outside the walls at pleasure in the performance of his work and without a guard. The members of the board looked at it, held a consultation and then the chairman, Mr. Stevenson, told Fred that they knew his record and that he had earned back his right to freedom by obedience and helpfulness and that he would be free to go on parole in a few days, as soon as the papers could be made out and the requirements of the law complied with.



He had been highly recommended by the warden and deputy warden, and the board was glad to give the recommendations substantial recognition.



Fred saved a considerable portion of his maximum term besides making all the "good time" allowed him by law, and by obedience and helpful-

ness he has trained himself so that he will make good and enjoy the balance of his life in the company of his wife and children, for Fred is not coming back.



Prison Contract Labor in Iowa

"Prisoners at the Fort Madison penitentiary get increased pay and shorter hours through an agreement made yesterday by the state board of control for the cancellation of one prison contract and the transference of the contract of the Fort Madison Chair Company to the Fort Madison Tool Company. This takes 175 men out of the contract labor system.

"By the terms of the arrangement, the board of control may terminate the contract on or after March 1st, 1916, by giving 90 days notice. The old contract could not be cancelled before October 15, 1917. The state gains more than a year by the new deal.

"The board heard the arguments of T. F. Hitch, superintendent of the Fort Madison Farming Tool Company. The board took the stand that it would not renew any contracts, but in view of securing an advantage in being able to end all contracts at Fort Madison earlier than under the prior arrangement, the board authorized the chair company to transfer its contract to the tool company.

"The state will receive 60 cents a day for each man employed by the tool company under the new agreement. In addition the company will pay each man 10 cents a day for himself. The working day will be cut from ten to nine hours."—*Register & Leader, Des Moines, Iowa.*

EDITOR'S NOTE.—The preceding article reads nicely, but will it bear analysis? Increased pay and shorter hours means that if the prisoners do the task allotted to them by the tool company, they will be paid ten cents per day per man, and that a day's work will consist of nine working hours.



As the outside world knows nothing of the amount of work required daily of a man as his task, both the promise of increased pay and shorter hours may be of no value whatever to the prisoners.



When the first contracts were made the public was led to believe that only a low price could be

paid for prisoner labor because so few prisoners are able bodied men, and that seemed reasonable; now the announcement follows that under a new contract 175 men have been taken out of the contract labor system, and that seems liberal; but how about the negro in the wood pile? It may be that the 175 men who have been "taken out of the contract labor system" are the cripples, whose presence was at first used to support the argument in favor of a low price per man. The second paragraph in the above cited article expects readers to assume that a state has the legal right to contract its prison labor in advance for many years, but is this so? A contract made during March, 1914, which runs until March 1, 1916, disposes of the labor of men who are yet to commit crimes, be convicted and sentenced.



As to paragraph three we will simply assume that Mr. T. F. Hitch was perfectly satisfied when he came away. This may be an arbitrary way of coming to a conclusion, but it is not very far wrong.



It sounds good to say that "the state will receive 60 cents a day for each man employed by the tool company under the new agreement," but why not put it in this way: "The state of Iowa has just made a contract with the Fort Madison Tool Company to sell into slavery until March 1st, 1916, a large number of prisoners confined in the Fort Madison penitentiary. The said state has agreed to permit the said tool company to take its pick of the inmates confined in the said penitentiary. The said state has stipulated that the selected prisoners shall work nine hours per day; each man to do the task allotted to him by the said tool company and in the event that a man fails to finish the task prescribed for him by the said tool company, the said state has agreed to punish such prisoners and it has been agreed that during the time when a prisoner is undergoing punishment in the interest of the said tool company the said tool company shall not be required to pay to the said state any money for the time of the said prisoner.

"The said state has agreed to house, clothe and feed the said slaves of the said tool company and to furnish medical attendance for the said slaves including a hospital, and further to furnish sub-

stantial buildings as shops for the said tool company, rent free, and electrically lighted and steam heated, all at the expense of the said state. The said state has agreed to place guards in the shops of the said tool company and to pay the guards out of the treasury of said state; but the said tool company may secretly pay the said guards from \$10 per month upwards for requiring the maximum amount of work from each of said slaves. The said tool company shall not require the said slaves to work over nine hours per day including Saturdays, and the said tool company has agreed to pay to each of said slaves the sum of ten cents per day, provided said slave finishes the task set for him to do by the said tool company.

"After March 1, 1916, the said state may terminate the agreement by giving ninety days notice in writing to the said tool company. Meanwhile the employes of the said tool company are to be fed at the expense of the said state at the officers' mess of the said penitentiary."



Warden Woodward Favors Prison Road Work in Wisconsin

Speaking of the Colorado prison, after a visit to it, the Rev. Daniel Woodward, Warden of the Wisconsin penitentiary at Waupun, states that in his opinion the Colorado prison is the most successful prison from every standpoint he has seen, and he has seen many; at that prison the discipline is of the best, the prisoners are in better condition physically and mentally, and that he believes more reformation will be worked out under the system of Warden Tynan than any he has come in contact with.



His visit to Colorado—where he took an automobile trip over the Rainbow route into the Grand Canyon of the Arkansas beyond Parkdale, over the sky-line drive and Royal Gorge roads, all built by prison labor—has convinced him that the road work the prisoners in Colorado are doing compares favorably with the best highways in any part of the country built by skilled free labor.



Warden Woodward has recommended to the Governor of Wisconsin that plans be made to install the Colorado system of highway construction by prisoners of the penitentiary in Wisconsin, and he feels confident that early this spring

he will be permitted to establish camps for road work.



And in this way it will come to pass that the good conduct and high grade work of the prisoners in Colorado will soon be of benefit to inmates of prisons in Wisconsin.



The Human Interest Place in the Prison

The Usher's office is where the inmates receive their visitors. There is no other place within the walls where one can see so many phases of human emotions, from great grief to extreme joy. Here, if never before, is one place in which each person who appears comes as they really are. No man or woman—visitor or visited—shows here any feeling other than comes from their innermost being and is a true portrayal of their real characters. In a moment the inmates realize their true position in life and find themselves stripped of all sham and pretense. Their forced feeling of indifference or courage, wounded vanity or deepest humility vanishes, leaving only an acute sense of shame, and they "see themselves as others see them."



It is here the prisoner is first seen by wife, mother, father, sister, brother, relative or friend in prison garb. No man who has had the experience ever forgets his feelings of deep humiliation when he appears for the first time to one dear to him dressed and made up for his part—that of a prisoner.

But the saving grace of the moment is the joy with which this humiliation is tempered. Whatever else the visit may mean or bring forth, nothing can completely overshadow the great joy resulting therefrom.

As the moments pass there can be witnessed a blessed revelation of the power of Faith, Hope and Charity, as the happiness outshines and covers all else. Out of a medley of feelings seems to come a complete understanding, and even the heart-rending sadness of the farewell seems to lose much of its sting. Even a disinterested person could not witness such a scene unmoved. Indeed, we have often seen tears course down the cheeks of more than one Usher in one of these touching moments.

It would seem that an officer whose business is, day in and day out, to supervise the meeting of prisoners and their friends would get so accustomed to such sights that nothing would affect him, but that is not the case in the Usher's office in this prison.

The expressions of emotions in that place are so extreme—yet always so extremely sincere—that perforce the Usher finds himself affected to tears or laughter in spite of any preconceived determination to the contrary he may have indulged.



It is in the Usher's office the prisoner first learns from a Deputy Sheriff, when he is served with a summons to appear in court to answer to the wife's bill of complaint, that she has decided to obtain a divorce from him.

It is then that the man feels his helplessness. The Sheriff can come to the prisoner to bring him "in court," so that a binding decree may be entered against him, but he can do nothing towards preventing the mills of justice from grinding out his fate so far as his wife and children are concerned.



It is this same helplessness that follows him through the after years and helps him win success if he is a true man or leads him to failure if he is a weakling. It gives birth to an unalterable determination to retrieve the misdeeds of the past in the one and to form a determination to continue the sowing—and reaping—of wild oats in the other.

It is in the Usher's office that a prisoner frequently first learns of the death of his wife, a child, a parent, a relative or dear friend, and it is not unusual to see one man sobbing with grief as the result of bad news, while near him sits another prisoner overjoyed with the good news being imparted to him by his vis-a-vis.

It is here that a prisoner frequently hears the news regarding the steps which are being taken to secure his freedom and finds himself suddenly transported to a seventh heaven of delight or engulfed in despair. Sometimes it is the place where former friends decide to part company forever when they cannot agree.



Owing to the poverty of most of the persons

who visit inmates of this prison, and the long distances which frequently have to be traveled, the visits are usually far apart in point of time, so that during the conversation and at parting the question usually uppermost in the minds of all concerned is: "Shall we ever meet again?"



A Warning Regarding the Usher's Office

It is the duty of the officer here known as the Usher, who presides over the office where the inmates are permitted to receive visitors, to prevent any article from being passed from a visitor to an inmate, and vice versa, unless it has first been inspected by him and his approval obtained.

He, more than any other officer in the prison, must strictly enforce the rules of this institution, and disobedience on his part might result disastrously for the inmates and the officers.

Frequently he must refuse permission where he would gladly give it and it might seem reasonable that he should consent, but his orders are strict and both the officers and the inmates must always remember that orders must be obeyed, because we are in a penitentiary and not in a play house.

Our present Usher, Mr. E. C. Sutfin, is good will personified, and he has endeared himself to all who are capable of appreciating courtesies, yet there are some few prisoners who attempt to smuggle in articles. Seated as the Usher is, on an elevation, it is unlikely that he will overlook much.

Few visitors would attempt to smuggle any article, no matter how harmless, into the prison if they knew the consequences to themselves and to the prisoner.



A visitor while on prison property is there by the courtesy of the management, and any person detected in handing something to a prisoner or receiving something from him, unless the officer in charge consents, is liable to be refused admission to the institution on future visits.

A prisoner who receives or delivers any article to a visitor without first obtaining the consent of the officer in charge is liable to punishment in the discretion of the Warden or Deputy Warden.



We must never lose sight of the fact that being permitted to see friends is a privilege which is

extended to us by the authorities and that the administration of this prison is very liberal in this respect.

Aside from the possible punishment which might be inflicted upon a prisoner, which of us cares to have Mr. Sutfin regard him as a sneak who would abuse a privilege?

Our Usher can do a great deal towards making our visits pleasant, but who can blame him for restricting the privileges of a prisoner who attempts to impose on him?



About the Colorado Prison

The system of improving and building public highways by honor prisoners, that has been successfully introduced and carried out by Warden Thomas J. Tynan of the Colorado Penitentiary during recent years, has been reproduced by moving pictures, which are now being flashed on screens throughout the country. These pictures show the prisoners at their work and depict their life in camps.



At this time three hundred of the seven hundred and twenty-four prisoners of the Colorado penitentiary, work unguarded on roads, some being three hundred miles away from the prison. Clad in khaki, in companies of about fifty, they work on roads cut through the Rocky Mountains and among them are "life termers," and all of them work under unarmed overseers. These men have taken an oath before leaving the penitentiary that they would not attempt to escape, and that whenever possible they would prevent their fellow prisoners from making a dash for liberty. Less than one-half of one per cent of these men, so trusted, have escaped since May 12th, 1909, the day Colorado's first road camp was pitched.



Warden Tynan is not satisfied to have his prisoners build roads, but he conducts his camps so that every man may learn scientific road building. He is the friend and the champion of prisoners and in consequence those prisoners are industrially a valuable part of Colorado's population.



Outside of working hours the prisoners have baseball and football games, night school, includ-

ing business courses and manual training are at their disposal.



Warden Tynan plans to add five hundred acres to the prison farm, and if he is successful, it is his idea to employ experts on farming to teach his prisoners.



He is substituting hope in place of the thoughts of revenge in the minds of his prisoners.



Optimism Under the Yoke

Contrary to a general prevailing impression, the inmates of states' prisons are not, speaking in a collective sense, living within an atmosphere of depression and hopelessness. It is not difficult in this institution to search out the true optimist, and to talk to this class of men is truly a pleasure, for their tendency to take the brighter view is not necessarily based on their hope of securing a parole or pardon within a specified length of time, but in the deep rooted conviction that they can make good in the world when the opportunity is afforded them.

All sorts and conditions of men bewail their fate today; we do not have to turn to prison precincts for typical illustrations of this. Some of the best men in the country, successful and honored in their community, are professional growlers. There is that pessimistic streak in their make-up which the good things of life fail to eradicate and which must ever be the thorn in the flesh to their interested friends.

For this reason, if for no other, it is truly refreshing and altogether remarkable to observe the hopeful spirit display itself so frequently here; to cite the varied reasons why would necessitate an individual canvas. While the new atmosphere in this prison engendered through the radical policies of the present administration has undoubtedly contributed its good part towards the creation of this wholesome spirit, we can go deeper than this.



A large proportion of the inmates, regardless of the nature of their crime, have never previous to their incarceration become acquainted with their true self-hood. They have come from the humbler walks of life and undesirable acquaintances, unsettled habits of living and evil-creating

environments have proved the discouraging barriers towards the efficient operation of the good impulse. Prison life proved to be the eye-opener. Regular hours for eating, working and sleeping, access to a good library and ample opportunity for self-study have tended to lift the prisoner sufficiently above his former plane of living to enable him for the first time to obtain a line upon his real self. He awakens to the fact that he is capable by virtue of temperament and intelligence to fit into a different groove of life; he has sensed a new line of development and the prospect has its natural fascination. He has become an optimist, while yet a prisoner and as such, conveys a lesson to the world.



Build Jails Within the Prisons

Miss Katherine B. Davis, who was recently appointed commissioner of correction at Blackwell's Island, finds a great drawback to proper prison management, resulting from the mixing of prisoners who desire to render good conduct with those whose inclinations are the opposite. She holds that where there is no way of separating the rebellious and troublesome prisoners from the others, those inmates who obey the rules do not get a square deal, because their conduct as well as their treatment is adversely affected without any fault of their own.



In this respect the experience at this prison under the present administration is the same. The drawback has always existed, but as liberality in prison management is advanced, the necessity of separating the good from the bad becomes more pronounced. There are men in this prison who are not fit to be treated as well as the present management treats them, as they take undue advantage of kindness shown them and because they are mixed up with the larger number of men who earnestly try to and do make good, these miscreants frequently get away with their misdeeds without their identity being discovered. This discourages those whose intentions are good for two reasons: (1) they cannot avoid sharing in the blame; (2) they resent imposition upon the management.



In order to correct this situation on Blackwell's Island, Miss Davis is building a discip-

linary building where the hoodlums can have it out amongst themselves, and, as if fate intended sarcasm, a manly prisoner drew the plans for this new building which is to be used for the punishment of the reactionaries.



Trouble makers should immediately be taken out of the sight and hearing of the others. Modern prison reform demands classification as one of the conditions precedent and that calls for a separate building for the disturbers, and if such a building could be made sound proof it might be made ideal.



Appeal to Farm and Road Work

While the grip of winter has in no way relaxed, a sense of the nearness of spring seems to manifest itself these days; the thought appeals to the minds of the large numbers of inmates who are hopeful of being chosen for farm or road service. The out-of-doors appeals to most men and that its appeal should be especially strong to the inmates of a penitentiary is only natural. The work will be creative in a real sense, and the atmosphere of personal liberty should call forth their best endeavor.



Mental and Manual Training

The working out of the prison problem is engaging the attention of the best men and nations at the present time.



A public sentiment, based upon science and favoring modern prison reform methods is more valuable than a public sentiment resting purely upon good will and sympathy.



The connection between ignorance and wrongdoing in a large majority of instances is so marked that it is not difficult to believe that in most cases crime is only misdirected energy, and that proper mental and manual training will make men more fit to serve their fellows, and consequently, less liable to convictions for crimes.



Even though applied late, the most effective corrective influence for prisoners is the right combination of mental and manual training.

EDITOR'S COLUMNS

Our Cartoon for April

We always submit our editorial work with a sense of its inadequacy, but we feel qualified to challenge the world when it comes to work of our cartoonist, John Rudnick a fellow prisoner.—EDITOR.



Mentioning Names of Prisoners

Occasionally we hear of some prisoner who fears that his name will be mentioned in THE JOLIET PRISON POST. It is the policy of the paper not to mention any inmate by name, except by his consent. This rule does not hold good in cases where a prisoner commits an act which brings his name into the public press. Whenever that happens we feel at liberty to mention such prisoner's name, as we fail to see why one who, for instance, escapes and thus gets his name into the newspapers should object when we mention his name either upon his escape or return.—EDITOR.



Life Termers Desire a Parole Law

Men serving life sentences have frequently asked us to take the initiative towards obtaining the enactment of a parole law for life termers, or the amendment of the parole law which is now in force, so as to make it applicable to inmates serving life sentences. We have declined to do it, because we think it would be against the interests of the life termers to have us proceed as so many of them desire us to. A movement contemplating a parole law for life termers after they have served many years should—if started within this prison—be begun by the men serving life sentences and not by a magazine or its editor.



For the present we advise the life term men who have been here over eight years and three months to petition the authorities for permission to hold one or more meetings in the chapel, where the entire matter can be discussed and a plan of action agreed upon. We desire to say that if we can be of service as an assistant in the matter we shall be most happy to do what we can; but we will not take the initiative nor at any time take over the laboring oar.—EDITOR.

To the Men Confined in the Illinois State Penitentiary at Joliet

The following rules shall, after April 1, 1914, govern the honor system.

You will be divided into four grades as follows:

Industrial Efficiency Grade.

First Grade.

Second Grade.

Third Grade.

The Industrial Efficiency Grade

This grade is for inmates who are entitled to particular distinction by reason of being highly valuable to this institution through exceptional efficiency and helpfulness in addition to good deportment.

Men in this grade will enjoy all the privileges allotted to the first grade plus such additional privileges as I may from time to time grant them.

They will wear cadet gray clothing with two perpendicular ornamental stripes on their trousers, as a mark of distinction, and they will be permitted to attend the meetings—which will hereinafter be set forth—of inmates held in the rooms in the east and west wings, which were formerly used as school rooms.

Appointments to rank in this grade will be in my discretion, and I will make such appointments only from among men in the first grade.

Any inmate appointed to this grade will be reduced to the first grade whenever I consider him no longer entitled to particular distinction.

Trusties and men for road or farm work will be selected from men in this grade.

First Grade

This grade is for inmates whose deportment is good, who observe all rules of the prison discipline and who have signed the honor pledge.

Men in this grade will be dressed in cadet gray clothing and they will be furnished an honor button.

They will be permitted to write a letter and receive a visit once every week.

Trusties and men for road or farm work will be selected from men in this grade.

Men in this grade will be permitted to attend the meetings of inmates—hereinafter provided for—to be held in the rooms in the east and west

wings, which were formerly used as school rooms.

Second Grade

This grade is for inmates whose deportment is good and who observe all rules of the prison discipline but who have not signed the honor pledge.

Men in this grade will be dressed in cadet gray clothing.

They will be permitted to write a letter and receive a visit once every week.

Upon arrival at the prison the new inmate will be placed in this grade.

Inmates in this grade will be promoted to the first grade upon signing the honor pledge, which they may do at any time after having indicated that they understand its nature.

Prisoners in this grade will not be permitted to attend the meetings hereinafter provided for.

No trustees for work in and around the prison nor men for road or farm work will be selected from men in this grade.

Third Grade

This grade is for inmates who have been found guilty of an infraction of the prison discipline, and have been placed in punishment therefor.

Men in this grade will be dressed in striped clothing. They will cell only with prisoners in their grade and in so far as possible they will be kept apart from the other inmates. They will be barred from all amusements and recreation and they will not be permitted to eat in the dining hall.

No trustees for work in and around the prison or men for road or farm work will be selected from this grade.

The prisoners who are in this grade will not be permitted to attend the meetings hereinafter provided for.

An inmate who is reduced to this grade will remain there until I am satisfied that he desires to obey the prison rules.

Meetings

As hereinafter provided, the men who are in the Industrial Efficiency Grade and in the First Grade will be permitted to hold meetings at least once every month.

The object of the meetings is to permit the men who are in the Industrial Efficiency Grade and in the First Grade gradually and in a limited way to become self-governing.

Commencing Wednesday evening, April 1, 1914, the men on galleries one in both the east and west wings may meet in the school rooms of their respective wings, and on the following evening the men on galleries two may meet, and so on until all of the eligible inmates by galleries shall have met.

All the men who sleep outside of the wings shall, for the purposes of this schedule, be deemed as constituting Gallery No. 9 in the east wing.

Until further notice, I will select the presiding officers and secretaries for all meetings and a chief to preside over the meetings of the presiding officers.

The discussions at the meetings will be limited to subjects appertaining to the discipline of the prison and the general conditions of the life of the inmates, and the prisoners may vote on the questions which come before them.

After all the inmates shall have met by galleries, the presiding officers will meet to further discuss and act upon the matters which have previously been discussed and acted upon at the meetings of the men by galleries, and their meetings will be presided over by the chief.

The chief shall have the right to attend all meetings and to take part therein. It shall be the duty of the chief to transmit to me the results of the meetings. He will appoint his secretary, who will act in his place at all meetings which are not attended by the chief.

Freedom of speech will be permitted at all meetings, and no man shall be held to account for any speech which does not in itself constitute an infraction of the prison discipline.

At least one prison guard will be present at each meeting.

EDMUND M. ALLEN, Warden.

March 26, 1914.



Contract labor is a crime which is getting recognized as such. It disgraces the nation or the state which tolerates it, and the shame of it, if not its immorality, may lead to its general suppression.—Julian Hawthorne.

NEWS NARRATIVE

A SINCERE SERMONET

By An Inmate

On Sunday, March 1, I attended chapel services for the first time in several months and was fortunate in hearing Father Edward, our Catholic chaplain, preach.

In rhetoric, eloquence and sincerity his sermon impressed me more deeply than I, a Protestant, have ever been impressed at religious services. All the men that sat around me in the chapel and whom I heard express themselves spoke only words of commendation for the man that was displayed in the Father as he spoke.

One of his statements was that he would help every man, regardless of creed. It was not the words that so impressed me, but the unaffected, genuine manner in which he uttered them and in which he implanted them in my memory.

When one hears Father Edward speak he readily recognizes the fact that from him nothing can emanate other than what is right, and this impression is gained from the very simplicity of his sermons and the cordial and plain manner in which he appeals to the men.

During the short time that the Father spoke he preached more good, common sense and genuine religion than I have ever heard preached from the pulpit in the numerous churches north, south, east or west, rich or poor, big or little, city or country that I have attended, and that religion was that he would do unto us as he would have us do to not only him but to all that we come in contact with; and that he, like all the rest of the human race, came from the same origin, clay, and that he with the balance of us would eventually return to it. He did not hold himself up to the light as a model; he did not claim nor infer that he was better in all respects than his hearers. In his talk he showed us—the inmates of this penitentiary—the personality of a sincere Christian man clothed with the cassock and that man was himself. He in simple language told and illustrated to us just what a man should do to cleanse his soul of the stigma of crime.

In pronunciation, annunciation, command of the English language and common sense, Father Edward is one of the best orators I have ever heard. He talked straight to my heart, which

he did not fail to reach and from which he did not fail to secure response.



FRIDAY THE THIRTEENTH

At the March meeting of the Parole Board a full-blooded negro, nicknamed "Bones," appeared before that body to have the length of his sentence determined. Bones is serving an indeterminate sentence of from one to fourteen years, and as he had served one year, the minimum of his sentence, he was called before the Board in the usual routine of business. The question to be decided was how much longer, if any, must Bones be required to serve. It was in the discretion of the Board to let him go upon parole in a few days or to order him kept here seven years and three months longer, or anything in between. Bones understood the importance of the occasion fully when he entered the room in which the hearings were being held.

Mr. Stevenson, who is the chairman of the Board, noticed that Bones held something clutched tightly in his right hand and he inquired what it was. Immediately Bones placed his hand under the table and commenced to laugh. He was told that he must state what he held in his hand and he replied that it was his rabbit's foot. Upon this Bones was asked why he had brought it, and he accepted this as the cue to begin his speech, saying: "Mr. Stevenson, and Honorable Gentlemen: This sure enough is Friday and the thirteenth day of March, and I am mightily scared. I don't know what I would do if it were not for this here rabbit's foot." At this Mr. Stevenson interrupted Bones by offering him one dollar for his rabbit's foot if he gave it up at once, adding that after the hearing it would be only worth a nickel to him. Bones replied that he would not take a million dollars for it, and that he would take no chances. He continued to argue his case the best that he could, and in a moment when he was particularly fluent, Mr. Stevenson interrupted, saying: "That rabbit's foot of yours is running pretty fast just now." Quick as a flash, Bones responded: "Yes, but I'm afraid you will make him limp before you get through with me."



Severe discipline frequently prevented prisoners from locating their relatives.

Captain Kane Pleads with a Prisoner Not to Obey Him

Captain Michael C. Kane, our Assistant Deputy Warden, prides himself on having his way with the prisoners. He will be obeyed, and has been for over thirty years, but he met his Waterloo Friday, March 13th. Which incident should be taken to prove that one should give some thought and rather more attention to certain days and dates. At any rate, it may be that the Captain will look with considerable disfavor on Fridays and thirteens—especially on any combination of the two. Now, it happened in this wise:

Frank Holland, becoming suddenly insane, climbed to the roof of the Chapel building and commenced running up and down, shouting orders to every one within reach of his voice, throwing rocks at officers for pastime, and aiming with a pick as if it was rifle and calling: "Halt or I fire!"

Captain Kane now appears on the scene—and immediately halts—and at a glance has taken in the situation and sets out to command some of the aforementioned obedience. He sternly called for the prisoner to come down, and that at once. Holland started to obey—but in a somewhat different manner from what the Captain meant. He proceeded to disrobe, throwing his clothing, piece at a time, to the ground over the front of the building.

At last his under garments flew over the edge of the roof and he climbed out, ready to follow his clothes—and to faithfully and literally follow the Captain's insistent commands. For a moment the many spectators of the incident held their breath, for it looked as if Holland was going to take the shortest way down—the fifty feet, or more—straight from the roof to the ground.

Here is where sudden defeat overtook Captain Kane. He pleaded and urged and coaxed. He insisted that he had been misunderstood, and really meant for Holland to stay where he was indefinitely. And the Captain was as much in earnest now as he had been in his orders for him to come down a few minutes before. Indeed, it was a serious moment, for a plunge from the top of the building would have meant death for the prisoner.

Whether it was the force of habit in obeying

the Captain that held Holland, cannot be said. But he hesitated and so gave opportunity to several prisoners who had gained the roof unseen by him to attract his attention to them. He turned and started to run toward them and two of his comrades quickly captured him. A fierce struggle ensued in which he was finally overcome.

As the roof was a gabled one and very steep, the rescue was a grand exhibition of courage and physical fitness, and the two men who effected it deserve much admiration for successfully accomplishing a difficult and daring feat.

It required an insane prisoner to make Captain Kane back up, thereby breaking an unsullied record of over thirty years. We must admit that the Captain backed up enthusiastically and with good grace—and for a worthy cause and to good effect—but he did back up and a prisoner made him do it.

CONTRIBUTIONS FROM INMATES

MY FRIEND JAMES

By Jesse Sogers

A Prisoner

When I came here during the year 1897 one of my first friends was James, who was serving a life sentence for murder.

He was always cheerful, and he was sure that in time it would be known that he had acted purely in self-defense and that then he would be discharged.

Then he would go back to the old home to live with his old mother, who was the sole surviving member of the family.

When James had been here about nineteen years he had at last accumulated enough money to present his petition for a pardon, together with his documentary evidence to the Pardon Board, and after that he commenced to count the number of days which would transpire before he was released.

He had argued his case the best he could in a letter to the Pardon Board and he was sure that he had made out a truthful case of self-defense, and besides he had presented a record of perfect conduct in the prison and this record covered many years.

He was sure that the Board would have in mind that the Prosecuting Attorney in the case had been ambitious for a reputation as a successful trial lawyer, and that his own poverty-stricken condition at the time of the trial when he was eighteen years old would be considered.

His documents showed that he had no lawyer until the court appointed one for him, and that he received just the kind of a defense that nearly every man receives who obtains a lawyer in that way.

He was satisfied that by showing the inequality of the contest between the State of Illinois and its machinery for prosecuting on the one hand, and he, James, without money and with an unknown lawyer appointed for him by the court at the last moment on the other hand, that he had made it perfectly plain that he had never been properly tried.

One day he handed me a letter to read. It was an official notification that his application for a pardon or a commutation of his sentence had been denied.

Shortly afterwards I noticed that his hair was turning gray, and that the bright, cheerful look had disappeared from his face.

Instead there was a sad and worried expression which told me that James realized that all he had been able to scrape together during eighteen years had been lost in that one venture, and that it would probably take another eighteen years to enable him to make the effort again.

In other words, James knew for the first time that he was serving a life sentence, and that he was destined to die in prison.

His hope that he would again return to his mother in the old home was shattered, and with it had gone all ambition and desire.

He felt that he was not getting a square deal, in that the lack of money had prevented him from bringing his case up right. He saw other men come and go and he knew that from the standpoints of ability and character he was superior to nearly all of them, but for him the great gate never had swung outward.

He understood that he had never had the slightest chance to regain his freedom after the gates had closed behind him, and that his confidence and hopes had never had substantial foundation; that he had been dreaming.

About a month after he had shown me the notice I again had a chance to speak to him and

I asked him how he was getting on, and he answered: "I have nothing to live for now. All my hopes for the future are shattered."

He argued that the men who are in prison under the parole law could get to see the Board, but that he had never been face to face with any of them, and that consequently he had never been able to explain it right.

He wondered if some unknown enemy had put in a knock against him with the Pardon Board, and it puzzled him to find out if this was the fact. All he could make out of it was that he was helpless and that days, weeks, months and years had gone by, and that he was just where he started, only he was much older, and that he had worked hard in the shops under the contract system, so that he would eventually have a good record to point to, in order that there might be no question about his right to clemency.

At about this time I was placed at work in the Hospital as nurse, and pretty soon James showed up in the sick line for the first time during his incarceration.

He told the Doctor he was not sick, but just wanted to rest. Knowing him to be square, the Doctor took him in and put him to bed.

He instructed the Doctor that if anyone came to see him he was not to be bothered, as the promises which had been made to him had all been broken, and he knew that his mother, who was nearly eighty years old, could not pay the expenses of a trip from her home to the prison.

James grew worse from day to day, but never complained after he went to bed.

One day I went to the greenhouse and the officer in charge gave me some roses and morning glories for the patients. I brought them to James and asked him which he wanted and he chose the morning glories, saying that kind of flower covered the veranda of his home where his mother lived.

He grew weaker from day to day and began to worry about his mother. He prayed to God to permit him to go home to provide for her.

Our Father in Heaven must have heard the prayer, for shortly after James uttered it the cheerfulness, which at first had attracted me to him, returned, though he grew weaker steadily.

Soon his mind wandered and James was happy again. He believed he was a little boy, calling to his sister to come and help him get the chickens out of the garden.

OUR ANIMAL FRIENDS

By C. E. R.

A Prisoner

Starting off in a very personal way, I am very fond of animals. For this reason to properly describe the traits and habits of those who make up our little animal kingdom would take up three or four times more space than these few words of mine will occupy; and it is not my purpose to so impose upon the editor of this paper. If one really likes animals and has been accustomed to have them around him, there is much to observe in relation to their habits which might be entirely overlooked by the casual observer.

Dogs and horses are the best loved animals in the world; they are, themselves, the closest of friends. There is something very human about them at times. When they really get to know us they are keenly alive to our moods and acquire a knowledge of our dispositions that no other animals could possibly acquire; for we make no attempt in the presence of our pets to be anything but our natural self.

Our horses—most fortunately—are in good hands; this is only another way of saying that the men who watch over them are fond of horse flesh—and it should ever be thus. You will never see the guardians of our horses hit them hard under the belly or pull hairs from their tails or manes should they happen to fall into a rebellious mood; it should be a horse's prerogative to be rebellious at times, being a sign of temper and surplus energy, and this is good to see occasionally in all animals, both four- and two-footed.

To study horses properly we should do so at close range with the smell of the stable and the scent of the hay about us; being in their residence, they will doubtless be on their good behavior. If you think very much of a horse you are apt to find yourself before very long wedged within his stall, having a quiet *tete a tete*. Should he be expecting a lump of sugar, he will be quite rude enough to ignore your remarks until his nose has burrowed into every pocket big enough to hold it (the nose, I mean). And as he is munching the delicious morsel he is contemplating just where would be the best place to search for another lump; he is not apt to look through the same pockets twice.

It is pleasant to watch them drink—especially on a hot day. How they love to just literally

nose around in the water! So grateful and invigorating it seems to be that oftentimes they will forget, for a brief moment, the big fly which may be getting fat on some discreetly selected spot of their anatomy.

Our horses know when feed time comes around; should there be much of a delay they are apt to hunt up the commissary. All the penitentiary horses, 40 in all, are well fed, fine looking animals, and are always in the pink of condition. This is largely due to the fact that the stable men take a pride as well as a personal interest in their work.

The man who does not care for dogs must be erratic; the man who hates dogs, it seems to me, must be abnormal. For the dog is, after all, the most responsive of all animals and has more friends among men than all the other animals in the world combined. The dogs who frolic about the penitentiary grounds number seven. We have many varieties of all ages, from shepherds down to poodles, and their dispositions vary accordingly. Some are frivolously gay and care-free, while others are retired and dignified in their contemplation of a strenuous and well-fed past. We have some with grayish-white whiskers around their noses and mouths who are the honored patriarchs, and as such are respected. But whether young or old, they are all dogs, and being so must be the good friends of us all.

The other day, while in the dining room, I sat next to a big fellow who was carefully wrapping up something in a paper at the close of the meal. Presently he turned to me and inquired, "Do you mind if I take that bone off your plate?" I was not thinking of dogs then, and the question gave me rather a shock. Being satisfied, however, that my near neighbor had no intention of eating the bone himself, I said:

"For a dog, I suppose."

A look of confusion came over the face of the big man for a brief moment; then he answered, with a trace of embarrassment:

"No, it's my cat."

Have we cats? Yes, and then some! Whenever we go we have to dodge a cat. We have to dodge them because they are so tame and so superbly self-engrossed that the results would be disastrous if we did not watch our feet at all times. The writer claims no especial fondness for cats—perhaps because they are the natural

enemy of the dog; but these penitentiary cats have evoked his interest because they have deigned to come from without their shell of exclusiveness and their atmosphere of hauteur to make friends of the dogs. The dogs have received them into their society with fairly good grace. But being dogs, they know the changeability of cat nature and, I dare say, are ever prepared to fight or run—as the case may be.

This sketch would be incomplete without speaking of our donkey. He is the veteran of them all. He is the most intensely interesting character—as a study. He is so old that the mind of man runneth not to the contrary, and consequently, with due respect to old age, he is not overworked. This may be a pleasant way of putting it; perhaps it would be more to the point to say that he will not work unless the spirit moves him—and the spirit moves sluggishly in these his halcyon days. While the old wicked glint of the eye, betokening deep guile, has departed with most of his sight and usefulness, there is still a trace of the old time stubborn defiance in his eyes which the film of old age has not succeeded in obliterating. He is at peace with the world after a well spent life, and through it all has done very little kicking—for a donkey.

We will say good-by to all of our animal friends for awhile. There are doubtless many men here who would like to know them better, and the very thought, to my mind, must be prompted by those old associations which, with gentle persistence, keep tugging at our memory—and we don't want them to let go!



TRIALS OF A RUSSIAN

March 16, 1914

To the Editor: I wish to remind the prisoners who have been here over five years of our Russian friend, John Regar. I use that name because it will recall him to them without disclosing his identity outside.

John came to this country—fresh from the Russian-Japanese war, in which he had served as a private—about a year before he landed in the penitentiary. He was convicted of operating a confidence game. As he could hardly speak English, I wondered how he could have worked a confidence game.

He studied hard and as everyone about him

spoke English, he soon improved. Being a Russian, it was easy for him to acquire a new language. After John had learned to make himself understood he told me of how he had earned the distinction of being a confidence man. His story was that he had worked for a Russian farmer in Dakota and that when he left his employ he received sixty-seven dollars less than was due him as wages. John returned to Illinois and brooded over his loss, particularly as he was anxious to send passage money to Mrs. John—for herself and their two babies—to come to this country.

John remembered that the farmer had a brother who was a traveling man and that the latter sometimes telegraphed to the farmer in Dakota for money, which was always sent. John decided to collect the money due him, so he visited a telegraph office and with the help of one of the clerks he wired to his former employer for sixty-seven dollars and signed the name of the brother to the telegram. Promptly advice was received at the telegraph office where John was waiting to pay over the money, and John, still using the brother's name, received and receipted for it, which he promptly sent to Mrs. John, together with what he had saved, with instructions to her to come at once with their babies to the land of plenty. John felt so good over his brilliant stroke that he wrote to his former employer, telling him how he had managed to collect what was due him. The Dakota farmer took an entirely different view of the situation and notified the telegraph company that it had paid the money to the wrong man and the farmer very promptly received his money back.

The officials of the telegraph company then had John indicted and arrested and the court quickly disposed of him by forwarding him to Warden E. J. Murphy with an admission ticket for from one to ten years. Mrs. John and the babies were on the ocean when John came to be one of us.

The first winter John went to school and became one of my pupils. He studied English assiduously. Soon he applied to me to be taught what he should do and say in case he was reported to the Deputy Warden for misconduct. I tried to tell him, but made no progress, as the subject, stated in the English language, was be-

yond John's comprehension. In despair I finally gave him the following writing lesson: "Deputy, I am guilty; I am sorry. I will never do it again!" John worked industriously at it, copying it on his slate many times every evening for the next seven months, as he had been told by me that those were the words to speak when he was brought up for judgment before the prison disciplinarian.

One day John was reported and at four o'clock in the afternoon he was called before Deputy Warden Henry Sims and Captain Michael Kane for trial on the report for misconduct made by an officer. These trials were usually surrounded by a great deal of solemnity and the Deputy read the charges contained in the report in his sternest manner, and then it was John's turn to speak. He commenced: "Deputy, I am guilty; I am sorry. I will never do it again!" repeating the same words over and over many times.

John thought that the oftener he said it in the short time granted to him to make his defense the better for him. Of course, the two deputies tried to be serious, but how could they be? Here was a man before them whom they knew could not speak English well, and yet he was pleading masterfully. John got the best of them and they were glad to get rid of him.

The next day John met me and said: "Say, Mister, that password was all right. I beat the * * *," meaning the officer who had reported him. At first I did not know what John was talking about, but he kept on repeating, "I beat the," etc., etc. Finally he explained so that I understood him and I learned that what I had started as a joke had after all served a good purpose. That afternoon Deputy Sims met me and said: "Say, Bobb, how did you teach Regar so much English in so short a time?" This led to explanations.

One day John wanted a special permit to write a letter and to make his case strong he told his keeper a fib to the effect that he had just received a letter from his wife and that the babies were both sick and that his mother was dead, and I do not remember what more. The keeper, who did not overlook much, told John to go and fetch the letter. John started, knowing that he was expected to return in a few moments with the letter. Pretty soon he approached the officer and said: "Say, Mr. Miller,

you have awful smart mans in America. I did not know you had such smart mans in this country. I lied only once in my life and you catch me. You are very smart mans in this country."

On another occasion John had captured some ice cream which had been left over by the officers. It was John's first taste of ice cream—and he had plenty of it—and as he ate it he looked at me and said: "Bobb, if the people in Russia knew how good it was in the penitentiary of this country they all would come to America right away."

At the end of eleven months John was paroled and let us hope that he found his wife and babies in good health, and that if he has any more claims to collect he will at least keep out of a penitentiary.

ROBERT REEDICTUER.



THE HEART'S DESIRE

By S. K. E.

A Prisoner

I have chosen the words "Heart's Desire" for this article because I believe that the simple phrase in itself will bring home to the minds of many of those around us much food for reflection. It is a compelling term. The desire of the heart fully realized can make for either good or evil. It can send a current of influence through the world that does its good part, however small, in uplifting humanity, in spreading happiness, in alleviating sorrow. It may also degrade and ruin, and is responsible for filling the cells of this institution.

As thinking men advance on into life they become, by virtue of their experience—often hard earned and dearly bought—more fully alive to the importance of harboring the really great and true desires which go towards making life worth while. Through the early part of their career, from childhood up to the threshold of manhood, these same men may have realized that there was something strangely missing in their lives—something intangible and indefinable; they were unable to put their hands upon it; they were quite as unable to point it out. But the secret of it all was that they never had really desired those good things that were, so to speak, sub-consciously missed. The drift of years, with their shadows and failures, have opened the eyes of many a man—of many a so-

called criminal. There are doubtless scores of men in this penitentiary today who would have never seen it had but the good desire long, long ago found its way to the heart and lodged there.

If we had a question box in this institution (and I believe that if such a thing was instituted it would certainly enliven interest and bring the men to a fuller understanding as to their relations to each other), I am safe in saying that in answer to the question: "What is your greatest desire?" one hundred per cent of the inmates would write "Freedom."

The desire for freedom is inborn. It is so amongst the peoples of distant lands, where, for generations, they have been laboring under the yoke of oppression. Personal liberty has no price. It comes before anything else and is pigeonholed within a little niche of its own, should we consult the great desires of the heart. And the strange thing about it is that that which we most dearly prize—personal liberty—gives us no particular thought or concern until it is rudely drawn from its niche and destroyed. Before it was lost we had taken its existence very much for granted. It was such a deep and vital part of life that we never felt inclined to tap our imagination for the consequent results in the event of our being deprived of it.

What of the present moment? While men are here serving out their term of imprisonment, another and greater desire should not be lost sight of by them, for it is an unselfish one, and its presence in the heart must needs be inspiring and ennobling. In a word, it is to (1) aid the administration by observing the rules laid down and, to still go further, observing them in the spirit, and (2) to endeavor to create a better and more brotherly atmosphere amongst themselves. It is indeed wonderful what such thoughts will do for a man. He may believe that he is helping others only, but he is actually, with no thought of self, stepping onward and upward to a higher plane of living, his horizon becoming broader and fuller with the operation of every good impulse.

Try it, men. Many of you here have toiled painfully up the mountain of life, having been subjected to its dangers and snares, and even now stand at the apex, looking down on the valley of a closing life. During those years of pain and happiness, have you ever experienced the

real pleasure which comes from service—from giving the helping hand to your fellow creature? Have you ever felt the desire? The mere fact that such desire once found entrance into your heart would tend to make you a bigger man, even though for some reason or other you had failed to put it to accomplishment.

This is a very big subject. But there is just another thought to which every man and women should harken. After freedom—our great desire—then what? Because we have been legally released, because we have been permitted to pass without the gates, does it necessarily imply that we have gained the happiness which we have somehow always coupled with this word "freedom"? We would be free and no man could say us nay; but right here, at this vital moment, is where we should harken to the good desires of the heart. Every man has them; they may lie dormant, but they are there. And while some of you men and women may have not made proper use of your talents during the years which have past, when you turn your back on this institution—let it be hoped never to return—and have thus gained what we have termed our Great Desire, let the new realization of your duty to the world, to society and to yourself dawn full upon you, and let the great desire of your hearts run in the new channel which you must mark out for yourselves, and in so doing shall you be a credit to both the good old and new-found friends, a blessing to your families and men indeed in the highest sense amongst the busy and honored men of the world.



THE HONOR SYSTEM

March 16, 1914.

To the Editor: I think the honor system is a great move in prison reform, and I feel sure that the Warden will have no trouble with the men he picks to go on the roads or farm. Nearly every man here wants to make good, and we all know that in order to do that we must keep our word after it is given to the Warden.

The law just passed in Texas pays a prisoner seven and one-half dollars per month. When a prisoner has a wife and babies that amount would come in very handy for them, so let up hope that Illinois will see it that way in good time. Let us be faithful to our duties and time will tell.

A. W. D.

ANNOUNCEMENT

We are pleased to publish the following communication from an attorney in Chicago.

EDITOR.

Offices of Emile V. Van Bever, lawyer, National Life building, Chicago.

March 18, 1914.

The Editor THE JOLIET PRISON POST, Joliet, Illinois.

Dear Sir: Upon a recent visit to the institution at Joliet, I obtained a copy of an edition of the Post and also became a subscriber to the same and I consider it one of the most interesting journals that I have ever had an opportunity of reading.

I note that there are a great many unfortunates at Joliet who should and would perhaps be at liberty if they were in a position to be properly represented before the Board of Pardons, but due to the lack of funds and friends who might be interested in their behalf, they are in no position to be heard.

I take this opportunity of announcing through your columns to any inmates of the institution who are worthy and deserving but who have not the wherewith, that if they will communicate with me and I am advised that they are entitled to some consideration, that I will be only too glad to offer my services at my convenience in doing anything that their cause may merit.

With my best wishes for the success of your paper, I am,

Sincerely,

EMILE V. VAN BEVER.



It is a startling illustration of the power of government to see 1,000 or more prisoners walk to their cells and all together, at the sound of a signal, open the cell doors and enter, closing the doors, so as to make it easy for the officers to lock them up.



Every man in this prison today has a better opportunity to gain an education than Abraham Lincoln had during his childhood and early manhood.



Inmates of penal institutions should bear in mind that punishment is never pleasant.

The Life-Timer's Soliloquy

Written for The Joliet Prison Post

Though I'm not a chronic kicker
 Nor a prison trouble picker,
 I would crave to see a quicker
 Way to solve a vexing question.
 I may hold my own opinion
 In this wall-embraced dominion;
 Yet I'm one in ninety million —
 So am open to suggestion.

Though the prospect of resignation
 To a state of life confinement
 Hurls me out of my alignment,
 And distorts my mental vision,
 Hope would never be discarded,
 And ambition but retarded
 Was my welfare only guarded
 By a just and sane provision.

There's a system of paroling
 Nearly every charge controlling;
 But the thought is not consoling
 To the straight time man or lifer.
 We're not viewed as are the masses
 Through the legislative glasses;
 And the Why and Wherefore passes
 To us fellows to decipher.

I would plead for unifying—
 Not for narrow classifying;
 There is nothing justifying
 Such a line of bold restriction.
 Is Reform its aim attaining,
 Or is social progress waning
 Through Society's ordaining
 Our perpetual eviction?

It is not inherent badness
 That incites a deed of madness;
 Thus for me the fuller sadness—
 So the sting of shame sinks deeper;
 Thus the cry for home rings truer,
 With grim Death a closer wooer;
 Come, new law, as the imbuer
 Of a Hope in me—the weeper!

E. R. N.



The Trail of Dreams

Written for The Joliet Prison Post

As once, alone, I trod the guarded ways,
I caught sweet fragments of a witching song;
Like melting clouds, before my wond'ring gaze,
The lofty walls grew strangely dim—were gone.
Abounding joy took place of dull despair,
As silver-clear I heard the voices ring
Upon the deep peace of the April air,
"Come, venture forth—come seek the trail to Spring!"

I saw, as misty billows drew apart,
The sun-warmed meadows roll their silent swell;
The swollen river bathe the valley's heart;
The distant mount—the storm-torn sentinel.
I watched the shelt'ring foot hills rise and fall,
While carols sweet were borne on joyful wing,
As broke again the sounding of the call,
That bade me tread the tempting trail to Spring.

It took me where the fragrant pines abound;
Past warrior oaks, in all their kinglihood;
It led me where the silver waters wound
Deep through the silence of the ancient wood.
On, on, I wandered, free and venturesome,
Then paused—as rich as purple-mantled king;
Unto its own the winding trail had come,
And, lo! I worshiped at the throne of Spring!

O, peaceful pathway to the Springtide land,
The memory of thy charm abiding seems;
Thou led'st me back to face the cheerless sand,
Delusive trail—thou wert the trail of dreams!
Come break again when eyes are closed in sleep,
Come lead me where the phantom voices sing;
I'll follow where thy tangled windings creep
To find the heart, the glowing heart of Spring!

K. N. O.

Good Fellows

Written for The Joliet Prison Post

No written prescription can make people happy,
No advertised tonic one takes from the shelf;
But here's a suggestion (though hardly as snappy),
Start well at the bottom—look into yourself.
This isn't a sermon, nor is it a fable,
'Tis only my secret to banish your cares:
Just be a good fellow whenever you're able—
The smile and the handshake will fall unawares.

With temper denied us we'd hardly be fitted
To fashion life's pathway—to mark it afresh;
The knack to control it must be, it's admitted,
The delicate lever, the thorn in the flesh.
You're grieved if your comrades remember your blunders,
Acquire the habit of not seeing theirs;
Let grudges be side-tracked and, wonder of wonders,
The joy and the laughter will come unawares!

Adjust the soft pedal when passion is rising;
'Tis likely, and wholly to you unbeknown,
The other mad fellow is truly devising
Some outlet or method to conquer his own.
Check tones that are raspy—tune up to the mellow,
Sing down an old riddle that vexes and wears;
The fact that you're really a jolly good fellow
Will dawn as the morning—will break unawares!

L. T. W.

Limericks

If a Post you wish to dispatch,
Do not bother the stamp to attach;
Drop a lot, if you can,
For the Editor man
In our POST-office quite up to scratch.

The P. Post has moved in-as-much
It required that finishing touch;
Now it owns a whole block,
For it ousted Mullock,
Now, tell me—can you beat the Dutch?

Father Edward his good work pursues,
For he's firm in his faith and his views;
He says what he thinks,
And effaces the kinks
When we have what is known as the "blues."

Since the Joliet P. Post had birth,
It has nearly encircled the earth;
It will boost, slap and quiz,
For its policy is
Quite as broad as the Editor's girth.

To judge by their frank testimony,
Certain inmates are getting too tony;
When they eat 3c soup
At South State street, the Loop,
They will long for that free macaroni.

Dickey Woelle would worry a saint;
Though his hobby is curtains to paint,
We fume, fret and froth,
For the show don't come off;
Is the box office open? It ain't.

Being bothered while during a visit,
A school teacher said, "Well, what is it?"
Some one said, "I'm your boss,
And straight back on the force
You'll be Welcome—so nix on the visit."

As a hero John R. we should tote;
He's a pen and ink artist of note.
And his delicate "touch"
Brought him grief, in-as-much
That the "pen" got his "number"—and goat.

The "Movies" bore down on the place;
And they got us side, quarter, full face;
But we all thundered, "No!"
When the guy yelled "Tango!"
(Such a thing would have been a disgrace.)

PRESS OPINIONS AND REPRINTS

THE PENITENTIARY AT FLORENCE, ARIZONA

Article by John Henry Whyte, Published
in the Globe-Democrat, St. Louis,
Missouri

George W. P. Hunt, governor of Arizona, is a true friend of modern prison reform. At the state penitentiary at Florence, Arizona, the prisoners have limited self-government through an organization called the Mutual Improvement League, which includes almost all the inmates. This league has a written constitution and a full set of officers, elected for a period of three months.

The town of Florence is situated about sixty miles from Phoenix, the state capital, and the prisoners have made a splendid road connecting the two points. Several large concrete bridges were constructed by the prisoners, and they are beautiful from an artistic standpoint as well as being substantial and lasting. The prisoners worked without guards and only one man escaped during one whole year.

Governor Hunt says that the only source of trouble in working prisoners on roads is whisky, and he favors a law making it a felony to supply whisky to a prisoner.

He believes in lifting up and assisting the fallen man as the true way to serve society.

His plan is to seek to make prisoners better men and honest; not degraded and humiliated beings with sensibilities deadened, faith destroyed, hope gone, self reliance vanished and ambition repressed.

He thinks that inmates in prisons should be fitted, if possible, to take their places in the world, and to honestly and successfully cope with its problems when their debt to society has been paid, and that they should be afforded an opportunity upon their release to start life anew, with a reasonable chance of success.

At the Florence prison Governor Hunt permits the prisoners to write as many letters to relatives and friends as they wish and to receive all letters that may come, because the letters from moth-

ers, fathers, sisters, brothers, relatives and friends usually bring cheer and wholesome advice. This one avenue alone is working wonders in the upbuilding of characters and driving out gloom and despair.

The governor asserts that a prison should be a place where high ideals are taught, more so than in any other institution, and that he believes in education as the best one means of bringing about reform.

Governor Hunt permits the prisoners to play baseball outside of the prison walls and allows tinkering which brings the prisoners financial returns, as many are experts at silversmithing, weaving and braiding.

He believes that prisons should be places of hope and not holes of despair.



CONDITIONS AT THE OKLAHOMA PENITENTIARY

Rewritten for The Joliet Prison Post From an
Article in The Oklahoma News

R. W. Dick, warden of the Oklahoma penitentiary, has not permitted the attempted escape of three prisoners—who on January 19th, last, assassinated four persons before they themselves were killed—to interfere with his plans for progressive administration of the prison.

He argues that the occurrence only has demonstrated that there were three men in the prison who were at that time willing to resort to desperate measures in a foolhardy attempt to regain their freedom and that only one of them had a revolver and ammunition.

He believes that there are about thirty out of his 1,500 prisoners who would attempt to escape if they saw a promising opportunity, but he does not think it would be right to change his policy towards all his prisoners by reason of what a few have done or would do.

He considers that his prisoners are men and that with them the hope of reward is a greater influence for good than is the fear of punishment, and that in a great many cases such influence has been lasting.

He is a great believer in segregation of men whom he thinks can be trusted from those who, in his opinion, are not worthy of his confidence.

The Oklahoma prison has between four and

five hundred trusties, which is a larger number than in any other penal institution in the world and it is the intention of the warden to increase the number. Trusties are appointed as the result of good behavior.

The real difficulty found lies in the present arrangement of the buildings which does not lend itself to the separation of the prisoners who are both obedient and helpful from those who are disobedient at times and begrudgingly obedient when they are forced.

In order to overcome this drawback and to carry out his plans more successfully, Warden Dick is causing the erection of a building for trusties—outside the prison walls—which will be operated largely on the plan of a large boarding school.

The trusties will sleep in the rooms of this building instead of cells and they will be supplied with moderate plans of amusement, including a reading room and a gymnasium, and it is the intention of Warden Dick never to send a man back to the cells unless he betrays his trust. The idea is to make this home for trusties both comfortable and elevating.

The work for trusties outside of the walls will be on the farms and roads. The men will come and go without guards wherever the work of the prison takes them and they are placed upon their honor to return at least by night.

The prisoners who are not trusties are kept within the prison walls at all times. They are permitted to converse freely either between themselves or with visitors when out in the rotunda or prison yards. Outside of working hours they are encouraged in their desire for popular pastimes, such as playing cards and checkers or engaging in athletic sports, principally baseball.

Men who do not behave properly are punished according to their deserts; the infliction of cruel and unusual punishments is not permitted.

There is a night school for illiterate prisoners with an average nightly attendance of about one hundred and forty scholars.

A great drawback to proper prison management at this institution, according to Warden Dick, comes from lack of employment for the inmates, his hands being tied by lack of money with which to operate. It is the intention to make a decisive effort to induce the next legislature to make satisfactory arrangement for more extensive work on the roads of the state.

Although Warden Dick was appointed seven years ago by former Governor C. N. Haskell, the present governor, Lee Cruce, has at all times been the staunch supporter of the warden's progressive prison policies.



LIMITED SELF-GOVERNMENT FOR PRISONERS AT THE AUBURN, NEW YORK, PRISON

—
Rewritten for The Joliet Prison Post From an
Article in the New York World
—

Warden Charles T. Rattigan, of the Auburn, New York, prison, has permitted his 1,350 prisoners to form an organization designated as "The Mutual Welfare League." The object of the league is to promote the true interest and welfare of the inmates at the Auburn prison. The league's motto is "Do good, make good."

Any inmate in good standing can become a member by signing the rules and by-laws. The governing body of the league is composed of fifty delegates who were elected by secret ballot. Elections are to be held semi-annually.

After the election had taken place the fifty delegates were sworn in by the warden amid impressive ceremonies held in the chapel. The oath was administered in the following words:

"I solemnly promise that I will do all in my power to promote in every way the true welfare of the men confined in the Auburn prison; that I will cheerfully obey the rules and regulations of the duly constituted prison authorities, and that I will in every way endeavor to promote friendly feeling, good conduct and fair dealing among both officers and men, to the end that each man, after serving the briefest possible term of imprisonment, may go forth with renewed strength and courage to face the world again. All this I promise faithfully to endeavor, so help me God."

Incident to the ceremonies speeches were made by Thomas Mott Osborne, chairman of the State Commission for Prison Reform; President George Black Stewart, D. D., of Auburn Theological Seminary; Brig. W. O. Hunter of the Salvation Army, and Judge Henry J. McCann, chairman of the State Board of Parole. In addition telegrams encouraging the prisoners to cooperate with the new order in bringing about

reform from the inside were read from Governor Glynn and Superintendent of State Prisons Riley.

The rules and by-laws provide for a grievance committee which shall act in all cases of breach of discipline.

This movement is one of the evidences of the attitude of the prisoners towards a progressive administration which has produced hope, where apathy formerly held sway.

The underlying principle of the movement is self reformation of the prisoners; the management and the inmates being in accord in that reform of the individual must come from within and can not come from without.



This Is So Sudden!

There is published in the Illinois state penitentiary at Joliet a monthly newspaper.

It is written and edited by convicts—by men deprived of their liberty for periods ranging from one year to life sentences.

Behind the mask of anonymity this prison newspaper has an able editor; one with a good deal more vision and penetration than hundreds of editors who are at liberty.

This intelligent editor and his prison assistants make their publication very much of a newspaper.

When a prisoner is shot through the head while trying to escape they print the news of his death. It discourages other attempts to escape and prevents other violent deaths.

When five prisoners engage in making counterfeit coins in the prison these editors talk about it. "What chance have you got to escape detection," they ask the coiners. "Held here in prison, you have no secrets. Everything you do is known throughout the prison by fellow prisoners and guards alike. Even the private affairs of the prison officers and your guards are known to you. The chances of escaping detection are a hundred to one against you."

No preaching, no mawkishness, no sentiment.

The attitude of the editors of THE JOLIET PRISON POST is as if the gambler in charge of a sure-thing game faced his victim and told him exactly how the odds ran against him.

Other things these convicts talk about that are more interesting.

They discuss the case of a Nebraska pris-

oner—age 21—paroled by the governor of Nebraska, so that he may enter the state university and obtain an education. They don't believe the experiment will be a success. They know the attitude of unconfined society too well.

"A man who commits a crime and is convicted must know that he will never be welcomed in university circles," say the writers for THE PRISON POST. "To have one's sins follow him to the grave seems to be the inevitable fate of the man who falls. We have no remedy to suggest for this condition except to bespeak generosity from society for the men and women who have paid the penalty."

They bespeak it—but do not expect it.

Penitentiaries are good places in which to cure drunkards and drug fiends—the prison editors tell us that.

A week of abstinence, of cold baths and attention, put drug and liquor fiends on their feet and regularly imposed tasks choke the craving for stimulants out of existence.

"Prisoners who come here on extreme cases of alcoholism are usually up and about and working within a week," THE PRISON POST tells you.

Here is inside information of great value if applied to outside social and moral derelicts.

The men who write THE PRISON POST are very much interested in the condition of their families.

They are opposed to contract labor being performed in penitentiaries. They object to the leasing of prisoners for pittance wages to slave-driving manufacturers who rob free labor of wages by having their products made by convict labor at lower wages.

But they wonder whether sending a man to prison and leaving his family unprotected isn't a pretty good way to manufacture automatically still more criminals and defectives.

They discuss the suggestion made by Warden Moyer of the federal penitentiary in Atlanta that prisoners be paid directly for their labor and a part of their earnings used for the maintenance of their dependents at home.

As you know, public sentiment has been again t this sort of thing. Taxpayers have insisted that paying convicts for their work would increase taxation.

The Joliet convicts think differently.

"Will society benefit in the long run by sup-

porting in this indirect way the dependents of the prisoner?" they ask.

"Is it right to punish the innocent dependents of a convicted person?"

When these two questions are answered intelligently by the public, laws will be passed to attempt the support of innocent dependents of convicted prisoners.

Here you have a fair sample of the things convicts talk and think about in their calmer moments. This is the first prison paper we have ever seen that is not filled with complaints about the injustices of life, about the oppression and hounding of prisoners, or about the inexorable phases of the law.

At Joliet—where Warden Allen is working a wonderful transformation—the stock injustices are recognized as matters of course and the newspaper that the prisoners produce goes beyond conditional inevitability, makes analyses and recognizes sociologic causes and ultimate remedies.

These are things that thousands of free and unhampered citizens are never able to learn.

If you desire to devote a part of an evening to profitable reading, we would suggest that you write to Warden Allen at Joliet and ask him for a copy of *THE PRISON POST*. It will show you, among other things, that the men confined at Joliet are doing more serious and beneficial thinking than many of those with whom you come in contact every day.—*Journal*, Chicago.



It Is Always the Ex-Convict

A local paper says that "according to police reports, two ex-convicts recently out of prison are ring leaders in a band now systematically preying on the fashionable apartment houses and homes."

It is a very easy matter for the police to make such an assertion, but I should think the public would want to know, if the police were close enough to these men to be able to identify them as ex-convicts, why they didn't nab them at the time. The fact of a robber being an ex-convict certainly cannot justify a policeman for failure in making an arrest, so why lug in the "ex-convict?" Suspicion is that they don't know, but at the same time, such reports are hard on the rest of us, who expect to be "ex's" some day.—*The Umpire*, Philadelphia.

The State Control of County Jails

It will be interesting to watch the action of the Republicans in the legislature on the bill providing for the transfer of control of the county jails to the state as drafted by the prison commissioners and still in the committee on social welfare. The measure is based on the need of carrying out, if we are to make a real advance in prison reform, some intelligent system of classification of the inmates. At present, drunks, drug cases, professional criminals, perverts are all kept in one institution, according to the county from which they are committed. The results are anything but encouraging. More often the prisoners lose rather than gain during their stay.

Under state control, the twenty-one county jails could be employed for housing the same prisoners in different groupings. The cases of similar kinds might be put together and receive the same kind of treatment. The hardened vicious would have far less chance of spreading the infection of crime; the opportunity of getting at the men sentenced for minor offenses in the way of reform would be greatly increased. It would clear the path for enlightened methods of dealing with the penal community, which look to the future as citizens of the individuals, while they are paying the penalty of law-breaking.

Such a change in classification is fundamental, if the state is to bring its prison management to a level with that of the leaders. And to this step the Republican party has definitely committed itself. In the platform adopted last fall, one of the social welfare planks explicitly pledged the organization to support the transfer of control of the jails from county authorities to the state. Not a word of opposition has been uttered either at the time or since, even by the county commissioners, who have in the past made so stubborn a fight against the change, largely from regard for their own political power. Whether they will be willing to admit now that they do not read party platforms, or give them heed, or not, the pledge is on record. The only obstacles they raise now lie in the financial questions involved. These are not easy to adjust, but they certainly are not incapable of adjustment.

It might not be fair, of course, to penalize any county for the care or maintenance of more prisoners than are committed by its own courts, but the problem here becomes one simply of accurate

bookkeeping and establishment of a system of reasonable assessment. The basic principle of the change proposed is sound and has proved its great value in the actual, practical tests of other states. The majority party here is on record in support of it. There was a Democratic governor in office when the declaration was adopted, as there is today. It is not a question of politics but of social advance, and political considerations ought not to be allowed to block its accomplishment.—*Herald*, Boston, Mass.



Parole Law in Kentucky

In the treatment of prisoners convicted of felony these principles are clearly sound: First, that the prisoner while confined should be treated humanely, but should not be treated as a welcome and favored guest of the State at the expense of honest, already heavily burdened taxpayers; second, that convicts should not be turned out, on slight signs of improvement, to become again a menace to honest, law-abiding citizens and probably to require again a heavy expense to the State for their conviction for a new crime; third, that convicts, when paroles are to be considered, cannot be handled in bunches, as we might handle onions or radishes, and that the automatic release of prisoners in big bunches is illogical and dangerous.

There are convicts now in our penitentiaries that have been sent to prison for serious crimes six or seven times in this state or in other states. That fact is often unknown to the Kentucky court that last convicted them. Their past offenses are often not known until the incorrigible offender is sent to Frankfort or Eddyville and is recognized there by the officials or by the other convicts. To turn such convicts out automatically and perfunctorily in bunches with men who never committed more than one offense of the lesser sort is outrageous. It is unjust to the offenders worthy of grace and dangerous to the state by diminishing the respect for law and by removing the fear of serious punishment even for grave crimes. There are cities in America with less than three hundred thousand people which every year have more murders than Paris or Berlin or even London, with its seven millions of people. Are we more bloodthirsty and less civilized or is the fault due to our juries, courts and prisons? It is a grave question.

By the decision of the Court of Appeals, in the recent De Moss case, the intermediate sentence and parole acts of 1910 must automatically turn out 600 or 700 convicts, if they have served the minimum time of imprisonment fixed by the law, even for such grave crimes as manslaughter (generally murder), rape, etc., namely, for two years, provided the convict, for the short space of nine months just prior to the parole, has merely observed the ordinary rules of the prison.

That was surely not the intention of the man who prepared the acts of 1910, and this interpretation makes an amendment of the acts necessary if convicts are not to be turned out automatically after a brief term and after being obedient to the ordinary rules for only nine months.

The senate has passed two bills introduced by Senator Helm, of Newport, after a favorable report by a senate committee and after full discussion in the senate. About the same time Representative Hutchcraft, of Paris, introduced bills on that subject in the house, where they are now pending. There seems to be an effort to defeat the senate bills or to prevent the passage of any bill on the subject, notwithstanding the De Moss decision.

The senate bill seems best. The main differences between the two bills, as we understand it, are the following: The Helm senate bill gives the prison commissioners power, after investigation of a convict's record and his evidence of reform or criminal disposition, to refuse a parole, but they cannot grant a parole without the approval of the governor. That is the law of Illinois and other states. The governor is elected by the people of the state, and his responsibility is clearly fixed. The commissioners are not elected, but appointed, and cannot be held to direct and clear responsibility to the people. Moreover, if the governor joins in the parole, there can be no doubt that the bill is constitutional, for, if the governor has the greater power to pardon, he has the lesser power to parole. The former prison commissioners were removed from office by the act of 1912. However good the present commissioners may be, others perhaps not so good may follow. The law should provide safety for any situation. The house bill continues the illogical provision of automatic paroles. It seems that the senate bill is the safer and better bill and should be passed without delay.—*Courier-Journal*.

Prison Contract Labor Calls for Abolition

It is a glaring inconsistency that a period which gives liberal reception to all manner of proposals looking to the betterment of mankind should be indifferent to the appeals of those who see the pressing need of reform in prison management. That there have been some steps forward in this particular is admitted, but the underlying fault not only has not been remedied, it has hardly been touched. Again we find it referred to in the present effort of a western city of the United States to overthrow the contract labor system in a municipal prison. An attempt is to be made to give the prisoners day labor on public improvements with fair remuneration, to be applied in part to the payment of their fines and in part to the support of their innocent dependents. This is a direct move against the contract labor privilege which exists in many parts of the United States and which permits private contractors to profit upon prison labor.

There are few who give thought to the fact that under the present prison system the law punishes not only the culprit but, in all probability, even more severely those dependent upon him. Aside from whatever humiliation and shame may attach to them, there is the non-sentimental, practical fact that, in the case of the imprisonment of a bread winner the family is deprived of the usual means of support. This may be so even where the prisoner is earning in prison for others, under the contract system, sufficient over and above the cost of his maintenance, or in excess of whatever the gradual liquidation of a fine may require, to keep his family in necessities.

It is the hope of prison reformers who recognize the inconsistency and the injustice of this system that the public may give its attention and its sympathy to the work they are trying to do. This campaign has nothing in common with attempts to condone offenses against the law or to set lawbreakers on pedestals. It would have the culprit work out his sentence and his salvation, but it would not make common merchandise of his labor or make it profitable only to speculative contractors. It would not add to the great wrong he had already done his dependents, but rather help him to make redress to some extent for this wrong. Abolition of the prison contract system seems to be one of the essentials to the

consummation of this great reform, and there is encouragement in the announcement that one of the large western cities of the United States is to take this first step.—*Christian Science Monitor*, Boston, Mass.



A New Board

Without meaning to cast any reflections on the personnel or the efficiency of the present "board," a prisoner of this institution thinks a parole board composed of the warden, chaplain, physician, record clerk and deputy warden would be much better than the present system.

While the public at large, it seems, is seeking ways and means of procuring the reformation of prisoners, criminals are being made, both by granting paroles and by withholding them. Instead of granting or refusing a parole to men upon the merits of their record, reformation or lack of reformation while incarcerated in a prison, the parole boards of this country are granting or rejecting paroles upon the record of the man before he became a prisoner, and because of the amount of political pressure that is brought to bear on them from the outside. To a large extent boards not actually connected daily with prisons are appointed and consequently have to act on the matter of granting or rejecting a parole for a man from information received second hand.

Having no desire to in any manner criticise the present board here, and without any reflections on that august body, I respectfully submit that the most efficient and satisfactory board, and one that would be more or less free from political influences, would be one composed of the officials above mentioned.

Give this board the absolute power to pardon or parole a man when he has become reformed to the extent that he will make a good citizen, and as long as men of character of the present incumbents are retained in their respective offices, justice will be done, and much actual reformation accomplished. It tends to degrade a man and not reform him when a parole is promised and for no cause known to him withheld, or for a man to earn a parole by good record and because of some political pull or lack of political pull, have his parole withheld. Let us reiterate, reformation, like charity, "should begin at home."—*The Bulletin*, Lansing, Kans.

A Better System

The recommendation made by Superintendent John B. Riley, of New York, that first offenders be given prison sentences without any definite term corresponds to the Ohio system of indeterminate sentences. Both systems, however, are better than the old plan of fixing the punishment for a particular crime for a definite term of years varying in length from one to twenty.

The personal opinions of the average judge usually influence his judgment in spite of his attempt to be fair and impartial. It is possible to present a given law to a supreme court composed of seven attorneys trained from childhood to regard property rights above personal rights and have it declared unconstitutional. Another supreme court composed of men who have fought their way up from the ranks and who are in sympathy with the workers will declare the same law constitutional. The same principle governs their actions in all other cases. As they believe so will their decisions be, and criminal cases are no exception.

Where a judge believes that the ends of the law are best served by imposing long sentences upon offenders, he will send a man to prison for five or ten years for stealing a few dollars. Another judge who believes that society should reform rather than punish a criminal, will sentence a prisoner to the penitentiary for a year for the same offense.

The effect of these varying opinions regarding the proper punishment for crime is bad. A convict who sees a companion serving one year for the same offense for which he is serving ten, usually feels a burning resentment against the machinery of society for its unfairness. It kills the hope of reform in him and handicaps the prison officials in their efforts to turn him into a law-abiding, if not a law-loving member of society.

The indeterminate sentence makes a man responsible for the length of his own sentence. It places all convicts upon a par and gives to each the power to lengthen or shorten his sentence as he wills by his behavior. Ohio has a wise system and although the recommendation of Superintendent Riley is a good one, it seems that New York would profit by copying the Ohio law.—*Sun*, Springfield, Ohio.

Reward Put Up by Convicts

Dallas, Tex., March 12.—A reward of \$35 for the return of two of their number who broke parole and escaped has been offered by forty-eight other convicts, members of a party which recently began working the roads in Smith county without guards or shackles under an experimental plan of the state. The reward is offered from the wages of the men, paid them as part of the experiment. Notification of the reward was received by a newspaper here yesterday, with requests that it be published.

"We, the members of a camp of honest men, are ready to go our limit to have the deserters returned," said the letter of notification, signed, "The Boys in Camp."—*Daily News*, Chicago



Humanitarian Improvements at Chester

Since Frank Orr of this city has become chairman of the commissioners of the Illinois penitentiary at Chester, a number of changes of a humanitarian nature have been put into effect at the penitentiary, which reflect credit upon our townsman and his fellow members of the board.

Word comes that the convicts at Chester have taken a new interest and pride in things. The changes that have been made pertain to many of the inner details, but are vastly important to the life of the hundreds of men in the prison.

The rules for letter writing have been made more liberal with the intent of making the treatment more humane. Hitherto the first grade prisoners who are of the best conduct could only write a letter once a month. Now they are granted permission twice a month and even the prisoners of lower classes are given permission once a month, while previously, they could not write at all. In cases of special importance they are now allowed to write at other times with the consent of the prison officers. As many of the prisoners have wives and children or mothers at home who are extremely anxious about them, the favor is very highly appreciated.

The tradition-bound custom of wearing striped suits, which has been observed in the case of third-class prisoners, has been recently abolished at Chester. The odious striped suits engendered ill feeling and tended to make the prisoners feel like animals instead of men, and the more humane view is to remove this spirit at the penitentiary.

A number of minor details about the penitentiary have been changed, including the installation of a barber shop where prisoners may sit in chairs like men. The hospital has been redecorated and finished, giving it a more cheery appearance.

The prisoners have taken an added interest in prison order and the religious services on Sunday have grown so popular that the chapel will no longer hold the crowds of prisoners who wish to attend. They have splendid music of their own and their orchestra and band practice is encouraged.

Mr. Orr is to be congratulated on his part in this good work.—*Mail*, Mt. Sterling, Ill.



Shackles in Tennessee

A Nashville newspaper states that, "as a result of revolting conditions said to have been found on the county roads in a tour of inspection, a majority of the members of the workhouse board has declared that use of shackles on prisoners must be abolished.

"According to the statement of one of the members who inspected the camps, the use of shackles on human beings is barbarous, and the suffering and inconvenience caused the prisoners by being forced to wear the irons could only be realized by seeing a prisoner who wore chains which reached from knee to ankle and a cross chain connecting each leg.

"Squire Allen, in speaking of the conditions which he found to be caused from the use of shackles, said that several of the prisoners' legs were almost decayed under the clamps which held the chains. Squire Allen said that especially in the cases of long-term men—those who were sent up for eleven months and twenty-nine days—the wearing of the chains was a horrible thing to think about. He said abolishing the custom of wearing the irons would be a great reform in the modern method of caring for the county prisoners.

"The shackles are riveted on the legs of the prisoners the day they are received at the camps, and the irons are never removed for any purpose until the day the prisoner is given his liberty. The prisoner is forced to sleep in the chains, it is said, and it is impossible to remove the shackles without the aid of a skillful blacksmith."—*The Delinquent*, New York.

The Presumption of Innocence

The law wisely throws a presumption of innocence around an accused man, and states in unmistakable terms that that presumption shall remain with the accused until his guilt is established. Jurors, judges, and the public, it seems, have lost sight of this principle of law, and now when a man is merely accused, he is compelled to prove his innocence, not only to the court before whom he is tried, but to the world.

Recently a gang of political outlaws tried to "hold up" the blind senator of Oklahoma, Thomas P. Gore, by making scandalous charges against him; and the world, that is always ready to give a man a shove down hill, waited to rejoice at the senator's downfall. But fortunately, Senator Gore was able to prove his innocence. Many a man is serving time in prison because the presumption of guilt that the judge and jury held could not be overcome by his evidence, while if the presumption had been of his innocence, as the law says it shall be, he would have been acquitted.—*The Penitentiary Bulletin*, Lansing, Kan.

EDITOR'S NOTE.—The presumption of innocence after a man is indicted by a grand jury in Illinois is of some value to an accused person who has a good attorney and money to pay him with, but to a poor man it is no safeguard whatever.



Wants Doctors to Pass Sentences

Dr. Harold W. Wright, assistant alienist at Bellevue Hospital, New York City, urges in a recent issue of the *Journal of the American Medical Association* that sentencing of wrongdoers and so-called criminals be taken out of the hands of judges and left to physicians trained in mental diseases, who are in the service of the state and consequently free from bias.

His idea is that any method of dealing with the offender which contains an element of punishment is illogical and unjust. "The only real justice for the person who is in error," he says, "is the attempt to correct the condition which caused him to err." Punishment, he asserts, does not do this.

He suggests that under the present system "the habitual or instinctive criminal is too often set free to repeat his errors, and also to influence the unrecognized, potential criminal of the feeble

“minded, constitutionally inferior class,” and says: “It is the instinctive or habitual criminal who often is pardoned for good conduct because of his ready adaptability to prison life when he knows such an attitude to be to his advantage. In these offenders, however, punishment only arouses the desire for retaliation on society.

He believes physicians trained in dealing with “psychopaths” are suited to decide which of the offenders is amendable to this, that, or the other form of correction; to tell when the person is “sufficiently corrected in his mental functions” to justify his parole into normal society, and to determine who shall be kept in permanent custody. It is not possible, he adds, for those of the legal profession to determine these questions justly; nor is it possible for them to frame just laws as to penalties.

“It is not unreasonable, therefore,” he says, “to foresee the time when the function of the lawyer and the judge will be restricted to the determination of the guilt of the offender, and the function of prescribing what is now called the ‘sentence’ or ‘penalty,’ but which some day will be called the ‘therapy’ or ‘treatment,’ will be taken over by physicians thoroughly trained in mental diseases.”

All offenders, according to Dr. Wright, are characterized by one or more of the following attributes:

1. Exaggerated suggestibility.
2. Exaggerated egotism.
3. Emotional instability.
4. A lack of altruistic or unselfish motives.
5. A lack of the power of sustained energy—that is, abnormal nervous fatigue.
6. A tendency to the easy disintegration of consciousness which permits the brutal or inferior qualities of the subconscious mind easily to become dominant when temptation occurs and to be ungoverned by the critical quality of the conscious mind; even when the critical function is sufficiently aroused the power of direction by the will is in abeyance.

Those of the insane most prone to commit statute offenses, this Bellevue alienist says, are the paranoiac, the epileptic, the kleptomaniac, and the dipsomaniac and other drug users, especially the “cocaine fiend.”—*The Index*, Monroe, Wash.

EDITOR'S NOTE.—The general adoption of the good doctor's plan is recommended, only on the

ground that many physicians are hard pressed for money.



To Discourage Parole Violations

Advices come from the convict camps at Lindale in Smith county to the effect that the prisoners have organized themselves for the punishment of any of their number who may violate the rules of the parole. While this move is not to be taken as one having no bad features, we think that under good management it will prove the claim of hundreds of social workers to the effect that when a man is trusted he will seldom betray confidence.—*Gazette*, McKinney, Tex.



The Crucial Period

A prisoner writes, in *Good Words*, as follows: “There is no other situation incident to mortal life more powerfully conducive to searching and even creative thought than is enforced sojourn in a great prison. This is true of every inmate in his degree; but in all prisons there are a number of prisoners who, in the outer world, had been accustomed to apply the energy of strong and able intellects to dealing with the problems of external life—chiefly, of course, such are concerned with wresting wealth and position from the world. When these men are suddenly removed from their activities and prevented from further use of their faculties on the lines they have been pursuing, a phenomenon of singular psychological interest takes place. The immense mental energy which the man has hitherto been applying to the management of material things is suddenly and violently thrown back upon himself, and it generally creates there, at first, a condition of bewilderment and distress. In the majority of cases, however, this chaotic state will be of brief continuance; a reaction occurs, and the man now directs the force which had been used in the ordering and subjugation of concrete matters, to the region of the immaterial—that is, of thought. He begins for the first time—and he has time to spare—to investigate and dissect the causes of things; to determine what are the principles and objects of existence and of his own part in it; to ask himself what is worth doing, and avoiding, and why, and to measure and weigh the scope and value of his personal abilities and resources. The result of

such an investigation must be of worth; and the benefit of it might be, and should be, imparted to others, instead of remaining shut up in the man's private breast."—*The Delinquent, New York.*



Michigan Prisoners Placed Upon Honor

Reformation instead of punishment, a new experiment in penology, is being tried out in the Michigan state penitentiary here. Freedom of conversation is permitted in work rooms, where the "guard" now is a sort of foreman. About a hundred convicts under an honor system are permitted outside the walls to work prison farms. Strict discipline is maintained and every convict is learning a trade.—*American, Chicago.*



Organized Labor Asks Public Sentiment to Abolish Competitive Prison Labor

Organized labor has called upon manufacturers and citizens generally throughout the country to stand behind the National Committee on Prison Labor in its endeavor to bring about in the different states a system whereby the prisoner shall be employed directly under state control on roads, farms or in manufacturing articles for use in the institutions and departments under the control of the state.

For the past four years this committee and the labor unions, especially the United Garment Workers of America, have been fighting what is known as the leasing system, whereby the labor of the convict is sold to the highest bidder, the bid always being from 50 to 75 per cent less than is paid to the workers in the same line of industry outside of our penal institutions.

The effect of this prison competition is illustrated by figures gathered by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of Missouri, which has just completed an exhaustive investigation into conditions at the Missouri State Prison at Jefferson City.

The clothing factory at that prison reported an output for 1912 of overalls and other garments valued at over \$2,500,000. The convict working force consisted of 887 men and 44 women, a total of 931, while for their labor the state received \$200,629. The total amount paid out in wages and salaries for superintendents, etc., was \$371,385. From these figures it will be noted that the cost of labor was so small when com-

pared to that at a similar factory outside the prison walls as to be startling.

Free manufacturers are asked to compare their own pay roll with that of the contractor at this prison, where for healthy male convicts 75 cents per day was paid, while for a few cripples and the women the figure was only 50 cents per day.

The National Committee on Prison Labor and the unions see that this unfair competition can be overcome by the work for the state whereby no prison goods reach the open market, but these two groups need the support of all interested, either for business or humanitarian reasons, to bring about results which shall be effective and lasting.

From a practical business standpoint organized labor has brought this matter before the people of the country and awaits their action.—*Enquirer, Cincinnati, Ohio.*



Minnesota Prisoners Are Self-Supporting

The Minnesota state prison was established for the "confinement and reformation of convicts." That is the language of the statutes, and similar language is found in the laws of only four other states.

The new cell block was built at a cost of over \$3,000,000 and satisfies every advanced idea of prison construction. No more than one prisoner is permitted in a cell; the sanitary arrangements are excellent; light and heat and ventilation are like those in a school.

The discipline is very strict, but consistent. Everything, except some of the machines, operates noiselessly and with precision. There is no dark cell, no whipping-post, no chaining device, or any other manner of corporal punishment. In lieu of these a system of rewards and punishments has been evolved. The prisoner who does not behave gets less food than the others. If he persists in his contrariness, he is put in a darkened, not a dark, cell. As the very limit of punishment his tobacco is taken from him. The loss of his tobacco usually appeals quickly and strongly to a convict's judgment.

In so far the Stillwater prison is similar to the best elsewhere; but in the use of its manufactured products it is unique. Within the prison is located the best-equipped factory for the production of binder twine anywhere in the country, and

it has the third largest output of any similar factory.

Here is the revolutionary fact. The manufacture of binder twine in the Minnesota prison is so well managed that it entirely supports the prison, and earns enough more to give every convict a small daily wage.—Robert Barry in *Century* for March.



Judge Nervous About Dynamite

Judge Sabath ordered policemen to remove fifty sticks of dynamite and fifty feet of fuse brought into his courtroom as evidence against George Williams of 1332 Christiana avenue, a convict, who was charged with helping William Trail blow a safe a few minutes before Trail was pursued and shot dead by Policeman John Mikula. Williams was ordered sent back to Joliet.—*Record-Herald*, Chicago.



A Governor and the Death Penalty

Governor Ralston, in refusing to commute the death sentences imposed on the wife murderers Chirka and Rasico, makes it plain that he can not be guided by any personal conviction on the possible ethical error of the capital penalty, but must adhere to the law and the evidence. "It is my judgment that I would be refusing obedience to the law myself and doing the state and society an injustice if I were to commute the sentences of these men or either of them," he concludes. The crimes were peculiarly revolting. Each was premeditated.

While capital punishment remains in Indiana, it is the duty of a governor, as Mr. Ralston declares, to enforce it in the light of the law and the facts, and not to be ruled by moral or intellectual scruples. He would be, indeed, a hard-hearted man who did not approach with faltering step and sorrowful mind the duty that compels him to affirm a process that takes any human being's life away.

The governor well observes: "I can not ignore the rights of society nor forget the two wives slain by the hands of the men who had taken a pledge before heaven to love, cherish and defend them. I can not close my eyes to the fact that the killing of wives is becoming more and more frequent in the commonwealth whose laws I have sworn to have executed."

The state, in the wisdom of its fathers, has prescribed death as the final deterrent for those who will not be prevented by the shadow of life imprisonment from taking the lives of fellow men. The frequency of murders in the United States is our shame. Protests have availed little. The laxity of law enforcement, the sloth of courts, the abuse of the pardoning power, and, it must be confessed, a mistaken liberality with the tools of humane penology, have created insensibility to law and disregard for human life.

It is time that these things were corrected, so far as is possible in specific cases, to restore the sanctity of law and life. In our imperfect society it is a question of the measure of severity. We justify capital punishment not on ethical grounds, but on grounds of necessity. The whole punitive system affronts idealism, but in the finiteness of our corrective media we must have it. While the organic law says that the supreme reprisal of a life for a life shall be maintained, it would be weakening the whole fabric of law not to apply it if the facts require it.—*Star*, Indianapolis, Ind.



Speak Well of Others

If you would be well spoken of, learn to speak well of others. And when you have learned to speak well of them, endeavor likewise to do well to them, and thus you will reap the fruit of being well spoken of by them.—*Epictetus*.



Would Prison Contractors Waive Their Rights

Mr. Furst suggests that there would be no danger of the prison labor contractors surrendering their contracts in case the national anti-convict labor bill becomes law, because they could find an outlet for their goods abroad.

This possibility might easily be tested. If there is no likelihood of forfeiture, there is no need for the cancellation provision in the contracts. The *News* suggests that Mr. Furst obtain from the contractors a formal release from this clause so far as the right of its exercise upon enactment of the Booher bill is involved.

If the contractors consent, well and good. But in the conference that resulted in the appointment of the Penal Legislation Commission of which he is a member, Mr. Furst said he wished to make only one plea: that he was ready for any

reform, but that, whatever was done, the prisoners must be kept regularly employed; anything short of that would be sheer brutality.

The question is: Shall the state put itself at the tender mercies of the prison contractors; or shall it make for itself as adequate preparation for eventualities as in their cancellation clause they have already made for themselves? If the latter, then the preparation must be made now, for the eventualities are well-nigh upon us.—*News*, Baltimore, Md.



Denouncement of Contract Labor System

The subject of prison reform was discussed in an able manner at the I. O. O. F. temple in Freeport, Ill., recently, when Miss Winifred L. Taylor addressed the Women's club. Miss Taylor has made this subject a lifelong study and portrayed the subject in a manner clear and plain. She said in part:

"This is a subject that every woman in the United States should be deeply interested in. Little do the millions of people who are on the outside of the prison walls know what is going on behind the heavy walls of masonry that shut off a large number of men and women from the outside world. The prisons of the United States are in a far better condition today than they were twenty years ago, but they are still far away from the point where the finger of criticism cannot be pointed at them with righteous indignation. For a number of years the contract labor system existed in the penitentiaries throughout the United States. This has been stamped out by legislation in some of the states, but there is still a number of prisons which are run under the contract system, especially in southern states. The contract system is the most unjust and the hardest thing to drive out of the penitentiaries that the various states have had to grapple with. Under this system a number of prisoners are leased to an outside firm to manufacture the goods which they handle. The greatest number of prisoners under the system are employed in the shoe manufacturing business. This is one of the principal occupations which the prisoners are employed at in the penitentiaries. A large shoe manufacturing company will, through political influence and money, be given the use of the prisoners' labor to manufacture their products. The state installs machinery in the buildings for the making of the

goods, and all the firm has to do is to step in and furnish the material to be used. For this labor, an average of one dollar a day is paid to the state for each able bodied prisoner who is employed by the company. This is the first step; it does not look so bad on the surface, the average person will say, 'Well, the state has to support the institution, has to take care of the prisoners, feed and clothe them. Why should it not have the right to sell the labor of its charges to the highest bidder?' Well, let us go a little farther into this subject and see where the contract labor system is the worst possible thing that could happen to the unfortunates that occupy prison cells. When a new prisoner is taken to the penitentiary, he is given his number. Whatever his name is, it is lost from the time he enters the walls until he has either served out his time or through political influence and pull is pardoned. The striped suit is placed upon him, which causes him to look more like a zebra than a human being. His hair is cut close to the scalp, and he is forcibly reminded that he is now an outcast of society, and is subject to whatever treatment the officials of the institution are disposed to give him. He is humiliated in every possible way and made to feel that when he entered the prison walls he left all hope behind him. After having his hair cut short and his striped suit placed upon his person, he is taken into the workshop. Here he is placed into the hands of an instructor and his punishment begins. He is set upon one kind of work and if he shows himself to be in any way skillful, his line of work is never changed until the prison doors are swung open and he is again given his freedom. After a week with the instructor he is set to a task to turn out so much work each day, and if he fails to turn out the required amount, various forms of punishment are imposed upon him, some of which are not far removed from the barbarous methods used by our ancestors of thousands of years ago. The shower bath is generally the first form of torture which the prisoner who fails to accomplish the task which he is given, is forced to undergo. This is an arrangement where the prisoner is placed in a small enclosure, and streams of water are played on his body from all angles; the water has a great amount of pressure behind it and very often the prisoner is nearly suffocated from the water striking him in the face in such a manner

as to cause him to be unable to draw his breath. When exhausted, and he sinks to the floor of the torture chamber in a semi-conscious condition, he is dragged out by the guards, the prison physician is called and he is revived. After a sample of this, the prisoner generally revives with a curse on his lips for all mankind, and murder in his heart. But if he is a wise man he will suffer in patience. After the shower bath he is taken to his cell, where he is placed in solitary confinement for the rest of the day. The prison doctor gives him what they term a physical examination the next morning, and if he is able to stand upon his feet he is again taken to the work-shop and set at the task again with the admonition that a repetition of inability will be dealt with in a much stronger manner than the shower bath. Sometimes it is an utter impossibility for the prisoner to do the required amount of work, and on the second offense he is given a number of lashes with the cat-tails and is thrown into a dark cell for a number of days. The average dark cell sentence is ten days with bread and water to exist upon and the darkness of night surrounding him at all times. Oftimes strong-minded men become unbalanced mentally on account of this form of torture. On the other hand if the prisoner shows himself to be adapted to the form of work which he is placed at, he soon becomes efficient, and then the speeding up process enters in. Each week more work is added to his task and he is compelled to turn out a larger amount of work in the same amount of time. Failure to do so places him in the same position as the inefficient prisoner and he is forced to undergo the horrors of the torture chambers.

The speeding up process is generally profitable to the prison officials. A bonus is paid on all work turned out over a stipulated amount to the wardens, the guards and everyone connected in any way with the shops that manufacture the shoes, clothing or whatever the prison has the machinery to make. The contractor for the prison labor is generally the boss of the prison officials in an indirect way. He holds the power in his hands to have the guards removed through political influence. Even the wardens in the penitentiary are under obligations to them very often for the position which they hold. This czar of the state penitentiary visits the institution about once every month to see how things are working.

On the occasion when the contractor visits the prison, the prisoners are warned beforehand that if they do not want to get the shower bath they had better speed up. It is not necessary to state that they do as they are told. The warden of the prison and the guards take great pains on the arrival of this human vulture to be on their best behavior, and they have the interest of grinding out dollars through the toil and sweat of unfortunate victims of their master at heart. Now, do not think that the guard is subservient to this monster because he has a great love for him. Oh no, self-interest is the power that rules in this living hell. The guard is anxious to please his master because it means his bread and butter. Many men who have a tender feeling for humanity have resigned the position of guard in the prisons because they could not bring themselves to the point where they could mistreat their fellowmen for the sole purpose of filling the pockets of these arch-angels of satan with ill-gotten gold. In the state of New York when the contract system existed in the prisons, the authorities always kept the penitentiaries full of prisoners. As the short-term prisoners' sentences expired and the men would gain their freedom, a watch was set upon them from the time they left the prison door until one year later. During this time of espionage, traps were set for the released prisoner to fall into, so an opportunity would be provided to send him back to the prison, especially if he was a good worker and what they termed a model prisoner. If the prisoners released led a straightforward life and did not fall into the traps set for them, and the prison force of laborers began to get low, word was sent to the police department of New York City to put out the drag nets and bring in whomever they could find. This action was put into effect immediately and the result was that men and women were brought into court on trifling charges and sentenced by the judges, who were hirelings in the employ of the contractor to the prisons for as long a term as the state law allowed on the charge made against the prisoner.

"A number of years ago the contract system was abolished by the New York legislature. As a consequence inside of three years the number of prisoners in the state penitentiaries decreased 40 per cent. The graft was now taken away from the politicians and the judges of the courts and

the enslaving of human beings behind penitentiary walls ceased, because it was of no interest to the officials of the law to persecute men and women any longer. In the last fifteen years a number of states have abolished the contract system and the result is that the prisoners in these institutions are given better treatment than was ever known before. Where the contract system has been abolished the inmates of the prison are being given a scholastic education, men of morals are doing guard duty and are studying up means to make the prisoner a model citizen on his release from the prison. The torture chambers have been abolished and men are taught to realize that the state prison is not a place which is used as a machine to grind their bodies into dollars for some one on the outside of the prison walls to squander in riotous living. The New York state penitentiaries today are manufacturing behind their walls goods that are used by the state which was formally purchased from outside factories at an enormous price. Under these conditions the hours of employment in the prisons have been reduced, the state has been supplied with all the goods they use, and a saving of several million dollars a year has been the outcome."

In closing, Miss Taylor said that the abolishing of contract labor from the state prisons throughout the United States is a work that all women can help to do and the sooner this was accomplished the quicker crime would begin to decrease, as the prisoners of these institutions would upon their release become good citizens in a large number of cases, and would not have the revengeful feeling instilled into them which the contract system causes.—*Bulletin*, Freeport, Ill.



Humanizing Prison Management

The other day a telegram came to the warden at the Colorado state penitentiary at Canyon City that the mother of a "lifer" dying up in the mountains wanted to see her only son before she entered into eternal rest. The warden sent for No. 2473 and said: "I am going to try you out. Your mother is dying. Here is money for your railroad fare both ways and something else besides. Come back."

And 2473 went a hundred miles, in the mountains, alone, clasped his mother as she died and two days after reported at the door of the "pen." Can you analyze that or can you beat it?

The solution of the question of the criminal lies in the application of the first principle of humanity, and that is to keep forever the door of hope, to keep forever in the eyes of the malefactor, however hardened apparently depraved "the light that never was on land or sea" to make him believe through kindness and charity that he is not forgotten and not wholly lost. Gradually our penal institutions are coming to the recognition of this basic fact. And a great many of them are applying it.—*New Era*, Leavenworth, Kansas.



Prison Reform in Maryland

A penal commission appointed some months ago by Governor Goldsborough, of Maryland, to outline a system of prison reform for that state, recently has made its report.

In substance the commission recommends the creation of an advisory board of control, or pardon board; the establishment of the parole system and the indeterminate sentence; the abolishment of contract labor; the opening of a penal farm; the incarceration of women prisoners in the house of correction instead of in the penitentiary; the revision of the criminal laws of the state; provision for the proper care of the criminal insane and the establishment of a tuberculosis hospital for criminals.

The commission recommends that the board of control be given the power to establish and maintain a system of labor for prisoners to supersede the present system of leasing out the labor; that the board shall have power to place prisoners at labor upon state works upon such terms as it may see proper; that the board shall provide such form of labor as will offer an opportunity to prisoners to earn a surplus and that the board shall further provide for the payment of any surplus so earned in restitution when practicable or to the prisoner himself or such person or persons as he may direct.

There is no specific provision for working convicts on the public roads, though it would be possible so to employ them should the board of control see proper, as that body is given rather wide latitude in the matter of handling the prison labor. Only one thing seems to be forbidden absolutely and that is the continuation of the contract labor system. The agitation against contract labor was responsible for the creation of the

penal commission. Public opinion everywhere is solidifying against the leasing out of convicts—*Courier-Journal*, Louisville, Ky.



HABEAS CORPUS

AN ACT to revise the law in relation to habeas corpus. [Approved March 2, 1874. In force July 1, 1874.]

1. Who May Prosecute.] *Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois represented in the General Assembly,* That every person imprisoned or otherwise restrained of his liberty, except as herein otherwise provided, may prosecute a writ of *habeas corpus* in the manner provided in this act, to obtain relief from such imprisonment or restraint, if it prove to be unlawful.

2. Application by Petition.] Application for the writ shall be made to the court or judge authorized to issue the same, by petition signed by the person for whose relief it is intended, or by some person in his behalf, and verified by affidavit.

3. Form of Petition.] The petition shall state in substance:

(1.) That the person in whose behalf the writ is applied for is imprisoned or restrained of his liberty, and the place where—naming all the parties if they are known, or describing them if they are not known.

(2.) The cause or pretense of the restraint, according to the best knowledge and belief of the applicant, and that such person is not committed or detained by virtue of any process, judgment, decree or execution specified in the 21st section of this act.

(3.) If the commitment or restraint is by virtue of any warrant or writ or process, a copy thereof shall be annexed, or it shall be averred that by reason of such prisoner being removed or concealed before application, a demand for such copy could not be made, or that such demand was made, and the legal fees therefor tendered to the officer or person having such prisoner in his custody, and that such copy was refused.

4. Copy of Mittimus.] Any sheriff or other officer or person having custody of any prisoner committed on any civil or criminal process of any court or magistrate, who shall

neglect to give such prisoner a copy of the process or order of commitment by which he is imprisoned within six hours after demand made by the prisoner, or any one on his behalf, shall forfeit to the prisoner or party aggrieved not exceeding \$500.

5. Award of Writ—Penalty.] Unless it shall appear from the petition itself, or from the documents thereto annexed, that the party can neither be discharged, admitted to bail nor otherwise relieved, the court or judge shall forthwith award a writ of *habeas corpus*. Any judge empowered to issue writs of *habeas corpus* who shall corruptly refuse to issue any such writ, when legally applied for in a case where it may lawfully issue, or who shall for the purpose of oppression unreasonably delay the issuing of such writ, shall, for every such offense, forfeit to the prisoner or party aggrieved a sum not exceeding \$1,000.

6. Writ—Form of.] If a writ is allowed by a court it shall be issued by the clerk under the seal of the court; if by a judge, it shall be under his hand, and shall be directed to the person in whose custody or under whose restraint the prisoner is, and may be substantially in the following form, to-wit:

The People of the State of Illinois, to the Sheriff of county (or, 'to A B,' as the case may be):

You are hereby commanded to have the body of C D, by you imprisoned and detained as it is said, together with the time and cause of such imprisonment and detention by whatsoever name said C D shall be called or charged, before court of county (or before E F, judge of, etc.), at, etc., immediately after being served with this writ, to be dealt with according to law; and have you then and there this writ, with a return thereon of your doings in the premises.

7. Indorsement.] To the intent that no officer or person to whom such writ is directed may pretend ignorance thereof, every such writ shall be indorsed with these words: "By the *habeas corpus* act."

8. Subpena—Service.] When the party has been committed upon a criminal charge, unless the court or judge shall deem it unnecessary, a subpena shall also be issued to summon the witnesses whose names have been indorsed upon the warrant of commitment, to appear before such court or judge at the time

and place when and where such *habeas corpus* is returnable, and it shall be the duty of the sheriff, or other officer to whom the subpoena is issued, to serve the same, if it be possible, in time to enable such witnesses to attend.

9. Who May Serve Habeas Corpus.] The *habeas corpus* may be served by the sheriff, coroner or any constable or other person appointed for that purpose by the court or judge by whom it is issued or allowed; if served by a person not an officer, he shall have the same power, and be liable to the same penalty for non-performance of his duty, as though he were sheriff.

10. Manner of Service.] Service shall be made by leaving a copy of the original writ with the person to whom it is directed, or with any of his under officers who may be at the place where the prisoner is detained; or if he cannot be found, or has not the person imprisoned or restrained in custody, the service may be made upon any person who has him in custody with the same effect as though he had been made a defendant therein.

11. Expense of Bringing, Etc., Prisoner.] When the person confined or restrained is in the custody of a civil officer, the court or judge granting the writ shall certify thereon the sum to be paid for the expense of bringing him from the place of imprisonment, not exceeding ten cents per mile, and the officer shall not be bound to obey it unless the sum so certified is paid or tendered to him, and security is given to pay the charges of carrying him back if he should be remanded; *Provided*, that if such court or judge shall be satisfied that the person so confined or restrained is a poor person and unable to pay such expense, then such court or judge shall so certify on such writ, and in such case no tender or payment of expenses need be made or security given as aforesaid, but the officer shall be bound to obey such writ.

12. Form of Return.] The officer or person upon whom such writ is served shall state in his return, plainly and unequivocally:

(1.) Whether he has or has not the party in his custody or control, or under his restraint, and if he has not, whether he has had the party in his custody or control, or under his restraint, at any and what time prior or subsequent to the date of the writ.

(2.) If he has the party in his custody or control, or under his restraint, the authority and true cause of such imprisonment or restraint, setting forth the same at large.

(3.) If the party is detained by virtue of any writ, warrant or other written authority, a copy thereof shall be annexed to the return, and the original shall be produced and exhibited on the return of the writ to the court or judge before whom the same is returnable.

(4.) If the person upon whom the writ is served has had the party in his custody or control, or under his restraint, at any time prior or subsequent to the date of the writ, but has transferred such custody or restraint to another, the return shall state particularly to whom, at what time, for what cause and by what authority such transfer took place. The return shall be signed by the person making the same, and except where such person is a sworn public officer and makes the return in his official capacity, it shall be verified by oath.

13. The Body Must Also Be Brought—Exception.] The officer or person making the return, shall, at the same time, bring the body of the party, if in his custody or power or under his restraint, according to the command of the writ, unless prevented by the sickness or infirmity of the party.

14. Examination in Case of Sickness, Etc.] When, from the sickness or infirmity of the party, he cannot without danger, be brought to the place appointed for the return of the writ, that fact shall be stated in the return, and if it is proved to the satisfaction of the judge, he may proceed to the jail or other place where the party is confined, and there make his examination, or he may adjourn the same to such other time, or make such other order in the case as law and justice require.

15. Neglect, Etc., to Obey Writ—Proceeding—Penalty.] If the officer or person upon whom such writ is served refuses or neglects to obey the same, by producing the party named in the writ, and making a full and explicit return thereto within the time required by this act, and no sufficient excuse is shown for such refusal or neglect, the court or judge before whom the writ is returnable, upon proof of the service thereof, shall enforce obedience by attachment as for contempt, and the officer or person so refusing or neglecting shall for-

feit to the party aforesaid a sum not exceeding \$500, and be incapable of holding office.

16. Other Writ in Case of Neglect, Etc.] The court or judge may also, at the same time or afterwards, issue a writ to the sheriff or other person to whom such attachment is directed, commanding him to bring forthwith before the court or judge the party for whose benefit the writ was allowed, who shall thereafter remain in the custody of such sheriff, or other person, until he is discharged, bailed or remanded, as the court or judge shall direct.

17. Proceeding in Cases of Emergency.] Whenever it shall appear by the complaint, or by affidavit, that any one is illegally held in custody or restraint, and that there is good reason to believe that such person will be taken out of the jurisdiction of the court or judge before whom the application for a *habeas corpus* is made, or will suffer some irreparable injury before compliance with the writ can be enforced, such court or judge may cause the writ to be directed to the sheriff or other proper officer, commanding him to take the prisoner thus held in custody or restraint, and forthwith bring him before the court or judge to be dealt with according to law. The court or judge may also, if the same is deemed necessary, insert in the writ a command for the apprehension of the person charged with causing the illegal restraint. The officer shall execute the writ by bringing the person therein named before the court or judge, and the like return and proceedings shall be required and had as in other writs of *habeas corpus*.

18. Examination.] Upon the return of a writ of *habeas corpus*, the court or judge shall, without delay, proceed to examine the cause of the imprisonment or restraint, but the examination may be adjourned from time to time as circumstances require.

19. Denial—Summary Examination.] The party imprisoned or restrained may deny any of the material facts set forth in the return, and may allege any other facts that may be material in the case, which denial or allegation shall be on oath; and the court or judge shall proceed in a summary way to examine the cause of the imprisonment or restraint, hear the evidence produced by any person interested or authorized to appear, both in support of such imprisonment or restraint and

against it, and thereupon shall dispose of the party as the case may require.

20. Amendments.] The return, as well as any denial, or allegation, may be amended at any time by leave of the court or judge.

21. When Prisoner Shall Not Be Discharged.] No person shall be discharged under the provisions of this act, if he is in custody either—

(1.) By virtue of process by any court or judge of the United States, in a case where such court or judge has exclusive jurisdiction; or,

(2.) By virtue of a final judgment or decree of any competent court of civil or criminal jurisdiction, or of any execution issued upon such judgment or decree, unless the time during which such party may be legally detained has expired; or,

(3.) For any treason, felony or other crime committed in any other state or territory of the United States, for which such person ought, by the constitution and laws of the United States, to be delivered up to the executive power of such state or territory.

22. Causes for Discharge When in Custody on Process of Court.] If it appear that the prisoner is in custody by virtue of process from any court legally constituted, he can be discharged only for some of the following causes:

(1.) Where the court has exceeded the limit of its jurisdiction, either as to the matter, place, sum or person.

(2.) Where, though the original imprisonment was lawful, yet, by some act, omission or event which has subsequently taken place, the party has become entitled to his discharge.

(3.) Where the process is defective in some substantial form required by law.

(4.) Where the process, though in proper form, has been issued in a case or under circumstances where the law does not allow process or orders for imprisonment or arrest to issue.

(5.) Where, although in proper form, the process has been issued or executed by a person either unauthorized to issue or execute the same, or where the person having the custody of the prisoner under such process is not the person empowered by law to detain him.

(6.) Where the process appears to have been obtained by false pretense or bribery.

(7.) Where there is no general law, nor any judgment, order or decree of a court to authorize the process if in a civil suit, nor any conviction if in a criminal proceeding. No court or judge, on the return of a *habeas corpus* shall, in any other matter, inquire into the legality or justice of a judgment or decree of a court legally constituted.

23. New Commitment — Recognizance — Witnesses.] In all cases where the imprisonment is for a criminal, or supposed criminal matter, if it appears to the court or judge that there is sufficient legal cause for the commitment of the prisoner, although such commitment may have been informally made, or without due authority, or the process may have been executed by a person not duly authorized, the court or judge shall make a new commitment in proper form, and direct it to the proper officer, or admit the party to bail if the case is bailable. The court or judge shall also, when necessary, take the recognizance of all material witnesses against the prisoner, as in other cases. The recognizances shall be in the form provided by law, and returned as other recognizances. If any judge shall neglect or refuse to bind any such prisoner or witness by recognizance, or to return a recognizance when taken as aforesaid, he shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor in office, and be proceeded against accordingly.

24. Order of Remand.] When any prisoner brought up on a *habeas corpus* shall be remanded to prison, it shall be the duty of the court or judge remanding him to make out and deliver to the sheriff, or other person to whose custody he shall be remanded, an order in writing, stating the cause of remanding him. If such prisoner shall obtain a second writ of *habeas corpus*, it shall be the duty of such sheriff, or other person to whom the same shall be directed, to return therewith the order aforesaid; and if it shall appear that the said prisoner was remanded for an offense adjudged not bailable, it shall be taken and received as conclusive, and the prisoner shall be remanded without further proceedings.

25. Second Writ — Bail — Remand.] It shall not be lawful for any court or judge, on a second writ of *habeas corpus* obtained by such prisoner, to discharge the said prisoner, if he is clearly and specifically charged in the

warrant of commitment with a criminal offense; but the said court or judge shall, on the return of such second writ, have power only to admit such prisoner to bail where the offense is bailable by law, or remand him to prison where the offense is not bailable, or being bailable, where such prisoner shall fail to give the bail required.

26. Person Discharged Not Again Imprisoned for Same Cause.] No person who has been discharged by order of the court or judge, on a *habeas corpus*, shall be again imprisoned, restrained or kept in custody for the same cause, unless he be afterwards indicted for the same offense, nor unless by the legal order or process of the court wherein he is bound by recognizances to appear. The following shall not be deemed to be the same cause:

(1.) If, after a discharge, for a defect of proof, or any material defect in the commitment, in a criminal case, the prisoner should be again arrested on sufficient proof, and committed by legal process for the same offense.

(2.) If, in a civil suit, the party has been discharged for any illegality in the judgment or process, and is afterwards imprisoned by legal process for the same cause of action.

(3.) Generally, whenever the discharge has been ordered on account of the non-observance of any of the forms required by law, the party may be a second time imprisoned if the cause be legal and the forms required by law observed.

27. Penalty for Re-Arresting Person Discharged.] Any person who, knowing that another has been discharged by order of a competent judge or tribunal on a *habeas corpus*, shall, contrary to the provisions of this act, arrest or detain him again for the same cause which was shown on the return of such writ, shall forfeit \$500 for the first offense, and \$1,000 for every subsequent offense.

28. When Not Removed From County.] To prevent any person from avoiding or delaying his trial, it shall not be lawful to remove any prisoner on *habeas corpus* under this act out of the county in which he is confined, within fifteen days next preceding the term of the court at which such person ought to be tried, except it be to convey him into the county where the offense with which he stands charged is properly cognizable.

29. Custody Not to be Changed, Etc.] Any person being committed to any prison, or in the custody of any sheriff or other officer or person for any criminal or supposed criminal matter, shall not be removed therefrom into any other prison or custody, unless it be by *habeas corpus* or some other legal writ, or when it is expressly allowed by law. If any person shall remove, or cause to be removed any prisoner so committed, except as above provided, he shall forfeit, to the party aggrieved, a sum not exceeding \$300.

30. Avoiding Writ — Penalty For.] Any one having a person in his custody, or under his restraint, power or control, for whose relief a writ of *habeas corpus* is issued, who, with intent to avoid the effect of such writ, shall transfer such person to the custody or place him under the control of another, or shall conceal him, or change the place of his confinement, with intent to avoid the operation of such a writ, or with intent to remove him out of the state, shall forfeit for every such offense \$1,000, and may be imprisoned not less than one year nor more than five years. In any prosecution for the penalty incurred under this section, it shall not be necessary to show that the writ of *habeas corpus* had issued at the time of the removal, transfer or concealment therein mentioned, if it be proven that the acts therein forbidden were done with the intent to avoid the operation of such writ.

31. Penalties, How Recovered.] All the pecuniary forfeitures incurred under this act shall inure to the use of the party for whose benefit the writ of *habeas corpus* issued, and shall be sued for and recovered with costs, by the attorney-general or state's attorney, in the name of the state, by information; and the amount, when recovered, shall, without any deduction, be paid to the party entitled thereto.

32. Pleading — Evidence.] In any action or suit for any offense against the provisions of this act, the defendant may plead the general issue, and give the special matter in evidence.

33. No Bar to Civil Damages.] The recovery of the said penalties shall be no bar to a civil suit for damages.

34. Habeas Corpus to Testify—Be Surrendered or Tried.] The several courts having

authority to issue writs of *habeas corpus*, may issue the same when necessary to bring before them any prisoner to testify, or to be surrendered in discharge of bail, or for trial upon any criminal charge lawfully pending in the same court; and the writ may run into any county in the state, and there be executed and returned by any officer to whom it is directed.

35. Prisoner Remanded or Punished.] After any such prisoner shall have given his testimony, or been surrendered, or his bail discharged, or he has been tried for the crime with which he is charged, he shall be returned to the jail or other place of confinement whence he was taken for the purpose aforesaid: *Provided*, if such prisoner is convicted of a crime punishable with death or imprisonment in the penitentiary, he may be punished accordingly; but in any case where the prisoner shall have been taken from the penitentiary, and his punishment is by imprisonment, the time of such imprisonment shall not commence to run until the expiration of his time of service under any former sentence.

36. Prisoner for Contempt How Discharged.] Any person imprisoned for any contempt of court for the non-performance of any order or decree for the payment of money, shall be entitled to a writ of *habeas corpus*, and if it shall appear, on full examination of such person and such witnesses, and other evidence as may be adduced, that he is unable to comply with such order or decree, or to endure the confinement, and that all persons interested in the order or decree have had reasonable notice of the time and place of trial, the court or judge may discharge him from imprisonment, but no such discharge shall operate to release the lien of such order or decree, but the same may be enforced against the property of such person by execution.



Couldst thou in vision see
Thyself the man God meant,
Thou nevermore wouldst be
The man thou art—content.

—Wilcox, in *The New Way*.



The only punishments that can improve men
are punishments of conscience from within and
of love from without.—*Julian Hazethorne*.

\$200.00 REWARD



ESCAPED PRISONER

JEFF. SHARUM, No. 3009, Alias Richard Benton, Jeff. Davis, "Little Jeff"

Received June 12th, 1913, United States Court, Chicago, Illinois.

Forging U. S. Post Office Money Order; $3\frac{1}{2}$ years.

Age, 55. Height, 5 ft. $5\frac{3}{4}$. Hair, gray mixed. Eyes green slate. Weight, 119.

Scars: Dim scar 2c long outer thumb 3c below wrist. Small scar front forearm at wrist. Right knee cap broken, walks lame.

Bertillon: 19.7; 15.2; 1.5; 26.0; 45.1; 167.3; 8.4.

Escaped from Illinois State Penitentiary, August 27th, 1913.

Arrest and telegraph EDMUND M. ALLEN, Warden, Joliet, Illinois

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WE assume that you have read this number of The Joliet Prison Post. The inmates of the Illinois State Prison, represented by the force in the Newspaper Office, will do their utmost to publish a paper of merit.

If you approve of the tone of this publication, you are respectfully requested to send to The Joliet Prison Post, One Dollar, in payment of subscription for one year. Address,

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THE JOLIET PRISON POST

VOL. 1.

JOLIET, ILLINOIS, MAY 1, 1914.

No. 5

Governor Dunne Visits Joliet Prison. States His Impressions; Is Pleased With His Observations

April 16, 1914.—Governor E. F. Dunne paid a visit to this prison this afternoon and, accompanied by Warden Allen and Deputy Warden Walsh, made a tour of inspection, during which he viewed the entire prison, including the women's prison, and afterward the recently purchased site for the new prison and the new farm.

Governor Dunne was interviewed by THE JOLIET PRISON POST after he had finished his tour of inspection and he talked freely on all questions brought to his attention.

The Governor stated that he is deeply interested in the way in which this prison is being conducted, which is the way agreed upon between himself and Warden Edmund M. Allen. The Governor said:

"Men may forfeit their right to their liberty but that does not take from them their manhood and their natural human rights.

"It is the duty of prison officials, so far as is possible, to change the spirit of prisons from that of irksome and unnecessary restrictions of natural rights to that only of necessary and proper restraint and along humanitarian lines. This will result not only in benefit to prisoners but also in benefits to the whole community.

"I believe that after the expiration of the term of imprisonment and after the payment of the debt to society, the prisoners who have been humanely treated will leave prison with a better disposition towards society and the law than they would have if, during their incarceration, they had been dealt with with undue severity.

"I have always believed that the infliction of punishment should be considered from the stand-

point of the payment of a debt, rather than from the standpoint of vengeance, and that when the debt is paid the debtor should stand acquitted and should be permitted to resume his place in society with kindly feelings both on the part of the prisoner and on the part of his fellow citizens.

"I have for some time been promising myself a visit to this prison to see if the new dispensation is working well and I am very much pleased with what I find here.

"It is a pleasure for me to learn from the inmates that they have a kindly feeling towards those whose duty it is to keep them in prison during the term of their sentence. I believe, on the whole, that the prisoners are responding to the changes which have been made as the result of the method of administration agreed to by the commissioners, the warden and myself.

"I am happy to have a share in giving the prisoners at Joliet recreation during working hours and the delights of this day are exceedingly enhanced from having seen some of the prisoners enjoy their outing on this beautiful sunny day.

"I visited several shops and found signs of activity, but so far as I could learn from observation and conversation, the men, though kept busy, are not overworked. This is as it should be.

"I find your hospital in superb condition and this shows a due regard for the value of human life. If my administration has brought about better conditions, I am thankful to those who have been so active in applying the improvements.

"The women's quarters particularly impressed me, and I am very sorry that the buildings for the men's prison are not as good as the women's

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EDITED BY A PRISONER

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prison. I regret to find the men's buildings old fashioned and antiquated. Above all things, the cellhouses with their small, dark and gloomy cells and with their improper sanitation, seem wrong to me, but this cannot be helped, because it will take many years to build the new prison.

"I am particularly pleased to see this old plant as well kept up as it is, particularly as to its cleanliness. It seems to me that everything that can be done to preserve health and create a sunny atmosphere is being done.

"I have just returned from the one-thousand-acre farm which was recently purchased as a new prison site, and what I saw there has made me very happy. I refer to the thirty-three prisoners who are employed there as farm hands. These men are apparently under no restraint and their clothing indicates no degradation. I found them working cheerfully and, I might say gladly, under the sunlight in the open fields.

"It is very gratifying to know that of all the honor men sent to Camp Hope and even to the large farm that not one of them has violated his trust. I hope that the example of the men who have so far been tried as honor men will be followed by those who are now to go out after them. I have suggested that the new farm shall be named 'The Joliet Honor Farm.'

"THE JOLIET PRISON POST is a splendid publication and a credit to the institution."

"I hope that the prisoners will appreciate it at its true value and that they will respond to its teachings by preserving perfect discipline.

CONTRIBUTIONS BY OFFICIALS

CIVIL SERVICE LAWS AND PENITENTIARIES

By Edmund M. Allen, Warden

Since penitentiaries are communities consisting of men convicted of the more serious crimes and since a large proportion of the prison population is serving time for crimes of extreme violence, penitentiaries require, as a last resort in case of violence, a strong central government and the more centralized the government the better for the inmates and for the officers.

This is only another way of saying that for the good of all, penitentiaries should be under one-man government.

The need for one-man power is greatest in penitentiaries which house a large prison population; which are near large cities where a special brand of criminals are produced; and where the plant is old fashioned and where there is overcrowding.

A penitentiary at its best, because of a desperate element always to be found in the population of a penitentiary, is a slumbering volcano and it should be possible at all times to fall back upon rules as strong as are ever maintained in an army when in the immediate presence of the enemy.



If the foregoing is conceded, what can be said in favor of placing penitentiaries under civil service laws?

A warden should be held strictly accountable for the general management of his prison and the law should not furnish him with valid reasons why in case of mismanagement he should not be held responsible.

If a warden is to be held strictly accountable for the results of his management, he should be permitted to choose and to discharge his subordinate officers so that he may, in turn, hold his officers strictly accountable for the proper performance of their duties. The civil service law prevents this. Under civil service the warden's subordinate officers are not chosen because they are in full accord with and efficient for the purposes of the warden's policy, but because they

have passed the civil service examination and because they come next on the list.

Civil service laws may be beneficial for all other departments of government and still be unsuited to penitentiaries.



There need be no fear that a warden of a penitentiary who has the requisite understanding, character and courage, will, for political considerations, discharge a loyal and competent employe. Such men are too scarce. The long hours and the low salaries at penitentiaries do not invite a large number of the best of men. Any warden fitted to hold his position will recognize how valuable every competent and loyal officer is.

If the public knew only a small fraction of the difficulties met by a warden of a penitentiary, it would cease worrying about politics in connection with the appointments a warden would make.

So far as this state is concerned, there is little chance of a party spoilsman being elected governor, but even such a one would stand in fear of the consequence of appointing the wrong men to the positions of wardens of the penitentiaries of the state; consequently it is safe to say that only men of courage, intellect and character would be appointed.

While it is wrong to hold a warden strictly accountable for the management of the institution in his charge when he is compelled to administer the institution under civil service laws, this is not clearly understood by the public and by the press and, in actual practice he is held accountable even though his authority over the institution is limited.

A warden should have at his back able-bodied, loyal men with discretion and courage, so that if an emergency does arise he can command the maximum strength possible for the number of employes at his disposal.

In practice the civil service law of this state does not recognize this principle.



On July 1, 1911, this prison came under the civil service law and some of the officers then on duty began to look upon their positions as jobs for life. They depended only upon their ability to keep the warden from getting enough proof against them to maintain charges under which they could be discharged.

It is to be expected that the work of men who have not enough self-respect to do their best because of pride in doing good work, will deteriorate in proportion to their superior's inability to punish or to discharge them.

At a large prison a warden does not have the time to prosecute all employes who fail in their duties before a civil service board. If the warden should attempt to do this, he would have no time to attend to the vast business of supervising the details of his institution, where everything must be done in accordance with the technical requirements of the laws which govern each branch of the administration of the prison.



On July 1, 1911, there were a number of efficient officers here and there were also a number who were not efficient, many of them being decrepit old men. The efficient men did not require protection from discharge because the warden needed and would keep these men; for his own protection he could not let them go. The second class were not entitled to protection against the acts of the warden because they should have been discharged so that their places could be filled with better men. And without the right to pick their successors, of what avail would it be anyway for a warden to discharge every man even against whom charges might hold?

Even if a warden were permitted to discharge at pleasure, that alone is not enough; he must also be able to fill vacancies with men of his choosing; this the civil service law denies him.

Under existing circumstances and with the present law, there is not a man living who can administer this institution as it should be administered. Even the most gifted man would be compelled to compromise in situations where only drastic action would fully serve. Such a condition as this should never be created in any penitentiary.



The civil service law applying to penitentiaries in this state was passed by a Republican legislature in the face of a probable Democratic victory. This, of itself, does not prove that the law was passed as a measure of political expediency, but the provisions of the law exempting all the persons in office on July 1, 1911, from ever taking a civil service examination and giving to them the protection of the law, practically assured them

positions for life, unless the warden would find ground for charges against them on which they could be dismissed. This stamps the passage of the law as a measure of party expediency and gives it the taint of trickery.

There was no honest excuse for bestowing jobs for life on a number of office holders and exempting those fortunate ones from ever taking a civil service examination. An honest law would have required all office holders to submit to a civil service examination after, say, one or two years, during which time the system could have been gotten into running order. No intentionally dishonest law could have been more effective in continuing the then office holders in their positions than was the law passed which brought this institution under civil service on and after July 1, 1911.



THE PUBLIC DEFENDER.

By the Catholic Chaplain

at the Joliet Prison.

A man is presumed to be innocent until he is proved to be guilty. That is good theory and good law. A court of justice, therefore, it would seem, should be just as solicitous to uphold a man's innocence as to prove his guilt—nay, more so; because, as stated, the presumption is that he is innocent. As a matter of fact, however, it is usually the other way.

The state appoints and pays a prosecuting attorney and provides him with every facility for establishing the guilt of the accused person. Theoretically the prosecuting attorney's duty is to see that the ends of justice are attained; but in practice that means conviction. The prosecutor's duty, according to the laws, is to prosecute, and the number of convictions is considered the test of his fitness. The police department and grand jury, to all intents and purposes, are only adjuncts of the prosecutor's office.

It sometimes happens that an innocent man who is accused of crime pleads guilty because he is without money or friends and he realizes that he cannot make a defence; and it frequently happens that a penniless ex-convict is charged with a crime of which he is innocent and that, nevertheless, the ex-convict will make the best terms he can with the prosecutor for a light sentence. He will plead guilty because he knows that without a

large sum of money at his disposal the state will wear him out and in the end will obtain his conviction on his record for crimes which he may or may not have committed.

Apart from this, the futility, if not impossibility, of prosecution and defence by one and the same man should be obvious.

The accused person, of course, has the right to defend himself, if he can. He has the right to engage learned and skillful counsel, if he has the cash to pay for it, or if he finds one willing to defend him for nothing. If he is penniless, the court is bound to provide him a lawyer, though it may be a "shyster," who may or more likely may not, do his duty. In spite of the presumption of innocence of the accused, there is no one, not even a "Devil's Advocate," who takes an official interest in maintaining that innocence. Hence, an accused person labors under a serious handicap and in the case of the poor and friendless, the task too often proves hopeless indeed.

To the layman, a remedy for this state of affairs seems simple enough. If the presumption favors a man's innocence, and if the maintenance of that innocence is just as much the business of the court as the conviction of guilt, why does the state give its whole authority, influence, and aid to secure the conviction? Why does not the state provide an office, equal in dignity, influence and emolument to that of prosecuting attorney but charged with the defense of accused persons, at least of such as cannot engage private counsel? We may well ask, why? It is a humiliating commentary on the boasted enlightenment, progress and humanity of the age, that the legal profession and law-giving bodies have hitherto paid so little attention to this hideous anomaly.

But the light is breaking, the sun of justice is rising, contrary to all rules of the game, not in the East but in the West. There seems to be something in the balmy breezes of the Pacific that tends to clarify the minds of men and to eliminate the cobwebs from their brainboxes. In California, particularly in Southern California, and above all in Los Angeles, there is a class of people who will not sit idly by and allow the problems of the age to solve themselves. They try all things—some things that are wise, and other some that prove otherwise. San Diego, for instance, is credited with having tried every scheme of municipal government that it is possible for

the mind of man to evolve and which is not directly opposed to the United States Constitution. They do not expect out there to realize the ideal, but they do hope to attain some real and lasting benefit for humanity. Anyhow, they try—and, if at first they don't succeed, they try again. "Go ye and do likewise," would be a very reasonable moral for other parts of our country.

Los Angeles, now, has been at it again. Its citizens have declared for the square deal and have determined that, in their country at least, the presumption of a man's innocence shall be something more than a mere trite axiom of legal theory. They have devised a practical solution of the problem that should bring joy even to those holy angels and their queen, to whom the lovely city owes its name. The movement has taken concrete form in the appointment of a "public defender," whose office is co-ordinate with that of public prosecutor, and whose duties are succinctly outlined in the recently adopted County Charter. The scope and significance of this provision will be best appreciated by a perusal of the section in question, which reads as follows:

Upon request by the defendant or upon order of the court, the Public Defender shall defend, without expense to them, all persons who are not financially able to employ counsel and who are charged, in the Superior Court, with the commission of any contempt, misdemeanor, felony or other offense. He shall also, upon request, give counsel and advice to such persons, in and about any charge against them upon which he is conducting the defense, and he shall prosecute all appeals to a higher court or courts, of any person who has been convicted upon any such charge, where, in his opinion, such appeal will, or might reasonably be expected to, result in the reversal or modification of the judgment of conviction.

He shall also, upon request, prosecute actions for the collection of wages and of other demands of persons who are not financially able to employ counsel, in cases in which the sum involved does not exceed \$100, and in which, in the judgment of the Public Defender, the claims urged are valid and enforceable in the courts.

He shall also, upon request, defend such persons in all civil litigation in which, in his

judgment, they are being persecuted or unjustly harassed.

The costs in all actions in which the Public Defender shall appear under this section, whether for plaintiffs or for defendants, shall be paid out of the County Treasury, at the times and in the manner required by law, or by rules of court, and under a system of demand, audit and payment which shall be prescribed by the Board of Supervisors. It shall be the duty of the Public Defender, in all such litigation, to procure, if possible, in addition to general judgments in favor of the persons whom he shall represent therein, judgments for costs and attorney's fees, where permissible, against the opponents of such persons, and collect and pay the same into the County Treasury.

The proof of the pudding is in the eating, and all interested in the improvement of our judicial and penal systems will closely watch this Los Angeles experiment. An experiment it is, but one that has begun most auspiciously and that promises to be a success. All reports thus far, without exception, give testimony to satisfactory results. Mr. Walton J. Wood, a man eminently qualified for the position, is the first to fill this unique office of "public defender." He is assisted by four lawyers and a clerical force. The *Los Angeles Journal* says that over a thousand civil cases have been handled by the new office, and in a clear majority of them a compromise out of court was effected.

Prison matters are engaging the attention of people more than ever, and it is of importance that one avoid the Scylla of mushy, mawkish sentiment on the one hand and the Charybdis of stolid cynicism on the other. Since it avoids these extremes, the Los Angeles idea will contribute immensely to the betterment of penal affairs. The Los Angeles move is not a panacea for all the evils in our penal system, but it does strike at the root of one of the most common causes for the miscarriage of justice. It is not going to obviate the necessity of penal institutions. But it will help many an innocent man to have the benefit of the presumption of innocence in his favor, and many a guilty man from being punished beyond his deserts.

One of the commonest of remarks that a prison chaplain must hear from outsiders is, "I sup-

pose all your boys claim to be innocent." To be perfectly frank, at the time of my appointment, I was prepared to find this the case and it has been a most refreshing experience to find that it is not so. Some do claim to be innocent, but the number is small. On the other hand, more than one has said to me, "No, Father, I did not come for help in my case. I got what was coming to me and I am glad that I got off as easy as I did." But besides these there are many who do claim they did not get a square deal, and that if they had they would not have come to the penitentiary or they would at least have received a different sentence.

These men ask for a square deal, for all who are accused and, please God, the day is not far distant when the perfection and general adoption of the Los Angeles plan is going to give accused men what they have a perfect right to demand and to expect.



Mr. V. Cavanaugh, Superintendent of Mails, announces that inmates should always write their full name and register number in the upper left hand corner on their outgoing letters. Letters not so endorsed cannot be sent and also it is impossible to return them to the writer. When the name and number are given the letter will either be sent out or returned to the person who wrote it.



Mr. V. Cavanaugh, Superintendent of Mails, has fifty cents belonging to some inmate whose name is unknown to him. This money, with a note, was left by a visitor with Mr. Cavanaugh. The note with a memorandum about the money was sent to the man, but his name has been forgotten. If the person to whom this note was sent will make himself known to the superintendent of mails, the money will be credited to him.



Mr. F. L. Kness, cellhouse keeper at the east wing, wishes to ask the men to exercise patience for the next few weeks. The refinishing of the walls will make it necessary to have from five to ten of the cells empty until the work is done. The men must change back and forth in order to accommodate the workmen. It will be unpleasant for a time; someone may have a cell mate whom he does not like. But as soon as possible all men

will be back to their own places again and the walls will have a fine white and hard finish, making them vermin proof.

EDITORIAL

Authoritative Announcements From Actual Work

THE JOLIET PRISON POST is edited and published with the purpose to aid in solving the questions which now confront prison administrations the country over.

These questions are not questions that the prison administrations have taken up purely of their own will. The genesis of the questions is deeper than any human plan and the power that is carrying the questions toward solution, is greater than that of any individual purpose or of the purpose of any combined number of individuals.

The movement for a change of policy in prison administration is a part of the world movement which is affecting human affairs everywhere. The power of the movement is in that which, deep in the hidden nature of things, orders the destinies of human life and which through the processes of evolution ever carries the world on to better things.



THE JOLIET PRISON POST has no ready-arranged method which it seeks to have applied as a solution of the questions with which prison administrations have now to deal, no completed formula to announce as the rule which prison administrations should follow.

THE JOLIET PRISON POST is not to deal in theories. It does not set itself upon a rostrum raised above the level of the men whom it would help, to speak to and for the men as something above and apart from them. It is not to pronounce what should be done with or for "those" persons who need "our" sympathy and "our" uplift. THE JOLIET PRISON POST is of the people whom it would help; it speaks, not from an opinion of how these men should be handled, but from their own life, from what they are and from what they need. It tells what is actually so, what the administration and the men are actually doing. It is the men themselves who are speaking. These men are revealing what their own lives are and what

their lives are coming to be; they are telling of the awakening that is coming to them through the opportunity given by a beneficent administration. The world is weary of what "ought" to be; it wants to know what is and what can be.



The administration of this penitentiary has taken up the problem which is confronting all penitentiaries and, wisely, at the start it has included the men—the prisoners—in the work of carrying that problem through to a solution.

Week by week and month by month and year by year, what is done here will be told; report made of what as time passes life yields to our inner consciousness and what of that deeper understanding we are able to work out into our practical living.

THE JOLIET PRISON POST is not to theorize, to speculate. It is to report authoritatively that which the administration and the men, working co-operatively, accomplish; to report that which the men, with the opportunity given them by the administration, are gaining in experience, that which from a new and higher purpose and clearer understanding, is transformed into daily life and practical benefit.



We are facing here the same problem that prison administrations are facing everywhere: we have no royal road, no way of avoiding any of the elements of the problem; we must meet every detail of the issue the same as must every other prison. We accept the work which is before us; we accept all the complications and, in the issues of this magazine, we shall report so much of the solution of the problem as we find.

This penitentiary assumes nothing. With no concepts to fortify, it takes up the question before it with open mind and ready hand to prove by experiment just how the problem of prison betterment can be solved. The penitentiary is an experiment station, a social laboratory, in which the social problems of its own people are to be worked out. Working out these problems as a social community and according to the laws of human life and human progress, will make what is done here a contribution toward the solution of social problems everywhere. What is done here in accordance with the natural laws of human nature will be a demonstration of what can

be done in any community where those laws are learned and equally obeyed.

In what is now being done and in what will be done here, THE JOLIET PRISON POST will speak authoritatively. It will tell what has been shown to be a certainty, what through experiment has been found to be true.



The Convicted and the Unconvicted

The *Chicago Examiner*, in an editorial April 7, takes up an incident connected with this penitentiary and observes that "notwithstanding the general applause at a campaign for the amelioration of the condition of those who have offended against the law, it must not be forgotten that the people who have not been convicted of crime have also certain rights—among them the right of protection against the lawless".

The *Examiner* is fair in its statement that the rights of the "unconvicted" should not be ignored in the "campaign" for an acknowledgment of the rights of the "convicted". It says:

Everybody is in favor of the reclamation of convicts from a life of crime. Nobody wants to go back to the hopeless days when the dungeon and the lash were part of the punishment of every man who was sent to a penitentiary. The outdoor camps and the honor system meet with approval and the organizations that provide time-expired convicts with work are performing a service to civilization.

But while the *Examiner* is fair, it is not altogether clear, and its conclusion, consequently, is not as fair as its attitude. Its conclusion is not quite the full answer to the question which it raises. The mind is not made to feel that the solution of the problem of the involved rights of the "convicted" and the "unconvicted", has been stated.



Proceeding in its consideration of the incident connected with this institution, the *Examiner* makes the following comment:

Penitentiaries are maintained for the protection of society. When a man has shown himself dangerous to the peace and dignity of the state he is locked up, partly to keep him from further mischief and partly to

deter others who might be tempted to commit a similar offense.

These purposes of the criminal law are not served when a two-times murderer, who killed his men in the course of highway robberies, is given such freedom that he simply walks out of prison. There is no lesson tending to respect for law in the circumstance of two murderers, one serving a life sentence and the other a term of seventeen years, taking the warden's automobile to enjoy a night's debauch in Chicago, and be welcomed back to prison as "naughty" boys who have simply gone on a lark.

Chicago's annual crop of holdups and burglaries due, the police tell us, to the discharging of the output of the penitentiaries of half a dozen states into this community, is all the evidence that is required to show that the policy of prison reform needs a measure of reform itself.

The whole community rejoices at the regeneration of an evil man, but if the cost of making a good citizen out of a bad one has to be met by honest people at the point of a highwayman's pistol, the question, Are we not paying too much? must suggest itself.

The deterrent effect of the penal system that makes staying in jail optional with the criminal cannot be very great.



The *Examiner's* conclusion that "the policy of prison reform needs a measure of reform itself", is the conclusion of every institution in which prison betterment is being tried. But the reform which the prisons are making is in a different direction and in obedience to a different principle from the direction which the *Examiner* advocates and from the principle which the *Examiner* seems to follow.

The new movement in prisons means an acknowledgment of the prisoners' natural rights as human beings. The proper and inevitable prison reform, is that progressively a way shall be found in which the prisoners' natural human rights can be acknowledged and allowed while that quality in the prisoners which would ignore the rights of others, is, at the same time, kept under restraint. In the achievement of this great transformation of prison life, there naturally must be a continual readjustment, a progressive

reform in method so as more fully to allow the natural individual rights which are being sought. The adjustment, the reform, must be based on day-to-day experience, so as to find the true rights of the prisoners: establishing true individual rights, always conserves also all social rights. Both the individual prisoner and society at large are to be served.

The *Examiner* does not have the prisoner's point of view and, possibly for that reason, it overlooks what must be the prison reform movement's essential element, the movement's dominant and governing purpose. If in a "reform" of the "policy of prison reform", the essential purpose of the reform movement is itself overlooked, the reform policy becomes, not a corrective, constructive step, but a reactionary abandonment of prison reform itself.



The difficulty in dealing with most social problems, particularly with the problems which continually baffle the world's attempt at a solution, such as that of what properly to do with those who commit social offenses, is that the problems are considered too superficially. The deep, underlying forces of the problems are not perceived and dealt with and, therefore, that which it is hoped will be a solution, proves to be only an obstacle, while the forces in which the problem generates, unrecognized and unmolested, soon again disclose the problem at another point and in a different form.



From the beginning of social organization the social attitude toward the individual, who through social power, has been put under social condemnation, has been that of judgment—always have those possessed of power thought as suited their own opinions about those subject to that power. The power has made it impossible for those in power to see the powerless person's rights as the powerless person himself sees them.

We who now live under a republican form of government, can clearly see this principle, this ignoring of the rights of the individual subject by those in whom the powers of government are vested, as that principle was lived by kings who held that they governed by divine right and that the subjects of the kingdom were the subjects of the king. The principle is not so clear when it is embodied in the social attitude of our own day

toward the individual whom society has convicted.

Society, whether in the person of a king or in the persons in whom a more representative government is vested, has always remembered its own interests—as it has seen its interests—and has ignored and, in the name of social rights, has denied certain of the rights of the person under judgment.

Society, like an emotional, high-tempered, uncalculating and selfish father, has turned its unruly son out of doors and, closing its eyes and feelings to its own responsibilities, has shut and locked the door—the prison door—against him.



Society has never accepted as a principle in governmental administration, that it itself may be somewhat wrong in its connection with that in which the individual is wrong. And this cannot be accepted until a different foundation from that upon which social organization now rests, has been found. Somewhere there must be absolute authority, from somewhere there must issue the word that is to be accepted by all as declaring that which is right. Until people awaken to something in which authority may be vested which is more reliable than opinion, that opinion, even with all its bias and controlling element of selfishness, must rule.

But, as a proposition for progress, as distinct from a principle in government, it can be acknowledged that society, as a unit, is defective, as well as that the individual member of that same society is defective. We can own that social administration, that the social attitude toward the individual is not all that it should be; and yet until there can be a better, a more just mind in the people, we can accept the verdict of society, the voice of the majority as declaring that which, in our particular social condition and circumstance, is right. This will give security in what has already been gained in social organization, while at the same time it will make a free and open way for correcting what is still wrong.



In the movement for the betterment of the condition of those whom society has convicted of crime, the prisoners are undertaking to work out and to set up for the prisoners' self improvement those rights which, in convicting them of a

particular offense, society took from them, but which were not involved in the commission of the particular offense itself.

In helping during a period of several months to promote the honor system and in gaining impressions so as properly to represent the sentiment of this place, a large number of the men here have been interviewed by the writers of this magazine and, of those who are representative of the social thought of this community, we have not found one who in any way condemns the state for its conviction of a person who is guilty of a crime. Each recognizes that society must protect itself and no one has said that he expects society to do any better, to be any more just to the person on trial than it knows how to be.

So long as society thinks that a person who "has shown himself dangerous to the peace and dignity of the state" should be "locked up, partly to keep him from further mischief and partly to deter others who might be tempted to commit a similar offense", every one here concedes that society should do just that thing.



Society, through its courts, fixes a certain sentence, a certain period of time, during which the convicted person is to be "locked up". In its present stage, "prison reform" concerns itself with bettering the prisoners' condition during the term of their imprisonment, rather than in attempting to set aside, to modify, or in any way to interfere with the court's sentence.

If a person is committed to a penal institution, that person is "locked up" in every legal sense, and in a very practical sense, whether during every moment of the time he is inside or is sometimes outside of the prison walls. In the necessary routine of prison management, some prisoners must be outside of the walls to attend to prison work. And it is to be presumed that the State expects the Warden of this institution to place men outside of the walls, since when Warden Allen came here, he found outside of the walls as a part of the prison property which is to be taken care of by the men of the prison, six large store-houses, an extensive poultry plant, a herd of cattle with a wide range for pasturage, a drove of hogs, a slaughter house, a dairy, a farm, a stone quarry which yields 115,000 cubic yards of stone a year, five greenhouses and large lawns about both the men's and women's prisons.

Where there is the strictest discipline all prisoners are under the care and scrutiny of a keeper. The honor system contemplates relieving prisoners, who are believed to be worthy of trust, from the surveillance of a keeper, so as to give the prisoner a chance to show that the watchfulness of the keeper is not necessary, that there is something in himself that can be trusted, to show that he is able, despite the conviction of a particular defect, to live true to the qualities in him that go to make a good citizen. The *Examiner's* criticism comes down to a question of what position a prisoner shall fill, of what freedom of movement in his employment about the prison shall be allowed him.



In the incidents now in question the two men who used the automobile were given their positions of trust, not by Warden Allen, but by his predecessor; and, that the men kept the trust inviolate, one for two years and one for one year under the former warden and both for nearly a year under Warden Allen, shows that the warden who did put confidence in them was not altogether unjustified in his confidence. The confidence placed in the "two times murderer", based on his good behavior inside the walls, did not prove to be so well grounded as that placed in the two other men, but there seemed to be reason for confidence in the way the man had conducted himself for several years and he was therefore trusted.

The whole principle of punishment is that the wrong in man shall be repressed; the whole principle of the honor system is that the good in man shall be encouraged. No man can be wholly secure in another man; no man is wholly secure in himself. Circumstances will bring a man to do—he knows not what; be it the best of men or the worst of men. The principle is the same: human nature in all persons is identical.

In what way would the persons who criticise those who are undertaking to better the conditions of prison life, themselves effect that betterment? There is no other way than to let each man disclose himself; than to let each show that he is able to live square and upright—or, if he is not able thus to live and yet thinks he is, to let him find out for himself that he is not able. The number of men—as experience shows—who, with the intent to make it a means of escape, can se-

cure a "trusty" position, is so infinitesimal that it need not be taken into account. The purpose to escape grows in some men with continued opportunity and they fall where they had not intended to fall. The whole movement for prison betterment is merely the proposition that predominant consideration shall be given to the better qualities in man, rather than to make the lower qualities the chief concern.



The *Examiner* says that "the policy of prison reform needs a measure of reform itself". This is a question of what constitutes the "policy of prison reform" and of particulars, since the whole country and the *Examiner* itself agree to the proposition that "nobody wants to go back to the hopeless days when the dungeon and the lash were a part of the punishment of every man who was sent to a penitentiary".

The particulars in the incidents which the *Examiner* cites, which it points out as evidencing faults in "the policy of prison reform" are in a strict and, therefore, in a literally true sense, not as the *Examiner* states them, and their nature and quality are not at all what the *Examiner* seems to think and what the words of the *Examiner* necessarily imply.

The work of the men in question was outside of the prison walls. One was coachman; one was chauffeur; one was a runner. It was necessary for the officers in charge of the gates to let these men pass. For years two of them had gone out and in, in pursuit of their proper duties. This one time they fell. None of these men were "given such freedom that he simply walks out of prison".

About three hundred men "walk out" of the prison gates every day and have done so for many years, but none of these men "walk out of prison". That these men do not themselves consider that they are "out of prison" is shown by the fact that they all come back within the walls at night. And the "two men" also, and of their own accord, *came back*. They had misspent their time, but it was in Chicago as well as in towns nearer to this institution, that they found the liquor which made their hours a "night's debauch"—let the *Examiner* please remember that. And there is also in Chicago many another "night's debauch" by persons who do not come from within prison walls. The fact that the two

men from this prison were on "a night's debauch in Chicago" appears, therefore, not to be all there is to the question of the misspent night. What part of the "fault" of these men in this "night's debauch" is, after all, society's "fault"? The "convicted" men are plainly in error; what about the error and the *responsibility* of the "unconvicted"?



Further, the *Examiner* conveys the impression that the two men, after being absent "to enjoy a night's debauch in Chicago", were welcomed back to prison as 'naughty' boys who had simply gone on a lark". This statement is strictly contrary to fact, as the records of this institution will show. The men were both put in the solitary, one, on account of his condition, soon being taken out by the prison physician and conveyed to the hospital, while the other remained in the solitary the allotted number of days; both were given inferior positions; the coachman made a hostler, the chauffeur made a mechanic; both lost the privilege of going outside of the walls and also the freedom to go about the yard and to visit the Administration building; they lost their suits of citizen's clothes and now wear the common gray prison uniform; they have been reduced in position from first grade to third grade with the loss of all the privileges that, as first grade men, had been theirs; and against them both there has been entered on the prison books the charge of their misconduct which will confront and embarrass them, if ever either shall ask for a commutation or pardon. Does the *Examiner* think this is being "welcomed" in the way in which it has reported the men were "welcomed"; does it think this is no discipline for the violation of the administration's confidence? And does the *Examiner* understand how keenly both the administration and the fifteen hundred men of this institution feel the effect of such a mistake as was made when both the administration and the men know that the act can be so misunderstood as the *Examiner's* comment shows and that in consequence of such acts the cause which this prison has taken up is retarded and to a degree may be actually jeopardized?

The *Examiner* speaks of the influence of the men's act and of the act itself as follows:

There is no lesson tending to respect for law in the circumstance of two murderers,

one serving a life sentence and the other a term of seventeen years, taking the warden's automobile to enjoy a night's debauch in Chicago, and to be welcomed back to prison as "naughty" boys who have simply gone on a lark.

And yet the whole meaning and character which the *Examiner* puts into the act is seen, upon analysis, not to be in the act at all. The circumstance is a wholly different thing from what the *Examiner*, from the items in its news columns, has presumed. True, "there is no lesson tending to respect for law" when a thing takes place if it ever should—such as the *Examiner* states, but the *Examiner* does not show that "respect for law" suffered in any degree because of what did take place.



The great difficulty with the "unconvicted" public is that it speaks and acts from the opinions in its own head and without interest or patience to learn the full meaning and purpose in the life of the person who has come under its judgment, as that life meaning and purpose is known to the person himself. How far society departs from pure justice through this improper way of judging a person, will be known to society only when society comes out of the habit of judging a person in the way in which it now judges him and when, in clear mind and with a redemptive spirit, it learns what pure justice is.

Proceeding upon its own notion of what sort of people "criminals" are and putting every person who has been convicted in a court in the same class, the *Examiner* draws conclusions from the automobile incident, which are in no way warranted by what took place, saying:

The whole community rejoices at the regeneration of an evil man, but if the cost of making a good citizen out of a bad one has to be met by honest people at the point of a highwayman's pistol, the question, Are we not paying too much? must suggest itself.

Nobody was molested by any one of the men; no "honest people" found themselves "at the point of a highwayman's pistol"; there were no "holdups" and no "burglaries".

If the *Examiner* justifies its declaration and its protest against the men's being outside of the prison wall on the ground of what the men did

years ago, we must let the *Examiner* go its way because that is a complete abandonment of the work "of the reclamation of convicts from a life of crime".

The two men have shown that they are not free from the power of the habit of drink, but they have proved, as far as their years of residence here can prove and as far as what they did *not* do on that unfortunate trip to Chicago can prove, that the *Examiner* is wrong in going back to a deplorable act of years ago and in hounding them with the claim that "honest people" are subjected to being held up "at the point of a highwayman's pistol"; and even what the men did do, does not justify the *Examiner's* criticism of the general policy of the administration here in giving men a chance to re-establish themselves. The inference that the policy of the prison betterment as practiced in this or in any other institution, "makes staying in jail optional with the criminal", is a deduction from the opinions and prejudices—however slight—in one's own head and is in no way justifiably drawn from anything that any prison administration is doing.



How is "the reclamation of convicts from a life of crime" to be effected, when representatives of the public continually throw in the faces of men who have once been convicted, the epithets, "criminal", "convict", "lawless", "dangerous", "highwayman", "evil man", and when these representatives of the public keep the public always aware, for years and even for the man's whole lifetime, that a man—no matter how orderly may be his life at the time—is, in consequence of what happened, perhaps long ago, a "criminal", a "convict", a "dangerous" and "evil man"?

What right, any way, has a person to characterize another person who even has been convicted of some one thing, as an "evil man", as "dangerous to the peace and dignity of the state", as a person of a "life of crime", etc.? It does not follow that a man is bad in everything, merely because he is—or has been—bad in one thing. Even though these terms may characterize a hundredth part of one per cent of the men convicted, there is no justification in using such terms indiscriminately as designating and as properly describing the men as a class.

If "everybody is in favor of the reclamation of

convicts from a life of crime", in what way do the makers of public opinion propose that "everybody" shall show that "favor"? What is the "general applause for amelioration of the condition of those who have offended against the law"? Is it the shouting of condemnatory names called forth when two men who have "offended against the law" fail? If "the whole community rejoices at the regeneration of an evil man", of what moral quality can that rejoicing be, when, as occasionally a man falls, that same community asks itself, "Are we not paying too much?"



In view of the *Examiner's* having so completely misunderstood even the two men who went on a "debauch" and more particularly in view of its apparent misunderstanding of convicted men in general and in view of its consequent—and possibly unintentional—misrepresentation of these men, is it not possible for the men also to be somewhat misunderstood by the police?

It is the business of the police to account for crime. The public expects it. What is a more easy or an apparently more logical way of accounting for crime, than to say that all crime is "due * * * to the discharging of the output of the penitentiaries * * * into this community"? And how easy it is to imply that *all* of "the output" is responsible for the crime when nobody can find the particular persons—whether they are former prisoners, or someone else—who are responsible? It is this inclusive charge which the *Examiner* voices and it is to such extravagant and unwarranted statements as this that THE JOLIET PRISON POST objects.

Probably the *Examiner* knows that the police are sometimes—and possibly are often—overzealous in their effort to make good with the public. Even Chicago's own state's attorney protests against "police officials of high standing, trying cases * * * in the public press *and then when the promising clues have been exhausted*, unloading the case upon the state's attorney's office".* If the state's attorney does not like being made "the goat", how do the people generally think that the "output" likes it when likely some of them have been made "the goat" before?

The men of this penitentiary whose thought is represented in the honor movement and in what

*"Formal statement," by Mr. Maclay Hoyne, state's attorney at Chicago, in *Chicago Examiner*, March 17, 1914.

is written in this magazine, have no "grouch" against the police as a body. These men are not so indiscriminate and general in their critical comment as the *Examiner* appears to be. As these men recognize that law and the courts are necessary, so they recognize that the police are necessary and, as citizens of the state, they accept the police amicably even though in an individual instance there might be a complaint against a particular policeman because of a personal experience.

Mr. William Walsh, the present deputy warden of this prison, is an ex-policeman and no deputy was ever more popular here than he is. Some who knew Mr. Walsh while he was on the police force, speak well of him then also. In an address to the men in chapel when Deputy Walsh first came, the deputy said he had had some misgivings about accepting the position of deputy because of his having been a policeman, since he had thought that that might count against him in the estimation of the men. But the deputy said he had found no feeling of prejudice or antagonism and he then thanked the men for it.

The men in this institution who are seeking to help set things right in society, are not biased. They are willing and they want others to be willing to acknowledge things just as they are. They do not want to see the "unconvicted" pitted in relentless persecution against the "convicted" on the perilous presumption that the action of a court—either just or prejudiced—can make any difference in the laws and the quality of human nature which make for and which determine progress.



The *Examiner* gets away from "the general applause at * * * a campaign for the amelioration of the condition of those who have offended against the law", forgets that "nobody wants to go back to the hopeless days when the dungeon and the lash were a part of the punishment of every man who was sent to a penitentiary"—the *Examiner* loses sight of these things in its zeal to answer the question, born of conditions generated in its imagination, "Are we not paying too much"?

The *Examiner* overlooks that the whole principle of the honor system is that the good in man shall be encouraged, that the proper and inviolable prison reform, is that progressively a way shall be found in which the prisoner's nat-

ural rights can be acknowledged and allowed even while that in the prisoner which would ignore the rights of others, is, at the same time, kept under restraint. The *Examiner* recognizes that the whole principle of punishment is that the wrong in man shall be repressed, and in pushing too vigorously the question, "Are we not paying too much"? it overlooks what must be the prison reform movement's essential element, the movement's dominant and governing purpose; it loses sight of the corrective, constructive steps and succumbs to a reactionary abandonment of prison reform itself.

"The question * * * must suggest itself", Has the *Examiner* yet come to the full spirit of the new movement of prison reform; is it guarding that of the movement which must be guarded if the movement is to succeed?

Instead of advancing with the prison reform movement, the *Examiner* is holding to the methods which the world is moving away from; it is yielding to the still lingering hold of the apprehension of the world's unquickened mind, that the evil in man must be chiefly considered, that the evil cannot be overcome by awakening the good; fearful, therefore, of the consequence of devoting its energy to the support of the proposition that predominant consideration shall be given to the better qualities in man, rather than to make the lower qualities the chief concern.



The administration and the men at the Joliet penitentiary and the administration and the men at other penitentiaries throughout the country are undertaking something very valid, very real. They are deeply in earnest about it and they cannot endure such a misunderstanding as would come from the *Examiner's* editorial comment.

The prisoners are asking nothing of the State beyond what will benefit the State fully as much as it will benefit them. They are seeking no favors and they are not trying to shift any burdens. They see wherein some have failed and they are taking up their life problem to solve it in the only way in which it can be solved: they are giving strength and vitality to that within themselves with which, in any community and in any conditions, they can "prove up" and "make good".

In signing the Honor Pledge the men declare their purpose in these words:

I recognize that the honor system opens an

opportunity for me to bring out the qualities of good citizenship and that I am to earn and to prove, by my conduct and loyalty, the rights that I am to enjoy.

I shall undertake to bring the work of the department in which I am employed to a proper degree of efficiency; shall show myself worthy to be trusted in any situation or to be sent to any place without a supervising or guarding officer; shall traffic in no contraband goods either within the prison or with the outside. And, above all things, I shall not seek to escape from this institution.



There is a new forward movement in the world, not confined to prisons, and of which prison "reform" is but a feature; a movement which gives man a new spirit, a different outlook upon life, a higher expectation in his own possibilities and enjoyments, and "nobody wants to go back" to the days of less hope and promise. THE JOLIET PRISON POST does not believe that the *Examiner* "wants to go back". It thinks only that the *Examiner* does not know the men who have fallen under sentence through the law, as those men really are. The men of this experience have always had some hope, but now their hope has new security since, through the publication of journals, such as THE JOLIET PRISON POST, edited by prisoners themselves, these men can declare themselves and their purposes and can make themselves and their purposes known. It is this that we are seeking to do now, in correcting the inferences which the Chicago *Examiner* has made.



Warden Allen is standing by his men and many of the men are standing by their Warden. The Warden says: "It is my intention to make life in this prison as nearly normal as it is possible to make it in an institution of this kind. I am not trying to make model prisoners. I am attempting to make those who have committed crimes into good citizens." And the men give back their reply in the pledge: "I recognize that the honor system opens an opportunity for me to bring out the qualities of good citizenship; I shall show myself worthy to be trusted in any situation. And, above all things, I shall not seek to escape from this institution"; and while some may likely fail to

keep this pledge, a sufficient number will keep it to make secure the conquest of the wrongs which has been undertaken. And with this compact between the administration and the men, the warden gives to the public an utterance with reference to the automobile affair, which, in the nature of things, if the honor system here does succeed, must become historical: "I am going right on with my policies, but I shall modify some of the ways in which I am to carry them out. *I cannot let an incident interfere with a cause.*"



A Plain Proposition

The men of the Illinois State Penitentiary at Joliet are facing an opportunity which has never before been offered to them but which conditions and the attitude of the public mind now make possible. What this opportunity shall mean to these men is plainly up to the men themselves.



THE JOLIET PRISON POST was established January 1 of this year by the Board of Commissioners and by the Warden of the Illinois State Penitentiary, as an aid in working out the possibilities which the new conditions and the new state of public feeling make possible.

The question of embracing the opportunity that is before us is much greater and far more complicated than merely a question of what the Warden will allow and of what increase of privileges the prisoners may enjoy. The Warden might be willing to give all the privileges we would name, but the change to a more liberal prison policy does not involve the Warden only; it involves the whole prison administration—the Governor, the Legislature, the Board of Prison Industries, the Board of Commissioners—and it involves the prisoners themselves and *the public*.



THE JOLIET PRISON POST must keep true to all of these interests. With any policy less than this, THE JOLIET PRISON POST would not properly represent the cause, the purpose, which it is presumed to represent and it would lack something in power to carry out that purpose. But, on the other hand, if THE JOLIET PRISON POST is kept true to all these interests, it is inevitable that it shall help the cause to succeed, shall help the Warden and the prisoners who see what the Warden sees, to realize their hope.

In the wisdom of the prison administration, this magazine is published by the Board of Commissioners and by the Warden, *but its reading matter is prepared by prisoners and the magazine is edited by a prisoner.* It is plainly up to the men—the inmates of the Illinois State Penitentiary at Joliet—whether or not we are to come to that which the new time and the new administration offer us.



It is an easy matter to blame the administration if we do not get all the things we want or even the things we really should have. It seems to be characteristic of a certain quality of mind to blame some one or something besides oneself for that which oneself is not able to command. But this will not do. It invites no assistance and it adds nothing to our advantages. With a plan of prison improvement offered by the administration and with the administration ready to guide the men in putting that plan into effect, the proposition of what prison improvement shall be worked out and of what general social advantage will come from what is now possible to us, is a question of the inmates themselves; it is a question which we must take up and settle in our own thought.

For nearly a year the Warden has clearly shown his hand: he has offered one opportunity after another, has urged the men to better things and has asked the public for its confidence and support. The improvement undertaken in this institution may fail, but if it fails it will be the failure of the men themselves, not the failure of the Warden. Let us all remember that.



It is possible that some of the men do not realize what it means in a community such as this, to bring in an honor system, to provide such a degree of natural, normal freedom as Warden Allen proposes. And it may be well for all of us to look, somewhat more seriously and more deeply, into the tremendous thing that has been undertaken.

Mr. Allen came into the position of Warden April 26, 1913. He made one important improvement the first week and he continued bettering the conditions for several months. Now the character of this place is completely changed from what it was before Mr. Allen came.

If at this point any reader wishes to meet this affirmation with criticism and counter statements, let him please wait until we have considered the whole question.



The fact that the character of this institution is changed; that the underlying motive of the administration is different from what the motive in administration has been before; that the physical condition of all of the men has improved to a degree and that for many of the men it has improved greatly; that there is more interest in and more opportunity for mental improvement; that great influences have been and are being set at work to help the men into a wholly different and much higher type of life than prisons have been accustomed to contemplate for prison inmates—will not be denied by any just and clear mind.



The difficulty with some of the men seems to be that they think that Warden Allen is to do all that is to be done and that they have only to enjoy the benefits that ensue. That might be so if the Warden's purpose were something different from what it is. The administration's purpose, which has been made possible by the new public opinion, is not to provide the men with an enjoyable time; the purpose is to open a way for the men to become better citizens.

It is important for every prisoner to recognize this fact. It will save us some disappointments.



The laws of human life and human progress are no different in communities environed by restraining walls from what they are where there are no such walls. A man's character—conceiving character in its large sense—will fix a person's position in any community. If, in the opinion of others, a person is given a place different from the place that rightfully belongs to him, the force of his character will, in time, correct the error, will bring the man to where he belongs.

There is no other provision for full and permanent success. Among ourselves we use the term, "make good," but by that we mean that we shall set ourselves up among men in what strength of character there is in us.



The most essential thing in the honor system of this penitentiary is, naturally, the honor policy

which has been inaugurated by the administration and which, in the nature of the case, is the foundation of the system. Without this policy, the condition of the prisoners would be as hopeless as it has been during the years past. But, while that is so, it is nevertheless also true that all that the administration has done and is now doing, can amount to nothing if the men do not respond. We all know the old adage of one's being able to lead a horse to water but not being able to make him drink, and some of us know that it is true—true with beasts and true with men.

THE JOLIET PRISON POST, with an interest in the men equal to its interest in the administration and with an interest in the administration equal to its interest in the men, says, and says earnestly, that the men must live the honor system or there will be no honor system. It is not for us to try the patience of the Warden; we are to accept the opportunity that is offered and to "make good" just as soon as we can; we are to become law abiding citizens of this settlement so that the general public may come to see that there is reason to believe that we shall be law-abiding citizens in any settlement.



Even though the men confined in this prison might fail to appreciate the force of all other arguments to show that the State, represented here by the prison administration, should be given first consideration, there is one argument that must appeal conclusively to all of us; that is, that in all that relates to our present welfare and to the possible shortening of the term of our imprisonment, power is with the State and not with us. THE JOLIET PRISON POST does not wish to put the acknowledgment due the State by prisoners, on this low ground, but it is put on this ground now so as to bring each man in this institution squarely to face the solid fact that it is only through justifying himself in the eyes of the State, in the eyes of the general public, that he can hope, within the term of his sentence, to have any relief.



When the Warden first met the men in the chapel meeting, October 22, last year, he said:

"Boys, this is a great work. It is the turning point. I must have the help of my men and I pledge you now that I shall be on the level with you at all times."

All know how from the first as the weeks passed, the rigidity of this place dissolved. One man who had been here some years said in bewilderment: "This is not the old Joliet any more; it is something different." With the interest of the men awakened in recreation, the efficiency of the shops lessened for a time, but, even knowing that, Warden Allen let it pass, recognizing that something must be given up as the price of inaugurating the new policy he was to work out.

A large percentage of the men have appreciated the opportunities the administration has given, but there are some who have ignored the value of the opportunities and who have used their chances to carry out their personal and purely selfish interests, unmindful that a cause in the service of human welfare has been begun here and that their indulgences in selfish self-interest would retard, if not actually jeopardize, that cause. These men overlooked the fact that an honor system means that there shall be honor, that the men shall be on the square.



While, during the passing months, the administration has continually undertaken to bring the honor system to pass, men who have not taken proper account of the value of the honor system and who have not properly estimated the relation of their own acts to the possibilities of the system, have done things that have retarded the granting of a larger freedom to the prisoners and that has also to a degree embarrassed the administration with the public.

With the release of the old-time stringency, there was a general relaxation in the shops; men working in the yard who were in position to do so, undertook improperly to leave their work and to spend time on the playground; the policy of dressing the men better and of allowing them to specify their need in clothing, was abused by men who did not properly value what the Warden was offering them; when given the privilege to tinker, some men on noon detail overran the leisure time of the noon hour, carrying their tinkering into the business hours when they should have been at the work given them to do by the State; and the men, moreover, further to extend their advantage in tinkering, also, in some instances appropriated the State's material for making their trinkets.

While all of these offenses are small in themselves, the principle and practice is something

that the administration cannot allow. It was inevitable that the Warden should do something to make the men realize the meaning of the freedom he had granted, do something to cause them to stop the indulgences which were preventing the good he would do.



The problem of how to meet this condition and still to carry out the policy of greater freedom for the prisoners, of how to allow the prisoners more rights, continually confronts the administration. But for this problem, progress in getting the honor system under way would have been far more rapid than it has been.

Some of the prisoners may not have recognized that it is a much greater undertaking to administer the affairs of a prison under a policy of liberal treatment of the men, than to administer those affairs under a policy of stringent discipline.

Every relaxation of discipline with its corresponding added degree of personal freedom for the men, means, to the degree that there is personal freedom, that the thought of many minds comes into the prison's affairs instead of those affairs being wholly under the direction (and dictation as in times past) of but one mind. It is this liberation of the thought of many minds, as against the single thought of a prison's warden that brings the new problems. The problems come, and must come, with the introduction of a policy such as Warden Allen declared that he is determined to carry out. This bringing of the thought of different minds into the prison's affairs is necessarily incident to allowing the men more freedom and, to avoid as many complications as possible, the men are to begin "in a limited way to become self-governing." The Warden's announcement that the men are to be allowed to help to work out a beginning in self-government is made after the Warden had experienced all the violations of his plan, all the violations of order, which have just been referred to. This fact alone shows the men who want the Warden's system to succeed, that the Warden will hold to what he has undertaken, that he will make it possible for these men to do that which they are hoping to do.



If all men were of true purpose, the liberation of many minds in managing affairs would not

complicate things in any embarrassing way. The differences of opinion would then soon adjust themselves to the common interest of all. The difficulty in all social administration where the principle of democracy is introduced, is that all men do not abandon themselves to the common interest but, on the contrary, hold tenaciously and sometimes viciously to their own selfish self-interest without regard to what the effect is on the body politic, on their neighbors and fellow citizens.

It is this quality of mind, which never unites with the common good, that has made all the trouble in this prison that the new democratic policy has encountered.



But merely to point this out does not do away with that disturbing quality of mind, does not end the selfishness which has outraged the good purpose which the Warden has set forth and which he is still determined upon.

There are two extremes in government possible to a community: government by one mind, that is, with all authority vested in a single person, and government by all the people which makes the community a democracy. Warden Allen first relaxed the severity which had been customary; he took away many of the prohibitions that had been galling hardships. Then he began to introduce his liberal policy, began to lead the men on to where they could at least "in a limited way," "become self-governing." It is not to be supposed that the granting of limited self-government is in any way an arbitrary limitation of the men's opportunities. When, at the meeting of October 22, the Warden said he would go as far as the behavior of the men would allow him to go, he meant that the men must make possible the things he would do or he could not do them; that unless the men would make good in the advantages he offered, those things would not be practical. It is, therefore, plain that, under the policy of the present administration, the men confined in this penitentiary can have all that they can earn, all that they can justify.



When in any community, the movement towards democracy begins to break down, inevitably the government reverts toward the one-mind rule, which is the way of government that has

been proved to be effective, and which, in the process of the world's social evolution, was the method of administration that preceded democracy. Likewise, when the men here become lawless and the advice comes to Warden Allen to "tighten up," some of the freedom that had been granted to the men is taken away and must be taken away. We halt in our movement toward self-government and take cover under the authority of a single mind, so that peace and order may be secure. The tightening up is the reversion to the authority of a single person. What takes place is the same as what has taken place under like circumstances in the social growth of every community since the beginning of civilization. The reversion is in obedience to a law of conservation, which the safety of society requires shall accompany society's progress. We are under the same law here, because the law is a part of nature. The prison administration knows that Warden Allen—that one man authority—can conduct the prison. Allowing the men a measure of self-government in a prison is still an experiment. When the venture in self-government so completely breaks down that the obligation of the prison administration to the State is threatened, the administration is compelled to withdraw some of the privileges that have been granted the men.



Always we find in man the dual quality which urges them to support a movement of social interest and which also causes them to assert their private selfish interest, which acts directly against peaceful and advantageous association. The ratio of the better to the baser qualities varies in different men. In some the good is dominant, in others the evil is dominant; some are able to live under the sovereignty of their own good purpose, others must be restrained in their tendencies and put under the sovereignty of the good purpose of others. The good in men may be liberated; the evil in men must be restricted; men who will be governed by the good that is in them, may and should be given freedom; men who are governed by the evil that is in them, must be under discipline.



But the elements in the problem of governing this prison and in the problem of governing any other community are more hidden, more subtle

than this. The subtlety of the problem is that which defeats so many of the attempts at social "reform"; the attempts are somewhat artificial; they do not deal with the primary causes; they do not properly take account of the inner forces which, ever at work, affect and govern men's actions. While it is true that some men are able to live their good qualities, and that other men are under the power of their evil qualities, it is also true that most men, according to conditions, are subject to *both* their higher and lower "selves." This is the subtle condition in each individual, which continually defeats or which at any moment in a particular instance may defeat (as the experiences herein cited show) the Warden's or anybody's attempt at bettering conditions.

In the first issue of THE JOLIET PRISON POST Warden Allen made the following statement: "I am opposed to punishing all for the faults of one or a few. Discipline is maintained by rewarding good behavior and by punishment and segregation of offenders," which advises us that the Warden recognizes and accepts the problem which is before him.



The problem, then, with which this penitentiary has to deal, stated succinctly, is this: so to adapt a system of discipline to a system of freedom that that which is good may have free and open way and that that which is evil may be restrained as fully as possible.

It is a problem which every community has faced and must continue to face, until the problem is solved or until man's evil nature has been dissolved and man has become altogether good; and prison communities, any more than any other communities, cannot escape facing and cannot escape working out the solution of the problem.

The administration must face it and the prisoners must face it. Together the administration and the prisoners must work their way toward the measure of self-government that is to be attempted; but the prisoners must always remember that unless they do their part, the administration will not be able to do for them what it would otherwise be able to do. As the prisoners show that they are able to govern themselves, the administration can give them more freedom in its government of them.

Concerning Warden Allen's Communication

In a communication to the inmates of this prison dated March 26, which is printed on pages 178 and 179 of the April issue of this magazine, Warden Allen makes known his plans regarding the honor system which he desires to see established.

The communication speaks plainly and there is no room for intelligent difference of opinion in regard to the rules, which became effective April 1, 1914. But the reasons for and the logic behind the rules and their intent and purpose may be elucidated.



Nothing will be done about the industrial efficiency grade until the work in progress in the cell houses has been finished. What will be done then is explained in the Warden's communication, as far as it can be foreseen at this time. Full particulars have not yet been determined upon and they will not be definitely fixed until the time is ripe for carrying out the plan.

What the ultimate outcome will be depends upon the degree of behavior and helpfulness which the honor system develops.



Inmates in the second grade who desire to rank in the first grade can gain promotion by signing the following pledge:

HONOR PLEDGE.

I hereby certify my acceptance of the opportunities offered to the second grade men of the Illinois state penitentiary at Joliet by Edward M. Allen, warden, and I declare my loyalty to the whole honor movement and hereby make application for admission to the first grade.

I shall observe all the rules of the institution, shall work in harmony with all the officers and shall in all things keep in harmony with the ways of the administration.

I recognize that the honor system opens an opportunity for me to bring out the qualities of good citizenship and that I am to earn and to prove, by my conduct and loyalty, the rights that I am to enjoy.

I shall undertake to bring the work of the department in which I am employed to a proper degree of efficiency; shall show myself worthy to be trusted in any situation or

to be sent to any place without a supervising or guarding officer; shall traffic in no contraband goods, either within the prison or with the outside. And, above all things, I shall not seek to escape from this institution.

Faithfully subscribed to,

Name.....

Register Number.....

Dated Joliet, Ill.....

I hereby certify that.....
No:.....has this day appeared before me in person and expressed the wish to be enrolled in the first grade. I have explained to him the meaning of the foregoing pledge and he has satisfied me that he understands the document, its purport and the obligations accruing under it.

.....
Dated Joliet, Ill.....



In introducing the grades the Warden is actuated by a single motive: he wishes to promote the general welfare of the inmates, to raise the moral tone of the prison. He does not seek, primarily, to make the first grade large in numbers. He extends its privileges to the inmates who sincerely intend to keep the covenants of the pledge.

Warden Allen would rather have but a few in the first grade and have those few live up to their pledge every minute and under every possible circumstance, than to have many in the grade with a large percentage who would break the pledge if they should think they could escape discovery.



We unhesitatingly recommend every prisoner to refrain from signing the pledge unless he feels hopeful and reasonably confident that he will live up to its every provision. This means that when he is out of sight of officers he will conduct himself the same as he would if the Warden himself were looking at him.



No man need feel disgraced to be in the second grade. The best prisoner in the institution naturally remains in the second grade until he signs the honor pledge. Signing the pledge is not an act of merit. Unless the man who signs the pledge intends to adhere strictly to its provisions, the act is actually disgraceful.

A man who will not sign a pledge because he feels he will not live up to its provisions, is entitled to respect for his manliness. A man who intends to play square with the officers, but who will not sign a pledge because he is opposed to pledges on principle, is to be admired for living up to his convictions. The man who signs a pledge intending to live up to its provisions and then fails to do so, proves that he is weak. But, the man who signs a pledge without intending to keep it, is a man in name only and is to be pitied for his depravity.



Men in the second grade may write a letter and may receive a visit once every week, the same as the men in the first grade. This plan is adopted because the Warden thinks it better not to offer a reward to induce any to sign the pledge. Whatever rewards are to be bestowed will be gained by obedience and helpfulness and not by signatures to pledges.

The men in the second grade will not be permitted to attend the meetings of the inmates. These meetings are to promote the honor system and to enable the inmates gradually and in a limited way to become self-governing.

Just how far the self-government will go, depends upon the conduct of the men in the first grade. There is no reason, except failure to live up to the covenants of the pledge, why the men may not, before long, elect officers to maintain order and look after the interests of the inmates in the dining hall. This is cited as one possibility out of many, perhaps fifty.

By the phrase "looking after the interests of the inmates," we mean the interests of the institution, because the interests of the inmates and the interests of the institution are inseparable. The success of the honor system depends upon the recognition of the principle that what is good for the institution is good for the inmates. In other words, the more the inmates do to help the officers as a class, the more the officers, from the Warden down, can do for the inmates.



Warden Allen is not providing an honor system for the men. He is merely granting opportunities to the men to establish an honor system for themselves.

It will now readily be seen why the men in the

second grade are not permitted to attend the meetings. These meetings are held to advance the honor system and the men who decline to sign the pledge show they do not mean to take part in the honor movement.

For the same reason the men in the second grade will not be permitted to hold trusty positions and will not be put at road or farm work. The men in these positions have the keeping of the integrity of the honor system. They are the men who can more easily make their escape or smuggle in contraband goods and they must be the men who have pledged themselves not to do those things.



It is unnecessary to say much in explanation of the third grade. The men who may find themselves in the third grade will know that they are there because they have in some way wronged the institution, wronged the officers and the inmates. The third grade men will get all they deserve and we hope it will not please them. We may safely rely upon our Deputy Warden to see that injuring the institution will be made unprofitable for those who do it.



Two Joliet Prisoners Go Joy Riding

At about seven o'clock p. m., Monday, March 23, two prisoners, one the prison chauffeur and the other the prison coachman of this institution, knowing that Warden Allen was absent and that he would not return until the following day, seized the occasion to leave the prison in the Warden's automobile. Both men had held their positions for a number of years, and when Mr. Allen became warden he kept the men in the positions. The men had given satisfaction in every way and there was no reason why they should be removed. Prior to March 23 the prison record of both men was good. They had worn citizen's clothes for many years, this being more suitable because of their outside work. They made many trips daily, principally between the prison and the railroad station, a distance of over two miles.



As far back as the oldest officer can remember there have been from one to three prisoners employed as coachmen at a time; and from the time the first automobile was brought to the prison the chauffeur of this story has held that place. To

appoint prisoners as coachmen and chauffeurs is the custom at all penitentiaries, both state and federal, so far as is known here. What occurred on the night of March 23 could have occurred at any other prison, and it could have happened at this prison at any time in its history, except that the automobile is comparatively a new vehicle. Either the coachman or chauffeur was free to pass the gates any time, on foot or in his conveyance. The men's departure from the prison, therefore, attracted no attention.

When at a late hour in the evening the men had not returned, the officials wondered what was detaining them and inquiries began. Nothing could be learned and consequently their "escape" was proclaimed as a matter of duty and routine, not because there was any doubt of their return if they were alive.

Neither of the men had any idea of escaping, and while the thought of it may have crossed their minds, such thought at no time lodged in the mind as something that should be done.



The two prisoners violated the confidence of the Warden in a most flagrant manner when they left the prison to take two women riding in the warden's car.

The women did not know the men were prisoners. After taking the women into the car, the party stopped at several saloons for drinks. Their recklessness increasing with the drinking; the party drove to Chicago, where they came to grief. They were arrested at about ten o'clock in the evening by a South Park police officer for exceeding the speed limit. The whole party were taken to the South Clark street police station and the chauffeur was booked for speeding.

The police had no reason to suspect that the two men were prisoners of the Joliet prison. The chauffeur was released early in the morning after making a cash deposit of twenty dollars as a guarantee for his appearance in court. The chauffeur represented that he had an appointment with an important official at the prison at the earliest possible moment. This part of the chauffeur's story was only too true.



When the chauffeur was released the party immediately speeded back to the prison. The women were left at a convenient place and shortly after-

wards officials from the prison who were looking for the men, hailed the car and brought the men to the prison under guard.

Upon entering the prison the men were taken to the solitary for punishment. One of them, the coachman, became very ill and was sent to the hospital, where his condition became serious.

To hasten his recovery, the coachman was assured that he would not be punished in the solitary. The chauffeur, who is a strong man in good health, received the usual punishment for serious offenses.



The honor system at this prison is not involved in the escapade; the men had held their positions for years before an honor system was thought of and had been found reliable and trustworthy. They returned to the prison when they had sufficiently sobered up to realize what had happened. When sober they have common sense.

The spectacular part of the occurrence has no value, as it is well known that there is no limit to the insanity of drunken men. There was gross ingratitude and disloyalty to the Warden, but not in taking the trip to Chicago; it was in taking the machine out of the prison for their own use, in taking the first drink of whisky, which was against the promises made by both men to the warden, and by taking two women riding in the Warden's family car.

The disloyalty and ingratitude to the Warden occurred when both men were sober.

A more sordid affair involving two men who are both intelligent enough to know right from wrong, can hardly be imagined.

Besides the anxiety caused our officials, this wrongful act has discouraged many of the prisoners.



There is an extremely pathetic side to this affair. The coachman is in very poor health as the result of many years of shop work and more years of sleeping in poorly ventilated cells. For him it is a race with death and the possibility of executive clemency and his disobedience is a mark against him which may injure his chances.



Returning to the prison, knowing what faced them, showed determination which stamps both men as imbued with commendable courage and, as courage is one of the greatest qualities, let us

hope that the preponderance of this virtue will prove the moral salvation of both and that they may yet live to learn that all men may be forgiven.



Reckless Editing

When an editor goes to an advertisement for his inspiration and accepts at face all that the advertisement claims and then, without any investigation, tells editorially how he was "shocked" and that he "didn't think that any prison in the country would descend to the level of making a public show of its convicted unfortunates", etc., it seems that it is time to point out his shortcomings.

The following is reproduced from the editorial columns of *The Mirror* of April 9, 1914, printed at the Minnesota State Prison at Stillwater:

MOVING PICTURES OF PRISONERS

A recent issue of the *Billboard* contains a full page cover advertisement announcing that a certain moving picture film company has ready for the market moving pictures taken at a well known state penitentiary, showing—so the advertisement says—every detail of prison life, including the "striped ball-and-chain violators paying the penalty; the Bertillon measuring system; the dismal punishment cells, etc., etc., etc." Also, that the pictures are "replete with thrills, throbs and sobs."

The announcement came to us as quite a shock. We didn't think that any prison in the country would descend to the level of making a public show of its convicted unfortunates; or make capital of its methods of punishment of refractory prisoners, especially when that punishment consists of the ball and chain—one of the lats relics of a barbaric age.

It is bad enough for a convicted man to have to submit to being photographed upon his entry into the prison, and having his picture adorn a place in the prison's private gallery; but when it comes to being subjected to the publicity of moving pictures and being held up as a sensational attraction for five and ten cent show houses it seems to be a step taken in the wrong direction, and the positive limit of a burning desire some prisons have for the wrong kind of publicity.

The Joliet prison is referred to. We wish to say that if the editor of *The Mirror* had read the daily press he would know that the moving pictures were taken after the inmates of this prison had unanimously voted in favor of them. Before being "released" the pictures were to be shown to the prisoners here and the "release" was to be subject to the prisoners' approval of the pictures.

The pictures were shown in the chapel and the prisoners voted unanimously in favor of "releasing" them. Every prisoner was convinced that not a single inmate would be recognized as, according to arrangement, the pictures had been carefully taken from an angle that could not reproduce the features. After the reels had been made all impressions that seemed doubtful in this respect were destroyed.

Every inmate of this prison sat as a censor and it was the unanimous opinion, after the prisoners had seen the pictures, that no prisoner would be recognized. The prisoners here consider that the pictures are educational and that they are also of great value in the cause of modern prison reform. The pictures will be seen by hundreds of thousands who hitherto have known nothing of prison life and, besides showing something of what prison life is, the pictures will help to make the public realize that men—that human beings—are housed in these dismal places and they will help the public to awaken to an acknowledgment of some of the natural human rights of prisoners which the public has overlooked.

We do not know how the advertisement in *Billboard* reads. It may have some sensational statements. But we do know that advertisements usually serve poorly as foundations for "shriek editorials."

In this case the advertisement is an unreliable source of information, as it caused an editor in the Stillwater, Minn., prison to "throw a fit" in our behalf, when we are getting on very nicely, thank you.



A Question Easily Answered

The *Post-Standard* of Syracuse, N. Y., recently published an editorial entitled, "Criminal Biographies," which was reproduced in *The Chicago Tribune*, April 12, as "the best editorial of the day." It is reproduced in *THE JOLIET PRISON POST* as a concise statement of the history of the four convicted murderers of Herman

Rosenthal and also as a foundation for a reply to the *Post-Standard's* important question. The editorial is as follows:

Lefty Louie is not an immigrant, desirable or otherwise. He is not the offspring of criminals or degenerates. His father is a well-to-do Jew, trustee of a synagogue. No suspicion of crime has ever been lodged against any other member of the family. He was carefully educated.

Whitey Lewis was born in Poland and came here when he was 12. He had no trouble there. But at 16 he was sent to Elmira on a charge of larceny. Elmira didn't cure him, nor did his service in the army in the Philippines.

Dago Frank is also a graduate of Elmira, where he was sent for carrying concealed weapons. He says they had been "planted" on him fifteen minutes before. He is of Italian blood, and no one knows how he happened to be mixed up with Big Jack Zelig's gang. It was not for lack of religious training, for he had been confirmed in the Episcopal church at 16.

Gyp the Blood was educated according to the methods of the orthodox Jewish household. His father is a well-to-do tailor; but at the time of the murder of Rosenthal he had been in prison three times and two of his brothers had been arrested also.

All four gunmen were, it seems, "straight" and well brought up until they had reached the age of conscious manhood. None of their parents had ever been in trouble with the law. How can the frightful degradation into which they have fallen be accounted for? What is it that makes a murderer? What is it, particularly, in the life of a child of foreign-born parents coming from European civilization to New York City that makes the restraints of parental discipline and example as nothing and lands the children of respectable and pious parents in the death house?



Parents of foreign birth frequently do not have the influence over their children in an adopted country which they would have had in their native country. This is particularly true of children born abroad, who are brought to this coun-

try by their parents before their character has been formed. Children learn the language and ways of the new country faster than do their parents and, in consequence, the natural authority of the parents and dependency of the children is disturbed, both being lessened, and it is this which frequently results in evil for the child and sorrow for the parents.

Parental dependency and parental authority do not go well together. The parents will realize their handicap and will themselves lessen authority, and then the child, more than ever, takes his affairs into his own hands. This condition accounts for much of the crime by the children of foreign parents where the parents themselves are industrious and honest.

How can the immigrant father of a family who earns a moderate wage exert proper authority over his sixteen-year-old son who earns much more than his father earns?



The Fun Worth While

Now that the national game is again the absorbing topic of lovers of the sport, we recall that real, unalloyed fun is an important factor in the lives of the men in a penitentiary.

It does not matter how strenuously a man goes into a sport, so long as he goes into it for the love of it; this is the essence of the true holiday. When the recreation hour brings groups of men together, the absence of envy, malice and worry is noticeable; all such thoughts are forgotten in the energy of action. When a man is engaged in a wholesome sport and is playing the game square, his mind must of necessity be free from morose thoughts, morbid desires and shallow prejudices. It is not so much the change of air which causes the beneficial results, as the change in thought.

The good and ambitious player is a serious thinker; his mind during the progress of the game is as intensely concentrated as that of the scholar writing a treatise on the fourth dimension. And from his own point of view his responsibility is as great as that of the engineer whose hand is upon the throttle of his locomotive.

All this nervous energy and excitability, this planning and keyed-up motion, is put forth and exercised for *fun*; but it is worth while fun, inasmuch as it calls into active practice the healthy emotions. Play ball!

The Way to Limited Self-Government

THE JOLIET PRISON POST has no authority to express Warden Allen's views or to announce his policies (the warden's announcements are always made over his signature), but it is evident that the administration can give more freedom to the prisoners only as they show that they are able to govern themselves.

The ideal condition for a prison is realized when law and order prevail without needing to be enforced by the officers. In so far as this condition can be established, self government is possible in this penitentiary, but this cannot come until the prisoners obey the rules. If they will obey the rules, will live up to all their opportunities, the Warden will have realized his ambition, as expressed by him recently to the inmates assembled in chapel, "to make life in this prison as nearly normal as it is possible to make it in an institution of this kind," and the prisoners will have come into an entirely different and a much higher order of prison life.

EDITOR'S COLUMN

An Opportunity to Stem the Tide

It gives us pleasure to print extracts from letters which have been received from Mr. A. D. Chandler, director of Harper & Brothers, Publishers, New York, and also a trustee of the State Home for Boys at Jamesburg, N. J. In a letter dated March 16, Mr. Chandler says:

"I am very much interested in having the boys that go out of our institution for juvenile delinquents make good and never land in the reform school or state's prison. Lots of your 'boys' are graduates from state institutions for juvenile delinquents. Some of them could tell, if they would, why they kept on 'floating down stream with the current like a dead fish, instead of working up stream like a live one.' Won't you ask for letters or articles on 'Why I Did Not Make Good' and print them in the Post? If there are any letters you don't want to print, or the writers don't want them printed, I would be very glad, indeed, to have them sent to me. I want to know just what we can do at Jamesburg, that we are not now doing, to fit our boys to 'make good' when they get out. It seems to

me that those who can best help us to help these boys are the ones who have not 'made good' themselves, by telling me why a reform school did not reform them.

"Will you ask them to do it—either through your columns or to me direct?"

We are sure there are a number of men in this prison who could give experiences that would prove helpful to such boys as Mr. Chandler has in mind and that would especially prove helpful to men in such work as Mr. Chandler is doing. Under date of April 10, Mr. Chandler writes again:

"I have now some two hundred letters from the five hundred kids in our institution which tell how they got there—mighty good stuff to show who's to blame for their being there. It's not always the kid himself by any means. One can judge pretty well from their experiences, told in their letters, what preventive means should be used to retard this flood of juvenile delinquents all over the country. (How the school masters and the parsons 'duck' when it's put up to them.) Some of us were lucky enough not to get caught when we were kids, so we don't know as much about our job as we would like to. Lots of the 'boys' at Joliet were less fortunate and have been put through all the grades. Some of them are, no doubt, better fitted by experience to fill my job than I am, but, as the editors say, 'we do not find them available.'

"I am sure they will be glad to help us to help the same kind of kids they were once, by giving us the benefit of their experience and advice.

"Tell us what not to do—what to do—and how to do it.

"We want human stuff and I know I am going to the right place to get it."

We urge the men who can do so, to help Mr. Chandler. The men will thus take a part in the good work that is being done by the State Home for Boys at Jamesburg, N. J.

Address communications to THE JOLIET PRISON POST. All will be sent to Mr. Chandler and some will be published in this magazine. Give name, but the name will not be published. All letters will be in strict confidence.

Objections to Graded Feeding

Please allow me to express the sentiments of the unskilled and uneducated inmates of this institution, individually and collectively.

We consider the article printed on page 104 of the March issue of your magazine advocating graded feeding of prisoners, as a hoax. The plan suggests class legislation, which has always been tyrannical, always causing discontent among the common people.

We think that food is the most essential thing to build up a person, not only physically, but mentally. When a prisoner has been punished, he should at once be given substantial and palatable food in order to strengthen his mental faculties.

J. W.



EDITOR'S NOTE—The foregoing communication is published for its value in illustrating one class of contributions that should not be sent to THE JOLIET PRISON POST. "J. W." forgot to disclose his identity and we have no use for anonymous communications. Contributors may adopt any signature to appear in our columns they wish, but unless the person's correct name and register number are given to us for our information, his communication will not be printed.

"J. W." speaks for "unskilled and uneducated inmates," "collectively and individually," when he has no authority so to speak. He may be voicing the sentiments of a few "unskilled and uneducated inmates," but it is impossible for him to voice the sentiments of any representative number of these men, because he does not know and cannot possibly get into communication with the men. THE JOLIET PRISON POST receives many contributions from inmates who, without warrant, write as if they had been selected by vote to voice the sentiment of a large class in our community.

Such communications promptly go into the waste basket.

Graded feeding has no resemblance to class legislation. A prisoner gets the better food because of good conduct, not because he belongs to a particular class, and he who has the inferior food gets that because he is a nuisance, a nuisance to the officers and to the large majority of prisoners who never need to be disciplined.

The term "class legislation" must always be

considered in its legal significance, which has nothing to do with behavior. To illustrate: one "unskilled and uneducated" prisoner may, through good conduct, belong in one class or grade, while another "unskilled and uneducated" prisoner may, because of *misbehavior*, belong to another class or grade; but, for example, if both men were barbers out in the world, they would in law be in the same class on any proposition involving barbers as a class: the quality of their personal behavior would have no significance.

"Uneducated" prisoners are prone to believe that food is the most essential thing to build up a man "mentally." It is largely because these persons live up to that belief that they remain uneducated, even in the face of a good school here and an abundance of leisure in which they might study.

We are not surprised that "J. W." believes that when a prisoner has been punished, he should at once be given substantial and palatable food. It is right here that we should withhold the better food. Withholding it would continue the corrective influence, as the stomach is the weak spot in men who require punishment in this prison at this time.



Life Time Men's Views in This Issue

There appear in this issue several contributions from prisoners serving life sentences. These contain accurately the views of the men as expressed in the several manuscripts as they reached our office. We must, however, admit that we edited the contributions.—Editor.



A Practical Step in Grading

For some time it has been recognized that it is necessary to have the prisoners who earnestly desire to respond to the policies of the prison administration separated from the prisoners who look upon a well-intentioned Warden as an easy mark, whose confidence may be abused with a considerable degree of safety.



The separation of the two classes of men has thus far been embarrassed by the physical aspects of the prison and the condition of overcrowded cell houses.

The segregation, during working hours, of prisoners who are unsocial, who do not respond to the new prison policies, makes necessary the equipment of a shop where those prisoners may be placed at work by themselves. The work of this shop must be such that one man or two hundred men may be employed according to what attitude the men maintain at any time.



A shop for the manufacture of chains is being considered. The work of this shop will be suited to the conditions of employment to which the shop will be subject; the work will be hand work principally.

A complete segregation of the offenders must wait until the cell houses have been renovated, which work is in progress now and it is desirable that this renovating be concluded as soon as possible, as further improvement waits upon having the cells made ready.—EDITOR.



A Contest for Cash Prizes

Mr. George M. Weichelt, an attorney at law, 29 South La Salle street, Chicago, offers two prizes, one of ten dollars and one of five dollars in cash for the two best contributions, either prose or verse, on the subjects herewith announced. The contest is open for all inmates of this prison. A committee composed of members of the Press Club of Chicago selected by Mr. Weichelt, will judge the papers.

Mr. Weichelt reserves the right to publish any article submitted in this contest. The author's name will not be made known if that is desired. Contestants may write on one or more of the subjects, which are as follows:

"How should prisoners be reformed who willfully violate the prison rules?"

"Is it morally right for a government to imprison one who has been adjudged guilty of crime without providing for his dependents during his incarceration?"

"Honor system in prisons."

Articles shall be limited to fifteen hundred words. Copy shall be written on one side of the paper only. All copy is to be sent to this magazine not later than June 1, 1914.

Copy closely resembling any article which has appeared in print will not be considered.—Editor.

NEWS NARRATIVE

Pardoned to be Executed

A few minutes after receiving a pardon from Governor Hays, which released him from a 115 years' sentence, Fred Pelton, negro, was electrocuted on March 28 at the state penitentiary at Little Rock, Ark., for the killing of Melvina Hutton, negress, whom he murdered to secure 50 cents. There was a question as to the legality of electrocution of Pelton until after he had served his 115-year sentence, and for this reason the pardon was granted.



Death of Former Officer

Mr. Thomas Rykert died Monday, March 16, at the West Side Hospital in Chicago, at the age of 44 years.

He was superintendent of our prison farm until August 14, 1913, when he resigned on account of ill health.

Mr. Rykert will long be remembered as a genial companion by the officers and as an ideal officer by those inmates who were fortunate enough to work under his direction.

He never spoke ill of any one, either officer or prisoner. If he ever felt angry, he never showed it. His personality portrayed intellect, character and courage.



Emptying Kentucky Prisons

Under their recent decision in the John De Moss case, the Court of Appeals of Kentucky holds that, under the laws of Kentucky, all prisoners serving indeterminate sentences are entitled to their parole after having served the minimum time, provided the prisoner has a perfect record for good conduct in prison.

Under this decision the board of prison commissioners has released from the penitentiary at Eddyville and from the state reformatory at Frankfort 450 inmates within the short space of five weeks. The statement has been issued that the parole agent has experienced no difficulty in securing employment for all the men.

This decision probably has no bearing on the Illinois parole law because of the difference in the language in the two statutes.

CONTRIBUTIONS BY INMATES

LIFE MEN NO EXTRA SOCIAL RISK

By Mack Wiley

A Life Term Prisoner.

In my opinion a life term prisoner should have a chance to earn back his right to freedom; he should be enabled to earn it back by serving a long sentence, by good behavior in prison and by giving satisfactory evidence to properly constituted authorities that he is not a menace to society.

With all respect to the administration of justice in the state of Illinois, it is my view that the verdict of a jury having the sanction of a trial judge, is not always conclusive that justice has been done.

There is in Illinois too great a difference between the strength of the state on one side and the strength of a poor negro boy charged with a crime on the other, to result in a verdict so equitable that it should be considered final for all time and that a boy convicted under the circumstances obtaining in this state should have no chance for all time to come.

In my own case, I should like a chance to be judged as to my fitness for release on parole by a parole board which would consider me as I am today. I pray daily that the state of Illinois will so extend the provisions of the parole law that the question of the charge I stand convicted of may be authoritatively reconsidered; that it may be reconsidered in view of everything that has a bearing on my sentence on the day of such reconsideration. I believe that every man should, as nearly as possible, be given his just rights as well as his just punishment.

In some states one may commit a murder without fear of the death penalty. In other states a life term prisoner may always hope to earn a parole by good behavior, as many of the states have parole laws for life term prisons. While I cannot name them all, I know that there are such laws in Minnesota, Nebraska, Ohio, Utah, Louisiana, Oregon, Virginia, Texas, California, Kentucky, Iowa, Montana and Nevada.

REASON FOR LIFE-MEN'S PAROLE

By Joseph Smith

A Life Term Prisoner

There are reasons why, under certain conditions of eligibility, the law should provide that a life term prisoner, after a certain number of years, should have his case considered by a board of parole.

A usual argument of those who advocate a continuance of the life sentence policy as a finality, is, that life sentences without any tangible hope of release from prison are necessary as a protection to society, since they prevent the person so sentenced from ever again committing a like offense. Next, the continuance of life sentences as finalities is asked as a punishment of the person who has committed the offense. And again, life sentences as finalities are urged on the ground that the influence of the never ending punishment deters other persons from committing similar offenses.

That society has the right to protect itself and that a person should be punished for committing crime, are propositions which nearly every prisoner whom I have spoken with admits heartily. But still I submit that when the sentence in any case ceases to benefit either society or the person serving time, it is worse than useless.

The ends that society seek in its trials and convictions, which are the only reasons that justify society in those acts, have been met when the prisoner is no longer a menace and when, therefore, society no longer needs to protect itself from that person. And finally, the deterring effect of punishment upon the commission of crime by others can operate for a short time only at best. People do forget and when we have been in prison so long that even our friends have forgotten us, it cannot be presumed that others—strangers—will still remember our deeds or remember the treatment we received. The deterring value of the punishment prescribed is certainly exhausted by the time the two other points mentioned have lost their value.

Therefore, it would seem that a law permitting parole and probationary release for life sentence men cannot be other than beneficial to all concerned and particularly to men like myself who have been here so long that it seems an eternity.

PAROLE LAW FOR LIFE TERM MEN

By John Carey

A Life Term Prisoner

I have for many years believed that the day would come when the generosity of the people of the State of Illinois would find expression in a parole law for men sentenced to serve life terms.

When I had been here ten years, I began to scan the papers during each succeeding session of the legislature, hoping all the time that the parole law would be amended so as to extend its provisions to men in my class.

At the end of each session, with no bill passed in our behalf, I felt the pangs of deep disappointment, always to find that hope would revive with the approach of the time when the legislature would once more convene.

There probably is no class of men so optimistic as prisoners when conditions of life are made bearable and, in consequence, the recent change in our situation has given me more hope than I have ever had and I feel confident that at the next session of the legislature the parole law will be amended, so that, in the discretion of the board of parole, life term men will be eligible to parole after a number of years have been served.

In talking this over with many other life term men, I find that there is a wide difference of opinion in regard to the number of years which a life term man should serve before he becomes eligible to parole.

The men who have been here over twenty years usually think that every prisoner should have his case considered by the board of parole after he has been here twenty years, while the men who have just come think that a life term man should have his case considered within a few years. The logic seems to be with those who think that a life term man should have his case considered by the board of parole after he has been in prison eight years and three months, that being the length of time served by a man who is sentenced for fourteen years, the minimum sentence for murder, and who earns all the good time for good behavior, which it is possible to earn under the good-time law of this state.

If the legislature should amend the parole law so that a life term man would be eligible to parole after having been in prison eight years and three

months, it would not mean that life sentences are reduced to this period of time; it would only mean that at the end of eight years and three months the board of parole would consider each man's case on its merits, taking into account everything prior to the crime, the circumstances at the moment of the commission of the crime and the conduct of the prisoner since and up to the moment the case is reviewed.

Such a law would leave hope in every life term man's breast and it would be an inducement to each to be of good behavior and to seek mental and moral improvement.

There are at present many men in this prison who have been here over twenty years, who were boys when they came and who are no more like what they were twenty years ago than night is like day, yet they have upon them the judgment pronounced many years ago by a judge and jurors who probably have for years forgotten their existence.

In spite of the many years I have waited, I still believe that the people of Illinois will exert their authority in our behalf. The time is here when citizens think of prisoners with some kindness, and one of the early fruits of this happy situation must be that no man will be allowed to live without hope of forgiveness at some time and that, providing he strives hard enough, the merit he wins will finally be acknowledged.

I attempt no excuse for crime and I honestly believe that I abhor crime as much as the average person. I believe in punishment for crime. I believe that sin must be atoned for in sorrow and that society must protect itself against evil doers by laws and through courts and prisons, but I also believe that it is wrong to punish an honest man of good character who is forty-five years old for a crime committed by a boy twenty years old.

The real Law Giver said to the Father, "Forgive them, for they know not what they do." May I ask of organized society that it will extend to us a fraction of that teaching?

Though I have been convicted, I am yet a man and deep down in my heart I know that I would be a good citizen if I were released today and from my impression of many others, I feel satisfied that there are many men in prison who, if released, would do unto others as they would have others do unto them.

WHY IS A THIEF?

By Geo. Swanson

A Prisoner.

Are men born thieves? I think not. Often men are born with tendencies that, if misdirected and not counterbalanced by tendencies of opposing character, may predispose a person to dishonesty; but this is somewhat because of present economic and social conditions. Under better economic and social conditions, these same tendencies probably would have proved desirable assets and might have as easily landed the person on the board of directors of a bank as in the penitentiary.

Is it possible for the phrenologist and the physiognomist to distinguish, by the aid of his science, between an honest man and a thief? I think not, and I have had exceptional opportunities to put the matter to a fair test a dozen times, but each time the phrenologist, though a man of high standing in his profession, failed absolutely. No, there are no born thieves and thievery is not an acquired habit like drunkenness. There are professional thieves, but the professional thief steals from choice. He is not impelled to steal by the force of habit. He would stop stealing at once if he could, with as little effort, get as much or more money legitimately. Furthermore, the professional thieves whose depredations are really serious are comparatively few, at least outside of the world of high finance.

Since thievery is neither inherited nor habitual, what is the cause of it? While I will not deny that no matter how perfect economic conditions may become, we shall still have thieves, I do assert, that bad economic conditions are the fundamental cause of much thievery and of nearly all crimes against property. In view of the fact that nearly all thieves are more or less addicted to drink, we have been assured that drink is the most fruitful cause of thievery; but, those who say this overlook that drunkenness is but the effect of a cause and that that cause, again, is bad economic conditions; so drunkenness and thievery are brothers, not parent and offspring.

How, then, do bad economic conditions produce thieves? When young men of the nation, whether native or immigrant, face the world, perhaps poorly equipped, to fight the battle for bread, they

find themselves up against a pretty stiff game. In the process of accumulation the social machinery runs at breakneck speed, and those who for any reason are unable to keep up must trail behind where the pickings are meager. The man who works the hardest sometimes gets the least, and, if he has not been gifted by nature considerably above the average, his prospects for advancement are practically nil. Therefore, where such a man has been fighting a losing battle for a number of years and his common sense tells him that he cannot rise, that he is doomed to wield a pick and shovel or stay chained to some other task of drudgery for the rest of his days, and for a mere pittance, he becomes discouraged. He is, indeed, endowed with more than the usual share of moral stamina, if he does not fall into any one of the numerous pits the money-devil has dug for him. When, on the other hand, he sees a man whom he knows to be a thief, whether one that steals within the law or one that defies the law, waxing fat and saucy on his ill-gotten wealth, while he, an honest man, is slaving his life away for a pittance—where is the wonder if he begins to question whether honesty really pays. Now, of course, the hack-writer, who earns his right to live in a garret by blazing the trail to the fountain of success in printer's ink upon the pages of the Sunday supplements, will rap me on the knuckles, and quote me the words of hundreds of successful men, himself included, to prove that any honest and industrious man can achieve success.

While I do not wish to discourage any man from trying, and while personally, I wish that every man were honest and industrious, I am compelled to brand such talk as fallacious. There are and always will be only a limited number of jobs in the industrial world that pay a sufficient wage to insure their holders a good living; and also, only a limited number of business enterprises can succeed and, since these jobs or business enterprises do not suffice by half to go around, there must always be a great number of men who must content themselves with poor jobs and scanty earnings, no matter how honest and industrious they are. There is but one hope to hold men back from becoming thieves: the wages of the common laborer, the factory hand, the drudge, must be substantially raised. If this is

not done the industrial mill will go on turning out prostitutes, drunkards and thieves faster than all the reformers can reform them even if they work night and day.

It is in this way the adult workingman is evolved into a thief, drunkard, tramp or suicide; and the same bad economic conditions are in great measure directly or indirectly responsible for the juvenile delinquents as well.

In further support of this statement is the fact that, during periods of industrial depression, crimes against property always increase. The professional thief is not affected by industrial crises. This increase, therefore, must be due to an additional number of first offenders and to relapses of the occasional thieves. No one but the man who has himself faced such temptations can have an adequate idea of their strength and, in consequence, the public should be more lenient in its judgment of such offenders until the cause which influences them has been removed. The butcher who does not hesitate to let his own well-fed dog roam at will about his shop would be surprised if he caught him stealing a nice steak; but he would not wonder at, and perhaps not altogether condemn a lean, hungry street cur who might steal a march upon him and incidentally steal a bone.

I do not claim to have discovered a new cause for thievery—indeed, this would be impossible, since everything from whooping-cough to decayed teeth has already been saddled with this responsibility—but, I have singled out the one thing that will not vanish when the searchlight of common sense and experience is turned upon it.



PUT IT UP AT THE HONOR MEETING

By A. Doubter

A Prisoner.

We ask, now meetings are in vogue,
Just where the subtle line may be
Between the trusty and the rogue;
And so appeal to Big Chief T.

Attribute it to fancy's whim
The question which I now propose:
Could he, should pie be offered him,
Retain his normal equipoise?

OPTIMISM AND PESSIMISM

By Africander

A Prisoner.

There may come a time to us all when one false step may throw our lives out of balance. But no matter how far astray any of us may go, we may be called back to right acting and right methods of thinking if the proper influence is brought to bear. There is no man so meagerly endowed that he does not recognize within some ideal of right, and so long as he possesses the desire to realize this ideal, just so long will there be hope of his conquest of that which is weak or bad in him, and his ultimate attaining of moral equilibrium.

Many of the great arid spots of the West that showed nothing to the eye but great stretches of sand have yielded to the influence of irrigation and man's untiring labor until the desert wastes which once seemed hopelessly dead to effort are now blooming like the fabled garden of Eden. When one thinks of the great efforts made to drag a bit of land from the encroaching tides, or protect some small spot from the maw of the desert sand one is forced to the conclusion that a soul is of less value in the economics of our modern civilization than a potato patch.



TO SUCCESSVILLE—ONE TURN TO THE RIGHT

By F. Hanley

A Prisoner.

If you'll do the best you can,
Keeping heart and conscience clean,
Stooping not to do or plan
Any action low or mean;
If you'll strive to be the friend
Of the trembler in the fight,
Then you need not fear the end—
You will get along all right.

If you'll do the simple task,
Be the man and play the square;
If you'll grumble not, nor ask
Other men the yoke to bear;
If you'll serve where you are sent,
Keep the faith and face the fight,
You may smile and be content—
You will get along all right.

REFORMATION

By T. E. B.

A Prisoner.

When I entered this prison I was in despair. I was under the weight of the thought of the wrong I had done, of the stigma I had placed upon my family, my relatives and myself.

That despair was uppermost in my mind in spite of the fact that I was wearing a patched, illy-fitting prisoner's uniform, was eating coarse food and was in constant fear that through some mistake I might, for punishment, be put in the solitary, hand-cuffed to the door, with one slice of bread and one quart of water as my only daily sustenance.

During my first months I frequently tried to find out why some men returned to this prison time after time, when from having been here they knew the fate that awaited them.

I did not find the answer to my question until well along into the first summer of the present administration. Then I found that, under the old conditions, men had frequently left here with revenge in their hearts. The revenge they felt led them into things that brought them back.

Now one does not hear men talking of leaving this prison determined upon revenge. In place of the revenge the truth is dawning on many minds that right should be lived for right's sake and that wrong is harmful to him who inflicts wrong as well as to him who is wronged. The prisoners are beginning, more and more, to talk about proving that they can and will become honest and industrious men—make good, they call it—and that they are willing to help solve some of life's problems. They show a readiness to accept in the future the burdens of toil and frugality without which no released prisoner can establish himself.

Through many influences recently brought to bear, the men are beginning to realize that kindness and generosity are essential to true happiness. I do not mean that these qualities are clearly understood by a very great number of the prisoners, but they are seeing the A B C of it. Thoughts are at work and evidences are exhibited unintentionally every day. The feeling of utter despair is giving way and with it go the thoughts of revenge.

Personally, I never felt revengeful and I have

outgrown the utter despair of my first few months. I am beginning to hope that I will yet earn the respect due a good man. Through it all I think of how, under what I then considered great pressure, I took money that did not belong to me and that I earned for myself the name of felon.

Recently opportunities have come which enable me to earn back my self respect. I am finding that true happiness is attainable only when one strives to help others and, as I am more capable than some of the men here, the opportunity to help others comes frequently.

I shall always be grateful to those who have made this possible.



THE PRISON LIBRARY

By S. K. E.

A Prisoner.

A good library is an indispensable department to the well-ordered penitentiary. The indifferent world may believe that the great majority of inmates in prisons are not only lacking in good mental caliber but are in the embryonic stage of development. An inside view of library conditions in this institution will quickly dispel that illusion.

Books are so largely responsible for present-day civilization that to my mind the prison library deserves more than passing notice. In institutions where the standard of progress measures up to the demand, the library is the one department which fast is becoming recognized as indispensable. Its usefulness is twofold: in supplying a wholesome recreation and also those deep and more vital incentives which must ever work for intellectual development and moral uplift.

The tastes of the fifteen hundred inmates of this prison can be learned from the interesting library statistics which follow. Fiction is far the most popular, but the statistics show that a number of men are seeking to improve their minds, are paving their way to a broader and more useful life through the medium of good books.

The prison library is catalogued under thirteen classifications, each classification having a number of subdivisions. The following tables are

furnished by the chaplain-librarian. They cover the period from July 1, 1913, to April 1, 1914:

Total number of books in library.....22,068

Number of books purchased..... 125

Average number of books repaired monthly

by bindery 40

Books condemned or destroyed..... 10

The monthly issue of books was: July, 6,006; August, 5,469; September, 5,178; October, 5,108; November, 4,531; December, 5,269; January, 5,812; February, 4,302; March, 4,646.

The classification of the books drawn is as follows:

Dept.—	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.
Gen. works	31	31	44	32	27	27	22	15	18
Philology...	183	158	152	117	154	139	182	96	103
Religion ..	138	180	145	144	118	125	87	105	100
Sociology .	186	160	159	140	123	184	131	132	111
Philology...	183	158	153	117	152	139	132	96	103
Nat. science	175	169	131	134	121	94	119	107	116
Useful arts	417	333	281	300	265	255	228	178	209
Fine arts...	92	87	112	69	75	90	63	68	79
Geog. and history ..	755	654	605	550	453	525	412	430	450
Eng. lit....	340	365	340	297	287	294	431	263	302
Foreign lit.	220	177	133	158	143	136	157	139	213
Medical ..	1	1	2	1
Fiction ...	3,413	3,101	2,028	3,119	2,732	3,350	3,995	2,718	2,912

These tables show the mental measure of the inmates; it is seen that there is a fair proportion of students and thinkers among the men.

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GOOD DEPARTMENT

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By T. G. E.
A Prisoner.

It is often claimed by prisoners that the observance of prison rules will not result in any good for the individual. When one considers the nature of this institution in all of its aspects, this seems absurd.

The administration needs reliable, helpful prisoners, just as much as an employer of labor anywhere needs good employes. The proof is in the number who have been made trustees at this prison. Go to the trusty who has a position outside of the walls or to one who holds a good place within the walls and ask him if his good conduct has brought him anything. He will consider the question foolish.

As to the larger question of good conduct hastening parole for a prisoner, that can best be answered by those in authority, but that does not prevent me from speculating upon it, and, when I do this, I am forced to the conclusion that in the logic of things it must be true that good deportment in this prison pays as well as it does anywhere. To bring men to be better citizens

when they shall again mingle with society, is the main object of this administration, consequently as they behave better they are duly rewarded.

We must always remember that the parole board has a duty to society as well as the prisoners, that the parole board must protect society against liberation of evil-doers. In the exercising of its discretion in considering parole, the individual character, as evidenced by his deportment during this person's incarceration, must be of tremendous deciding influence.

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WHILE SMOKING MY PIPE

• • •

By Stander
A Prisoner.

The fellow who wrote "Stone walls do not a prison make, nor iron bars a cage," how long did he do? I bet he wrote it either to get out, or after he was out, or he never was in jail at all.

Deputy Walsh never clubbed a man while on the police force in Chicago. No wonder he only served thirty years. How could he be so remiss in his duty?

Dr. Benson is all right. Everybody says so. But—why does he never prescribe a change of air?

Speaking of popular songs, remember these:

"Home, Sweet Home."

"If Mother Could Only See Me Now."

"More to be Pitied Than Censured."

"She's Only a Bird in a Gilded Cage."

"Don't Take Me Home."

"No One Gives Presents to Me."

"Where Is My Wandering Boy Tonight?"

I always maintained this was a lovely place, but I was in Germany when I said it.

Still, it might be worse. Remember twelve years ago, and contract labor, and——.

Several "white hopes" in here.

I am not asking for pie. Still, if some Sunday supper should consist of that delicacy it would be delightful.

Fellow next door humming "I would rather be on the outside looking in than on the inside looking out." My view exactly, pal, but what's the use?

No, sir! This is no place for an honest man, but neither is Chicago.

The very quintessence of ignorance and cowardice is hissing. A man gets up to sing a song;

some one disapproves and starts hissing. Some one's aesthetic perception is jarred by a discordant note of the orchestra and he hisses. An indispensable announcement is made, and we have more hisses. We have a vivid recollection when "announcements" were dispensed with and all "explaining" was done in the solitary. Let us hasten to add, that only a small percentage of the men are guilty of this infraction of etiquette, but it embarrasses the other men. So, I say to the hisser if you must hiss, have the decency to stand up while doing it and show your face.



A LETTER TO YOU, MR. CITIZEN

By C. M.

A Prisoner.

Why? Because if a man is convicted and wants to know who sends him to his destiny, the jury will wash their hands and tell you it is up to the judge. The judge will clean his conscience and explain to you that it is not him but the law and legislature, while by asking them they will prove to you that they are only instrumental and tell you it is the voice of the people, and as you are the end result I address this letter to you, Mr. Citizen.

And as you are the cause I argue that our only hope lies in you. We fully believe that at the present we have a Warden at the head of this institution who fully realizes the necessity of such reform movements and who, in his shrewdness, sees well the everlasting benefit that the State of Illinois and particularly you, Mr. Citizen, will derive from his services. Our great desire, therefore, is that you will co-operate with him and us. It is not sympathy, Mr. Citizen, we ask, but action is what we are looking for. My aim is to prove to you that our Warden is absolutely on the right track to bring men back to this standard.

Now, Mr. Citizen, I am supposed to be a criminal and you must admit in such a position who daily deals with them forms their friendships, to whom they express their feelings, who himself can feel like they do, for he is one of them, can understand the reason for crime much better than any criminologist, and I claim there is no one that can understand such a man unless he has been through the mill himself.

Therefore, Mr. Citizen, I desire to give you

the benefit of what I learned that you might see the criminal in the right light.

To begin with, we perhaps have to ask the most serious question that all our advanced knowledge of modern science gives us no positive answer: "What is the cause of crime?"

The doctors tell us that we need an operation. The scientist tells us it is hereditary. The preacher tells us it is a bad, sinful heart. Here we have medicine, science and theology. But the results, no relief and they still victimize you, Mr. Citizen, don't they? You remind me very much, Mr. Citizen, of the story of a shepherd who was desperately hungry and whose dinner pail hung over his head on a tree, but he did not want to get up and get it.

With other words it's you, Mr. Citizen, that has to get up and take a hand in this great reform movement with our Warden. No, Mr. Citizen, we need no operation, nor are we born criminals, nor are our hearts any more sinful than those on the outside. We are human, susceptible to sorrows and joys. The only things we do need is a little start. For there is only one reason what made us what we are, what caused us to commit crime and that is indispensable. We lost our honor. A man will at least in the moment he commits his crime be stripped of his honor like a tree stripped of all its leaves—let that be in a moment of anger, in a moment to satisfy his passionate inclinations, in moments of fear. He does not realize who or what he is; he will completely forget his honor, his manhood. Therefore, Mr. Citizen, the great question is, what is the remedy? Is it not a fact that if you take the best natured dog and chain him up, abuse him, ill feed him, etc., the consequence is that you have made him a savage, uncontrollable beast? There is a picture exactly the result of imprisonment in the old form. The little good that still remains in every human heart you have crushed out and you have made him into a beast with a heart full of hatred—now do you wonder why criminals increase?

Therefore, that is positive this cannot be the remedy. And now ask yourself who is the fault? Was the dog the fault that he was made into beast? It is true by such treatment you have your revenge, but the price you pay is increase of criminals and constant fear of same. I ask you, is it worth it? Just let me bring before you a product

of the old prison regime, one Spencer, whose terrible confession still horrifies your hearts. Therefore let me ask you, do you want more Spencers? There are 1,500 men in here. On the other hand, if the plan of our Warden succeeds there are 1,500 men in here that will fight against crime, become honorable, decent citizens who will be again a wheel in the great machinery of the State. So you see, Mr. Citizen, this rests entirely with you. Which shall it be? Now the remedy.

Our Warden has instituted an honor system that will beyond doubt in time bring us back to the standard of honor which we lost. For this is most certain, a man who stands on honor and manhood cannot commit a crime. Therefore, Mr. Citizen, do you see the great benefit that would come directly to you? What does it mean? It means to check the crime wave and to turn out honest, upright and true citizens. When I kindly requested you, Mr. Citizen, to co-operate with our Warden, I mean to say that he is a pioneer in this reform work and you know that all reformers as a rule reap more thorns than laurels, although after they are dead they write books about them and set them monstrous tombstones.

Of course, I understand it would be very immaterial to him. He will get his compensation just the same, whether he runs it the old way and turns out criminals with a heart full of revenge or the new way to turn out men ashamed of their past with a heart full of love to mankind, with the determination to make good upon their honor. While financially it would make no great change with him, but it certainly means everything to you and us. Therefore, Mr. Citizen, I wish you to realize that our Warden is doing this for our good, for your good, and for the good of the State of Illinois. If once in a while things happen which do not meet your approval and which no man can prevent, remember it is pioneer work and that our Warden cannot see into the heart of the man. But remember, no matter what the papers say, if our Warden succeeds he has solved a question that all the wisdom of 2,000 years were unable to. Now, Mr. Citizen, I ask you don't you think the experiment is well worth? At the present, Mr. Citizen, you have sent the eagle of the State of Illinois down upon us and he with his fangs has gripped our hearts and throats and bleeding out of thousands of wounds to the sor-

row of an innocent heart-broken mother wondering and praying for her boy who was her only support. You have made our wives widows, our children orphans, left to a merciless world. Can you realize, Mr. Citizen, the tortures of one single night when we lie awake thinking what has become of those that are dear to us?

I close, Mr. Citizen, with hope that you will think of us when you pray and forgive us our trespasses "as we forgive those who trespass against us."



WHAT IS IT?

By Experience

A Prisoner.

A fool there is—and his name is legion; instead of making his prayer, he simply whistles it. Now, perhaps, I should not have used the word "fool," but should have moderated it by saying "wise one." For you know, boys, that all the suckers and yaps are still at large, and this small community only houses the very wise ones, which is to say that the prison walls are the dividing line twixt the wise guy and the sucker, the sucker always playing to the outside throng.

Now, in my various wanderings, I have never come across so many wiseacres as I have stubbed against since sojourning here and in places of a similar nature. But the wisest of the wise are the late arrivals. Some of them enter here imbued with the idea that we whom they find here are practically dead ones, or that we are so far behind the times, and walls, too, for that matter, that we are not cognizant of current happenings beyond our narrow confines.

Now, right here is where I rise to remark for the benefit of those late arrivals, also a few of our home-grown cynics, that we were all born outside, and you need not filch it from me, but take it free gratis as facts. Strange, but true, we all had to enter here by due process of law—whatever that means. Now, just allow your Uncle Eph. to "hep" you the fact that we have men here from every walk of life, and doing every kind of walk you ever saw in your life, mixed with every kind of talk, from the one-legged man who walks with the peg or crutch to the biped individual who finds a pair of front feet to put into

the trough, and comes away walking like a hog. Also men from every station (house) in Chicago. Do you receive me, "Bo?"

Now, see what you are up against when you arrive here and begin throwing that bull about the motor cars you own and how many chickens, feathered and otherwise, that used to camp on your trail; and that measley "thou," your lawyer, got, not to mention the scads of masuma awaiting you in that big trust company's keeping on La Salle street. O, well, easy, Mabel dear; the family upstairs are kicking. I say, when I hear some of our ex-brokers and aldermen get together and chew the fat awhile, I feel so small and cheap, I could do a Brody into the big drink, and shed fresh tears of envy.

Gee! fellows, it's tough to be broke. Speaking of being born outside, reminds me of a bit of repartee. (Now, someone look this word up and help me to the definition). I overheard a deputy warden once say he wished to pick a man he could trust. Now, I don't mean one of the late style tango honor men, but a real sure 'nuff trusty for a job outside the walls. Well, he came out into the yard to give the mob the once over, and spied an old fifth-timer. He called to him and said, "Frank, I want a man for a good job; were you ever outside?" (Meaning, of course, had he ever been detailed to work beyond the walls.) Well, Frank answered pat: "Yes, sir, deputy, I was born outside." Well, I don't care to say how sore the Dep. was, but after he saw the joke Frank got the job. The reason the Dep. gave for putting him on the job was that he was glad to know that Frank remembered having once been out in his life. So you, too, remember, boys, that all these old fellows you see here plodding along in the even tenor of their ways, were born outside and every single individual soul expects to plant his hoppy feet upon the bricks again. Now hold the deal. This is not an article, and I am sure the "Ed." will not construe it as such. It is simply an effort, or an effort simple. But, however good or bad it may be, you have it from one who, O! well, let us say, who whistled them. Just a few stray thoughts which I hope reaches the spot and riles no one. You know, pals, we are all a conceited lot at best. Show me a man who has not lost some of his conceit after his first pinch and I will show you a man whose case is hope-

less. Why, I remember the first time I got in bad. I thought it was an outrage the way they neglected me at home by not showing up a half hour after the pinch. I thought the street cars should stop running and the sun would be delayed an hour or so in rising because I was in durance vile. And I thought the old folks would not sleep a wink that night, but lie awake crooning: "Where is my wandering boy tonight?" But did they, Bibble?" Well, does a duck wear socks? Any black sheep who may unfortunately wander afar can rely upon finding the family plate intact when he graces the festive board again in little old "home, sweet home."



TO MY BROTHERS IN LAW

By "Buttons"

A Prisoner.

Written for THE JOLIET PRISON POST.

(EDITOR'S NOTE.—It is better to be a good philosopher and a bad poet, than to be a good poet and a bad philosopher.)

Softly, friends, with all this bull con

About our chances to do right;

Don't speil of a hand to help us

Win the hard and bitter fight.

Do not welch and ask for pity,

Do not blame society;

Don't go howling when in trouble,

Think of all while yet you're free.

We all were free, our chances equal

To work, to steal, to starve, to die;

To have a home and wife and friendships,

And live beneath the same blue sky.

Society had naught against us,

No one forced us to do wrong;

We were free to choose our pathway,

Pain and darkness, joy and song.

'Twas up to us which way we wandered,

We were not forced to work or steal;

The path was wide, the chances even

To win success or pass the deal.

We took the road that seemed so rosy,

Easy money, wine and song;

While others worked we stole the proceeds,

Knowing well that it was wrong.

We did not kick while the money lasted,
 No thought of society bothered us then;
 But how quickly we howl for some one to help us
 The moment we land inside of the "Pen."
 The police are all grafters, the judge was against
 us,
 Society made us, we had no square deal;
 We "never done nothing," we all were railroaded,
 Poor, unfortunate men, we are caught, so we
 squeal.

We are mentally deficient, had no education,
 The excuses we offer are numerous and long;
 Won't society help us, defend us and teach us,
 And show us the difference between right and
 wrong?
 Oh! friends, if you worked three days for three
 dollars,
 And someone should rob you as you drew your
 pay,
 Would you call on society to help him who robbed
 you,
 Or yell for a policeman to take him away?

Would you offer him friendship, of crime hold
 him blameless,
 Educate him, clothe him and help him along,
 Tell him you feel sorry he took all your money,
 And teach him the difference between right and
 wrong?
 Now, would you, I ask you, you and I know the
 answer,
 So why should we whine and society blame;
 We are all started equal on Life's rugged high-
 way,
 No one forced us to walk on this bypath of
 shame.

Can't we stand on our feet, friends; are we weak,
 are we helpless?
 Can't we admit that we toot the wrong way?
 Can't we be men, and without all this whining,
 Come forward and ask for a chance to repay?
 Can't we say to society: True, we have fallen,
 But still we are men, and have muscle and
 brawn;
 We'll not whine for help, but be glad of your
 friendship,
 When we prove by success we've repaid for
 the wrong.

We don't want your pity, our debt we will cancel;
 The dance we've enjoyed; now the fiddler we'll
 pay.
 When his dues are collected, again we'll start
 equal,
 But with you on the road, we'll stick night and
 day.
 For the music cost more than the worth of the
 dancing,
 And blunt honesty pays in happiness rare;
 And tho' sometimes the lights will seem very
 entrancing,
 We'll recall what we paid in shame and despair.

So, friends, don't you think that society welcomes
 A good, honest statement instead of a whine;
 And be glad of a chance to offer us friendship
 After we've cancelled the bill for our crime?
 Success we can win, friends, there's nothing to
 stop us,
 And the chances to work are open to all;
 There's room at the top if you want to fight for it,
 There's room at the bottom if rather you'd fall.

LOCAL PARAGRAPHS

Mrs. Maud Ballington Booth spoke here Sunday, March 29. The day that Mrs. Booth comes is always a day to be looked forward to, and after she has gone a day to be remembered. Her address was more beautiful and had more uplift, the men say, than any recent address given by her here. Mrs. Booth was accompanied by her daughter.

The Warden arranged an exceptional Easter service this year. Mr. Marcus Kellerman, grand opera baritone, who visited here about a year ago, was invited to fill the full time of the service. Mr. Kellerman's selections were sacred songs; grand opera selections, ballads and romances. The selections were sung in four languages, English, French, German and Italian, Mr. Kellerman remarking that he thought his audience would be pleased with the variety in language, as the nationalities referred to were probably represented in his audience. There was a most appreciative response to each of the numbers. The accompanist was Miss Rice, of Chicago. The local orchestra supplemented Mr. Kellerman's vocal work with numbers especially prepared for

the Easter service. A number of visitors, both ladies and gentlemen, attended the service.

The orchestra has been furnished with new dark blue uniforms. These appeared for the first time at the Easter service.

The meetings announced last month to be held by the men were held as was arranged. The men met by galleries in rooms connected with the respective wings. Various propositions were discussed and voted upon. All of the men showed an interest in their new opportunity and they conducted themselves as parliamentarians should. One of the men had been appointed chief presiding officer by the Warden for this first month; he, with an assistant, presided at all of the meetings. The quarry men are spoken of as having one of the most orderly meetings and as among those who took up the work of the meetings with keen interest and understanding.

About one thousand gold fish were carried through the winter and are now placed in the fountain basin in the yard, in the front lawn pond and in the various aquariums in the Administration building, the office of THE JOLIET PRISON POST and in other offices. Two hundred of these fish are breeders of mature age. The beds of pink, red, yellow and white pond lilies which are growing up in the front lawn pond, with the mellow ground at their roots, furnish an ideal place for breeding, and since no fish that would prey upon the gold fish are put into the pond, nearly every egg that is spawned is hatched. The breeders are carefully selected for their color and vitality and a fine strain is produced. At the close of the season there are literally thousands of these golden beauties.

The five greenhouses outside and the one inside the yard are conducted without keepers and now, after six months under this plan, everything is going nicely. About ten men are employed in the greenhouse and lawn work.

During the past winter the outside greenhouses grew six large beds of mushrooms as an experiment. The experiment was a success, enough being grown to supply the Administration building, and next year mushrooms will be grown on a much larger scale.

The greenhouses have grown sufficient parsley

and mint during the winter to supply the Administration building. Cantaloupes and cucumbers for early planting have been grown and potted and will be well advanced by planting time. The greenhouses have also grown 100,000 tomato and 40,000 cabbage plants, which are to be used in the farm gardens. Eight thousand geranium plants have been grown which will be used in the flower beds inside and outside the walls.

The large lawn in front of the Administration building will be particularly beautiful this summer. Prominent in its decoration is the pond of gold fish with its pink, red, yellow and white pond lilies. On a slope facing the west, the national colors are shown in a large flower shield. On the East lawn are many beds of various design of a wide variety of flowers. Alternanthera, or "carpet bedding," of many beautiful colors will be used extensively. On the west side of the driveway there will be lilies and pansies. One hundred and forty varieties of cut flowers are being raised for use in the Administration building, hospital, etc. All of the greenhouse work promises to be exceptionally satisfactory this year.

There will be more truck gardening here this year than at any previous season. The adjacent eighty acres of farm land will be used mostly for gardening. Mr. Emil Erxleben, superintendent of the gardens, all through last winter and autumn, proved that he is a man who proposes to be "on the job." Nothing gets by his observation and nothing is left outside of his calculation. During the early spring, small neglected patches in the fields were cleared up, fences were repaired and new fences were built. When warm weather came the garden men were fully abreast of the season.

Mr. Erxleben proposes to make his summer's work a school in gardening for the men who are working with him. A number of the men will study the methods so as to be fitted for garden work when they leave here. About sixty-five men will be at work in the gardens when the season is fully on.

Aside from the school value of the garden work, the gardens are to be of great practical value. The superintendent says: "Providence and the season permitting, the boys of this institution are going to be fed better this season than

they have ever been fed before." There will be twelve acres of tomatoes, six acres of onions, and smaller areas of rutabagas, parsnips, carrots, beans, peas, squash, cucumbers, lettuce, radishes and spinach.

Many of the men who will be at the gardens this year proved last year that they are faithful and valuable men. The superintendent speaks highly of each of them. These men, of course, are all "trusties." They are outside of the walls and, for a great portion of the time, are away from their keeper.

At the new farm one hundred acres will be used in gardening. There will be twenty acres of potatoes, twenty-five acres of sweet corn, ten acres of onions, five acres of early and five acres of late cabbage. The remainder of the hundred acres will be planted with turnips, melons, beans, peas, tomatoes, cucumbers, radishes, lettuce, squash, pumpkins, beets, parsnips, etc. Mr. I. M. Lewis is superintendent of gardening and what he has so far done gives promise of a good product for the coming season's work.

The general superintendent of the new farm is Mr. Bert H. Faltz. Mr. Faltz will give personal attention to the larger work. He now has a force of thirty-five men, ten good young horse teams, eleven young mule teams and a complete equipment of new farm implements and machinery. He will plant four hundred acres of corn, will sow three hundred acres of oats, and one hundred acres of meadow and pasture.

Many of the men here are hoping that they may go to work on the new farm. The change will be a great relief to those who have been here for a long time. The different environment and the larger natural horizon will be new life to them.

Every man who wishes to show that he is fit for limited self-government can show it by beginning now to protect the lawn. For men who are to show that they will help take care of things, some have been too careless about the lawn. Do not walk on the grass. Let us begin to take pride in this place, and let us make it look as good as we can.

It will be recognized that order is necessary in handling fifteen hundred men. It is a matter of

order as well as a matter of discipline that, when moving in a body, the men should march in line. How many men who wish to show that the gradual introduction of limited self-government is possible, will now be careful to keep his line in good form? Let us begin to look upon these marching lines as military form and forget that they once were a mere method for keeping the men under control. This institution can be for each person what each makes it for himself. Each must begin by dealing with his own thought. We are here and for some time we are to remain. Let us look upon the place differently so that we can make the days mean more to us as they go by.

This "town" needs a resident dentist and oculist. Is there a dentist and an oculist among us?

Arrangements have been made so that the men in a number of the shops are being paid a nominal amount each month. Gradually the question of a wage for prison workmen is working out here.

THE JOLIET PRISON POST has moved into its new quarters. It now occupies the ground floor of a building which has been especially fitted up for it. There is a large room with excellent light for the business force and two good rooms for the editorial work.



WITHIN REACH

Adelaide A. Proctor

Have we not all, amid life's petty strife,
Some pure ideal of a nobler life
That once seemed possible? Did we not hear
The flutter of its wings and feel it near
And just within our reach? It was. And yet
We lost it in this daily jar and fret.
But still our place is kept and it will wait,
Ready for us to fill it, soon or late.
No star is ever lost we once have seen;
We always may be what we might have been.

—*The New Way.*



No power on earth or under the earth can
make a man do wrong without his own consent.
—*The Riverside, Red Wing, Minn.*

"The teacher, like the poet, must be born, and then born again; for the spirit must quicken the spirit and life inspire life, before knowledge can grow to wisdom; and wisdom, set on fire with love, can lift the world to Him who is "the truth and the life."

A. E. Freeman.

The Greater Power

Respectfully Dedicated to Father Edward

Written for The Joliet Prison Post

No day rolls by but what the kindly voice
 With fervent ring awakes some hidden chord;
Brings home some truth, or marks that path of choice
 To burdened hearts all new and unexplored.

And were they asked the secret of his art,
 None would presume to read that quiet face,
But make reply that deep within his heart
 The Love divine had found a dwelling place.

Reform her triumphs soon may contemplate;
 The word of Law shall pardon and parole;
The finished term can outward swing the gate,
 But God's good man has touched the throbbing soul!

C. E. R.



Play On!

By Kind Permission of the Author
H. EDWIN LEWIS, M. D.
Editor of American Medicine



AY not, O friend, that you are tired of life,
When shadows fall and all the world seems drear,
For he alone wins credit in the strife
Who still can smile when grim care hovers near.

The Great Almighty never shows His plan,
But this is true in Life's absorbing game,
The cards are never stacked against a man
Who plays his best—and seeks from men the same.

One may not win and carry off Life's prize,
For some must lose and some are bound to fall,
But strong men try, and herein honor lies,
The quitter cheats himself the worst of all.

So play your hand, one never knows its worth
Till he has played, and reckoned up the cost,
And since the only real defeat on earth
Is Death—till then no man has lost.



Limericks

THE "UPS" AND "DOWNS" OF IT.

Two inmates went off on a tare;
Took a joy ride to—never mind where;
When they blew back to "town"
Certain laws were laid down,
And the auto laid UP—for repair.

"VERSATILE" IS GOOD.

On the X Ray the "Doc" is not dense;
And as second "Big Chief" he's immense;
Snapping "Mugs" as a biz,
You'll agree that he is
A versatile man in a sense.

VAN-ity.

The boys are in toppy high fever,
And are now of great plans the conceiver;
When you touch on their cases
They will turn haughty faces,
And say, "See my lawyer, Van Bever."

SOME AGE-ency.

A copy we wished up to date
Of the Statutes of Illinois State;
One the Library man found
Which was printed and bound
By the Adam and Eve Syndicate.

'TIS NOT THE STONE AGE.

We have a few waiter buffoons
Whose ethics are those of saloons;
A refusal to eat
Would at least be discreet
When they use their own fingers as spoons.

Boost

Written for the Joliet Prison Post

Though our helpfulness is bridled and our hands are somewhat tied,
We would like to show the Warden that we're mustered on his side;
That we crave to put our shoulders to the wheel he has produced,
And with one, "Now, all together!" give the necessary boost.

To be sure there are those fellows who will hoodwink, thwart and shirk;
Quite prepared to shout directions as to how to do the work:
But the type is fast declining—they have prudently vamoosed,
And the new prevailing spirit is the spirit of the boost.

Let the good desires triumph, let antagonism cease,
And the life within the shadows, boys, will often find its peace.
And as smiles outweigh ill-temper, it must therefore be deduced,
There is something satisfying in the magic of the boost.

T. S. E.

The Warden's Walk

Much pleasure does he oft derive
In wand'ring down the line,
Alert, attentive and alive
To every mood and sign.

His peaceful moments, though, are few,
For, if the truth be told,
He only takes a step or two
Before he's button-holed.

PRESS OPINIONS AND REPRINTS

"The Wages of Sin Is Death"

About three years ago Adolph Bertchey suffered the death penalty at Trenton for the murder of a man who was attempting to defend the property of his employer at Lakewood.

Bertchey was a man of attractive appearance, was well educated, and in his daily life appeared in every way to be a gentleman, in fact among the "Fraternity" he was known as "The Gentleman Burglar." He could have made a good living at scores of occupations, but chose the easiest way—as he thought, and so many foolishly think—by taking that which belonged to another.

A day before his execution Bertchey was requested to leave some word for the youth of the country that might prevent them, perhaps, from following in his footsteps. His little sermonette, written in the shadow of the chair of death was penned in a firm hand and without the slightest sign of a tremor. It follows:

"I can add but little to what others have said. I would suggest early religious training. It should begin with the lisping of the child and be continuous and never end until death. The child should be given to know the dangers of environment that is not religious. His associations should be only those that reverence God. The parental responsibility comes in here. The child looks for examples. As the example set before it by its parents or associates are good or evil, so it will in most cases grow.

"If the boy be disciplined in religion with environments good, associations good, and with love as his teacher till he is come of age, to the age of reason, the point of the early training will be invariably a moral religious life. Not all of these came into my early life, but of those that did my one regret is that I did not use them to my advantage, for the wages of sin is death, and the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

A. BERTCHEY."

—*The Better Citizen*, Rahway, N. J.

EDITOR'S NOTE.—There are men in this prison who, if they carry out their present plans and get their deserts under the law, will hang by the neck until they are dead. It is particularly for the benefit of these men that the foregoing article is reproduced.

Finding Fault

The kicking game will bring you fame unpleasant, grim and ghostly, so call a halt in finding fault is what you're doing mostly. Some men seem born distressed, forlorn, then nothing ever pleases; in every cause they find the flaws, the spavins and diseases. They kick at home and when they roam about the town they grumble, and every talk they make's a knock, and every step a stumble. They scare, they scowl, they boot, they howl at every forward movement; they hurt the town, and hold it down, and balk at each improvement. There is a trail of woe and wail where'er they've galivanted; the booster hates such moldy skates they should be planted. They are a bore, the town grows sore beneath their ceaseless wiggings; the band will play some music gay when they have skipped the diggings. Just look around and note, cogs wound! how much the grouch is hated, then make a vow to clear your brow, and keep your bile abated. So call a halt in finding fault is now your daily pastime; let out a roar just one time more, and let that be the last time.

—Walt Mason.

EDITOR'S NOTE.—A great deal of reading and studying is required in order to produce *THE JOLIET PRISON POST*, but the work seems worth while when we occasionally find something—like the foregoing—to publish for the particular benefit of our despised brothers-in-law, the whiners and kickers. Up with 'em!



Come and Try It, Mr. C. S. D.

That prisoners in the Joliet penitentiary and inmates of the state asylums for the insane live longer than they would were they at liberty is the belief of former Governor Charles S. Deneen. He spoke on "Illinois" last night before members of the Men's club of St. Mark's Episcopal church, Evanston. He said:

"A wealthy friend of mine once asked me if he could live longer and rest in peace if he went to Italy. He was astonished when I suggested either the asylum for the insane or the penitentiary. Figures show that the prisoners and inmates live longer under the care they get than they would if at liberty." —*Tribune*, Chicago.

EDITOR'S NOTE.—An ex-governor should know what he is talking about when he speaks of penitentiaries, which until recently were under his control. The statistics of the Joliet prison will not support Mr. Deneen's claims.

There Is Another Side to It

"The world owes me a living," say some fellows, but they never admit their indebtedness to the world. If the world owes you a living, then you owe the world the very best that is in you. Value given for value received. The trouble with the fellows who proceed to collect their living is that they never make any attempt to pay the world what they owe it. You give the world its due, and you will find it only too willing and anxious to meet its obligation.—*The Better Citizen*, Rahway, N. J.



Finding His Place

One day, years ago, in Texas, Paul Graynor killed a man in a quarrel. He was tried and received a 40-year sentence. In prison a change of heart came to him. He sought and found the Savior, and began to lead others to Him. Fifteen convicts yielded to his efforts, became Christians, and having served their time, went forth to lead useful, honorable lives. Graynor also organized classes and taught bookkeeping, stenography, commercial arithmetic and Spanish. Those who knew him were so convinced of his sincerity and Christianity, that after fifteen years they sought and obtained a pardon for him. This, Graynor, refused to accept. He sent word to the governor that he was worth nothing to the outside world, but in that prison he had an influence for good, and he desired to stay there and use it. So he found where he could be an under shepherd to some forlorn sheep. Was it not also a laying down of his life, that he might take it again? And he laid it down of himself when he refused that pardon.

"Stone walls do not a prison make
Nor iron bars a cage."

—*Prison Monitor*.

EDITOR'S NOTE.—Graynor had found the life worth while. Men of bad character will scoff at his choice, because to them it will seem that Graynor made a sacrifice by remaining in prison when he was free to go. Those who understand that true happiness lies in helping others will appreciate that Graynor's refusal of the pardon under the circumstances was the true test of his manliness.

On Being Sorry

By George Matthews Adams

Many a man makes a blunder and spends the rest of his life being sorry for it. Thousands of people, every day, literally eat their lives to starvation because at some time or other they stubbed their toes.

It is well to be sorry, but after that, you should forget it.

Repentance is good, but reparation is better. Time heals and forgets. What you are *now* is better than what you were *then*. It's what a man does *now* that makes him valuable and likeable. History thinks too much of its spare time to talk much about the blunders of its actors.

The best way to be sorry is to show the world in deeds that you are human enough to be bigger than your error.

Be sorry. It's good for your soul. But get over it and beyond it as quickly as you can.



The Land of Beginning Again

Day before yesterday, Wilmer Atkinson, who runs the most unusual and interesting farm paper in this or any land, sent me a copy of this little house organ, "Gumption," with a big pencil mark drawn around a set of verses by "A. P."

The poem is without title, but the first stanza reads thus:

I wish that there were some wonderful place
Called the Land of Beginning Again,
Where all our mistakes and all our heartaches
And all of our poor selfish grief
Could be dropped, like a shabby old coat, at the
door,
And never put on again.

I guess this wish is about as common among folks generally as the desire for three meals a day. YET—

If you are a-wishing some wonderful place
Called the Land of Beginning Again,
Where all your mistakes and your stumbles
from grace
And all of your sorrow and pain
Could be dropped, like a shabby old coat, at the
door,
Nevermore to be worn among men—

Let me tell you, my friend, that just such a fine
 place
 Is next door to the house where you live—
 Next door to the house whose front porch is
 your face,
 And whose walls are the efforts you give
 To be honest and kind and to do your work
 well
 And help others live while you live!
 Its limits are boundless; there's room for each
 one
 Who wishes a home in that land,
 And whatever you've done or have left all undone
 Doesn't matter,—your dwelling is planned
 So that when you go in you put off all the things
 That have mocked you on every hand.

The name of this wonderful land is TODAY,
 The road to its gate is your will,
 When your mind is made up you are well on the
 way
 But your journey is fruitless until
 You know in your soul that the past is stone dead
 And that all your regretting is nil.

Yes, NOW, at this moment, you stand at the gate
 To the Land of Beginning Again,
 Of course, if you choose, you may falter and
 wait,
 But it's mighty poor policy when
 You can enter with such a small key as "I WILL"
 And make a fresh start among men.
 It is never too late
 To start in on the way,
 For however you wait
 It is always TODAY—
 The Land of Beginning Again!
 —Leigh Mitchell Hodges, in *The Philadelphia
 North American*.



Gov. Fielder on Prison Management

Governor James Fairman Fielder of New Jersey, in his inaugural address, said in part:

"Confinement and harshness in penal institutions will never check crime. I favor a system which would tend to remove the causes of crime, rather than a system of punishment.

"For prisoners I recommend work which will make them better able to take up the duties of life when released."

Studying the Criminal

Our conception of the criminal is changing. When a man, and especially a young man, a first offender, is brought before the bar, where his future, his entire life, hangs in the balance, we hesitate. Instead of accepting the evidence of guilt without question and meting out punishment accordingly, we have learned to look for causes. We are beginning to proceed upon the theory that no man would willingly thrust a knife into his own back—and that is what committing a crime and being sent to jail or the gallows for it means. We inquire, therefore, why did he do it? Was he misled by improper surroundings? Was it want and poverty that forced him to criminal ways? Or was it, perhaps, natural disadvantages? Is his brain defective? Is he suffering from injury or disease which makes him irresponsible, and consequently subject for the hospital, the sanitarium, or insane asylum instead of the reformatory, the prison, or the gallows?

In this new attitude toward the criminal we are not alone. Most of the advanced nations of the world have adopted it. The old theory that the criminal is a special type, is of a race apart, has given way before scientific research. Environment—bad environment—poverty, and disease are coming to be accepted pretty widely as the chief sources of crime. This often too great emphasis on environment has been assailed from many quarters. Among those disapproving of such overstraining of the environment theory and neglecting heredity and other influences entirely is the noted Italian student of the subject, Baron Raffaele Carofalo, whose monumental work on "Criminology" has just been published in English.

Nevertheless, this view is gaining ground and, even according to Baron Carofalo, has already done much good, for it has acted as a check on the tendency to impose haphazard sentences on criminals—the sort of sentences which are characterized as a "leap in the dark" and harm both the criminal and society.

In furtherance of this more rational attitude toward crime and criminals a bill has been introduced in congress calling upon the department of justice to establish a bureau "for the study of the abnormal classes" and for the "collection of sociological and pathological data, especially such

as may be found in institutions for the criminal, pauper, and defective classes."

Such a bureau will do good service. It will be a mistake, however, to leave the study of criminals to the federal government. The most that such a federal bureau should be expected to do is to act as a co-ordinating agency. The material to be co-ordinated, however, must come from the various cities and states in the country. The criminal should be studied not after sentence has been passed upon him and he has been confined in an institution, but at the time he is tried. The result of such study should determine his sentence.

Chicago is doing this now. It has established a psychopathic laboratory, which will serve as an auxiliary to the Municipal court. The criminal, especially the youthful criminal, will be taken to this laboratory and his physical and mental condition will be thoroughly looked into before he is placed on trial. If the boy is found to be a defective, a "moron," this finding will put an entirely different construction upon his acts. Chicago's psychopathic laboratory is the first in the United States, but it should not be the last. Every community should study its own criminals.—*Tribune*, Chicago.



Ignorance and Drunkenness

Dr. Rock Sleyster's report of an investigation of conditions at the state prison is said to be the most complete ever conducted in the United States. Dr. Sleyster is superintendent of the state hospital for the criminal insane and was formerly physician in charge of the state prison hospital at Waupun.

The report shows that more than 90 per cent of the 269 men committed to the state penitentiary at Waupun for murder in recent years were sent to work before they were 15 years of age.

Of these 269 convicts, of whom a special study has been made, about one-third have never been to school, half reached the fourth grade and but 3.2 per cent finished high school.

Alcohol was used to excess by 41.5 per cent, while but 12.6 per cent were abstainers. Nearly half were under the influence of alcohol when the crime was committed and 27.9 had been arrested before for drunkenness.—*Enterprise*, Oconomowoc, Wis.

Entertaining Witnesses

President McCormick's veto of the state's attorney bills for entertaining witnesses for the state will be backed by every citizen who stops a moment to think what these bills mean. In his veto message, President McCormick thus describes them:

These bills are for the entertainment of state witnesses until they are required to testify in behalf of the state in various cases. They include, besides board and lodging, almost every luxury that can be obtained at a hotel. Some of the items included are drinks, cigars, cigarettes, pressing clothes, repairing and blackening boots, newspapers, magazines, laundry, tips, drugs, cleaning clothes, candy, telephone, etc. There is even a bill for a suit of clothes amounting to \$35. There is one bill for \$365 for money advanced by the hotel. The amount is never less than \$10 for any one day and is as high as \$45 in one day. The automobile bills, which are not itemized, run as high as \$19 and \$20 for each "riding" as stated by the bill.

There is too much of the flavor of bribery in the provisions of luxuries for witnesses, a bribery within the law and indirect, but morally dubious. The state does not want convictions on the testimony of witnesses who have been "jollied," fed up, and filled with alcohol.

If the practice of Mr. Hoyne's office is traditional, it should be ended now that attention has been called to it. If it is a policy of Mr. Hoyne's invention, he should give himself the benefit of second thought.—*Tribune*, Chicago, Ill.



Convicts for Irrigation Work

Boise.—Idaho launched a new scheme to solve the convict labor problem when the land board and the prison board in joint meeting decided to employ convict labor in the reclamation of 10,000 acres of state land in the Gem irrigation district in Owyhee county, about thirty miles from Boise. This is considered some of the best land in the state; water is available by pumping from Snake river and the state is already taxed for maintenance of the system. There are about 300 convicts in the penitentiary and 100 of them will be placed on this land to clear off the sagebrush, level the land, dig the canals and laterals and put the entire 10,000 acres under cultivation.

Diseased Minds and Crime

How large a part defective mentality plays in crime is a problem which the modern world is trying to determine. Doubtless many who were led into wrongdoing by some obscure mental weakness are now in prison. As most physicians know, there is a twilight zone between sanity and insanity which often defies the best equipped investigators to define. Therefore the creation of a psychopathic laboratory as an auxiliary to the Municipal court of Chicago is a promising addition to this community's equipment for dealing with lawbreakers.

If the new department in its zeal to make itself effective goes to absurd extremes it will cause the city to regret the appropriation for its first year's work. If it refuses to use its power for the shielding of criminals and if in all of its examinations it remembers to mingle good sense with science it will do much to add to this city's reputation for progressive action.

It has been found in Germany that criminal acts very often are merely manifestations of mental disease. Thus, after release from prison, a person so afflicted generally becomes a recidivist, a repeater. Detection of these weaknesses can be followed by their correction in many instances. In addition, the study of such cases should lead to the compilation of data valuable in dealing with the untoward conditions that breed mental afflictions.

The psychopathic laboratory, in short, should prove of distinct value to this community.—*Daily News*, Chicago.



Progressing Towards Prison Road Work in Wisconsin

If the cities of Waupun and Chester and the intervening towns on the road connecting the two places co-operate, the first state highway to be constructed by the use of prison labor will be built there. This was decided at a meeting of the state board of control which has just concluded its sessions here. The last legislature appropriated \$25,000 to make experiments with convict labor in road building. It is probable that prison labor will be used to build the roads to the tuberculosis camp near Tomahawk, and also some roads within the forestry reserve.—*News*, Milwaukee, Wis.

How Did He Mean It?

Winston Churchill recently declared in the House of Commons that "the attitude of the public in regard to the treatment of crime and criminals is one of the best tests of the civilization of any people."



Encouraging, If True

Gent up-town telephones for an officer at once. "Burglar in the house."

"Let me see," said the captain, reflectively. "I've got four men censoring plays, two inspecting the gowns at a society function, and two more supervising a tango tea. Tell him I can send him an officer in about two hours."—*Journal*, Kansas City.



Help the Prisoners You Leave Behind

The Better Citizen, published by the inmates of the New Jersey reformatory, gives the following admonition to men about to be paroled:

Your attitude toward your future is far more reaching than your individual life. Whether you make good or not means, either one more example added to the argument that men can reform, or it gives the cynic a reason for not giving the fellows who follow you on parole another chance. Forget that there is such a term as individualism—to you there is no such word.

By your acts are all men who have been placed in your position judged. When you go out from this institution what you do will either be a help or a hindrance to the thousands of fellows who are fighting for another chance. When a man leaves here on parole the world places a large question mark before his name. It has been predicted that he will make good—the officials of the institution have said so by their very act of paroling him—he has said so—the world wants to be convinced, and the only proof of these predictions lies with the man himself. If you fail through your own carelessness and lack of interest you have placed an additional burden on the backs of your fellow-men. Be fair, fellows. Don't be egoists, thinking of your own welfare entirely. Help your brother to gain that which we all covet—an honorable place in the world.

A Lawyer's Version

A Duluth lawyer, whose client had been trapped into the meshes of the law through the activities of a "stool pigeon," during his speech to the jury, delivered his ideas of that class of "cattle" as follows:

"A 'stool pigeon' is a person bereft of decency, shunned and despised by all respectable mankind. When God made the rattlesnake, the toad and the vampire, He said He had some awful substance left, with which He made a 'stool pigeon.' A 'stool pigeon' is a two-legged animal with a corkscrew soul, a water-sogged brain and a combination backbone made of jelly and glue. Where other people have their hearts he carries a tumor of rotten principles. When the 'stool pigeon' comes down the street honest people turn their backs, the angels in heaven take precipitate refuge behind their harps, and the devil bars and locks the gates of hell."—*Lend a Hand*, Oregon State Prison.



Prison Pardons

In Massachusetts, last year, the governor pardoned 69 penitentiary convicts. It seems that an examination of these cases reveals the fact that the trials were, in many respects, faulty and did not get out of the charges the truest interpretation of the facts. There is no intimation against the court or its officers—only that our judicial system is not fully competent to deal with crimes.

So much is this the case, that the prison commissioner of the state asks that the indeterminate sentence be extended, so as to embrace felonies, and thus give the parole board a better opportunity to revise the action of the courts. It seems singular that administrative appointees should thus be placed above the court, but certainly a review of the Massachusetts cases justifies such a course. In all the cases referred to there is an apparent lack of substantial justice.

It would, no doubt, be a great improvement if criminal courts could be made more like courts-martial or the federal courts, when sitting to settle contentions between a seaman and the master of a ship. The writer has been judge advocate in courts-martial and United States marshal before a federal court, and he knows that both events worked like a charm every time. We need a new system; not a patchwork of the old.—*Journal*, Columbus, Ohio.

Conserving the Boy in Chicago

Founder of the juvenile court and later organizer of a municipal court to displace the "justice shops," Chicago has now formed, as a link between these two, a boys' court for the handling exclusively of cases in which youths from 17 to 21 are concerned. This tribunal is intended to meet a want discovered by sociological workers, men and women. Jane Addams, Mrs. Joseph T. Bowen, Judge Merritt W. Pinkney, Minnie F. Low, officers and patrons of the Workings Boys' Home, the Juvenile Protective Association, and other organizations of like character, were instrumental in securing the legislation and support necessary to its creation. It may be regarded as the latest and most advanced legal recognition of the truth that it is far better to develop the good in the boy than to attempt his reformation by discovering whatever of seeming bad may be in him, and punishing him in proportion to the results of this discovery.

We are told that the prime object of this new court is to save the "first offender"; to judge him as an individual and not merely as the transgressor of a certain numbered section of the legal code. "If he is given a chance," says Mrs. Bowen, "the average boy who will come under the jurisdiction of this court will become a good citizen." It is interesting to notice in the disposition of the very first case before the court in what manner the boy offender is to be given a chance. The defendant was a Chicago boy who had run away from home and had returned to the city after passing through a severe experience. He sought a place to sleep in a downtown building and was picked up by the police. The judge turned the lad over to a responsible representative of a fraternal society.

Final judgment in a matter of this kind cannot be based upon single instances or isolated cases. The juvenile court idea was not at first well received; but it has spread into scores of cities; it has accomplished a tremendous amount of good. The "boys' court" is also to be tested; it is intended to be a still greater step away from the punitive impulse and toward the motherly, fatherly, brotherly and sisterly in human nature. The boys are not to be pushed down, but raised up, turned about, given a right direction, encouraged to take it and to keep it. It seems much the better way.—*Christian Science Monitor*, Boston, Mass.

Crime and Punishment

A recent report by the police commissioner of New York, stating that double the number of crimes were committed in the metropolis in 1913 than were in 1912, draws fire from a veteran judge in that city. Why this phenomenal increase in crime? asks this jurist, and proceeds to answer his own question.

He begins by making allowances for some of this increase. It is due, he says, to a number of sinister evils which are primarily characteristic of the large city. Thus in a city whose population runs into several millions a criminal can escape more easily. He can lose himself in the throng on the street. Then there is the question of more acute poverty in the city. Also the fact that in the large city men often are utterly detached from all friends. There is no moral force, no shame for neighbors in the big city as there is in the small town to deter a man from a desperate deed.

But after allowances have been made, the judge asserts, the number of crimes in our large cities is still frightfully overlarge. The responsibility for this he places on what he calls our sluggish method of punishing criminals. There are too many loopholes in our legal machinery, he says. Between the arrest of the criminal and the final disposition of his case so much time elapses that the criminal can summon all the crooked resources at his command, and with the aid of these resources he often gets the opportunity to escape punishment. The escape from justice once encourages him to continue his career of crime, provided he takes what he thinks are "proper precautions."

Another of the evils in our court system, according to this judge, is that the trial of a criminal often becomes a mere battle of wits. The general object of the trial frequently is not to ascertain the truth. Each side is merely interested to win the case.

The elimination of some of these features from the court proceedings, the New York jurist thinks, along with the introduction of such reform measures in our prisons as would give every man sentenced to jail a chance to learn a trade there, are the only things that will materially cut down the appalling rate at which crime is increasing in the United States at the present time. —*Tribune*, Chicago.

University Course for Prisoners

Inmates of Folsom penitentiary take kindly to the university extension course of the University of California, says a report of Warden J. J. Smith to Governor Johnston.

The report covers prison improvements of the last two years, made possible largely through legislative appropriations.

The prisoners, it is reported, specialize in a large variety of subjects offered by the extension courses, and their efforts are aided by weekly visits from a university instructor who holds classes in the prison.

Entire segregation of tubercular prisoners and those suffering from other infectious diseases is now possible at the institution for the first time in its history, according to Warden Smith, and a complete ventilating system sends pure air through every cell.

The prison farm of 300 acres is now ready to produce all the vegetables for the prisoners' mess, and the convicts also will grow their own tobacco.

The new cellhouses, to cost \$100,000, are nearing completion.—*World*, New York, N. Y.



Prison Journalism

A prison paper to be of the most service to all parties concerned should be an expression of prison life. In the main all matters of discussion should be from the prisoner's point of view, and not so much from that of the official. True there must be an official censorship over it all, but not to such a degree as to destroy the prison expression.

Some of the best ideas of prison reform have emanated from the prison world; for who is more competent to point out the defects in our penal institutions than the man who wears the uniform? He of all the people knows from experience the deleterious effects of some of our prison regulations.

The prison paper should be the prisoner's medium of expression to the outside world. Here the immured man may point out to us in his own language and manner many things to the advantage of the imprisoned. Very true that many of his suggestions might be impracticable, but in giving him a hearing in this way undoubtedly good would be the result.—*The Penitentiary Bulletin*, Lansing, Kan.

Unlawful to Flog Prisoners

In the opinion just delivered by the Supreme Court of North Carolina there is one in the noted case of *State vs. Nipper and Johnson*, from Wake, involving the right of convict guards to flog unruly convicts or administer other corporal punishment, the Supreme Court holding with Judge Cooke, of the Superior Court, that there is no such right either through the State Constitution or through legislative statute.

The Supreme Court declares, Chief Justice Clark writing the opinion: "In view of the enlightenment of this age and the progress which has been made in prison discipline, we have no difficulty in coming to the conclusion that corporal punishment by flogging is not reasonable and cannot be sustained. That which degrades and embrutes a man cannot be either necessary or reasonable."

The opinion cites the passing of flogging as a punishment in the armies and navies of the world and for convicts in great numbers of the foremost countries, even Mexico having in 1903 abolished such punishment for convicts by special act. The court says: "While the North Carolina constitutional provision against the infliction of corporal punishment as a part of the sentence by the courts does not directly prohibit its infliction in prison discipline, its spirit is certainly against the longer use of flogging for that purpose."—*Virginia Pilot*, Norfolk, Va.



Our Prisons

The national committee on prison labor is arranging for a series of meetings throughout the country, under the auspices of its educational department, when possible development of convict road work and other features will be discussed and work will be done to bring about the establishment of an office of prisons under the federal government at Washington.

"John D. Rockefeller, Jr., in establishing a research laboratory at the Bedford Reformatory for Women, has pointed the way towards scientific prison reform," said James Bronson Reynolds, speaking recently before a gathering of the national committee on prison labor at the home of Mrs. John H. Flagler in New York City. The suggestion made by Dr. Whitin that Sing Sing be abolished and a receiving station established

on the old site, is in line with the Bedford work, and will make possible the right classification of the many feeble-minded and defective prisoners which are sent up by the courts."

"I am nineteen years old," a small boy assured Dr. Whitin while inspecting the Indiana Reformatory, "but the doctor says I ain't that old." The doctor's chart showed tests equal only to those of a boy of seven, both physically and mentally, yet the judge had sentenced him on the basis that he was nineteen for a trivial offense for which a boy of seven would have received a spanking. How many such are in our penal institutions no person knows, but Mr. Reynolds urged upon his hearers that it is high time we find out.

Thomas Mott Osborne, who had served a voluntary sentence under the alias Tom Brown, contended that the prison system itself was feeble-minded, and told of his experience in the "solitary" at Auburn prison, which he claimed had been invented as an incubator for mental defectiveness. While urging the need of prison discipline and contending that even more men should be confined for a longer period than now, Mr. Osborne denounced the imbecility of the whole damnable system and showed that the newly formed welfare league at Auburn prison was but the first step toward building up the latent manhood in the convict.

Dr. Percy Grant, of the Church of the Ascension, pointed to the ignorance of the actual conditions on the part of the public throughout the country, but declared that the women were getting aroused and through this awakening great results would come.—*Free Trader*, Ottawa, Ill.



Alcohol as a Remover

An exchange says that "alcohol will remove stains from summer clothes." The exchange is right. It will also remove the summer clothes, and the summer, also the spring, the autumn and winter clothes, not only from the one who drinks it, but from the wife and family as well. It will also remove the household furniture, the eatables from the pantry, the smiles from the face of his wife, the laugh from the innocent lips of his children and the happiness out of his home. As a remover of things alcohol has no equal.—*The Better Citizen*, Rahway, N. J.

Ohio Prisoners on Farm

Columbus, O., March 18.—Prisoners from the state penitentiary to be known as honor squads will spend this spring and summer at the new penitentiary farm near London, Madison county, cultivating food products on about 500 acres for consumption at the penitentiary.

The state board of administration will supervise this work. Meat for the convicts next winter will be provided for by raising pigs and calves on the farm.—*Beacon Journal*, Akron, Ohio.



Self-Governing Welfare League of Prisoners

"I solemnly promise that I will do all in my power to promote in every way the true welfare of the men confined in Auburn Prison; that I will cheerfully obey the rules and regulations of the duly constituted prison authorities, and that I will endeavor to promote friendly feeling, good conduct and fair dealing among both officers and men to the end that each man after serving the briefest possible term of imprisonment may go forth with renewed strength and courage to face the world again. All this I promise faithfully to endeavor; so help me God."

This oath was taken a few weeks ago by forty-nine men prisoners standing with uplifted hands in the chapel of the New York State Prison at Auburn. These men had been elected in secret ballot by 1,350 of their fellow inmates to constitute the board of delegates of the new "Mutual Welfare League."

This league, the formation of which has been the work of the prisoners aided by Thomas Mott Osborne, chairman of the state commission on prison reform, is an experiment in enabling prisoners to fit themselves for a more self-controlled life outside prison by giving them greater control of their life inside.

Only as the prisoners show that they can be trusted with power will the scope of the league be extended; but it has already demonstrated its usefulness to such an extent that the warden has given to its grievance committee the administration of the minor discipline of the prison. A similar league has been organized among the 117 women in the women's prison.

At present the executive committee has charge of the formation of clubs, conduct of lectures, en-

tertainments and other activities. A delegate is elected for six months and may be recalled.

Any prisoner signing the rules and bylaws may become a member, but membership is forfeited if his behavior is not satisfactory to the league. These rules were adopted by the men themselves in open debate. The clause in the oath which calls for obedience to the authorities was not included in the original draft, but was inserted by the prisoners. The motto, "Do good, make good," was chosen by the men. Many of the delegates are old and serious offenders, but they are men whose personalities have impressed their fellow inmates.—*The Survey*, New York, N. Y.



Protecting Paroled Men

The action of Superintendent Leonard of the Mansfield reformatory in sending out men to investigate cases where paroled prisoners have been arrested on various charges should put an end to the hounding of released convicts by the police.

Many men have been railroaded back to prison because the police wanted the reward for the recapture of convicts breaking parole and some means should be adopted to stop this practice.

The average policeman is more intent upon making a record for arrests than upon dealing justice and enforcing the law fairly and impartially. The paroled convict offers an easy victim for this misplaced energy. It is an easy matter to arrest him, without friends or money, and with the blot upon his name of a previous conviction, lodge a charge against him and send him back to the reformatory for violating his parole whether he is guilty or innocent. The reward is easily earned and the police care little if it kills in the heart of the victim all desire for reform or rehabilitation.

Superintendent Leonard's field officers now investigate the cases of prisoners arrested for violating their parole and if there are not reasonable grounds for holding them, they are released. The innovation is not popular with the police, but it is one which is in keeping with modern humanitarian methods and it reflects credit upon the superintendent. It means a square deal for the man who is down, and guarantees that he will be protected from injustice and persecution.—*Sun*, Springfield, Ohio.

Heard in the Courtroom

An Irish witness was being examined as to his knowledge of a shooting affair.

"Did you see the shot fired?" the magistrate asked.

"No, sor; I only heard it."

"That evidence is not satisfactory," replied the magistrate sternly. "Step down."

The witness proceeded to leave the box, and directly his back was turned he laughed derisively.

The magistrate, indignant at this contempt of court, asked him how he dared to laugh in court.

"Did you see me laugh, your honor?"

"No, sir, but I heard you."

"That evidence is not satisfactory," said the witness, with a twinkle in his eye.

At this everybody laughed except the magistrate.—*The Pioneer*, Pontiac, Ill.



Life Convict Becomes Rich

Pere la Capinette murdered a man in a jealous passion a quarter of a century ago in France and was sent to New Caledonia to serve a life sentence.

A commission was recently sent out to inspect the convict prison and inquire into the government lands that are allotted to convicts who are released for good conduct.

They found Pere la Capinette, white haired and venerable with his 70 years, surrounded by his sons, whom he had brought from France. He showed the commissioners over the coffee plantation on which he had settled.

"I am making 25,000 francs a year now," he explained, and then he added, "if I had committed my murder twenty years earlier I should have been a millionaire by now."—*Tribune*, Chicago.



He Beats All Records

Cole L. Blease, governor of South Carolina, released fourteen prisoners during April. This makes 1,190 convicts to whom Governor Blease has extended clemency since he assumed office in January, 1911.

There were more than 1,300 prisoners in the state penitentiary when Mr. Blease became governor, but there are only 186 left, and they will leave before long, as the governor told a committee of the legislature that he proposed to empty the penitentiary by August 1.—*Chronicle*, Hoopston, Ill.

Sterilization of Criminals

Iowa's recent decision to operate upon twenty convicts does not meet with favor in this section of the country, it being condemned by such a widely known authority as Dr. Edward Anthony Spitzka, director of the Baugh Anatomical Laboratory of Jefferson Medical College, who simply said: "Hands off!"

When the warden of the Eastern State Penitentiary at Philadelphia was asked his opinion on the subject of sterilizing criminals and chloroforming criminal insane, he said: "If the plan of chloroforming the criminal insane is pushed to a conclusion, the time will come when the last man will have to chloroform himself, for there won't be anybody left to do the job."

"In my experience I have met some great doctors, and I've seen a good many post-mortems. One old doctor used to say to me, when he reached the brain in performing a post: 'Bob, we're all of us a little insane.' Now, it is a sure thing that if all of us were honest with ourselves, we would have to admit that we're also a little bit criminal, so you see if you carried that plan out completely there wouldn't be anybody left."

"No, we don't execute insane murderers, because we say they are not responsible for their actions. If we don't execute them for murder, why in the name of conscience should we execute them for being insane, which they certainly can't help?"

"Surgical operations on ex-criminals is a mighty touchy subject. It is my opinion that it involves the constitutional rights of the individual. I'm not a lawyer, but I'll bet if any of those fellows condemned to an operation make a fight, the question will wind up in the United States Supreme Court. Why, that's a life sentence. They send a man up a few years for his crime, and then execute a life sentence on him. What chance has he ever got to reform? They might better be executed."

"Personally, I should think they would have trouble getting a surgeon to perform the operation. Of course, it would have to be done without the consent of the patient, and think of the awful comeback if the courts ever hold it illegal. Where would the surgeon be?"—*Umpire*, Eastern State Penitentiary, Philadelphia.



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Prisoner Placed on His Honor Returns to Penitentiary

"There goes an honest man of the highest type, even though he is branded as a prisoner," said Warden Fenton last night at the penitentiary when the long line of gray-clad prisoners filed through the chapel after a hard day's work in the shops.

Earl Brittain, sentenced from this county last July for forgery, was the prisoner who evoked the warden's remark.

It was a week ago last Thursday a telegram, addressed to Brittain, reached the penitentiary and was opened by the warden, following the usual custom. The message bore tidings that Brittain's mother was dying—that it was her wish that she might see her son before she died, even though he was languishing behind prison walls for having forged a check.

Calling Brittain from his work in the shops, the warden told him of the message. He then told Brittain that he would be placed on his honor and money would be advanced him to go home.

Brittain arrived too late—his mother died before he reached home, but the prisoner returned to the penitentiary without delay and again resumed his work.—*New Era*, Leavenworth, Kan.



Men With Clean Prison Records to Be Tried on Road Work in Wisconsin

Prisoners are likely to be employed in state road making in Wisconsin this year and it is possible that their first work may be done in the vicinity of Waupun.

According to a report sent out from Madison recently they may start the work on the women's reformatory which is to be erected on the ledge east of the city this year after which they will be available for work in other parts of the state.

The honor system will govern the men while they are out. Only men with clean records will be allowed on this work. They will be looked after by an officer of the state prison, who is also fitted for the supervision of the road building. He will have assistants, but there will be no armed guard.

This plan, as tried in Illinois and Colorado, was a great success. It is in line with the attempts to make a prison a reforming agency rather than a place to punish men.—*Commonwealth*, Fond-du-Lac, Wisconsin.

Lucky to Have a Family

A respite of a year and a day was granted by Governor Cox recently in the case of Leslie Humphries, who was under sentence to die in the electric chair.

While the death sentence will continue to hang over the man, Governor Cox made it known that he will recommend to future governors that respites be granted from year to year, provided Humphries makes a good record as a prisoner in the Ohio penitentiary.

His wages as a prisoner will be turned over to his dependent family.

The governor's action in the Humphries case is without precedent in Ohio. Humphries killed Samuel S. Kelley of Lanark, W. Va. After his arrest he confessed he had robbed his victim of several hundred dollars. Later he maintained that the killing resulted during a fight.—*Globe*, Joplin, Mo.



Treatment of Ex-Prisoners

There may be such a fine thing in this great land of ours as presumption of innocence until proven guilty, but, if there is, such a presumption does not exist in favor of the man who has served a term in the "pen."

Our system of dealing with young men sent to the state prison—who for a better term we call criminals—is wrong.

It is fundamentally unjust.

It's against civilization.

These thoughts are called forth by the arrest here Saturday night of Wilburt Bryant and Ernest Domingue, two white boys just past 21.

These boys had actually been guilty of entering a lumber camp and stealing a frying pan. They were sent to the state penitentiary for one year for larceny.

No wonder we have a few socialists and anarchists.

Here are two boys fishing, take some pots and pans and skillets that are not used, and they get one year in the state penitentiary for it.

They come to Baton Rouge—seven hours after they have been released from the state penitentiary, and are arrested on the word of a drunken man, who tells a rather incoherent story about being robbed of \$15.

The action of the Baton Rouge police is not unnatural.

It is the attitude assumed everywhere against men released from the penitentiary.

In the first place, young men—just beyond 21—should not be sent to the penitentiary.

The state should hasten the organization of its reform school, and boys who take frying pans from lumber camps should be sent to these schools rather than to the state prison, to be branded for life as felons.

Society's treatment of these two boys—and they are merely used because they are typical—is wrong.—*Times*, Baton Rouge, La.



Bridewell Labor

The announcement that after May 1 the contract system of disposing of the prison labor in the bridewell will be abolished, and that earnings of a man serving a sentence, after maintenance charges have been deducted, will go to his dependents, is encouraging. The misuse of prison labor has long been a blot upon the community. It thrived not because there was any merit or justice in it, but because certain politicians and their friends had to make easy money at the expense of the public some way.

There is much work to be done for the city that can be done by the prisoners in the bridewell. They can manufacture a number of articles and materials for which the city now goes to private employers.

Aside from the financial saving to the community, however, the abolition of prison labor contracts is certain to elevate the tone of the prisoner. He is likely to come out a better man after his term in the bridewell has expired. The self-respect which comes from being employed at useful labor and of getting the prevailing rate of wages is incalculable. It has proven so in other states.—*Tribune*, Chicago.



What Oregon Has Done With Prison Labor

Elsewhere in the *News* today is printed an address on penal reform delivered recently in New York by Governor West of Oregon before the National Civic Federation. The address embraces so many of the problems that are now before this state for solution in connection with prison labor that those interested in the matter will find much that is helpful on this account of what has been done in Oregon.

The most gratifying feature of the experi-

ments made in Oregon and other states with the parole and honor system and with the use of convicts for state work, either in or out of prison walls, is that it shows us we are not confronted with an insoluble problem. We can do what has been successfully done elsewhere.

With our large negro population it is no doubt true that the class of convicts here may present a more difficult question. But nobody defends the present method of handling these prisoners and it is by no means to be regretted that the prospective passage in congress of the bill restricting the shipment of convict-made goods compels Maryland and other states that still exploit prisoners to devise some other way of using them than hiring them out to contractors.—*News*, Baltimore, Md.

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PETER VAN VLISSINGEN, Editor.

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The First Anniversary of the Period of Hope and Reconstruction at the Joliet Prison

By Lloyd Baldwin,

A Prisoner

The shrill harsh note of the big steam whistle sounded and immediately thereafter the doors of the chapel were opened, and the long files of men dressed just alike marched into the room. They had entered the shops as usual in the morning and at 10:15 the signal of the whistle for assembly at the chapel brought them to the realization that something unusual was going to take place.

The prison orchestra of twelve pieces had been stationed on the chapel platform and commenced to play as the men filed in. The occasion was the celebration of the anniversary of Mr. Allen's wardenship and the discussion of the honor system.



The day was very warm and this called attention to the fact that all the prisoners were wearing neat thin cotton coats, instead of the heavy woolen ones lined with bedticking worn heretofore during the four seasons, cold or warm, under all previous administrations.

It was most interesting to see the long files of men march into this immense hall, which has a seating capacity of over twelve hundred, each line under the direction of a prison guard. Each

line gained its proper place in military precision, without the utterance of an order on the part of the officers. Both officers and men are so accustomed to these silent maneuvers that the long lines move from place to place without the slightest hesitation or necessity of a command from the officers.

The prisoners went to their respective seats in the chapel on this occasion not knowing what was in store for them, and it was very noticeable that each wondered what it might be. Everything had been kept a secret, and even to the oldest men in terms of years in the institution none could remember a similar unheralded event of importance, as all felt this to be, although none suspected the treat in store. As the minutes were seated every one was trying to find out his neighbor's opinion as to what was to follow.



After the prisoners were seated five men came in through the south door of the chapel and took seats on the platform. Four of them were immediately recognized as Warden Edmund M. Allen, Deputy Warden William Walsh, Captain Michael C. Kane and Rev. Father Edward. Only a few of the inmates of the prison recog-

nized the fifth member of the party, but those few soon spread the news abroad over the house that Mr. Clarence S. Darrow was on the platform and it was generally assumed that he was there for the purpose of addressing them. That Mr. Darrow was their hero and duly worshipped by all was easily believed from the expression of intense excitement on the faces of those to whom he was to speak.

The effect of Mr. Darrow's presence coming as a surprise as it did increased the interest, and it can hardly be understood by any one not knowing how Mr. Darrow is regarded by the inmates of this institution, what that interest amounted to. It is safe to say that he is idealized by the men here above every other man.

During Mr. Darrow's recent experience in Los Angeles, and until the end of the last chapter of it, his fortunes were followed by the inmates of this prison as a matter of the greatest consequence, and if good wishes could have helped him there were enough wishes emanating from this prison to have dispelled all his troubles. It is safe to say there is no other place in the United States where he has so many friends in proportion to the population as behind the walls of the prison at Joliet. There are hundreds of men in this prison who would have unhesitatingly suffered time to be added to their sentences, if by so doing they could have saved Mr. Darrow from what was generally regarded by them as persecution.

This may be a juvenile way of approaching or viewing the matter, but when it comes to a consideration of the human qualities many of the prisoners might be termed childish, but whatever the quality is called it is their expression of generosity towards those whom they idealize.

This was a complete surprise, no one knew what to expect, no one knew what the occasion was, or suspected it. It must be remembered that the life in prison is one of routine, into which surprises seldom creep. During the few minutes between the time the men were seated and the commencement of the memorable program such questions as these could be heard on all sides: What is going to happen? What is the occasion? What has happened? Are we to hear good news? Has someone died? And then the grateful knowledge seemed to come from everywhere that Mr. Darrow was to speak, that

man who is regarded as the champion of champions of the men who are down.



The hum of whispered conversation ceased and I looked up to see Father Edward coming to the front of the platform to give us his delightful address.

Speech by Father Edward.

Your Honor, my friends! The organizers of this meeting have put one over on me. I had expected them to follow the advice of the steward in the gospel. When our divine Saviour, as you may remember, had changed water into wine, the steward took some of it to the groom and rebuked him for keeping the best wine to the last. He declared that it was the better policy to put on the best wine first, because when the guests were thoroughly drunk, they wouldn't care what sort of stuff they put into themselves. Hence, I had expected that our distinguished guest would address you first, and when he had thoroughly intoxicated you with the brilliancy of his discourse, you would be satisfied with anything that I might be able to offer. They have seen fit, however, to have me start the ball rolling.

We are assembled here this morning to celebrate the first anniversary of Warden Allen's activities among us. We are here to congratulate him and to express the wish that he may be here on many more anniversaries, to grace the occasion with his presence. We are celebrating this occasion by the inauguration of the honor system, concerning which you have heard so much of late. To me has been assigned the duty of discussing this system today. Now right here, someone may think, what has this Catholic chaplain got to do with the honor system? That's just it. Paradoxical as it may seem, I am going to speak on this honor system just because it is none of my business. Other officers might speak better on the subject, but you might—I don't say that you would or that you should—but you might have reason to think that they had an ax to grind. This is not the case with me. My job does not depend on politics. I am not subject to the Civil Service Commission. I passed no examination in theology before assuming my position here, and if I preach heresy it is none of their business. I do not depend on this job for a living. Personally

I do not receive one cent of salary for my work. If I am kicked out of this job, there is another one waiting for me. I couldn't dodge a job if I wanted to, and wherever I land, I am reasonably sure of my three per. My activities in this institution do not depend on the honor system. You might enter this chapel in the old time lock step, you might sit there dressed in the old time stripes and be further adorned by the ball and chain. These windows might still be barred and the rifle cages might still stand in the corner; they would not affect me. I would still stand at the altar and read the mass; I would still lay down the law to you from this platform; I would still listen to your tale of sin and woe in the confessional; I would still go amongst you, Catholic and non-Catholic alike, and do what little good I could. Of course, I do not deny that this is much more pleasant work under the present circumstances.

One other point I wish to impress upon you is, that I am not a Victor talking machine, simply giving forth what others have dictated to me. Right here I wish to give public testimony, that from the Governor down, no one has ever tried to tell me what I should preach or not preach. I must, however, make one exception. When I first came here I was very green, and I wanted to get a line on you fellows with your likes and dislikes. I stopped a likely young inmate, he is not very far from me now, and got him going. He gave me some excellent advice about preaching. In the first place he told me above all things not to talk too long. He gave me several other good points for which I am very grateful, but it was all of a negative character.

Concerning this honor system, so far as anything has passed between us, the Warden does not know whether I am going to boost it or knock it. I have always looked upon the Warden as a big enough man to attend to his business without any gratuitous advice on my part, and he has not considered it necessary to ask my advice on this honor system, for which I am very thankful to him. My whole duty in regard to the honor system is to instruct the inmates of this prison from time to time as to the obligations assumed by those who sign the honor pledge. I stand in the same relation to it as my brother chaplain stands to the rules of the institution.

In regard to the honor system, I shall speak

this morning only in a general way, leaving particulars for a later occasion. If there is one thing more than any other that I have denounced from this platform it is hypocrisy. It would be poor policy for me to disprove my own preaching by trying to make you believe something that I do not believe myself. Hence, I trust you will believe me when I declare that I consider this honor system a good thing. I do not say that it is perfect, or that it may not need amending after it is put into practice. In fact I know of only one code of legislation that is perfect and has never needed amending, and that is the legislation promulgated by God Himself amidst the thunder and lightning of Sinai and reinforced by the loving accents of that same God made man during the course of his mortal life and especially in the Sermon on the Mount. The Constitution of the United States is undoubtedly one of the grandest documents which the mind of man has ever evolved; yet, even the men who framed it were conscious of its imperfections. Time and again even within the last two years we have had to amend it, while the prohibitionists and suffragettes do not think it perfect yet. What then can we expect in forming a code of legislation for this institution? The present honor system is certainly an improvement on that which has been in vogue during the past year and which has proved inadequate. This shows that the administration is sincere and is learning by experience, and will not hesitate to make such amendments as circumstances seem to demand. It is now up to you to co-operate with the administration and rise superior to trivial, selfish motives, and to do all in your power to make this honor movement a success. There may be pessimists and cynics among you, but I ask you all to look the facts squarely in the face and answer honestly, would any of you like to have this place put back on the basis of a year ago? (Shouts of "No!") Do you want to give up your baseball? Do you want to give up other things that serve to brighten your lives? (Repeated shouts of "No!") Of course, all hopes have not been realized, some privileges have had to be abolished or curtailed, but every honest right thinking man must acknowledge that the net result of the year's work has been for good. Let the good work go on. Let nothing on your part ever frustrate the efforts of those who have your interests and welfare at heart. Progress must

necessarily be slow if it is to be sure. I have not noticed any great over-enthusiasm amongst the inmates in regard to this new system, and I am glad of it. It shows that they are going to consider the matter well before they bind themselves by any pledge. This is as it should be. On the other hand I must congratulate the administration on the deliberation with which they are proceeding. Only step by step will this honor system be introduced. You have had your meetings, where you were at liberty to express your sentiments freely, and all that was set forth is now before the Warden for consideration. In some points he has already acted in accordance with your wishes, and I can safely assure you that you have not heard the last on the subject.

The next step that concerns us today is the introduction of the grades. There is one, the industrial efficiency grade, which may be passed over today; it is something special and for the present nothing will be done in regard to it. In regard to the other three grades there is one that I sincerely hope will exist only on paper. It is the third grade, and comprises those who have seriously violated the rules of the institution. The second grade is an honorable grade. No one need be ashamed to belong to it. It is no disgrace. On the contrary it speaks well for a man if he remains in the second because he feels that he cannot conscientiously take the pledge which would put him in the first grade. Hence I have all respect for the man who remains in the second grade because he intends to make use of any opportunity that may present itself to escape from this institution. By staying in the second grade he virtually lets it be known that he may take that opportunity. Regarding him the officers know where they are at and can take the precautions to prevent his escaping and they are paid for so doing. There is nothing dishonorable in this.

Now the first grade. There are many positions of trust in an institution of this kind that it is highly desirable to fill with inmates and it is of the utmost importance that these be men in whom the administration can place their confidence. They must be men who will observe the rules and will make no attempt to escape even when not under the supervision of an officer. The positions naturally bring with them certain privileges and liberties, and it is nothing but right

that the administration should demand some pledge from those who are placed in those positions. This it is which constitutes the first grade. It might be a very beautiful thing if every inmate in this institution took that pledge, but it would be a most dishonorable thing and deserving of the severest censure if any man would merely take that pledge for the purpose of obtaining an opportunity to violate the rules or to make an escape, hence the administration is not anxious to have a great number in this first grade, and you need not think that you are putting yourself in bad by remaining in the second grade. Rather a half dozen trusty men than fifteen hundred on whose loyalty no reliance could be placed. Neither must the men take the pledge for the purpose of obtaining privileges. It is not said that every one that signs the pledge will obtain a trusty position, for there are not enough to go around. He must sign the pledge simply because he wishes to be an honor man. The highest test of loyalty is given by him who remains faithful whether the privileges are received or revoked.

Sometime ago I was talking about prison matters in company, and a person present made the remark, "I think you folks are trying too much to make heroes of those fellows." Well, I sized up that guy, and I came to the conclusion that it didn't amount to a hill of beans what he thought on any subject; and so, just for politeness sake, I asked him if he thought it might rain before morning. But if I had perceived any glimmering of intellectuality in that individual I would have answered, "Yes, we are trying to make heroes of those fellows, and we cannot try too much." If I know my business as a Catholic priest, and I flatter myself that I do, it is just exactly my business to make heroes of men. Right out there in my office, I have seen heroic victories achieved, victories over self, victories greater than any ever achieved by Alexander, Caesar or Napoleon, and that is what this honor system is designed to accomplish. I appeal to you further as a man, as a friend, as a chaplain to rise superior to all feelings of selfishness and to give this honor system a fair trial. Remain in the second grade or enter the first grade as your conscience dictates. Keep out of the third grade; be men, be loyal, so that each recurring anniversary may record a long step forward in

the betterment of prison conditions here and elsewhere.



That Father Edward is a great favorite with the inmates at the prison was indicated by the hearty applause he received at the close of his speech.

He introduced Mr. Darrow in the following words: I now have the honor of introducing to you, a man of international reputation as the friend of the down-trodden everywhere, Mr. Clarence S. Darrow.

(Mr. Darrow was greeted with applause.)

Speech by Clarence S. Darrow.

I remember some years ago, when I was down here for the first time. I was out on the station platform waiting for the train to go away, and a prisoner who had charge of the platform, a "trustee," said to me, that I had no idea how many friends I had here in the penitentiary. They weren't all my clients. Some of them were; but anyhow, I felt that was a great compliment, and I still feel it. I think that you people know who your friends are, and you can tell when a man means what he says, or when he is giving you "hot air." Now, I don't dare tell all I think, today. I respect the Warden and the Chaplain. Since this honor system has been started down here I suppose I am on my honor, too. So, I can't make much of a speech, but I want to say some things to you. There are a lot of things I know without having learned them, and I always knew you couldn't divide people into good people and bad people. All the people in the penitentiary are not good, and all the people outside are not bad. I know you can't divide them into good people and bad people, because I know I am both, and that it is a pretty hard fight with me all the time, to see which is ahead.

I know that if everyone in the State of Illinois, who had violated a criminal statute was in prison, there would be few outside; probably the Warden and the Chaplain would be about all that would be left. Some fellows are luckier than the rest, and at that we often have a close call. I know that we have too many laws, and we are so many kinds of persons, each one of us, that it is out of the question to get through life without running against some of the laws, unless we are "dubs" and don't move around much. At the same time, I know that one gets along better in

this world, probably has a better time out of it, if he sticks pretty close to the rules of the game. He may not be any better than the other fellow, but he is wiser, and you have to be wise if you live a long life in this world, and have much fun out of it. There are so many places, so many chances to get up against something, that you have to watch out all the time. The fellow who said, "Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty," was probably thinking of keeping out of the penitentiary.

Now, I think I understand all of you people. I think I understand you better than I do the people outside; I am probably nearer to you. I remember when I took my boy, who was quite young, down east to college. He hadn't been away from home before, and I left him there. I said I wasn't going to give him any advice, but if he ever got into any difficulty of any kind whatever, probably he had better tell me about it, because I didn't think he could get into anything I hadn't been in. So I think that on this same theory you people had better carry your troubles to the Warden or the Chaplain. I do not know whether or not this is the place where I can do much good by saying some of the things that I think about crime and about criminals. We have to use those words, although they don't mean anything. Everybody in this world is a criminal, more or less. Some haven't been apprehended, and some of us are only partially so. Everybody is made up of all kinds of feelings, of desires, of character, good and bad. There are very few perfect people in the world, and when you find one of them, you don't want to meet him. That is the trouble with him; he is too good for this world. The world is changing in its ideas on this question. Almost everybody knows today that what I say about crime is true. A few years ago there were only a few who knew it, and they didn't dare say it. Now, a great many know it, and they are beginning to say it. And they are beginning to look on the man who has been convicted and served a term in the penitentiary, just the same as they do on every other man. Of course, everybody doesn't do it; but the world, all that part of it that is worth while, is beginning to look at men that way. They are beginning to find out why it is that men commit crimes; and I am going to use the word "crimes," in the same sense that lawyers and other ignorant peo-

ple use it: A man who has violated a law and got caught, is a criminal, and that is the sense in which I use the word. I do not include the people who violate a law and do not get caught. The world is just beginning to find out why it is.

The old time prison will disappear pretty soon. It is disappearing today; probably ten years is about as long as it will live. I hope you will all be out before that time. It will be changed very greatly in the next five years. It has been changed very greatly in the last five years, and it has been changed because people have a better understanding of what it means to go wrong, as they put it. Now, I can show it right here in this audience. Here I see a great many colored people. I asked the Warden, and he told me one-third of all the inmates were colored. I haven't stopped to figure it out, but I would say that the population of colored people in Illinois is one out of every one hundred, and yet, of the population of this penitentiary at Joliet, one-third is colored. Now, why is it? There is a reason for everything in this world if we are wise enough to find it. Very few people are wise enough. That is the reason I am telling you. It isn't because colored people are more wicked than white people. The color of a man's skin hasn't anything to do with goodness or badness. It is because the colored people, as a class, are poorer than the white people. They have had no chance to live, as compared with the white people. They have no property. The world is against them, and there isn't much else they can do but break in here. Now, is there any doubt about it? I'll venture the majority of the colored people who are in here are better fed, clothed, and housed than they were outside; not all of them, but the majority of them. You haven't a chance outside. That isn't your fault any more than it is your fault that your face is black instead of white, or yellow or green, or something else. It is simply because the white people have taken everything there is, except the porter on the Pullman car, barber and waiter, and a few little things like that, and the colored people are poor. Even the labor unions don't give them the chance they ought to give them, and sooner or later, on account of poverty, you step over the narrow line which we call lawful conduct and unlawful conduct, and you get into prison.

Most all the people in here are poor, and have always been poor; have never had a chance in this world. A few have taken all the earth. Mr. Rockefeller, Mr. Morgan and a few other people who haven't been in jail have taken it all; and when they take it they don't steal it; they just take it; and when the great mass of people who are living along close to want, reach out their hands to get something they go to jail. Pretty nearly everybody in jail is poor. You can take up a collection in the jail, and you won't hardly find money enough to hire a good lawyer. The are working for the corporations because it doesn't pay to work for the people in jail.

The first great cause of crime is poverty, and we will never cure crime until we get rid of poverty; until men have a chance to make a decent living in this world, and when they have a chance to make a decent living they won't adopt any such extra hazardous profession as attempting to burglarize a neighbor's house, in the dark.

A great many of you people are here because you had a poor lawyer. I have a few clients here myself. A lawyer is a very important thing to have on special occasions, and the reason you had a poor lawyer was because you were poor. You can't get a good lawyer unless you have money. If you had money you wouldn't need a lawyer. I know of at least one person in here that I am sure should not have been convicted. I want to tell you right off I didn't defend him either, but I know it. I am sure there are a great many others. I am sure that a great mass of the people who are here wouldn't have been here if they could have had a proper defense. Now, I am not saying a great mass of you didn't do what you are here for. Probably you did, and like the rest of us, if you didn't do that, you did something else. Probably the great majority of you did do the particular thing that you are here for, but that isn't the important thing. The important thing is to tell what kind of men you are. Whether you did something or not, doesn't cut much figure. The question is how you did it, and what made you do it? That is the only thing that determines, and the law never looks into that at all. The law is about the farthest behind of anything there is in the world except the lawyers. It never asks a man's motives. It just asks if he did a particular thing. If he did, and

it's found out, it's "all off," unless he gets a good lawyer, and then once in a while he can pull out; not always. Now, every one of you, if you studied over it, could find out why you did the thing you did. It isn't always easy to find it out. A great many of you don't know at all. The question is whether you violated a law, but you can find out, if you try, why you did it; and there isn't a man that I ever knew who was placed on trial who didn't have a good excuse for what he did, just as we all have for everything we do. If I could put myself in your place, I would find I had as good an excuse for doing what you did as I find now for doing what I do, and a better one. A better one, because the most of you can't help it. I do some mean things I could get along without doing, because I have a better chance, but most of you can't help it; and the world is just beginning to understand and find out why these things happen.

Now, first of all, most of the crimes committed, like burglary and robbery and murder, are committed by boys, young people. Of course, there may be second or third or fourth offenses, but they begin with boys. And they are boys of a certain class; boys who live in a tenement district; boys who are poor boys; who have no playground but the street; boys whose only place is on the railroad track at night where they learn to steal coal because they need it, and then go into a vacant building, and finally into a building that isn't vacant, and gradually learn crime, the same as we learn to be a lawyer, and, of course, after they get started then it is easy. Almost all of them come from this environment, and generally begin as boys. You can't tell anything about a boy in the adolescent age. Take a boy from fifteen to twenty-five, when his voice is changing and his beard is growing, he begins to have feelings, and desires that he never dreamed of before. He may lie, he may steal, he may commit burglary that he is in no way responsible for. You take that boy and put him on a farm and he will get along all right. But put him in a crowded city and he is apt to take a certain course. I undertake to say that very few people are past forty years old when they commit their first burglary. I don't want to say that there are no elderly people here for burglary. There probably was a first time; but they developed into it by a condition of life, and you can never change

it until you change the condition of life. Give a boy out-door exercise, give him plenty of food and air, and a chance to live, and he won't be a burglar. It won't be necessary for him to be a burglar. He won't develop that way, he will develop some other way. What a lot of people in the tenement district to do? What other business or what other life can he have? And the way lawyers punish the individual who commits the burglary, without ever trying to find out the cause and cure the cause. As I have often said before, in showing how wise we lawyers are, if a doctor was called on to treat a patient with typhoid fever, he would look around and find out what kind of water the patient had been drinking, or what kind of milk, to see whether it was infected, and if it was he would clean out the well, so nobody else would get it. But if a lawyer was called in to treat a patient with typhoid fever, he would give the patient sixty days in jail; he would think he could cure typhoid fever by sending the sick man to jail. And then, if he gets well in two weeks, he would leave him there until the sixty days were up; and if at the end of sixty days he was still sick, he would let him out anyhow, because his time was up. Some time we will begin to understand this question. All the people in this world worth while know now that the men in jail and out of jail are just alike, as an average.

A good many years ago in England they had so many criminals they didn't know what to do with them, and so they took all the inmates of the jails, all the worst of them, anyway, and the women from the red-light districts and they sent them to Australia. There wasn't anyone there but savages, and that was a good place for them, and they had a chance when they got to Australia. The land was free, the opportunities were plenty, and they went to work and were like everybody else. It was so easy for them to raise sheep that they didn't steal mutton; they raised it. Those people were just as orderly and well behaved as any other people, and their descendants became aristocrats and began building jails of their own. Now you can take the inmates out of all the jails in this country, and a few of the most abandoned women, and place them where Mr. Carnegie hasn't got all the iron ore and Mr. Rockefeller hasn't all the oil, and the good people haven't all the land; send them out

in a country and give them a chance, and they will become just like anybody else; because it would pay, that's all; there would be an inducement to do it; and you can't make men good unless it pays to be good. You can't make them observe the rules of the game unless it pays to observe the rules of the game. Mr. Rockefeller would be a very foolish man if he would commit a burglary. He doesn't need to. If he wants my property, he can just raise the price of oil; but if he raises it too high, I might have to commit burglary.

A good many years ago a Great English philosopher and historian, in studying the cause of crime, found out that the number of men that went to jail increased as the price of bread went up and decreased as the price of bread went down. When it was easy to live, people lived out of jail; when it was harder, more people went to jail, and more people always go to jail in the winter than in the summer, not because they are more wicked, but because it is not so easy to get a living, and when they can't get a living in one way, they must get it in another. Of course, I know this doesn't seem to apply to everybody, but it pretty nearly does. I know there are here a great many people, and you know it, who have been violating the laws so long that it doesn't even do them any good to parole them—they come back. They think they will get out of it this time, and they don't, and they get back. They have educated themselves, and have been educated, along a certain line of conduct so long that it is almost impossible to help it. They fall into it naturally; what we call the habitual criminals get trained in it and can't follow any other profession, and they will follow criminal careers, and it is hard to do anything for those men. That is, it is hard to change their course of life. Some of them could make a fairly comfortable living in some other way. But while the great mass of men are here because they are very poor, there are others here who could make a very comfortable living. You get a banker every once in a while. That is the only way you will ever get a chance to associate with bankers. When you do, you will find out the reason why you get him is because he sees other people richer than he is, and he gets the money-getting disease, which is just as plain a

disease as typhoid fever. He got it, and he can't help it, and he tries in various ways to get more money. And there are people—a considerable number of people here who could have made a fairly decent living without violating the law, but who saw other people getting rich, and richer than they were, and many times by ways that are really worse and more crooked than the ways they used, although lawful, and who adopted that method, and who might live some other way, I don't know as I blame them either. If I had to choose my living between work and taking another chance, I don't know what I would do. I never had to work, so how can I tell? I do know that there is a cause for everything in this world. And I do know that in this criminal business we have never been looking for the cause, and have never tried to change the cause, and we had better begin to try to cure crime.

I know another thing, and perhaps the Chaplain here will disagree with me. I don't want him to think I am "scabbing on his job," or anything like that—his theology—I know people have very little to do with themselves in this world. We do pretty much what we have to do. The laws above us, and the things around us are so much stronger than the individual that we have but mighty little to say about what we do ourselves. I can look over my life, and I find here and there quite a number of people whose lives I have influenced; but I don't believe I ever had any influence on my own. I never, somehow, could control mine, although I might help others to control theirs—helped them or bulldozed them, one way or the other. Let anybody look over their past life, whether the good things you did, or the bad ones, it doesn't make any difference, and see why you did them, and whether you could have done anything differently at the time. You may say: "Yes, if I hadn't done this thing away back there, I wouldn't have done the other. Why did you do that thing away back there? You can't tell. We didn't all of us exercise good judgment when we chose our grandfathers and grandmothers. We all have peculiarities of character, disposition and feeling, as sent down to us through certain environment and certain surroundings that were all powerful, and we struggled along as best we could, trying to make the best possible

use out of our lives, and a large part of it is a failure with every man, no matter who it is.

Now, I know, and you know, that whether a man is to blame or not, we can't help it. We are in a certain society, and we must stand the consequences of that society. Society makes certain rules and regulations, and if we don't live fairly well up to them, we have to take the chance, and the chance is a pretty hard one to take. Large numbers of you have taken it. Perhaps you have improved your condition by taking it; some of you haven't. The rule may be wrong; in many instances it is wrong—but what are we going to do about it? The great mass of men say so, and we can't help it. For instance, I think I have voted against pretty nearly every law ever passed. I don't believe in them, generally. Generally speaking, they are wrong, but they have been passed and I can't help it, and what am I going to do? I must stick to them pretty fairly well or get run over, that's all; and I would rather not get run over. I may not be as brave as the rest of you, I may not be as reckless, I may be wiser—anyway, I have got to live fairly well up to the rules of the game or I'll suffer by it.

Now, let us see what that has to do with this question today. You are here because you can't get away. That is the reason I am talking so long. Next time I make a speech out in the country I am going to get a lot of guards to sit around the place so that nobody can get away. (The people I need to talk to all go out; you can't; maybe you don't want to.

Most everybody who comes down here begins by making an effort to find out how quick he can get away. I know that. Whenever my friends or clients begin to think of coming—when they come to me they always think of coming—they then begin to wonder how quick they can get out; how is the best way to get out. Some take one way, some another—some stay.

I don't think the prisons today are horrible institutions, although I don't want to come. Nobody wants to come. They are not what they once were, and in a few years they will be as much better than they appear today as the condition now is better than it was ten years ago, but nobody wants to be in prison. We want to feel that we are free. If a man lives in Chicago,

he wants to feel he can go to New York, even though he probably never can go. You live in Chicago, and you might like to go to Joliet. Most of you would like to come if you could get away. A large part of it is in your attitude of mind. You know that as well as I—not all of it, but a large part of it. Of course, we are all of us more or less prisoners. I would like to go to the moon, but I can't. I have got to stay here, and after a while die. I don't want to do that, but I can't help it. I would like to go to New York a good many times when I can't go, but still I have more liberty than you have. None of us have absolute liberty. All we can do is to take life as we find it, and make the best we possibly can out of it. A man gets along better if he takes it as he finds it; if he harmonizes himself to it, than he does if he is all the time kicking against it, and isn't willing to harmonize himself to it, because a large part of our troubles are inside of us. First of all, we want some hope. Everyone here wants hope. They think they couldn't live without hope; still they would. The habit of living is strong, and we live anyhow. We all want some hope held out to us, and that does more to make life worth while than anything else. I have always been expecting to do a lot of things I never will do. Everybody has to take life as he finds it, and fight it out alone, and decide how he can make himself the happiest under the conditions in which he finds himself. If you can change them, all right; if you can't, then what? Here is the truth in Christian Science. The truth in it is that the main condition, after all, is your mental condition, and if you can't get that right, you can't get anything right.

I believe that Warden Allen is trying to work out a scheme that will give every person who comes here *something to look forward to; not a dream, but a reality*; give them some ambition to live; to do their work and some hope not only that they will get out of here as men, but that the ignorant and stupid society that they go out into will recognize that they are just like all the rest of the people in the world that haven't been here. I think he is doing as much, or more, than any man I know of today in that work, and that is saying a very great deal, and I don't care for Mr. Allen. I am not specially interested in him, but I am interested in that great mass of people

who are down, and who through want have been sent to jails and penitentiaries and laden with abuse and have had no fair chance. I am interested in giving them a fair chance, and interested in the time that will soon come when there will be no prisons anywhere on the earth. And I think he is helping today to work out that scheme, and I think that scheme is up to you people more than it is up to him. You have a chance to help even more than he has a chance, and I want to talk to you a little about that because so much depends on you.

Every man in this prison would like to see the time come when there wouldn't be any prisons, not only for himself, but for the world. I think every person in this prison must know that the world has been unfair to prisoners; that the great majority of men in jails haven't had a fair chance. Anybody who doesn't believe it ought to stay here until he does. I would never be in favor of paroling a man until he had that idea in his head anyhow. It is for you to help that cause. Everybody has got to do some good in the world if they can. It is up to you to do some good in the world.

I have heard about the honor system which you are starting here, and I believe in it. I would like to see it go on until it reaches the last inmate in every prison. I would like to see it go on until every man who comes to prison is presented with a key when he enters. It will come some time. I hope you won't have to stay here until it comes. It will come, and you can do something to bring it about. You can do more than you could do on the outside, and it's worth while to work for it. I know that the Warden of this penitentiary will go as far as you people will let him go; I am sure of it. Now if I had been here long enough I could pick out two-thirds of you whom it would be perfectly safe to trust anywhere; to go away and come back. Probably the other one-third could not be trusted. After a while it would be only a quarter, after a while a fifth, and after a while a tenth, and so on. Running away from prison is a hard job these days. They have such fine ways of measuring you, and they have the automobile, the motorcycle, the telephone and the telegraph, so that it is very difficult to "beat it." There are probably more than a thousand

chances through the pardon board, where there is one the other way. I know that the Warden and all the people with him are anxious to carry this honor system as far as they possibly can, and for your benefit. It isn't for your benefit alone, but what you succeed in here, they will do in Indiana, they will do in Pennsylvania, they will do in New York, they will do all over the United States, until they will finally get the people on the outside educated to know that they are like the people on the inside, only they happened to have a chance. It isn't the bad people I fear so much as the good ones. When a person is sure that he is good, he is pretty nearly hopeless; he gets cruel. He can't understand anything, and they are the difficult ones to deal with on the outside. They believe in punishment. They can't understand why you did the reckless thing that you have, so, of course, they are against you.

Now, I was glad of what the Chaplain said to you in one regard. He said he wouldn't personally blame any one of you for escaping, but he said if you promised to join this honor scheme that you ought to keep your pledge. I think that he is the best chaplain that I ever heard of, and I say to you as he did, that you must not break your word to the administration after you give it. If any of you fellows think there is a better chance to "beat it" by remaining outside of the honor system, then do not join it; and if any of you think you cannot trust yourselves, then do not place the Warden in a position where he must stand the consequences by reason of his attempts to better your condition.

There are probably some of you who know you can't trust yourselves—pretty hard thing to trust yourself, and to those I say keep out of this honor system. I swear off smoking cigarettes every day or two. I get tired of swearing off because I smoke so much afterwards, and so I know it would be hard for anybody to make these promises themselves and be sure they would keep them; but it is mighty important for you to keep a promise if you make one. Everything depends on you. I have been saying what I said today for twenty years. After a while it will be so commonly preached that I'll think it isn't true. I have been waiting to see the time come which I say is coming—and I know how critical the situation is. For instance,

if Warden Allen were to put the lid on tight, and half a dozen of you broke out, nobody would say anything about it. Newspapers wouldn't hardly mention it—only something like an obituary notice. If he gave you a chance to improve your conditions, and one person—one lone man—runs away, then every newspaper in the state will take it up and visit the wrath of the people on this system that he has inaugurated here. You know it. I know it is almost certain that some of you won't remain true. It could scarcely be expected. I have been surprised that so many have been. I know the public. I know they are always ready to take up any mad, wild cry against any person. Today they will laud you to the skies, and tomorrow they will crucify you. I love the mob and I despise it, both. I have had the mob place me on a pedestal and I have had the mob trample me under their feet, and they were wrong both times. I know perfectly well that I would be no ornament for a pedestal, and I know I don't belong in the other place any more than the rest of you; but I know that if you talk about a thing enough in the newspapers you can get the people to do anything except what is right. And I know that if something serious should happen under the system that the Warden is trying to carry out, I know the leading newspapers of the state would start trouble for the Warden, and he can stand it. He doesn't need this job. I would rather have yours, if you were out, and he's out, but it will hurt you. That is what I am worrying about—it *will hurt you*. It will hurt every other person all the world over who is suffering in prison and looking for deliverance. I want to see the people of this institution do everything they possibly can to show they can be trusted; that when they place themselves upon their honor they will stand by it. It isn't standing individually, but standing by the Warden, who is standing by you; it is standing by your fellowmen, who are suffering with you; it is standing by the cause, worth more than all the rest; and I am anxious to say anything I can say, and do anything I can do to see this cause go on and on—and on, and see the Warden of this penitentiary set an example to every warden in the United States, until every person will have a chance, no matter what he is here for. You can't do much without hope. Life isn't worth

living without hope. It doesn't matter so much whether the hopes are ever realized, we must have them. If we are poor, we hope to get rich; if we are lawyers, we hope to be famous—Lord knows what for; if we are in prison, we hope to get out; if we are sick, we hope to get well; if we die, we hope we will go to heaven. Everybody in the world has always lived on hope, which is spelled pretty nearly like "dope." It may be dope, but we have got to take dope to live. There is so much trouble, so much sorrow, so many disappointments, so much misery in the world that we have to take something to live. So we live on hope, and your warden has given you some hope. It isn't dreamy and far off. It is here, and it will help all of you, and after a while we can go out to the people on the outside, who are the most hopeless of all, and convert them to it. There are some things a man can do in prison. After all, as you go through the world, you find that the things you did for other people give you the most satisfaction, and the people here are just as kind, just as charitable, just as humane, just as sympathetic as people on the outside—sometimes I think more so; just as quick to help their fellowmen as the people on the outside. The best way we have to forget our troubles is to do something for some other fellow who is in trouble. I don't know what I would have done in my own life if I hadn't helped the other fellow that was in trouble; it was the only chance I had to stop thinking of my own. There isn't a man here that doesn't have more chance to help his fellowmen than any person on the outside. If you have got something to do in the world, you can do it here. Here is the place for sorrow, for disappointments, for suffering, and here is plenty of opportunity for everybody, and the man who hasn't it in him to help his fellowmen doesn't know what real pleasure is.

I was reading the other day the life of Bable, the great German Socialist, a great scholar and humanitarian, who spent a great many years in jail. A large part of the best people in the world have been in jail. Some of the best books that have ever been published have been written in jail. Bable gave a list of the books he read in jail, which seems to be pretty nearly all the books in the world that were worth while. He cultivated his mind; he developed his strength; he

grew in jail. He isn't the only man. There are hundreds and thousands of men who laid the foundation of a great character in jail. You can't do it if you haven't got it in you. You don't need to be great. Greatness and goodness were never very near relations anyhow; they hardly have a speaking acquaintance. You don't need to be great to be of some service to others.

You people who have a taste for reading ought to read all the books you can get, and you who haven't ought to develop a taste for it. You will find your own lives developing, your minds expanding, and your troubles fading, if you can do it. Take some simple book. A great many of you haven't been used to books. Take Tolstoi's short stories. I don't know if the library has them. I'll find out, and if it hasn't, I'll have it get them. There isn't a man here that can't understand them. There isn't a man here that won't get comfort and consolation and hope from them. There isn't a man here that, if he reads them and understands them and knows and gets them into his life that won't think he is better than the fellow who sent him here, and he will be better if he really gets the life into him so that he understands. A great many people who come out of this prison and other prisons are harmed by it; probably four out of five are crushed and hopeless. But I have seen some great characters come out. I have seen some men come out and I have said to them: "I am awfully glad you went—you needed it." I don't mean they needed it because they did wrong—not that, but they needed it for the development of their own character, for the growth of their own soul. Unfortunately, a large class of the men who need it are the men who escape real trouble, sorrow and misery in this world, and they don't come. But every man in here, if he has any of the germ of real character, if he has in him the right kind of a soul and spirit, can broaden and expand his mind and character, and find in the end that the course he has had in prison did him more good than any course he could have had in school—but it takes a man. I say to you the only bit of consolation that I can think of—devote yourselves to your employment the best you can; be square and true with the warden, and to this system that he is trying to carry out. Look in your own mind and your own heart, and see what there is there to develop; help all those

about you, and I believe you will come out feeling and believing that your time here has not been wasted, and that you have laid the foundation of a character which is greater than you could have laid without this experience, which is hard, indeed. I am very glad to come here. There isn't anything that I can do that I wouldn't be glad to do for each individual if I could. I can't—that's the trouble. I believe the warden is helping not you alone, but helping in a great work, and I hope everybody who is here today will join with him in helping to move the world forward, by making this great work succeed. (Great applause.)



Father Edward next introduced Captain Kane, as an officer who had been in the institution for more than thirty years and who would speak from a knowledge of long experience. (Applause.)

Remarks by Captain Michael C. Kane.

I have served at this prison for longer than thirty years and I have seen it go through many changes, but there never was a time when changes were made so fast as they have been made during the past year. Life is a school all the time. I have been at school in this prison receiving my education from the prison officials during the past thirty years and I know that I have learned every year, but I also know that I have not learned so much in thirty years as I have during the past year under the wardenship of Mr. Allen, on account of his generosity, and my observations of the prisoners when things were made easier for them, and their conduct under the improved conditions. As it is long past the dinner hour, I will give the rest of my speech to the reporter for THE JOLIET PRISON POST, who I see is here. Before I close I would like to ask the Warden to permit us to have the chairs removed from the elevated platforms along the side walls and that in the future you will be allowed to come together in this room without being under guard. I want to show to the people of Joliet and all the people of the earth that the inmates of the penitentiary at Joliet no longer require prison guards over them when assembled in the chapel, whether that be at religious devotion or in case of meetings like this one or entertainments. I will stake my reputation as a prison

official, gained by thirty years service, upon your good behavior.

(Prolonged applause and great excitement.)

(The Captain's manuscript which was handed to the reporter of THE JOLIET PRISON POST, omitting the parts spoken by him, is as follows:)

I am not a trained speaker so I have written down what I have to say to you.

I am pleased to address you on this occasion, the anniversary of the beginning of Warden Allen's service here.

I have always felt that it is my duty, so long as I stay here, to carry out the orders of the Warden. When I find that I cannot be square with the Warden, it is up to me to get off the job.

If Warden Allen desired a very conservative administration, I should try to carry out his wishes and in so far as he desires to carry out a liberal policy, I am with him as far as my understanding goes.

As we grow older, we grow in wisdom and as we approach the call of death, we frequently change our natures. I do not feel that I have any excuses to make for the past as I have always labored for what I thought was to the benefit of the prison and that includes officers as well as inmates and inmates as well as officers.

It is generally accepted that the older we grow the slower we learn and I used to believe that but I think so no longer. I have learned from Warden Allen that a liberal policy can be so adjusted that it can be made to work in this penitentiary and I have learned from you men that many of you have the good sense to do right because you want to do right. Considering the rapidity with which changes have been made during the past year your general good conduct has shown that many of you have good common sense and I wish that I might say that of you all. Then there would be no trouble between the officers and the men.

You all know that you were most fortunate in having Warden Allen sent to you. He would have done even more for you than he has done if you had all behaved as well as most of you have. There are still better days in store for this prison. Improvement will come as fast as the bad actors come to their senses and as fast as the officers and the prisoners find out those who will not respond to good treatment.

Prison reform is an experiment and as the officials and the inmates learn what it means and what its possibilities are, the methods will have to be changed and each change will be an improvement. I hope that you will make your honor system a success and I say that you must do this because in this manner alone can you pay the debt you owe to Warden Edmund M. Allen.

I knew the Warden when he was a very young man and I want to tell you how I think he happens to feel as kindly toward prisoners as he does.

When Warden Allen's father was warden here, Ned was a youngster. His father did for the prisoners all that public opinion would then allow him to do, but that was little compared with what is possible now. As a youngster, Ned saw fully grown men suffer what to a boy would seem unbearable burdens. His father left here long before the load could be lifted and Ned carried away with him the impressions he had obtained. He frequently talked these matters over with his father and as the child is often of keener perception than the "grown ups," he saw what we did not see.

As the years rolled by he saw that public sentiment was changing in favor of prisoners and with the change of public sentiment his hopes of some day carrying out his ideas increased. If you ask him he will tell you that he has always desired to be warden here so that he could do what he believed should be done. Finally, with the election of Edward F. Dunne, as governor, his opportunity came and he asked to be allowed to come here as warden.

His profit was to realize his ambition to help you one and all; your profit was to be the change in your condition.

There may be a few other men in the United States who have the qualifications for humane administration of a prison possessed by Warden Allen, but if there are, their fathers, too, must have been wardens before them. Such great kindness towards prisoners can only spring from the observations of youth and then only when the impulses have been kept fresh by the character of a generous hearted man.

I shall close my remarks by relating an incident which, though it occurred many years ago, is as fresh in my mind now as at the time it happened.

During Ned Allen's father's administration, the boy spent much of his time inside the prison yard and one day he was reported for playing catch with a prisoner. He was severely reprimanded and he answered that some day all the prisoners would be permitted to play ball. We who heard him did not believe that he had what you would call "the right dope," but what the youth spoke and the gray beards doubted has come to pass in this prison as we all know.

Father Edward next introduced our Deputy Warden, Mr. William Walsh, who was greeted with great applause:

Remarks by Mr. William Walsh, Deputy Warden

It would not be fair for me to make a speech, it would not be fair to the other speakers, and as the hour is growing late, I thank you for your greeting.



Father Edward next introduced the Honorable Edmund M. Allen, the Warden of this penitentiary. (Great applause.)

Remarks by Edmund M. Allen, Warden

When I came to you a year ago I realized that you did not know me and that I did not know you, and your applause on that occasion seemed superficial to me. The spirit that has pervaded this meeting, and the applause with which you have greeted the officers, and the applause with which you greet me now, conveys to me that you are sincere, and consequently I can appreciate your applause and give it its full weight.

The suggestion made by Captain Kane that in the future the guards do not occupy the elevated positions along the side walls in this chapel, during religious services and on all other occasions, is granted. His judgment is always good. Hereafter you will not be under the supervision of the officers while in the chapel. I might say that I had resolved some time ago that the guards could be dispensed with, but I have thought of no other way to get a little religion into these 'hard shelled keepers. (Applause.)

This brought the meeting to a close.

After the meeting Mr. Darrow was interviewed by THE JOLIET PRISON POST. He seemed in a very happy frame of mind, and when asked the occasion for it, he answered that he had always believed that men were abjectly miserable in prisons and that they hated the officers, but that he had just learned that there was something entirely new on earth, and that it made for the happiness of men who were down, and that nothing could have come into his life which was as grateful and soothing as the scenes he had just witnessed. He added that no one could have made him believe that such good feeling from prisoners towards officers existed anywhere, but that he had seen it for himself and that the atmosphere could not be misconstrued, that it was sincere, beneficial, and lasting.



FUTURITY

[Written for The Joliet Prison Post]

Has all been lost? Nay, not that force of life—

My faith, which is the enterprise of mind;
So I command, when bitterness is rife,

A weapon rare, my fetters to unbind.
O, Faith! What power in thy name expressed!
For thou art mind when mind is at its best.

Hope is my sunshine; unafraid, unbowed,
The daily task I faithfully perform;
The rim of silver creepeth round the cloud—
The rainbow breaketh through the mists of storm.
Hope, parent of my Faith, who would gainsay
Thou lingereth when all else has passed away?

Through mist, through cloud, Love signals far ahead;
O, Love! Of gods, the noblest one thou art;
Thy shining lamp is ever, ever fed
From oil that issues from another's heart;
Nor would I strain my ear for spoken word—
Thou hast no language which can e'er be heard.

So joy awakes, though secret tears may shine;
So Life's rich strain rings down my dark abyss;
Faith, Hope, O Love! Immutable, divine,
What miracle of every day is this?
For lo! Within my heart with sorrow torn,
The future bright and beautiful is born!

W. L. T.

The Voyagers

Respectfully Dedicated to Edmund M. Allen
In Honor of the First Anniversary
of His Wardenship.

(Written for The Joliet Prison Post)

Ere you took command as Captain, ere the creaking helm you grasped,
How the old ship dipped and trembled, all her decks with wreckage massed:
For her sails were soiled and tattered and her spars were blunt and old,
And Despair crept through the shadows of the dank depths of her hold.

Heavy clouds of Public Opinion hovered darkly overhead;
Stem to stern her timbers shivered at the thunderbolt of Dread;
With the stinging wind of Malice screeching forth its baneful hiss,
And the sea of Life relentless with the waves of Prejudice.

Now another course is taken, and the master at the wheel
Guides her through the quiet waters on a steady, even keel:
All her spars are new and gleaming, sails and shrouds are fair to see,
And within her thousand cabins, Hope has kissed Captivity!

For the fury of the tempest is a tale of yesterday:
O'er the ocean's rippled surface doth the breeze of Progress play.
And from decks to sky-dipped masthead toil the sailor Honor men,
As they scan the far horizon for the Port of Start Again!

K. N. O.



Address by Edmund M. Allen, Warden of the Illinois State Penitentiary at Joliet, at the Annual Meeting of the Illinois State Society of the American Institute of Criminal Law and Criminology, Held at the Hotel La Salle, Chicago, Ill., May 27, 1914

Having been invited to address you on the subject of "The Execution of the Court's Sentence," I take it that you have invited me to tell you what I consider to be the warden's duties in the matter of the execution of our courts' orders in so far as they affect the inmates of the prison under my care.

As the laws of the various states differ materially regarding prisoners and penitentiaries, it is not possible for me to treat this subject in a general way, for a method of procedure under the laws of one state might be a complete departure from the spirit of the law in another.

No official has any right to permit his personal views and desires to influence his conduct in the discharge of his official duties, so far as such duties are fixed by statute, but in so far as he is not positively dictated to by the statutes, he must exercise reasonable discretion. This discretion is largely influenced by the views and desires of the official, and as I believe that there is at Joliet too much punishment, due to the physical condition of the prison, overcrowding, and insufficient appropriations for its support, the prisoners shall be treated with as much generosity as the laws of this state will permit, always keeping in mind the rights of each individual prisoner as established by his or her conduct in the prison.

The statutes of the state make it plain that our prisoners are primarily to be so treated as to bring about their reformation, and secondarily that they are imprisoned for punishment. Under a conservative interpretation of the law it is easily seen that the reformation of the prisoner is the most important feature to be considered and that in proportion thereto the punishment is of only secondary importance. The law is not different now than it has been for the last fifteen years, and as the prisoners are treated more leniently than they have ever before been treated, either I am unreasonable in the exercise of my

discretion, or my predecessors since 1899, when the parole law was passed, have not been reasonable in the exercise of their discretion. I do not care to evade a fraction of this issue.

By an act entitled, "An Act to provide for the management of the Illinois State Penitentiary at Joliet (approved June 16, 1871, and in force July 1, 1871), the duties of a warden at the Joliet prison, in the execution of the court's sentence are defined in the following language:

"That the penitentiary at Joliet, in the county of Will, until otherwise provided by law, shall be the general penitentiary and prison of this state for the CONFINEMENT and REFORMATION, AS WELL AS FOR THE PUNISHMENT of all persons sentenced by any court of competent jurisdiction in this state, for the commission of any crime, the punishment of which is confinement in the penitentiary, in which the person so sentenced shall be securely confined, EMPLOYED AT HARD LABOR, and governed in the manner hereafter directed."

The words "for the confinement and reformation as well as for the punishment of" and the order in which they are used need to be carefully considered in determining the duties of the warden in the execution of the court's sentence. From the arrangement of the wording of the act quoted it is very apparent that confinement was the primary object of the act, therefore the first duty that devolves upon us is the prevention of escapes. It is most important that the dignity of the state shall be upheld.

The next condition scheduled in the act is the reformation of the prisoner. The only possible interpretation to be placed upon the language of the statute regarding reformation is that the prison shall be so managed that the largest possible number of inmates shall be improved in character, and each of them to the greatest pos-

sible degree. The word reformation used in the wording of this part of the act is followed by the words "as well as for the punishment of all persons," etc.

The word punishment comes last and seems to be modified by the words "as well as for the." This seems to mean that besides safeguarding against escapes and the bringing about of reformation, there must also be punishment; and the stipulation that the prisoner shall be employed at hard labor, seems to indicate the intent of this provision of the act. This interpretation of Section 1 of Chapter 108 of the statutes seems to be borne out by Section 10 of the same act, which defines the duties of the prison commissioners in part as follows:

"They shall make and require to be enforced all such general rules, regulations and orders for the government and discipline of said penitentiary as they may deem expedient, and may, from time to time, alter and amend the same; and in making such rules and regulations it shall be their duty, in connection with the governor, to adopt such as in their judgment, while being consistent with the discipline of the penitentiary, *shall best conduce to the reformation of the convicts*, and they shall make all necessary and suitable provision for the employment of said convicts, subject to the limitations and provisions hereinafter contained—"

The interpretation of this section of the statute is clearly to the effect that the prison shall be so conducted and managed as to bring about the reformation of the convicts as well as furnish suitable employment for them. Here it distinctly appears that reformation is of greater importance than employment, and who can reasonably find fault with this order of precedence, with regard to the relative importance of the reformation and employment?

It seems that by the act of 1871 the order of importance is as follows:

1. Detention until discharged by due process of law.
2. Reformation.
3. Punishment.
4. Employment.

In the year 1899, twenty-eight years after the enactment of the Act for the management of the Joliet Penitentiary, the Parole and Indeterminate

Sentence Law of Illinois was passed, and this parole law makes it even more plain that reformation is more important than punishment.

Section 1 of the parole law reads in part as follows:

"That every male person over twenty-one years of age, and every female person over eighteen years of age, who shall be convicted of a felony or other crime punishable by imprisonment in the penitentiary, except treason, murder, rape and kidnaping, shall be sentenced to the penitentiary, and the court imposing such sentence shall not fix the limit or duration of the same, but the term of such imprisonment shall not be less than one year, nor shall it exceed the maximum term provided by law for the crime of which the prisoner was convicted, making allowance for good time, as now provided by law."

Your attention is called to the fact that all crimes are under the provision of the parole law, except,

1. Treason,
2. Murder,
3. Rape,
4. Kidnaping,

and that the parole law nowhere mentions punishment other than the imprisonment itself. The word "imprisonment" does not mean punishment, except that punishment which is unavoidable by reason of loss of freedom. Webster's dictionary defines imprisonment as follows:

"*Imprisonment*—

"Act of imprisoning, or state of being imprisoned; confinement; restraint. In law, imprisonment is any restraint of a person either by force or by such other coercion as restrains him within limits against his will." Blackstone declares this of imprisonment:

"Every confinement of the person is an imprisonment, whether it be in a common prison, or in a private house, or even by forcibly detaining one in the public streets"

The population of the Joliet Prison is 1,569. Of this number 1,082 are serving sentences for crimes which come under the provision of the parole law, while in all 487 inmates are serving straight sentences of from one year to life. The physical conditions of the Joliet Prison make it unavoidable that the prisoners sentenced for fixed

periods and those under the parole law shall be mixed, and as the prisoners cannot be separated they must all be treated alike, and as the parole law must be held more nearly to represent the wishes of the people of Illinois at this time (the parole law having been passed twenty-eight years after the penitentiary act), it is necessary to conform to the manner of executing the sentences of the courts as nearly as possible to the spirit and intent of the parole law.

The portion of the parole law so far as quoted contains the following language:

"The court imposing such sentence shall not fix the limit or duration of the same, but the term of such imprisonment shall not be less than one year, nor shall it exceed the maximum term provided by law for the crime of which the prisoner was convicted—"

It being thus clearly expressed that the parole law contemplated the paroling of prisoners during the term of their sentences, it follows that the time when a prisoner is to be released upon parole depends upon his reformation, and not upon the amount of punishment he has endured. That reformation is desired is again made plain by the first sentence in Section 2 of the parole law, which reads as follows:

"It shall be the duty of each board of penitentiary commissioners to adopt such rules concerning all prisoners committed to their custody as shall *prevent them from returning to criminal courses, best secure their self-support, and accomplish their reformation.*"

Adopting such rules as shall prevent prisoners from returning to criminal courses and accomplishing their reformation, simply means that such rules should be adopted as shall reform them permanently, and the provisions for adopting such rules as will best secure their self-support is only a part of the lasting reformation.

The next sentence in Section 2 reads as follows:

"When any prisoner shall be received into said penitentiary, the warden shall cause to be entered in a register the date of such admission, the name, nativity, nationality, with such other facts as can be ascertained of parentage, education, occupation and early social influences as seem to indicate the con-

stitutional and acquired defects and tendencies of the prisoner, and; based upon these, an estimate of the present condition of the prisoner, and the best possible plan of treatment."

Note the closing words in this sentence, "the best possible plan of treatment."

The next sentence of Section 2 reads as follows:

"And the physician of said penitentiary shall carefully examine each prisoner when received and shall enter into a register to be kept by him, the name, nationality or race, the weight, stature and family history of each prisoner, also a statement of the condition of the heart, lungs, and other leading organs, the rate of the pulse and respiration, the measurement of the chest and abdomen, and any existing disease, deformity, or other disability, acquired or inherited."

These instructions for the examination by the physician establishes clearly what is meant by the word "treatment," used in the preceding sentence, and as the prison physician is not expected to examine the prisoner in order to estimate how much punishment he or she may be able to stand, it again follows that reformation is the object for which the word treatment stands.

The same section next proceeds as follows:

"Upon the warden's register shall be entered from time to time minutes of observed improvement or deterioration of character, and notes as to the method and treatment employed; also all alterations affecting the standing or situation of such prisoner, and any subsequent facts or personal history which may be brought officially to his knowledge bearing upon the question of the parole or final release of the prisoner."

As the parole or final release of the prisoner is intended before the maximum sentence has been served, it again appears that the parole law contemplates the prisoner's reformation and not his punishment. If punishment were desired, the amount could be computed in years in fixing the sentence, but as reformation is sought, the duration of the sentence must be left to future developments.

The prisoner is first to be paroled and then to be finally released. It is plain that the prisoner is to be paroled after he has served the minimum sentence imposed upon him, and has dem-

onstrated his fitness for the limited freedom allowed a paroled prisoner, and that he is to receive his final discharge after he has demonstrated, during the probation period, that he is fit to live the life of freedom among men. All this is dependent upon the prisoner's reformation and his ability to support himself, and not upon the amount of punishment that has been visited upon him.

Before leaving the subject of the parole law, I wish to call your attention to the fact that there is not a word in the act to indicate that prisoners sentenced under it are to be punished except by the deprivation of their liberty until paroled and finally discharged.

The execution of the court's sentence is also affected by an act entitled,

"An Act to authorize the employment of convicts and prisoners in the penal and reformatory institutions of the state of Illinois in the preparation of road building materials and in working on the public roads." Section 1 of this act reads, in part, as follows:

"Upon the written requests of the commissioners of highways of any township in the counties under township organization or the commissioners of highways or boards of county commissioners in counties not under township organization, said penitentiary commissioners and board of managers of the Pontiac Reformatory shall detail such convicts or prisoners as in its judgment shall seem proper, not exceeding the number specified in said written requests, for employment on the public roads or in the preparation of road building materials, in the township, road-district or county requesting the same, on such terms and conditions as may be prescribed by the said penitentiary commissioners or the board of managers of the Pontiac Reformatory."

There are two purposes in this law:

1. The improvement of the roads of the state;
2. The beneficial effects that out-of-doors work will have on the prisoners.

These purposes are on the surface, but there is an underlying purpose which is not so apparent. Under this law prisoners are to be sent to different parts of the state to perform labor on roads, which can usually be accomplished in one season. Therefore, it follows that the prisoners

must be sheltered in temporary buildings and that they may easily escape. It can scarcely be believed that the state of Illinois cares more for the unpaid labor of its prisoners than it does about their reformation. Therefore, I reason that the law contemplates, as its chief object, the placing of the prisoners upon their honor not to escape, with only their word and the possibility or probability, as the case may be, of their recapture, between them and freedom. Thus it is the evident intent to reform the prisoners by teaching them what honor means and by strengthening their bodies by healthy out-of-doors work. I believe that it will be conceded from this interpretation of the law that in the execution of the court's sentence, after guarding the lives and health of the prisoners in my custody, my first duty toward the state is to prevent escapes; second, to reform the prisoners and teach them to become self-supporting; third, to keep them occupied at hard labor; and last, to punish them for the crimes they have committed, and that of all these objects the punishment is of the least importance.

Under the heading of preventing escapes, I wish to point out that the physical aspects of the Joliet prison indicate that the state is willing to have many prisoners employed outside of the walls, for there are located outside of the prison walls:

Six large storehouses,

A herd of cattle with a wide range of pasture,

A drove of hogs and about fifty sheds for raising pigs,

A slaughter house,

A dairy,

A large truck farm,

Five greenhouses,

Extensive lawns and flower beds, and

A large poultry plant.

It has always seemed to me that this expensive and valuable outfit was intended to be made productive, and I am proceeding on that theory. In order to do this, many prisoners must be trusted, and it sometimes happens that mistakes are made in picking men for these trusty positions, and occasionally one yields to temptation and walks away. And when this takes place the matter is reported by the press as a highly excitable event of a daring escape over the walls, amidst a hail of rifle bullets.

Departing for a moment from the subject, I wish to say that during the year that I have been warden only two men have been shot at. One of them was instantly killed, and the other never got beyond two hundred feet from the officer who recaptured him. To absolutely prevent an occasional escape, it would be necessary to lock these men within the walls and close down all the outside industries, but this cannot be done. The business end of the industries outside of the walls of the institution are being run at their maximum capacity, and if an average crop is grown this year in Illinois, the prison farm will produce three times as much in crops as it has ever before produced, and all the industries outside of the walls are expected to bring corresponding results.

Undoubtedly there will be escapes in proportion to the number of men employed outside of the walls, but every effort will be made to use good judgment in the selection of men for trusty work, and in having them supervised as well as it may be done with the money available for salaries to guards, and the kind of men furnished for guard duty by the Civil Service Commission of the State of Illinois.

The enclosure within the walls is less than sixteen acres in extent, in which more than four-hundred prisoners are confined. Between the hours of 5 o'clock in the evening and about half past 6 in the morning these men are confined in an old-fashioned cell house, usually two in each cell. The cells are seven feet high, four feet wide, and seven feet long, and are from twelve to twenty feet from the narrow windows of the cell house. These cells never receive any sunlight, are built of stone, top, bottom and sides, except one end, which contains a narrow door of iron bars. Each of these cells contains a two-story bed, about two feet wide and about five feet high. The man who sleeps on the lower bunk has about twelve inches of space (when his head rests on the pillow) between himself and the bottom of the bed above him. The man who sleeps on the upper bunk has about fourteen inches of space between his head and the ceiling. When the inmates are not in bed they must either lean against the iron bed on the one side or the stone wall on the other, and if the man in the front end of the cell desires to move to the further end, he must first embrace his cell mate and then

squeeze him and himself in order to get by. When one of the men is stout I do not know how it is done; when both are stout, one must go to bed while the other passes.

On Sundays and holidays the men are locked up in their cells over two-thirds of the day, in addition to their confinement at night. The cells are not equipped with toilets, but are furnished with one tin bucket, which serves for all purposes of sanitation.

The prisoners are fed three times a day at an expense of less than six cents per meal per man.

From a reformatory standpoint, the one greatest fault of the Joliet Penitentiary lies in the fact that it is impossible to classify the inmates to any great extent. They should be classified according to their intellects, viciousness, records, ages and conduct, and this is impossible under the present conditions. At present the first offender may become the associate of the oldest professional gunman.

Everything that is possible is being done along the line of reformation, and the first objective sought along this line is to make the life the prisoners lead as nearly normal as possible. Food is furnished in sufficient quantity, and in consequence the prisoners are stronger than they were a year ago. Within the walls we have a first-class hospital and the sick receive the best possible care and treatment. The hospital is absolutely up to date, and for this the inmates are duly thankful.

Humiliating treatment, such as facing the wall and other old-time practices of this nature have been discontinued, as we do not believe a criminal can be reformed through humiliation. Self-defense is the only provocation for an officer striking an inmate. Alcoholic drinks and injurious drugs are not obtainable. Recreation, such as baseball and other out-of-door sports, are allowed for one hour every day when the weather permits. During cold weather marching around the yard in companies is substituted for these until the men show a desire to remain within doors.

Out-of-door employment is being given just as fast as such work can be procured for the prisoners, in order to overcome as fast as possible the evil effects of the small, poorly ventilated and over-crowded cells.

The road camps are reformatory in their results. The men in the camps learn to enjoy honorably fulfilling their pledges made to the prison authorities, while the men who are not so fortunate as to be assigned to the camps learn that their salvation, to a large extent, depends upon the good conduct of the men in the camps, and consequently the camps become schools in morals for the entire prison population.

Men selected for their probable trustworthiness are sent to the newly-purchased eleven-hundred-acre farm, and to the road camps as fast as openings can be made for them, and at these camps and on the farm the men live the healthy and natural life of the laborer.

A day school was started last spring, and every prisoner who desired to attend was excused from work for one hour each day. The ordinary common school branches were taught. Men are permitted to take books to their cells for study, and are furnished with pencils, slate and paper for studying. The long hours of confinement in the cells have but one redeeming feature—that is, they result in much study.

The prisoners are being made to realize that their future salvation depends on them individually, and that in order to better their condition they must avail themselves of the opportunities at hand for their individual improvement, and thus be able to return to the world and become good citizens.

The inmates of the prison at Joliet are treated as men. Coercion is not resorted to, except as a measure of last resort. The men are being taught that they must respond to good treatment, and that reformation depends upon themselves, and that the most a warden can do is to give them opportunities for reform, but that reform must come from within.



OFF TO THE NEW PRISON FARM

They're going forth to till and sow,
Yet most of them, I vow,
If put to test would scarcely know
A harrow from a plough.

But let them in their luck rejoice,
And prophesy their feats;
We only ask in prayerful voice,
"Please send us on the cats!"

THE TWO EXTREMES

By Peter Van Vliissingen

A Prisoner

I agree heartily with the propositions that society has the right to protect itself against criminals, and that it is folly to release a man from prison of whom it can be said with reasonable certainty that he will return to a career of crime; yet, I insist that there is something beyond this.

I maintain that society has no right to punish a man beyond his deserts, and that it is wrong to keep a man in a *penitentiary* by reason of what he is going to do. When the offender has been sufficiently punished, the punishment must cease. When that point has been reached society still has the right to protect itself, but it should do this by *restraining* the man. While the protection of the law abiding portion of the population should be the first consideration of government, the right of the offender who has been sufficiently punished should be deemed a very great responsibility. In this connection it must be borne in mind that there is no form of punishment so severe as imprisonment in penitentiaries.



A man may commit a crime for which he serves two years in prison. He may at the end of that period of time be no more fit for freedom than he was when he came to that prison. Society has the right to protect itself against the presence of such a man, but it has no right to continue to punish him, yet it may restrain him. Continuing a man in the penitentiary is more than restraining him. The man may never be able to give evidence that he is safe to return to society as it is constituted. Does that mean that he must remain in prison all his life?



Society demands the greatest possible freedom for the individual and this I know is right. Penitentiaries represent the least possible freedom combined with the maximum punishment permitted by public opinion. Here we have the two extremes. There should be a place in between for those men and women who have been sufficiently punished for the crime or crimes they have committed and who at the same time are not fit for freedom by reason of the likelihood of their returning to criminal practices.

EDITORIAL

What to Do With One Class of "Habitual Criminals"

Last fall there was at Camp Hope a man who takes turns at being a "barrel house bum" and a penitentiary inmate. To be more explicit, he makes his home in prisons and spends his vacations in "barrel houses." At Camp Hope he was reliable, industrious, and on his honor not to go beyond certain geographical bounds, and while there he proved true. At Camp Hope he had some money in his pocket, was dressed in citizen's clothes, and there were saloons within walking distance. The restraint of his pledge and the authority of the officers proved sufficient to keep him from drink. When his time was up he was discharged, but two days later he appeared at the front entrance of this prison thoroughly intoxicated and really worse off than when he was a prisoner.



Over one-half of the inmates of this prison are more or less of this man's class. They are too good to be in prison and too weak—by reason of addiction to alcoholic drinks or drugs—to be free. This class of men usually leave prison determined to succeed in life, but they seldom do. There is no other class of persons so hopelessly trapped as drunkards and drug fiends who have spent one or more terms in prison. While they do not like imprisonment they no longer fear it. Over one-half of the prisoners at Joliet would be harmless outside of prisons if it were not for alcohol and drugs. They come to prison because drunkards and dope fiends cannot obtain honest employment. They steal in order to get food, lodging, clothing, alcohol or drugs, and they continue to steal while the alcohol or drugs control their mental faculties. Neither parole laws, religion, education or prison reform will save them, but instead of being a burden on the taxpayers and a menace to society they can easily be made useful, happy and contented.



Persons addicted to over-indulgence in alcoholic liquors or the use of drugs do not suffer for the want of them in prisons where neither are obtainable. Delirium tremens is easily outgrown in prison. After a few weeks of regular life and no opportunity for indulgence in either alcohol or

drugs, the man is cured as long as the restraint lasts. Alcoholics and dope fiends do not have a strong craving for either alcohol or drugs after they have been in prison a few weeks. They soon learn that drink and dope are not to be had and then they settle down. The efficacy of the cure lies in the fact that the mind becomes at rest just as soon as it is fully realized that alcohol and drugs are out of reach.

Of these men not one in five hundred, when sober, or not under the influence of drugs, would walk five miles to where whisky flowed freely from a spout, yet if whisky or drugs were placed within immediate reach they would barter away their hopes of freedom for one drink, or a "pull at the pipe," or a hypodermic injection of cocaine.

Many of these men would walk five miles to go to a picnic and then get drunk, while not one of them would walk that far to get drunk and then go to a picnic.



Upon entrance to a prison there is no appreciable shock, to their health and mentality, caused by the sudden change from over-indulgence to absolute abstinence. The men accept it as a matter of fact and there is the end of it.

The craving for alcohol or drugs comes from the opportunity to get them and then is afterwards stimulated by their use. Drunkards and dope fiends will plead pitifully for stimulants when there is a chance of gratifying their appetites, but they will readily forget about either or both when they know the goods are not to be had.



When in prison these men realize what their habits have done for them, and if the prohibition of alcohol and drugs were left to their decision, during their incarceration, they would vote the earth "drugless" and "dry." Many of these unfortunates are good men in prison, and they prove industrious and intelligent. Most of them are really good fellows and many of them show that their early training has been good. All intelligent men who have had prison experience, know that a large part of the men in prison could safely be released if there were neither drugs nor alcohol on earth, and if jobs were to be had. Sending these men to prison does no good whatever, except to get rid of them for a limited length of time at an enormous expense.

The so-called habitual criminal is usually either a drunkard or a dope fiend and frequently both.

Effective reformation cannot be provided for alcoholics and dope fiends until it becomes generally known that there is only one real cure for them. They must be taken to some place where alcohol and drugs cannot be obtained. The remedy is obvious, it lies in colonization. One large suitable island, under Federal military control, with strict prohibition and used as a home for those who combine alcohol and drugs with crime, will reduce crime over one-half.

A few years after the problem is thus properly attacked, we will find there are too many prisons and that they are too large; that we have too many criminal courts and prosecuting attorneys; that the size of the police forces can be materially reduced; that we have not nearly as many habitual criminals as we believed we had; that the streets in our large cities are more safe under this remedy. By this plan the edge will be taken off the contest between the "wets" and "drys."



With reasonable help from the Government in getting started, many of the so-called habitual criminals will become prosperous artisans, farmers, business and professional men in their own community.

Whether these men should be permitted to take their families with them is a matter of detail which has nothing to do with the fundamental proposition.

Before colonization under Federal control can be inaugurated, an amendment to the Constitution of the United States may be necessary, and it may even require amendments to the constitutions of the several states, but even if so, there are no insurmountable difficulties in the way of any plan which the public desires and to which there is no objection.



Waupun, Wis., Prisoners Give Money in a Good Cause

The inmates of the State Penitentiary at Waupun, Wisconsin, have pledged themselves to furnish \$67.00, which is the amount required to pay for one acre of the farm of the Wisconsin Home and Farm School at Dousman. So far \$46.75 of the amount pledged has been paid in cash. Father J. S. Dowling, chaplain of the penitentiary, inaugurated the movement.

Reprieves, Commutations and Pardons

Section 13 of Article 5 of the Constitution of Illinois reads as follows:

"The Governor shall have power to grant reprieves, commutations and pardons, after conviction, for all offences, subject to such regulations as may be provided by law relative to the manner of applying therefor."

Here we have unqualified authority not from any legislative body but by the people of Illinois and expressed in the Constitution of the State, and until changed by amendment or repeal there is no law superior to it; no power above it. The people of Illinois saw fit in the year 1870 to write these lines into their Constitution and the pronouncement has never been challenged.



Innocent men and women have been sent to prison, are being sent to prison and always will continue to be sent to prison, at least so long as there are prisons. Unjust and excessive sentences have been imposed and will always continue to be imposed. Perjury has been committed and is the prevailing crime of the time.

So long as malice or greed can swear away liberty; so long as it is human to err; so long as judges and juries are amenable to human passions and human fear; so long as persons charged with crime are tried in advance, and during their trials in the public press, must the power of reprieve, commutation and pardon remain.



It is as much the duty of the Governor of the State of Illinois to grant reprieves, commutations and pardons in worthy cases as it is his duty to sign extradition papers upon the proper showing. No governor is ever censured for signing extradition papers and few ever escape censure for granting reprieves, commutations and pardons. The extent of the adverse criticism has been so great and its kind so severe that it might reasonably be feared that the intent of the Constitution has to a large degree been overridden.



Lawyers and judges prate about the sanctity of judicial decrees and the danger of having them nullified, but they never mention the unqualified language of the Constitution and the power which has been conferred upon the governor and the duty which as necessarily follows that power as daylight follows dawn.

The Presumption of Innocence

What can be said about the presumption of innocence so long as a man accused of crime, but who has not been convicted, is thrown into the same jail with, and gets exactly the same treatment, as is accorded those who have been convicted? The presumption of innocence is of more value to those who can furnish bail awaiting trial than to those who are unable to bring in acceptable bondsmen.

To a poor and friendless man who is accused of crime the theory of the presumption of innocence is a myth.



The World Owes Me a Living

Frequently a prisoner is heard to voice the statement that the world owes him a living, and he excuses theft and dishonesty in that way.

We will readily agree that a man must live, but we fail to understand why one man must steal, while another works.

If the world owes a thief a living, what right has he to take from an honest man the fruit of his toil? It must always be remembered that if the world owes a thief a living, it must also owe an honest man one.

There are in Illinois, millions of men who keep out of jails and only thousands who get in, and the world owes a living equally to all, therefore, we propose the questions:

How does it happen that only a small proportion of the entire population get into prison?

Is it likely that the small number know the correct way of extracting that living which the world owes them, and that millions of people are wrong?

What kind of a place to live in, would Illinois be, if all the inhabitants proceeded on the theory that theft is justified by the fact that the world owes every man a living?

It would be hard to find men in the world who squeal louder about what is dishonestly taken away from them than these same thieves, who justify their crimes on the theory that the world owes them a living. Take but a piece of tobacco away from one of them and he will go to endless trouble to find the man who took it, and he will not rest satisfied until he has had revenge, yet he is always talking disparagingly of "knockers."

Geographical Distinctions

We print below two items reproduced from the same page of the Chicago *Examiner* of May 3, 1914, and call attention to the fact that it is fair to infer from reading the items that what is applauded when done in Indiana, is ridiculed when done at Joliet.

The items follow—headings, misprint and all, just as they appeared in the Chicago *Examiner*:

HERE IS SOME REAL "INSIDE" BASEBALL.

And a Ball That Goes Over the Fence Stays
There.

(Headline by C. Dryden.)

La Porte, Ind., May 2.—In the presence of 1,200 cheering convicts, Warden Fogarty of the Northern Indiana prison race for the pennant in the league in race for the pennants in the league in which four teams of convicts will play. Today's game was between the White Sox and the Red Sox. Preliminary to the opening game the 1,200 convicts joined in a parade headed by the prison band, led by a life convict.

DINNER A LA CABARET LATEST AT JOLIET.

Convicts Eat and March to Work to Music
of Band.

I love the cows and chickens, but
This is the life—

Catchy strains from the latest popular songs soon will be echoing through the walls of Joliet prison. Cabaret meals for convicts in the Illinois State Penitentiary is the latest "punishment." Warden Edmund M. Allen, who completed his first year in office last Thursday, celebrated it yesterday by establishing the cabaret dinner in Joliet. Already the lockstep, the prison haircut and the prison uniform had been banished.

"This is the life!" exclaimed a number of convicts—murderers, holdup men and burglars—when asked yesterday how they liked the change.

"Naw, we're not anxious to leave—why should we bibble about that?"

The band of twenty-five pieces will play during the meals, and while the men march to and from work.



We wish to say that the lock step and prison haircut were abolished in the Joliet prison many years before Warden Edmund M. Allen came here, except that, as to the latter, every new inmate's hair is clipped when he enters the prison and the reason for this is that many men coming from jails are infested with vermin. After the first hair cut the prisoners are permitted to wear their hair as they please. Warden Allen has made no changes with regard to the hair cutting.

As to cabaret meals, so far the prisoners confined at Joliet have only the *Chicago Examiner's* word for it. In fact the Joliet prison is many years behind in having a band play in the dining hall, inasmuch as at the date this is written (May 14, 1914), band concerts during meals have only occurred three times, while in many prisons they have been of common occurrence for many years.

We doubt if the *Chicago Examiner* can see any real harm in the fact that Warden Allen permits twenty-six prisoners to play on brass horns for the amusement of the prison population, and we humbly beg leave to state that politics should have no part in a newspaper's attitude toward prison reform.



No Escape From This

We published in our April issue on page 197 an item from the *Chicago Daily News*, stating that forty-eight prisoners in an "Honor Camp" working in Smith county, Texas, had offered a reward of \$35 for the return of two of their number who had violated their pledges by escaping from the camp.

This raises the question: Is it right for prisoners to help in the recapture of some of their number who have escaped, when the escape involves the violation of an honor pledge?

We invite the inmates of this prison to send us their views on this subject to be published over the name or register number of those responding, and we particularly request those who respond to state their reasons pro and con for their views. This request is made in order to test the inmates in this prison on the question

of coming out into the open on a matter in which some prisoners would, if asked to, express one opinion to our Warden and a totally different one to the prisoners.

The Editor of *THE JOLIET PRISON POST* realizes that it would not be right for him to put this awkward proposition up to his fellow inmates without promising that he will over his name, express his views in unequivocal language.

All answers received will be published in order that when we are through, all may be counted as for, against, or silent.



Profit Sharing at Joliet

The prisoners who work in the reed and rattan department at this prison earn about five dollars per month each, the amount depending upon the value of the labor performed during the month. All men must come up to a standard of efficiency or they are transferred out of this department. This plan was introduced three months ago and has proven very satisfactory to the administration, as well as to the inmates.

Under the old system the men entered the shop in the morning without any incentive, other than to put in their time and keep out of trouble. Now they hope that business will keep up so that they may be kept employed. This change in attitude on the part of the inmates was brought about without expense.

The men are now permitted one hour per day for recreation and in spite of this reduction in hours of labor, the increase in production per man is marked, as will be seen by the comparison in figures between March, 1913 and March, 1914:

	March 1913	March 1914
Number of pieces made . . .	5,153	6,595
Men employed (average) . . .	288	259
Working days	26	26

The quality of the work done is better than it was when the prisoners did not earn money, and as the clerks, janitors and window washers share equally with the reed workers, the cleanliness and up-keep in the shop has improved, because these prisoners will lose by it if their work proves unsatisfactory.

Harmony and an inclination to help one another has resulted, and the inmates are more contented and less troublesome.

Escaped Lifer Returns Voluntarily

Albert Wing, who on January 7, 1908, escaped from the Frankfort (Kentucky) penitentiary, where he was serving a life sentence for murder, voluntarily surrendered to the police at Cincinnati on April 29, 1914, in order to be returned to prison.

Wing belonged to a very prominent family and received an exceptionally good education. He has committed many crimes and has twice been convicted of murder. For the first murder he served out his sentence at the Jefferson City (Missouri) penitentiary. Shortly after his release he killed his wife for which crime he was sent to the Frankfort (Kentucky) penitentiary.



At the present time Wing is 53 years old. Upon his return to the prison at Frankfort he gave as a reason for his voluntary surrender that he had found the life of a fugitive harder to bear than life in prison. He states that a fugitive cannot get ahead because he is always looking back to see if he is being followed, and that his mind is always on the secret which he cannot confide even to his best friend. He found that he was always busy trying to cover up his trail, and explained that circumstances always keep a fugitive on the move so that he cannot get a foothold anywhere.

Being without references or recommendations he had to take the sort of jobs that did not require references, and found that by trying to evade recognition he attracted attention. The fear of detection was the spectre that dogged his every footstep. When he became finally exhausted, he decided to return for rest to the prison from which he had fled.



There is nothing unusual in this man's case. Nearly every prisoner who has been a fugitive acknowledges that he found relief by going to prison, and many men who have committed one crime after another, have found life in prison preferable to their former life of deception and the constant fear of detection.

Many men who have fought their cases through the upper courts, and have finally come to prison, regret every minute of the time they suffered anxiety awaiting the final decision. They bear witness to the fact that uncertainty is far more trying than prison life itself.

In most cases it pays a man who has committed a crime, to make the best terms he can, and then to pay his debt to the state at the earliest possible moment. The quicker it is begun the sooner it is over with. After all, unless death intervenes, the debt must be paid.

The best way to avoid the shock of going into cold water is to jump into it head first; the way to increase the agony is to walk into the cold water slowly.



Jail Sentences for Debt

We congratulate ourselves that the day is past when men are sent to jail for debt. We would not go back to the old order for anything in the world.

The foregoing sounds true, but it is not, because thousands of men are sent to prison every week for debt. When a man is fined he owes a debt to the community which imposes the fine, and when he does not hand over the money he goes to prison, but if he pays up he goes free.

For example, two men commit identically the same offense and are sentenced alike; one has sufficient money in his pocket to pay his fine, the other is without funds, what happens? The man who is able to pay his fine is freed, and he who is not goes to prison.

Again, let two men commit identically the same offense and be fined \$100 each, to be paid in money, or worked out in jail at the rate of fifty cents per day, and let one of the men have \$99, while the other has no money, what happens? The man with money remains in prison two days when he only owes \$99 and then the amount of his capital is large enough to cancel his debt, so he pays up and goes free, while the other prisoner remains in prison two-hundred days in all.

This illustrates that money acts as the key to open the prison door outward.

We should put the soft pedal on our talk about the law being alike for the rich and the poor, until men are no longer sent to prison for debt, and until money can no longer purchase release therefrom.

A large portion of the population of the Bridewell in Chicago, are in prison for debt. Imprisonment for poverty should cease. Violations of law which send a man without money to prison should also send a man with money to prison.

The Adam and Eve Way

Dr. H. Morrow, a dentist of Iowa City, Iowa, was recently employed by the State Board of Control of Iowa to investigate the condition of the teeth of prisoners in that state.

In a preliminary report he announces that ninety per cent of the prisoners in the Fort Madison (Iowa) penitentiary have defective teeth, and that their mentality and physical health suffers in consequence.



There is nothing startling about this report when common sense is applied to the subject. Everybody knows that teeth must have attention; that dentists charge for their work, and that prisoners, as a class, have no money, and that in nearly all prisons the only attention paid to decaying teeth is to pull them out.

It need only be known that even a life-term prisoner, in most prisons, cannot get a tooth brush unless he has the money to purchase one. The consequences can be reasoned out by every person for himself.



Prisoners Held Cheap in Toronto

The Toronto (Canada) jail is condemned by Dr. Bruce Smith, Provincial Inspector of Prisons. He recommends that the Government's grant for up-keep costs, which covers about one-third of the expenses of the prison, be withheld until the municipal authorities accord decent treatment to the prisoners.

His complaint is that the prison is overcrowded; that over one-half of the prisoners sleep on mattresses on the floor of the prison, instead of in the cells, and that in consequence the building, with an average of 300 prisoners, is a fire trap.

Fire could easily start among the mattresses on the floor, and in that case it would be sure death for the men who are locked up in the cells.

The authorities of Toronto have evidently overlooked the fact that when they take from a man the opportunity to shift for himself, from that moment the responsibility of safeguarding that man is their duty.

How can municipalities expect respect for law when under their sanction lives are endangered in a manner which they would not tolerate in a hotel or factory?

Change of Management at Women's Prison.

On May 1, 1914, Miss Maria Susanna Madden, matron of the Women's Prison of the Joliet Penitentiary, resigned her position by reason of ill health. Miss Madden is seventy three years old and has been connected with this institution for over twenty-two years. She is considered one of the foremost prison officials of the country, having had a long experience and having brought to her prison work when she entered it great ability. Her resignation was regretfully accepted. At the same time Mrs. M. E. Tresize, who had been employed at the prison seventeen years, and Mrs. O. A. Cotton, who had served here ten years, tendered their resignations. Both of these ladies were far advanced in years and had earned an extended vacation. The position of acting matron was given to Miss Frances Cowley, who had been Miss Madden's first assistant since September 18, 1913.



What it means in good fortune to the inmates of the Women's Prison to have the services of Miss Cowley can only be appreciated by those who know her well.



By description, Miss Cowley's individuality can be more readily appreciated by those who have been both so unfortunate as to have been very ill and so fortunate as to have been nursed back to good health by a perfect trained nurse. A perfect trained nurse should inspire the confidence of her patients. To do this requires a healthy, alert, active woman who makes every movement count, one who is both sympathetic and firm, one who understands her calling, a woman in whom good nature and untiring devotion are natural attributes. Miss Cowley was that kind of a trained nurse before she accepted employment at the Women's Prison of the Illinois State Penitentiary at Joliet, Illinois.

She has the correct conception of the importance of good health, and in the discharge of her duties towards her charges she has this continually in her mind. She believes that good health depends largely upon contentment, consequently she aims to have the inmates in this prison as happy as it is possible for them to be in a prison, and to this purpose she devotes her character, courage and ability. The State of Illinois can pay a salary to Miss Cowley, but it

cannot recompense her. The women in her care can extend to her their undying devotion, but they can never return an equivalent for what she gives them.



The inmates under her charge are now permitted from one hour to one and one-half hours for recreation daily. When the weather is favorable they play out of doors in a spacious yard, surrounded by a stone wall thirty feet high. As there are no men to look on, they can go the limit. The favorite game is baseball, which is played with regulation balls and bats, and it has even been whispered that the players slide to bases, regardless of appearances.

When the weather is unpropitious the women have music, reading and games indoors during the recreation period. On Sunday mornings, the weather permitting, the prisoners go to the recreation ground immediately after the religious services, where Miss Cowley reads to them until dinner time. During the evenings the women spend the long hours in their cells, doing all kinds of needlework, which is sold for their individual benefit. Many of the women are very clever with their needles, while a few are beginners. They are all being instructed by an expert. It would be very fortunate for the inmates if Miss Cowley could arrange with some large dry goods store in Chicago to dispose to good advantage of the articles made by these women, and these lines are penned in the hope that someone outside of the walls will take the subject up where we must leave off.

For the benefit of those who believe in severe punishment for women, we will add that these prisoners are required to perform labor for the state daily.



Suggestions Made by Prisoners

The one thing prisoners know the most about is prisons. If prisons have any reformatory qualities, it must be conceded that there must be men that go out of prisons who have something to contribute to society.

Many prisoners are men of average intelligence and a few have exceptional intellects. An intelligent prisoner usually appreciates that he should be punished for what he has done and he begins the task of serving his time in the proper spirit; that is, he accepts the blame for what has

come to him and has no resentment towards anyone. This type of man usually gets along well in prison, and after his release has the opportunity of contributing his experience for the benefit of all.

It should be the latter class of men that make suggestions about the treatment of criminals, which are well worth considering.

A prisoner from the Federal prison at Atlanta, has made the suggestion that ex-prisoners form an organization to agitate for better prisons. We are not passing judgment upon the value of this suggestion, but we are pressing the point, that ex-prisoners can be of great value in pointing out where improvements can be made in the administration of justice and the execution of the court's sentence.



Kentucky Prisoners Win Suit for Back Pay

The prisoners in the Kentucky prisons won a legal victory, when on May 2, 1914, Judge Stout of the Franklin County Circuit Court, decided that they were entitled to back pay out of their earnings under the prison labor contract between June 15, 1910, when the law allowing them pay became operative, until August 1, 1912, when their pay began.

Under the decree as entered the Board of Penitentiary Commissioners must place to the credit of each prisoner confined in the Kentucky State Reformatory and the Kentucky State Penitentiary during the period between June 15, 1910, and August 1, 1912, such an amount of the average earnings to which each prisoner is entitled as the Board may deem equitable and just, taking into consideration the character of the prisoner, the nature of the crime for which he is imprisoned, and his general deportment. The Board is ordered to report to the Auditor of Public Accounts the amount of the earnings to which each prisoner shall be entitled, with directions to whom such earnings shall be paid and in what amounts. An appeal was taken by the Board of Penitentiary Commissioners.

Should the judgment be affirmed it is estimated that it will cost the state about \$100,000, if the present basis of pay is adopted. Since August 1, 1912, the aggregate pay drawn by the prisoners has been about \$50,000 annually. Many of the men and women, who under the decree are entitled to pay, have been returned to freedom.

No Poetic License Permitted Judges

The Chicago Tribune of May 3, is authority for the statement that Judge Charles A. McDonald, of Cook County, Ill., upon the occasion of sentencing a man to the Joliet penitentiary for life, recently spoke the following words to the convicted man:

"John, when the gates of the penitentiary clang behind you, you will know they have shut you in for all your life. Outside those gates you have left all the happiness of life. Inside you will find nothing but toil and barrenness and sorrow and disappointment.

"You will never again breathe fresh air, nor see the sunshine except through the bars of your cell. Iron and stone and steel, work and confinement and despair—these will be yours, John, until you die."



Luckily it is not so bad as that. While many men work in shops and sleep in a cell house, yet they breathe the fresh air and see the sunshine, and not through bars.

In this prison it is very difficult to see sunshine through the bars. When we see the sun "we take ours straight." Hundreds of our men are as sunburned as farmers.

It is right to permit poetic license to a poet, but a judge should confine himself to actualities.



What Brought Him to Prison?

Ben Buckner came to this prison December 18, 1905, under a life sentence for murder. Throughout his whole incarceration to the beginning of the present year he has been a very unruly prisoner. During this time he has been reported for misconduct on nineteen different occasions and placed in solitary punishment fourteen times. He was so quarrelsome that he was not wanted anywhere. The prisoners feared him as a man who provoked fights and dragged others into punishment with him.

Such was the character of Buckner prior to January 23, 1914, when he applied at the hospital for treatment because as he stated of "running sores on his head, headaches and a constant feverish condition."

The patient gave a history of having received three gun shot wounds in 1901. One bullet had been removed shortly after the date of his injuries. He stated he had suffered considerably

since that time. At the time of the examination at the prison hospital it was found that two bullets had not been removed. It was decided not to dislodge one of the two remaining bullets, because it was apparently not doing any injury. After a consultation of the physicians of the prison hospital an operation was determined upon to remove the other bullet, which had lodged in a depression between the external and internal plate of the parietal bone. A cursory examination before the operation disclosed considerable hyperplasia of tissue and two fistulae at the site of this bullet wound. The operation was performed on the following day by Dr. Haldane Clemenson under the immediate supervision of Dr. J. P. Benson, the Prison Physician.

There was evidence of an old linear fracture of the internal plate showing that there had been slight pressure on the brain substance. The bullet was dissected out, necrosed bone was curetted out, the fistulous canal cut out and the wound closed. Trephining at this time was deemed inadvisable owing to the presence of pus. The patient remained in the hospital for several weeks after the operation and was then discharged to work.

His demeanor soon showed a strange contrast to his previous disposition. He became docile, obedient to the prison rules, agreeable to his keepers and fellow inmates.

Congratulations are due to Buckner and the hospital staff.



Personal Bravery and a Commutation

Governor Edward F. Dunne has commuted the sentence of Loton Dale, of White County, Illinois, to expire on May 31, 1914. Dale was convicted for murder in 1909, and was serving a sentence of fourteen years. The decision of the governor was owing to bravery on the part of Dale during a recent fire in the Illinois State Penitentiary at Chester. Clad only in his night clothes, Dale saved between 30 and 40 mules which were quartered in the stable that had taken fire; his promptness of action saved the destruction of valuable state property. He suffered severe burns and jeopardized his own life. The commutation was recommended by the prison warden, the State Board of Pardons, Judge Newlin, who presided at the trial, and States Attorney Pearce, who prosecuted.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Eating at the Milk Table

Dr. J. P. Benson, the prison physician, announces that prisoners who are placed on a milk diet are permitted to eat only bread and milk. He has many applications from prisoners for permission to eat at the milk table, who look upon that as a means of obtaining milk in addition to the regular bill of fare. The doctor desires every prisoner to know that if he applies for permission to eat at the milk table, and if the request is granted, such prisoner thereby loses all other food.



Money and Stamps Through the Mail

The transmitting of money in the form of silver and currency through the mail is not practical, and entails the danger of loss to both the sender and receiver. It is distasteful to our Superintendent of Mails, as it necessitates considerable work to discover where such losses occur and to satisfy the receiver that the fault does not originate in the mail office. If you will kindly advise your correspondents to send their contributions in the form of drafts, express orders, post-office money orders or checks, it will meet with the hearty approval of Mr. Cavanaugh.

NEWS NARRATIVE

THE MEETINGS OF THE INMATES

By George Taylor

A Prisoner.

The monthly meetings, by galleries, of the inmates who are in the First Grade were inaugurated April 1, 1914, as announced by the Warden in the April issue of THE JOLIET PRISON POST.

There were two meetings each evening until the series was completed, one being held in the east wing and the other in the west wing, both being convened at the same time, and continued until all the galleries in both wings had their turn.

Having been appointed Chief by the Warden, I assumed charge of the meetings in the east wing, and H. E. Webster was selected to preside over the meetings in the west wing. It was considered expedient to have the same chairman preside over all the meetings in each wing, because in that way he could on each succeeding night

indicate what had taken place at all previous meetings.

One keeper attended each meeting, to enforce order if necessary, but there has been nothing for him to do. There were eighteen meetings each month and perfect order was maintained.

The spirit was prevalent to make the most of the good opportunity presented and to discuss all questions seriously.

The wise plan of the administration to let the men work out their own problems was strictly adhered to. The result of the April meetings was a number of requests for improvements. Many of these requests were granted and some were refused for good reasons. In all the inmates gained much through the meetings in spite of the fact that the improvements which were granted do not call for any additional expenditure of money.

The meetings for the month of May began on the first day of the month and continued until finished on the fifteenth. The propositions considered were with regard to the discipline of the prison. The men are coming to recognize the fact that what is good for the officers is good for them, and from that point they argue that good behavior is going to benefit the prison community. They are fast learning that they must justify the administration's measures by helpfulness and good conduct.

What an object lesson it would be for those who hold to the "severe discipline and cruel punishment" doctrine, if they could attend one series of these meetings, and see the interest the men take in working out the beginning of limited self government!

The men govern themselves at these meetings and that is the starting point from which the movement must work out. Of course nothing can be put into effect without official sanction. There is developing in the minds of the inmates a feeling of responsibility for their conduct which will eventually improve life in this prison.

It now looks as if the next step will be for the men to seek permission to elect from their own numbers monitors to stand in the aisles of the dining hall during the midday meal to see that order is maintained, with only one officer to oversee all. If this can be brought about it means that the officers, who now have only thirty min-

utes in which to eat their dinner, will have at least an hour.

Nothing could be more instructive to students in penology than to see the serious manner in which the inmates approach matters which come up for discussion at these meetings. The spirit of their efforts is typified in the following set of resolutions which were worked out and adopted at one of the meetings:

"We, the inmates celling on gallery * * *, do hereby wish to make known to the warden our desire to earnestly co-operate with the administration to the end of making life in this institution for the inmates as nearly normal as it is possible to have it in a penitentiary, so therefore be it

"RESOLVED, that we individually and collectively put our shoulder to the wheel, and by making an honest effort to obey the rules promulgated by Warden Allen, make the work of the officers in a disciplinarian way as easy as possible, and be it further

"RESOLVED, that we desire to go on record that we will, by using our influence for good eliminate or eradicate in so far as possible, the intentions or actions of whomsoever desires to, or whomsoever does, break the rules of this institution; Therefore be it further

"RESOLVED, that we, through our helpfulness to the administration and our deportment during our incarceration, shall in time prove to the outside world that we are fit for citizenship. Therefore, be it further

"RESOLVED, that we extend to the warden our unanimous vote of sincere thanks for the opportunities of becoming better men, which he has extended during the past year, and especially for the privilege of holding monthly meetings, to discuss such subjects as pertain to the betterment of our conditons."



Mexican Dungeons

The investigation by the United States Government authorities of the dungeons of the old fortress of San Juan de Ulua, at Vera Cruz, Mexico, revealed frightful conditions. Many of the dungeons were found to be below the water line when the tide was running, the inmates being drenched in consequence. Other dungeons were so constructed that it was impossible for the occupants to lie down.

At the time of the American occupation the prison contained 400 inmates, most of whom were confined for political offences. Some of these prisoners have in the past been prominent in society or politics but their names have been almost forgotten.

By reason of their long confinement in semi-darkness, many of the prisoners were found to be half blind, while others were enfeebled and emaciated through the treatment received.

Rear Admiral Fletcher has ordered the prison vacated, and three hundred of the prisoners have been released, transferred to other prisons or removed to hospitals; the remaining inmates will be removed as soon as possible.



Knights Templar Band Concert

Sunday, April 26, the regular hour of Chapel service was given over to the Siloam Commandery No. 54, Knights Templar Band, of Oak Park, Illinois. Fifty members, augmented by a drum-corps of ten field drums, were present. James Sydney Camp, director of a number of bands in and around Chicago, is also conductor of the Knights Templar Band. Mr. Frank B. Fells, manager of the organization, introduced the band, and his declaration that it was an honor and a pleasure to play for us was emphasized by the long program, with many encores, which was rendered.

To give due credit for this splendid entertainment; *The Masonic Sentinel* (Chicago, April 29, 1914), explains: "Some time ago Sir Knight Messlein, in charge of the work for the care of released prisoners, suggested to Sir Knight 'Jimmy' Camp that it would be a noble act for Siloam band to play for the prisoners. Sir Knight Camp immediately placed the matter before the organization, which instantly and unanimously consented. Sir Knight Messlein suggested then, to Warden Allen, that he formally invite the boys, which he did, and the result was that 1,400 'Down-and-Outers' were intensely appreciative listeners to a concert program rendered by this splendid organization."

To describe the music, as it appealed to us, with mere words would be difficult, indeed; while to give even a faint idea of the appreciation shown by the men who packed the chapel would be impossible. An outside observer must have

been thrilled by the spontaneous response to every selection, and the demonstration which followed the playing of the national airs would have surprised many folks of the world, who are prone to look upon prisoners as beings different from themselves. The musicians hardly needed further expression of appreciation or thanks than the rapt attention and sincere applause given their efforts.

It was evident that their thoughtfulness and generosity brought us the treat of months. Illustrative of the results sincere effort and appreciation must ever bring, is shown by Oak Park, Ill., *Oak Leaves*, of May 2, 1914, saying: "Having found a new way of giving relief, for an hour at least, to the unfortunate, the band has now accepted an invitation to play a concert program at the Bridewell for the hundreds of prisoners there."

Major Messlein and General Fielding, of the Chicago Post of Volunteers of America, accompanied the Knights Templars, the General speaking for a few moments to the men, as it was his first visit to this institution.



Death of Former Officer W. C. Trimble

Mr. William Clark Trimble died April 8, 1914, at a sanitarium at Charleston, Ill. His death was unexpected, although he had been suffering from heart and stomach troubles for some time. He voted on Tuesday, April 7th, and from the polls he proceeded to the sanitarium, where he expired on the following day, at the age of 44 years.

After resigning his position at this prison during October, 1913, Mr. Trimble made his home with his brother, Mr. T. J. Trimble, City Clerk, of Charleston, Ill.

Shortly after Mr. Trimble assumed duty at this prison he was nicknamed "Abe," on account of his resemblance to Abraham Lincoln, therefore, after that, he was known as Abe by the officers, and as Abe Trimble by the prisoners, but he was never again spoken of as William or Clark. He was a "good fellow" in the clear and wholesome interpretation of that phrase. Being witty and a good story teller, he was very popular with the officers. A prisoner could have trouble with him only by seeking it.

Mr. Thomas Rykert, whose death is reported in our May issue, was his chum and room-mate for many years.

CONTRIBUTIONS BY INMATES

FATHER EDWARD AND THE HONOR SYSTEM

By K. N. O.

A Prisoner

Judging from the interest and enthusiasm displayed and applause given during and after the address of Father Edward at the Anniversary meeting, Tuesday, April 28th, and also from the favorable comments I have heard from many quarters, the Administration has made a notable forward step in securing the services of the Catholic Chaplain in connection with the Honor System.

If I understand the arrangement, all inmates who are desirous of signing the Honor pledge are first required to confer with Father Edward, whose purpose it is to explain the finer details of the system, and to emphasize the responsibility which an inmate assumes on signifying his willingness to remain or to become an Honor man.

The specific ground of complaint from those men who are and voluntarily remain in the second grade, is that an Honor man cannot prevent himself from being a stool pigeon—speaking in prison parlance. Father Edward doubtless, will have much to say and explain on this one point, with the result, I am certain, that many of the doubting ones will rally under the Honor standard, through the influence of his wise and kindly council. The best possible proof that the existing plans will eventually succeed in establishing a permanent and lasting Honor system, is in the keen and lively interest which the great majority of inmates have displayed and are displaying.

Father Edward is admirably fitted for this work. His dignity of character, his fresh naturalness, the charm of his personality, and his abiding interest in the welfare of his "boys," has won their respect, confidence and affection. I remember telling someone once that the Father was always *real*—and I think that this simple word explains the secret of his success. He never allows himself to get out of focus—to be subdued by his environment.

The Catholic Chaplain is at his best at the Sunday morning service—but entirely without effort. He delivers his message to *you*, not to a great

assemblage of men. We have discovered that he is a good story-teller, for he has shown no hesitation, should the moment seem propitious, in appealing to our sense of humor while in his robes of office; yet his quiet dignity is never lost. Rather, in these rare moments, he gives anew an impression of simplicity and geniality, qualities which have endeared him to every man, irrespective of religious belief. As I have listened to him, it has seemed to me that the most illiterate man as well as the most confirmed skeptic could not fail to understand and be stirred. He has mastered the difficult art of moralizing without seeming to do so. Indeed, he has come with a broader message than the teaching of morality—that of appreciation of our difficulties, our need of encouragement.



KICKED OUT

[Written for The Joliet Prison Post]

A grim, momentous incident
Has recently transpired;
I'll give, devoid of garnishment,
The details I've acquired;
Though loath to be irreverent—
The Editor is "fired."

Right on the job he's always been,
A worker and a fighter;
A perfect crank on discipline,
A kicker and a smiter;
If things blew out or things caved in,
He was the dynamiter.

As for his popularity,
I've heard it intimated,
The best liked man is ever he
Who likewise is best hated;
A type of man, it seems to me,
To be congratulated.

As Editor-in-Chief he fought
The prison trouble brewer;
A message to the world he brought—
A real old truth bestrewer;
Contented in the simple thought
That deeds survive the doer.

E. T. K.

Editor's Note—Poets are inclined to be optimistic and the author of the above verses indulged his optimism when he assumed from the fact that the Editor's petition for a pardon is pending and that a hearing on it was granted, that he would soon be required to move.

The Editor thinks that he holds a good position, yet he would like to be discharged, "kicked out" or "fired." The power is with the Pardon Board; the Warden will not do it.

With regard to the verses the Editor feels like the convalescent who read his own obituary notice, which by mistake had been prematurely published.

Until he is fired he is going to enjoy writing for an audience which cannot get away from him and from whose wrath he is securely sheltered by reason of the fact that he has a monopoly of the newspapers in this prison.

MISCELLANEOUS

The Prison Supply Company, at 34 Fifth avenue, Chicago, deals exclusively with state institutions throughout the United States. Its agent, John W. Gibbons, visits all the large prisons in the country, and in consequence thereof he has learned much about prisons, and as his heart is right he is a friend to prisoners as a class.

In a letter to THE JOLIET PRISON POST of recent date, Mr. Gibbons informs us that he has read our initial number and each succeeding issue from cover to cover; that he believes the magazine must prove very useful and encouraging to men behind the walls everywhere.

PRESS OPINIONS AND REPRINTS

Relating to Pardons

[Reprinted from Springfield Ill. News]

On the theory that a man who will rush into a burning building and save the lives of twenty mules in the face of death cannot be such a bad fellow after all, Governor Dunne today commuted the sentence of Loten Dale, sentenced to Chester penitentiary for murder in 1900 by the circuit court of White county. His term is for fourteen years, but because of his bravery, displayed in a recent fire in the stables of the penitentiary, he will go free May 31.

The governor also, this afternoon, commuted the sentence of Andrew Henzey, sentenced for fourteen years for murder in St. Clair county in 1907, to expire July 4, and of John McCully, Randolph county, sentenced for life on a murder charge in 1890, to expire May 30.

THESE MUST REMAIN

All three commutations were made on recommendation of the state board of pardons.

Commutations were denied the following:

Thomas Perkins, murder, Cook county; James Formsby, murder, Cook county; David Kelly, murder, Cook county; G. L. Oberton, murder, Cook county; Levi Stinson, Banty Rudy and Cody Rudy, associated, murder, Saline county; Lloyd Polley, murder, Shelby county; F. Ainsworth, murder, Greene county; William Chambers, murder, Franklin county; Ira Ewing, murder, Alexander county; Hosea Smothers, murder, Franklin county.

The Shame of a Broken Parole

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[Reprinted from The North American, Philadelphia, Pa., by kind permission]

If the moralist, seeking men who have made the most miserable wreck of their lives, will go to the Eastern Penitentiary and glance into a few of its hundreds of cells, he will find them there. There may be two prisoners in each of those cells, but in some of them at least one of the two will show in every lineament of his face, in every movement of his body, the wretchedness of the man who has no friend.

He is the prisoner who lives in a changeless shadow—in the shame of his broken parole. No other convicts, however grave their crimes, know such loneliness as he, for all of them, even to his cellmate, shun him as a traitor to his kind.

Decrease in Crime

Not many convicts have broken parole; and not only do fewer break it now than did previously, but there are fewer to break it if they want to. It is the opinion of the penitentiary authorities that, since the parole system went into operation five years ago, it has steadily decreased crime and has continually reformed habitual criminals.

There have been exceptions—exceptions in which the original offense was repeated in its whole round of damning evidence. Those cases might be held up, very plausibly, as proofs that you can't cure the criminal of his besetting sin any more than you can change the leopard's spots. But when it appears that during those five years the repetitions of original offenses have amounted, all told, to far less than 1 per cent among the prisoners released on parole, the proportion of leopards must be surprisingly small, or the parole system must be mighty efficient in knocking the spots out of them.

System Reduces Offenses

On January 1, 1909, the Eastern Penitentiary held 1,582 prisoners. The number of inmates had been increasing with unfailing regularity. If nothing had intervened to halt that persistent increase, the number when spring began this year should have been at least 2,000. Instead of that, a count taken about that time showed only 1,433.

The decrease was not simply the difference of nearly 150 prisoners from a total of 1,582, but the difference between the number actually in the cells at this time and the number who must have been there had the rate of increase, counted on five years ago, been maintained during the interval up to the 2,000. In round figures, the parole system, which appears to have been the sole factor injected into the problem of holding in check the growth of the criminal class, has served within five years to reduce the number of grave offenses some 25 per cent, representing the proportion between the 2,000 prisoners who would have been in the penitentiary and the 500 who are now missing from its somber roll call.

What has become of the criminals?

The parole officers can answer that question, almost to every man of them. The old criminals released on parole can all be located, and they are all occupied with the humdrum task of earning a living quite honestly, industriously and unostentatiously. This is a very prosaic and commonplace outcome, but it is regarded among penologists as just about the best they've ever dared hope for in their most sanguine moments.

The offenders who are in the penitentiary now are mostly first offenders, for as yet society has devised no means to stop people from landing in prison at least once in a lifetime. The significant change in criminal affairs is, that where formerly a first offender was distinctly prone to prove an habitual criminal, he is now more likely never to sin again; and what is more, nearly all the old, habitual criminals are doing their earnest best not to sin again. It looks as though the criminal, as a class, has at length been furnished with a password to social salvation.

Since 1909 prisoners to the number of 800 have gone out from the Eastern Penitentiary on parole and fifty-five have come back. There, in a sentence, are the best and the worst that can be said of Pennsylvania's system of parole. Excellent as is the showing, for it is less than 7 per cent in all, it appears far worse than it is. Less than half the number of returned parole prisoners are back because of fresh crimes. Those fresh offenders number only twenty-three, and out of the twenty-three only half a dozen were

jailed for having committed anew the crime for which they were originally sentenced. Of those six, two have been again imprisoned for the crime most likely to be repeated, aggravated assault and battery. They are men with exceptionally ugly tempers, criminals under the law, yet scarcely criminals of the type usually regarded as displaying the profound moral turpitude attaching to other offenses. Of the four others, two committed larceny again and two were guilty of forgery. The histories of the cases involving repetition are found on investigation to be similar.

The paroled prisoner makes the mistake of taking a drink or two, then makes the bigger mistake of getting drunk, and finally, his old impulses rising in his consciousness and catching him with his guard down, he makes the biggest mistake of all in trying anew the trick that landed him in prison previously. Thus the pair of fools who are now serving two crushing terms for forgery, instead of being free and happy on parole, didn't need the money when they wrote their forgery. The checks they drew were trivial; \$35 was the largest. They knew to a certainty that they would be caught. But, just as they were drunk when they did their first forgery, so they were drunk when they tried the second.

The thirty-two remaining out of the fifty-five who broke parole have not committed fresh crimes, they have merely broken parole—a fault in itself constituting an offense grave enough to force the serving upon capture or surrender of the full term for which they were originally sentenced. Some simply got drunk; others did not report regularly, as they are required to do under the stringent rules of the stern if beneficent parole laws; others quit their jobs and left the state, their taste of liberty sickening them of surveillance and impelling them to hasten elsewhere, anywhere, so that they might be free from the hated supervision and reports.

No matter how far some of them went, the long arm of the law reached them, in Los Angeles, Cal., and in Butte, Mont., and brought them back. Some few, a very few—like the notorious Pink Shirt Twins, who broke jail at Bridgeton, N. J., after fresh arrest—have escaped the law's clutches; but there is a curious and very convincing

calmness about the certainty with which the penitentiary authorities regard the future of those fugitives.

"Oh, they'll be back," say the penitentiary keepers. "We never fail to get them, some time."

Those keepers are so certain because the whole police system of the country keeps special watch for the fleeing parole man, and because the state of Pennsylvania, in the interest of its parole system, stands ready to send for such a prisoner as far as the poles.

The System's Inflexibility

Out of the fifty-five parole men who are back, there are eight poor wretches who surrendered themselves. The stern inflexibility of the system seems to bear hardest, almost unfairly, on them. They come to the prison door and ring the fateful bell.

"Where's the warden?" they ask dejectedly.

They are admitted and the warden sees them; he is as discomfited as they are.

"Here I am, boss," they say. "I've been drinking and breaking parole. But I'm not going to throw you down. You can put me back in my cell."

Under the inevitable law, back in their cells they go, to serve in full the terms from which they were respited by the parole they broke.

The fifty-five cells which hold those returned parole prisoners are the unhappiest among the 900 in the prison. The warden himself, who has a large sympathy for weak humanity, may feel sorry for them. But he has a duty to do to the others who have not broken parole, even if their freedom from fault in that respect is that they haven't had the chance to.

Under the law applying to work in penitentiaries, no more than 35 per cent of the total number of prisoners are allowed employment at manufacturing articles which are sold for a profit. The rest may work making clothing and other articles which can be used in the prison. Work of some kind is the price of mental ease for all of them; and what they value more is the price of tobacco; no work, no tobacco. The profit-earning work is most sought, because it enables a prisoner to share in the profit, and he can find a place for every cent he can earn in prison and call his own.

Necessarily, where the nature of prison work

compels discrimination, the men whose records are clean must be assigned the best, and those who are under any sort of ban must get the worst. Any other arrangement would fill the whole place with sullen anger at the very institution charged with instilling into criminals the principles of justice.

Under these conditions only four prisoners out of fifty-five parole men have been assigned to work on which they can earn a percentage. The fifty-one remaining are given the lowest unpaid labor allowed, the sewing of carpet rags, and, since work on those rags lets them earn their weekly quota of tobacco, they are glad to get that. The plying of the humble needle constitutes the one relief the returned parole man enjoys from the wretchedness of his lot.

Although he is dealt with in all other respects like his fellow-prisoners, he realizes from the hour of his second incarceration what it means to be under a universal ban. The keepers may feel as sorry for him as is the warden. But a penitentiary is a social body, just as intimately joined in the relations of the individuals who are its members as is society outside. When the men, in batches of fifty, share in their forty minutes daily exercise, they are not allowed to speak to one another; but the parole man, exercising with the rest, knows that the glances resting on him, friendly as they are when directed to any one else, stare at him with a cold enmity as an offender against his kind. He feels that abiding resentment wherever he may be. No one takes the smallest trouble to hide it from him. He has betrayed them; he has done what he could to bring into disrepute the system under which they hope to go free with nothing to remind them that they are still the law's prisoners except the duty of reporting to their appointed officers.

The solitary confinement plan of the penitentiary nowadays is more theoretical than practical, for experience has shown that men immured with nothing but their own thoughts to engage them are easy victims of insanity. Unless a prisoner is rated as being of a peculiarly dangerous type, he shares his cell with another, and their companionship is the greatest safeguard they have against the hideous prison despairs which lie in wait for weak, ignorant and morbid natures.

But the parole man, sewing his pitiful rags in his cell while his fortunate fellow-prisoner works away cheerfully knitting socks at a hand machine, finds himself deprived of even that relief.

He is always hopeful at first. When he is assigned to his cell he studies his cellmate with the covert scrutiny of his earlier prison experience and gives him the familiar greeting of the old hand. But it is received in angry silence. The other prisoner resents him, resents every circumstance which has compelled the sharing of the cell with a prisoner who has done his worst to ruin their common chance for liberty.

After a while the grim silence gets on the returned convict's nerves. He, in his turn, resolves on complete solitude, so far as any relations with his companion go. He accepts his carpet rags as his merited portion, and he works at them for the sake of his tobacco. But beneath his silence he seethes. It goes on, day after day, inexorable as some grim fate to which he has doomed himself, until at last human nature cannot stand the continuous strain.

Shunned by Cellmates

He appeals to his cellmate. He tries to explain how he happened to break parole. He reviews all the details of his fall from grace. But it is in vain. These men of his own stripe can see in his protests and appeals nothing but the whining of the weakling, or the welching of a backslider who is unwilling to take the punishment that is due him. He has not merely betrayed himself, he has betrayed his fellows, and that is a sin the criminal world does not forgive. The parole breaker finds a convict more implacable than the most severe among his keepers.

Warden McKenty regards the system as the one efficient means of relieving the community of its class of habitual criminals.

"Do you know what this parole system is accomplishing?" he said. "It is steadily operating to place under the direct control of the prison authorities, as embodied in the parole and its application, every habitual criminal in the state. Ultimately, all habitual offenders will be cornered into lives which are honest and law-abiding. The results shown in the continual reduction of the number of prisoners here are not a bit surprising; they were only to be expected. It pays a prisoner so well to keep his parole that he

can't afford to break it, just as it pays him so well to accept it that he can't afford to refuse it.

"It works from the very beginning of its application to a prisoner differently, and more beneficially, than the old system of sentence did. Formerly, a man convicted, say, of burglary, never got his full sentence. The maximum was ten years; but a burglar got a year, eighteen months, or if his crime was especially flagrant, he might get two years and a half. If the judge sentenced him to five years, it was considered an awful dose.

"Now the judges sentence such offenders to the maximum, and it is up to the prisoner to lower that maximum by good behavior in order to earn his parole from the rest of his sentence period. He goes out and is given every assistance in leading an honest life. We try to find him employment, so that he shall not be driven by necessity to dishonesty. All he need do is behave himself to be wholly free when the rest of his time has gone by. But until it is past he is under complete supervision. If he breaks his parole he is brought back to serve the full maximum of his term in the penitentiary.

"The effect of that unfinished imprisonment is to make it hang over his head as the most powerful deterrent which has been found in dealing with criminals. They realize that any departure from the straight road means almost certain arrest and the bringing down on themselves of all the punishment they have escaped.

"They have no convenient means of fleeing the jurisdiction of their parole. New Jersey has a similar law; the national government will follow them in like fashion. If they commit a crime in either of those jurisdictions, and are caught, they get the maximum there, and as soon as that term is ended they are brought back to Pennsylvania and are compelled to serve the rest of their original maximum here.

"Very few, as the figures show for the last five years, have deliberately broken parole. Most of them have been poor devils who couldn't keep away from liquor, and when they are brought in they are so ashamed they won't even speak to me. They just throw up their hands in despair and turn away when I first see them.

"With all the deterring influences, and with whatever aid we give the paroled man in making

good when he is released, he has another powerful safeguard. The parole officers know where he works, know all his people, know all his associates. They are in constant touch with him, and that unfailing companionship acts not only as a brace to his resolution to lead a blameless life, but serves as a persistent reminder that it is mighty dangerous for him to take even the least step, to maintain even the most casual acquaintance, leading toward his old form of existence.

"I'd have bet," Warden McKenty added, shrewdly, "on the parole system clearing up the class of habitual criminals if I'd never seen the inside of a prison. It gets them going and coming, and in the middle of their sentence, too."



Partly True

[Reprinted from New York World]

Report that one of the most prominent of our imprisoned bankers is suffering from prison rigors and is slowly dying causes no surprise. It is the usual thing. The very day a banker enters prison in this country he begins to die. Nor is he permitted to die in peace. On the contrary, bulletins of his health are given out with increasing frequency until the distressed public can endure no more and is easily induced to petition for pardon.

The peculiar effect of prison life upon bankers is the more notable because as a rule its discipline is physically beneficial. The hours of sleep are regular, the exercise good, the food simple, and the work not of a kind to cause worry or weariness. Generally, therefore, the inmate of a prison is healthful enough. It is a peculiarity of bankers that they suffer from such modes of living, and that while they eat well and sleep well, they fall inevitably into slow but sure movements toward the grave and die a little every day.

It is easy to recall the sad case of Mr. Morse, who patiently and pathetically went on dying week after week until he was released, and then at once recovered. The present sufferer has now been in prison for as much as six weeks, and his weeping friends say he cannot stand it for six months. Society must either condone his offense and let him go or else it must face the fact that it is keeping in prison a man who will some day die.

The Printing Press in Prison

[Reprinted from The North American, Philadelphia, Pa., April 21, 1914]

Once upon a time Pennsylvania had a governor who would have liked to put in prison those printing presses whence issued criticism of his application of medieval thought to modern needs.

He tried and failed.

Since we never have deemed discussion of antiques beneficial to the common people we seek to serve, mere mention of this near-historic attempt at muzzling must suffice to preface an announcement that the printing press is getting into prison.

In many parts of the land it has been admitted—not sent—to state and federal penitentiaries and within such walls allowed a measure of freedom which cannot but startle the quixotic personage above mentioned.

Even individuals more in step with the times in which we live might be surprised to read in a paper published in prison such comment as this:

"Kansas maintains a hotbed for tuberculosis and calls it a prison. She works her convicts in coal mines and profit-making twine factories and brick-making industries, for which it pays these poor men the munificent wage of a trifle over 4 cents per day. In addition to this, in their spare time these same poor fellows plod away on the manufacture of trinkets, to be sold not for their personal benefit, but to support the impoverished families of those languishing in its mines and tubercular-infested cells. Shame on Kansas!"

This outspoken criticism of the notorious institution at Lansing—where conditions once were far worse than they are now—we clip from the current issue of the Umpire, a weekly paper edited and printed by inmates of the Eastern Penitentiary in this city, and according to its own statement, "devoted to the interests and entertainment of its readers."

In the same issue is reprinted the telegram sent to Governor Glynn, of New York, by Warden Tynan, of the Colorado Penitentiary, protesting against the electrocution of the four gunmen as unjust while "the big crooks go free."

We cite this as remarkable evidence not only of the freedom of the prison press, but of the radical change taking place in public opinion, as

reflected in the attitude of those charged with the care and conduct of prisons. While there are in this country some penal institutions where the Russian custom of censoring newspapers and magazines that are placed within reach of inmates still holds, and while a few of the prison papers now published are little more than organs of apology for the continuance of obsolete or inhuman methods of treatment, a majority of the presses that have been admitted to prisons operate with that freedom which has come to be regarded as the very bulwark of democracy.

Among these latter are the Umpire, already mentioned; the Index, published in the Washington State Reformatory; the Better Citizen, published by the boys in the Rahway Reformatory; Good Words, the widely known product of the federal prison in Atlanta; the Reflector, which issues from the North Dakota Penitentiary, and THE JOLIET PRISON POST, newest and most notable among such publications.

Not only because of its size and general typographical excellence, but chiefly on account of its editorial policy and the nature of its contents, the last-named monthly deserves special consideration from those interested in prisons as mediums for reform rather than punishment; those who share the verdict of modern science that crime is largely the fruitage of misdirected energy.

In the first number of this fifty-page monthly was printed the constitution of the United States. The next number contained an editorial which read, in part, as follows:

We printed the constitution of the United States in our January number for two reasons:

(1) Every man should know at least the fundamental principles of the government under which he lives, and frequent reading of the constitution is educational and helpful.

(2) Until recently there were a number of orators in this prison who claimed to know everything in and about the constitution and who could point out to any prisoner just why the latter's conviction had been obtained in violation of the constitution. Knowing that no one could disprove their positive assertions, these "attorneys," in order to appear right, placed into the

constitution everything which they found necessary to support their arguments.

We have deemed it worth while to attempt to put a stop to this irresponsible talk, and find that the mere furnishing of a copy of the constitution to each inmate has had the desired effect. The talk about the constitution has ceased, because the man who speaks of it now is addressing men who have a way of checking up his statements. There were far too many "constitutional lawyers" in this prison, many of whom had never read the constitution. They have been put out of business, and it will prove of benefit to the inmates, because it injures men and women when they are led to believe that they have been illegally convicted, when such is not the case.

We shall not attempt to disprove the many misstatements which have been made with regard to provisions of the constitution, as the copy of that document is in the hands of every inmate and speaks for itself.

Those prisoners who now think that they are in this prison in violation to the provisions of the constitution of the United States, or who are worrying about others whom they think are so situated, are invited to write to us regarding these cases, and we will publish all legitimate discussion and inquiries, reserving the right of editorial comment.

Here is a sample of the new order, which might be followed with profit by many a paper published outside prison walls. Its significance is magnified many times by remembrance that only a few years ago Joliet was a pillar of defense for those who think convicts should be treated without humanity; that they have no rights, and therefore, should be granted no privileges.

What must be the attitude of such standpaters when told that the April issue of the *Prison Post* prints in full the Illinois statute governing the right of habeas corpus! And commits *lese majeste* to the unthinkable extent of blistering the board of control of the Iowa Penitentiary at Fort Madison for a new prison labor contract it has approved!

The best answer as to whether such things pay, it seems to us, is contained in the following paragraph from a letter to the editor of the *Post*, written by a man who is in for life, and printed in the March issue:

"Among the many changes brought about here in the last year nothing impresses me so much as the improved conduct of the prisoners. I have now been here sixteen years, and I must say that the last year has been very unlike the previous fifteen years.

"The old spirit of hate, envy, ill feeling among prisoners is fast going. It used to be a few words spoken between two prisoners in a low tone of voice and the next moment a fight. We have very few fights now."

"Lifers" have nothing to gain by commending prison administration, for as yet they are not eligible to parole, so this is a testimonial worth considering. It is only one of many contributed by inmates, but in each is voiced a spirit of change, due to the changed manner in which the writers are being treated.

This replacing of inhumanity with humanity has, in that prison as well as in our own Eastern Penitentiary and every other institution so affected, helped to build up a new sense of personal responsibility on the part of prisoners. As the editor of the *Post* says in his current issue:

"True prison reform depends upon recognition of the essential fact by both free persons and prisoners that a prisoner must earn back his right to freedom. Prison management which does not teach this from the first day of a prisoner's incarceration until the moment of his release fails in its true purpose and is particularly harmful to the prisoner."

Such advice is equally beneficial to those within and those without prison walls. The more general its circulation on both sides of this dividing line, the better for the future of both classes. Indeed, we think THE JOLIET PRISON POST should be more read among those who have not been caught than among those who have, for it not only bristles with human interest, but, by reason of the latitude allowed its editor and contributors, presents a fair view of the prison situation from the side least known to the public.

Throughout the world men and women are studying the great problem of crime and criminals. In this country, where economic considerations are coming into their own, we are beginning to see in our thousands of imprisoned offenders a staggering measure of waste. Just how much of this can be eliminated by more enlightened treatment none knows, as yet.

We do know, however, that crime and criminals are costing us in actual outlay more than \$3,500,000 a day; that the average annual cost just about equals the value of our production of wheat, wool and coal.

This is the cost of such offenses against the law as are constantly and zealously followed up by those sworn to uphold the law. It does not take into consideration the equally costly offenses of those whose cheating, stealing and murdering are carried on in the name of "business" or under the convenient cloak of respectability.

Anything that tends to lessen this waste is of potent worth. That is why we now call special attention to the printing press in prison, for, if rightly guided, its power may prove as beneficial there as elsewhere.



New York to Build Big Jail for Women

To comply with the provisions of a new law for the separation of man and woman prisoners, the city will build a special jail of the modern office building type, fourteen stories high, at 135 to 139 West 30th street. Part of this site formerly was occupied by the old "tenderloin" police station. The jail will be the highest building of its kind in the world.

The building will have, besides the jail, court-rooms, a detention department and offices for direction of the city's correctional work among women. The board of estimate appropriated \$450,000 for constructing the building.—*News*, Chicago.



Progress in Nebraska

According to the Lincoln (Neb.) *Journal*, "one year ago Warden Fenton took up his duties at the Nebraska penitentiary. During the year he has organized the work at the prison in many ways. The honor system has been used among the convicts both in and out of the prison. At some times fifty men have been working in various parts of Lancaster county, unattended by guards and making no effort to escape. Not one prisoner has escaped from the penitentiary itself during the year. Baron von Werner was one man who broke his word to the prison authorities and since he was recaptured at Woodstock, Ill., has been deprived of the privileges which he previously enjoyed. He had been taken to the

home of Chaplain Johnson at Tecumseh for a visit and escaped from that town. Warden Fenton is pleased with the spirit of co-operation which exists between the prison officials and the convicts. He says that most of the prisoners are assisting in maintaining order and that they realize that every effort to help them is being made. The suppression of the dope traffic is one of the reforms which Warden Fenton feels has been the most important act of his administration.



What the New Ohio Penitentiary Will Be

From the *Louisville (Ky.) Herald* we learn that "the new penitentiary of Ohio is going to be a great 1,600-acre farm, modeled after the Cooley farm at Warrensville, which is used by Cleveland instead of the orthodox workhouses of other cities.

"In this new kind of penitentiary the prisoners will sleep in white iron beds—not in cells!

"They will work outdoors without guard!

"They will go to school to learn the interesting things they have never heard of!

"They will be taught trades so when they leave they can earn an honest living out in the world!

"They will get exercise, medical attention and the best of foods.

"They will get the benefit of all the latest discoveries in scientific penology."—*The Delinquent*, New York.



Teaching Honesty

Lemmy Williams, a little colored boy, was caught in several petty delinquencies and was at last sentenced to a short term in the reform school, where he was taught a trade.

Shortly after his return, he met a prominent woman, who asked:

"Well, Lemmy, what did they put you at in prison?"

"Dey started in to make an hones' boy out'n me, ma'am," was the reply.

"That's good," replied the woman, approvingly. "I hope they succeeded, Lemmy."

"Dey did, deedy, ma'am."

"And how did they teach you to be honest?" queried the woman.

"Why, dey done put me in the shoe shop, ma'am," explained the boy, "nailin' pasteboard onto shoes for soles, ma'am."—*Chronicle*, Pittsburgh, Pa.

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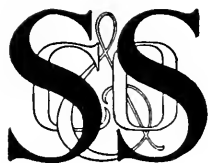
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THE JOLIET PRISON POST

EDITED BY A PRISONER

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No. 7

Governor Edward F. Dunne's Speech to Prisoners at Camp Dunne, Near Ottawa, Illinois, May 22, 1914

I am pleased to have the opportunity to address you men.

The state has deprived you of your liberty, but not of your manhood. Your presence in this camp today, on your honor as men, proves that the administration has faith in your manhood. We expect you as individuals to succeed. Your individual success means also the success of the experiment of putting prisoners upon their honor in camps and at road work. No one can tell what beneficent results will ultimately come from experiments like this one. If you prove loyal you will profit by it, and through your good conduct the men who may hereafter incur prison sentences may profit even more than you will.

The state, and society in general, are making efforts to remove those conditions which either directly or indirectly are more or less responsible for the plight in which you find yourselves today. If you prove loyal to the trust which has been reposed in you, the problems which now seem insolvable may be partially solved.

The state assumes the right to use the strength and time of its prisoners to its own benefit. In the past the state has placed too much emphasis upon this right, and too little upon the rights of its prisoners. This condition society is attempting to change. The state no longer seeks to enslave its prisoners by placing upon them burdens which they are either unable or unfit to carry. Prisoners in this state are no

longer subjected to hardships for the mere sake of causing them pain or fatigue, nor are they any longer exploited to the financial gain of contractors of prison labor.

We are beginning to see the prisoner's side of the situation. We have already learned that his rights are as important as those of the state, yet many of the problems which the relation of government and prisoners presents have not been solved, and in this regard a tremendous task is still before us.

In recent years the state of Illinois has abolished the prison contract labor system. In its place is left prison shop labor which is not let out by contract. Even this is unsatisfactory. This administration is striving to find the right substitute for prison shop labor and to employ the men of our prisons in a manner that will bring out the very best in them; to develop them in body and mind and to restore them to society as useful members.

The treatment of and the disposition to be made of those men and women who fall within the meshes of the law, and the reformation of the children who fall into evil ways, are two of our gravest and most widely studied and discussed public questions.

Here in Illinois we are experimenting in a way which has been suggested by our study, and this camp is the result. We who represent the government are asking you who represent the men in the prisons to help us better the con-

ditions. We go to the man behind the bars and ask him for his opinions and for his co-operation. We appeal to you today to do your best.

All beneficent progress made in the world is attained through study and labor; that is, through the best use of our mental faculties and physical equipment; this being so, the state should place at your disposal reasonable opportunities for study and work.

So far, the administration has been able to accomplish but a fraction of what it thinks should be done for the men and women confined in our prisons, but we have made a beginning, and we ask you prisoners to assist us in making our efforts successful.

In my inaugural message to the General Assembly I recommended that a law be passed authorizing the employment of prisoners at road building. My reasons for making this recommendation were purely humanitarian. I knew that many of you would enjoy the liberties of life in camps and the invigorating influences of toil in the open. I was satisfied that the opportunities I had in mind for you would elevate you morally, intellectually and physically; would increase your self-respect and appeal to your sense of honor. I had hopes that you would feel yourselves partners in a plan for the betterment of the thousands who today live apart from society.

I felt sure that if such a law were enacted and successfully operated, it would pave the way for other and more far-reaching legislation designed to improve your conditions and the conditions surrounding those still within our prison walls. The legislation was, I am happy to say, enacted in response to my recommendations and as a result you are now at work on these roads under the terms of that legislation.

The act as passed did not specifically confer on me authority to grant you a reward for meritorious conduct, but I have the powers of pardon and commutation given to me by other laws, and have exercised those powers to commute to you one-fourth of your time for good work and manly conduct.

You are all familiar with the law under which Camp Dunne has been established and you are familiar with the rewards in the form of "time earned" which I have proclaimed.

The state, the nation, the whole civilized world is looking to Illinois to see whether this experiment will succeed here. Good men and

women throughout the world hope it will succeed, for they all believe it is a step toward the solution of the one of society's many problems in which you are most interested.

The administration is willing to help you if you desire help, and this latter will be determined by your conduct. So far you have started well and I hope that you will end well.

No force has been applied to you to bring you from behind the prison walls to this open air labor upon a public highway. You have elected to work here under the terms of the honor system. The products of your hands and strength might well be sacrificed if its money value were the only consideration; but it is the least.

To fan into flame the spark of hope that lives in the human heart so long as life lasts was my sole object in recommending the law under which you are now here, and it was also the legislature's sole object in enacting it, as well as society's sole object in sanctioning it and long-ing for its success. Through your labor the state might in time get good roads, its people would enjoy the fruit of your toil, our state's resources would be enriched, its products would be increased and enhanced in value, but what would all that be if it should not accomplish that which we are primarily seeking—the improvement of the minds and bodies of those who are prisoners and their ultimate restoration to society as good citizens?

As the governor of this state I have told the people and their representatives that you can be trusted. Your warden has trusted you and you are here now to trust one another. You are here to contribute some good to those who are to follow you. Do not forget them. You have sympathy for all others who have gone down under the same misfortunes which have engulfed you and for all others who may yet succumb to them. You must always think of the thousands who are to follow you. If by your conduct and loyalty you make this experiment a success it means more and wider liberties for both you and others in the future. And if by your conduct you bring failure to this experiment we must return to the old system, to remain there for how long no one can say.

I plead with you as a camp and as individuals to stand firmly together to make the new law a success. Let each man's strength be thrown into the common pool for the equal benefit of all.

Place confidence and trust in one another and when temptation confronts you go seek the companionship of your fellows, and with due consideration for them and for the future, fight away that temptation.

You all look forward to your liberty and the restoration of your citizenship. Many of you have a wife and children, a mother, a father, sisters, brothers, relatives and friends who are awaiting anxiously the arrival of the day when you shall have completed the payment of your debt to society. In the prison at Joliet there are other prisoners who long for the same fond day. Remember that tomorrow others will arrive at the prison to begin their service, and that next year and in the years after other hundreds shall fill up the ranks. It is for you of today to say whether you shall shorten your time, whether they may shorten their time, whether both you and they shall eventually return to your places in society, benefited physically and uplifted morally by dignified labor, and having earned the public's confidence, under the terms of the law which has authorized your employment at this camp.

I ask you what do you think of it?

Do you not think it would be a terrible thing to break your word by violating this form of parole which has been granted to you, and by so doing cutting off yourself and your fellow prisoners whom you have been selected to represent from the chance which has come to you to show that you are all we trust you to be—men who wish to rejoin society?



Racking a Woman's Sensibilities

On June 6, a Deputy Sheriff from Cook County brought thirteen prisoners to the prison. Twelve were men and one was a young woman. Half way between Chicago and the prison the woman collapsed and upon her arrival at the prison railroad station she had to be lifted from the car and moved from the station to the prison in an invalid's chair. The prison physician revived her.

We should like to know why the Sheriff of Cook County compelled a woman to travel in the company of twelve male prisoners who were shackled like so many wild beasts?

EDITORIAL

The Sheriff and the Summons

The sentence of the court is only a part of the prisoner's punishment. There are many punishments added which are collateral. The sheriff with his summons is to the man in prison like a pestilence to a community. The prisoner cannot move away from the sheriff and he cannot be warded off.

The law declares that every defendant must be given his day in court, yet let us see how the prisoner has his day in court.

The sheriff calls and the prisoner is marched to the front to meet him. The prisoner is handed a paper; the sheriff makes a return on the summons and the prisoner is declared to be in court. But to what practical benefit to himself?

Usually the prisoner is without money and cannot secure a lawyer; still the mill of justice grinds on unmercifully. Sometimes the litigation involves property, but usually it is a case of divorce.

It is admitted that conviction for a felony should usually be a proper basis for a divorce, but why try the issues in the absence of a defendant?

When the state takes a man's freedom and with it his opportunity to earn money why does it still assume that the man can answer the summons and provide for himself a defense as is justly assumed when a man is free? A prisoner cannot leave prison except by order of court and without funds he cannot secure a representation.

Recently a man came to this prison for a crime which did not involve money or debt. His wife visited him regularly and promised undying devotion. Crushed and helpless, the prisoner finally deeded over to his wife all his property, and immediately thereafter the sheriff called with a summons in chancery to answer a divorce proceeding.

In spite of the fact that all the circumstances point to a complete condonation which if made known to the court would serve to defeat the application, the suit will be tried and decided in favor of the wife who has played the Judas part. In the prisoner's absence the court will decide his rights with regard to his children and it will be truly said that "he has had his day in court."

Dynamics of the Prison Betterment Movement

There is something more in the movement for prison betterment which is sweeping the country than merely the good purposes of the persons who are voicing that movement. There is something more in the movement than those contemplate who, with their opposition, think they can stem that movement.

Speaking of persons who have gotten into prison, Governor Dunne says in his Camp Dunne address:

"The state has deprived you of your liberty, but not of your manhood. Your presence in this camp today, on your honor as men, proves that the administration has faith in your manhood. We expect you as individuals to succeed."

There is dynamic power in this prison movement. It *must* go on. The spirit in man is impelling man to undertake that which his calculation and his will would shrink from. Men are caught up in the hands of a mighty inner power and are moved to act in obedience and to give utterance to that which is too subtle for them to explain and too great for them to comprehend and to understand; the persons who oppose the new movement, do not adequately compass its powers; those who endorse and support the movement, are themselves unequal to its mighty reaches.



Men unlawfully at large are fugitives. Even if the law has been unjust with them, still, the law is sovereign. The law will pursue them and they will not be free until the demands of the law are satisfied. They skulk and dodge. Never in a work shop dare they give their true history; never at a boarding house can they tell where they are from. Home can have no fireside for them: the law watches their homes and a visit or a letter to those with whom nature has joined them will betray them.

Often does a visit or a letter betray a man who is fleeing the law and he is brought back to where he went from; back to satisfy the law's demands.

The fugitive has no peace. He does not know either security or rest. His days are haunted and his nights are hideous dreams of the stealthy approach of the authorized agent of the State: a

man without a country, without a home; without a friend to whom he may go in full confidence and to whom he can unburden his weighted soul. The fugitive has escaped from the prison walls but he is bound with more trying fetters still. The dangers of being retaken environ him; the closed opportunities in his unnatural situation engulf him; his fears of apprehension haunt and involve him and he finds no freedom; his conscience continuously smites him and he finds no peace.



Contrasted with men who thus leave prison, are such as those who within the past few days have gone to Camp Allen.

For these men the dawn is breaking, their horizon is broadening. Sunday is a visiting day for them and their friends and families can come to them and, in the open air and on the fresh green lawn under the glorious life-giving sun, they can talk and plan with those they love and in whom is all their hope. A few short weeks, a few short months, a few years and the demands of the law are satisfied; the men travel the distance between them and their loved ones and there is separation no more.

The State has dismissed its requirement; it shows its other and helpful attitude; it extends its opportunities like open arms to the man who had gone to the camp and who has "made good."

The man is free.

He fears nothing; not even the State itself, because he has made the State his friend. There is no shudder at the sight of an officer of the law; he has no secrets to hide from his fellow workmen or from his employer; his conscience is clear and all the spiritual life, all the truth that is in him, is giving him strength: the husband can sit in the quiet twilight with his wife, the father can watch the little child climb upon his knee, himself extending his helping finger, and he can love the wife and the child and can know that they are his and that he is now to be with them to the end of his days.

He is rewarded for his patience in being true to the requirements of the State, with a reward that he who flees from justice can never know.



The persons who oppose the new movement, do not adequately compass its powers; those who

endorse and support the movement, are themselves unequal to its mighty reaches.

Society as a whole will need to come to acknowledge the great awakening, the great exaltation of the power that is in a loyalty to the building of one's own character.

The new administrations of prisons and the men resident in prisons are determined not longer to allow the kind of prison life and the kind of prison policy that has until recently—with all of our moral and material progress, emphasized by our peace conventions, our civic betterment conferences, our centennials and our world's fairs,—blackened the history of even our fairest states.

From experience, it has been learned that principally liquor is the cause of the deeds that send men here, that principally liquor is the cause of the violations of the pledges which the men make when, in the purpose of making good, they go out to the farm or on the road.

The prison administration has become the prison resident's friend. The administration is undertaking to guard the man where the man is not able wholly to guard himself. The drink that makes the man weak, that makes the man defeat himself, the prison administration keeps away from him. To this end are the pledges asked of the men who have just gone to the new Camp Allen; to this end was the Chaplain's earnest talk and the Warden's encouraging words.

The man is not alone to blame, the authority over him has its responsibility also. Prison administrations are acknowledging that responsibility: they do all they can to outlaw liquor and the liquor habit within the province of their power.

May not society at large learn something from what is going on in the prison places? If prison administrations would not do what they can to remove liquor from the pathway of the men who are liable to fall by it, how could the administrations hold the individuals wholly responsible for what they might do as the result of drink.

Authority is coming to see that it should be friend and aid the subject. Responsibility is not with the individual alone.

Why is this mighty onward social movement?

Shall not society itself acknowledge and conform to what the movement requires—the guard-

ianship of the welfare of the individual by society as a whole?

Is it to be left to the children of the wilderness to lead the chosen of this world into the promised way?



The Ethics of Band Music in Prisons

The unbroken logic of the experience of the world, is that there is a better way of handling men than by using mere force.

There is in man's nature something that resents subjugation and there is something that responds to acknowledging and allowing his rights. The world's inevitable tendency has been to move away from mere domination by those in power and to grow into a plan of government that shall be "by the consent of the governed."

It must be acknowledged, even by those of us who wish the best for men in prisons, that there are some low type men in these communities. It is the presence of this type of men that has appeared to justify the policy of force and punishment that in years past has been the practice in prisons. The tortures that have been inflicted and suffered in prisons, the human rights, even of men imprisoned, that have been denied, the life values that have been crushed out of naturally hopeful and naturally good men, the unnecessary ruining of men financially, physically, morally and spiritually (so far as this world's hopes go), that, in the name of "justice" and in the name of "protecting society," has through all generations been common practice in the prisons of the world, will never end and can never be known. And Illinois as well as other states and as well as the different countries, has her blackened history of the way in which her prisoners have been treated.

THE JOLIET PRISON POST seeks to represent what is being done in this prison, rather than to represent merely the men who are doing it. But, nevertheless, the fact is to be acknowledged that the change in the character of the management of the prison began with the present administration.

The present administration's policy is to harmonize with and to lead the men, as against the policy of ignoring natural rights and dominating the men.

Generally those in power have overlooked the deep inner forces which, even above men's wills, control the men's lives and the consequent superficial treatment the subjects have received from those in power, has not yielded the results that the public might have hoped for.

The first step in the new type of prison administration, was to make the lives of the men as normal as possible in the conditions under which the men live and in keeping with what is required by the State.

This consideration of the men has so changed the men's attitude that, for the most part, the men have become supporters of the administration's policy instead of being, as heretofore, merely in subjection to that policy and rebellious at heart.

There are now within the walls, at the road camps and on the new farm fifteen hundred and ninety-one "inmates" of this institution. Thirteen hundred and thirty-six of these are first grade men who have signed the honor pledge in which they agree to conform to the administration's rules even though those rules restrict them.

In view of what is to work out for them, these men have come to a willing acceptance of the restrictions: the great accomplishment of the new administration's first year's work, is the prisoner's acceptance of the conditions and rules which are necessary at any particular time.



Under the old regime the marching was one of the severe forms of discipline. Every face must be kept directly forward; everybody truly in line; every step in strict harmonious movement with the steps of the other men. A falling out of line, a turning of the head to one side, a shuffling of the step was an occasion for punishment and many a man has been sent to the "hole" for such "insubordination."

Some weeks ago the Prison Honor Band was organized. At first this band furnished music in the dining hall during the Sunday dinner. Now every day at a quarter to twelve and at a quarter to five o'clock, the band, at the head of Administration avenue, plays a variety of choice marches while the men are moving in line from the shops, the quarry and the farm to the dining hall. At one o'clock the band plays again while the men march from their cells back to work.

The band also plays in the dining hall during dinner and supper.

The administration's policy is not to force the men but to make them natural; to give them something to live for. The marching lines are now a part of the approved order of the place: *the men look forward to the marching as one of the pleasures of the day.*

Captain Michael J. Kane, who has been an officer of this institution for thirty years, and who, as he himself announces, is one who has believed in "discipline," knows the experience of this institution during some of its blackest days and, in contrast, is witnessing what is being experienced here now.

Captain Kane is recognized as one of the keenest observers of the men. In consequence of his experience, he probably has a closer knowledge of the men individually than any other officer. Captain Kane has charge of the dining hall and it is he who arranged for the band's playing while the men march. He says:

"The influence of the music on the marching is wonderful to me. I notice that the men are keeping step; that they are erect; their heads rise and their shoulders come up as soon as they leave the cell house. There is also a difference in the dining hall. The life of the men used to be only silence and work. No conversation and no noise was permitted while at meals. The contrast is great. Anyone coming in could not help noticing it. There is less liability to quarrels. In place of men getting into a quarrel, their attention is given to the music; the music changes the temper of the men."

Mr. John Keeley, Yard Superintendent, is an officer who also has had experience under the earlier system. When asked, "Does the music help any?" Mr. Keeley said:

"It helps a good deal. The men keep in step; there is not so much talking and looking around in line. The men like to march to the music. You will see them jump into step if they happen to be out of step. In the dining hall there is not so much talking and there is less noise."

Mr. Keeley contrasts the marching and the dining hall with the more immediate period when the severity of the rules had been relaxed and the men in line and at meals had dropped away from the old rigidity. It was suggested

that the men's cheering in the dining hall after a particularly fine piece of music and their encores are "noise." "Yes," said Mr. Keeley, "the men cheer, but *what hurt does that do?*"



The significance of this whole experience is that what, under the old order of things, could be done only with severity and cruelty is done willingly and spontaneously under the new administration's policy. The lines now march with a steady, stately tread; there is a strong uniform advance with something like military precision and pride. A few days since a small squad of men came in ahead of a long marching line. The leader of the line called out to the squad in a muffled but determined voice, "Get out of the way; you are breaking up the line."

The installation of the band is one of the features of the new administration's policy. The ethical value of the band music is a part of the ethical value of the whole policy of the administration.

When men come to want to do the things that ought to be done, it is the making of character.



Prison Citizenship

Under the old order of things punishment was no particular discredit. Punishment was given so often and on such slight pretext and the conditions of life were so hard that the mark of a violation of the rules had no particular significance to the men. Punishment meant only that the prisoner had failed to "get by" with something—whatever it was—that nearly every other prisoner thought he was justified in trying to get by with.

But today it is different. Today the policy of the prison administration is to acknowledge the natural rights of prisoners and to grant those rights as the action of the men justify their being granted and as conditions make it possible to grant them.

Today the wearing of stripes does not mean suffering—which is the essence of punishment—so much as it means classification. The stripes signify that the men wearing them have not made good in the increasing opportunities which the present administration is offering.

The purpose of restricting the men who abuse the new opportunities to only what is allowed third grade men is to serve in preserving the

opportunities for the men who do profit by them. Those who have the opportunities do not wish to see them denied to other men.

There are only a few men in stripes, but at times some of these are men of too high intelligence and of too clear a countenance to be going about among the other men labeled as of a "third grade." Let us see these fine fellows back to be restored to second grade as soon as they feel that they are justified in asking to be restored so that—some time there shall be no men wearing stripes and eating in the cell house away from the other men.

Opportunity is being offered to live the best that is in us. Let us raise the standard of the citizenship of this community.



Which Shall It Be?

There are two ways to conduct penitentiaries. One method requires the co-operation of the prisoners; the other does not. The second method means that the moment the big iron door closes upon a man who enters the prison he becomes a convict in the old accepted sense. He is at once made to face a wall, to wait for an officer; and if he looks to the right or left he is reprimanded. He is ordered about sternly from the beginning; he is told to forget that he was ever addressed as mister and that no one wearing prison garb may be thus addressed; he is told that coffins are cheap and the cemetery is large and that men who do not behave do not live long; he is told that convicts have no right to think and that a convict's word cannot be taken on any occasion. It would take volumes to describe this form of prison methods, but it will be sufficient to say that meek obedience is the first and only aim.

The other way of conducting a prison is for the administration to seek the true welfare of its prisoners but no administration can do this without their co-operation.

In the latter method there is a choice for the prisoners. Those prisoners who believe in the policy of enforced meek obedience may properly be against the administration; those who believe in the better treatment must be with it. Those who wish to co-operate with it must help it by good conduct, patience, industry and economy.

In the Warden's first address in chapel he said he would do his best for us but that we must

meet him half way. This statement was greeted with unanimous applause by the prisoners, which showed their hearty approval, and then and there an implied contract was created; there was a meeting of minds.

The administration has done more for the men than was thought could be done. On the other hand, have the men done all that they could have done? Are there not too many men here who accept all that comes their way and then clamor for more, and who at the same time take pride in being contrary and deceitful?



Must Pass Test to Get Parole

The Chicago *Tribune* of May 31, says:

A new system of requiring a mental and psychological examination of all convicts in the Kansas penitentiary to determine their fitness to become good citizens when released, has brought that state face to face with an entirely new problem in dealing with its criminals. Gov. Hodges put the new system into effect in February, and the first tests have just been submitted to him by the parole board.

What should the state of Kansas do with men and women of legal age, whose mental activities are those of young children? Thirty-eight prisoners asked for paroles last month. The thirty-eight were examined by the prison physician as to their bodily health, mental condition, sociological and psychological record to determine just what chances the prisoners had to "make good" as citizens.

Only six had the normal mental activities of their age. Four were slightly below normal and twenty-eight men and women, from 23 to 58 years old, were proven by actual tests to be really nothing more than children from 7 to 12 years old. These people showed slow mental processes, but all were unusually quick tempered and it is seldom that one was reported as having a fairly even temper and pleasant disposition.

One white man, 58 years old, who had served seven years, when put through the psychological tests showed he thought and acted only as a child of 9 years. He had no more the sense of wrongdoing than a small boy in the third grade at school.

Another white man, 30 years old, had attained the mental activities of a child of 7 years. This young chap thought that the highest profession

to which it was possible to attain was that of a professional prize fighter. It was his greatest ambition to have physical training that he might become a "white hope" and redeem the pugilistic honors of his race.

Another man, charged with murder, was found to be 56 years old, but talked and acted like a boy of 7 years. A negro man, 38 years old, had the mental activities of a child of 8 years. This boy was put into a reform school when 9 years old. He spent seven of the next ten years in reform schools, jails and reformatories. Then he enlisted in the army and for the three year period of his enlistment this negro spent two years and nine months' actual time in the guardhouse and had five or six years additional time on his head when his enlistment expired and he was dishonorably discharged by the army officials to get rid of him.

"What are we going to do with these men and women?" said Governor Hodges, when the reports were presented. "Not one of these twenty-eight men has an equal chance with other folks if they are released from prison. They are too old to submit to the same treatment as a child of the same mental age, but they are actually only children in grown-up bodies. They have been the victims of environment, lack of training, and control at home and their minds stopped developing early or when they stopped going to school.

"Most of these men and women went to school for a few years, maybe until they were 8 or 9 years old, and their minds did not develop any from that time until the present. They are not insane and cannot be said to be feeble minded, but there has been no development. In numerous cases we have found that the prisoners were mentally almost normal, but were morally deficient.

"These men and women can be easily led into trouble again. They have little sense of right and wrong. They assume toward any one who befriends them an attitude of childish confidence and accept the instructions of this person without question. Let them out of the prison and they are up against an unequal fight with the world and the human jackals seize upon them to do their dirty work.

"When these people commit a crime of a felonious class they must be sent to prison. They do not reform and they seldom improve their

condition so that they have a better chance to make good than before they were sent there. The prison is not the place for them. They must be punished, of course, but they need development and contact with other men and women to improve their mental and moral conditions. To turn them out in their present mental and moral state with the stigma of a prison upon them, makes the fight so unequal that it is no wonder so many are returned.

"Steps should be taken to prevent the reproduction of this class."



The Topeka, Kansas, *Capital*, commenting editorially, June 17, on the situation described by the *Tribune* in the foregoing paragraphs, has this to say:

Mental tests made at the State penitentiary at Lansing are said to show that eight out of every 10 convicts have "six to 12 year old minds." Assuming these tests are real and dependable, that ought to be a reassuring discovery. It is something for human nature at its supposed worst to find that even of convicted criminals only two out of 10 choose a course of crime deliberately. The others fall into it and follow it because they lack the intelligence of normal individuals, their mental development suddenly "quit on them" before they grew up to responsible years. The tests themselves are simple, being such as would be applied to children in perhaps the third or fourth grade in school, some of the tests such as a first or second grade child might be expected to "pass." They are tests of mental capacity. For example, three geometrical figures are drawn and the convict is asked to put a cross in the circle. He must have the intelligence to distinguish between a square, a circle and a triangle. A circle is drawn with a dot in the center and the pupil is asked to put a dot below the center. A number of questions are calculated to show how far in fact the convict did get in school, other questions test his powers of observation and others his control over his muscular reactions. What these tests taken together indicate is that 80 per cent of the convicts in the penitentiary have arrested minds that ceased to

grow before they reached their teens. Sometimes this cessation of development was due to a severe sickness, sometimes to an accidental injury and sometimes to causes that do not appear. The condition is incurable, but it is preventable, and criminologists are doing a good deal to promote preventive measures that will shut off a big percentage of criminality due to infantile or subnormal intelligence.



THE JOLIET PRISON POST has recognized this condition from the day of its birth, except as to the proportion of those suffering from what we choose to call disability. We recognize that the first duty of government is to protect law abiding citizens, but we ask what is society to do about those who suffer from disability, who are consequently unfit for freedom and who have been sufficiently punished?

It is not right to return defectives to society; neither is it right to punish them forever by incarceration. Life in prisons cannot help these people. It will be conceded that at least some of the thirty-eight prisoners and perhaps all who were examined by the parole board, must have been punished sufficiently to be entitled to their parole, that so far as they were able they had paid their respective debts to society. That adults with the minds of children were convicted does not need even to be taken into account.



Before parole laws were passed, one convicted of crime received a definite sentence according to the finding of judge or jury based upon the facts in the case. Under the parole law verdicts run from one to five years and to from one year to life. The convicted person is passed along to a parole board which is to fix the length of the sentence. The parole board's first duty is to protect society. It is remiss in its duty if it paroled a prisoner who is likely to be a menace to society. We do not condemn parole laws as always wrong or defend the system of fixed sentences as always right. The parole laws, however, have brought their own evils which society has not met. We point out that society is attending to all of this and that the so-called "criminal class" has no voice in it. Whatever injustice results therefore from parole laws, comes from the law abiding element of society.

Parole laws have been in force long enough for glaring injustices that work out under them to have been corrected. Society through negligence is frequently cruel and this seems to be an instance in point. Under present conditions defectives are punished longer than those who are up to or over the average in mental and physical condition. Society must learn that it should not punish persons for disability, but that is just what it is doing when parole boards, in their effort to protect society, hold men because of men's disability.

The degree of twentieth century civilization may well be questioned when under parole laws the punishment of defective persons is prolonged only because society had not devised a more just way of protecting itself from these persons.

Aside from the question of injustice, we point out that confining men in penitentiaries is a very expensive method; it costs human utility and it costs dollars. To lock two men one-third of the time in a cell four feet wide, seven feet long and seven feet high is an almost perfect way to reduce men's efficiency to the lowest point. This one thing accounts largely for the poor showing made by prison industries. Besides, when defectives are kept in company with dangerous criminals as much expense is involved in guarding the defectives as in guarding the criminals, which is unnecessary.



Localizing Responsibility

From the Jackson, Michigan, prison, comes the proposition that men sent to prison from any community shall be received back by that community when paroled or discharged.

This is a part of a plan for improvement which is being promoted under Warden Nathan F. Simpson.

The proposition is the result of observations made by the prison management which show that "the attitude of society toward the ex-prisoner is such that he is almost compelled to find his associates among criminals."

The chaplain of the Michigan state prison is to be sent into various communities to lecture on the causes of crime and to quicken a public interest in discharged prisoners' welfare. The chaplain will also undertake to effect local organizations which will be auxiliary to the extension department of the prison.

A Prison as an Industrial Community

The National Civic Federation is turning attention to the question of improving the management of prisons and makes suggestions which indicate a change in the fundamental conception of the office of a prison as a social institution.

The primary purpose of a prison is to separate from society persons who, through the processes of social machinery, have been adjudged offenders against society.

That prisoners shall be confined during the period of their sentences, everybody agrees. Beyond this there are differences of opinion and it is in this field that the changes are urged.

The committee on prison reform of the National Civic Federation, recommends:

The elimination of politics from the management of correctional institutions.

The development of character and self-control in the prisoner through the honor system and a larger degree of self-government within correctional institutions.

The study and further development of the principle of the indeterminate sentence.

The development of farm industrial prisons and other modern correctional institutions.

The development of the state use system of prison labor throughout the country in order to develop the best that is in the prisoner and at the same time conserve the interest of the state.

Co-operation to secure federal legislation which will make possible an effective state use system in every state.

The application of proper rules regarding just compensation of prisoners in all correctional institutions, with a view to creating, in the prisoner, an interest in his work and a sense of responsibility for the support of himself and his family and ability to provide such support.

The establishment and improvement of prison schools for instruction in elementary subjects in correlation with industrial education.



The state use system means that the products of prison labor shall be used to supply the needs of the state as against putting those products on the open market and thus bringing the labor of prisoners in direct competition with the free labor of the country.

Whenever an agreement is reached between the advocates of changes in prison management and the general public that will leave prisons

free to make the most of their industrial possibilities, there will be a tremendous advance in the value of prisons both to the individual prisoner and to society itself.

For the most part prisons have been rotting pens. Men have been thrown into them and, when once convicted, the cry of "Unclean, unclean," has gone up from all grades and interests of society. Those susceptible of contamination have learned from the worst criminals what they had not known before and those who kept above the contamination, together with all the others, have been weakened perceptibly and continuously both in mind and in body.

Whenever the opportunity is opened for prisons to make the most of their possibilities, when the prison communities are made industrial communities with all the opportunities to the individuals that can be allowed, many of these institutions will become self-supporting. The difference in this institution in the men's interest in their work in shops where a sort of wage scale has been introduced, shows what a great change will come when penal institutions are made places of opportunity for the men confined. In general, penitentiaries now repress not only what is wrong in man but also that which is worthy.

The residents of every state institution where industrial activities are possible should progressively be given the fullest opportunity to make themselves as valuable industrially as they can.



As the public comes to see that persons who have been convicted of a social offence are not by that conviction made any different from what they were before but that the individual interest to succeed, the natural personal pride in doing what the person is able to do, the love of family and of fortune that the person had before, is with the person still, the wisdom of allowing the person to continue to make the most of what good there is in him will be seen.

It is right and necessary to repress in people the tendency to do wrong but it is a distinct social loss to restrain a man or a woman from living out that which is beneficial.

Since society wishes fully to protect itself, let there be an opportunity for prisoners while imprisoned to use their best faculties and to become as proficient as they can.

The Monthly Meetings

The monthly meetings of the men have now progressed far enough to show something of what they are likely to be worth.

The meetings are not legislative assemblies; they are opportunities for deliberation and petition. They are held under a privilege granted by the Warden to first grade men and the presiding officers are appointed by the Warden.

There are two series of meetings, one in each of the two assembly rooms of the two wings. The meetings begin the first of each month, one gallery of each wing meeting each evening.

The plan of these meetings contemplates later the election of a chairman for each meeting chosen from the men of that gallery.

Men employed in any one department, sell on the same gallery, so that meeting by galleries brings together the men of a particular common interest. Meeting by galleries corresponds, in effect, with ward representation in municipalities; men united in a particular local interest are units in the management of the community as a whole.



Different things have been suggested and discussed at these monthly meetings and the things that are approved have, through the presiding officers, been passed on to the Warden. Many of the requests thus presented have been granted.

There have been a number of changes in the bill of fare which, until the new administration came in, was as stereotyped as the declamations which, through the ages, have come down to the present day from the lips of each generation of rural school boys, a condition which would have enabled some person a thousand years ago, basing his calculation on the natural characteristics of the school boy mind, to have told about what would be the program at any country school commencement the present spring. Men here say that under the old regime they could tell fifteen years in advance what they would have for supper on any particular night.

The water jugs of the cells are now scalded and cleaned at proper intervals; the cell house blankets are cleaned and aired once in two weeks.

Pass books are issued to the men of the community, the debit and credit items of each personal account being entered each month, so that

each man knows every day his personal cash balance at the front office.

At the last meetings the men of nearly every "ward" voted to ask permission to have the guards released from the dining hall during the dinner hour. The proposition is to have one officer in charge and to have the twenty-eight keepers who are stationed about the dining room replaced with monitors chosen from the ranks of the men. Recently all the keepers were released from all chapel meetings and if the proposition to replace the officers with the monitors is allowed and if the men prove in this also that they can manage themselves—that they can exercise this added measure of limited self-government—it is expected that some further moves in the way of self-government will also be granted.



But of greater interest and value than any particular thing that has been gained through the meetings is the meetings themselves.

It is a great thing for a penal institution, which in general has been conceived to be a place for punishment—and the public's awakening conscience has lately added, "and for reformation"—to be losing its severe discipline and to be turning some of the minor matters in the administration of the men over to the men themselves.

It must be a great relief to the administration to find the men becoming more orderly. It is no snap to be a warden, we take it; especially under the old plan when in nature all the men must be against him.

Yet, when the men come to wish to do better, they are still facing the task of learning how to do better. The way of one's life is not wholly a matter of mere will. There are impulses to which one is subject until one learns how and also gains the power to be true to reason.

Communities of men and women all about us—the regular municipalities—are themselves having their problems of how best to get on; why should not we, who are young in this municipal business, have such problems also?



Mr. George Taylor, chief presiding officer, has observed a significant growth in the men. He says:

"At the first meeting the men were reticent about speaking. They were still

under the sense of the old time restrictions and feared to say what they thought: To have openly spoken one's own opinion and to have tried to have that opinion accepted by others would, under the old order, have put a man in the solitary.

"When the men found that the Warden was living up to what he had said about guaranteeing to each full liberty of speech on the permitted subjects, the men began to talk freely; began to say just what they felt in mind and heart. Also, with the experience of the meetings, the men have gained in self-confidence, in poise, in command of language and in concentration on the one subject in hand.

"In the discussions the men are becoming better acquainted with one another and better acquainted with the institution. They are beginning to see that what is helpful to the officers is also helpful to themselves, and there is a better feeling than there ever has been before between the men and the officers."



One of the propositions offered at the last month's meeting of several of the galleries was to have two meetings each month for each gallery instead of one a month. The reasons urged were that more frequent meetings, with their opportunity for discussion and collective thought, would facilitate progress. It was proposed that two galleries meet together, which would give the men two meetings a month, but with the same number of actual meetings per month as now, with, consequently, no extra expense to the institution.

The objection to having two galleries in one meeting was that it would bring men of different departments together and make a discussion of questions in which the one-half of the men would not be interested.

Both the point urged in favor of more frequent meetings and the point presented against having the galleries meet together have their value but, later, when the smaller and more immediate questions are somewhat out of the way, it may be advisable and it certainly would be logical to have the men of different departments come together in one meeting for the discussion of the larger questions; questions of in-

terest, not to one department only, but to the whole community.

There should be "city conventions" as well as "ward caucuses." The men are learning how to live a proper social life here so that they may—some of them—know how to live a proper life elsewhere and anywhere.

The meetings are proving their worth. They are helping the men to come into their own.



We Advise the Shortest Way

In the matter of reformation, criminals may be placed in two classes—those who will reform themselves and those who must be reformed. The man who thinks that crime is excusable has no business walking the streets. This is only another way of saying that society is entitled to protection.

Men in prisons should realize that they can reform themselves in much less time than they can be reformed. Reformation is complete when the golden rule has been accepted without qualification or evasion. The prisoner who will not reform himself, has nothing to complain of if he finds that training him for reformation is a slow process.



He Wants No Money

Prisoners are particularly warned against the lawyer who wants no money until he has secured his client's release.

There are many lawyers who invite confidence by promising prisoners that they "do not want a cent until you are on the street." This sounds good but it is "bunk." Such lawyers talk glibly about putting the money in escrow. By this method they find out how much money the man's relatives can produce. When the money is to be placed in escrow the lawyer usually suggests an accomplice as stakeholder, and the escrow agreement is drawn so that the lawyer may soon draw on the money. If Mr. Lawyer fails to have the money put up in escrow he begins to talk for \$50 or \$100 expense money and frequently he gets it.

Honest lawyers seldom hover about jails and penitentiaries and the man who commits crime usually meets his superior criminal in the lawyer who pretends to be his friend.



Subscribe to THE JOLIET PRISON POST.

EDITOR'S COLUMN

Many persons will receive this issue of the magazine who are interested in the question of prison betterment. The magazine deals not at all in sophistry or in speculation and theory. *The solution of prison questions is looking out in this community and this magazine is reporting that solution.* We believe that what this magazine reports is an actual contribution to the study so many are making of the prison question. For the furtherance of the work of our common interest, we should like to have the persons who receive this magazine and who are impressed by it and who are not subscribers, subscribe now. In each number some vital prison question will be considered in the light of what the Illinois State Penitentiary is actually doing. There is a general social value in what is being done and in what is being reported from here.

This magazine is a home product. Everything published, unless otherwise credited, is from persons resident in this community. The JOLIET PRISON POST is in the service of upbuilding this community, and, whatever quality it may have, it borrows none of it from outside without giving proper credit.

We wish to call special attention to the communication this month of Mr. Louis E. Post, Assistant Secretary of the Department of Labor, of Washington, D. C. Mr. Post is a man of great heart and wide experience; he is deeply interested in the work of prison betterment and particularly in the work that is being done here. His contribution is of such an especial value that we hope none of our readers will overlook it.

We should like one or two communications each month from men in this community. The purpose of publishing these communications is to show to the public the character, the purpose and also the ability of the men here. Do not try to deal with any general subject; do not try to be literary; do not try to educate the public. If there is something you feel deeply, something in *your own experience* that you think would help the prison cause if the people knew of it, write about that. Write an earnest letter directly to the Editor telling him all about it, and if you honestly tell what you realize is a truth, the

Editor will put what you say before the public. If you honestly feel something, *write*; but write concisely about only the one thing. Then, later, write again on some other thought.

May the Editor suggest that it might be very appropriate to have the Company agreement signed by the Honor Company who went this month to Camp Allen framed and hung up at Camp Allen as one of the treasures of the place? It is the Magna Charta of those men and it should and it likely would be revered by them; and it would probably also serve to keep alive in the men that which will give them power to keep faith. When the other companies at Camp Dunne and the Joliet Honor Farm have signed their agreements, it would be of value to them also to have their agreements framed and in camp.

Also we offer the idea of a formal march by the men who, dressed in citizens' clothes, are moving out of the prison on their way to the road camps and to freedom. All of the prisoners should see these men go. It would be a message of encouragement and hope for the men of the prison, lined up on either side of the street, to see the men who are going out, led by the band, march up Administration avenue to the Administration building. To see the men, chosen by the Warden and by other officers because they have conducted themselves in a way to give the administration confidence in them, marching toward the gate that leads to the outside world, with the band in the lead playing some inspiring and loved national air, would be an uplift to the men left behind; would be an influence to quicken those who had been slothful in their behavior and negligent in their support of the administration's cause. It would help them to be better men hereafter; to become themselves worthy. Let there be some patriotism in the cause which the administration here has undertaken; let there be the call to victory in every movement we make.

There is some misunderstanding about the time one gains by going on the road. The man is to work three days and he is then given one day extra, being credited with four days in all. Three months' work gains a credit of four months, and nine months' work gains a credit of

one year. The person gains one-fourth of his whole time.

THE JOLIET PRISON POST is still being sent to this office by some of the inmates with insufficient address of the person to whom the magazine is to be sent. Make the full address plain and *always* give your own name and number. Then if the address is not understood, someone can be sent to you for further advice. Remember also never to write anything on the magazine itself. It is against the postal rules and a magazine with writing on it will not be mailed.

In June we asked for expressions from the inmates in answer to the question, "Is it right for prisoners to help in the recapture of some of their number who have escaped, when the escape involves the violation of an honor pledge?" A number of replies besides the one from Fred E. Stewart, published this month, have been received, which were also to have been published in this issue but which cannot be published for lack of space. The other articles will be considered for our August number.

It is significant to note that this month the Board of Parole gave the maximum to ten men who had been returned to the prison for parole violation.

NEWS NARRATIVE

A NEW ROAD CAMP

We are in the chapel this Sunday afternoon. It is now a quarter of three. In a few minutes the men are to arrive who are to go to the new road camp, Camp Allen, at Beecher, Illinois—the third good roads camp to be sent from this institution out into the broad areas of the state of Illinois.

Warden Allen and Deputy Walsh are pacing up and down the long central aisle of the chapel.

It is time for the road men to arrive. The door from the hall into the chapel opens and, dressed in citizen's clothes, in come the forty-four men who have been chosen to go to the new camp.

The camp was named by the Governor in honor of the Warden.

Exceptional care has been taken in the selection of the men for this camp. The records of the men have been scanned, and several officers, one after another, who have knowledge of how the men have conducted themselves since they have been here, have passed upon them. Some were rejected and many were passed who will be considered in the future. These forty-four men now coming in the chapel door and marching up the aisle, were chosen. After all the care that has been taken and all the earnest affirmations by the men, there is great confidence in what these men will do.

Warden Allen is closely observing the men; the men march to the front of the large chapel and take their seats.

Directly in front of them is a table on which lies the newly drafted agreement which is to be explained to the men and which they are to sign. They will organize themselves into an Honor Company to go out into the world under the grace of the present prison administration and for the honor of this institution and for the honor of the state.

At either end of the table sit the two men who are to assist later, when the signatures will be given. The Warden and the Deputy stand close by looking at the men. Father Edward, prison chaplain, is on the rostrum standing back of the pulpit. The observer who is to paint for you this pen picture of this important meeting sits at one side to the left.

All the men are now quiet. Warden Allen continues to look at them. He turns to Father Edward and is saying, "Do you not think this is a pretty good looking company?"

The men acknowledge the kind compliment.

Turning to the men the Warden continues, "Father Edward is going to read a new pledge, boys, which we have prepared."

Father Edward looks over the pulpit into the faces of the men. The men look back at him. They know that what he is about to say is worthy of their attention. They have found in their experience with him that he has a human interest in them. He has been a man here, serving in the office of a priest; not a priest serving in the absence of a man. Father Edward is speaking:

"We are about to take another important step in the movement which is now under way in this institution. What is being done here is being watched all over the United States.

"Every time there is an escape the papers take it up and it gives our work a black eye. It hurts you and it hurts prison reform work throughout the country.

"We have two documents here for you to sign. One is an application which you are to make to the Board of Commissioners and to the Warden, to go on the road, in keeping with the opening they have made for you to go on the road and to the farm; and the other is an agreement which you are to make with one another.

"These documents are not something different from the honor pledge which you have already signed. They are only to emphasize certain features of that pledge, which experience has shown it is necessary to emphasize in all arrangements with men to go to a work that is outside of the prison walls.

"The two points which these documents emphasize are: (1) there must be no attempts to escape, and (2) there must be no use of liquor."

Now the Chaplain is reading the application to go on the road which the men are to make.

"I hereby apply for the privilege of working on the Joliet Honor Farm or on the roads of Illinois, under the act entitled, 'An Act to authorize the employment of convicts and prisoners in the penal and reformatory institutions of the State of Illinois in the preparation of road building materials and in working on public roads. Approved June 8, 1913.'

"I realize that the success of the road and farm work and the benefits to be derived by those who are appointed to that work, depends upon the loyalty to the administration of each prisoner thus assigned and on the loyalty of the men to one another. I realize that when I invite the confidence of the administration and am given that confidence and appointed to work, either on the road or the farm, that my first duty is to keep faith with the prison administration and to help all other

men who have been chosen as I have been chosen also to keep faith.

"I realize that under the terms on which I am to accept work on the road or the farm, my first obligation being to the administration, to the Warden and to the officers directly over me, that I am under no obligation to any prisoner to keep secret anything that is recognized and acknowledged to be detrimental to the administration and to the best interests of the prisoners themselves, to keep secret any prisoner's purpose to escape or his handling or use of alcoholic liquors.

"Therefore if I am chosen to go on the road or to the Joliet Honor Farm, I promise, in addition to what I have already promised in signing the honor pledge to do everything in my power to prevent escapes. I promise that if I have any information of a proposed escape, immediately and openly to give that information to the officer in charge and to the men of the company to which I am assigned; and I promise further, to report every fact that will serve to prevent any prisoner's escape.

"I promise also that I will not, under any circumstances, purchase or accept as a gift, or drink or sell or give to others, any alcoholic liquors. I promise to immediately and openly report to the officers and to the men of the company to which I am assigned, everything I may know of any alcoholic liquors being obtained or being in the possession of or used by any of the men of my company.

"And I agree further, if under any evil influence I shall ever think of or plan an escape or shall have in my possession or shall use in any way any alcoholic beverages, that, in order to protect the trust which the prison administration has put in me and in the others of my company, it is the duty of each and any member who knows what I am thinking and of what I am planning to do, to report it to the officers. I now, while under agreement with the prison administration to work on the road or the farm according to

the terms of this document, herewith renounce any views I may hitherto have held of its being my duty or any prisoner's duty to protect a prisoner in the things which, by this document, are acknowledged to be a detriment to the well being of all.

"I make this pledge of my own free will and without any mental reservation whatever and with a full knowledge of the contents thereof."

This application, it is to be noticed, is to be made by men who are to go to the farm as well as by those who are to go on the road.

Now Father Edward takes up the agreement which the men are to sign for their own honor organization and reads:

"We, the undersigned members of the Illinois State Penitentiary Honor Company to be stationed at Beecher, Illinois, hereby pledge ourselves to one another not to buy, accept, receive, use, sell or give away any alcoholic beverages of any kind whatever, and not to attempt to escape.

"We further pledge ourselves that if we have any information of any one's buying, receiving, accepting, having, using, selling or giving away any alcoholic beverages, or of any one's planning or attempting to escape, that we will at once and openly give such information to the officers and all the members of the company.

"We understand and expressly agree that no member of this company is under any obligation to any other member to secrete anything that is detrimental to the welfare of the company or to the prison administration.

"If any member receives any information of any other member's planning to escape or of any other member's buying, having or using, selling or giving away any alcoholic beverages and does not immediately report it to the officers and to the other members, we hereby agree that he himself shall be deemed a traitor to this company.

"This agreement is entered into to pre-

vent any person's betraying the interest in which the new hope of prisoners is grounded."

The Chaplain continues speaking:

"These two documents provide that you are to be loyal to the administration and loyal to each other. They establish a double confidence, you see, one with the officers and one among yourselves.

"In accepting the opportunity opened to you by the prison administration to go out on the road, you take into your hands the welfare of this whole prison and the welfare of the prisons of the whole country.

"You must now give up any right you may think you have had to escape or to use liquor. Get the idea of escape so completely out of your head that you can't think of it any more.

"In these documents you pledge yourselves to protect one another from violating your pledges. This is not 'stool-pigeoning': you are to report any person to the officers and to the other men who violates or intends to violate his pledge. Notice, you are to make your report *openly*—that is the language of your agreement. You are not to tell an officer anything secretly to get someone into trouble. You are to speak openly so that all may know and so that all may be kept out of trouble.

"If anyone comes around there trying to give any of you liquor, I think it would be no sin for you to take such a fellow and kick him bodily out of the camp. I do not believe in disorder; I believe in order, and I think to get rid of a fellow who would come to your camp to give you liquor is a good way to keep order.

"I charge you who are Catholics to be true to the pledge which you this day make to the prison administration and which you make to each other. And you who are not Catholics, are just as dear to me as these Catholics are. I ask you to keep your pledges, too, and altogether we will show everybody that we are just as good a community here as any community anywhere."

Father Edward has ceased speaking.

Now one of the men at the table is calling the men by turns and they are going to the table and are signing their names.

Listen! The band is playing in the cell

house just across the street from us—a Sunday afternoon concert for the men locked up. It seems as if a real deliverance from the sorrowful and dark ways of life is coming to pass.

The man at the table is calling and the men are still going forward and signing.

Now the signing is completed. Warden Allen is standing. Listen:

"I wish you would all wear your honor buttons on the left lapel of your coats.

"I want this company to go through and to go through right. I picked you because I have confidence in every one of you.

"The Governor named this new camp after me, and boys, let us do or die. If you do go through, why next year long time men can also have a chance; if you fail, there won't be any long time men go to the camps.

"When you leave here, I want you to make good. Don't do anything except what your good sense tells you to do.

"You will have good beds and good food. If any of you feel weak and think you can't stand up under any temptation that may come, say it now and don't go out. I think I shall ask all of you in the morning to raise your hands in the open air under the light of the morning sun and promise the Governor and me, and promise yourselves—promise the very best there is in you—that you will keep the faith you have pledged here this day."

The buttons were brought and every man with his own hand put the button on the left lapel of his coat. "That is nearest the heart," speaks out the Warden; then turning to Father Edward: "I think, Chaplain, this is a pretty good looking company."

The meeting closed with this benediction—the expressed faith of the Warden in the men, the faith which the Warden had also expressed when the meeting opened.

We follow the men now down the stairway. They go to the new sanitary fountain and, in turn, are drinking from the flowing cups—the last drink, if all goes well, that many of them will ever have behind prison walls.

It is evening now and all the men are at supper. Others about, who are not to go, are congratulating them. It is a jolly crowd, a merry, healthful feast.

Supper is finished and the men are now passing into the sleeping quarters for the night.

The night has passed and the lark is singing his morning song, soaring in the sky. The sun is up. The signal has sounded and the men are coming out to acknowledge the new day. They pass through the Administration building beyond the massive, heavy hinged, grated front door. They are outside of the prison walls in the great open way of the wide world.

The Warden and the Deputy are with them. The right hands of the forty-four men are raised and are swept by the healthful fresh air, warmed and illumined with the golden early morning light of God's glorious sun. Faith is pledged again and the men go from the prison house.

There are day dreams of homes and children. What was is forgotten in what the day dreams say is yet to be.



Doors Unlocked and Gates Wide Open

At the state penitentiary at Rusk, Texas, the practice of leaving all cell doors unlocked and the prison gates wide open, was recently adopted. This experiment was made in order to test the honor of the inmates who, under this arrangement, are free to go and come, by day or night, as they please. All but two guards have been discharged, and their services will be dispensed with if the new system continues to work well. So far not a single prisoner has attempted to escape. They are employed during the day on the state farm, which is situated a mile from the prison.



Cure the Drink Habit

To cure the drink habit substitute sugar. That is the gist of the advice offered in the current number of the *Journal of the American Medical Association*, which calls the idea "a new and logical treatment of alcoholism."

The article says:

"When the body cells are supplied with a physiologic balance of carbohydrates there is no further demand for alcohol.

"At the inception of the treatment the diet is modified to contain an abundance of sugar cereals with cane sugar, sweet fruits, pastries, chocolates and ice cream are advised.

"In some cases, owing to a distaste for sugar, this change must be gradual to prevent rebellion. Here lactose is used, a gram every two hours, given in the form of a medical powder to encourage the psychic effect. Later, as the demand for alcohol is palliated, ordinary sugars are taken with avidity."



Spanish Prisons Visited by an American Woman

Spanish prisons were commended by Mrs. Mary E. Ide, of Chicago, in a recent interview with a correspondent of the Chicago (Ill.), News. She stated that she had recently visited many prisons in Spain and that she was surprised at the advanced methods of administering prisons in Spain, the system observed being the modern one which is aimed at reformation of character rather than the punishment of the individual.

Mrs. Ide, according to the Spanish minister of justice, was the first American to visit a Spanish prison and the first woman of any nationality to visit a men's prison in the city of Madrid.

"A feature of the system is that the prisoners are kept strictly together according to their crimes—murderers with murderers, pickpockets with pickpockets. The aim is to prevent contamination and to localize criminal knowledge."



He Refuses to Leave Prison

According to the South Bend (Ind.) *Tribune*, Matthew Jones, who was recently pardoned by Governor Goldsborough of Maryland, refuses to leave the penitentiary of that state. After having served fifteen years in an unnatural atmosphere, it stands to reason that this man does not know what to do with himself.

Long confinement in a prison takes from a prisoner all initiative and self-reliance, because there he only does as he is directed. He is taught to take everything as it comes and to express no preferences nor to go after anything.

In consequence, when a prisoner who has served a long term is returned to the world, he generally does not know what to do, as there is no one to tell him. It is the tendency of prison life under long sentences to unfit men and women for normal lives.



The Conquering Spirit

Dedicated to the Honor Band of the
Illinois State Penitentiary

By HUGH MANYTE

Written for The Joliet Prison Post

With Even's breath the dreamy sky seems filled,
The sun its soft'ning presence pales before;
The forge is cold, the belted wheel is stilled—
The clarion blast has signaled work is o'er:
A moment tense, when thought is not enchained:
When eye enkindles and list'ning ear is strained.

Hark! sweetly clear upon the hush there breaks
The opening measure of the Honor Band.
E'en as I harken, knowledge new awakes—
I trace a pathway hitherto unscanned:
It pointeth not towards Love, or Home's fair shrine,
But to the hearts of men it winds from mine.

Ye trumpeters, blow on! But not alone
Through melody the tender passions play:
I see the ancient customs overthrown,
The golden dawn of Honor's fairest day:
I know that Hope is grappling with Despair,
That Victory's chant the issue will declare.

I sense the struggle in the burdened soul
To throttle doubt, to quell the troublous fears:
I mark that Weakness kneels to Self-Control
From out the ashes of the buried years:
Behold I, Mind, to loftier things aspire:
The life retrieved—the wakened heart's desire.

Sweet spirit! Linger through this kindly hour,
Flood wistful eye, call forth the olden smile:
Be thou the force, be thou the subtle power,
To mark the way, to mould the life worth while:
And when Life's eternal law is understood,
Then men shall know—and walk in brotherhood.

ANGLION OF THE NEW DAY

J. H. H. H. H.



CONTRIBUTIONS

PAY YOUR PASSAGE.

By Louis F. Post, of Washington, D. C.

We are all sailing through space on "The Good Ship Earth," as Herbert Quick calls our planet.

With steering this old craft we have nothing to do; with making things ship-shape on board we have everything to do. It is by such work that we pay our passage.

Each of us must pay his own passage with his own work. He cannot pay with money unless he himself earns the money. Whoever pays with money he didn't earn, is paid for by whoever did earn it.

If he pays his passage with money he got as a gift, what is he but a charity passenger? If he got it by trick or device or force, whether according to the shipping articles or in defiance of them, what is he but a thief or at best a sponge? Every one of us must work his passage on the good ship Earth or be a loafer. And on this ship a loafer is a parasite; for every one's work is needed, and if any loaf others must overwork.

It isn't a question, either, of working on the bridge or on the deck, in the cabin or in the hold. Useful work, not its grade, is the kind that counts in paying our passage on the good ship Earth.

Dropping Quick's nautical metaphor, the question with everyone who would not be a parasite, is how can he serve his fellow men. Whether he is rich or poor makes no difference, or free or slave, at liberty or in prison, educated or ignorant, of good repute or bad; he can nevertheless be useful, and unless he is useful he helps to make this a disorderly world. In as much as he is useful he serves, whereas if he be not useful he is a loafer of the kind that is also a parasite.

The old Negro who boasted of his indispensability at Sunday School was as useful as he thought he was. Though despised as a slave, too ignorant for a teacher, too old for a pupil and too crippled to distribute and gather up the books or sweep the room, he was useful in the Sunday School because, as he himself explained,

he "just sat on the pulpit stairs and smiled at the children."

To give pleasure is to serve. To augment comfort is to serve. To encourage good service is to give good service. To promote freedom, or education, or a larger participation of all in the benefits of civilization, is to be useful. Whoever does any of these things faithfully is paying his way as truly as if he were clearing forests with the work of his hands. Slavery and prisons and monopolization of the benefits that civilization has to offer are obstacles, and in helping society to put them aside there is work to do.

Such work THE JOLIET PRISON POST is doing. It is a public service that can be done in prison and by prisoners as well as by others and out of prison. It can be done by even the humblest prisoner. In so far as any prisoner moulds his own life in the moral and civic matrix the Post is making, to that degree is that prisoner working for the abolition of prisons. Not merely by making less occasion for them through individual self reform, but also by making less public necessity for them through social reform.

That those obstacles, and all others, may be soon removed from the paths of civilization is greatly to be desired. But even while they remain there is work to do, not only for their removal but within their limitations. In prisons and out of prisons, as in poverty and above its reach, the need of useful service is insistent and opportunity for it abundant.

No one is so poor that he cannot do something to help others, no one is so much a prisoner that he cannot freely serve in some way, no one is so ignorant that he cannot teach, no one is so degraded that his friendship is altogether unwelcome. Or, if there be any such, then at any rate there is no one who cannot do service by refusing to do harm.

It would revolt me to be suspected of handing these thoughts patronizingly to prisoners. There is no more need for them inside of prisons than outside, nor by the most hopeless convict than by myself. In so far as they may be a prison sermon it is my wish that instead of a sermon handed in to prisoners they may be regarded as a sermon handed out by prisoners.

For that reason I invite their first publication in THE JOLIET PRISON POST. The Post appeals to me as the local paper of a community that

interests me. It interests me not for the peculiar misfortunes of its inhabitants—the inhabitants of all communities have misfortunes—but for the good it is beginning to do, for the public service it is beginning to develop. THE JOLIET PRISON POST reflects local interests and local character. Like any other local paper, it is published for local service and not for the information or education of other communities; yet it contributes, even as all local papers do, to the information and the education and consequently to the fraternal unifying of all communities. It belongs to that great family of local papers through which communities come to know one another and to recognize their likeness as groups in the common whole of civilization. Published primarily for the Joliet Prison community, THE PRISON POST photographs the character of its community even as other local papers photograph the character of theirs. It is therefore as their own message from themselves to themselves,—this community at Joliet,—and by reflection to their fellow citizens of the world, their fellow passengers on board the good ship Earth, that I prefer seeing this little discourse appear first in the Post. I would rather have it go from them with their genuine endorsement than to them for their supposed edification.



THE CONCERN OF ALL

By Fred E. Stewart

When a man pledges his word to do a certain thing, he has pledged his most sacred possession—his honor.

When faith is lost and honor dies, the man himself is dead.

When a man breaks his word, who, then is going to put any faith in him? Would you trust a person upon whose word you cannot rely?

The present administration had enough faith in us to have a law passed permitting prisoners to work on roads. That in itself shows the confidence the powers that be had in us. They believed and they still believe that, if given the right treatment and a chance, prisoners will show that they are no different from the rest of mankind; and that the men will make good, will prove their worth.

The road law was not passed without opposition. Humane treatment was considered a

wrong—was considered too good for prisoners. Many people and a number of newspapers tried to throw a wet blanket over the whole plan; to-day, I understand, a suit is pending in the courts to have the law set aside.

We can easily see that much hard work was given by Governor Dunne and Warden Allen to make it possible for the prisoners of this state to have a chance to prove themselves. "An injury to one is the concern of all" is a watchword of a certain world wide organization of which the writer is a member. Throughout the entire world that organization lives up to that motto. Never in all its history has it failed one member. No obstacle is too large to surmount when a man has been injured. What of the citizen of "our little republic," as Father Edward puts it, who goes to an honor camp and then runs away? Shall we applaud and commend him? Shall we reproach and condemn him? Shall we, if we are at the camp, aid, if possible, in his recapture? An injury by one is the concern of all. In this case, should we protect ourselves or should we deliberately injure ourselves?

What of the poor devil waiting his chance, perhaps after many years? Shall we dash to the ground the wine of hope ere it reaches his lips and enshroud him in the robe of disappointment and despair? What about the Warden? Isn't he also an injured party when a trusted man breaks his word? I don't care what the calamity howlers may say. I address myself to the worthwhile people. An injury by one is the concern of all. What helps Warden Allen helps us all. What injures him injures you and me.

Every man who runs away from an honor camp does so much to shut the door of opportunity and hope on every man here.

Were I in an honor camp, it would be my duty and will to aid in the recapture of anyone who had run away. It would be an injury to all and the concern of all, if we did anything but this.

We cannot stand on the Plutonian shores of night and mutter a false code of ethics and loyalty. Let's away with those crooked and perverted ideas of loyalty.

Too many people here are afraid of prison public opinion or loss of popularity. If, after careful analysis, sound reasoning and logical deduction, I am satisfied that a thing is right, I

stick to that opinion against the whole world. One man with right on his side is a majority. The fear of human judgment makes moral cowards of men.

There are men who go to the camps with a world of good intentions, but there comes a pull in the heart that is stronger than their word, an overmastering desire to see some loved one—a sister, mother, wife, or little child—and they beat it.

We feel sorry for such men, but let them count the cost before they go.

Should prisoners in honor camps aid in the recapture of one who runs away? Yes; the man who runs away from an honor camp steals every man's chance to go to such a camp. Every time an honor man runs away, the devil declares a holiday in hell and the denizens of that darkened region take a day off to celebrate.

Remember this; engrave it upon the tablets of your memory: The power that gives has the power to take away. The legislature of Illinois can repeal the road law if it so wills and even our best friends, from the Governor down, would be powerless to stop it if two-thirds of that body should so vote. They won't, some say. Better laws have been repealed. Let there be a few more escapes and see what the honorable gentlemen at Springfield will do with the road law. The law has enough enemies now; consider this and be wise.

Finally, let us think of the best class of men here, as far as faithfulness goes, "the lifers," and let us then remember that they are the men lowest down in the scale of hope and, as men and humanitarians in whose hearts the milk of human kindness still flows, let us make good so that the Door of Hope shall not be always closed to them.



EARLY TRAINING AND CRIMINALS

By Lloyd Baldwin

A Prisoner

Criminal statistics show that a great many of our criminals are being punished for crime before they arrive at the age of eighteen years. This necessarily shows that the criminal characteristics are formed when the criminal is very young, while in only a few cases the child grows up so ignorant that it breaks the laws of society without knowing that it is doing so.

The first punishment administered a young criminal is usually a term in a reform school, which in many respects is a modern school of crime, and when again released to liberty he usually believes that a criminal career can be managed without further punishment. Caught once more, and the graduate from the reform school lands behind the bars of a prison for a post graduate course in the higher arts of crime.

Many criminals have not sufficient strength of will at the time they are released from prison to withstand temptation in the various forms, and therewith the post graduate from prison becomes an habitual criminal, and is no longer a safe ingredient of society, and with a few vacations, during which he is usually a fugitive, he remains behind the walls the biggest part of his life.

The conditions surrounding the child of the poorer class are abnormal, and such that unless that child has the attention of devoted parents and an example of unselfishness constantly before it, it frequently develops an abnormal character, one that is not necessarily made up of criminal characteristics, but may be abnormal in any other respect.

Being poor, the child naturally associates with the offspring of the poorer class in general, who, in cities, frequently have only the streets for their playgrounds, and consequently at the age of fourteen or fifteen the abnormal child may easily have learned all that a child of the street can learn of the methods of securing a living without working for it, and if his abnormal characteristics are criminal the child is on the road to ruin.

The building of a character begins at the time the child shows its first inclination to have its own way. Its characteristics or at least the three principle ones—selfishness, laziness and deceitfulness—usually appear before the child is six, or at most, seven years of age. This period of the child's life is sometimes called the formative period, and impressions and habits formed during that period frequently remain throughout life.

It may be truly said that the criminal was unfortunate in an early training and an environment surrounding him which led to his downfall, but who is responsible for that early

training and environment? The social laws which permitted the environment that surrounded any particular criminal when he was a child were not made by him, and if his early training was such that he did not have the strength to withstand the temptations thrown in his way he could not be wholly responsible.

Cause and effect are absolutely inevitable, and the effect, in this case the criminal, must have had its cause. The responsibility must be placed somewhere, and it cannot be fixed on the criminal. When children are brought into the world and then not surrounded with the safeguards that will protect them from crime, when grown, they cannot be blamed for becoming criminals.

Sometimes the interests of the father and mother drift apart, and under these conditions the child usually becomes the burden of the mother, who like the child, has not the incentive to put her heart and life into the task before her, and the child has an indifferent bringing up. To the mother, divorce or desertion is often the result of this drifting apart, and added to this the support of the child, which she is not able to support in a way that is conducive to the development of a healthy moral character.

The conditions set out above are the conditions which have surrounded a great many of the children who have developed into criminals of the younger class.

Prison reform and the reformation of the criminal is a subject that is being given a great deal of thought and attention, but the conditions which were the cause of the criminal class referred to here are gradually intensifying, and the number of criminals from that source and class are on the increase.

It is scarcely possible that the reformers of social conditions will render society more safe by giving their attention to the result than to trying to remove the cause. The social world is gradually extending the limits of social restrictions in all directions. Children of ten or twelve years usurp many privileges that their grandparents enjoyed when they were nearly grown men and women, and these children, in many cases, are beyond the control of their parents.

The wave of crime cannot be decreased by

cutting off the outer ends of its growth, but only by digging it out by the roots. Perhaps it is too broad a statement to say that the cure must come from within the individual, and only to a certain extent can it be brought about by remodeling the social laws, yet it must be the work of the individual parents by surrounding their children with conditions that bring about the change. Without the resolve within each parent that he or she will personally give more attention to the child, the evil environment will continue to drag down its share of the young and make habitual criminals of them.

The parents must more fully realize that their first duty to civilization and their own children is to see that the children are brought up properly and taught that right is the only possible source of happiness, that selfishness and disobedience of the moral and social laws lead to misery and sorrow.

LOCAL PARAGRAPHS

The Prison Honor Band now have their full uniforms. They are made of a fine grade of khaki with modest blue decorations on the coat. The members of the band attend to their music only; they are excused from other work.

The request is still out for any resident oculist or dentist to report his presence in this community. If there is an oculist or dentist here, it is important that he should see about taking up his own work for the benefit of his fellow prisoners.

Captain Kane recently announced to the men while at dinner that thereafter fresh and cool drinking water would be delivered at the cells at six o'clock in the morning and at eight o'clock in the evening. People can understand what the early morning drink of fresh water means if they will think of themselves drinking every morning only water that has stood in their bedroom over night. Little improvements like this are coming all of the time. In acknowledgment of the order for fresh water, one of the men said, "This place is certainly getting civilized."

Henry Walters, whose work is in the dining room, recently secured the Warden's approval

and provided a large arm chair with upholstered cushion for Captain Michael J. Kane. The chair is placed on a high platform at the head of the large dining room where, until the chair was supplied, Captain Kane had stood during each of the three meals a day. Henry Walters realized, from being on his feet in his own work, that standing each day during all of the meals is a tedious task for a man with many other duties. When Captain Kane arrived at dinner time, he announced his surprise and thanked the men for their kind interest in his welfare.

THE JOLIET PRISON POST acknowledges the good work of James Schroff and John Peters, of the carpenter shop, in screening the doors and windows of its offices.

The Flower Mission of the W. C. T. U. made its annual distribution of bouquets on June 11, to the residents of this community—one for each person; some fifteen hundred of them. If the men could, many, very many would thank these thoughtful and—it must be—loving women for so kindly and so graciously remembering them. At least the men have gained enough access to the outside world to be able to thank the Flower Mission of the W. C. T. U. through the columns of THE JOLIET PRISON POST. Can the W. C. T. U. women realize what it means to men to gain even so much connection as that with the actual world? The flowers connect us still more—and with nature. A number of the men wore the flowers on their coats the following day; and for several days—as long as the flowers kept their bloom and their fragrance—many of the bouquets could be seen through the iron grating of the doors, sitting in tin cups of water on the little shelf in the corner of the cell. The flowers have spoken to the best that is in us and we have heard their voice.

Each month there are special features at chapel service which are worthy of note. Early in the month Miss Ethel Bernard Snow, of East Orange, N. J., gave a number of soprano solos which were greatly appreciated by the men. Miss Snow had been here a few weeks before and the men, remembering her clear and cultivated voice, were glad to welcome her again.

Judge Bregstone, of Chicago, brought to us Miss Klander, pianist, and Mr. Brunetti, baritone. Both were encored several times and

Judge Bregstone promised they should come again. Judge Bregstone has a sincere interest in the welfare of the men here and in many ways has helped especially the men of his own religion. Recently he helped the Jews to secure the celebration of the Feast of the Passover, which privilege was greatly valued by the men favored.

One of the greatest features of the month was a visit from the Americus Council Minstrels, Knights of Columbus, Chicago. These minstrels are "good Catholics," as Father Edward said, having gone to very early mass so as to get here in automobiles by ten o'clock. Professor Thompson, singing director, paid the visiting young men the compliment of promising that if any of them should ever become residents here, they should have a place in the choir. The minstrels intend to visit other institutions in the State to lend what cheer they can to the residents.

Our Flag day Sunday service was graced by the presence of the choir of about thirty persons from St. Mary's church, Joliet. Introducing the choir, Father Edward said: "Some of these good people from St. Mary's church have been here before and I trust they can see the progress that has been made. Others may have come here expecting to see a prison congregation but I do not think they see any freer looking congregation in their own church." Mr. Daniel McGlynn, choir master, had arranged for some exceptionally choice musical numbers. There were songs by the choir; a duet by young ladies; a solo by a young man; a ladies' quartette which was received with exceptional favor; two solos with chorus by the choir; solo, "Coming Thro' the Rye," in native tongue by Mr. McGlynn. Miss Pauline McKeon, a bright and fascinating young lady, was most cordially endorsed in her dramatic readings. The closing number of the choir was a medley of national hymns. Led by Captain Kane, the congregation rose and sang with the visitors the closing national song, "Three Cheers for the Red, White and Blue." After chapel service, the singers visited the dining hall at the dinner hour, where our own band furnished some of its choice music.

The band began, June 14, to play Sunday afternoons in the cell houses. The men who are kept in their cells now have a band concert

to shorten the long Sunday hours. The band members themselves are also pleased, as before this they, too, had been kept in their cells.—The foregoing sentences were written immediately after the band members had entered the cell house for the afternoon concert. The playing had not proceeded long, when the men in the cells broke out in cheers and in such yells that soon the noise was so great that it was heard in the Warden's apartments in the Administration building. It was necessary for the Warden to send down word to have the music stopped. He said that before the concerts could proceed the men must be "talked to." Two things are disclosed: the way in which the men here cut themselves out of things and Mr. Allen's way with the men. The Warden speaks as a *friend*, not as a master. He says the men must be "talked to." In the dark ages of this place, every man who helped to make the disturbance would have been sent to the "hole"—that panacea which in defiance to all the laws and rules of human life was prescribed for everything that happened. The old method would have secured quiet with punishment and coercion; the Illinois Honor System secures quiet with having the men know that if they will be quiet, they may have a Sunday afternoon band concert—may have what they would have if they were in Lincoln or Jackson Park, Chicago. It should be said, however, that the noise the men made was not any intended infraction of prison order. The music surprised them; they welcomed it and they naturally "broke out."

A new sanitary drinking fountain has been set up in Administration avenue near Center Park. There are three flowing drinking cups and the water is always cool and refreshing. This change from the large open well which heretofore has supplied the drinking water is a further step toward making all things in this "town" sanitary. Up to the time that the new order of civilization began here with the incoming of the present administration, there was at this well a rusty, highly unsanitary cup from which all of the men who visited this well, some of them unfortunately fearfully diseased, were compelled to drink. A year ago the administration gave out individual collapsible drinking cups. The new drinking fountain is a further improvement. It is a part of the modernization

which is working out. The fountain was planned by Mr. Thomas R. O'Brien, Chief Engineer. The design was drawn and the blue print made by Edward English, Chief O'Brien's draftsman, who has since been paroled. Mr. English also



THE NEW SANITARY DRINKING FOUNTAIN

made the patterns from which the fountain was moulded. The concrete work was done by William Reinert, also now paroled. Mr. English is now at work for the Joliet Bridge and Iron Company and Mr. Reinert is at concrete work in Joliet. Does anyone think that these two men were any different in nature, were of any different "class," while they lived here from what they are now that they are in the general activities of the world? Is not the "class" to which men convicted in a court are said to belong merely a "class" created and maintained in people's opinion?

In the past month there has been a local fire. About one-half of one of the 300-foot rattan chair factory buildings burned. The fire broke

out at 10:45 in the evening. At 10:20 one of the men had passed the building and everything seemed to be right. So far as is known the fire was caused by crossed electric wires. The building was gutted and the roof completely burned, although none of the machines were spoiled. Our own twelve firemen were called out who with the five night watchmen and three other men turned on direct pressure streams from our own hydrants. Later three companies came from Joliet. The men here fought as valiantly as the men of the visiting companies. Human nature and the responsiveness of character in time of need, is the same in man whatever may have been a man's misfortune in some particular thing. Two of the Joliet companies stayed until three o'clock in the morning: the third company did not leave until seven o'clock. At the time of the fire alarm, only one of the local men had had supper. They all worked forgetting that. Later, in the middle of the night when the fire was under control, Mrs. Allen sent out a supply of sandwiches and coffee which the men ate thankfully. All of the local men stayed at the fire until morning. Most of the stock in course of manufacture was carried out of the building. One man, sentenced to this institution when a mere boy, whose record here is clear and who, as night watchman, is trusted out all night and outside of the wall at night, fought the fire valiantly and actually went down in the smoke and fumes under the weight of his work with the hose. This man had just been denied a pardon which he and his friends had unquestionably expected would be granted. When asked why he fought the fire, he said, "I did it for the Warden and Mrs. Allen. He is a good loser, but I wanted to save the building. He is too good a guy for many in this bunch. He ought not to be here." "Did you think of your having just been denied a pardon?" "I never thought of that pardon." Within two weeks the debris of the burned buildings was cleaned away and the roof rebuilt. The attic is now being torn out of the whole building so as to make impossible another such fire as has occurred. The machinery in the burned portion will soon be readjusted and work resumed. Resident workmen are taking care of all of this and with as much expedition as any community could show.

BATTLE ROYAL

[Written for The Joliet Prison Post]

Note—A number of second grade men in the Illinois State Penitentiary at Joliet have refused to sign the Honor pledge in the consciousness of their own weaknesses.

A simple task to dip the proffered pen;
One careless stroke, all effortless, and then
The fellowship is mine of Honor men.

But nay; a quiet moment I would dwell
Alone, unseen, the base desire to quell;
Each troublous fear and haunting doubt dispel;

To pray that impulse rash may not command;
That purpose veiled may ne'er be left unscanned;
To know myself, let weakness show its hand!

Nor should I yield one virtue to exalt,
But grappling, striving, make the fierce assault—
The battle royal with the secret fault.

May knowledge break, that I may wisely dare;
A new awakening my course prepare,
That strength, new born, may subjugate despair;

That simple faith in self may daily grow,
Till, in the well-springs of the mind, I know
Is conquered once for all my strongest foe.

And though the devil's shadow haunts my door,
That glad, rich call—can I its spell ignore?
An honor won is surety for more!

Speak out, my spirit, through the toilsome day,
Or in the stilly night, what wilt thou say?
Speak, am I armed and armoured for the fray?

If so, reliant shall the pen I hold,
Full conscious, on the sacred scroll of gold,
By right of conquest I have been enrolled!

W. L. T.



The people are becoming insistent that those who are atoning for sins committed against society shall be treated with decent consideration and taught, not that they must expect the black-jack or the bludgeon, but that if they will observe the fundamental rules of honor and manhood within their enforced environment, their opportunities outside will multiply.

Hope Hall and Released Men

When one has met accusation, has been arrested, convicted and sentenced, and when one has actually gone to a penitentiary and served his time, he realizes at last that the greatest thing that confronts him is the work of re-establishing himself in the world.

One who for the first time has been caught in the meshes of the law, thinks only of the time he may be required to serve, but he learns later that the sentence imposed upon him is a sentence for a far longer period than the number of years the judge speaks.

Mrs. Booth's work in connection with this institution, is under the immediate supervision of Major M. A. Messlein. Speaking of the need of help for the men discharged from a prison, he says:

"There are many difficulties in the path of a man who has been discharged from a state's prison. It is hard to find work unless he lies about his past and to start life again with a lie is a poor beginning. And then some men are weak and worn and often nervous and unstrung, so that they are unequal to the task of again



CHICAGO HOPE HALL.

If it becomes known that a man is an "ex-convict," the sentence—the period during which the man may be subject to the condemnation of the public—may last as long as the man lives.

It is this awful condition which the discharged prisoners face that has led to the organizing of societies to help men and women who, having been once convicted, are again to face the world.

Mrs. Maud Ballington Booth, of the Volunteers of America, is one of the foremost workers of helping men and women when discharged from penal institutions in different parts of the country.

facing life. For the first few weeks it is hard to fill and to hold a position. Again there are the old companionships and the old temptations. The few dollars given the discharged prisoner by the state do not last long; the man has to go to a cheap lodging place while he is looking for work and for a time after he has begun work. Such places are where there are many saloons which are thronged with the kind of people he should avoid. From all this Hope Hall can save him."

Hope Hall is at 6036 West Ravenswood Park. Major Messlein's office is at 1201 Washington

boulevard. The major visits this prison often. He has addressed the men at chapel service and is continually conferring with them, answering their questions and giving them encouragement and advice. About forty per cent of the men here who are eligible to parole, depend upon Major Messlein for their release. The parole papers are signed by him and the men go to Hope Hall as their headquarters until they have found settled work. "When is Hope Hall coming?" is a periodical question of great interest and importance to the men here. Major Messlein has the full confidence of the administration. He has proved that his word is good and that his work is well in hand. An exceptionally large percentage of the men he takes out turn out well.

In response to inquiry, Major Messlein gives the following particulars about Hope Hall and his help of the men:

"There are five Hope Halls. The first was founded in New York by Mrs. Maud Ballington Booth. Later, homes were opened in Illinois, Ohio and Louisiana. More lately a home has been opened in Texas.

"We are naturally more interested in the Chicago Home," said the Major, "where five or six hundred men annually apply for assistance. Hope Hall in Chicago is a modern fire-proof building. It was recently built at a cost of \$22,000."

The Major then showed an illustration of the Chicago Home which is here reproduced. The illustration shows a spacious, modern home building set well back on a lawn which is adorned and well shaded with beautiful trees. There is a deep porch around three sides of the building which gives it the tone and the inviting atmosphere of a real home.

"Our purpose," stated the Major, "is to make the men realize that they have come to the dwelling place of their own family—the great human family. We do away with everything that would smack of business or that would make the men feel that they are in the grasp of rigid and unfeeling rules.

"There are regulations, of course, and these are explained to the men before they come. When the men do come we want them to find just what they expected to find.

"We have tried to make these homes as much unlike institutions as possible. They are home-like, prettily furnished, light, airy and comfort-

able. Every opportunity to regain their strength and courage, is given to those who come as our guests.

"These homes are absolutely free so that the men who bring money from prison can save it until they go out to their permanent positions. From the ten dollars which a discharged prisoner receives from the state, one-half is deposited with me. This is returned to the prisoner when he secures work and leaves Hope Hall. With the five dollars he pays his first week's board at his new boarding house.

"We have no industries. The idea is to make the homes stepping stones to the future life in the busy world. Hope Hall is not a permanent home in which a person can settle down and be supported; it is a threshold to a new life.

"From March 1, 1913, to March 1, 1914, two hundred and twenty-eight paroled and two hundred and forty-nine discharged men, were cared for. In addition to this and during the same period of time, many families were assisted; clothing was distributed, employment secured and many hundreds of meals were given free besides those given at the home.

"No special religion is favored at Hope Hall. Catholic, Protestant and Jewish alike, crowd its doors, no fine distinctions are drawn between foreign and American born; and the 'old-timers' always find the same welcome and the same privileges that are accorded to first offenders.

"Life at Hope Hall is not suppressed in any way by unnecessary rules or red tape. The men are expected to register just before supper time. The strictest rule is the one which forbids the men to go out after dark. It is when the night comes on that the men would be most strongly tempted. No liquor is allowed in the home and the men are forbidden to enter places where it is sold. The great majority of the men recognize the importance of observing these three rules even though they realize that the rules are restrictions on their liberty.

"The correspondence department is an important adjunct to the work. Letters and reports come from all parts of the country and even from foreign lands. All this serves to keep the men in close touch with the home after they have gone and taken their place in the world. Our 'graduates' many times remember us for years.

"The men are not required to work at Hope Hall, though naturally while there they lend a hand. The cooking, laundry work, waiting on table, farming and the care of the horses and poultry, is all looked after by the men who are stopping at the Home.

"There are recreation hours when the men are encouraged to amuse themselves in the open air with base ball and other sports.

"Financial support is derived from several sources; profits from the lecture engagements of Mrs. Booth; the Maintenance League; voluntary subscriptions; and contributions at church meetings. The Maintenance League is composed of friends interested in the movement; the membership is twelve dollars a year."

Besides all of this aid to discharged prisoners there is in Mrs. Booth's and Major Messlein's work, a provision for the help of prisoners' families and there is the Volunteer Prison League which is an association of the men within the prisons.

When the final history of prison benefit work is written, the work that Mrs. Booth has done will be pointed out as that which has greatly helped all that has come later. She and Major Messlein and many others with them, have created a new public opinion in reference to prisoners, which is now beginning to bear great fruit.



Severe discipline exacted a penalty for a prisoner for sharing what he had with another.



The fact that the state provides only ten dollars to a discharged prisoner is the excuse of many, for again falling into evil ways. Think of it! Ten dollars and a bad reputation to start in anew.



The prisoner who withstands temptation when trusted by his warden is making progress towards proving himself fit for society.



Nobody appreciates the work the reformers are doing more than the men who complete their parole.



When the state imprisons the father of children who are not old enough to provide for themselves, what does it expect these youngsters to do—starve or steal?

JOLLYGRAPHS

By a Prisoner

Endless Supply

"My cell partner is a regular talking machine."

"Can't you stop him?"

"Impossible. Every time he finishes he dig-out another 'record.'"

One on You, Captain

"What did you think of the Warden's Anniversary dinner?"

"The greatest yet; but there was one jarring note."

"And what was that?"

"The captain at the close expressing his hope that we would all be here to celebrate another."

Lined with the Long Green

"They say Fingers is a regular book worm."

"You bet; his madness for books landed him here."

"Stole only rare editions, I suppose?"

"No. Just pocket editions."

Those Somber Clothes

"Well, the boys are off to the farm. Wonder if they realize the responsibility of their undertaking?"

"Judging from outward appearances, I should say, yes; to me they look like the last word in successful undertakers."

Writing Himself Out

"They say the Editor is expecting a parole. He must be worried these days."

"Not exactly. The only thing that really bothers him is the fear of contracting 'Writer's Paralysis.'"



Common humanity should have a part in the performance of prison administration.



The public, seeing the merits of the honor system for prisoners, is accepting it as a settled policy.



Under severe discipline the rule was that where a few officers must control many prisoners it was necessary to control them through intimidation or by force.



Under severe discipline the prisoner soon learned that there was only one side to his ledger account, and that was the debit side.

Prisoners: Some Observations of a Business Man

By Adolph Lewisohn

Chairman Executive Committee, National Commission on Prison Labor,

[Reprinted from The Survey]

It should be our aim to improve conditions in all our prisons. Men who are free can either singly or by co-operation with others protect their rights and see that they are treated fairly and properly, but such is not the case with prisoners, who cannot protect themselves or secure fair treatment through their own efforts. It seems therefore to be the duty of every fair-minded man to see that in their helplessness they are not subjected to injustice and oppression.

After a person has been found guilty of a punishable offence, the first thing is to determine the penalty or pass sentence. I think that in a great many cases the prison sentence should be omitted entirely, especially for first offences, the judges or magistrates to have the right in their discretion to suspend sentence of imprisonment altogether. There are many cases of which judges say they would prefer not to impose sentence, as they think it would be better that the offender should receive a warning only. By giving him another chance they feel he might become a good citizen and not repeat the offence, while sending him to prison might make him a great deal worse or even result in his becoming an habitual criminal.

I believe it is only about half a century ago that people were put in prison for debt, and I think in some places in Europe that is still done. This added greatly to the amount of imprisonment and certainly did not improve the prisoners; on the contrary, it made them lazy, indifferent and in many other ways did considerable harm. As a matter of fact, although imprisonment for debt has been abolished in this country, there are no more failures than formerly; in fact, I think there are fewer.



Two offences occur to me in respect to which it might be better not to imprison first offenders. In cases of petty larceny I think the law could be

changed so that those who are guilty of this crime would, for their first offence, be compelled to make restitution of the amount taken and then dismissed with a reprimand. That is, there should be no imprisonment for such offences, only for a repetition of such offence.

Another is the offence of false representation. I presume a great many people have been imprisoned for this offence. While this is, of course, punishable, it is quite a natural and common thing for people in business, especially the smaller business men, when they find themselves in financial difficulties, to try to stretch a point.

I know it is the experience of many banks, in most cases where they have suffered losses through failures, in looking over the statements which furnished the basis of credit, to find that most of these failures are what might be called "crooked." That is, where statements were demanded before extending credit, the statements are found to be false. The banks do not usually prosecute these offenders, as there is not much to be gained by doing so, but try rather to make a settlement with them.

I have no statistics, but I suppose throughout the United States there have been a large number of people imprisoned for making false representations previous to failure, and there are a great many who have committed the same offence but have not been prosecuted at all. Perhaps the law in regard to this particular offence could be modified so that punishment could be effected in another way and the ends of justice nevertheless attained.



I would like to see the length of sentence usually imposed greatly reduced, say on an average cut in half. I think there should be a further reduction of time for good behavior, up to say 50 per cent of the total sentence, such commutation to be based upon different degrees of good conduct. In my opinion, shorter terms would

be more just and equally efficient in preventing crime, and besides would reduce the number of prisoners to about 30 per cent of the number now incarcerated and make the problem much easier to handle. With fewer prisoners it would not be necessary to have more than one prisoner in a cell, the prisons would not have to be so large, it would be easier to make conditions in them more sanitary and the cost to the community would be greatly reduced.

The question of indeterminate sentences should also be thoroughly inquired into. I believe that for a certain period the discharged prisoner should be under supervision, but there should be some limitation to such supervision, as otherwise he always has the consciousness of something hanging over him, and that naturally interferes with his normal life. The sooner he gets back to natural living and feels that he is the same as other citizens, the better, and this is hardly possible while he has the fear of some one standing over and watching him.



Next, as to the treatment accorded the prisoner after he is incarcerated.

All penal institutions should be made perfectly sanitary, and I hope I do not shock anybody in saying that they should also be fairly comfortable for prisoners. While the greatest simplicity should be exercised, everything ought to be done to keep prisoners healthy in body and mind. They should be given regular employment and the strictest discipline maintained, with the idea of making the punishment of the prisoner consist more in his forcible detention than in hardships during imprisonment. The average person values his liberty and does not want to be deprived of it even though he receives humane treatment during his incarceration.

I do not think that many criminals are deterred from committing crime by the knowledge that they will be badly treated during their imprisonment, nor do I believe that an increase in crime is likely if prisoners are accorded fair treatment. At any rate, we can take our chances as to that. Unless we carry out a humane policy we are going back to the old idea of torture which was practiced in the Middle Ages.

In Russia the treatment accorded prisoners is very harsh. There are long terms for what we consider comparatively slight offences and pris-

oners suffer great hardships. That has not decreased crime in Russia; in fact, I think statistics will show that there are more offences committed against society there than in other countries, like ours, where the laws are milder.

What we should aim to do is to try to improve the prisoner so that there will be some chance of his becoming a better man and a useful citizen when he is liberated. I hope that we may gradually reach a state where the number of people in prisons will be greatly diminished. It seems a pity that we are compelled to keep such an army of men and women in prisons in order that the rest of the people may be able to live in safety.



I think that stripes, or any special prison dress that brands the prisoner, should be done away with. It might, of course, be well to have the prisoners dressed so that they can be distinguished, but not in a way to make them feel degraded. We have, for instance, a special dress for certain public employes, such as letter-carriers, policemen, and others, but as far as prisoners are concerned, my idea would be to do away with anything in the nature of branding them either on their person or in their dress.

With further reference to physical conditions, I think the appearance of all forcible restraint, such as prison bars and fortifications, should be done away with and that prisoners should not be made to feel that they are caged up like animals. In other words, notwithstanding their offences against society, convicts should continue to be treated like human beings and the better side of their natures appealed to. A prison should not necessarily look different from any other habitation.

Humane treatment is likely to result in fewer attempts on the part of prisoners to escape; in fact, it is my belief that while every man values his liberty and would like to regain his freedom when he is deprived of it, the many ingenious and desperate attempts to escape are due in a large measure to inhuman treatment which makes the prisoner ready to take almost any chance to get out. It seems to me that the elaborate preparations and safeguards for preventing escape are due to an entirely wrong conception of the proper method of treating prisoners and often in

themselves have the effect of making the prisoner want to get out at any cost.

Another point to be considered is the brutalizing effect which harsh and inhuman treatment of prisoners has on keepers and wardens. From reports in the papers it seems that for the slightest offences prisoners are punished, especially those let out to contractors as it enables the contractors to get more work out of them. The wardens and keepers have practically all power and the prisoners practically no redress or very little if any. Quite an army is employed in guarding and looking after prisoners. If they have to treat these men, who are at their mercy, in the right way, if dark cells and lashes and other cruel punishments were abolished and humane treatment accorded the prisoners we would not be brutalizing this great army of men who have them in charge.

Every prisoner should, of course, have a reasonable number of hours of occupation provided for him, so arranged, if possible, that it would not come in competition with outside labor. I think that prison labor under contract is very apt to be abused. First, it is unfair competition to business which has to pay regular wages, but the particularly bad feature of it is that contractors are apt to either directly or indirectly overwork prisoners and otherwise misuse them for their own personal advantage.

It would be well, wherever it can be done, to have prisoners employed on farms. The influence of direct contact with nature is very good, and the product of prison labor employed on farms would not disturb other business. Even if it should happen to reduce the cost of farm products it would to that extent help towards the cheaper cost of living, which is so much desired. At any rate, part of the products thus raised could be used in the maintenance of the prisoners themselves.



When the prisoner is finally discharged he should be helped in getting employment and not left to the danger of relapsing into lawlessness through idleness.

Of course, the question of the segregation of prisoners into classes is an important one. Obviously, those who are guilty of comparatively slight offences should be kept apart from those

who are guilty of more serious offences, or from those who are apparently incorrigible. That, however, is a matter upon which every one agrees and only needs careful observation and judgment to put into effect.

With reference to what I said at the beginning, that fair-minded people should protect the prisoner in his helplessness, I think it would be an excellent thing if committees were formed in different communities to keep in close touch with conditions in our prisons with a view to seeing that fair and humane treatment is accorded to this class of unfortunates and to study the whole question of the best way to handle the problem. The criminal should be regarded by society not in the spirit of enmity but rather as a defective which he undoubtedly is, and every effort should be made to bring him back into a normal state.

The prisoner should be paid for his labor. Part of it should be used for his maintenance and part for the support of his family. When he is discharged, employment should be provided and opportunity given him to lead an honest life.



Hath it Come to This?

Pray what is this problem so vexing,
That the Editor's mind is perplexing?

Greater space doth he need,

So he hopes to succeed

The Garage (right next door) in annexing.



A Light-some Complaint

No matter where I cast my eyes,
The newly whitewashed walls arise;
And, though I dread reporters, I'm
Forced in the limelight all the time!



A Brassy Statement

Some claim we have a brass band now

To gladden things on Sunday morn:

The statement, though, I disallow—

Each member toots a *silver* horn!



An important feature of prison administration is to handle the inmates so that after their release they won't come back.



There are men who should be quarantined from society for life.

The Yellow Streak

By Herbert Kaufman

[Reproduced by kind permission of the author.]

He's as dangerous as a streak of lightning—and as treacherous. He flashes his true self without warning and always hits something or somebody who doesn't expect the blow.

He's the Man with the Yellow Streak—the man who can't win. He's wrong—wrong from eye-lash to toe-tip. There's a flaw in his grain—he isn't made of the stuff to stand the strain. He's bound to give way under pressure. His meat is weak—his blood is thin—his soul is lacking. He's inflicted with an incurable moral epilepsy. He falls down in a panic every time he's called on to stand up and show his manhood.

He can't reach a very high place and stay there. He's cursed with the dread of those who are afraid of great heights. It clutches him when he is midway up the ladder, and, instead of going on and upward, he hugs to the rungs and hangs there shivering with dread. He magnifies his risks—he multiplies his dangers—he loses all his balance—his caution disappears, and, instead, a foolhardy irresponsibility takes its place.

He's a drowning man, sinking in a sea of self-exaggerations. He will lay hold of anybody to save his own skin—he will sacrifice friends, family, employer—even his hope of the future—in his wild frenzy to look out for his own interests of the moment.

He's a coward—a mean, selfish craven. He's a girder with a flaw—a beam with a knot. Don't use him where there is likely to be a strain—he's a man with a danger spot. No matter how brilliant or trained or resourceful he may be when everything is right, all his superior qualifications are nil and must not be called on in an emergency. He's diseased—he has a taint—he can never be counted on to utilize his gifts when they ought to count most.

He can't help himself because he isn't man enough to own up and ask for assistance. He won't tell you what's wrong with him. He wears the velvet of false pride over his threadbare patch and you only see it when it's too late and his cloak drops and shows his tattered courage.

Search him among your men and your asso-

ciates. Don't wait until he runs amuck. He won't give you warning—he loses his reason—he doesn't realize what's happening. In his wild zeal to protect himself from the whiplash of consequences, he'll lie—he'll cheat—he'll throw the blame on the innocent. It's a kindness to both of you not to give him a chance to hurt himself and you.

You can't reform him. He's quaked—he'll merely keep involving you.

The only thing under the sun that can possibly bring him to himself is to leave him to himself. A great enough shock may awaken the man in him—no other medicine will count.

Dress parade isn't the test of a soldier. The best tactician isn't the best field officer. Don't mistake his ability under normal circumstances for capability in emergencies. Resourcefulness under the pressure of circumstance has sent many a recruit climbing over the heads of trained but unseasoned superiors.

There comes an hour when grit surmounts all else. Then it isn't the number of pounds awarded, or the size of the bicep, or the number of convolutions in a brain that count, but the depth of the threads in a man's screws of courage. Then Opportunity enters full-winged upon the scene and the right man is bound to come to the front. He'll always take his proper post—and the man with the yellow streak is sure to drop to his true level whenever things get red hot and the fur begins to fly. *Copyrighted by Herbert Kaufman.*



Wages to Prisoners

[Reprinted from Indianapolis, Ind., News]

That a gradual change is coming over the effort at apportioning punishment to make it better fit the crime is apparent even at a hasty glance. The whole course of the indeterminate sentence has been in this direction. There is and long has been an attempt to adjust the punishment in even ordinary cases so that the effects will fall as little as possible on the innocent. It is, we all know, the innocent that suffer for all wrong doing in this world. It seems impossible to prevent this altogether, perhaps not at all as to the anguish, but there is hope that a part of the consequences shall not fall thus.

It is suggested now that the Chicago Bridewell

inmates be paid for their services, the proceeds to go to the families of the prisoners. This plan is advanced by the civil service commission of the city as one of the new methods of relieving the rigors while holding the essential substance. At the Detroit house of correction prisoners are compelled to labor regularly. They receive a regular compensation. The suggestion is not entirely new. But its success in Detroit and its essential justice may bring it into general use in time. It is plainly seen that one of the great results is the relief of the wives and children of men who are justly sentenced. With them society has no quarrel. But in a large way society has to support them when the breadwinner is incarcerated and their dependence is gone and so they are punished and society itself is punished while it maintains the guilty one in idleness and allows him to become a source of revenue to the sheriff.

Our whole system in Indiana is wrong. We have not yet arrived at the plane where we refuse to make money out of prisoners, and where we permit what some day we shall plainly see are abuses because at the bottom the system is interlocked with politics as spoils. Here is a word from the *Chicago News* on the subject:

"Under present methods private contractors in many cities and states fatten on profits from the labor of caged men. Would it not be better to employ prisoners in making articles useful in their own and other institutions while giving their wives and babies some share in the profits of their labor? The Chicago civil service commission thinks so and so do other competent investigators."



What Is to Become of the Thirteen Children?

[Reprinted from Chicago Tribune]

Michael Janess, 50 years old, has thirteen children. He was arraigned before Municipal Judge Newcomer for failure to send them to school. He was taken into court on the complaint of Charles J. Coyne, who is connected with the board of education. Mr. Coyne said that four of Janess' children now were being cared for at the Parental school. Janess declared his inability to look after all his children but was warned that if they were not in school by Tuesday he would be jailed.

Julian Hawthorne's Reckless Prison Charges.

by Hastings H. Hart

Mr. Julian Hawthorne's papers on prison life are exceedingly interesting. They are written in the fascinating style which characterizes all of his writings. He has told a great deal of truth in these papers. His general indictment of the prison system of the United States government and the several state governments and especially the county jails will receive the indorsement of those who are familiar with the subject and especially those who have labored for many years to do away with abuses in prisons.

Unfortunately many of Mr. Hawthorne's statements with reference to the prisons are so sweeping and so reckless as inevitably to raise a doubt as to his detailed statements of fact. He is a writer of fiction and his literary instinct leads him to expand and embellish his facts in order to secure a literary result. His mental constitution makes it impossible for him to treat facts in an unbiased and dispassionate way, even though he may have no deliberate intention to misrepresent.

The papers are full of universal statements with reference to prison boards, prison wardens, parole boards, judges and officers of the department of justice. Mr. Hawthorne gives the impression that judges of the criminal courts are usually unjust, that juries do not hesitate to convict innocent men, that one attorney-general after another has deliberately winked at cruelty and perversions of justice, that parole boards heartlessly cajole and deceive prisoners, that prison wardens are almost universally harsh, cruel, dishonest and untruthful, and that prison officers generally are sneaking and corrupt and take delight in torturing and abusing their prisoners.

It does not appear from Mr. Hawthorne's statements that he has ever visited any prisons except the Tombs prison in New York and the United States penitentiary at Atlanta. He mentions four sources of information, his own personal observation, his intercourse with officers of justice and prison officers, the printed reports of prisons and public officers and his personal intercourse with his fellow prisoners. With these limited means of information he proceeds to indict, try and convict at the bar of public opinion officers of the law and prison officers in general and particular.

Mr. Hawthorne's attitude of mind toward prison wardens is indicated by the following quotation from his paper of February 15: "Another series of reports showed a man who, beginning as a reactionary of an extreme type * * * finally felt the pressure of the wave of prison reform * * * adjusted his reports and addresses so as to make himself appear as a leading apostle of the new ideas. * * * This warden, whose methods I know well, is now quoted as a signal champion of the new and more merciful dispensation, though only two or three years ago, according to his own personally written and signed reports, he was for keeping prisoners practically incommunicado. * * * Shall we believe that this man's professions of a change of heart are genuine or feel surprise to discover that at the very moment he is receiving visitors in his commodious office upstairs and purring out to them his fatherly affection for his prisoners and denying that the old, bad methods of repression any longer are tolerated there are miserable wretches, being hung up by the wrists in dark and noisome cells under his feet?"

Apparently the very fact of a prison warden's adopting a more humane and reasonable attitude toward his prisoners is an evidence of hypocrisy.

Prison officers are chosen from the community at large by governors or prison wardens or by civil service examinations. They are usually men of good repute. The writer knows personally many prison wardens and prison officers who are conscientious and kindhearted and who honestly desire to give their prisoners a fair deal. It is preposterous to represent that these men are universally transformed into human monsters by being appointed as prison officers.

We did not need Mr. Hawthorne to tell us that the county jails of the United States are schools of crime and instruments of torture; nor that the "third degree" is a relic of the dark ages and is a violation both of law and of right; nor that many of the prisons of the United States are unfit places for the confinement of prisoners, breeders of tuberculosis and other diseases and that the confinement of two prisoners in one small cell is a crime against humanity; nor that the convict lease and contract system is a wrong to the prisoner and to the outside laborer as well; nor that there have been some prison wardens

who were inhuman; nor that there are prison guards who delight in the petty persecution of prisoners; nor even that there are sometimes miscarriages of justice, because judges and the juries are fallible. All of these things have been openly discussed and published abroad these thirty years past by writers, students, penologists and prison wardens.

One wonders whether Mr. Hawthorne ever heard of Dr. E. C. Wines' book on "The State of Prisons," published in 1880; or George W. Cable's blasting indictment of the convict lease system, read before the National Conference of Charities, at Louisville, in 1883; or Chaplain A. G. Byers' denunciation of the jail system, in 1867; or Dr. Charles R. Henderson's report on jail administration at Chicago, in 1911, or Gov. Donaghey's pardon of 300 prisoners in Arkansas last year as a protest against the lease system.

One wonders whether Mr. Hawthorne ever heard of prison wardens like Col. Gardner Tufts, who thirty years ago put his prisoners in black suits, sent them to school like schoolboys and organized a baseball team which played successfully against the neighboring teams of Massachusetts; or Warden J. W. McLaughrey, who abolished flogging in the Illinois state penitentiary thirty years ago; or of Superintendent John L. Whitman of the Chicago House of Correction, formerly jailer of the Cook county jail, who has for many years dealt with his prisoners man to man in the spirit of good will.

Did Mr. Hawthorne ever hear of Warden Gilmour of Toronto, who sends his convicts into the fields to work with unarmed guards and says that 90 per cent of them can be so trusted? Or of Supt. Whittaker, who after many years of experience under the old prison system is now keeping 300 prisoners in open barracks on a farm at Occoquan, Va., and has requested his trustees to allow him to remove the barbed wire stockade which surrounds the dormitory buildings because he has no need of it? Or of Supt. Leonard of the Ohio state reformatory at Mansfield, who goes on a bond with his prisoners and sends them out to work on honor?

Did Mr. Hawthorne ever hear of Sheriff Tracy of Montpelier, Vt., who obtains situations for his jail prisoners with mechanics and farmers at \$1.75 per day and sends them out with their din-

ner buckets on honor, dividing the wages between the county and the prisoner? Did he ever hear of the Massachusetts state prison farm at Bridgewater, where prisoners have worked in the open for thirty years? Did he ever hear of what is being done in California, Oregon, Washington and New Jersey and at the new prison farm at Comstock, N. Y., in putting prisoners upon honor and developing manhood by treating men as men?

During the last few years there has been a profound reaction against the ancient prison methods which Mr. Hawthorne criticises and in favor of the policy of putting prisoners on honor, working them in the open, giving them recreation, respecting their individuality and opening up opportunities for a new life. The movement is being forwarded by many prison wardens.

Two years ago the outbreaks in the United States penitentiary at Leavenworth and the state prison at Jackson, Mich., created a reaction against the more humane methods of dealing with prisoners. The National Prison Association, meeting at Baltimore, Md., November 14, 1912, passed the following resolutions, which were earnestly supported by the wardens present.

Whereas, insurrections in certain state prisons have been reported in the public press and magazines as due to the introduction of modern prison methods; be it

Resolved, That the American Prison Association hereby expresses its firm conviction that these unfortunate occurrences in no wise resulted from the application of modern prison methods; and that these methods, when applied by officers of ability, capacity and discretion, who are unhampered in the discharge of their difficult duties, have universally been successful; be it further

Resolved, That these resolutions be given the widest publicity, in order that justice may be done to the cause of prison reform.

The resolutions were unanimously adopted.

Mr. Hawthorne complains bitterly of the administration of the parole law. He says: "If a man's conduct while serving his sentence had been orderly and obedient to rules he was to be freed after serving one-third of his appointed time." He says again: "The language is that if the prisoner's conduct has been correct, etc., he may be granted parole." Then he makes the charge that the parole board has taken advantage of the word "may" to defeat the purpose of the

parole law. He says: "If for that harmless looking 'may' had been substituted 'shall' or 'must' the secret annals of Federal prisons since then would have been spared much rascality, torture, corruption, cruelty and death." * * * "That 'may' rendered it optional with the board to grant or to refuse parole in any given case."

Mr. Hawthorne misquotes the law. The law says (Section 1): "Every prisoner * * * whose record of conduct shows he has observed the rules of such institution, and who has served one-third of the total of term or terms for which he was sentenced, may be released on parole as hereinafter provided." Mr. Hawthorne omits the words "as hereinafter provided." The provision referred to is found in Section 3, which says: "If it shall appear to said board of parole from a report by the proper officers of such prison or upon application by a prisoner for release on parole, that there is a reasonable probability that such applicant will live and remain at liberty without violating the laws, and if in the opinion of the board such release is not incompatible with the welfare of society, then said board of parole may in its discretion authorize the release of such applicant on parole."

It is perfectly plain that the law establishes not one condition, but three, on which the board may parole a prisoner: (1) That his record of conduct shows he has "observed the rules of such institution"; (2) that "it shall appear to said board of parole * * * that there is a reasonable probability that such applicant will live and remain at liberty without violating the laws"; (3) that "in the opinion of the board such release is not incompatible with the welfare of society."

The law further provides for the exercise of an opinion. The prisoner may be paroled "if in the opinion of the board such release is not incompatible with the welfare of society." This condition clearly implies that there may in some cases be good reason for refusing a parole, even though the prisoner has a good conduct record and is likely to lead a law abiding life.

Good conduct in prison is only one sign of penitence and future good behavior. Everyone who is familiar with prisons will tell you that the worst man often makes the best prisoner. A young fellow convicted for the first time, smarting under a sense of injustice or moved by a spirit of bravado, or simply from carelessness, will lose

his temper or break the rules when in fact he is not really vicious and will speedily develop right purpose. An old recidivist who has been in prison repeatedly knows the ropes. He understands that it is useless to kick against the pricks and falls into line and meets every requirement of the prison rules; yet at heart he is a criminal and will return to his criminal practices as soon as he is discharged.

It is the duty of the parole board to seek for signs of penitence and indications of right purpose and they are debarred by their oath of office from extending the privilege of parole to those who in their judgment will renew their former practices. The claim that prisoners having a good conduct record thereby acquire a right to parole is contrary both to law and good sense.

Mr. Hawthorne complains particularly of injustice in that he himself was refused a parole and he appeals to the bar of public opinion to reverse the action of the parole board. Let us therefore consider his case. He says: "According to my information, which includes my personal experience, the question is put to the applicant whether or not he admits himself guilty of the crime for which he was undergoing sentence. My own reply was, 'Not guilty,' and though the president (of the parole board) was very courteous to me and gave me every assurance that I might expect favorable action on my application, as a matter of fact and of record the recommendation made to the attorney-general was that my application be denied, and denied it was." (There is not necessarily any issue of fact involved in this statement. The president of the board may have been overruled by his associates or his view may have been changed by argument.)

Mr. Hawthorne was accused in technical terms of misuse of the mails for purposes of fraud. Under this charge he was tried before a United States judge of high standing by a jury of his peers. He was defended by able attorneys. He was convicted by the jury and sentenced by the judge. Misuse of the mails for purposes of fraud was the technical charge, but in non-technical language what he was reported to have done was to trade upon the honored name of his father, Nathaniel Hawthorne, beloved and revered by thousands of his countrymen, to use his hereditary mines which were to enrich investors by fabulous dividends and to spread this literature broad-

cast among his friends and admirers, multitudes of whom, believing his tales, invested and lost their money. The writer has never heard that Mr. Hawthorne ever expressed any regret either for the acts of which he was convicted or for the loss and suffering to which his friends were subjected. On the contrary, he has refused to acknowledge any wrongdoing on his part and upon his own statement declared to the parole board that he was not guilty of the offense of which he was charged.

Whether we accept Mr. Hawthorne's plea of "Not guilty" or accept the decision of the jury, the judge and the parole board that he was guilty we could imagine Mr. Hawthorne following the illustrious examples of Sir Walter Scott and Mark Twain and devoting the remainder of his life if necessary to the reimbursement of those who had been innocent losers through their confidence in him; but we have never seen any intimation that he regards himself as being under any obligations whatever toward those unfortunate friends who became losers because of his glowing representations.

Mr. Hawthorne justly scorns the "snitcher," "the squealer," who goes about the prison collecting information which he retails to the prison officers in order to gain advantage for himself by bringing others into disrepute. The "snitcher" is universally despised, whether he lies or tells the truth, but what shall be said of the man who goes about collecting from prisoners stories to discredit prison wardens and prison officers whom he has never seen and after his release sells them for money to the public press? It was impossible for his informers to give information of their own knowledge about other prisons unless they had been convicted at least twice of offenses against the law.

The writer has known some prisoners who always told the truth, he has known some who usually told the truth and he has known some who were artistic and incorrigible liars and who would perjure themselves to any extent for advantage or simply for amusement. Any one who is acquainted with prisoners will testify that their testimony must be accepted with caution and must be properly confirmed in order to be entitled to credence.

Yet, taking advantage of the leniency with which he was treated at Atlanta, whereby, ac-

cording to his own account, he was given opportunity for free conversation with many of his fellow prisoners, on secret and unconfirmed testimony he proceeds to try to convict officers of justice, prison wardens and prison officers of hypocrisy, injustice, lying, cruelty and dishonesty and to publish them to the world as such without verification and without any opportunity for the accused to be heard. How would he characterize such actions if directed toward the criminal?

We despise injustice, tyranny and cruelty toward the helpless criminal and will join hands with every right minded man to stop such actions and to punish the perpetrators, be they high or low; but public opinion will not convict men of such high crimes and misdemeanors on the testimony of doubtful witnesses secretly collected and sold for money to the public press.—*Sun*, New York, N. Y.



Maintenance in Canadian Penitentiaries

[Reprinted from Nelson, B. C., News]

Canada maintains seven penitentiaries for the incarceration of her convicted criminals—sentenced for two years or longer. The report thereon for the past year should awaken reflection.

This report may be looked at from the standpoint of the country. Last year the cost to the country of the maintenance of her 2,000 prisoners therein was, in each of these penitentiaries, as follows:

Kingston	\$121,076.44
St. Vincent de Paul	138,796.03
Dorchester	76,746.68
Manitoba	64,743.23
British Columbia	102,080.38
Alberta	75,193.40
Saskatchewan	53,610.44
Total	\$632,246.65

The question naturally arises, viewing this matter from the standpoint of the public, is not this a large sum to pay annually for the maintenance of penitentiaries? So it should appear to any person who considers the matter. For every convict confined in that at Kingston, the cost of the staff oversight is \$178.87. In that at Dorchester, N. B., the cost is \$210.61. In that in Saskatchewan the cost is \$366.96. There is a warden at \$2,200 per year, a deputy warden at \$1,500 per year, a surgeon at \$1,200 per year, an accountant at \$1,200 per year, two chaplains at

\$800 each per year, a hospital overseer at \$900 per year, a steward at \$900 per year, an engineer at \$1,000 per year, seven trade instructors at \$800 a year each, a chief watchman at \$900 a year, another watchman at \$750 a year, and twelve keepers and guards in addition to several temporary officers. All these to "oversee" an average of about eighty prisoners.

The penitentiary for the province of Saskatchewan is the most expensively managed per capita of all the penitentiaries in Canada. The cost per prisoner is \$700 per annum. This is made up as follows:

Staff per prisoner	\$366.96
Maintenance of convicts	85.61
Discharge expenses	9.72
Working expenses	96.57
Industries	1.79
Lands, buildings and equipment	172.09
Miscellaneous	8.86
Total	\$741.60
Less revenue	41.02
Net cost	\$700.58

Messrs. Stewart and Hughes, the inspectors, have this to say regarding this expenditure:

"The fact that each man sentenced to hard labor costs the country one dollar per day in excess of his earning seems to require explanation. We respectfully submit the opinion that the weakness which has produced, and is producing, such results is not due to the inefficiency of the officers by whom the institutions are primarily controlled, but to the policy by which those officers have been restricted."

They are disposed to place the blame for the high cost of the penitentiaries to the country upon the non-employment of the prisoners or their employment on non-productive work. They make two recommendations regarding this:

(1) That the penitentiaries shall be administered by the minister through his responsible officers, free from local or other external interference.

(2) That the government shall utilize the obligatory labor of its wards in supplying, as far as possible, its own needs and requirements.

These inspectors, in the report under consideration, go farther than this and reproduce a report

made in 1909, pointing out to the then minister of justice how prison labor could be utilized, to some advantage at least. These recommendations are briefly that certain government supplies, instead of being purchased from contractors, should be manufactured in the prisons of the country. These include:

(1) Brooms, mops, scrubbing brushes, door mats for all public buildings.

(2) Letter carriers' uniforms (including caps and boots).

(3) Rural mail boxes.

(4) Uniforms for employes of the government railways, fishery protection service and railway mail service.

(5) Overcoats for the militia.

(6) Boots and uniforms for the Dominion police and undress uniforms (stable suits) for the Royal Northwest Mounted Police.

So much for the penitentiary system of Canada as it affects the public.

It may then be, and should be, viewed as it affects the prisoners. The question here is this: should incarceration be regarded as punitive only or as also remedial in its character. Humanitarianism is more and more asserting itself; more and more being insisted upon in the treatment accorded to convicted criminals; and if a prisoner, while he is serving the period for which he has been incarcerated, can have the spark of goodness or manliness awakened within him, can be influenced so that he will become a reputable citizen after he emerges from the prison, should not that be attempted and consistently pursued? That is the question, to which there can be only one reply. There can be no doubt that labor which a convict knows is being imposed upon him simply as labor, the penal character of which is constantly in evidence, is distinctly hardening in its effect; whereas that labor which is congenial to him, is remunerative, and which would—as he would be constantly realizing—be fitting him to occupy a reputable position after he had served his term of imprisonment, would have a highly humanizing influence upon him. And to this, if he were aware that the value of his labor, over and above the cost of his maintenance in prison, was by the government being paid to those dependent upon him, or was being laid aside to be paid to him at the end of the period of his

incarceration if he had no person dependent upon him, and if he were aware that such would be the case, there is no question that the fact of being engaged in congenial work from which he was receiving pecuniary benefit or would receive such benefit would exercise a highly remedial influence upon every one not utterly lost to all that is good. To carry this out, however, would imply of necessity that many or several trades would be carried select that for which he would be best adapted on in each prison, the prisoner to be permitted to that which would be most congenial to him, that in which his faculties would find fittest and freest scope.

In these considerations the Daily News is placing before its readers some thoughts which have been suggested by the perusal of this report on the penitentiaries of Canada, the adoption of which would wipe out thereafter the large annual deficit which the country has now to pay in the conduct of her penal institutions as they are now being conducted, and would at the same time do much towards exercising a most wholesome remedial influence upon the prisoners themselves, fitting them to be reputable citizens after the expiration of the terms for which they have been imprisoned. To all of this there will be only one objection—that the demand for labor would be thereby decreased to the extent to which prison labor would be employed.

The question of in how far effect should be given by the authorities to the recommendations of the inspectors as to a change in the manner of conducting the penal institutions of Canada is now before the government and the people of Canada.



"Constitutional Immorality"

[Reprinted from Louisville, Ky., Courier Journal]

Of interest in connection with the theory that Kentucky's indeterminate sentence law, which really terminates the sentence of criminals at the end of the minimum period, is an article in "International Clinics," by Dr. Paul E. Bowers, physician of the Indiana State Prison.

According to Dr. Bowers some persons are so predisposed to crime constitutionally that their moral state challenges belief in the free will of man.

There are, of course, many dabblers in bizarre

social theories who like to proclaim the doctrine that there are persons who are "un-moral" instead of immoral, because their natures are untouched by the popular view of right and wrong. Dr. Bowers does not discuss the moral dilettantism of the theorizing intellectuals, but devotes himself to the professional aspects of vice and crime as reflected by "the clinical material of psychiatric nature that is going to waste in our institutions because of a lack of scientific curiosity upon the part of well qualified investigators." The idea that some persons are immoral because of some constitutional defect of the neural organism, is, he admits, repugnant, because it seems to challenge a cherished belief in man's free will, yet there are many persons whose degenerate organizations predispose them to immoral and illegal acts from which they cannot refrain.

Dr. Bowers discusses the medical aspects of constitutional immorality which may arise from "the harsh, unrelenting tyranny of ancestral defect" or from other causes. He reaches the conclusion that the proper scientific classification of prisoners is too ideal to be obtained at the present time, and says:

"Why should not the born criminal remain in prison so long as he is dangerous to society? We do not release the violent and dangerous insane from hospitals merely because they have been detained there a number of years; then why should we release the instinctive criminal to practice his criminal acts upon the public? We quarantine smallpox, and we exile the leper; then why should we not isolate the incurable moral defectives who disseminate dangerous moral contagion?"

Of course, any indeterminate sentence law, or any extension of clemency, by a parole board or a governor, which results in turning loose against the peace and safety of the community persons who are predisposed to crime, is a destructive social factor. But which are the habitual criminals? There is no better example of the constitutionally immoral individual than the man whose exaggerated idea of his right to deal summarily with those who oppose him permeates his being and causes the blood to tingle at the tip of his trigger finger. Although he may be a first offender when he is brought to book for having killed a

man, or for some lesser crime of violence, he is one who would, upon any similar provocation, shoot to kill. To turn such a man at large after a short period of confinement in prison merely because he has behaved peaceably when under restraint, puts the lives of his neighbors at risk. And experience proves, by bloody records, that the released criminal whose constitutional immorality takes the form of willingness to "fight at the drop of the hat" follows his bent, unreformed by a temporary residence in a penitentiary.

In the opinion of Dr. Bowers the effect of indeterminate sentence laws so generally in use is to separate the accidental and occasional criminals from the habitual criminals.

To quote:

"The first class is composed of those persons who have strayed from the paths of moral and legal rectitude while under the strain of some unfortunate circumstance which provokes an outburst of passion. . . . These persons regain their former standing in civil life, and forget their crimes, which were merely solitary and incidental experiences in their lives. The constitutionally immoral serve sentence after sentence, are paroled again and again to the best of environments, but they cannot be kept out of prisons, toward which they gravitate, irresistibly drawn to them by inherent defects in their constitutions."

There is a popular disposition to regard as habitual criminal a "police court character" who oscillates between begging and theft while suffering poverty, and to consider as having strayed from paths of rectitude the more or less prominent citizen who kills a neighbor because of some trumpery difference of opinion or fancied grievance. But the man-killer is not a law-abiding citizen, in habits or thought. He is not, in a moment, transformed into an irrational and irresponsible being. He does not become again a good citizen when the moment's passion, with its deed of violence, has passed. Upon the contrary, he is, usually, one whose theory of his rights has always included the high privilege of making his pocket artillery a court of last resort. He has always intended never to be imposed upon because of a lack of willingness and ability to handle arms. As a rule, he has long been familiar with weapons not designed for the use of sportsmen, but manufactured solely as man-killers. The individual who is unused to "toting" and to shoot-

ing a pistol is rarely either prepared or inclined to make the "bark" of the automatic "gun" the last word in an argument. Yet because he has never had occasion to apply his theory of his rights, the more or less prominent citizen who kills his man in sudden affray is looked upon as the victim of an "incidental experience," to use Dr. Bowers' phrase. The man on the border line between hunger and crime is the habitual criminal, in popular estimation. The more dangerous of the two kinds of habitual criminals is the man who has always intended to use a pistol when the opportunity should present itself. Everyone who carries a concealed weapon institutes a practice which has the psychological effect of drawing him toward a mental attitude of habitual criminality, although he may not actually commit a murder. The respectable person with a revolver in his hip pocket and no record for crime is a criminal in mental make-up in the degree that he regards his private arsenal as a means of defense against others than thugs. He is potentially a criminal in experience in the degree that he possesses the courage to shoot, and that is about the cheapest kind of courage. When he does shoot, and is locked up, he should remain in prison for a long time, and not for the minimum period of a short and long-term sentence. His permanent isolation is impossible unless he can be convicted of first degree murder.



Prisoners Removed from Foul Prisons

[Reprinted from Milwaukee, Wis., News]

The dispatch from Vera Cruz to *The Daily News* announcing that the fortress of San Juan de Uloa, notorious for centuries as the foulest prison on the American continent, has been ordered vacated immediately by Rear Admiral Fletcher, calls to mind that while there is very much need for the changing of prison conditions throughout Mexico, there is also considerable to be done in this direction in the various penitentiaries of the United States.

The newspapers were recently full of accounts of the horrors of the federal penitentiary in which Julian Hawthorne was confined; and even allowing for some literary exaggeration on the part of that writer, as well as his inability accurately to size up the situation from the standpoint of those more inured to the hardships of life than he

could possibly be, there is reason to believe that many changes are necessary, and that conditions are by no means what they should be.

From time to time articles reach the papers reflecting seriously on the management and conditions of other penitentiaries in the United States. While there is a steady improvement in the manner in which prisoners are treated, there is still much to be hoped for in the solution of such problems.

But the forced vacation of the abominable fortress at Vera Cruz is one splendid achievement of the Americans in Mexico, within the few weeks of the troubles into which we were drawn down there. It is to be hoped no matter what comes so far as the United States is concerned, the Mexicans can be made to realize that their inhuman treatment of prisoners cannot be tolerated.

History tells of a number of foul prisons in many parts of the world, and there are too many today which are horrible beyond imagination. If the work of the Americans at Vera Cruz by example will only achieve some improvement in the physical conditions of some of the terrible prisons of the world, or better the treatment of prisoners, it will be of tremendous value to civilization.



Making Amends for Wrong Judgment

[Reprinted from The Gospel Messenger]

That judicial decisions, at best, are imperfect, is likely conceded by all, and the fact becomes the more apparent when we note that at times sentences are pronounced upon supposed offenders who later on are discovered to be wholly innocent of the crimes charged against them. Strange to say, however, no State of our Union ever made provision for the reimbursement of prisoners wrongfully sentenced, until Wisconsin, in a recent enactment, placed herself in the forefront of humanitarian endeavor, so far as making amends to falsely-condemned prisoners is concerned. By a recent enactment the Badger state appoints a "Board of Investigation," which carefully looks into all cases of wrongly-condemned prisoners. As soon as the innocence of a convict has been definitely established, he is compensated by the State, in proportion to the real loss sustained. The officials are empowered to collect and examine all evidence bearing on the

case, and to render their decision in accordance with the facts at hand. While the plan, so successfully put in operation in Wisconsin, may well be followed in other states, the need of its very introduction is but a renewed evidence of man's fallibility and lack of discernment. Only God's judgments are "true and righteous altogether." It must be confessed by even the best of us that often, in our daily intercourse, we are altogether too ready to judge and condemn others upon very insufficient testimony. If, later on, their innocence is established, we are often very slow to make amends for the anguish of heart and mind which they have sustained because of our mistaken judgment. Full atonement, perhaps, can never be made, but we can, at least, show our willingness to make restitution as far as possible.



Indeterminate Sentences

[Reprinted from Menominee, Mich., Herald-Leader]

Warden Russell, of Marquette, brings up anew the matter of indeterminate sentences. He presses upon the people of Michigan the point the absurdity of turning loose upon society men who are sure to re-enter criminal careers. The prisons of Michigan, he avers, release men every week, at the expiration of their several terms, who, in the opinion of the wardens, are unfit members of society and will slump into evil ways.

Slowly the belief is growing that penology is a science of prevention as well as cure, says an exchange. There are certain persons unfitted to mix in civilized society. The insane are shut up for life, or until such time as the authorities in charge are willing to trust them at large. And the time is coming slowly, but surely, when the same rule will apply to habitual criminals. Probably the reason it has never before been applied to prisons is because the public has had too many horrible instances of unfitness among prison wardens to grant them such large powers over their charges. Lately, however, the improvement in prison management has been so marked that the people of Michigan will be less averse to letting the warden and the state boards say how long certain classes of offenders shall be kept immured. Why should we wonder at crime under existing conditions? A radical reform in the practice of our criminal courts and manner of dealing with convicts is imperative.

To Aid Prisoners' Dependents

[Reprinted from Wheeling, W. Va., Register]

The announcement by Warden Brown of the state prison at Moundsville, of the establishment of a family relief fund for the assistance of dependents of convicts during the period of their incarceration in the penitentiary, should interest friends of the prisoners and all students of penology. Many pathetic cases of distress among families which have been deprived of their breadwinners by court sentences are brought to the notice of the warden through his inspection of the mail of prisoners. Wives, mothers and daughters write pitiable letters to male relatives who have fallen into evil ways and landed in state prison. As the warden points out, a family loses social caste when a member of it is convicted of a felony, and in very many cases the boys seek recreation in the saloon, while the girls often drift into worse places. Thus the crime of the breadwinner brings punishment not only upon himself, but upon his dependents, who should not be made to suffer for his transgressions.

The problem of caring for families of convicted men in the many cases in which they are left destitute, and in the innumerable other instances in which they sorely need the help of brothers or a father, has been a subject of consideration by the legislatures of many states. In Minnesota a law has been passed which gives each convict a portion of the money received for his labor, the remainder going to the state. Under this system the prisoner is enabled to assist those outside the walls of the penitentiary who are dependent upon him, or if he has no dependents the money he earns is given to him upon the expiration of his term.

It is understood that Warden Brown favors a law like that of Minnesota for West Virginia. Under the existing rules the only chance a convict has to earn any money is by overtime work, or by doing more than the regulation day's task. That convicts do not lose all ambition when they enter the gray walls of prison is proved by Warden Brown's statement that \$35,000 a year is paid for overtime work to convicts in the penitentiary at Moundsville. The warden is so frequently importuned to permit convicts to collect money for the assistance of persons on the outside that he has decided to try to systematize the extension of aid. The family relief fund is his

plan. Prisoners who desire to do so may contribute toward it, as well as charitably disposed persons who may not be directly interested in any particular case needing aid. The fund will be controlled by a committee appointed by the warden, and every appeal will be thoroughly investigated before assistance is given. The idea is commendable, and it should receive substantial support.



Toronto Jail

[Reprinted from Toronto, Canada, Mail and Express]

If the state of the Toronto jail is as bad as the Inspector of Prisons reports it to be, then some of those officially responsible for it ought to be serving time among the prisoners with which it is congested. The description given by the inspector reads more like an account of conditions in some penal institution that disgraced British civilization before the great philanthropist, Howard, did his noble work. To find so barbarous a state of affairs in our day we should have thought it necessary to go to countries where the people do not rule. The prison at Vera Cruz seems to have been a chamber of horrors. The United States forces that entered the city after the bombardment released some prisoners from almost unendurable confinement.

But the twentieth century is not the eighteenth century, and Canada is not Mexico. The picture drawn by the Inspector of Prisons is shocking almost beyond belief. That prisoners should be huddled together and forced to sleep on the floor in winter, in a building of great fire risk and little fire protection; and that women should be stripped in the presence of fellow-prisoners are statements that must astound all who read them. They are the more extraordinary because on no point is public opinion here more keen and imperative than in respect to the duty of those in authority to deal humanely with all helpless persons who have claims upon them or for whom they are responsible.

The Ontario Government has set an example in showing "pity upon all prisoners and captives" in its hand. Why has the city council allowed the jail to get into the condition reported by the Inspector of Prisons? Rather, members of the city council should be required to show cause why they themselves are not in jail for

allowing matters to get to such an abominable pass there.

The excuse of ignorance would only make the matter worse, but the council cannot fall back even on that bad plea, for the reason that its attention has again and again been called to the urgent need for larger and better accommodations, and for greatly increased precautions against fire. Public feeling will be roused by this report, and will compel speedy remedial action. It would be further satisfactory if the blame were laid at the right door and due punishment brought home for this criminal neglect.



Trouble Ahead for Prison Labor Contractors

[Reprinted from Dayton, O., Herald]

Not all the interesting "old" questions have been decided. Here is a surprisingly curious case in the Supreme Court of Rhode Island, a case in which the issue is the exact status of a convicted and incarcerated criminal with reference to his labor.

Any state may, of course, punish a person for crime. It may put him to work in the penitentiary. But suppose it sells his labor to a contractor for a low price and pockets the money—as many states do. Has the convict the right, after his release and recovery of civil rights, to sue the contractor for more pay?

A former Rhode Island convict has raised this question. Under the constitution of that state, he claims, a convict is merely a man undergoing punishment, but not a slave. Slavery is not specifically permitted as a punishment for crime in Rhode Island; is it permitted by implication?

The national committee on prison labor is said to be backing the convict in his interesting lawsuit. The theory is that a convict should be paid decent wages and that his family or other dependents should have the benefit of his toil. Of course, if the convict is a slave he has no rights that anybody is bound to respect. If he is not a slave, the wages of his toil and conditions of his employment in or out of prison require proper regulation in the interest of justice. It is to be hoped that the Supreme Court of Rhode Island will not seek or find some technical loophole through which to escape, but will tackle the issue in its vital bearings and rejoice in the opportunity to hand down a memorable opinion.

Prisoners True to Trust

[Reprinted from Chicago Examiner]

To test the honor of the convicts confined in the state penitentiary at Rusk, Texas, the practice of leaving all the cell doors unlocked and the prison gates wide open was adopted a few days ago. All of the inmates are free to go and come day and night, as they please. All but two guards have been discharged, and they will be dispensed with if the new system works well.

The convicts are employed during the day on the state farm, a mile from the prison. They work without being guarded, and no one has attempted to escape so far.



Colonizing Habitual Criminals

[Reprinted from Chicago Tribune]

There are two sides to the growing policy of kindness and leniency toward criminals. Unquestionably many individuals whose offenses against society were merely a "false step" in their lives have by this leniency and kindness been restored to the community and to useful citizenship. On the other hand, it is just as certain that many habitual and hopelessly incorrigible criminals have taken advantage of this leniency and are now at large plying their lawless trade when they should properly be behind prison walls.

Allowances in the case of a first offender are decidedly in order. There is, however, no question but that society must protect itself from the criminal who is beyond restoring. What steps should society take in self-protection? New York City is now wrestling with the question. The police commissioner of that city advises that henceforth all criminals found guilty of a fourth offense of felony rank be imprisoned for life. This can be done under the existing law.

There will be many who, while they will heartily approve the need of measures to protect society from the habitual criminal, will question the wisdom and humanity of sending such an offender to the penitentiary to stay there the rest of his natural life. In the penitentiary the prisoner becomes a burden upon the state, and the chances for his reformation are nil. A better way of dealing with the hopeless criminal, it is claimed, has been devised by France. The French system is to colonize such offenders on some remote island where society will be rid of them, but where they will have to earn their own living.

This being compelled to do honest labor for his living is sure to benefit the moral nature of the prisoner to some extent at least, it is believed. At the same time it saves the state considerable expense.

This method of colonizing habitual criminals is approved by the highest authorities on the subject of criminology. There seems to be everything in its favor, both from a humane and utilitarian standpoint, they declare.



Condemnation of Prison Contract Labor

[Reprinted from Christian Science Monitor]

Twenty-five governors of states of the American Union have given their unqualified indorsement to the idea of utilizing the labor of convicts beyond the walls of prisons and in the open. Kentucky has just fallen into line as the latest of six states to employ convict labor on the construction of good roads. The state of New York will probably put part of its convicts to making brick for road paving and part of them to road building. Some of the states are bound up in contracts for prison labor; others are held from abandoning the confinement system purely by traditional belief in the necessity of imprisonment; but the greater number are inclining toward the more enlightened and humane method of dealing with their convicts.

The contract system has long been doomed. On all sides thinking people have condemned it as barbaric. Perhaps it is of greater importance, from a practical point of view, that it has been with equal emphasis pronounced uneconomic. It has led almost everywhere to the "sweating" of the unfortunate inmates of penal institutions; it has in many instances led, like the unspeakable "convict camp," to the creation of peonage. Hardly less inhuman, however, has been the other extreme of treatment, that of enforced idleness, solitariness, silence.

There is no morbid sentimentality in the demand, now becoming common among civilized people, that the law shall be corrective rather than punitive, that the culprit shall be uplifted rather than debased. It is simply an expression of the higher rationalism, an outcome of the Christianization of the age. And, furthermore, as we have already indicated, it appeals not only to the conscience but to the practical sense of

humanity. It demands that the convict shall be not only made to work but privileged to labor, that he shall toil not only for his own salvation but for the good of the public. It insists that he shall be taken out of the gloom of the cell, removed from the depressing and degrading influences of prison environment and given an opportunity to share, with whatever tasks may be imposed upon him, the freedom of the open and the blessing of the sunshine.



Life Term Prisoners Held Innocent

[Reprinted from Chicago Daily News]

The murder of Annie Mullins in March, 1908, a noted Middlesex county case, is recalled by a movement to secure the pardon of James Manter and Peter C. Delorey, convicted of the crime. District Attorney Corcoran announced that an investigation had convinced him of the innocence of the young men and that he would ask Governor Walsh to give them their liberty. Manter is serving a life sentence and Delorey a twenty-year term.

The body of the young woman, who was employed as a maid by Prof. von Jagerman of Harvard, was found in a field in Arlington. Her throat had been cut. It was not until a year later that the authorities found sufficient evidence to make an arrest. Delorey made a confession to the police, implicating Manter, but later declared that it had been forced from him by the police.



Learn These Eleven Answers by Heart

The *Tennessee Christian* reports that recently a number of prisoners were requested to make answers to the subject, "Things I wish I had known before I was twenty-one years old," and that the following replies were among those received.

1. "How to take care of my money."
2. "That a harvest depends upon the seed sown—wheat produces wheat, thistles bring forth thistles, ragweeds will spoil a good pasture, and wild oats once sown will surely produce all kinds of misery and unhappiness."
3. "That you can't get something for nothing."
4. "That the world would give me just about what I deserved."

5. "That by the sweat of my brow would I earn my bread."

6. "That honesty is the best policy, not only in dealing with my neighbors, but also in dealing with myself and God."

7. "That everything which my mother wanted me to do was right."

8. "That father wasn't so old-fogy after all, if I had done as he wished me to do, I would be very much better off physically, mentally and morally."

9. "What it really meant to father and mother to raise their son."

10. "What hardships and disappointments would be entailed by my leaving home against my parents' wishes."

11. "The greatness of the opportunity and joy of serving a fellow man."



Urges More Honor Camps

[Reprinted from Chicago Daily News]

Trusting men never has been excelled as a method of making men trustworthy. Under a new state law Illinois last fall began trusting convicts in road camps. The result was entirely satisfactory. This year it will trust them some more. These unvalled headquarters of the state's prisoners have been well called "honor camps."

Various states have tried this experiment in human nature. In most of them the attempts to escape have been few and the standard of conduct has been high. The prisoners as a whole appreciate the confidence placed in them and do not try to abuse it. Under this system the men are infinitely better off, for work in the open builds up their physical condition, whereas labor within confining walls tends to break them down.

The road building plan for convicts housed in "honor camps" should be extended wherever its extension is practicable.



While a reporter was telephoning his story from Sing Sing early yesterday morning, a convict hammering on the floor made it hard for the reporter to hear. "Would you mind stopping for a few minutes?" asked the reporter.

"All right, boss," said the convict, "go to it. I got twenty years to finish this job."—*E. P. A. in New York Tribune.*

Judge (sternly)—The next person who cheers will be expelled from the court.

Prisoner (enthusiastically)—Hooray!

—*The New Way.*



Old Lady (to newsboy)—You don't chew tobacco, do you, little boy?

Newsboy—No, mum; but I kin give you a cigarette.

—*The New Way.*



"What are you running for, sonny?"

Boy—"I'm tryin' to keep two fellers from fightin'."

"Who are the fellows?"

Boy—"Bill Perkins and me!"

—*The New Way.*



The Main Point—"I see," said Wiggles, "that Robby Fancier and his wife have got a divorce."

"Really?" said Jiggles. "What a sad case. Who gets the custody of the poodle?"

—*The New Way.*



A colored man was brought before a police judge charged with stealing chickens. He pleaded guilty, and received sentence, when the judge asked how it was he managed to lift those chickens right under the window of the owner's house when there was a dog in the yard.

"Hit wouldn't be no use, Judge," said the man, "to try to 'splain dis thing to you all. Ef you was to try it you like as not would get yer hide full o' shot an' get no chickens, nuther. Ef you want to engage in any rascality, Judge, yo' better stick to de bench, whar you' am familiar."—*The New Way.*



The witness, a sleek two-hundred-pound negro woman in a gingham frock and bandana head-gear, was on the stand and talking volubly and excitedly despite the commands to "Be quiet, woman!" which the examining counsel thundered at her. At last the lawyer invoked the aid of the court to compel the dusky Amazon to confine herself to legitimate answers. "Silence!" said the judge, rapping on his desk. "Do you know where you are?" "Yes, judge," she replied, "I'se in de cote house." "Do you know what a court is?" asked his honor. "Cose I do judge. De cote is de place where dey dispenses wid justice."—*The New Way.*

The young lawyer had been very lengthy in his closing speech of his first real case, and noticing the Judge giving evidences of his weariness, he said: "Your Honor, I shall soon be through now. I trust I am not trespassing too far on the time and patience of the Court."

"Young man," responded the Judge with a yawn, "you long ago ceased to trespass on my time and patience. You are now encroaching on eternity."—*Philadelphia Public Ledger.*



The jurors filed into the jury-box, and after all the twelve seats were filled there still remained one juror standing outside.

"If the Court please," said the Clerk, "they have made a mistake and sent us thirteen jurors instead of twelve. What do you want to do with this extra one?"

"What is your name?" asked the judge of the extra man.

"Joseph A. Braines," he replied.

"Mr. Clerk," said the judge, "take this man back to the jury commissioners and tell them we don't need him as we already have here twelve men without Braines."—*The Green Bag.*



In a subway crowd not long ago, a New York man was "touched" for his watch. The watch was not intrinsically valuable, but the New York man wanted it back for sentimental reasons, and inserted divers advertisements in the papers, offering \$50 for the return of the watch and "no questions asked."

The "dip" who had "lifted" the watch saw the advertisements and concluded to take the \$50. He called on the New York man, handed him the timepiece and demanded the reward.

The owner of the watch was only too happy to give it to him. After examining the watch, he returned it to his pocket and handed over five ten-dollar bills. The "dip" pocketed the money and departed. There was little said.

A few minutes later the New York man reached for his watch.

But it was gone.—*New York Tribune.*



Officer—"I ketched this here mutt pinchin' bananas off a fruit-stand."

Magistrate—"Aha! 'personating an officer! Two years." —*Life.*

\$50 REWARD



**Escaped from Joliet Honor Farm
May 25, 1914**

OLE OLESON No. 592

Received from McHenry County, Illinois.

Age, 49. Height, 5 ft. 11³/₄ in. Hair, ch. m. gray. Eyes, yel. green slate. Weight, 171.

Scars: Burn scar 2 in. diam. back of left hand between thumb and first finger. Tip of first finger gone left hand.

Bertillon: 19.9; 15.7; 12.9; 29.0; 50.3; 1.82.5; 9.9.

Arrest and telegraph

EDMUND M. ALLEN,
Warden, Illinois State Penitentiary, Joliet, Ill.

\$50 REWARD



**Escaped from Camp Dunne
May 28, 1914**

JOHN BURKE No. 5398

Received from McLean County, Ill.

Age, 42. Height, 5 ft. 11 in. Hair, chestnut sandy. Eyes, azure blue; Weight, 173.

Scars: Middle finger, third finger and little finger, left hand amputated near third joint. Many tattoo designs on both arms, chest and right leg.

Bertillon: 20.3; 15.4; 12.0; 27.7; 50.2; 1.80.3; 9.4.

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NO. 8

EDITORIAL

First Grade Responsibilities

We publish this month a number of letters which show that in two matters the men seriously consider the pledge they have made. They feel honor bound not to desert the institution and not to use or in any way aid in smuggling in liquor.

This observance is good but the pledge calls for more.

It appears that some of the men are violating the pledge in the small things. What came out in the discussion of the farm men in one of last month's meetings shows how lightly the pledge is held in minor matters by some men. One man said, "I do not think we should have this discussion here. Things are coming out which should not be said before a keeper."

Can the first grade men fail to see where this kind of thing places their first grade? Men complain because they lose some of the privileges that have been given to them. They are given early detail and they break into other men's lockers; they are let to go out on the farm and they hunt out the milk in the stables; they are allowed to transfer money to one another on the books of the front office and they begin betting on the ball games. Then when they lose the early detail, are brought in from the farm, are no longer allowed to transfer money, they wonder why.

The criticism made is that only a few do these things and that all should not lose the privileges because of what the few do. The weakness of the men as a grade, is that the grade does not

keep itself clean. The majority of the men "stand for" what the few do and consequently the majority are dragged down with the few.

It is not the business of the administration to keep any grade clean; it is the business of the men of the grade to keep it clean. If the men of the first grade allow things to pass which will work a withdrawal of a privilege, the men must expect that all of the men will lose that privilege and not that only the few men will lose it.

If this first grade does not or cannot keep itself clean, keep itself so that the administration will know that every man in that grade is keeping true in every particular, it must follow inevitably that there will be another grade, a higher grade in which the men of the grade will keep the grade clean and then the first grade will in reality be the second grade. There must be a grade in which every man will live up to everything that is expected of him and in which when opportunities are once won they can be kept.



A Plain Talk—Ground Principles

Under the opportunity given by the present administration of this prison, the residents here, the prisoners, are undertaking to do something for themselves, for men who may hereafter fall into prison, and incidentally for society in general.

In the June issue we asked the question: "Is it right for prisoners to help in the capture of some of their number who have escaped, when the escape involves the violation of an honor pledge?"

About fifty men have responded to this ques-

tion. The replies touch so many of the vital points of an honor system that we wish to make what is said in the letters and what we shall say here a conference on the proposition in which so many of us are so vitally interested. The conference can be the "city convention," in which the welfare of the men of this institution is to be worked out; the forum in which we meet is the public print.

Some time ago two prisoners escaped from an honor camp in Smith County, Texas, and forty-eight other prisoners made up a purse of \$35.00 which they offered for the return of the two men.

This circumstance, which prompted the question just cited, brings squarely before the honor men of prisons the question of the responsibility of the men and the question of the honor movement.

In this public print conference let us consider the general question under three topics:

1. A Plain Talk—Ground Principles.
2. A Plain Talk—Social Responsibility.
3. A Plain Talk—Individual Opportunity.



Always the thought of the men here goes back to the fact that with the incoming of the present administration the times changed.

Let us in this conference at least be reasonable, and then when our conference is ended, when we shall have finished reading this editorial, and we go back to the task of working out in actual experience the things we are here talking over, let us be as patient as we can.

Patience is necessary; and also fortitude and friendship.

Be patient, men, and see what is working out. Do not use the energy and mental power, with which you might help the movement, in complaining about what has not yet come.

We may not have made practical all that we had thought would have been made practical by this time, but there has been something won that is not likely to be taken away, something that will remain for those who in the future may fall into prison. The tyranny which at times made prisoners subject to the brutality of offensive officers, is now about impossible; prisoners have the acknowledgment that they are still an element of society in general; society has recognized

that the prisoners' problems are also its problems; that prisoners have rights which society must and is willing to allow and which society must help even prisoners to work out and to establish.



K. C. Fisher sees that while before this new time an escape "concerned officials mostly" that now an escape "vitally involves the interests and welfare of all honor men." He says:

"Regarding the question: 'Is it right for prisoners to help in the capture of some of their number who have escaped when the escape involves the violation of the honor pledge?' I say most emphatically, yes, and what is more, let us devise means to make such violators of the honor pledge think twice in the future.

"Before this new time an escape, etc., concerned officials mostly, but now it also vitally involves the interests and welfare of all honor men. Therefore, the reasons for interference as far as we are concerned become obvious."

John Carey feels that "with the thought of better times," we are "justified in helping the administration to make their aim a success," and he asks that we shall be given "the courage of our inner voice," so that we shall continue "to be on the square with the Warden," in order that what the administration is working for and what the men are hoping for may be won. We quote from his letter:

"What recourse had we years ago when the silent rule was enforced? Now we have the opportunity for conversation on the recreation grounds and upon other occasions and for debate in the meetings held once a month where we can talk over anything we think is wrong and can offer a remedy.

"Band concerts have now driven away much of the sorrow and have inspired the inmates with the thoughts of better times. Now, if we are not justified in helping the administration to make their aim a success in acknowledgment of the privileges we have received and to help in the return of any one who has abused the confidence placed in them, I must say that we are an ungrateful lot.

"God forbid that we are such and give us the courage of our inner voice, for it repeats to every one without exception to be on the square with the Warden. I trust this will be thought of in the future."

Mack Wiley says that "since the conditions have changed, it would be perfectly right for

an honor prisoner to help capture a pledged honor man, if he should escape." Wiley writes:

"We should be brave enough to express ourselves, regardless of what others may think or say.

"If conditions were the same as they were ten years ago, I should say that a man was without a heart if he captured or tried to capture an escaping fellow prisoner. In those days no sane man who understood what one had to go through could justly find fault with one who tried to gain his freedom. There were no such things as honor or honor pledges. Since then the conditions have changed almost beyond belief, so that I look at the matter in this different way.

"Self preservation is the first law of nature, and while I should not blame a man for trying to escape persecution, I should blame him for escaping when given such opportunities as have been given the men of this institution during the past year. I think that now it would be perfectly right for an honor prisoner to help capture a pledged honor man, if he should escape.

"If I do something that hurts only myself, I should not feel so bad about it, but when the act of one man is going to hurt fifteen hundred men, retard their progress and lessen their chances to better their condition and also hurt the greatest benefactor that this unfortunate population has ever had, I repeat that it is right for one prisoner to help capture another who escaped under such conditions.

"I have given my honest opinion, for I think the man who makes all kinds of promises to the officials and then violates them at the first opportunity, thereby spoiling the hopes and aspirations for the future of many men who have been here a generation and who have never had an opportunity to prove their worth, can justly be called our worst enemy."

Frank Spera has himself tried running away and has "come to the conclusion there is nothing in it." But besides, "now things have changed a great deal," and "we are in a different position because we have given the Warden our word of trust." Spera says:

"In my estimation the Texas trusty system is all right, although I have not been a rule observer myself, having broken my parole two times.

"The second time I was gone nearly four years, and I put over two thousand miles between the state of Illinois and where I was, and still they got me. Now, I have come to the conclusion there is nothing in it by breaking the rule either in violation of parole or running away from a trusty position.

"When I broke parole rule it was under a different administration; but now things have changed a great deal: plenty of time for thinking before signing the pledge, and he who thinks he cannot live up to it can restrain himself from signing it. The opportunity to show out the good that was in us, under the old administration we had not been asked for. But now we are in a different position, because we have given the Warden our word of trust in order to better ourselves, and afterward to break our vow, we deserve to be brought back to order. If it is escaping from some place, we ought to be brought back where we belong, and if it is the breaking of some other rule, we ought to be brought back to obey it. Whoever has fallen in that temptation should be brought back, even at the sacrifice of money cost."



We are getting down to the ground principles of the honor movement when the men begin to talk about society's right to protect itself from law violators, about the social obligation of the men to one another, and about the individual integrity of each man on which rests, at last, all of the hope of prison improvement and also all the possibility of the progress of society as a whole.

It is probable that some men take cover under the honor pledge to carry out their own designs, but the number is so small that they are not an important element in the question of prison improvement.

J. Myers thinks little of "a man who signs an honor pledge for the purpose of obtaining a chance to escape":

"In regard to the question at hand, is it right for prisoners to help in the capture of some of their number who have escaped when the escape involves the violation of an honor pledge? Yes, it is right, for they are protecting the Warden and society as well as themselves, for a man who signs an honor pledge for the purpose of obtaining a chance to escape is a rat at heart."

And Harry Peterson, sharing this opinion, thinks it is "perfectly right" for honor men to help in the "capture of any member of an honor squad who takes the pledge as a means to betray his benefactor":

"I think it is perfectly right for men who have signed the honor pledge to assist, if they so desire, in the apprehension and capture of any member of an honor squad who takes this

pledge as a means to betray his benefactor. I want to say that the boys of Smith County, Texas, have got the right dope, and they cannot be commended too highly. Let us hope that the feeling which prompted these Texas boys may be catching."

A. Blut believes that an honor man "who would jeopardize the chances of probably hundreds of men for selfish gain deserves no sympathy":

"I wish to go down on record as saying that it is right and proper for every honor man to prevent any escape by an honor man, or, if such an escape has been made, to do everything possible to aid the officials to capture the pledge breaker. I believe a man who would jeopardize the chances of probably hundreds of men for selfish gain deserves no sympathy and ought to be caught and severely punished."

Wm. Du Chane gets even a broader view and sees that the capture of an escaped man "will be protecting society" and "will help to accomplish the cause we are all interested in":

"From my point of view as an honor man, I say, Yes, it is perfectly right to capture a man who has escaped in violation of his pledge. Doing so will tend to show that the honor men are loyal to their Warden, and also to their own pledge. Besides, they will be protecting society, for the sooner escaped men are apprehended the better for all concerned, and it will help to accomplish the cause we are all interested in, namely, the success of the honor system and prison reform. To bring prisons under humane management is worth working for."

James Jackson appreciates that honor men "are at war with public opinion which holds there is nothing good in men in prison," and sees that "our victory is to be that we should show" that a convicted man is not "of necessity as black as he is painted." Jackson says:

"I think the honor pledge is the same as the pledge in any other order. When anyone is made to understand all of the rules and regulations for the honor work and signs that agreement and then violates his pledge by escaping, he is a deserter and a coward. In time of war, one who commits such a crime is put to death. To my mind, the honor men are at war with the public opinion which thinks there is nothing good in men in prison. Our victory is to be that we shall show that a man who has been convicted is not of necessity as black as he is painted.

"Any one that takes the honor pledge with full knowledge of the responsibilities placed upon him and who then escapes or tries to escape, should, I think, be put down more by the other honor members than by anyone else, because he has done them more harm than he has done to anyone else."



More of the real ground principles of the movement are sounded by Marten Thorson.

He says that "the whole scheme depends strictly upon the beneficiaries," and not on the "authorities who are making the scheme possible." "The remedy is in the hands of the more loyal inmates." "Now is a good time to begin anew and to build up. . . . let the good and bad among us—for there are both kinds—*go at it with this moral in view, regardless of how shabbily we have been treated in the past.*" Thorsen's full letter is as follows:

"The honor system involves the necessity of absolute loyalty and co-operation on the part of the inmates. There can never be an absolute success in the new movement unless the inmates work heartily and without any selfishness toward seeing that the weaker ones do not violate the main principles, the withholding from any traffic in liquor, and, most important of all, an utter loyalty to the pledge not to escape.

"If the honor system is to have any real meaning, there is where the real honor man comes in. Mere honor accompanied with passive sympathy won't bring lasting results. It may, on the other hand, bring absolute ruin to the whole scheme. No organization ever remained intact where the supposed beneficiaries became weak and corrupt. And so it is with the honor system. The majority of the men must not only make good themselves individually, but they must restrain others wherever a tendency to weakness or disloyalty is shown. In other words, the whole scheme depends strictly on the beneficiaries and not on the constituted authorities who are making the scheme possible.

"Now then, wherein is the remedy? The remedy is in the hands of the more loyal inmates. In what way? In the way that, if any violate their pledges, then an honor man has no alternative but to show his honor by not only preventing any from going wrong, but also by helping to capture any and all who violate their pledge and escape.

"Men here are often found to be in bitter enmity toward someone else for some real or fancied grievance. Their grievances take all forms of complaint. This is not so with all, yet it is

so with a great many. Sometimes it is the treachery of someone's pal in a criminal deed; at other times a co-defendant has given testimony in court which resulted in a person's conviction or further incarceration, not to mention other forms of disloyalty too numerous to speak of.

"Now is a good time to begin anew and to build up. I might further say, let the good and bad among us—for there are both kinds—go at it with this moral in view, regardless of how shabbily we have been treated in the past."



As well as being reasonable and patient, we must also be honest; strictly honest with ourselves, lest the quiet spiritual voice within us accuse us and we shall not dare to face the real truth of things, knowing that the accusation will be found to be true.

Conscience does make cowards of us all when once we have so yielded to prejudice, to condemnation, to resentment, to selfish self-protection, that we have acted against conscience.

Let us be honest, we say, as well as reasonable and patient.

A man's own life—the quality of his mind, the character of his thought, the way he acts—governs what the man has in this world. True, in our circumstance, the prison administration has the power to give or to take away. But the men of the administration are amenable to the laws, the ways of life, the same as are the men of the cells. Goodness, service, trustworthiness, command their own: *mind is bound to respond to mind*. Character is never defeated; it may be unseen and consequently unrecognized, but it will not recede. It maintains itself in the silent reaches of the man's deeper nature and in due course it appears again in some other particular experience more suited to the other person's customary habit and, in this or in some other and later experience more intimate still, it will make itself known.

It is idle, men of this prison and of all other prisons, to think of winning the betterment which we all really want—despite the particular things which we are striving for and which we *think* is that betterment—in any other way than by becoming worthy of it.

We who are within these walls are under no different law of attainment than are the people who are without the walls. "The inhabitants

of all communities have misfortunes," as Mr. Louis F. Post said last month in the columns of this magazine. We who are here must solve our problems according to the same laws of life according to which, when we ourselves are outside, we must solve such of our problems as have not been solved here.



We would have the men of this prison know that every day, in every circumstance they are dealing with life—with their own inner life, their desires and possibilities—and not only with the Governor, the Warden and the Board of Parole.

Society asks only that individuals shall be socially safe: when society is convinced that a man is safe, society is glad to give the man freedom.

When the prison administration is convinced that a man is socially safe, the administration is glad to give the man freedom, if it can. Meanwhile, the man must show his worth where he is. He must see that his problem is in himself; that when his own life is right, the thing of his experience will come right.

The man must, as we have said, be honest, spiritually honest with himself.

If we are honest, strictly honest, so that we no longer yield to prejudice, to condemnation, to resentment or to selfish self-protection and so that we catch the finest sense of the clearest truth there is in us, we shall freely say that if we had had the will and had known how to respond to the opportunities that have been and that were to have been offered by the administration, we should now be enjoying a great deal more than we are enjoying.

But no one is to be blamed for what we have not yet won. Perhaps the men could not have grown into the new order any faster than they have grown; surely the administration could not grant privileges that would have been used to break down the discipline and order of the place.

It may be that that which we have had first to learn, is that in the attempt to better our condition in this prison we are grappling with life's own issues. If we have now learned that, we see that the question is not what will the ad-

ministration do for us, but what we are able to do for ourselves.

We come directly back to Mr. Thorson's proposition: "The whole scheme depends strictly on the beneficiaries and not on the constituted authorities who are making the scheme possible."



Suppose we have not won all that we had hoped to win, or that we might have won. What avails it to rest in the winning and only to complain? "*Now is a good time to begin anew,*" says Thorson, *and to build up. . . . let the good and bad among us—for there are both kinds—go at it with this moral in view.*"

The great truth of life which each person must face is that he must take up where he is his work of improvement, must not postpone, but must find in his immediate circumstance that which he can use in his own betterment.

Every element of thought that still clings in the mind that leads a person to use his life energy and his time to complain, to condemn, to find fault, to accuse others or to seek a selfish self-protection, is so much handicap under which the person still suffers, is so much loss of vital power which, were his mind clearer, he might use to take him on his way.

The men of this penitentiary should become honest, deeply and truly honest, and reasonable and patient.

They should be honest enough to acknowledge that opportunity was offered to them by the new administration and that, whatever has somewhat failed that was expected, opportunity is open still.

They should be reasonable enough to be willing to learn the way in which they can have the advantages which those opportunities make possible.

And they should be patient enough themselves to show that they are qualified to have that for which they ask.



A Plain Talk—Social Responsibility

The men who day after day and year after year go from the cell house to the dining hall, from the dining hall to their work, to dinner and then to supper, and from supper again to the cell house, move in a very small circle of experience.

Once it was worse than now.

Until the changes under the new administration began, no conversation was allowed except in the cell. After going into the cell, a man could talk with his cell mate in a *low tone* (the "low tone" was always printed in the rule books in italics). A prisoner's social life was almost entirely annihilated.

Things are better now. But still the men who have the closest routine move in a very small circle. The men get accustomed to it. With wonderful facility the human mind adapts itself to the conditions under which a person must live. The man does not lose his sense of the outer world with its broad range of opportunities, but the keenness of the attraction of these opportunities deadens, and with instincts benumbed, the man goes his regular daily routine in fair content.

The man is content because, being cut away from complementing environment and with no chance to live, he is in corresponding degree dead. His content is not because the natural demands of his nature are met and his life is therefore fulfilled.

But he lives again when his environment offers some application of the affections, the thoughts, the powers, the hopes. When visitors come, when he becomes a semi-trusty and goes outside of the walls with an officer, when, trusted still more, he goes on the prison farm, where again he sees the line of the natural horizon and when, still later and fully trusted, he goes to the Honor Farm or to a road camp, the affections, the thoughts, the powers, the hopes come again and what the man's life *was* when he moved only from cell to shop and from shop to cell, he knows. He knows it as a dark and deadening void in which the thread of existence was maintained and which now he only tries to forget.



The honor movement is to help men work their way again to the broader, fuller and more compensating life.

It requires some patience, the exercise of a measure of self-restraint, a consideration of remote results, and, withal, some exceedingly good and hard common sense, to carry a man through a prison term with which he **will** earn his free-

dom. Seductive must be the thought of cutting away the whole long, tedious period of the prisoner's sentence with a quick and effective escape.

It is only as men gain a sense of the broader interests involved that there can be dependence in a general loyalty to what is now undertaken in the honor movement.

There is that in every man which will respond to an appeal to help the many at the cost, even of the sacrifice, of something to the person himself. Prisoners who see the great value to others of their own faithful serving of their sentences are held to fulfill those sentences. In this natural social bond is the hope of all that is looked forward to in the honor plan.

The purpose of the pledge which is signed by the men who go to the Honor Farm or to a road camp is to strengthen in each the social interest in one another, to strengthen the bond which unites men with those in association with them.



Peter Van Vlissingen points out that "where a number of prisoners sign a common pledge, a community of interest is formed. . . . A violation of an honor pledge is an attack upon the community created by the men who signed the pledge and which contemplated a common welfare."

The obligation involved in signing an honor pledge with other men, the deep significance of uniting with those who thus in part take into their keeping the welfare of an important and far-reaching movement, should be thought of and somewhat appreciated by every man who would go out with an honor company.

If a man doubts himself, he should not go until, through further thought, he is sure he can keep true to what he promises. "He who thinks he cannot live up to it," says Frank Spera, "can restrain himself from signing it." "If any of you feel weak and think you can't stand up under any temptation that may come, say it now and don't go out," says Warden Allen.

These are words of deep and powerful admonition, spoken for the good of all the men who are now prisoners and for the good of all who may chance in the future to fall into prison. "The prisoner who violates his pledge," says Van

Vlissingen, "by escaping from legal authority is guilty of an act of selfishness at the expense of his fellow prisoners."

The man who is not sure of himself, who thinks he might fail if a too strong temptation should come, will gain strength by waiting. Later, he may become perfectly secure. The goodness of life, which is a spiritual presence, always rewards him who, in the service of good, withholds from an advantage which he feels he is not quite secure in, an advantage which he is not yet fully worthy of. The full reward will come for the apparent personal delay and the person will find that in the end there has been no time lost. The person will have gained his own as soon as he could have gained it otherwise and he will have jeopardized the interests of no one by anything which, had he acted prematurely, he might have done.

Peter Van Vlissingen says:

"The question was asked in the June issue: 'Is it right for prisoners to help in the capture of some of their number who have escaped, when the escape involves the violation of an honor pledge?'"

"Where a number of prisoners sign a common pledge, a community of interest is formed. It is then right for every member to guard the objects in the interest of which the community was organized. A violation of an honor pledge is an attack upon the community created by the men who signed the pledge and which contemplated a common welfare. Every prisoner becomes his brother's keeper, so far as his circumstances allow. An attack upon the community must be followed by reprisals in order to punish the offender and to deter others from doing likewise.

"The prisoner who violates his pledge by escaping from legal authority is guilty of an act of selfishness at the expense of his fellow prisoners and he becomes an outlaw to his fellows. Consequently he is the lawful prey for all of them and the extent of the reprisals which may be measured out to him is regulated only by the laws of the country and the latitude permitted by the prison officials.

"I would do all in my power to capture an escaped prisoner who had signed a pledge with me and who had violated it. I should, however, consider it wrong to help in the capture of a prisoner who had not signed a pledge—unless that prisoner had injured an officer, a citizen or a fellow prisoner in making his escape."

Walter Cain believes that "notwithstanding the fact that a few men have forgotten their pledges and have been false to what they promised, the honor system is good and is tending to better order, better behavior and better prisoners." He says that when a prisoner breaks his pledge, he not only gets into disgrace himself, but he influences the officials to lose faith in all the pledges and the result is that the entire sixteen hundred prisoners are put in a false light:

"I am very much interested in the honor system and I think the prisoners in this institution are fortunate. I believe, notwithstanding the fact that a few men have forgotten their pledges and have been false to what they promised, that the honor system is good and is tending toward better order, better behavior and better prisoners.

"I wish the officials would permit the prisoners to have a meeting in the chapel to raise funds to help capture those who break their pledge. I am firmly of the opinion that at least three-fourths of the prisoners would contribute to the fund. My opinion has been formed from the number of expressions I have heard made by other prisoners.

"I say, yes, honor men should help to capture deserting honor men. In the first place, no prisoner should sign the honor pledge unless he intends to keep it. When he breaks his pledge he not only gets into disfavor himself, but he causes the officials to lose faith in all the pledges and the result is that the entire sixteen hundred prisoners are put in a false light. The prisoners who have escaped would have no right to complain because we aid in their capture. They did not think of the position they put the rest of us in when they decided to break their pledges and look after themselves only. I sincerely believe in the honor principle and the honor system and I believe that with the exception of a few, the prisoners are all of the same mind."

A. W. Rhodes observes:

"You request an opinion of all inmates on the question of helping to capture or offering a reward for the capture of prisoners who violate their pledges by escaping from road camps or farms. I for one think that when a prisoner is put on his honor he should be man enough to live up to the trust and confidence that the Warden places in him. If he escapes or tries to escape, I am in favor of helping to capture him or offering a reward for his capture, and I am willing at any time to subscribe to a

fund to be used for the capture of men that are low enough to violate their pledges."

A number of men, as others have also stated, favor the proposition to have a prisoners' fund which shall be used to help capture a prisoner who has signed the honor pledge and who has escaped. A number of men, whose signatures follow, have signed a resolution, the substance of which is:

"We, the undersigned first grade men, are in favor of a fund to be raised by voluntary subscription to be used, as the Warden sees fit, to defray the expense of capturing any inmate who has been given a position outside of the prison walls, and who in order to secure this position of trust has given the Warden his word that he will not leave the prison in an unlawful way. We also will help to keep this fund up to any amount the Warden thinks is proper, so that it may serve any future need":

"Edward Westman	John Baiter
"James Moran	George Trainor
"S. Ayres	John Mason
"J. Hoffman	George Taylor
"Michael Ulenberg	W. K. Howe
"Warren Whethers	A. Franchey
"Joe Evans	Harry C. Mallory
"John Lane	Joseph Smith
"Frank Morris	H. Saucier
"Arthur C. Clark	Wm. Duggan
"George Keressi	B. F. Klugger
"Archie Hutchins	John Frong
"Edward Halpin	Sam Sirecuse
"Ralph Largio	Frank Manes
"H. Reisinger	J. H. Reg. No. 1138
"Ben Davis	Reg. No. 1637"
"Thomas Garrity	



Two prisoners, members of the disciplinary battalion under the honor system in the military prison at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, took advantage of the opportunities offered at a prison ball game and slipped through the crowd of spectators in an attempt to escape. Other men of the battalion volunteered their services to find and to bring back the men and a score of them were sent out to search the surrounding country. After several hours the searching party found the fugitives, who were hiding in the woods. All of the twenty men returned with their captives.

At Auburn prison, New York, where a mutual

welfare league with a membership of fourteen hundred men has been organized, the social interest of the members has had two striking demonstrations. Once when the whole fourteen hundred men were out of their cells marching, the electric lights went out and the prison was plunged into darkness, and yet not one man attempted riot or escape. "A miracle," says Mr. Osborne, "in the eyes of the officials, but only the natural result of the trust reposed in them." At another time there was even a stronger evidence of the awakening of social interest through the prisoners' honor movement and of the power of that interest to keep things right. At a meeting of the league an Italian jumped up and shouted: "The man who did this is here—I've waited years to get him, and now he's here—but he can go. I won't touch him—it wouldn't be fair to the fourteen hundred other men." The Italian was scarred from ear to ear. While ill in the hospital at Sing Sing another Italian who hated him had slashed him with a razor. After leaving the hospital the man had been transferred to Auburn and was made the prison barber. Later the man who had attacked him was transferred to Auburn also. Naturally the foe would come into the barber chair of the man whom he had attacked—but the revenge which had been so long waited for could not be because of "the fourteen hundred other men."

The social spirit, such as is shown in these three incidents, the "struggle for the life of others," as Henry Drummond puts it, is the strength and the hope of what prisoners and prisoners' friends are beginning to do.

If the circle of the life of the prison men who now, day after day throughout one year after another, go the fruitless round of cell to workshop and workshop to cell, is ever enlarged so as to give those men an outdoor and an out-prison life, it will come through the quickening of the social interest in which each sees that his own welfare is involved in the welfare of others, and that the welfare of others is involved also in his. An enlargement of the individual life so that the individual realizes that his own interests are one with the interests of others, is that which is of greatest value that is coming as the fruitage of the honor plan.

M. A. Walker feels that "the majority of persons on the outside firmly believe there is no honor in a prisoner." He thinks that the prisoners themselves must convince them that there is:

"The question arising from the incident which proves the fidelity of 'Real Honor Boys' in Texas has given me much enthusiasm and I can't help responding to your cordial invitation. Of course I am an honor man, and I mean to be one. The majority of persons on the outside firmly believe there is no honor in a prisoner. In order to convince them that there is I, for one, would contribute my last mite to aid in the capture of a man who would be so hypocritical or so without moral stamina as to take an oath of reliability so that he might use it as a means of escaping which would finally block the way for those that would be true."

C. Cramer says that the man who breaks his honor pledge "hurts himself with the Warden, with the other inmates . . . and he also hurts the wave of prison reform which is now progressing." Cramer writes:

"A prisoner who, with hypocritical deceitfulness, obtains the confidence of the Warden or any other officer by signing the 'Honor Pledge' for a chance for a trusty position and then tries or does escape should, in my estimation, if caught, be made to serve his maximum sentence."

"I, for one, am willing to donate to a fund for the purpose of reward for the capture of any who escape after signing the pledge."

"Such a man not only hurts himself with the Warden, but with the other inmates as well, and he also hurts the wave of prison reform which is now progressing."



Emil Guenert shows a conception of the honor work which is broad and promising. "Every honor man should take it as his duty, even if he himself is no longer a prisoner, to give an escaping prisoner up or to aid the officers even with money to get him back where he belongs."

After all, an honor movement which means only alleviation of the prisoner's condition while imprisoned and a liberation of the men from prison as soon as possible, is a small and very short-sighted plan of betterment. Such a plan does little more than guard each prisoner's self-interest and is not far removed from the selfishness from which all the troubles of the men

and the troubles of society with the men have come.

Emil Guenlert sees something more than this selfish self-interest in the prison honor movement. He sees that it is a movement to help men, not only while the men are in prison, but to help them all their lives. He wants a man to remember the prisoners' cause even after the man himself is free. "This," he says, "should not only apply to the men while here, but to them everywhere."

In this is the hint that when a man has left the prison he shall continue to live true to his honor as he has lived true to his honor here; that he shall square the things of his daily life with the best there is in him, as, while in prison, he squared everything he did with his thought of loyalty and with his pledge to be true to the administration and to the other men.



Guenlert sees the time when "in a few years honor men would be scattered all over the country," and that "it would then be hard for a runaway to stay any place" hidden from justice, a deserter from his natural social obligation to other honor men.

There is also the natural fellowship that will come to the men who have carried the honor work along. When honor men are "scattered all over the country" many another honor man who has justly earned his discharge may find in those who have established themselves in the world a helper and a friend, whose power and influence may aid them to shun pitfalls and sinister influences and to gain a footing in the world and a hold upon their deeper manhood.

The note that runs all through Guenlert's communication is the call to be true to this social interest, true to the help which one man may ever give to another. Guenlert knows "how hard it is to work on the road or farm." He has had farm work of his own, and when "many mornings a fellow gets up with sore bones he will have the temptation to go." "But," says Guenlert, if this happens to you, "*go to the Warden and tell him so.*" Keep true to the confidence of the Warden and of the other men; keep inviolate the social interest which is the power, and the only power, that can bring the better things.

In doing this a man "will lose nothing and will gain everything for himself, as well as for the other boys. The Warden will have respect for him and will give him lighter work." There is a way, Guenlert thinks, in which every man can gain his own proper good, even if he is not strong enough to do steadily the heaviest work. Guenlert sounds a note of real human interest and the power and the truth of his appeal will find welcome and will grow in many men's hearts.

But with those who will not be true to the social interest, who will not take into account the welfare of others as well as their own welfare, it is to be different. The "administration's good work of last year" must not be "spoiled with a wrong kind of sympathy." Guenlert's letter is as follows:

"In answer to your request, I say if any man breaks his word of honor, he is no good anywhere. No matter what a man did before he came here, if he always keeps his word as well as he can, he is a man, no matter what he once did. No man is worth his freedom who will break his word. Every honor man should take it as his duty, even if he himself is no longer a prisoner, to give an escaping prisoner up or to aid the officers, even with money, to get him back where he belongs. This honor system should not only apply to the men while here, but to them everywhere; it would then be hard for a runaway to stay any place. He would never know when he would run across some honor man, because in a few years honor men would be scattered all over the country.

"I know well enough how hard it is to work on the road or farm, and many mornings when a fellow gets up with sore bones he will have the temptation to go. When I started a farm for myself, I was sometimes so disgusted I could drop everything and go back to my trade. The man who gets disgusted on the road or farm can go to the Warden and tell him so. In doing this he will lose nothing and will gain everything for himself as well as for the other boys. The Warden will have respect for him and will give him lighter work. Naturally a shiftless man who, every two or three weeks, is asking for an easy job, should not be trusted outside. Those are the kind that are always knocking about too much work; nothing suits them. I say again, every man that wears the honor button should help in every way to prevent escapes, and should aid in any way he can to capture an honor man who has escaped, even if we have to go 1,000 miles for him. We should

not let the administration's good work of the last year be spoiled with a wrong kind of sympathy for a good for nothing who will go back on his own honor."



Jesse Smith joins with Emil Guenlert in the perception that men help in the honor movement in being true to the social interest of that movement, rather than in occupying any particular position of trust.

"If a man thinks he is too weak to stand the temptation," says Smith, *"he should at least be strong enough to come out plainly and say so. He will gain more by that than by giving his word and then breaking it."* Guenlert says, *"go to the Warden and tell him so. . . . The Warden will respect the man who will do this and will give him lighter work."*

The great need of the prison honor movement is for the men to realize that the power, and the sole power, of the movement is in the social interest which the movement shows, to realize that the power of the movement is measured exactly by the social interest.

When a man is sufficiently free from the blight which selfishness puts upon a man's consciousness, the man will see that his own true interest is one with the social interest in which it is now being said lies the whole hope of the honor work. Man ever defeats himself by holding to selfishness. The selfishness blinds him to his own true and larger interests and takes him out of the course of the truth of life which, in the processes of Nature, ever works constructively and which would carry him on to the realization of his own highest ideals, did he not lose this natural building power by taking, under the influence of the selfishness, a smaller and more niggardly part in Nature's great plan than that which in his soul God has thought out and has ordained for him.

The reason that a man comes more into his own when he is united spiritually (which means only united deep in his thought and feeling) and practically with other men in a common interest, is that life itself thus unifies all and that man being so unified, is, therefore, where he should be in the inevitable and omnipotent order of things.

God has not left man without guidance. In

man's own consciousness is the leading which will ever keep him up to his highest possibilities, if he will follow this deep inner guidance of conscience, holding always to that which is actually true for himself and all others. A man who is thus spiritually and practically in tune with Nature and with the Infinite cannot lose place, cannot be wrongly positioned or deprived of opportunity, cannot want in ability or in power. He is one with the type ideal of the race and all that humanity is, within, in its deep and urgent ideals, and in its actual attainment, will, even above people's intent, give him place and build him up.

What this analysis of the inner spiritual process and order of the outward and ordinary things discloses, Warden Allen voiced to the men who had met preparatory to going to Camp Allen: "Don't do anything except what your good sense tells you to do." He who is true to his own best sense in any particular situation, is living up to all that God is asking of him at that time; his clearest and purest inner thought is God's guidance of him. By obeying this, men are sure to "make good" both with the truth of life and with the people of the earth.



The undercurrent of Jesse Smith's whole thought is so to better men in themselves and so worthily to win the confidence and support of the public that men now in prison may gain the larger social life which sees "the line of the natural horizon," and which, still later and when the man is fully trusted, will bring the freedom in which "the affections, the thoughts, the powers, the hopes" begin to come again.

Jesse Smith's interest is the social interest. He wishes to have "the poor life-time fellows who wish to see the outside world once more before they die," come to the realization of the experience they are hoping for. He does not want anything done that will "hurt the other men who are waiting for their time to go out and who will keep their word if given a chance."

He sees that the social interest, the pledge of good faith, extends not only to the other prison men, but also to the administration. "The administration is telling the outside world that we are not quitters and that we have no yellow streak. Some newspapers claim that the officers

don't know what they are talking about. Now it is up to us to make our friends' or our enemies' word good. . . . Although we have been convicted, we can still show that we have some principle and respect." Jesse Smith's letter follows:

"I, for one, say, yes, it is right to help capture an honor man who has deserted.

"First, for the simple reason that if a man thinks he is too weak to stand the temptation, he should at least be strong enough to come out plainly and say so. He will gain more by that than by giving his word and then breaking it. If he breaks his word, he will not only hurt himself, but he will hurt the poor life-time fellows who wish to see the outside world once more before they die; and he will also hurt the other men who are waiting for their time to go out and who will keep their word if given a chance.

"Second, how do we expect the Governor, Commissioners and the Warden to help us if we don't help ourselves? It is our duty to meet them half way and to do all we can to assist them. Any one of us is a poor excuse for a man if he fails to do it. The administration is telling the outside world that we are not quitters and that we have no yellow streak; that although we have committed a crime for which we must be punished, there is still some honor in us. Some of the newspapers claim that the officers don't know what they are talking about. Now, it is up to us to make our friends' or our enemies' word good. Which are we going to do, be good fellows and stand pat with our friends, or show our enemies that we are quitters and have a yellow streak and that there is no honor among us?

"I, for one, say I shall stand by my friends to the last, sink or swim. Any one who gives his word of honor and fails to help capture one who has broken his word is just as bad as the one who breaks his word. I say, for God's sake, men, stand pat. Be men and let the Warden reap the benefit of his good will and works; let him reap the good he has sown. Although we have been convicted, we can still show that we have some principle and respect."



The way is clear and the way is open for every man in prison to help himself and to help every other man.

The prison honor movement is a social movement and the hope of the movement is in the faithfulness of each individual to his social obligation, in the willingness of each to respond and to live fully up to his social opportunity.

A Plain Talk—Individual Opportunity

Men who get into prison, or who get into trouble anywhere, and who find that that kind of experience is repeated in their lives, should recognize that there is something in their mode of life, their habit of thought that brings the unpleasant, the troublesome things.

The letters that have been written in response to the questions asked in the June issue of this magazine about the duty of honor men when an honor man escapes and these paragraphs written in consideration of those letters, this whole "conference," in fact, between the men and the editors in the forum of this magazine, is for the purpose of learning the causes of our troubles and of how to do away with those causes so that the troubles may cease.

We are all in a situation where it is of the utmost importance to study the situation's nature and genesis. It is only by study that we can hope to free ourselves from the risk of again being placed as we are placed now.



In the last analysis the individual is usually accountable for the situation he is in. Until the very last analysis is reached, there is a social as well as an individual responsibility.

It seems hard to fix the responsibility for things and thus to be able to solve them. The persons in office, and who thus represent society, and others whose support give these particular persons strength in the position they take, do not admit that a particularly designated social responsibility rests upon them; and also individuals reject or neglect to accept the responsibility which is personally their own. Each shifts the elements of the problem to someone else so that the elements which would be a basis for solution are at last pushed beyond people and are lost in the maze and indefiniteness, in the complexity of things called "conditions."

"Conditions," so it is said, make integrity in business impracticable, therefore no one is responsible for that lack of virtue; "conditions" cause some men to become exceptionally rich and others to remain pitifully poor, therefore responsibility cannot be placed with the employers who unproportionately divide the earnings of the joint industry or with the worker who riotously wastes what portion of the earnings he does re-

ceive; "conditions" frequently make it necessary in prisons to treat men inhumanely and to handle them in gangs under inflexible rules instead of there being a provision for the men to act from the order and in the freedom of their own thought, therefore responsibility can not be placed either on the officers who enforce this form of prison life or on the men whose insubordination and unruly action make it necessary; "conditions" caused each of the men imprisoned here to commit the act which started him towards this place, the "extenuating circumstances," not he (not persons ever) are to blame. The man's conviction was because of some wrong in the prosecuting attorney, the judge, the witness, the jury or in a notoriety the press created—so the prisoner says—but none of these individuals either, will "stand for" the responsibility; so the responsibility is pushed on, on to the "conditions," which are impersonal and cannot reply. "Conditions" are made "the goat" for all the sins of men. But "conditions" in their own way "get back": *people continue to be emmeshed in their problems; their shifting the responsibility does not deliver them.*



For every condition in which a person finds himself, there is the social as well as also the ultimate individual responsibility. But the social responsibility is only the responsibility of other individuals in their social relationship to the person. Conditions, the mere mechanical conditions imposed by Nature, hardly enter as an appreciable part in any personal or social problem. The conditions which grow out of the way people think and act are a very great part, the major part, of every such problem.

The conditions, for example, in which the person in prison finds himself, are the creation of the thought of people. They are the creation of the way the person himself has thought and acted and of the way the other people of the state have thought and acted in relationship to acts such as his.

The problem of each person is to effect a change of that in his condition which is wrong. Change can come through the way he himself will think and act and it can come through the way others will think and act; and the

change, the solution of his personal question, can come in no other way.



Individuals have practically no control over the thought attitudes and acts of others; they do have control over their own thought and acts. But the peculiar thing with some people who are out side of prisons as well as of people who are inside of prisons, is that they spend their energies in complaint against what others are doing, instead of in correcting that which is wrong in themselves.

In the complaint of others there is a sort of self-justification for one's condition; anyway, by calling attention to another's faults, one directs attention away from one's own.

In the dining hall a prisoner can see that at a particular meal he does not have enough meat; he fails to note that at many meals he wastes bread. He sees that the administration does not give him an early morning or late detail; he overlooks the advantage he took of such detail when he did have it. He thinks he should be trusted to go to the Honor Farm; he forgets that he was not exactly square in his work on the farm here.

These are only typical instances. There may be many cases where the administration has not yet given the person all to which the person is justly entitled. But let each prisoner remember that any and every situation which he is in, is set up by the attitude and acts of people, is set up by other persons *and also by himself.*

Within himself is the power to keep his own attitude and acts right; what he can do will have its influence on what others will do in reference to him; his doing right will in turn bring others to such an understanding of him that they will do right toward him. This must be so. "Goodness, service, trustworthiness, command their own; *mind is bound to respond to mind.* Character is never defeated."

After all, the only obligation that rests upon any person is to be square and upright in himself. That, in the last analysis, is his whole responsibility and is the solution of every possible personal question.

These letters, sent in by men who have signed the honor pledge, in answer to the question of what such a person should do when some other

person violates the pledge by seeking to escape, are an effort by the men to set forth just what it is to be "square and upright" in face of such a situation as the question proposes. All the men who have written think that it is right to report or to help to capture an escaped honor man. They see that the only way to hold what the honor system has already brought to them and that the only way to come to what the honor system is yet to yield, is to be faithful to their pledge, to be true to the trust that has been placed in them.



Thomas A. McManus sees that the person "who so far forgets his manhood" as to break faith with the administration and with the other men, "is no longer entitled to the respect of his fellow inmates." He says:

"Yes, to my mind, the Texas men were justified in helping to capture the escaped honor man. For any man who so far forgets his manhood as to give his word and then break it when the first opportunity offers is no longer entitled to the respect of his fellow inmates, who are thereby themselves placed under suspicion."

McManus makes it clear that the loss of the man who runs away of "the respect of his fellow inmates," is because of the man's own failure *to do what is just and right.*

A. Poole says:

"No true honor man will experience any difficulty in replying to this proposition. The obligations which an honor man voluntarily takes upon himself admit of no compromise whatever with either commission or omission of established law or prison regulations. The word 'honor' carries with it the highest and most sacred sense of knighthood, hence it should be the duty of every honor man to assist by all square and honorable means the officials in returning a man who by his act has committed that wrong against his fellows which, of all other violations, militates most strongly against their welfare."

C. Barlow understands that trustees "have our interests in their keeping to a great extent," that they are "our representatives in a good cause." He sees that each trusty has a social responsibility to every other man and that every honor man, in order to be true to his own responsibility, must see that each other honor man keeps true to his responsibility. By thus making in-

dividual integrity the basis of social integrity and strength, the wished for individual and social betterment will come.

C. Barlow says:

"When inmates are sent out as trustees, they have our interests in their keeping to a great extent and are considered as our representatives in a good cause. So, knowing this, if they deliberately break their word of honor and jeopardize our privileges by running away, I think it no more than right that we should assist in their return as much as it is in our power to do so."

When the question of social conditions is resolved into the question of the individuals' attitude of mind, the problem of the prison betterment movement becomes a tangible problem; *it is made clear that in each prisoner's own thought there is somewhat of the power to make the conditions better.*

Raymond Taylor sees this and says that men who are out on their honor should at all times remember "the men that are still behind the walls whose chances of a better life are in their hands." He argues:

"I believe that where a number of prisoners are working outside of the prison on their honor and, having pledged themselves to the Warden not to escape, they should at all times remember their obligation, not only to the Warden but also to the men that are still behind the walls whose chances of a better life are in their hands. Now, if I were one of a number of men who was placed in such a position and had a chance to capture one who had pledged himself and had then run away, I certainly would do so, not to better my own position, but for the benefit of those who are still behind the walls looking for a chance to make good. But on the other hand, if I saw a prisoner cutting his way through the wall to escape, I should wish him luck and a good getaway, providing he had not signed the honor pledge."

Edward McVey and Bert Hamilton in a joint letter say:

"Reneging on any proposition looking to prison betterment shows lack of furtherance of pledge issues and almost a renunciation of all principles contained therein. When a person has voluntarily accepted the obligations contained in this uplift movement, he should be mindful of all its possible promotions, which are far reaching in that they will concern unfortunates who are yet unconcerned, but who

are to follow us here. We read often of pessimistic utterances. We should like to see optimistic views expressed, just as we feel ourselves. This will never be unless we co-operate.

"Is it not reasonable that we, as parties of this reformation movement, should feel that not the Warden, but we ourselves as a whole are the worst hurt in any and all violations of what is expected of us? The violations are a direct slam in the face of the inmates. As the refraction of rules affect the administration, they also affect us.

"We think the men should assume no obligations that they won't make good."



A prisoner who does not wish to give his name, but who gives his number, Register No. 6933, sounds the note to which every honor man responds. "Concealed about our anatomy is there not some honor?" he asks. "It may be the last thing retained . . . in life. There are those in authority who believe we possess it and let us not disappoint them in that belief." Register No. 6933 says in full:

"The editor may list me, not against or silent, but For—with capital F—the capture of any deserting honor man (provided he leaves after being detailed to an honor camp or being trusted outside of walls here).

"Many of us in our past lives, or through coming here, have lost friends, prestige, money, etc., but concealed about our anatomy is there not left some honor? It may be in some almost the last thing they have retained in life. There are those in authority here who believe we possess it, and let us not disappoint them in that belief.

"The man who signs that honor pledge and gives his word of honor to the Warden not to leave the honor camp, has everything to gain by keeping that bond, and we have everything to gain by seeing that he does keep it. It establishes his credit before the Governor, the administration and the public; it means that he and others that are to follow will be trusted and believed in and their lot in life will be improved. Everything is to be gained by proving it. We gain the confidence of the community at large; we advance the conditions of our fellow inmates who are to follow, and we ourselves receive the sure foothold for the start in life again."

Since each prisoner's own thought and action, properly directed, help to make the prison movement a success, the fidelity of each in support of all is of the utmost importance. "The rem-

edy," as Thorson has said, "is in the hands of the more loyal inmates." Governor Dunne in his address to the prisoners at Camp Dunne recently said: "I plead with you as a camp and as individuals to stand firmly together to make the new law a success. Let each man's strength be thrown into the common pool for the equal benefit of all. Place confidence and trust in one another and when temptation confronts you, go seek the companionship of your fellows and, with due consideration for them and for the future, fight away that temptation."

The success of the honor plan is at last a question of the success of the individuals who take up that plan. Where every man succeeds, the plan itself is sure to succeed.

EDITOR'S COLUMN

We call the attention of the inmates of this institution to the article on "Food Waste" in the department, Reviews. The report which Mr. Golden makes, after investigating a number of institutions, leads to the conclusion that in Rhode Island "there is every reason to believe that considerable saving of food now wasted could be made." The local value of the question of food waste is that in this, as in all state institutions, the dietary is limited according to the amount of the appropriation. Out of the general annual appropriation of the state for the maintenance of this institution, a certain sum is apportioned for the food supply. Mr. D. C. Fleming, general purchasing agent, says it is the policy of the institution to keep the food expense as near as is possible to fifteen or sixteen cents per day per man. Mr. Golden's report shows that in Rhode Island "sixteen cents per inmate is ample" and that, moreover, "a much more varied and satisfactory dietary for the inmates than has heretofore been furnished could be provided." Probably there are ways in which savings can be made in our kitchen which have not yet been made practicable. The administration is now considering the matter. The men who want better food can help to provide a way to have it by making as little waste as possible of what we now do have. If sixteen cents per day per man is the standard outlay for food, it will be clear to even the most unpre-

tentious mathematician among us that the more food that goes onto the floor or into the waste tubs the less there will be to go into the stomach. Mr. C. J. Carlson, steward, says that at each meal the men waste, for instance, a great amount of bread. Mr. Carlson wishes to save this waste and says that if no other way can be found it can again be made into bread pudding. Nothing is gained by mere complaint: "knocking" gets not one thing that we say we should have. If there is to be a better quality or a greater variety of food, it will come not through an increase of expense but through reducing the supply of the kind of food we now have to the amount that is actually used. The cost of that which now goes to waste can easily go for something different when the waste is stopped. Let the men show their interest in having the waste stopped by doing what they can to stop it. Each man who wastes anything helps to keep the dietary below what it might be if there were no waste.

A word of caution may be given to a few of the men who attend chapel. No one has been intentionally disorderly but all should remember that the Sunday chapel meetings are a service, not merely an assembly such as might be held on a week day. To win a chapel service without the attendance of guards is a great attainment and the men should not forget how they won it. It is natural and good for the men to feel like a "free congregation," as Father Edwards expressed it, but let each man remember that it is to be a gentlemen's congregation as well. Strict order and quiet in chapel will help us to win other good things; but order and quiet are good in themselves. Let us observe them for their own sake.

Those who send us communications for publication should make their writing a study. As we said last month, first satisfy yourself that you have something of value to write about, something of your own experience from which you can show some truth. When you have written your article, keep it until the next day, then go over it again. See if you have kept strictly to your one theme. See how many sentences you can cut out and still have the article just as strong and mean just as much. Then see how many words you can spare and still save what

you meant to tell. Keep it then until the third day and go over it again. All finally good manuscript is prepared somewhat in this way. Be studious and see how much better you can write a second communication than you wrote the first one. You will be pleased with the progress you make, if you study your work. Also be careful not to have any condemnation in what you say. Condemnation breeds only evil and burden. Anything you have to tell can be told without condemning anybody. Try to tell without any fault finding what you have to tell. Be brief; be kind. This will make you a successful writer.

Mr. William Walsh, Deputy Warden, desires to state that men who wish clerical positions should notify THE JOLIET PRISON POST.

Severe discipline caused a nervous stress between prisoners and the authorities, both sides constantly expected conflict.

Silence and unbroken routine breaks the hearts and spirits of men and sends them out into the world without courage and without hope.

NEWS NARRATIVE

FATHER EDWARD'S FAREWELL

Father Edward, who came to this institution about six months ago to fill the office of Catholic Chaplain, has been chosen to go to the province of Houpe, China, as professor of English to instruct the missionaries of that vicarate, which is under the care of the Franciscans, the Order to which Father Edward belongs.

Most of the missionaries of this vicarate are Italians, Belgians, French and Germans. The French, Father Edward says, are the ideal, the most zealous missionaries. Father Edward's work will be with the Belgians.

Father Edward's closing service was Sunday, June 28.

After the sermon Deputy Wm. Walsh said:

"I am here in behalf of the Warden to express the good-will of the administration to a man who has performed his duties here in an efficient manner. Father Edward has done much good among us, and all feel the blow of the announcement that he is to go from us.

"We could not let him go without some little

remembrance and so we have here a silver watch, which is the finest watch his Order allows him to have, and on which we have had inscribed:

"Father Edward

From His Friends at the Illinois State
Penitentiary, Joliet, Illinois,
June, 1914."

"If we should properly express our feelings for our Chaplain, we should give him a watch of the finest gold and set with the most precious stones. The remembrance will help him ever to think of us here while he is far from us, traveling in the wilds of China.

"To his successor, Rev. Peter Crumbley, I promise the most hearty support of the prison administration and of the men."

Deputy Walsh then presented the watch to Father Edward, who responded in the following words:

"I am accustomed to go away from my places of work as quietly as possible. One necessarily makes some friends and many times it is embarrassing. It is painful to me to leave here. I have tried to be sincere. I have been a priest for seventeen years, and never in my experience have I had so much appreciation and had so much happiness nor such success as I have had here. I have not been subjected to one act of discourtesy from either officer or inmate, and I have been helped by all.

"I feel almost as if I am deserting you when I have been treated so well and when there is so much good to be worked out here. But such is the nature and need of the work which I am to do that I feel that later you will say I have done right.

"I cannot say for how long I shall be away. I am sentenced for one year to life, and I may return in eleven months and I may not come for two or three years. I do not know how much pull I have with the Board."

Father Edward then graciously acknowledged the gift of the watch and said that the officers had also given him a valuable traveling trunk which, before he returned, he hoped to carry around the world.

"Such an opportunity as is now offered to me," continued Father Edward, "comes very seldom to men of my class. I hope I may encircle the globe and that I shall come back better

equipped for whatever work will be for me when I return.

"I needed no testimonial, no token of your esteem to aid me to keep you in my mind. I am not going to lose my interest in you. Since I have been here, I feel that no position that can be given to me will be a promotion. I look upon this as the noblest position I have ever held.

"When I was first notified of my appointment to this place, it seemed that I should never be able to come. I was told that I could try it for a month or two, and that if I could not stand it, I should be relieved. In only a short while I told my superior that I did not wish to be anywhere else. I have now been here not quite six months and am yet only in the experimental stage. I have had high plans and I hope my successor will carry them out."

Father Edward spoke highly of his relationship with Rev. A. J. Patrick, the Protestant chaplain, and said: "We have religious peace in this house." He then spoke of his successor, Father Peter Crumbley, O. F. M., paying him compliments which the men applauded.

Captain Kane spoke in appreciation of Father Edward's work and also made a few remarks emphasizing the virtue of obedience to superior officers. He then introduced Father Peter.

Father Peter arose and stepped to the front of the platform:

"My dear friends. When I received word to report to a prison for work, I lost heart completely. I at first thought that Father Edward had fallen down on the job and that I had been called to go to a work where he had failed and where I felt that I must fail, too, if he had failed.

"I did not regain my spirits until I reached Chicago last night. A friend there told me what is being done here. I left Chicago and came, and when Father Edward told me of your work I was delighted. What you are doing is ideal work for a priest. I am to take the position that has been filled by a man who has found a place in your heart. I hope I shall be able to show you my appreciation."

The men heartily cheered Father Peter. At once all had fullest faith in him. All believe

that Father Edward recommended the right man to succeed him.

The musical numbers of the service were a selection from "Il Trovatore," a violin, cornet and piano trio by James Formby, George Thompson and Charles Schrieber; vocal solos by Charles Richards and J. J. Cooney. Herbert Webb sang a solo with orchestral accompaniment, "Back to the One I Love," the words of which had been written by William Bartley, with music by another resident. John Rudnick also sang a solo and gave some of his inimitable witticisms on local matters.

This service was perhaps of better spirit than any previous chapel meeting. It is evident that this place is gradually changing from a place of repression to a place of encouragement and hope. Human interests here are being recognized and the place is becoming normal as was promised at the incoming of the present administration.



AT THE CAMPS

The men at Camp Allen report a general good time at recreation periods.

The Fourth was an exceptional day. During the forenoon the men played ball and at noon they were served with a good dinner. After dinner all went fishing. In the evening they played outdoor games until dark.

There was a flag raising, accompanied with suitable ceremonies. Officer T. G. Keegan gave the address of the day. He paid high tribute to the Stars and Stripes and said that under that banner the boys were to make good in the work they had undertaken. The first camp had been named Camp Hope; the second, Camp Dunne; the third, Camp Allen. Governor Dunne had proposed the road work in his inaugural address and had thus made the road work possible. Warden Allen had made the trustworthiness of the men's word a reality.

The men showed their endorsement of Mr. Keegan's remarks by three hearty cheers for Governor Dunne, Warden Allen and Mr. Keegan.

The camp was visited by Dr. Van Voorhees, of Beecher, and by his guests, Mr. Lee and his daughter, Miss Nettie Lee, of Cleveland. The young lady gave the men two choice readings which were highly appreciated.

At Camp Dunne the Fourth was celebrated in good old fashioned style with fireworks, etc. There were a number of set pieces and the display was very much enjoyed by the men at the camp and by a number of visitors who were present from the surrounding country.

Each Sunday there is a baseball game. The last game reported between the Camp team, Munson's Giants and the visiting team from Ottawa, the All Stars, resulted in a score of 9 to 8 in favor of the Munsons. The Munson's Giants' battery was Walton and Allen, pitchers, and Maybie, catcher; the All Stars battery was Lanagan and Slatts, pitchers, and Hart, catcher. The games are a feature of the camp life and are creating a great deal of interest.

Recently Mr. Harris, of Deer Park township, paid the camp an evening's visit with his phonograph and gave an entertainment which all greatly enjoyed.

The Somonauk, Illinois, *Revielle* makes the following report of the Fourth of July celebration at the Honor Farm:

"The editor spent the evening of the Fourth on the Honor Farm near Lockport, where fifty trusty convicts are employed. Warden Allen, who is very popular with the men, sent out a fine display of fireworks and the enjoyment that they received in shooting off sky-rockets, Roman candles, flower pots and other pieces in their own way and without restraint of any kind is beyond description. Several of the men had been behind the gray prison walls for from 10 to 20 years, some having long ago lost hope of ever having the opportunity of enjoying a single evening out in the open country.

"After the fireworks were disposed of several vocal solos, duets, quartets and choruses were rendered by the men.

"It was indeed a happy event and it did one's heart good to see how they appreciated the trust imposed in them."

The *Elgin News*, speaking of the men at Camp Dunne, says:

"The prisoners are a happy set. They play baseball, hold boat races, swimming races and compete for honors in other lines of athletics. They have won the esteem of their 'boss' and are permitted to roam within a half mile of the camp without a guard."

Mr. Carl Munson, who is in charge of the camp, is a former Elgin man. On a recent visit to Elgin he reported that Munson's Giants, the

Camp Dunne ball team, had "won six out of nine games this season"; and, he added, "every time they win, it is up to me to buy the ice cream for the bunch."



"AN INNOVATION"

The Leavenworth *New Era* reports a debate between two prisoners at Leavenworth and two young men from the Kansas City University debating team.

Warden Morgan, in introducing the speakers, characterized the debate as "unique." The speakers of the prison conducted themselves as normally as did the visitors from the university—and why should they not? Commenting on the debate, the *New Era* says:

"It was an innovation worthy of commendation. The *New Era* sincerely hopes that, ere long, every prison in this country will give men behind lock and key a chance to "look and listen." Give the inmates a chance to prove their worth by acts and deeds. The public knows little or nothing about such unfortunates, as a class, and this "innovation" should be adopted in all penal institutions. Give men a chance to show what they want, and can do, and the balance is easy. Sitting for two hours in that stifling heat Sunday, listening to speakers upon a subject which is of vital importance to one hundred millions of people, proved that even men in our sad plight still retain a lively interest in great economic questions."

The Leavenworth men were "proud" of the "exemplary conduct" of their representatives. Those men feel that it has now been shown that men who even are locked away from the world are interested in "good debates, scientific lectures and the discussion of matters in general that pertain to real life." And they feel that unless all signs fail they will have "other innovations." "Good conduct . . . means more to us now than at any other time," says the *New Era* in an editorial note.



RECREATION IN PRISONS

Perhaps nothing shows more clearly the great change that is coming into prisons and into the public's thought about the attitude toward prisoners than the sports that are now beginning to be made a part of the regular prison life.

The *New Era* reports that hereafter all kinds of athletic sports and games are to be permitted at the Leavenworth penitentiary on Sunday afternoons. There will be foot races, dancing contests, quoits, handball, baseball, etc. The men are urged to organize clubs, or "scores of them," to play other shop teams; and to arrange for debating contests for those who would prefer debate to the athletics.

Warden Thomas W. Morgan has given out the official notice of this new recreation privilege, which in part is as follows:

"Beginning with Sunday afternoon, July 5, 1914, and every Sunday afternoon thereafter, weather permitting, the freedom of the yard will



JOE WHITE IN ACTION

Leavenworth New Era.

be extended to all inmates of this institution not deprived of such privilege by reason of misconduct. Such exercises and sports may be indulged in as are approved by the Deputy Warden, who will be on the ground, and music will be furnished by the prison band.

"In extending this privilege I sincerely trust that every beneficiary thereof will so conduct himself as to fully justify the confidence placed in him. The success or failure of this effort for your amusement and recreation depends upon you. Let there be no ungentlemanly act or misconduct, and avoid undue boisterousness, for such will deprive the offender of the privileges extended.

"At 4:20 p. m. the assembly will be sounded, when every man will fall in his proper place the same as when quitting work on week days. You will then march to the dining room for supper."

"Now is the time," says the *New Era*, "to get busy and plan everything along fair and equitable lines of endeavor which will tend to help each other. Let us profit by the time spent at play. Turn the 'time-doing' into profit, physically and mentally. Let us turn gloom and sadness into sunshine and joy."

The *New Era* is now publishing a full page of sporting news. The Leavenworth prison teams are the Eagles and the All Stars.

The *New Era* thus comments on the baseball game of July 4:

"The morning of the glorious Fourth, 'mid music and 'thusiasm, we strolled forth to our ball park, prepared to pluck bare the bird of a nation; prepared to emit victory pæans by the furlong, as our All Stars celebrated the National birthday via the taming of a flock of aquila chrysaetus."

The illustration of "Joe White in Action" is, we suppose, typical of the Leavenworth baseball sportsman.

The *Mirror*, at Stillwater, devotes three columns on its first page to the Fourth of July festivities, reporting a ball game between the Green Sox and the Power House. The *Reflector*, Jeffersonville, Ind., reports by innings a game between the Blues and the Car Works; the *Bulletin*, at Lansing, Kans., gives over a page to baseball reports; the *News*, Greendale, Ky., gives two pages to ball game reports by innings; the *Reformatory Press*, Anamosa, Iowa; the *Umpire*, Eastern Penitentiary, Philadelphia; the *Ohio Penitentiary News*, Columbus, and other prison papers also have recreation reports.

The New Orleans *State* gives a very flattering report of the Fourth of July celebration in Mississippi:

"The greatest holiday ever given to the convicts of the Mississippi penitentiary was today at the various farms. All forms of labor were abandoned, bountiful dinners served to the prisoners and permission given to participate in the numerous amusements furnished.

"At the Parchman Farm, where more than 1,200 prisoners are confined, a big picnic was given, music furnished by a brass band and a barbecued dinner served."

It appears that the work on prison farms in Mississippi has been productive this year and that the trustees wished to acknowledge this by

allowing the men to have a good celebration. The *State* says:

"In view of the handsome profit made by the state on its prison farms during the past year the trustees felt that they ought to give the convicts an exceptional entertainment."

Thus it goes in the prison communities. More and more these communities are establishing a degree of normal life even while they recognize that the state requires them to remain with a certain institution and every night to be counted.

Prison betterment is being gradually worked out by the prisoners themselves.

The Jackson, Mich., *Citizen Press*, of July 4, records:

"Today is a gala day for the inmates of the Michigan state prison. No work will be done today. At 9:30 a. m. the prison baseball team and the Hanover 'Summits' clashed on the prison diamond. Nine hundred twenty-five prisoners were on hand to shout for their team. A special dinner will be served at noon in the prison dining hall. Following this the inmates will return to their cells and spend the remainder of the day. During the course of the ball game lemonade was given the crowd."

At San Quentin, according to the San Francisco *Chronicle*, a vaudeville entertainment was given on the Fourth of July in the afternoon for the prisoners and in the evening for the officers and invited guests.

The Baltimore *Sun* reports the first open air field day at Auburn, N. Y., where a mutual welfare league with the motto, "Do good, make good," has been organized:

"It was adhered to yesterday, when the first open-air field day ever held in a state prison in New York took place among the 1,400 inmates. Outside the prison nothing was known of the epoch-making privilege accorded the inmates inside. At 2 o'clock the inmates were marched in the yard in their usual companies and there, as formidable a regiment as ever assembled, they stood at attention until a bugle sounded. This was a signal to disband. The men were free to loaf and play for three hours."

At first the men seemed dazed, the *Sun* says, but later, "laughter, cheers and real college spirit pervaded the strange outing." Principal Keeper John Martin took off his coat and joined the prisoners in their sports. Other keepers took off

their coats and played baseball and took part in a half mile run for keepers.

At the close of the exercises it was announced that the South wing had won the sixteen-inch silver cup and banner. Then promptly the North wing boys assembled and gave "a cheer that was heard all over the city." The South wing replied with a rousing cheer for the gallant losers.

When the bugle sounded retreat, "mechanically" the fourteen hundred men of the gray brotherhood found their company locations and fell in line. The sergeants-at-arms turned their men over to the guards. Every inmate was accounted for. Not a single breach of discipline had taken place."

The Indianapolis *Star* comments editorially under the caption, "Prisoners Are Human," on a match ball game between the men of the Ohio penitentiary and the Indianapolis club of the American Association:

"Players of the Indianapolis club of the American Association enjoyed a unique experience in their game with a team of negroes inside the walls of the Ohio State Penitentiary at Columbus—unique because it was the first time in the history of the country that professionals from an organized league met a team of convicts, and unique, too, for the opportunities it offered to men who have their liberty for observing what comfort and cheer such a diversion gives to convicts."

Concerning the unfamiliarity of the men with their new freedom and their fears because of the reputation of the visiting club and also concerning Warden Thomas' view of recreation, the *Star* continues:

"The prison players were visibly disconcerted by the reputation of their opponents and failed to play the best that was in them, but it was a ball game for all that and the orderliness, the attention and the cheering of the 1,500 inmates of the prison who crowded the bleachers attested a genuine enjoyment of the game. Warden Thomas of the Ohio penitentiary looks upon baseball as a profitable relaxation for the men in his charge; it lifts the men from their prison selves and injects a touch of the free outside to break the drear monotony of their existence."

The disclosure that men who have been convicted in a court are still "human," are as human as they ever were, helps the public to see that things of normal human interest, like play-

ing baseball or running a foot race, are quite natural and that they are beneficial to the prisoner and to society also, since most prisoners must inevitably become members of society again.

Judge Gemmill's statement that many average and reputable citizens are made "criminals" by the passage of a new law, that, for instance, "the passage of the pure food law made fifty thousand criminals who before that time had been looked upon as good citizens," will open the eyes of some persons as to the use that has been made of the word "criminal" and the term "criminal class." The public does not seem to recognize that the violations of a statute which makes a man a "criminal" under the law does not in any way alter that person in character, the person's home interest, his solicitude for his wife and children, his own hopes and purposes in life and his loyalty to the country's good, is not changed by the court's conviction.

There are men, of course, who do not live out these higher qualities, but those who do have them, have them still, though they have fallen down in some one thing. And it is being learned that a little less exaggeration, a little more plain honesty and humanity in dealing with men of this class and, for that matter, with all other persons also who have gotten into prison, is far better than the old treatment that is being abandoned. The *Star* says:

"There was a time when such concessions to prisoners were considered all wrong, and there are persons even today who cling to the old belief that the law's wards should be made to feel their punishment by every deprivation that can be inflicted upon them. Modern penology takes the view, correctly we believe, that any diversion helping to restore self respect to men is to be encouraged, so long as it does not impair discipline in prisons. The dead level of prison routine dehumanizes men; it dulls their individuality and tends to destroy rather than to build up any latent conscience they may have.

"The point in successful correctional institutions is to make men permanently better, and that can be done only by lifting them out of their old conceptions of life and of self and making them understand the dignity of right living. Assuredly nothing is to be gained toward this end by muring them up and taking from them every vestige of the outside world. But if they can be made to feel a finer human impulse by sharing the pleasures of liberty with free men,

if they repay in as dignified way as such a body of men can the trust imposed in them by the warden who lets them have baseball teams and arranges games for them, or permits them to organize bands and lets them enjoy the music, then are not they on the road to betterment? Modern penology has yet to be shown its first disappointment for 'coddling' and 'pampering' convicts in this way."

CONTRIBUTIONS

PHILOSOPHY OF THE NEW CHANCE

By John Wray

A Prisoner

The foundation of the honor system goes down to unfathomable depths. According to a man's sanity, is the strength of his passion for order. Insanity and folly are descriptions of a defective sense of order or of a feeble passion for it. Over against nature stands the man and deep in his heart is the passion for liberty. The passion for liberty is only another name for life itself. Liberty means an opportunity to live one's own life in one's own way. Temptations cut the intellect loose from the heart of life. There is an honored Socratic maxim that says man himself is the measure of all things; and there is an Aristotelian maxim that says the real nature of a growing thing is to be discovered only in its matured character.

Following these intimations, let us in a tentative way set down the formula of a scientific method which may afford us a key to the secret of the motive force of man's evolution. Find the deepest thing in the most representative person and you will have found the deepest thing in the problem. It is possible so to deepen and integrate, so to rationalize and to purify the wills of a controlling element of the people that they shall delight in and heartily maintain a common order.

This is the modern and democratic way. The faith in democracy is the belief that the deepest thing in the individual is, after all, his humanity. The things that men want most and care most for are those things that are most human and freest from the taint of privilege.

Freedom is the birthright of man. We cherish it, we regard it as above price; the rising tide of democracy is a manifestation of freedom's growth. Then, cheer up, boys, for as long as

there is life there is hope; and the administration is giving us a chance. We should appreciate that and we should act in harmony with the administration; the more we harmonize among ourselves, the more the Warden can help us. You may put me down for one who is in accord with all of the prison administration's ideals, as one who hopes his heart is on the right side.



A MAN YET

Browning

After all you say well: I am
A man yet: I need never humble me.
I would have been—something, I know not what;
But though I cannot soar, I do not crawl.
There are worse portions than this one of mine.
I had immortal feelings; such shall never
Be wholly quenched: no, no!
I had a noble purpose, and the strength
To compass it; but I have stopped half-way,
And wrongly given the first-fruits of my toil
To objects little worthy of the gift.
Why linger round them still . . . nor strive instead
With mighty effort to redeem the past
And, gathering up the treasures thus cast down,
To hold a steadfast course till I arrive
At their fit destination and my own,



Georgia Lawyer (to colored prisoner)—"Well, Ras, so you want me to defend you. Have you any money?"

Rastus—"No; but I'se got a mule and a few chickens, and a hog or two."

Lawyer—"Those will do very nicely. Now let's see; what do they accuse you of stealing?"

Rastus—"Oh, a mule and a few chickens and a hog or two."—*The New Way*.



Papa—"But hasn't your fiancé got a job?"

Daughter—"Not yet, but he's going to get one at \$25,000 a year."

Papa—"Indeed! Glad to hear of it; what is he doing?"

Daughter—"Well, he read in the paper of some man who is paid \$50,000 a year by the Bankers' Association not to forge checks, and George is going to do it for half that."—*Philadelphia Public Ledger*.

REVIEWS

A Voice From Within the Walls

The Aurora, Ill., *Beacon News* reports a message that has come out of the Arizona penitentiary from Louis Victor Eytinge, a man serving a life sentence in that prison.

Eytinge's word is that prison life is not reformatory. He says that men do not learn the art of citizenship while imprisoned and so become socially worthy and suitable for release, but that forty per cent of the discharged men find their way into prison again. He submits the question of prison methods as methods of reform to the business proposition: "How long would any business last that had to scrap forty out of every hundred machines it built?"

The percentage of "scrap" in the discharge from prisons can be reduced. Eytinge says:

"Take the prisons out of politics and elevate the character of the under employes above that of ward heelers and political pensioners.

"Give us work that is helpful to our bodies, minds and futures. Don't teach us broommaking and then turn us out to compete with the blind people in charitable institutions. Don't teach us to make socks and shirts and then release us to compete with women's wages.

"Train our minds. Some of our prisons are without schools. Of what value are two nights a week in school?"

"Teach us to have self-control, to get will-power and moral strength.

"Give us health. Most of our prisons are hot beds for tuberculosis. Over 65 per cent of prison inmates are physical defectives.

"Give us the parole system. Parole us when we merit it and if we fall down bring us back again. This will keep the repeater inside and the one who makes good outside.

"Try and understand us. We're human beings—not a bit different from the rest of the world in many respects."

Elbert Hubbard's visit to Arizona penitentiary gave him a chance to meet Eytinge. Mentioning in the report of his visit, given in the *Chicago Examiner*, Warden B. Sims and J. J. Sanders, the parole clerk "who makes it his business to know every prisoner and to use his influence constantly and in every possible way for the betterment of the boys under his charge," Mr. Hubbard says:

"The third important man in the prison is a lifer. His name is Louis V. Eytinge. Eytinge has taken the vow of chastity, poverty and obedience, and prison has given him opportunity.

"He is a very good looking man, intelligent, frank, friendly. He wears citizen's clothes. His cell is an office where the door is never locked. He has a roll top desk, and on the walls are pictures of many of America's literary men, orators, inventors, business men.

"Eytinge has a filing cabinet for his correspondence. He also has two private secretaries.

"He is the most systematic, methodical individual you ever saw in your life. Also, he has the biggest private correspondence, I believe, of any man in America.

"Louis V. Eytinge started a business in prison—a mail order business.

"This business was to manufacture and sell Mexican hair goods and curios—things made in the prison. He has a force of men that he taught to do this work, and the business is still carried on.

"Eytinge, however, discovered that in selling his products he had something else in stock which was valuable, and that was brains. The man is a wizard of words, and he is supplying selling letters and advertisements to business men.

"Also, he has a school of advertising literature and is teaching convicts how to write good English."



Prison Labor, Road Building and Character Building

Attorney General Barker of Missouri, according to the *Macon Republic*, stated recently at a meeting of the board of prison inspectors that he will ask to have the provision for prisoners to work on roads extended so that any county in the state may use the prisoners. In Mr. Barker's state the counties pay the cost of transportation and board the men; the state guards the men, clothes them, etc.

Attorney General Barker contrasts the value of road work with the prison contract labor system and favors road work despite the seventy-five cents per day per man which the prison labor contractor would pay. He says:

"While the contract system of working convicts appears to be the only available way of working them so as to make the penitentiary self-sustaining, yet it is plain that the people of the state are opposed to this system, and I am in favor of finding some other way of employing them. Working them on the public high-

ways appears to be the most popular move, and so far as I am concerned I will vote to give every county as many convicts as it wants as long as the supply lasts, regardless of the fact that the contractors pay seventy-five cents a day for men who, if employed on the highways, would bring in no revenue to the state, but to the contrary would be an expense. I will do what I can to have the system of working convicts on the highways tried out to the fullest extent in this state during the summer."

Superintendent of Prisons Riley, of New York state, according to the Binghamton *Herald*, reports that at least 250 miles of prison-built roads will be constructed in his state this year. Fifty thousand dollars have been appropriated to test the availability of prisoners as road makers.

The Topango Cañon road, near Los Angeles, California, "which bears the distinction," says the Los Angeles *Examiner*, "of being the first to be constructed under the convict system in this country," is now open for use. The announcement of the road's being open was first made by the Los Angeles Automobile Club. This road, which leads through "one of the most ruggedly scenic sections," means new and delightful travel for the automobilists and also the opening of the road "is welcomed," says the *Examiner*, "by the trout-fisherman who likes to ride as close as possible to the stream with his automobile."

"The success of the application of convict labor on the Topango road has caused efforts to be made to extend the system," and probably prisoners will be employed to complete the Mount Hollywood road, where work has been stopped because of lack of funds.

Mr. J. C. Lehner, the American gastronomer, in reporting in the *National Food and Cookery Magazine* his visit to the Colorado State Penitentiary, says:

"One thousand miles of roads built by the convicts lure thousands of automobiles from all states of the Union to Colorado. It would cover a distance from Paris to Madrid."

But in his report of good road making by prisoners, Mr. Lehner sounds a new note:

"Thomas J. Tynan, a rare example of splendid United States citizenship, is the professional warden. He has solved the problem of teaching men who have committed errors in life to earn

bread and butter in an honest way. So impressive was every detail, so instructive the surroundings connected with his gigantic school for self-supporting, that one could hardly say: 'This is a prison and its director is just a warden.'"

The greater freedom that is coming to prisoners is in the service of making men, as well as being in the service of making roads. Do the automobilists and the trout fisherman who have the advantage and pleasure of the Topango road, think sometimes while on their exhilarating rides or while angling for the gamy trout, of the men who made the mountain road they enjoy, and who are most likely glad to have made it for those who are in a position to enjoy it—men who have homes and families to whom they want some day to return, and who have purposes and hopes of their own?

The Detroit *News-Tribune*, in reporting that "the National Committee on Prison Labor, as the result of an experiment by its chairman, Thomas Mott Osborne, in Auburn Prison, New York, will accentuate its contention for convict road camps and farms," quotes Mr. Osborne as saying:

"Behind the prison bars we should relax the iron discipline—the hideous, degrading, unsuccessful system of silence and punishment—and substitute a system fair to all men, a limited freedom and work in the open air."

The *News-Tribune* observes that Mr. Osborne may not be far wrong in his statement that

"These prisoners are men—real men—your brethren and mine. If you treat them like beasts, it will be hard to keep them from degenerating into beasts. If you treat them like men, you can help them to rise."

And it proceeds to comment on the general proposition to do something for prison men:

"If the honor of the prisoner can be developed in Auburn Prison, under the horrible conditions of germ-reeking cells and wretched prison shops, where, after a week, Mr. Osborne felt physical weakness creeping over him, to what extent can it not be developed under the stimulus of decent camps, sunshine and fresh air?

"The foolishness of the old prison system of repression is fast giving way to the newer methods of self-government."

Turning more to a scientific consideration of the question, Mr. T. J. Ehrhart, State Highway

Commissioner of Colorado, where, as just instanced, one thousand miles of good roads have been built, in a paper which he sent to the Fourth Annual Road Congress, says of prison road work in Colorado:

"The work done compared favorably with the best road work under the contract system at a cost of from fifty to seventy-five per cent of that

ing equipment, team, road, and appropriate salaries, connected with the work.

The *Good Roads* report of the 1912 Commissioner's paper contains:

"The men are carefully selected with regard to their physical condition and as to character, and are placed under the supervision of a superintendent of road work."



A Splendid View of the Scenic Roadway Up Cache la Poudre Canon, Colorado, Built by Prisoners

system, and the health and morals of the men were greatly improved."

The first prison labor road law in Colorado was passed in 1899. The law was opposed by the wardens of both penitentiary and reformatory. The experiment was not entirely successful principally because of the untrained, inexperienced men who were placed in charge.

In 1905 the Lewis law was passed, which provides, as stated in Mr. Ehrhart's paper, which is reported in *Good Roads*, that

"counties may apply to the warden for convict road labor, agreeing to pay all expenses, includ-

handling men of this character. The superintendents must also be expert road builders. The gangs number from 25 to 75 men and are fully equipped with tents, necessary teams, etc., at the counties' expense. Warm comfortable gray clothing without stripes or distinguishing marks is furnished by the state. The convicts are furnished with an abundance of good, substantial food at an average cost of thirty-three cents per day per man.

"Remember, these men work without any guard whatever, are entirely controlled by the rules and a capable superintendent.

"The work done will compare favorably with the best up-to-date contract work at a comparative cost, variously estimated at from fifty to

seventy-five per cent. Outside the estimate of monetary gain is the more, in my opinion, important humane consideration in the treatment of the man. He goes out into the open with healthful surroundings, and when his time expires he goes forth in splendid physical condition, capable of taking care of himself at any sort of labor. It is the endeavor of every inmate to so conduct himself inside the penitentiary that he may be chosen to be sent out on the roads. The health of these men while engaged in this work may be marked 100 per cent. The interest and pride in the work done more than equals that of the paid laborer. We have 'life-termers' who have worked on state roads for the past ten years. There have been two instances at least where men under life sentence have journeyed alone from their camps more than 100 miles by stage and train to the state capitol to appear before the board of pardons to plead their cause."

The *Farmers' Mail and Breeze*, Topeka, Kansas, makes a further contribution to the scientific study of the prison labor road question in its report of the work of the Columbia University graduate highway department:

"Road building by convicts has stood the test of the scientific investigation made for Columbia University, through its graduate highway department, by Sidney Wilmot, a road engineer. The findings of the investigation show that the work performed by the convicts in the different states ranges in value from \$1.50 to \$5.70 a day, with a profit to the state by the use of this labor of from 50 cents to \$4.03 a day. In short the contention is well sustained that there is a general and considerable profit at present going to the state by the use of convict labor for road work over the cost by other methods of construction, this saving being quite independent of locality and types of construction, although influenced by the size of the gang used."

The *Farmer's Mail and Breeze*, commenting further upon the facts set forth in the report, indicates the material value of the character building which is going on in the men and which makes a man's honor sovereign. It sees an "economic advantage" in the promotion of the "honor system"; a distinct material as well as a moral benefit in the "substitution of a man's word and his conscience, for a gun":

"The striking thing of these figures is that the expense of guarding adds to the cost of the work over 20 per cent more than that of feeding. This throws into prominence the economic advantage

of the "honor system." This substitution of a man's word and his conscience for a gun was, at the first, a makeshift, but has since become a necessity—a saving in every sense of the word.

"The prisoner himself benefits most of all by his work on the roads. The healthful, outdoor labor, the better food, the incentive of the honor system, and, above all, the wage increasing in proportion to the profits of the state, all combine to make him better fitted to re-enter society. The investigation proves conclusively that the building of good roads can be made a definite factor in the upbuilding of men."

Road building originally was only an economic proposition; now it is coming to be a matter of social justice and individual growth; a matter of building, not only roads, but of building both individual and social character.



Prisoners and Wages

The New Orleans *Star*, commenting on the failure to secure the passage of the parole and indeterminate sentence law recommended by the Prison Reform Association of Louisiana, says that

"Whatever differences of opinion there may be on the question of parole and the indeterminate sentence, there can be no difference of opinion on the question of compensation for families of prisoners."

The recognition that prisoners should be paroled as soon as it is practicable so that they may begin to earn support for their families, which is acknowledged and is law in many states, is close up to the thought that prisoners should earn wages while yet in prison so that their families may not be in want even while the husband and father is away from them.

The Waukegan, Illinois, *Sun* makes the following comment on the beginning that has been made in the Illinois state penitentiary at Joliet in allowing the men to earn money:

"In two departments of the state penitentiary at Joliet the prisoners have been allowed a share in the earnings. This is a noteworthy plan and has been adopted in several states. It makes the prisoner feel less like a machine and more like a human being. With something to strive for, his mind is better occupied and that means better discipline. Then, too, the families of the prisoners can receive some of the benefits of the labor. One of the worst faults of our system

is that the families are thrown entirely upon their own resources the minute the head of the house is arrested. Warden Allen has introduced many innovations since becoming manager of the state's big institution and this is certainly one of the best."

In at least one prison in the country, the state's prison in Minnesota, where binding twine is manufactured, the work of the prisoners makes the prison self-supporting. The industrial idea which is creeping into penal institutions will in time bring a full wage to the working prisoners which will enable them to care for their families even while satisfying the demands of the state.

Continuing the general question of the need of the prisoners' families' support and of the inevitableness of this support being provided for, the New Orleans *Star* says:

"When a man comes within the shadow of the law for some crime, great or small, it is but right that he should pay the penalty, but why should his innocent wife and helpless little ones be left to charity, while he, in his robust health and strength, is productive of just so much revenue for his state as would support himself and them? The criminal is better off in this case than his innocent family. He is provided with food, lodging, clothes, a doctor and medicine if sick, and a grave at death, while his family is left to burden the wife, who must take upon her shoulders the double duty of caretaker and breadwinner, to do both indifferently, as she must.

"Let the economists who strain at gnats and swallow camels in the matter of state funds not imagine that somehow, somewhere, the money grudged the convict's family will not be paid out in their support. The overburdened wife and mother who must provide subsistence for them must neglect their physical and moral care, and some time, somewhere, the state will have to pay back with interest the earnings of the father and husband that it withholds from them. It may be in hospital or asylum, it may be in reformatory, or, again, in jail or prison, but it will most likely be paid back."

The recognition that the prisoner's family is necessarily to be supported in some way must lead to the acknowledgment that the most economical as well as the most natural way is to let the husband and father supply that support. There is no reason why a man's earning power, so far as the prison can utilize it, should not be preserved. Labor unions may have just grounds for protesting against free labor, through com-

petition with prison products being brought down to the level of prison labor, but possibly the unions will not object to having prison labor brought up to the level of free labor.



Men Who Are Prisoners Are to be Allowed to Work

The country is learning very rapidly these days that there is a direct social loss in keeping men confined and deprived of the opportunity for productive labor.

As the public gets away from the idea that conviction in a court consigns men to a "criminal class," which makes them, therefore, dangerous forever afterward, it is realized that among men who have been convicted of a particular offense there are some of real social value, while there are many others not inherently and irrevocably bad—who can be made of social value and that only a small percentage of the men sent to prisons are wholly unsafe and socially valueless.

It is being recognized that it is better to have the men who have been committed to prison employed than to have them idle and that it is better still to have them employed at something useful. The Rock Island, Ill., *Argus*, says that its own county and Knox county, are having about the same experience in trying to keep at breaking stone "all prisoners who are eligible for this sort of punishment." Both counties find that "in reality there is no stone on hand to be broken," so that the prisoners are really idle. Continuing, the *Argus*, says:

"In Knox county they have discovered, as Rock Island county has, that it takes money to hire guards to watch the men while they are breaking rock, that only a few prisoners are available at any time for this kind of duty, and that stone crushers can do the work that the prisoners do so much more cheaply that working jail inmates in this manner actually is an expensive method of punishing them."

Turning then to the question of how to make the prisoner's labor really of value, the *Argus* observes that

"Apparently the only way to make working this class of offenders satisfactory is to have the state law prohibiting the use of ball and chain repealed and of working prisoners in the streets and roads. Then the item for guard hire will not be so formidable and the prisoners can be taken to the stone instead of having it brought to them. It may be that public sentiment will not

uphold the repeal of the provisions referred to, but it is doubtful if an offender against the law would be worse off making expiation in the streets with a ball and chain attached to him than he is now lying in the Rock Island county jail in its present condition."

While the *Argus* sees the worth of having prisoners do work that is of some value, still it does not get above the idea that even the productive work is to be done by men "who are eligible to this kind of punishment." It thinks that "public sentiment" will not uphold "shackling men for work in the street but it says nothing about the right of the men themselves not to be thus shackled, nothing of the obligation of the county to open an opportunity for an employment that will upbuild the men. It can only see that its county allows conditions to be so bad in the county jail that "it is doubtful if an offender against the law would be worse off making expiation in the streets with a ball and chain attached to him."

Most people of the state of Illinois will likely think that if a man "now lying in the Rock Island county jail in its present condition" is no better off than he would be wearing a ball and chain at street working that Rock Island county should pay some attention to the condition of its jail and that the *Argus* should have some higher reason for liberating the county prisoners from breaking rock at the Rock Island jail than only that "working jail inmates in this manner actually is an expensive method of punishing them."

Alabama, it appears, is ahead of Rock Island county in this matter. Commissioner Weatherly has been trying the experiment of working prisoners without ball and chain. The *Birmingham Ledger* says:

"Prisoners in the future may work the city streets without the shackles. The city has been experimenting for the past two weeks with unshackled prisoners and only two made their escape."

The Howard Association, a prisoners' help organization, has petitioned the Hamilton county, Tenn., road commission to remove the shackles from the workhouse prisoners and the commission has decided to give the experiment "a fair trial, selecting from their prisoners those most likely to observe the limited parole." The men "are to be assembled in one working gang and given the absolute freedom of their limbs."

Commenting on the commission's action, the *Chattanooga Times* says:

"The action of the commission is sound. There are doubtless prisoners held at present who are desperate enough to take the chances of being shot if their legs were free to run away; there are many others who are ready to accept the concession of going without shackles in good faith. It is believed, and it has been exemplified elsewhere, that the honor system among misdemeanants works a most salutary reform. Those who enjoy a certain amount of freedom for good behavior offer an example to their fellows which must be wholesome in at least some cases and the good thus done may be reasonably expected to increase as the system is extended and improved."

In Clark county, Ohio, the progress of civilization seems to have taken even a stronger hold. Springfield, Clark county, has for some time used its prisoners for out-door work on the streets. Now it is proposed that the county prisoners "be put to work sweeping the streets or at some other useful employment," on some such plan as that on which the city prisoners are employed.

The *Springfield Sun* recognizes that every moderately normal and healthy man is a social asset and that if a man's health is allowed to deteriorate, he may instead become a social burden:

"As conditions now exist, the petty offender who is sentenced to jail for a short period of time is in a fair way of becoming a charge upon the county. There is not enough work about the prison to keep him in fair physical shape and he is forced to spend his time in idleness. His muscles become flabby and his whole physique weakened. If he is a day laborer or a man who depends upon bodily strength or skill for a livelihood a term in jail reduces his earning capacity and unfits him for hard work."

But the *Sun* also sees that there is more to the men and more to the question of the community's handling of the men than merely to see how much work the commission can get out of them:

"There is another side to the sending of men to prison for petty offenses which does not appear upon any court records. The families of such men are often the chief sufferers and the period during which their bread winner is confined is frequently one of actual hardship to them. Thrown upon their own resources, they are unable to make ends meet and become dependent either upon the charity of their friends and relatives or upon the county."

The *Sun*, however, in order to give the imprisoned men an opportunity at healthful, profitable work, does not propose the degrading practice of shackling the men with ball and chain. It proposes a plan that will naturally call out the best in each man and under which the men by their conduct will grade themselves:

"Putting the prisoners to work upon public improvements does not necessarily mean that they must wear a ball and chain or be under an armed and uniformed guard. The more trustworthy can be sent alone to places in the eyes of the public to work at regular wages, from which the cost of keeping them and of paying their fines can be deducted, and the surplus paid to their families. The more vicious can be worked under guard in more secluded places, as in making new roadways through the parks and doing heavy work in the country districts upon the roads and bridges."

The *Sun* concludes:

"The recommendation of the board of visitors should be heeded. Out-of-door work leaves the prisoners in good physical shape. It adds to their earning abilities and it partially provides for their families. It lessens the expense upon the county as it gives the county something of value instead of so much dead loss of time from the persons suffering imprisonment for minor offenses. The scheme has worked fairly well in the city, and the county should not lag behind."



Prison Reform, Mollycoddling and Punishment

Under the caption, "Better Prison Work," the Indianapolis *News* says that

"in many penal and reformatory institutions recreation has long been recognized as part of the process of reformation. There are all kinds of what might be called diversions, which really are a part of the process of building up a healthy mind."

The *News* commends the early citizens of its state, says that

"It is to the great credit of the men who framed the constitution . . . that they declared that in Indiana punishment should be reformatory. The idea has extended, and now everywhere accessories aid in making better men and women of those whom the law adjudges must for a time be deprived of their liberty."

The *News* then refers to an autobiography of Henry M. Stanley, who was taken a prisoner at

the battle of Shiloh and confined in Camp Douglas. Mr. Stanley wrote of

"the horrible monotony of the confinement from which many went insane, while just outside a fine band of music belonging to the soldiers on guard could have given a two hour concert a day to the prisoners and saved many a poor fellow's mind."

But, Mr. Stanley continues, it was

"a cruel age in which people did not think of the simple things that have now become part of the regular life and discipline of our reformatory work."

The *News* comments, "we do not forget that punishment now is reformatory;" still it fears that "we are in danger of going so far as to substitute 'mollycoddling' for reformatory punishment. It points out what it thinks is a lack of proper appreciation of the indeterminate sentence law with its parole privilege, saying that mollycoddling

"comes in with its threat at each meeting of the pardon board, where friends of the prisoners besiege the board to interfere with the course of justice and pardon prisoners."

The *News* thinks that with the opportunity for parole "there ought really never to be a case in which the state pardon board should be called on to interfere with a sentence." It believes that a "great" and sufficient "thing has . . . been done in modern administration of punishment in the establishment of the indeterminate sentence" which "enables the management to reduce and grade punishment or confinement as the effects are seen to have done their work and rendered the prisoner fit for freedom." And it thinks, in view of this, that the question of a pardon "might safely be left entirely to the regular board of the various places to commend liberty."

The *News* continues:

"This becomes the more worthy of adoption as a policy since the new idea of the treatment of prisoners has been established, the idea of relief in all sorts of organizations—instruction in music, the formation of clubs for games of various kinds and everything, it might be said, within reason to relieve and instruct the mind of the prisoner and so with wholesome work to build up habits of industry, making a new person."

The *News* thinks that these new opportunities for prisoners are sufficient and that for prisoners to have more, as for instance also to have access to pardon, is to establish mollycoddism. It believes that the present reformatory punishment is sufficient.

From the *News'* comment it is to be noted that the reformatory quality of the punishment is not anything that has come into punishment itself. Punishment becomes reformatory when the purpose in administering it is to help the person rather than merely to make him suffer.

But when the attitude thus changes, something more happens than merely a change in the purpose of inflicting the punishment. The punishment itself is lessened.

When "a two-hour concert a day to the prisoners" is allowed, which was denied in the "cruel age in which people did not think of the simple things that have now become part of the regular life and discipline of our reformatory work," it is not a change in the purpose of punishment. It is the beginning of an *abandonment* of punishment and the taking up of something which is entirely different.

The greatest thing which has come in the prison betterment movement as "the idea has expanded," since when in 1851 it was "declared that in Indiana punishment should be reformatory," is the decrease in the punishment itself. If punishment were practiced now to the same extent and in the same form to which and in which it was practiced when Henry M. Stanley was confined in Camp Douglas, there are few who would say that "the new idea of treating prisoners" was much in advance of the old idea.

The progress for which all may truly be thankful is not so much the progress made in a change of the purpose of punishment as the progress that has been made in abandoning punishment.

The *News* says:

"We may be thankful that we live in an age when these things are so. And to prevent their abuse and keep the things from evil which may come from such abuse must be part of the wisdom of administration of the law which means to protect society and advance it to a better stage."

With the new purpose of administering punishment for the person's own benefit, society has

come to an attitude where it is able to see that punishment is not as servicable as it was once thought to be. Consequently there is now less punishment and more helpfulness, less restriction and more real constructive work.



Food Waste

Mr. Wm. Golden, of Kings Park State Hospital, Rhode Island, who has been employed as special investigator of the operation of the kitchens and dietaries of the various institutions under the jurisdiction of the Department of Correction, has made his report. The *Brooklyn Eagle* says:

"It shows that there has been considerable waste of food in the workhouse and penitentiary and that the dietaries are not sufficiently diversified. The report further states that the budgetary allowance of 16 cents per inmate is ample and that a much more varied and satisfactory dietary for the inmates than has heretofore been furnished could be provided. There is every reason to believe that considerable savings of food now wasted could be made."

Mr. Golden's report says:

"At the workhouse on April 21 I weighed return food from the dinner and supper. The amount of weight was 734 pounds. This included meat, potatoes, vegetables and bread. Also there remained in the kettle in which the soup was made forty-two gallons that was not sent to the mess hall. This was thrown out.

"At the penitentiary on April 22 I weighed returned food from the mess hall for breakfast, dinner and supper. The total amount of weight for the three meals amounted to 1,887 pounds. This amount averages over one pound of weight for each individual, and is, of course, excessive. In any well-regulated institution the amount of weight should not exceed more than one-fourth pound per day per person. Therefore, under the present practice, \$80 per day is spent in excess in these two institutions.

"The kinds of foods now used are the most expensive, namely; meat, bread and some vegetables. Practically the same bill of fare is used day by day, i. e., bread, syrup and coffee for breakfast; soup, meat, vegetables and bread for dinner; bread, syrup and coffee for supper."

The report, the *Eagle* states, has been carefully considered and many of Mr. Golden's recommendations have already been put into operation.

No More Stripes

The St. Paul *Dispatch* reports that at the Minnesota state prison

"All the men in the third grade have been advanced to the second grade, and now not a stripe is worn in the new prison.

"All convicts will be permitted to talk to their neighbors at meal time Sundays and holidays.

"Each Tuesday and Friday at 4:30 p. m. motion picture shows will be given in the prison auditorium. The prisoners are given a half day off Saturday."



Woman on Parole Board

The Baltimore *American* speaks strongly in favor of the appointment of a woman as a member of the newly established Maryland Board of Parole:

"The intrinsic purposes of the newly established Board of Parole will not be complete unless a woman is named as one of its members. This appointment has been urged by the representative women of the state who know how vitally the interests of their sex are concerned in the board's actions, by thinking men and genuine reformers and by public opinion generally. In its operations the board will be constantly brought in contact with women and girls in urgent need of judicious and kindly treatment to save them from the life of crime and vice in which they have taken the first step. These women require the tact and sympathy of a woman.

"It is the right of the women of the state to be permitted a representative on this board to help their sex. It is the nature of the work itself which demands a woman's cooperation. It is the right of the unfortunates coming under its operations to have one of their own sex to investigate their cases and judge their necessities. Humanity, decency, justice and the broader spirit of reformatory penology all demand this progressive action. If real interests are to be sacrificed to special and political considerations, the whole intent of the board will be nullified in one great department of its work. The feminine criminal is one of the greatest problems of society; her reformation one of its important interests. The appointment of a woman, therefore, on the parole board is an imperative demand."

The action of the Maryland women in seeking to have a woman appointed to the Board of Parole indicates the inroad that natural human interest is making in the field where special and political interests have dominated. The elim-

ination of political and personal interests from the state's dealings with its prisoners is one of the greatest needs of the prison betterment movement.



Normal Life at Florence, Arizona

Elbert Hubbard reports in the *Chicago Examiner*, that he recently lectured at Phoenix, Ariz., and was asked by Governor Hunt if he would not like to pay a visit to Florence, the Governor saying, "Some friends there want to see you."

Mr. Hubbard went and was afterwards to be driven seventy five miles across the country by a prison chauffeur to make his appointment for the next night.

Mr. Hubbard says:

"I had heard of taking convicts in an auto, but to have a convict take me was different. But I accepted the Governor's invitation. We reached Florence after a two hours' ride through a rich, irrigated farming country.

"There it was—this great walled square on the desert, the golden Arizona sunshine beating upon it. The desert was treeless and devoid of beauty save the peculiar, awful, compelling beauty that the desert possesses."

He found that Arizona prison life was something different from prison life in the East.

"As we went up the mesa toward the prison walls I noticed a well-used baseball diamond.

"Down in the valley I could see a vegetable garden, where a dozen men or more were busy at work.

"That garden helps feed our family," said my guide with a wave of his hand, "and the men you see there are convicts. You will notice that they have shanties where they live. We aim to give every man in the place all the liberty that he can use to advantage.

"We used to play baseball inside the walls, but over the fence was out. So one day we just concluded to have our baseball ground outside, and every man in the institution who behaves himself properly goes to the ball game on Saturday."

"I dined with the prisoners in the dining room. That old order of silence is not enforced. If you have anything to say to your neighbors you say it. The place was quite as orderly as the average hotel dining room. The food was simple, but there was plenty of it.

"After dinner I talked to the assembled citizens."

Mr. Hubbard divides the men in prisons in three classes.

"First, there are mental and physical defectives.

"Next, sufferers from intoxicants and drugs.

"Third, those who have energy plus, and who through some unkind antic of fate have bumped into difficulty. They have quarreled with parents, with sweethearts or employers, and they go 'Out West,' and do the wrong thing and are some day landed behind the bars."

And then in general the lecturer observes:

"There is no 'criminal class,' or, if there is, we all belong to it. The things we have done in imagination would certainly put us behind prison bars if they had ever broken through thought into action.

"It would do us all a lot of good if we could take a peep at a penitentiary like that one at Florence."

In a later issue of the *Examiner* Mr. Hubbard gives a further description of his visit:

"The penitentiary at Florence, Ariz., has a few things to recommend it which no other prison in the United States has. If you are going to enjoy a term in prison, I recommend Florence.

"In most prisons prisoners are allowed to write one letter a month, and no more. In Florence there is no such limit, thanks to the sensible regulation inaugurated by Warden Sims, with the consent of Governor Hunt. When a man is sent to prison there is no reason why his relatives, friends and family should be punished by not being allowed to hear from him. That is where the wrong individual is penalized.

"It is a great privilege to write letters, and it is a still greater privilege to receive them. Any one who has ever felt the abject misery of looking for a letter that never comes will understand me.

"There is no reason under the blue sky why a convict should not be allowed to send out as many letters as he cares to buy postage stamps for.

"The object of putting a man in prison is two-fold: First, to protect society, and, second, to make the convict a better man.

"And so I talked to the boys in prison.

"Afterward there was a lot of hand-shaking; then a little batting up of flies on the diamond, and I climbed into a machine and the driver headed for the desert.

"As we slipped past the last shack on the street my chauffeur waved a hand and said, 'That is the last house you will see for twenty-one miles.'"

"The road was Nature's own, winding in and out through sagebrush, past the giant cactus, occasionally going down through a gully and seemingly heading for a great mountain peak, snow-covered, a hundred miles away.

"And so the hours went by.

"Strapped firmly to the automobile, on either side, was a keg of water, ominous reminder of the danger of the desert.

"The distance we had to traverse from Florence to Tucson was seventy-five miles. It was a wonderful, wild, romantic, unique ride.

"I had told the warden that I would keep the chauffeur over night, as the ride back was somewhat dangerous on account of the gulleys.

"And so I registered for myself and my convict friend. We were given adjoining rooms. We washed up, brushed our clothes and dined together. Then we went to the theater, and the management gave my partner a box seat.

"I had to catch a train out at 3:30 in the morning. I did not expect my friend would get up and go to the train with me, but he was up before I was.

"'Couldn't you sleep?' I asked.

"'No,' was the reply; 'these rooms are too confining.'

"And then he explained, 'You know, at home I sleep on the roof!'

"And it was so, for no man is locked in a cell at Florence, except those who have failed to show a proper degree of respect for the liberties allowed.

"We got into the auto just as the first flush of pink came into the east. We had an early breakfast at the railroad lunch counter, and then I bade my friend good-by.

"He climbed in behind the wheel and headed for his prison home, seventy-five miles away."



A Prisoners' Court at Sing Sing

For some time there have been complaints at Sing Sing against punishment prescribed by Warden Clancy for infractions of the rules.

The *Chicago News* reports that Warden Clancy, recalling these criticisms, called a prisoners' court to decide in a case where a prisoner was accused of stealing six pounds of cooked meat from the mess room:

"When the accused prisoner said he had been 'framed', the court ordered him to put on his coat with the meat in it, after it had been weighed.

"'Do you mean to tell this court that you did not know you had six and a half pounds of meat under your coat?' the presiding judge asked.

"I certainly did not," answered the man on trial.

The court retired and after a few minutes' deliberation in another room, returned and "asked the Warden to inflict the severest penalty as the man had stolen meat, thus depriving other prisoners of food."

Upon the recommendation of the "judges," Warden Clancy fined the thief three hundred and sixty marks, which means that "he must serve four months in addition to his minimum sentence."

One of the things most commonly heard in prison is a criticism of the treatment a prisoner received after his arrest and at his trial. There is a feeling among prisoners that society is unduly unjust in many cases.

It is to be noticed that in this Sing Sing "case" where power to pass upon one who had committed an offense against the prison community was given to the men of that community the prisoners themselves did not seem to be any more lenient than is society in general.

In Illinois, the theft of six pounds of meat which was to be eaten and was not sold would be petty larceny and would be punishable by a small fine or by not more than three months in jail. In the face of this, to punish a man for such an offense by imprisonment in a penitentiary "four months in addition to his minimum sentence" will look even to the "unjust" general public as exceptionally severe.

No state's attorney ever went further in any case than to ask to have the warden, or the judge, "inflict the severest penalty." The tendency also to exaggeration which is found so often in prosecuting attorneys is repeated in the Sing Sing prisoners' court, which affirms that, in stealing six pounds of meat, the person who took it was "thus depriving other prisoners of food." This would imply that there is no such waste in prison kitchens as is told of in the official report of Wm. Golden under Reviews in this issue. Prisoners will find that they will not win much leniency from society until they become worthy of it, until they have learned what leniency is so that they themselves practice it.

The prison "case" seems to evidence more the feeling of the sense of power experienced by the "judges" and a vanity in the exercise of that

power, than any consciousness of fellowship and mutual uplift such as is to be looked for in the prison betterment movement. Men who make themselves subject to the law will learn, through a long drawn out experience, if they persist in not learning it otherwise, that nothing can win fortitude and forgiveness for them until in their own hearts they themselves have won fortitude and forgiveness for others. Otherwise Nature would defeat herself, the virtue of life cannot be turned to the account of a selfishness which in its own interest discards those virtues. All the higher instincts of humanity and all the beneficences of God are against it.

Whatever man would have, that also man must be. Prisoners themselves must, in dealing with one another, come to some of the compassion they are asking for in society's dealings with them.



How Prisoners Defeat and How They Help Themselves

Light on how men who have gotten into prison help to keep up the public opinion that holds them there or help to change public opinion so that society may give them another chance, is given in recent editorials.

Commenting upon the escapes from the Joliet Honor Farm, the Burlington, Iowa, *Gazette*, under the heading, "They Are Ingrates," says:

"The convicts from the Joliet penitentiary who escaped from the 'honor' camp the other day should be hunted down ruthlessly, returned to their cells and kept there for such a term of years as will impress upon them the value of liberty. They were taken from the prison confines with its monotonous grind and its awful silence and put to work out in the open air. Many privileges were accorded, in fact, they were under but perfunctory surveillance. They promised they would not escape and their time for parole was but a few short months distant. In spite of all this and the fact that they were jeopardizing the chances of their comrades this pair of ingrates sneaked away in the night. There may be honor among thieves, but this pair had never heard of it."

The *Gazette's* expression is that of the old time vindictive feeling which society has felt toward the social offender. It is the feeling which grows out of the assumption that the

individual alone is responsible for all his acts and which takes no account of the social conditions in which the person lived or of the stress of his material needs or of his subjection to his own undevelopment, when emotions, impulses, tendencies, selfish or perverted qualities of mind, dominate him even above the power of his will. The man who offends this social sense subjects himself without mercy to its power; the attempt to escape is followed by the edict that, on capture, the man's imprisonment shall be prolonged.

But society is moving away from this primitive view of the responsibility for crime and of the proper treatment of men who have committed crime and is learning that all kinds of individual as well as also all social offence is born, not always of the individual's determined intention, but often of conditions so complicated that neither the individual nor society can alone be held responsible.

The new understanding to which the world is awakening is that people individually are somewhat defective and that also the collective social consciousness is itself not yet equal to all the problems that arise.

The Burlington *Hawkeye* gets more of this modern and truer idea of individual and social problems. It sees that men who would run away from prisons when near to the expiration of their terms and when there are such facilities as there are of late years for their capture are weak men; the more weak than wicked:

"Two poor fools, who were 'honor men' at the Starved Rock park, where state prisoners were building the roads, slipped away one night. There were no guards, and they will be caught sooner or later. They were almost at the end of their terms, and they were making a fine record, and then the poor fools spoiled it all by running away. They are not to be blamed so much as they are to be pitied. For by and by they will regain their liberty and they will make a new start in the world, and then they will again fall when temptation approaches them. The prisons are full of men who are not really weak, but who may mean well, and are simply weak. Perhaps it is better for them and for others that they are deprived of their liberty."

But one man who escaped voluntarily returned, and this circumstance calls for an editorial expression which shows that there is that

in society which responds to and which rewards virtue.

The Rockford, Ill., *Republic*, acknowledging the voluntary return of a man who had escaped from the Joliet penitentiary, observes:

"A week ago Philip O'Rourke ran away from the honor convict farm. He was gone a week. Then he went back to Joliet penitentiary to serve the remaining six years of his term. He pondered over the matter for a week. If he remained away the 'boys' would be in bad. Even though he made good his escape, the prison warden and guards would think him a traitor.

"It took him a week to solve his problem. On Saturday he reached his conclusion to treat the 'boys' on the square. Going to a phone, he called William Walsh, deputy warden at Joliet:

"I'm in Chicago. Come and get me. I'll meet you at East Thirty-fifth street and Cottage Grove avenue."

"When the deputy arrived O'Rourke was there. He went back to stay in prison until September 10, 1920, all because he wanted to be square with the boys."

Then in consideration of the moral influence and value of such an act as this of O'Rourke, the *Republic* pays this homage to character:

"In every nature there are chords that can be touched. Examples of honor among those whom society has ostracized show clearly that even criminals are human, and respond oftentimes to appeals of honor and truth.

"It is the recognition of these possibilities that has made society look upon the criminal class in other light than once prevailed. The example of O'Rourke helps to multiply hopeful illustrations for those who believe that no one is so depraved, so bad, as to be without some saving goodness."



Prison Resolutions on Loss of Empress of Ireland

Following an address by Captain William J. Day, superintendent of the California prison commission, in which the speaker described the disastrous wreck of the Empress of Ireland, the prisoners of the Folsom prison unanimously passed the following resolution of sympathy:

"Resolved, that we, the prisoners in Folsom prison, having heard with great sorrow the account of the awful shipwreck, do herewith express sympathy for the hundreds of friends and relatives of the victims in this, their sad hour of affliction and grief, and earnestly commend

them to the comforting heart of our Heavenly Father."

By such incidents as this the public is gradually being shown that in prisoners are the same human interests and sympathies, the same compassion and feeling, the same fraternal bonds that are found in people anywhere. The prisoners themselves are breaking down the barrier that in the public mind has separated them from the world's interests and plans. When, in time, the dissolution of the mental barrier is completed, it may be followed later with the removal of the physical barrier, the prison yard wall, which will show that union of human interests has become actual.



Does Society Take Too Much?

The Louisville *Courier Journal* reports editorially the case of a man pardoned from the Ohio penitentiary, who at the age of twenty-three years entered the penitentiary in 1870:

"This prisoner never had seen an automobile, a bicycle, a motorcycle, an electric car, an arc light, a picture show or a skyscraper. He had never heard a phonograph. He had never been in an elevator or a street car. He had never talked over a telephone. He could not imagine about wireless telegraphy and he knew nothing about aeroplanes except that he had once seen a picture of a flying machine in a book."

The man, now sixty-six years of age, asked to have someone sent with him "until he got used to things."

The *Courier Journal's* tragic closing comment is that

"The old prisoner will find it a most difficult task to adjust himself to present-day conditions."

The man was serving a life sentence. He is now out "in the world to begin life over again."

When what society requires of a man for some misdeed of his is looked at from its close, who will say that society was just with the boy of twenty-three?



"Utterly Fallacious"

The Rapid City, South Dakota, *Journal*, in discussing possible solutions of the problem of unemployment which has been under consideration by the United States Commission in In-

dustrial Relations, characterizes as "utterly fallacious" the proposition to prohibit the sale of prison made goods. "Insurance against unemployment and various relief measures," the *Journal* says, "have more promise in them."



Vera Cruz and Prison Progress

The New York *World* comments on the taking of Vera Cruz by the armed United States forces with a sacrifice of valuable lives, and says that whatever doubt there may be of the worth of the attack,

"one thing is certain. The American occupation broke down the doors of an ancient prison in which human beings had been tortured, from which hope had fled and which stood in the twentieth century a cruel exponent of the methods of the dark ages, unrebuked and unchallenged. When in a foreign land our fighting men, who are not sentimentalists, open dungeons and break shackles in the name of humanity and progress, it is high time for the representatives of a civilized state to pay some attention to the same problems at home. The convict is undergoing punishment; he is deprived of liberty and friends; he loses social and political rights; but he is still a human being and should be treated as such."

The *World*, in connection with this observation, makes a report from its own state which shows that the people have begun "to pay some attention to the same problem at home."

Auburn and Sing Sing, "two of the most celebrated prisons of the world," each afforded the spectacle of a "convict playing baseball," "running a foot race," and as a "member of a brass band." The *World* continues:

"At Auburn they had a field day in the penitentiary yards. The inmates of one wing of the prison were pitted against those of the other. Keepers were within sight at all times, but at the close of the sports every one of the 1,400 who participated was accounted for and returned a better man to his cell.

"At Sing Sing twenty-seven musicians trained within the walls marched outside, with only one guard, and escorted a Grand Army post to the prison chapel, where the convict performers had the place of honor on the program. At the conclusion of the exercises the band led all the convicts in procession around the picketed grounds."

The Quincy, Illinois, *Whig*, commenting upon

the fact that "a band composed of convicts from Sing Sing led the town parade," says:

"The incident caused little comment, but it is highly significant of the changing attitude of states toward their penal wards. Ten years ago such a thing would not have been thought of. Even the suggestion that men serving sentences in prison should be given a few hours of liberty for any purpose would have been deemed absurd."

Calling attention also to the Auburn penitentiary where "on the same day . . . 1,400 convicts engaged in field sports and for the time being were actually free men," the *Whig* continues:

"Prison reform is becoming real and its beneficial effects are noted everywhere. Of course, there are always dangerous and rebellious prisoners who cannot be trusted. But there are many more who not only can be trusted, but who show the wholesome effects of this trust. It makes for a new character of manhood among prisoners to treat them as human beings instead of as incorrigibles lost to all sense of honor. There is promise of real reform among prisoners who are treated with humane consideration and who are encouraged to assert their better qualities. Even temporary freedom is a boon, and when the convicts learn that their trustworthiness is the test of their manhood very few abuse the privileges granted to them. Good treatment and kindness, and trust in an awakened sense of personal honor, will do more to make men of prison inmates than all the devices of punishment known."



Prison Cruelty Must Abate

Some time ago Warden J. D. Botkin, of the Kansas state penitentiary, in answering to court proceedings, said that the gag and straitjacket had been used by the officials under former Warden Coddington and up to January 16 of this year, when Warden Botkin had ordered the use of these instruments of torture discontinued.

Governor Stubbs, according to the *Wichita Beacon*, at once replied, offering \$100 for proof that the gag or straitjacket had been used while Warden Coddington was in charge of the prison under Governor Stubbs. Warden Botkin and W. L. Brown, chairman of the board of corrections, have now sent to W. R. Stubbs, formerly governor, a set of seven affidavits of officers of the Kansas penitentiary which state

that the gag and straitjacket had been used as punishment for unruly prisoners in the wardenship of J. K. Coddington and while Mr. Stubbs was governor. The affidavits are to be used as proof of Warden Botkin's assertions.

The *Cimarron Jacksonian* says:

"Now is the time for a showdown. There is a widespread demand that a full and searching nonpartisan investigation be made of these charges, in which this paper is glad to join. It is a very serious matter and should not be allowed to rest in doubt."



Modern Prison Methods

At the National Conference on Charities and Corrections held at Memphis, Mr. W. H. Whittaker, Superintendent of the District of Columbia Farm at Occoquan, Va., said:

"Modern penology in order to aid social progress must sentence its unkempt, immoral and diseased citizens to an indefinite term of sunshine, fresh air and honest work, with such system as will make them an asset, rather than a liability, when returned to society."

The *New York Journal* reports that

"Mr. Whittaker scored the average jail as a 'disgrace to civilization and a place for the breeding of disease and crime.' He urged that courts could accomplish more in a great number of cases by a friendly word of encouragement to the minor offender than by sentencing him to prison.

"Mr. Whittaker declared that 95 per cent of those in penal institutions and reformatories have not been correctly formed in mental and physical make-up."



More Road Work for Prisoners

The *Wheeling, W. Va., Register* reports:

"Arrangements have been completed for the transfer of thirty convicts from the state penitentiary at Moundsville to St. Mary's, Pleasants county, and twenty to Berkeley county in a few days, where they will be worked on the public roads."

The *Register* says:

"A majority of the convicts are anxious to be put to work on the roads. A feature of the road work which appeals to them aside from the greater freedom of being in the open instead of behind the walls is the special good time

allowance of five days to each month they are employed at road work."

Illinois and some other states give ten days good time for each thirty days' work.



THE TATTLER

By Herbert Kaufman

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The main difference between a tattler and a rattler is that the snake gives the other fellow a show and the sneak won't. In other respects they're pretty much alike save for the small matter of an (*e*).

The man who won't stand in the open and make his accusations where they can be defended proves that he not only lacks courage but also the courage of his convictions. He's a coward—his work is always signed—his mark is "the stab in the back."

Sincerity never bred a talebearer. Real men play the game of life with unmarked cards—the tattler, like every other cur, discloses his breed by the manner in which he carries his *tale*.

He sometimes deceives himself with the thought that he is doing good, but it is not in his nature to be disinterested; the personal element constantly enters into his motives—his tongue is poisoned with the venom of envy—he's jaundiced—his spleen is full of jealousy—he can't digest the thought of anybody else's success or superiority.

Unable to climb as high as he aspires, he attempts to pull down the ladders of ability upon which better men are mounting. But the assassin of reputations must in the end bear the punishment which the world has always inflicted upon slimy, crawling things—its utter disgust. Justice, although blindfolded, slips the bandage from her eyes, when her sensitive hand feels the cheating finger trying to weigh down the scales—the average run of humanity will not convict upon one-sided evidence.

Ever since little Bobbie was caught emptying the jam pot and smearing the cat's nose in the jar, folks have realized how deceptive appearances can be made.

The mud-thrower stains himself with the mire which is his weapon; he smirches his own hands whenever he delves into slander.

Spies have never been popular. They who

fight in the dark do not shine in the light. The scavenger belongs to the lowest caste of society; gossip mongers, like other collectors of the unpleasant, are *de trop* in decent circles.

Even a thief is one step higher than an informer, and refuses to lower himself to the infamy of betrayal.

The more we learn of life the more we consider that a tale-bearer is not to be trusted. The instinct which leads him to divulge one confidence will, if the chance permit, impel him to make use of any information which comes within his knowledge.

He stamps himself as dangerous. As his reputation spreads, his opportunities contract; positions of importance cannot be given into his care; and, so, though he may be gifted sufficiently to perform duties of consequence, the certainty that he will divulge crucial secrets shuts him out from openings which he might otherwise secure.

Even when he is paid his Judas piece, he does not hold what he gains; that which is gotten through any other channel but ability is sure to be lost through lack of ability.

Men must have the friendship and co-operation of their fellows to achieve beyond the ordinary; and the tattler soon becomes a pariah—every man's hand is reaching out to keep him down.

Our repugnance is so great against any type of traitor that it begins to manifest itself in childhood—even the kindergarten prattlers ostracize the school-room tell-tale. Copyrighted by Herbert Kaufman.



To Save the Younger Men from Crime

(From Cedar Rapids, Iowa, Gazette)

Prison authorities have made the assertion that the average age of prisoners is going downward, that criminals, generally speaking, are younger than they were a few years ago. This is both encouraging and discouraging. It proves that as men mature and develop nowadays the tendency is to "be straight"—respectable members of society. But it also shows that something vital still is lacking in the development of youth. Somewhere there is a loose cog. Parents are too lax, educative principles are weak, restrictive measures are not enforced or something else is wrong.

The predominating idea is that crime's only

prevention lies in the proper bringing up of children. This being the case, what is there to explain that the children themselves now appear to be the criminals, while the older men are upright? Ten years ago the average age of the prisoners in the penal institution at Jackson, Mich., was twenty-eight. Now it is twenty-three. Possibly prison records are no criterion. There may be just as many crooks of middle age and older as there were in years gone by, but their craftiness may be such that they escape the cell.

But at any rate, the difference in the average ages of prisoners furnishes material for a considerable amount of study on the part of workers for social betterment.



Jackson Prison's Improvement

(From Lansing, Mich., *Journal*)

Jackson prison has been transformed in the space of a few short years from a hell hole where men beat out their lives in black rages against themselves, their keepers and society at large, to a reformatory where they are taught to search themselves for the best that is in them.

One man has wrought this change. Modest, unassuming, but iron-willed Nathan F. Simpson, warden of the prison, is the man.

When he took control of Jackson prison it was a byword for all that was bad. It was honeycombed with graft; the inmates slaved for the enrichment of private contractors; there was no thought of uplifting the fallen and setting their feet on the right road again.

For the past two years many stories of the changes which have been made under the direction of Warden Simpson have come out of Jackson. They have told principally of the efforts which have been made to educate the ignorant among the prisoners, to give them all a new outlook upon life and to strengthen them for the time when they will face the world again.

But Warden Simpson is going farther back than the limits prescribed by work with men who have already sinned. He is going to take up the work of crime prevention.

The new departure plans the organization of bodies of clean, reliable men in each community in the state. These bodies are to study crime prevention and plan methods of casting an environment about the wayward youth which will turn his activities into the proper channels. Lec-

turers and noted penologists will speak to clubs throughout all Michigan, driving home the principles of the new penology, and in time awakening the public's conscience and enlisting its efforts in getting at the fundamental causes of crime.

This is a big task. Some will call it a dream, but it is not a dream. It will be realized some day in the not far distant future. Meanwhile it needs a big man, a strong man to stand sponsor for it and no one could be better fitted for that position than Warden Simpson.



A Woman's Kindliness and Prisoners

(From *Christian Science Monitor*)

When a woman was chosen by the mayor of New York city to administer the department of corrections there was a shrugging of shoulders and raising of eyebrows by persons of both sexes who doubt woman's capacity to share burdens of civic housekeeping with man. Not even the fact that the appointee had won a national reputation in dealing with a specially difficult class of lawbreakers counted with these skeptics. She was a woman. No woman could meet critical emergencies in prison or reformatory discipline. Ergo, to endue her with responsibility which she could not meet was a mistake. So the argument once ran. But it is changing now, in the light of facts. For not only is the department she heads being run more economically from the taxpayer's standpoint, it also is both more strictly and more humanely carried on as a punitive and corrective agency, the rigor of the new executive falling mainly on subordinates hitherto inefficient or dishonest, and the humanity being shown to the inmates of the institutions over which she has authority.

In the more recent tests of her courage and resource, handling mutinous folk, Commissioner Davis has come through triumphantly because able to combine decision, vigor of action and kindness of heart. As indifferent as the most bold and aggressive man to personal consequences which might follow her insistence on restoration of law and order, she has coupled with that a facility in appealing to the better selves of the prisoners, in inducing in them a willingness to play fair and in leading them to abate their violence, which is not always notable in men penologists. The insurrection seems to

owe its defeat not to the invasion of armed forces from without, which Commissioner Davis said she would use if necessary, but rather to the presence of a woman with an understanding heart. Emphasis has been put upon the good, and an appeal made to it; and the results, in the eyes of politicians and might-makes-right prison administrators seem little short of amazing.



Judge Latshaw Helps Prisoners

(From Lawrence Gazette)

Down at Kansas City they had a judge with some practical sense. He could see no reason for keeping prisoners locked up in cells where they had nothing to do, and where only devilment could be hatched. He said: "These men need work. I will give them work." And he did. He put them to building rock roads and during the year they have built several miles of it. Which was a most excellent thing. But there was another result still better. Every prisoner who worked on the road kept on at work after he was released. He had sweated the whisky and the coke and the cussedness out of himself while building the rock roads, and the labor had started him on the road to manhood again. Instead of encouraging crime and idleness, Judge Latshaw has given the men a chance to become men again, and the result showed that the men were quick to take advantage of the opportunity offered them.

Throughout the country are prisons and jails filled with men who might be redeemed if given a chance. The plan put into practical operation by Judge Latshaw gives the men the opportunity they long for, and the fact that so many of them are saved from a life of vice by it is a splendid return for the experiment. Some years ago when Hon. Albert Henley was in the state senate he tried to induce the legislature to pass a law that embodied the theories of Judge Latshaw. Senator Henley wanted the prisoners at the state penitentiary to be put to work building roads.



I desire to see the man or woman who has paid the penalty and who wishes to reform given a helping hand—surely every one of us who knows his own heart knows that he, too, may stumble and should be anxious to help his brother or sister who has stumbled.—*Theodore Roosevelt.*

BOOKS

"Cutting It Out" is the title of a new book of sixty pages by Samuel Blythe, the writer of "Who's Who and Why?" in the *Saturday Evening Post*.

Mr. Blythe tells in a way that shows his story is true to experience how he "cut it out" and went "on the water wagon." The book is not a preachment; it is no temperance tract. It is the story of a change of mind. Noticing that his friends of forty to forty five years of age were dying frequently and that as the years passed he was going to funerals more often, Mr. Blythe "decided to beat the liquor to it." He decided that when he did die, he would die a natural death. The story is told with a wit that wins the reader and the good sense of every page will help many a man to straighten up. Mr. Blythe tells how he "did it" and he says, "I am riding jauntily on the wagon, without a chance of falling off." The book is good for any person with any controlling habit and it is good for any person without "a habit" who likes to read a well told story. Price, 35 cents, Forbes & Co., Chicago, Ill.



"Have you anything to say before sentence is pronounced against you?" asked the judge.

"The only thing I'm kicking about," answered the convicted burglar, "is bein' identified by a man that kep' his head under the bedclothes the whole time. That's wrong."—*Puck.*



"If you don't mind, sir," said the new convict, addressing the warden, "I should like to be put at my own trade."

"That might be a good idea," said the warden; "what may your trade be?"

"I'm an aviator," said the new arrival.—*Houston (Texas) Post.*



Prisoner—"There goes my hat; shall I run after it?"

Policeman Casey—"Phwat? Run away, would you? Just you stay here and I'll run after your hat."—*The New Way.*

It is pleasanter to know what a man is than to suspect him.—*Julian Hawthorne.*



Severe discipline fostered animosity and contention between prisoners.



Redeeming the criminal is safeguarding society. Sending him to prison is only of temporary value.



Vengeance does not become respectable by being called punishment.



Severe discipline is gradually being supplanted by humane methods of detention and correction.



Never since Wisconsin was admitted to the Union has capital punishment been administered there.



Nobody can tell in advance when a man, who is unfit today to be a free citizen, will become fit to be one.



Road work in prison camps will return prisoners to the world with respect for law, order and good government.



Capital punishment should be abolished, at least as long as judges are agreed that perjury is the prevailing crime.



The darkest shadows of life are those which a man himself makes when he stands in his own light.—*Lord Avebury.*



There is nothing in the world that needs so little decoration as the genuine article.—*The Better Citizen, Rahway, N. J.*



He does much who does what he has to do well. He does well who serves the common good rather than his own will.—*Thomas A Kempis.*



Prisoners must be clothed, so that their sense of self-respect will not be entirely violated by contemplation of their rags.

Truth is great and will prevail if left to herself. She is the proper and sufficient antagonist to error and has nothing to fear from the conflict.—*Thomas Jefferson.*



We feel that no political economy can be so useful and beneficial as that which involves the care and conservation of human character, and the restoration of men to the work of mankind.—*Good Words, Atlanta, Ga.*



The first lesson of life is to burn our own smoke; that is, not to inflict on outsiders our personal sorrows and petty morbidness, not to keep thinking of ourselves as exceptional cases.—*James Russell Lowell.*



Abraham Lincoln's was the power that commanded admiration and the humanity that invited love. Mild but inflexible, just but merciful, great but simple, he possessed a heart that commanded men and attracted babes.—*The Better Citizen, Rahway, N. J.*



Judge (sternly)—Didn't I tell you the last time you were here that I never wanted you to come before me again?

Prisoner—Yes, sir; but I couldn't make the officer believe it.—*The Mirror, Stillwater, Minn.*



If criminals were forever immured behind prison walls they would cease to be a menace to society, but as they are to return to the world to mingle with other men after the expiration of their sentences, they finally come to exert an influence for right or wrong, and in this lies much of the importance of reforming them while in prison.



The construction of a highway built by prisoners from Colorado to the Gulf of Mexico will be undertaken jointly by the states of Colorado, New Mexico and Texas. The road when completed will be the longest continuous boulevard in the world.



The first duty of a state is to do what it may for the welfare of its law abiding citizens.

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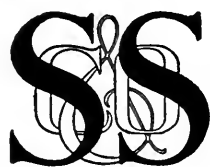
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No. 9

EDITORIAL

THE THOUGHT OF THE MONTH

It is to the interest of the community that old offenses should be forgotten. There are few men no matter how valuable their services ultimately to society, who might not have been ruined if at the turning point of their lives they had been visited by the publication of youthful wrongs done by them. Hence, he who maliciously exposes the past life of an intended victim with the purpose of crushing him by bringing to public notice some act of shame long past, and it may be long repented of and atoned, may deserve a severer punishment than one who invents a false charge easily disproved.—*Washington State Supreme Court.*



"Higher Justice" and Governor Dunne's Announcement

In Governor Edward F. Dunne's Camp Dunne speech delivered last May to the prisoners of that camp who are making good roads for the people of Illinois, the Governor said:

"The State has deprived you of your liberty but not of your manhood. Your presence in this camp to-day, on your honor as men, proves that the administration has faith in your manhood."

As men and women learn that nothing artificial and arbitrary, nothing contrary to the nature of human life, serves in bettering the conditions of human beings, a great many methods

now used that are thought to be of service in ameliorating conditions will be abandoned.

Environment has a great deal to do with one's felicity and one's welfare, but a change in environment alone will not make an improvident person prosperous or an unhappy person joyful. Somewhat of a person's improvidence or unhappiness is always within himself.

Given a number of people with practically the same environment, as farmers of a certain region, merchants in a particular locality, families in a single neighborhood, or individuals of one family and there will still be differences in material welfare and in the peace and blessing that is gotten from life.

One reason that progress in the amelioration of conditions is not more rapid, is that too much attention is paid to conditions in proportion to the attention that is paid to the habits and quality of the person's thought.

Another reason is that when attention is paid to the person's attitude, habit of thought and quality of mind, the person is dealt with according to the beliefs and policies of the thought and ideals of others and not according to the law of the person's own mind, the nature of his own life.

People who have not yet seen that human progress comes only as persons learn and live true to their own deeper nature, little dream of the extent to which they themselves subject those whom they would help, to their own opinions and of the degree to which they thus actually hinder the person's progress.

A person's mind must be well cleansed of con-

ceits before he will be able to see that any person's guidance is in that person himself and not in another. The office of a helper is not to prescribe rules of action but to aid a person to find and to follow the guidance that the person's own truer nature gives and which the person may know when he himself is free enough from conceits to heed and to obey that guidance.

Prisons are filled with people who have not lived true to what of the deeper inner guidance they did have, and

it is because they still persist in falling to the lower level of obeying their selfish or sinister impulses that discipline in prisons is so necessary. It hardly needs to be said that under any just administration the severity of discipline in a prison will always be in proportion to the waywardness of the prisoners, in proportion to the prisoners' indulgence of their selfish and sinister inclinations. Under a just administration, such as is being worked out here, a prisoner

who can live true to the truth of his own life, who can keep square with the administration in accordance with the requirements of his situation, need never in his own experience know anything of the most severe physical hardships of prison life.



Governor Dunne, in his Camp Dunne speech, meets the fundamental life issue which every person must meet who ever seriously undertakes to identify himself with the world's progress.

Sovereignty in the hands of a few, arbitrarily handed down to subjects, is, with every century,

in the experience of the world, being found to be a failure. More and more has progress shown that inevitably man must come to be governed by justice and good-will which must be within himself, governed by his own fairness, his own reason, his own truth. Such a social life, a pure democracy where every man will be as true to every other man as he is to himself, has always been the dream of the purest souls of earth; it is the

"one far off divine event

To which all creation moves."

That which is now taking place in prisons, is that which in earlier times took place in peoples as a whole.

The lower types of the humanity of today are typical of what once society was in general. As civilization has grown through the ages, down the ages along with that growth have come types of the world's earlier character, "walled in," as Mr. Clarence Darrow said in a recent address here, to separate that class of per-

sons from those who would be free from such a type of mind, from such a quality of life. True, those that the walls have caught have not always been the worst of the race, and some of them who were the worst have not been caught at all.

Inevitably in the process of the world's growth, what once was born in the souls of the better element of society, is now being born in the souls of the lower human types, in the souls of the men and women whom, in behalf of its own welfare, society has seen fit to outlaw, the men and women in the "walled cities" where it

"The state assumes the right to use the strength and time of its prisoners to its own benefit. In the past the state has placed too much emphasis upon this right, and too little upon the rights of its prisoners. This condition society is attempting to change. The state no longer seeks to enslave its prisoners by placing upon them burdens which they are either unable or unfit to carry. Prisoners in this state are no longer subjected to hardships for the mere sake of causing them pain or fatigue, nor are they any longer exploited to the financial gain of contractors of prison labor.

"We are beginning to see the prisoner's side of the situation. We have already learned that his rights are as important as those of the state.

"We who represent the government are asking you who represent the men in the prisons to help us better the conditions. We go to the man behind the bars and ask him for his opinions and for his co-operation. We appeal to you today to do your best."—Governor Edward F. Dunne, in speech at Camp Dunne, Illinois, to prisoners from Illinois State Penitentiary, who are working on roads without guards.

is presumed the lowest of the world's humanity is confined.



Governor Dunne, we say, meets the fundamental life issue which every person must meet who ever seriously undertakes to associate himself with the world's progress.

Governor Dunne steps clearly beyond the conventional patronizing method of social service, where one presumes to carry out only one's own beliefs and policies of thought in one's help of another, and he recognizes that progress is to come from allowing the person to live his own nature and from helping the person to conform to what his own better nature requires.

Governor Dunne says:

"The State assumes the right to use the strength and time of its prisoners to its own benefit. In the past the State has placed too much emphasis upon this right, and too little upon the rights of its prisoners. This condition society is attempting to change. The State no longer seeks to enslave its prisoners by placing upon them burdens which they are either unable or unfit to carry. Prisoners in this State are no longer subjected to hardships for the mere sake of causing them pain or fatigue, nor are they any longer exploited to the financial gain of contractors of prison labor. We are beginning to see the prisoner's side of the situation. We have already

learned that his rights are as important as those of the State."

When Governor Dunne says that the State has placed too much emphasis upon its own right and too little upon the rights of its prisoners, he does not mean that law prisoners are to be allowed to indulge and to live untroubled

themselves, but that society must learn and must confine themselves to what, in their present situation, is truly their rights as well as that society also must learn and allow those rights. And he means that besides this the individual must learn and give place to society's rights and also necessarily that society must not any longer place "too much emphasis" upon its rights.

The State is beginning to see that the individual did not lose every natural human right when he was convicted of a particular offense. It is be-

ginning to see, too, that when a person's natural rights and interests in which the person can be true are fostered, the risk is lessened of the person's doing again the one thing in which he is wrong.

This principle of life, this plan of social service, is finding its way into the affairs of this prison. A larger life is opening to prisoners, that which is right for them is being allowed.



HONORABLE EDWARD F. DUNNE
Governor of Illinois

It is an acknowledgment of a prisoner's rights, even though he is paying a penalty for a violation of the social good, to allow him still to guard his own welfare and interests. It is, even while under the rules he should be locked up, an acknowledgment of his right to health to allow him to be more in the open air when it is found that regular confinement in the cell is undermining him; it is, even though confined, an acknowledgment of his right to his natural human relationships to allow him to receive and to write letters and to have visits, and it is a further acknowledgment of this right, when the letter writing and the visits are allowed each week instead of being allowed only one-quarter as often; it is, even while "the State assumes the right to use the strength and time of its prisoners to its own benefit," an acknowledgment of his right still to protect and to provide for his family to grant him a wage, even though still small in amount, with which he can help to supply his family's needs; it is, even while the State holds him in custody, an acknowledgment of his right to freedom and to citizenship to allow him to go to the Joliet Honor Farm or to a road camp to earn extra good time and to prove his fitness for freedom.



From these beginnings in allowing prisoners their natural human rights, a larger grant of these rights will gradually and necessarily come as the prisoners themselves, by their own way of life, justify the grant and thus make it possible. When individual and social rights are fully recognized and lived both by individuals and by society, the problem of social offense by individuals will be found to be far less complicated than it is now.

The great modern hope of prisoners is grounded in the fundamental proposition that their rights as human beings are to be recognized and that they are to be given the opportunity to show justification for their being allowed to exercise and to enjoy those rights.

Instinctively the prisoner who wants to make good feels that he can come to the fulfillment of his hopes if he is to have open way for the exercise of his powers. The great virtue of the honor system is that it opens opportunity for the best that is in a man. Under it, he who

is of worth can find a way in which he can make that worth known.



"Higher Justice" and Court Rulings

The question of prison betterment is a larger question than merely that of improvement of conditions within the prison walls. It is a question also of the influences which work to send men and women to prison.

There is an awakening of the public conscience to what the Chicago *Examiner* calls a "higher justice" of which a recent action of the grand jury and a recent ruling of Judge Sabath's court are a practical application.

It has taken the world some time to come to the thought announced by Governor Dunne that "the State no longer seeks to enslave its prisoners" and to where the prisoners of the State "are no longer subjected to hardship for the mere sake of causing them pain or fatigue." This principle of social solicitude for individual welfare is now more or less recognized by a large number of the states of the Union. The recognition of the principle will grow; the spirit of the idea seems to be a part of the new consciousness of the time.



Speaking of the two cases in question, the *Examiner* says:

"Two women in Chicago, accused of crimes, were judged according to 'the newer justice' yesterday, and both escaped punishment. In two different instances it was demonstrated that 'the quality of mercy is not strained' and that Justice no longer wears a bandage over her eyes."

Miss Hazel Pollock, a young woman working in various homes as a domestic and also during a number of years seeking to win a musical education, was charged with "many thefts in homes where she had worked." The evidence was "incontrovertible," but while the grand jury was hearing the evidence, Assistant State's Attorney Michael F. Sullivan presented a letter from Miss Mary R. Campbell, of the Psychopathic Laboratory of the Municipal Court which pleaded for the life rights of the girl and which, in spite of the evidence that she had actually taken things that did not belong to her, caused the grand jury to decide that an indictment was not justifiable and a "no bill" was returned.

Miss Campbell's letter states:

"The fact that Miss Pollock has always been morally pure is much in her favor. She worked under a great nervous strain for years in order to give herself a musical training. She is now on the verge of a serious mental collapse. The consequence is that unless she now gets the most expert kind of sanitarium care she is going to become permanently unbalanced mentally. The girl's condition is one bordering on hysterio-epilepsy. She is the victim of an unfortunate breakdown and mental collapse and if properly cared for may fully recover in time. Several women of the city have offered to assume this burden."

Miss Pollock was taken from the county jail to be cared for by interested friends and afterwards was taken to a sanitarium where she will remain a week. Miss Campbell will undertake to raise a fund to send Miss Pollock to an institute where she can have good professional care.

Speaking of the new way in which the officers of the law have treated this case, the *Examiner* says:

"Probably for the first time in the history of Cook county, an inquisitorial body exercised a judicial prerogative and ignored the facts."



The second case was "strikingly similar in its broad outlines" to the case of Miss Pollock.

Mrs. Frances Falls was charged with having passed fraudulent checks amounting to \$150.00. Four Chicago business men offered to reimburse the persons who had lost the money and the complainants then waived prosecution. The scene was in Judge Sabath's court and was dramatic. Mr. H. H. Graham, of Rock Island, Illinois, championed Mrs. Fall's cause with such earnestness that the mother's larger rights were recognized and her freedom secured. In answer to the question of why she had passed the checks, Mrs. Falls said simply, "I did it to support my baby."

In explaining his interest in the case, Mr. Graham said:

"Mrs. Falls' case has come to our attention through newspaper articles. I have had an investigation made and I believe that she is worthy of aid. If the gentlemen who have cashed checks for her will come to my office, I'll pay them the amounts due them. And I'll also see that Mrs. Falls' baby is taken care of."

Besides his own appeal, Mr. Graham presented a letter which was addressed to the court and which was signed by Nel Palfrey, vice president and general manager of the Graham Brothers distillery, by the R. D. Winthrop Oil Company and by Sheriff Dent Dobyns.

The letter in part is as follows:

"We desire to state that the undersigned will make good the checks she has given, amounting in the aggregate to \$150.00, and very respectfully request that you will act with every leniency you can in this matter, as it looks to us as if it were a worthy case and not one of malice."

Judge Sabath, in addressing the woman, said:

"You are a fortunate woman. An angel came down from heaven and saved you from the penitentiary. Be a woman absolutely honest in your actions. These gentlemen have come in here and have done what they can for you, and now I want to see you do the right thing. If I ever hear of your passing bogus checks again or otherwise violating the law, I will punish you to the full extent of my power."



Certainly none of the parties to this humane legal action meant that their acts were to be construed as a disregard of the integrity of the state or as offering an excuse so as to make place for crime. The circumstance does not show a weakness in the administration of government; it shows the strength and the practicability of the humanitarian interest which people have in one another. It is a giving way of the old judicial severity and the beginning of a provision for social order, material welfare and individual happiness, which will be stronger and which will be more true to the needs of the finer and more valuable qualities of human life than the "justice" which knows only rigid discipline and punishment.

The new judicial attitude is an expression of the new social consciousness which recognizes that a person should be helped in her frailties, not punished for them.

In each of the cases there is an acknowledgment that a part of the responsibility for what each woman did is in the social conditions in which each lived, that even if each be held responsible for her act, society itself is responsible for the social situation which to each made her act seem necessary.

The representatives of organized society have pardoned frailty and have condoned offense, but they have not made provision for offense. They have only shown that, despite the frailty and the offense, the natural human rights of the women can be recognized, the right of Hazel Pollock to nurture the deep-seated longing of her heart for a musical education, and the right of Mrs. Falls to fulfill the demands of her deep mother love for her child.



Another case of "higher justice" was that of Joseph Pruesk in Judge Torrison's court.

Pruesk had been charged with failure to support his wife and children.

Under a new rule of the Court of Domestic Relations, an investigation was ordered by Dr. William J. Hickson of the psychopathic laboratory.

It was found that Joseph Pruesk is a dwarf, that his wife and her four children are also

dwarfs. Pruesk's defense, or explanation, was that wherever he worked, the other men made sport of him, which he could not endure and that therefore he could not hold his job.

The Chicago News says:

"He is 44 years old, yet physicians declare his mental development is only that of a ten-year-old child. When people ridicule Joseph, when his fellow workers jeer at him and sneer at him, he is just as keenly sensitive as any little boy. With their cruel words ringing in his ears, he runs for shelter and will not return to work because his feelings have been injured."

Judge Torrison continued the case two weeks

to give Pruesk a chance to see what he could do.

"The case interested me immediately," Judge Torrison said. Dr. Hickson explained that the "entire Pruesk family is composed of cretins, persons lacking the thyroid gland, and therefore incapable of normal physical and mental growth." Judge Torrison asked, "Can they be cured?" Dr. Hickson replied, "We probably can cure the children." Whereupon the Judge ordered that

the children should be given into the care of a charitable organization and that a nurse should call at regular intervals to provide medicine for them. Miss Isabelle Caruthers, a nurse connected with the Court of Domestic Relations, says:

"Pruesk lacks the thyroid gland. If he had been treated with thyroid extract from glands of cattle when a child, he would have had a good chance to develop into a normal being. He has been in this country twenty-six years, yet he can speak no English save 'yes' and 'no.' But he is

keenly conscious of ridicule."

"Modern science, wonderful new developments in medicine and in the medico-psychic treatment of the causes of crime," says the *Examiner*, "have held out the rescuing hand to the Pruesk children. 'By order of court,' the Pruesk children are to grow to the full stature of normal manhood."

Joseph Pruesk promised to have the medicine which was to be prescribed faithfully administered to his children. Through his interpreter

he said, "I wish it wasn't too late to take it myself."



Three other cases are brought to attention where it appears that the "higher justice" would far more fully serve both the individual and the social good than the justice which considers but the one act under condemnation and which punishes without regard to the conditions under which the act was committed and without consideration of any of the person's other natural human interests and virtues.

Some months ago Miss Helen Young of California was in Chicago with her invalid sister, seeking to have her sister's health restored. It appeared that Miss Young had passed some worthless checks to get money with which to bring her sister to Chicago. When arrested in Chicago, the court "stayed the hands of the law for two months" while Miss Young continued her unsuccessful battle for her sister's life.

When Miss Young returned to Los Angeles, she pleaded guilty to the charge of passing bad checks and was granted a year's probation; later she obtained permission to return to Chicago if she should find it necessary to leave Los Angeles.

Miss Young said:

"I am going to start my life anew and my plans for my future do not include compromising my self-respect even for a home.

"I am unafraid of work. In fact, now that I have not the fear and responsibility which hung over me while I had my dying sister to care for, I am not afraid of anything in the world. But I want work.

"I compromised with honesty before. But my dying sister was my temptation. For myself in the future, no compromise. Honesty and hard work—that's my motto."

And in reference to propositioning her marriage which the publicity of her case brought to her, Miss Young declared:

"To marry a stranger for a home isn't an honest marriage, and in my new life there is never to be a dishonest step, no matter what the alternative."



The second case is that of Miss Edythe E. Perry LeBarr who was in court because she had married two husbands.

"The pretty defendant," says the *Chicago Examiner*, "was so overcome with emotion that she was unable to take the witness stand. Not a word was offered in her defense."

When the case was over a bailiff said to the young woman, "You'll have to go back to jail." She slowly arose and was led away by the bailiff.

"I married two men," she said. "One deserted me, and then told me a lie—told me that he had divorced me. I am not a criminal. I thought I was divorced or I'd never have been married to LeBarr."

But she was led on to the cell and "a few minutes later, the steel door of her cell closed



HONORABLE GEORGE H. HODGES,
Governor of Kansas

with a sharp click and she fell on her cot in a half faint."

The third case is that of Peter R. Brown, a young machinist, who pleaded guilty to bigamy in Judge Brentano's court, Chicago, and was sentenced to from one to five years in this penitentiary.

The young man said that, for what would appear to indicate sufficient cause, he left his first wife and went to Chicago. He was told later, he says, that his wife had obtained a divorce. It was then that he married the second woman. Later he found that his first wife had not been divorced.



Miss Helen Young is proving that the clemency granted her is not misplaced. She is rising from her one "dishonest step" where she "compromised with honesty" and, "unafraid of work," is beginning to live in her other life interests, in the virtue that is in her.

There is nothing, so far as the newspapers report, in the case of Mrs. Edythe E. Perry-LeBarr, "the pretty defendant" in the double marriage case, to indicate that she acted with any criminal intent. So far as her character and life purpose are concerned, she declares, "I am not a criminal." She thought she was divorced or she never would have married LeBarr, she said.

Peter Brown, the young machinist, thought his wife had obtained a divorce.

If both Mrs. LeBarr and Peter Brown had been more cautious and more thorough, provided they were free from criminal intent as they say, they would have investigated the reports that came to them. The reports would then have been verified or they would have been shown to be unfounded.

If the second marriages were only because of a lack of thoroughness and were not criminal in thought, would not society have been served better had the two young people found the mercy and the helpfulness of the "higher justice" instead of their being committed to prison because of the technical violation of the law in a single act?

So lightly have we considered the rights of the individual's life and so partially have we guarded the social integrity that in numerous

instances our "justice" has defeated its own ends.

Were the "higher justice" always to rule, that justice which takes account of the full rights of the individual and of both the rights and the obligations of society, our laws, while still protecting society, would no longer wrong any man or woman.



"Higher Justice," Imprisonment and Liberation

In the first of these editorials on "higher justice" is quoted Governor Dunne's statement that "We are beginning to see the prisoner's side of the situation. We have already learned that his rights are as important as those of the State."

As Governor Dunne says, it is being learned that the prisoner's rights are important *to him* and it is being learned that the prisoner's rights are important also *to the State*.

The nature of things, which life itself imposes, is always supreme over what the creature mind wills and chooses. At last, the mortal's rejection of what he dislikes and his acceptance of what pleases him, gives way to what is true: *what is true rules, even though it does take time for that which is false to wear itself out.*

It was inevitable that society should come to see that the individual is entitled always to his rights. Hitherto the state, in assuming "to use the strength and time of its prisoners to its own benefit," took the ground that the individual lost *all* of his rights when he committed *any* offence against society.

The person was arrested and publicly accused of the offense, which was always referred to as his "crime"; he was tried with all the power of the state against him; the prosecuting attorney's office convicted him if it were able to convict him, the public expecting this of the prosecuting attorney; if convicted, the man was sent to jail or, if possible, was sent to prison; to be sent to prison meant to be as completely cut away from the outside world as was possible; the man might not see his friends oftener than once a month; he might not attend or help to attend to any of his business matters, except to close up those matters—that is, to dissolve his business connections and let his business interests die; his crops might go to waste in the field, his mer-

chandise might be sold out in practical bankruptcy from his shelves, his factory might be left to deteriorate and pass ultimately from his hands; meanwhile he has kept up his meaningless grind within the prison walls; some of his friends and, if in prison for a long enough time, some of his family have died; he comes out at the end of his term more or less penniless and more or less friendless and the newspapers announce that So-and-So, "convict"—they always put in the "convict," whatever else they forget—has been discharged from prison; and the newspapers and the "public" see that the name "convict" follows the man all the way through his life to his grave.

When the prison course is fully run, society finds the man back upon its hands with his health somewhat impaired; his faculties weakened; himself out of touch with the later ways and methods of the world; a part or all of his money gone; probably with a resentment for society which he did not have before; with certainly *a great deal better knowledge of how all kinds of crimes are committed*; with his friends estranged and his family in many cases broken up; with opportunity in great measure and, in many cases, almost completely closed to him—finds the man back upon its hands with less social value than he had when it first committed him.

While, even then, society continues to neutralize the man's value to himself and his social value, by crying continually in his and in every one's else ears, "convict," "convict," "unclean," "unclean."

Incidentally, while imprisoning the man, society has deprived the wife and children of the service of the husband and father, deprived the man of a husband's and father's right to provide for his family and while determinedly denying to the husband and father the right to provide for his family, it has refused also itself to provide for that family.

The facts known at this institution, show that many a wife who, left penniless and deprived of the support of a committed husband, has turned to a life of evil as a means of supporting herself; that many children whose father has been committed, have grown wayward and have swelled the roll of society's delinquents.



In society's determination to deny the individual *all* of his rights because he violated

some *one* of society's rights, society has been continuously loading upon itself an accumulating burden until "the increase of crime," multiplied, as just instanced, by the unnatural conditions which society's treatment of social offenders sets up has, together with a number of other things, brought society to consider it after all, its treatment of the individual offender has been exactly right.

It was inevitable that society should come to see that the individual is always entitled to his rights but, besides this, society has seen that in denying the individual his rights *it has multiplied in geometrical ratio the violation of its own rights, has seen that, in denying the individual the rights that should not have been denied him, it has denied itself rights which would and could not have otherwise been denied*.

The great realization that is creeping into the public conscience is that the individual cannot be denied any of his rights without society also being denied some of its rights.

Restraining a man so that he shall not any longer offend against society, serves society and the man's treatment while under restraint, may be made such that restraining him will also serve him. But while restraining a man where he is wrong, to also deprive him of what are still his rights, does not serve society and does not serve him. It wrongs him and it wrongs society also.

The incoming of the "higher justice" is only that the world is coming more nearly to justice. Great injustice has been called "justice" in ages past.

A despatch from Kansas City, Kansas, to the *Wichita Eagle*, June 6, says that "Fifty county prisoners are on their way to the Kansas wheat fields to assist in the harvest, as the result of an order made by Judge R. S. Latshaw, of the criminal court here today."

The men chosen were "model prisoners." They were sent to the harvest fields. Addressing the men, Judge Latshaw said "You are being given the best chance to make good. *Kansas needs men and you need liberty*." Here is a distinct and most practical example of the identity of the individual interest with the social interest. "*Kansas needs men and you need liberty.*"

When the social attitude toward the individual was that of punishing him for his of

fense instead of only restraining him from continuing to commit that offense and of culturing him so that he should not longer wish to commit it, it would have been impossible to have connected the social good with the individual's good, as Judge Latshaw has now done. While committed blindly to the policy of punishment, society's eyes were shut to an appreciation of its own rights and proper welfare, as they were

shut to the individual's rights and to his proper welfare. Society must then have closed its eyes to its own interests; else it could not have allowed itself to wreak its vengeance. Such is the price we have paid—and in some measure are still paying—for indulgence in this and in other similar low and untrue qualities of mind. But the world is now passing to a "higher justice," into the justice which truth makes; is passing out of the "justice" which was to satisfy condemnation,

jealousy, hatred, and vengeance. The Lawrence, Kansas, *Gazette*, commenting on Judge Latshaw's policy of recognizing that social rights and values are fostered by allowing individuals their rights says:

"I am in thorough accord with the modern idea of dealing with criminals. I believe that the primary purpose of maintaining penal institutions should be to reform, as far as possible, those capable of reformation, and that when a man who has gone astray has been brought to a realization of the enormity of his wrongdoing, has thoroughly determined to foresake a life of crime and enter upon a path of law observance, he should be given an opportunity to make an honest living outside the prison walls. The idea that prisons are intended as places of punishment for wrongdoers finds no lodgement with me. I also believe that the rules of prisons should be such as to bring out the very best there is in men committed to those institutions; that a spirit of humanity should pervade them, and that the man who is unfortunate enough to be sent there should be impressed with the idea that it is better to be good than to be bad, and that the man who is disposed to observe the law will have his reward."—*Governor Lee Cruce, in a personal letter to THE JOLIET PRISON POST.*

"Down at Kansas City they had a judge with some practical sense. He could see no reason for keeping prisoners locked up in cells where they had nothing to do, and where only devilment could be hatched. He said: 'These men need work. I will give them work.' And he did. He put them to building rock roads and during the year they have built several miles of it. Which was a most excellent thing. But there was another result still better. Every prisoner

who worked on the road kept on at work after he was released. He had sweated the whiskey and the coke and the cussedness out of himself while building the rock roads, and the labor had started him on the road to manhood again. Instead of encouraging crime and idleness Judge Latshaw has given the men a chance to become men again and the result showed that the men were quick to take advantage of the opportunity offered them.

"Throughout the country are prisons and jails filled with men who might be redeemed if given a chance. The plan put into practical operation by Judge Latshaw gives the men the opportunity they long for, and the fact that so many of them are saved from a life of vice by it, is a splendid return for the experiment. Some years ago when Hon. Albert Henley was in the state senate, he tried to induce the legislature to pass a law that embodied the theories of Judge Latshaw. Senator Henley wanted the prisoners at the state penitentiary to be put to work building roads."

Kansas has progressed some since the days of Hon.

Albert Henley

"some years back." Last January W. F. Richards was received at the Kansas State Penitentiary under a sentence of one to five years, he having sold mortgaged property. For several years crops had been light and Richards was reduced in supplies and had also become heavily in debt. After he was imprisoned his family became dependent upon the county authorities for food. As the harvest of this year approached, it began to appear that the wheat Richard had planted last fall would yield an abundant crop. The first good crop Richards had had in three years. These facts were presented to Governor Hodges, and Richards was permitted to go

home to harvest his wheat.

The Joplin, Missouri, *Globe* says:

"Governor Hodges today granted a parole for sixty days to W. F. Richards, a prisoner at the state penitentiary, so Richards might go to his home in Saline county and harvest his wheat crop. Richards will return to the prison after the job has been completed.

"Richards entered the prison last January under a sentence of from one to five years for selling mortgaged property. He was heavily in debt, and according to reports to the Governor, his family has been dependent upon neighbors since his imprisonment.

"Friends of the Richards family recently informed the Governor the wheat which Richards planted last fall promised to yield an abundant crop. The Governor thereupon decided the family needed Richards worse for the next sixty days than the state of Kansas did."

In replying to our inquiry sent to Governor Hodges, Mr. S. T. Seaton, executive clerk, has sent the following word:

"The facts are these: W. F. Richards and H. J. Taylor, of Saline County, were convicted of selling mortgaged property and sent to the penitentiary for from one to five years. They were both men with families, each having a wife and three small children. They had not served their minimum, but some of the best people of Saline County urged the Governor very strenuously to grant them paroles. In view of the fact that Richards had a crop maturing which would probably go to waste on account of the inability of his wife to care for it and that Taylor's wife was dependent on the aid of friends, the Governor granted them a sixty-day parole and has since extended it until the first day of September. This prob-

ably means that their paroles will be extended indefinitely, as Governor Hodges has rarely returned a man to prison who has been released on a short time parole.

"Governor Hodges has paroled 530 men from the Kansas State Penitentiary in the past 18 months. These paroles are in most cases recommended by the Board of Corrections and myself, although a very large number are taken up first with the Parole Clerk, and on his recommendation approved by the Governor. Four

out of five of these men are making good and the law is in very great favor among our people.

"Our parole law has been in force something like six years and during that time violations have averaged only twenty per cent, which is remarkably good under all the circumstances. I said that there was a remarkably good feeling in this state towards paroled prisoners. Last week a paroled prisoner came to my office and told me that a man who was to sign his parole papers and give him a job had been taken sick and had been compelled to leave the state for his health and

that he had been unable to secure employment. I put an announcement in the dailies of Topeka saying that I had a paroled man and desired a job for him in order that he might have a chance to become a good citizen. I had six offers to take him the next day and located him in Topeka with a responsible man who will give him employment the year round at \$1.50 per day.

"The granting of temporary paroles is not a general policy in this State. But we must sometimes grant a short time parole in case we are a little doubtful about the man and desire to keep it especially before his eyes for a short time that his liberty may be very brief, depending upon how well he acts while he is out.

"It is altogether probable that our parole law



HONORABLE LEE CRUCE,
Governor of Oklahoma.

will be amended by the next legislature, creating a parole department charged especially with the duty not only of determining who should be paroled, but with getting employment for paroled men and keeping them employed when they lose the jobs in which they have been placed, and also to provide means for keeping better watch on them than we have hitherto been able to keep."

Kansas seems to be getting away from the mistaken idea of punishment as the sole means of correcting offenses. It is seeing that the acknowledgment of rights and the opening of opportunities is the way to lessen and perhaps ultimately to end the "crime" which continuously is such a menacing social problem.

The "higher justice," the foundation principles of which are stated by Governor Dunne of Illinois, which is practiced in some of the Chicago courts and which Kansas is coming to accept as its policy, is also being recognized and practiced in Iowa. J. A. Sanders, warden of the Iowa State Penitentiary, has allowed some of his men to go out of the prison to work for farmers who needed help so that the prisoners, on their part, might earn some money to send home to their families. In a recent official report Warden Sanders says:

"A penal institution may be corrective and uplifting, or it may be punitive and degrading. The jail or the penitentiary, as it has been conducted in the past, has been a place where expert criminals were made. On their reformation much depends upon the opportunity, as it has to heal the diseased tissues of a warped mentality.

"A great many of our inmates come from the ranks of labor. Most of these men have not had a fair chance outside. We are trying to give worthy prisoners a chance to make a little money so that they might help support their families at home."

In the state of Washington there is also a man, the superintendent of the reformatory at Monroe, who has been somewhat let into the wisdom and truth of things, who sees that anything less than "higher justice" is no justice at all.

In the Washington State Reformatory is a prisoner who is to be known as "No. 1390." No. 1390 is serving a term of from one to fifteen years for assault. Before his trouble he had begun to prove up on a tree claim. The time came after he was in prison when he must again be on the land or lose what interest he had gained and

what profit might accrue in the future. Superintendent Donald B. Olson of the reformatory, the man who sees that opportunity to live an individual right opens also a way for the fulfillment of social right, recommended to the Board of Managers that No. 1390 be granted a leave of absence and that he be "allowed to depart for his valuable tree claim Monday." The leave was granted. *The Index*, the Washington State Reformatory publication, says that but for this No. 1390

"would have lost his claim. He will be gone for more than fifteen days, at the end of which time he is in honor bound to return and serve out his sentence."

No. 1390 came back.

In reporting his return *The Index* says:

"No. 1390, who was permitted to go to his timber claim to do necessary assessment work, has returned to the institution. He came back early last week, well within the time limit set by the Board of Managers. He says it is rather lonesome to be back among the shut-ins, but he takes considerable comfort in the thought that his action will make a big difference to other deserving inmates who may ask for favors in the future.

"It is gratifying to the rest of us to know he has done as he said he would do. In contrast to other men who have not shown the same sense of loyalty to their brother inmates, his action stands out as an example of true brotherhood. We are glad to know he has kept the faith and trust reposed in him, as we knew he would. His 'making good' helps to lessen the burden that some would place upon us because we have 'stubbed our toes' and have been caught."

There is a deep human pathos in *The Index's* words of appreciation of No. 1390's return. *All goes to show how truly the "higher justice" can come only as the men who have become subject to the law, justify it.* In a personal letter to the editor of THE JOLIET PRISON POST, the editor of *The Index* says:

"In regard to No. 1390 you have no doubt seen the issue of *The Index* which treats of his return.

"The grant of leave of absence has the approbation of nearly every daily newspaper which comes to *The Index* exchange table. It looks as though his coming back has strengthened the position of those who believe absolutely in the Honor System. No. 1390 wishes it said for him that he considers he did only what any man with 'a principle' would do under the circumstances. He thinks he owed it to all prisoners—here and elsewhere—to come back on time. He is the kind

of a fellow whom you would expect to act as he did."



But the most distinguished instance of the "higher justice" that has yet come to our notice is in the case of W. D. Jones, a resident of one of our newest states.

About four years ago Jones was sentenced to the state prison in Oklahoma for a term of ten years on a charge of assault to kill.

He served three years and on Jan. 1, 1913, he escaped and hastened across the line into Arkansas. Later he went to Little Rock and last Summer he there married a widow. The woman did not at that time know that Jones was an escaped prisoner and "that makes no difference with her now" says a newspaper report, "as she declares he has made her an ideal husband and is now her only support as well as that of her two children." The Oklahoma authorities located Jones and he was arrested and taken back to the state prison at McAlester. A dispatch to the *Chicago Journal* says:

"His wife and babies present a rather pitiable appearance in their new sorrow. Since the marriage last summer they had been living happily in a little cottage out on West Seventh street. Jones has made a record as a sober, industrious workman, and his broken hearted wife declares he spent everything he made on his family.

"It is said that the person who was assaulted by Jones has recovered entirely. Jones does not drink or even use tobacco, according to the statement of his wife. She says she will lay the case before Governor Cruce if she can reach him in any way."

People who had come to know Jones in his new situation and relationship *believe in him* and they made a "strong appeal" to Governor Cruce of Oklahoma to extend clemency to Jones.

Jones' new friends saw that he was a good man, even though he had done one wrong thing; they saw that he had a right to live in the worth—the worth to himself and the worth to the newly wedded wife and her children—in which he was living; they saw that merely to satisfy "the vengeance of the law," that to send the man again to prison, would not serve him or serve the state, but that it would, on the other hand, wrong the wife and children and wrong the state; they saw that to deny Jones the right to live with, to love and to support his wife and her children, would deny the wife's and the children's right to that

support and they saw that it would also deny the state's right to be free from the obligation to support persons who could be otherwise supported.

Jones' friends made their appeal to Governor Cruce. An earlier newspaper report says:

"That a strong appeal will be made to Governor Cruce to extend clemency is very probable and the chances are that it will have considerable weight."

And Governor Cruce granted the appeal. He carried the practicability of the "higher justice" to more exalted heights than any State had yet reached.

A personal letter from Governor Cruce to this magazine discloses the justification of his right course and gives his own views of the worth and the naturalness of justice, which now, since it is coming fully to light, is being called the "higher justice."

Governor Cruce says:

"When this case was presented to me I issued to the applicant a parole for the reason that I was convinced from the facts shown that he, after his escape from the prison, had led an honest, upright life, had observed the laws of the land, had become an industrious, hard-working individual, had married a widow with children, and was making for them an honest living. Sufficient evidence was produced to conclusively show to me that he had thoroughly reformed and was not only capable of making a good citizen but was actually doing so. I accordingly granted him the parole and in doing so feel that I have done my duty.

"I am in thorough accord with the modern idea of dealing with criminals. I believe that the primary purpose of maintaining penal institutions should be to reform, as far as possible, those capable of reformation, and that when a man who has gone astray has been brought to a realization of the enormity of his wrong doing, has thoroughly determined to forsake a life of crime and to enter upon a path of law observance, he should be given an opportunity to make an honest living outside the prison walls. The idea that prisons are intended as places of punishment for wrong doers finds no lodgment with me. I also believe that the rules of prisons should be such as to bring out the very best there is in men committed to those institutions, that a spirit of humanity should pervade them, and that the man who is unfortunate enough to be sent there should be impressed with the idea that it is better to be good than to be bad, and that the man who is disposed to observe the law will have his reward."

The people in prison and out of prison who have realized that there has been something wrong in society's attitude toward the individual and in society's treatment of the individual, will find great encouragement and satisfaction in the progress which "higher justice" is making.

The men and women in prison will also wish that the new justice would find its way to them. Most of these persons see where they think some of their rights have been ignored and many believe that, if given another chance, they will make good.

That quality, which is still in all of us, which makes us who are in prison consider our own interests more intimately than we consider the interests of others, brings our attention unduly to the question of what the changing social attitude toward the individual is to mean to us personally.

Every man should consider his own welfare equally with the welfare of other persons, but he should not consider his welfare to the neglect of that of others.

We need the awakening which will enable us to see that the interest of all persons is one interest, that will give us the power to live in another person's interest equally as much as in our own.

When we have come to this common fellowship, to this real brotherhood, we shall rejoice that the better things are beginning to work out even in a few courts in Chicago, in Kansas and in Oklahoma, although our own day has not yet come.

Men and women who have become subjects of the law and who wish to have the "higher justice" deliver them, can aid the incoming of the higher justice by themselves becoming worthy of it.



To Try Out the Illinois Men

Last month a number of letters were published in which the writers declared their view of an honor man's obligation under the pledge he has signed and of the relationship of the honor men to one another.

Some time ago two honor men escaped from the Honor Farm and were soon caught and brought back to the prison.

For a time after this occurrence, the question of what position the two men should hold was a live question.

It is presumed that the men here are men who as a mass have not trained themselves very far in or adapted themselves very successfully to social order. The administration has used various means to try out the men's social ability, to see what qualifications the men have; and to have the men themselves see what qualification and ability they have *and what they still lack*.

It is easy for any man to tell what he wants; it is quite a different thing for him to show and to make others see that what he wants is as just to others as he thinks it is to himself. At their last monthly meeting the question was put to the men for an expression from them as to what punishment should be meted out to the two offenders, in view of their having, to the limit of their opportunity, compromised the honor movement.

The men saw that the question was up to them of what the mass should do in view of what the two individuals had done. They saw that while the individual has his responsibility, social life means that also all, in a measure, are responsible for each one's acts.

There will be progress in prison betterment as there is a recognition and an acceptance of a "community interest," a recognition and acceptance of social duties and obligations.

The men at the meetings saw that in the community interest of prison life they have some obligation as to how men are to be treated who violate that interest, but they came to see also that they have an obligation that runs farther back than this, that is more primary than dealing with the men after the offence has been committed.



The obligation of the men is not only to see that those who violate the community interest are properly dealt with, but to see that the violations themselves end.

Here we are getting to something fundamental, to something that is ground for stable and real progress. When men begin to take account of causes, it may be known that a solution of problems is to come. But to locate, to clearly define and to deal with causes, is not so easy as at times it seems.

Many a man can tell what to do in a given case, in this instance how to prevent viola-

tions of the prison pledges, but experience shows that what the man proposes does not work; it has been tried and the results were not and will not be again what others thought and what the man thinks they would be. Other persons will tell their way, but the mass does not agree with the plan and therefore that way, even though, perhaps, it might be good, cannot be tried.

These failures to offer some way that is really new and promising, these objections to the proposals that, to a few, seem plausible, are some of the elements of the problem which we are confronted with, are the particulars with which we have to deal in finding the solution of the problem.

We must watch ourselves to see that we are not so given to generalization, that we are not so abstract and visionary that we overlook the elements of a problem in our statement of what will solve the problem.



To fail to bring the problem to the question of the small things, to the particulars, is to fail to meet the problem where alone its solution is to be found.

It avails nothing to say that "if" our idea were tried, that "if" the many would agree to some one or another proposal, the violations would end.

The fact which confronts us is that *men will not try the idea; that the mass won't agree to the proposal.*

The proposal does not even effect a start, does not even win its own acceptance. How, then, can we expect it to give the solution we seek?

It avails nothing to say that "if" the others would agree, what is proposed would work. *They do not agree and that is the weakness of what is offered.*

Through having the question put up to the men of what should be done with violators of a trust, the men have been brought to see that those who are to accept the opportunities of the honor system must find a way in which honor men as a company may protect themselves against those who will not be true to honor.

Doubtless many would venture off-hand to

tell how *this*, too, can be done. But here is a case where again men are too abstract, too visionary; they overstep the elements, the particulars in the problem.

The ways proposed don't work



We are venturing on a limited degree of self-government in this prison, in the monthly meetings which are being carried on. It was in one of these meetings that the idea was presented that the men as a mass should take up the duty of so classifying themselves that no one will get into a class where he does not belong. But that the idea has been born, does not mean that we already know how to carry it out. The details, the elements, in the proposal, we have not yet met. How the men are to safeguard themselves the men have yet to learn.

The principle of limited self-government is growing in prisons. Nearly half a dozen prisons have already inaugurated it. Some have progressed further than others.

Probably the prison in which limited self-government has been most fully attempted is Auburn prison, New York.

Auburn prison has met the particular question which has presented itself to the men here, and the men there have undertaken to deal with it. But even if Auburn is successful in the way in which it handles this matter, that does not say that we here can immediately successfully undertake to do what the Auburn men are doing.

They have prepared themselves and we have not yet gone through the necessary preparation. In time we shall come to it; let us get down to "brass tacks" and learn how to come to it.

Auburn prison has a self governing organization of about 1,400 men. In a future issue we shall have an article in report of what is being done in limited self-government in the different prisons in which the Auburn way and the Auburn progress will be told.

The Auburn men, being united in an organized body, are in position to make recommendations as to the eligibility of men seeking trusty positions and to stand sponsor for those whom the organization believes are worthy of being trusted and recommended.

Having brought itself up to this possibility, it has now done something that is new in the history of penal institutions. "Here is a new stunt in prison affairs," says the Fort Madison, Iowa, *Democrat*.

The inmates of Auburn prison have recommended that sixteen long term men be put upon their honor and let go out to work on the roads. The recommendation was acted upon. The *Democrat* says of these men:

"Several there had never seen an automobile in action, and they rode in one for the first time when they were transported in it to the road camp. It is said they were as happy as school boys."

The *Democrat* continues:

"The prisoners in Auburn penitentiary have an organization known as the Mutual Welfare League, and that organization selected sixteen long term men and recommended them to the superintendent for honor work. In approval of the action of the Welfare League all of the inmates, 1,400 of them, added their recommendation and agreed to stand as sponsor for the good conduct of the men while out on trusty duty."

The belief is that this choice of the sixteen men *having sprung up from within the ranks of the men themselves*, is a safe choice. In the first place the men know one another better than the officials can possibly ever hope to know the men and, besides, it is believed that the "public opinion" of the prison community will be a strong influence to hold the pledged men to their word. "After all," says the *Democrat*, that is the best, for stronger than all laws and rules of prisons, public opinion used as a lash will get results where others fail."



The East and the West

The lands across the sea are in the hour of their fate. They are resolved on measureless destruction or complete success.

They call it war, but it is more than this; it is the greatest plague that can afflict mankind. For it destroys alike the youth and the father of the youth; it comes to the door of the home, the sanctuary of virtue, and leaves it desolate. It annihilates religion; it perverts

the natural taste of equity and justice; it is the harvest of the devil.

Yet men are fighting for their country; and love of country is one of the loftiest virtues. And he who loves his home most unselfishly is he who loves his country best. Deep, deep, in the interests and affections, the roots of patriotism feed. Personal consequences stand not in the way. The call is for mutual suffering as well as for mutual success. So war must ever call forth the exertion of noble qualities, of high virtues. Midst the sound of bursting shell, in the manoeuvres of majestic airship and dipping aeroplane, is displayed the spiritual grandeur of man, defying the angel of death whose beating wings are heard on every side. And the cry for war, for blood, will never yield but to the principles of universal love and justice.

There is another picture.

It is the broad sweep of another land. The two seas lave its shores. There are valleys and fragrant forests; rolling plains that unfold to touch the rim of the sky-line; there are rivers, vast and tortuous, and mountains with their cloaks of eternal snow. No victories of the battlefield are being sounded afar, but the victories of nature are everywhere to be seen. For here are the fruits of the earth in abundance and the golden grain of harvest-tide. And here is peace, the fairest form of happiness. Here is the development of the moral and the social life. Blows are being struck—mighty blows; but they are being struck for power, for institutions, for the everlasting right.

And everywhere there is labor, without which there is no ease, no rest. There is the sound of the tractor and the plow and the breath of the roaring furnace. It is work, the grandest cure for all the miseries that ever beset mankind. And so men are carving their way to that measure of power which will fit them for their destiny.

In the West is being made the conquest which dependeth not upon the sword; overseas, in the land of the Teuton, the Serb and the Slav, is the conquest of war. In both the East and the West is history being made—a poem written by Time upon the memory of man!

Where Is This Boy?

A mother in Texas is trying to find her son, whom evidently she thinks is in prison somewhere. She sends the following letter in the care of Warden Allen:

Marshall, Texas, August 13, 1914.

Dear Son:

Your mother is still waiting and looking for you. Will you please, for my sake, drop me just a line to let me know that you are still alive?

I am not well in health but I am not confined to my bed.

Your mother,

(Signed) MANERVIE ROSEFORD.

R. R. No. 5, Box 50.

There is something inexpressibly sad about this letter. A note at its head, written in a slow and painful hand, reads as follows: "Mr. Warden, please have this letter read to all the prisoners."

Will other prison papers help this mother to find her son? A copy of our magazine with her letter marked will be sent to the mother.

We wish to say for the sake of the mother's relief that, even if her son is in prison, prisons are nothing like what they once were. A humanitarian thought has gotten into people and most prisons now seek to help the inmates rather than only to punish them. Even if she does not find her boy right away, it is likely that he is being helped to be a better boy by somebody, somewhere.



Warden Allen's Embarrassment

It is embarrassing to the chief officer of such an institution as this to be held accountable for that which he is not directly responsible and for which, under the civil service law which covers this institution, he cannot make himself responsible.

The subordinate offices of this institution are filled by the Civil Service Commission. The Warden has arbitrary power to remove an employe at any time during the first ninety days of his appointment, but after that period an employe can be removed only upon absolute proof of his unfitness, demonstrated in a specific act or in specific acts.

It is hard to establish proof of inefficiency,

even though the employe be ever so inefficient. And even if inefficiency is proved, the Warden is still powerless to gather about him the proper support. The only recourse is again to try out a man chosen by the Civil Service Commission. The Commission may or may not send a suitable man, as they do not have a personal knowledge of the kind of men needed here.

The situation is that the Warden is made the "goat" for everything which goes amiss through the inefficiency of the subordinate officers, and under the civil service law he is powerless to help himself. The press fails to make this allowance for the superior officer when questions come up of where the subordinate officers have been less efficient than they might have been.

Embarrassment in another way, and of even greater import, frequently comes to Warden Allen.

The press is continually giving him credit for all the progressive steps which are being taken in the management of the prison.

The supreme commander of the prison is Governor Edward F. Dunne, and the progressive policies which are being worked out here are, in the main, originally from his thought and not from the Warden's alone. Credit should primarily be given to the Governor and not wholly to the Warden as has been the practice.



Former Inmate Who Has Made Great Strides

The *Better Citizen*, published at Rahway, New Jersey, Reformatory, has this to say of a "former inmate" who "dropped in for a call one day last week":

"He had been out of the Reformatory about three years, having served his parole and earned his release. When he went on parole he secured a position on a large poultry farm, and owing to the interest he took in the work, his employer took him into partnership."

The only thing we do not like about this item is that the *Better Citizen* begins the item in this way: "1795, who is another of our prosperous young men, dropped in for a call," etc.

Why do so many of the prison papers con-

tinue to designate a man by a *number* instead of designating him by his *name*?

We shall not properly enlist the public's interest in the prison betterment work until we make the work a cause in the service of men.

It is weakness that holds us still to using numbers to indicate human beings.

When our own cause is strong enough in ourselves we shall declare ourselves, and it shall be known that human beings are rising to their estate, that a body of hitherto condemned and misunderstood men are rising to worth and to might.

Until a man *will recognize himself* society will not properly recognize him. The man himself must rise, else in no way can he be lifted up.

Society gave the man the number. When, from that to which the man subjected himself so as to receive the number, he comes to his proper integrity, he will cast the number off.

"1795" did not go to the man to whom he has now found himself worthy to be partner, as a number; he went as a human being.

Leave the figures to the arithmetics; let us be openly John any Mary. Let us not hide behind an enumeration; let us justify ourselves by raising the men and women of our lot to a worthy rank. When we have done our work, no man can point in shame to our names.

But to return to the subject of this comment. The *Better Citizen* says that "1795" (whatever may be his name) and the man with whom he went into partnership, "sell all their eggs to the Lehigh Valley Railroad for its dining-room service, and receive ten cents a dozen more than market price for hen fruit."

The partners have about 4,000 hens, mostly White Leghorns.

This successful young man is himself; he is not a numerically catalogued commodity in an institution.

Quit yourselves like men; be strong.



A Reporter Within the Walls

The *Seattle Sun* sent Mr. David Erwin to the Washington State Reformatory at Mon-

roe, to make a special report of that institution.

The *Index*, the Reformatory paper, reports that Superintendent Olson said to Mr. Erwin, "Go at it; ask as many questions as you like; see and talk to whom you like, officer or inmate. Go through the books; learn all you can, and tell the truth."

The *Index* thinks that it is seldom that such freedom of investigation is given to a correspondent, and adds: "Publicity is what we need and deserve; the more light shed on us the better we will be satisfied." Mr. Erwin went to Monroe for the "inside man's story" and got it. "The men realized they could talk without fear of further subtle punishment." The *Index* continues:

"Mr. Erwin says he found us to be like any other human beings, and so we are: We are truthful and untruthful; honest and dishonest; ambitious and lazy; wise and foolish; tricky and straightforward; secretive and open-minded; good and bad. Those who are good ask only to have the chance to prove to the world their worthiness. Those who are bad are willing to suffer alone for their badness, in most cases. Inherently even the bad ones among us want to be good. Those who are striving to do the 'right' thing want to help not only themselves but all human kind. Having fallen they are in a position to know what it means to fall and be kicked. Having received a helping hand they know what it means to love and appreciate; and given the chance to demonstrate their intentions they will carry out their pledged word to the letter. Mr. Erwin, when he came among us, frankly admitted he expected to see a species of animal not found outside of captivity. He went away convinced the opposite was true."

EDITOR'S COLUMN

Everything in this magazine is written to help each individual solve his individual problem and help him also to solve the social problem in so far as the solution of the social problem is in him. Men in this institution, who are not satisfied with their situation, must realize that their problem is not only an individual problem. Individualism, without being softened and broadened, without being corrected by a well defined and wholesome social

interest, degenerates into the selfishness which, from its nature, makes a person a misfit in the world. The "community interest" spoken of last month in the correspondence relative to honor men and escapes, is as much a part of each personal life as is the individual interest which at times seems to be so close to us and so important. What is written for and published in this magazine, is meant to help each person solve his whole problem. We suggest that those who are seeking to solve their problems, or who are seeking to help to solve the prison problem in general, shall not read once only what this magazine says but that, after a few days, they shall read it again and shall think about it. See if what is said here, is sanctioned by your own thought, by your inner life. Then, if it is so sanctioned, live it; let us live it wholly. Without living what is square and right, there is no honor system and no benefits to ourselves or to others from a trust in our honor, can come.

We suggest that more and more the men make the monthly meetings a means for growing into a more wholesome, a more effective social life. Let us be less concerned at the meetings about getting in a "knock" against some one else or about getting some special thing for ourselves and more solicitous of a broader understanding of our relationship with the other men of our community and with the officers of the administration who, under the scheme of organization for this institution, are our government. As we begin to show that we are interested in and intend to "make good" in some of these larger interests, the way will open for us to have greater individual freedom and benefits. Proving the practicability of a greater liberty, will secure that liberty.

Men who live in the penitentiary of any state and who have united with the prison betterment cause, will never think of their place of residence by its official and legal name; to these men, while they are confined, the place is an opportunity for helping to do what needs to be done for the thousands of prisoners in the country at large. These men will be at work now. A patriot does not waste time

waiting for better conditions; he begins his work in the conditions where he is placed.

It will be noticed that we begin this month to publish a few editorials clipped from our prison exchanges. This feature in a prison publication is significant. Prisoners are beginning to realize that if they are ever to come to the better social positions to which they wish to come, that they *must lift themselves to that position*. Prison journals are taking up the cause. Often there are in the prison exchanges pointed editorial comments which would be helpful to all who seek to help solve the prison and other social questions. Anyway, these editorial comments are the prisoners' own expression; they are a voice sent out to all the world from the community behind the walls. We wish to give, and we feel that it is valuable to give, as wide a hearing to these editorial utterances as is possible. There is a growing fraternity in prison journalism and in the honor men of the prisons. THE JOLIET PRISON POST wishes to acknowledge all of this, wishes to help unify the forces of the prison betterment movement.

We wish the men at the Honor Farm and at the road camps to know that we do not forget them, that we are not unmindful of them. We know that the farm men and the camp men are the vanguard of the social progress which the prison communities are making. What every man within the walls hopes to win, the farm and camp men have already somewhat won. We want news items every month from these outposts of our growing prison civilization and we want a personal communication occasionally from a man at the farm or at a camp, who feels that from his own experience he can say something of value on the question that prisoners are considering. Let the farm and the camp men realize that they are still of us and that we who are yet here look out to them and up to them as the builders of our hope.

The "press in prison" is certainly getting on: *The Pioneer*, published at the Illinois State Reformatory, Pontiac, on August 10th issued an "Extra" giving the latest war news. We are soon to publish an illustrated article which

will show something of what the young men at Pontiac are doing under the modern plan of Superintendent William C. Graves. Publishing a war extra is one of the smallest of the Pontiac enterprises.

Let us not use the word "criminal" any more. It seems too heartless. Let us say "prisoner." Men are made prisoners by society and that, at least, connects us somewhat with society. To brand a person a "criminal" pushes him away from society and makes him an outcast.

The Leavenworth *New Era* now has a new editor-in-chief, Mr. Wilson, who writes a very happy introductory word. We note the individual touches of the new editor and expect to see a very creditable publication come from his pen.

The *New Outlook* is a very neatly gotten up weekly quarto, now nearly a year old. But why does not the *New Outlook* give more editorial support to Ohio prison betterment movement?

The "Little Zeke" series of illustrations by "Tam," beginning in this issue are produced by a local artist. All that appears in this magazine is from home talent unless otherwise credited.

It takes the spirit of a man's expectations to sustain the man's will, while he makes the expectations his real accomplishments.

Prisoners are still men. If we do not remember this ourselves, it is likely that the public will forget it also.

The opportunity is still open for a dentist in this community. Report to this office.

EDITORIALS FROM PRISON JOURNALS

One-Sided Affair

Organized society, as such, should make a study of the one-sided question of the prosecution of criminal cases. The average culprit brought to trial is penniless and friendless, mentally unbalanced for the time at least, be-

cause of his unhappy predicament. The state, city and county have police officers, sheriffs, and prosecutors, whose salaries vary as their records of convictions entitle them to the inheritance of office. The accused, whether innocent or guilty, stands but little show against the array of such officers. Even under the most favorable condition, the poor fellow at the bar rarely has an opportunity to secure witnesses even though his attorney happens to be an able advocate.

Society should . . . insist on giving every man a "square deal," regardless of consequences, and insist upon the selection of an able Public Defender for every court. . . .

The Public Defender is sure to become a part of our public policy when the people at large understand its value.—*The New Era, United States Penitentiary, Fort Leavenworth, Kansas.*



Discipline by the Prisoners

There are a number of men about this institution who are trusted by the officials and allowed the freedom of the yard. Most of these men are appreciative of the privileges granted them. But, among any bunch of men you will find some who do not appreciate a privilege; who are careless, or do not care.

These few are the ones who spoil the privileges of the whole body. They break the rules and cause the officials to mistrust all, and to protect themselves the officials must take away the privileges of all.

In this way the innocent suffer with the guilty.

There is a remedy for every evil, and we have no doubt that the management of every prison is willing to listen to suggestions which will help them to get rid of this evil.

There is one plan which has been tried out in several institutions of this kind throughout the country and is proving a success.

That is, to get the prisoners aid in keeping down the unruly ones.

A prison body of men are just like a body of men on the outside. There is a moral element and an immoral element among them. If the moral element has the ascendancy, or is in the majority, their trustworthiness will counteract the vices and unruliness of the immoral element and vice versa.

For instance, take the count-outs and trusts of this prison. If the moral element is lacking in these men, they will soon destroy their own privileges and those which are granted in a lesser degree to the whole prison body. Now, to give the moral element a chance to work, it should be recognized by the officials. There should be a certain num-

ber of men, picked out by the inmates themselves, to guard the privileges of everyone, and they as guardians should watch and warn rule-breakers and turn their names in to the officials, if warning them is not enough.

In this way the integrity of those who are trustworthy will be guarded and the innocent will not have to suffer with the guilty.—*The Penitentiary Bulletin, Kansas State Penitentiary, Lansing, Kansas.*



Does Imprisonment Achieve Its Purpose?

Criminal justice must work towards one of two ends. The elimination of the criminal or his reformation; it must either be destructive or constructive. In days of old it was frankly destructive. The man convicted of a felony, be the offense serious or trivial, was at one time almost without exception hanged. Punishment then was swift, certain, complete and merciful because the criminal was spared the lingering agony of slow punishment. Today the avowed purpose is to reform the criminal, but, especially in this state—in this state as in no other Christian state—is in its effects destructive and in very many cases, because almost endless, cruel. This cruelty is not to be found in the prisons but in the length of the sentences imposed.

Long sentences make life hopeless. . . . The man is so handicapped by age, loss of initiative, the alienation of friends and relatives and the physical deterioration always inseparable from prolonged imprisonment, that unless he is a man of more than ordinary strength of character, there is little chance of his making good.

We do not criticise the courts for imposing such sentences. It may be that in the light of such facts as were presented to them, they were justified in every instance, but, the fact remains they are destructive and cruel—justly cruel possibly but cruel nevertheless.

The question, however, is not whether they were just, merciful, or cruel, but whether they accomplish their purpose. Do they decrease and prevent crime? May it not be that such sentences account, to some extent at least, for the fact that approximately one-half of the men in the New York state prisons are recidivists, and are serving a second, third, fourth, or, in some cases, ninth term? A man who, having spent ten or fifteen or more years in the enervating atmosphere of a prison, when set adrift, an alien to society, without a single home or wholesome social tie, is very likely to lack both the incentive and the strength to fight against the temptation to follow the line of least resistance and violate those laws which he feels have robbed him of the best

there is in life.—*Star of Hope, Sing Sing Prison, New York*



Parole the Life Termers

This coming winter efforts will be made to secure amendments to the present parole law under which it is hoped to secure a more liberal administration of its provisions, and at the same time measures will be used to have the life termers made beneficiaries under its requirements.

Wherever this class of men has been paroled, they have invariably made 100 per cent. good. They are the best behaved men in prisons, the least troublesome, the most appreciative, and the least inclined to abuse the privileges usually allowed to all life termers.

In Wisconsin, where "lifers" are admitted to parole, the results are unusual. Of all the life termers who have been discharged under the parole law in that state since 1907, not one has defaulted.

Of the thirty-four applications of lifers considered by the board in the last six years, fourteen have been granted. Of this number eleven are reporting regularly, two died, and one returned to prison voluntarily, saying, "that the prison was a better home than the world."

Where the convicted has friends and money it is rarely that they serve more than fifteen years of their "life" term.—*The Empire, Eastern Penitentiary, Philadelphia, Penn.*

NEWS NARRATIVE

LOCAL

THE NEW SUPERINTENDENT OF MATRONS AND THE NEW METH- ODS AT THE WOMEN'S PRISON

The lives of women at the women's prison are brightened by the new hope that has come in them of improvement while in the institution and of prospects of being able to do well when they are released.

The new matron, Miss Grace Fuller, who took charge of the women's prison August 10, proposes to make the life of the women here more normal than it has been and to help the women to fit themselves for self-supporting work when they shall leave.

Miss Fuller came to Joliet from the State

Normal College at Ypsilanti, Michigan, where she held the office of Dean of Women and Supervisor of Household Arts. She had been connected with the Normal College for nine years, having gone there directly from Pratt Institute, Brooklyn, a technical school, from which she graduated in 1905.

When interviewed, Miss Fuller said:

"I have always thought that poor food has a great deal to do with bad conduct. I have plans to educate the women in cooking so that as a first benefit they may have better food themselves.

"I have great faith in the educational value of manual work of all kinds, and especially for women in work connected with the household.

"I shall at first make a class of eight women who are to leave here next year and shall teach them housekeeping. I shall teach them how to prepare a meal that will be nutritious, inexpensive, attractive, and suited to the bodily needs of the persons for whom the meal is prepared.

"Later on, as we can, we are to have classes in sewing to teach the women who need that instruction. They will be taught to make simple garments, and later there will be lessons in practical millinery. The women will also be taught to do first-class laundry work. This instruction is of great practical value and it can be made very interesting.

"I shall try to make each of the women self-supporting when she leaves the place. I intend to see the persons for whom the women are to work and to help each to become well located in clean, wholesome surroundings. I want all the women who leave here to feel that our interest in them continues even after they have gone.

"I shall have the advice of prominent students in sociology both in Chicago and in New York, which will be very helpful to me and also to the women who are under my charge.

"We have taken two-thirds of the space of the cane seat factory for our new kitchen. Each woman who takes up the work will have her own kitchen cabinet and gas stove. The food prepared will be used in the dining-room.

"The women will be changed about in their work so that they will learn all branches of domestic science; also those who prefer it, will be taught so as to qualify them for work in factories.

"The primary purpose is to make our work educational; the commercial interest will be a secondary consideration.

"If a woman while here can take one, two or three years in domestic science training under a competent supervisor, I can see no reason why she cannot be exceptionally well fitted for a position in any home or, if she prefers a business vocation, I can see no reason why her instruction here will not fit her for good work in a laundry, restaurant, hotel, millinery shop, dressmaking establishment or some such institution.

"We intend to open every opportunity to the women and to help them make as much of themselves as is possible.

"I am pleased with the work and opportunity that are before me and I take up my work here with a glad heart."



FATHER PETER'S IMPRESSIONS

Father Peter Crumbley, who came to this institution about two months ago from Memphis, Tenn., as successor to Father Edward, finds his work here about what he had hoped to find it after having learned in Chicago of what was being done here for prison betterment.

Father Peter's work in Memphis was in principle of similar character to the work he finds open to him here. He was priest of St. Mary's Catholic church and was chaplain of St. Peter's orphanage and of the Home of the Good Shepard and was well known as a social worker who devoted a great deal of his time to the uplift of the wayward boys and girls of Memphis. He organized the Boys' Club of St. Mary's parish.

Speaking of his experience here Father Peter said:

"I find the men entirely different from what I expected. From my understanding of prisons I had thought the men would be despondent, morose, unhappy, dejected and brooding and, at the best, not bouyant and

companionable. But I have found them so different from this.

"There is in the men a certain childlike confidence in one whom they feel is a real friend to them; they have exceptional appreciation for even the smallest things that are done for them. This seems to be not because of a weakness, but because they have so little in here that even small things mean a great deal to them.

"The men that I have met are not weak; that is, they have not given up their purpose, have not surrendered to the conditions and limitations in which they have been placed and given up hope.

"They are childlike in that they are cheerful and happy and respond readily to kindness, but they are manlike in bearing up under the burdens they carry. I find that most of the men with whom I have talked are sincere at heart. They meet you half way, and more than half way.

"These men have gone through a severe trial. The accusation made against them, their conviction and imprisonment here, has alienated from them many whom, until this trouble came, they had thought were their true and staunch friends. This loss of friends in whom one has put the fullest confidence, makes one sometimes lose faith in man and almost lose faith in God.

"I find that the men here do not want a soft, pitying sympathy. They reject that, but they accept kindness. They do not want people to come and weep over them; they have a natural pride in standing in their own strength; they accept a cordial support and respond heartily to having faith reposed in them. They seem to feel that they are themselves responsible for the conditions that have been brought upon them and they are willing to stand the consequences of their acts and to work their own way out."

Father Peter was asked how the Honor System appeared to him; what relationship he sees between the Honor System and Christianity?

"In principle and in spirit," said Father Peter, "the honor system is the practicalization of Christianity. Honor is another name for character, and the honor system is meant,

in its highest phases, to bring a man back to the guidance of the truth that is in him. This, of course, is the kind of practical life that Christianity shows.

"But just how much of this is to be worked out in here I cannot yet say. Men who are here are not in a normal situation. The principal thought with them must be to fulfill their time and to get out. I cannot say what percentage of the men who take up the honor work have their whole life method in view. Naturally, many of them think of the honor system only as a means of getting along well in here and as a way in which they possibly can shorten the term of their sentences.

"The honor system came into my practice a good deal in Memphis. I impressed my boys as deeply as I could with the importance of keeping their word with me and I think this was an influence in keeping them upright.

"The honor system is true, and if we could apply it to society in general nothing could be better. I know that there are men in here who want to get out on the farm just to show the Warden that they can be trusted. They reject the implication that they are unworthy and not to be trusted just because they did one wrong and fatal thing. Their acts weigh heavily upon them and they wish again to accredit themselves in the eyes of society.

"Many of the life men are on the farm. It means a great deal for such a man to keep his pledge. Where there is slight hope of a termination of his sentence, small hope of a pardon, and a chance comes when he feels sure he can make his escape and be free, and then does not go just because he has given his word, there is the exercise of extraordinary strength, of heroic virtue.

"The conditions are abnormal here. But the honor system can do great things. The opportunities here offer an ideal work for a priest."



THE PRISON HONOR BAND

The home of the new band occupies the entire north half of the floor of the large building formerly used for a shirt factory. It is a spacious room, with lofty ceiling, and is finely ventilated. Here, in a real musical atmos-

phere, the boys meet for practice every morning and afternoon, except Sunday. They do not return to their cells during the noon hour, Mr. Saville, the bandmaster, having volunteered to remain at the headquarters so that the band members may enjoy the privilege of spending the hour amidst pleasant surroundings.

The band will compare favorably with many municipal bands of the large cities. If it lacks in perfect technique and finish, it is largely due to the fact that the full complement of the band has not yet been attained. The band has made excellent progress since last May. It is the plan to increase the membership as fast as satisfactory men can be found and trained.

Among the pieces which have been rendered may be mentioned Hall's and Sousa's standard marches, the Sextet from Lucia, and La Polama. On the second Sunday in August the Overture to the Poet and Peasant was given in a most creditable manner.

J. F. Saville, bandmaster, left on August 17, for a two weeks' vacation. He has been one of the busiest men in the institution, especially on Sundays, when he gives four performances before he is off duty at one o'clock.



ON THE DIAMOND

The national game is well represented by the different nines in the I. S. P. Estelle's Wrappers, of the Furniture Department, have been almost invincible during the season.

Wednesday, August 5, they crossed bats with the yard nine, known as the Sun Dodgers, the Wrappers winning the game 2 to 0.

Many sensational plays were made by both sides. The feature of the game was the base-running of Covington, the boy who "slides on his chin," scoring both runs for the Wrappers, unassisted.

Schultz, one of Heinze's "57 varieties," who played first base for the Sun Dodgers, is a better singer than a ball player. Through his freak plays he was given credit for losing the game. Packy, the slab artist for the Wrappers, who claims an occasional spit ball in

his repertoire, was given good support and managed to strike out the heavy hitters of the Sun Dodgers.

Murphy, the Sun Dodgers' pitcher, was also in the lime light, he allowing only three scattered hits. His double-break ball should be seen by the scouts of the major league.

The Mill Chair No. 5, a branch of the Furniture Department, having only three or four players, came to the conclusion that with the assistance of the stars in the yard nine, they could put up a stronger brand of ball and, on Monday, August 10, they combined forces to play the leaders, Estelle's Wrappers.

When the whistle blew for supper the Wrappers had met their Waterloo, the combined forces winning by a score of 2 to 1.

Newbar, who shovels the black diamonds for the State in the boiler room, and Cleveland, the biscuit shooter for the Combined Forces, pitched a good game and received excellent support. Packy, whose arm was not in good condition, covered the third bag and surprised the spectators by striking out. He generally looms up strong in the hit and run column.

Covington, who does a 100 in 9 flat, was sent to run for several of his team mates after they had reached first on scratch hits. Evidently he had slippery elm on his heels and the game terminated when he was put out the third time at the second bag by what is known as the "hidden ball ruse." Outside of Trayer's triple over the fish pond to the right garden, there was very little chance for the fielders to make any sensational catches.

Tuesday, the 11th, the Chain Damagers from Shop No. 2 played the Sun Dodgers, but suffered defeat, 9 to 5. Murphy's double-break ball was very effective. Badsing, a life term, one whom Gulliver must have overlooked in his travels, played in the right garden for the Damagers. He received tremendous applause on catching a fly ball after having hurdled two or three wagons and a couple of quarry cars. Jimmie Hines, an old-time ball player, and familiar with most of the plays, is generally picked to umpire the games. Rice and Kelly, two promising young players, have become famous for their one-hand catches. They are in great demand by all

teams. Kelly can pitch six days in every week and twice on Sunday, if permitted.

The other day there was an interesting game between the Power House and the Machine Shop. The game opened with the Power House at bat.

The battery for the Machine Shop were Stanley and Sammy. Of course, the Power House men started to break all the window panes in the neighborhood of the ball grounds. This made Stanley somewhat reticent in pitching the new league ball. Every now and then we were compelled to jog up his memory, in order to enjoy seeing a few more windows divided into smaller parts.

The Power House, at the end of their first inning, had six scores. But it seemed certain that the Knights of Vulcan and the lathe were equally as good and were slugging as hard as the stokers. It finally made the score 7 to 6 in favor of the machinists.

The second inning brought a surprise, and the Stokers were baffled by one of Stanley's new twist balls (we'll call it that for lack of a better name).

The game then progressed peacefully until the fourth inning was reached, when the Stokers happened to start a rally and, being then quite awake, the score reached 10 to 7. The game wound up with a triple play made by the Machinists.



RESIDENT OPTICIAN

A full modern equipment for testing the eyes has been purchased by the administration and prisoners can now buy eye glasses at the cost to the State. Prisoner Paul Covitz, who is an experienced optician, is in charge under the direction of the prison physician, and he will attend to all who need glasses. The men are to go to the hospital with the regular sick line where they will see Covitz, who will attend to their wants.



THE HONOR FARM

The discipline at the Honor Farm has recently been excellent and the very best of fellowship exists between the men. Harvest has

just passed, and while the boys, with few exceptions, have had no previous farm experience, they went at the harvest like veterans and a better or more willing body of men can not be found.

There has been added a new Titan oil tractor, 30.00 horsepower, and a Racine thresher with a capacity, under favorable conditions, of 2,500 bushels per day. No outside help was obtained, the tractor engine and separator being operated by the men themselves. It took one week to do the threshing, the first day or so being taken up in getting the machinery to run smoothly. The total quantity of oats threshed was 2,000 bushels of good quality. Corn is getting on very well but rain is essential for a good yield. Sweet corn is ready and deliveries to the dining room can now be made.

Early potatoes are very good, what we have dug show the yield to be about 100 bushels to the acre. Late potatoes are much in need of rain. The cabbage and other vegetables also need rain. It has been an exceptionally bad year for insects, some of which are new to this locality and which have caused considerable damage.



CAMP DUNNE

Father Peter Crumbley, Catholic chaplain of the Illinois State Penitentiary, visited the camp on the afternoon of Sunday, August 16th. He made an address to the boys and said Mass at six o'clock.

Mr. Wickersham, of the Illinois State Penitentiary, visited the camp a few days ago, bringing with him the papers which gave freedom and restored citizenship to three of the boys.

In honor of his recent birthday, Mr. Munson gave out ice cream and doughnuts to the boys. The treat was greatly appreciated by all.

On August 2 the Camp Dunne team played the K. of C. team from Ottawa, the home team winning by several scores.

On Aug. 9, after a hard fought game, in which the losers battled hard to the end, the Camp Dunne team went down to defeat for

the second time at the hands of the Zephyr Flowers, of Ottawa. The score:

R. H. E.

Zephyr Flowers...0 3 2 + 1 0 0 1 0—11 11 4
Camp Dunne....0 1 2 0 2 2 0 1 2—10 14 4

On August 16 the Camp Dunne team crossed bats with the Deer Park team. Camp Dunne had the visitors at their mercy until the eighth inning, when Deer Park ran up the score to 9. The score:

R. H. E.

Deer Park.....0 2 0 0 1 1 1 + 1—10 9 6
Camp Dunne1 2 3 2 0 2 2 1 0—13 11 2

The road grader has just completed a two-mile stretch of road east of the camp, converting a former cow trail into a modern highway.

After nearly seven weeks of drought, the camp was visited by two refreshing rains during the second week in August. This has made the ground too wet to work the teams, so all hands were put to work on the rock cut through Dimmick's Hill, which is about one-fourth of a mile long and composed of sand, rock, shale, red clay and gumbo.

About a half mile from the camp is a very enjoyable spot on the banks of the Illinois River, where the boys go to swim.

Many visitors are attracted to Camp Dunne from Starved Rock. A daily average of twelve visit the camp, Council Cave and Fishburn Canyon. The cave is especially interesting, being 100 feet long, 80 feet wide and 30 feet high. The road that cuts through Dimmick's Hill runs directly over the cave. The canyon is one of the beauty spots of the state. A small stream runs through it and a great variety of trees and wild flowers are to be seen.

The prisoners who have been stationed at Camp Dunne near Ottawa, Illinois, finished the work assigned to them Saturday, August 22. All the improvements originally contemplated have not been completed, but the county money has given out and in consequence the business men of Ottawa have decided to enlist the aid of farmers to put on the finishing touches. On Monday, August 24, Camp Dunne was moved to Mokena, Will County, Illinois, fifteen miles east of the prison on the Rock Island railroad. Four miles of hard road is to be made; two miles of stone road at Mokena

and two miles in the township of Frankfort. The Frankfort road is a part of the Lincoln Highway. It is expected that all of the work will be finished by January 1, 1915. At that time Warden Allen intends to move the men to the Joliet Honor Farm for the winter.



CAMP ALLEN

About the best news that could come from any road camp comes from Camp Allen, established at Beecher.

The men are being paid for overtime work at twenty cents an hour. The local officials desire to have a great deal done and in order to have the work move along as fast as possible, they have arranged to have the men put in extra time on the conditions named.

So far the men have not earned great amounts, but what they do earn is net profit, since their board, lodging and clothing are provided. The most significant thing, however, is that they are being paid wages.

All the officials send in particularly good reports of the men at Camp Allen. So far these men have conducted themselves so as to fulfill every requirement of the camp.

A certain famous author who recently visited the camp, whose stories for a number of years have dealt with western life and with prison topics, but whose name we do not feel at liberty to mention, says that Camp Allen is the best prison camp he has seen. He makes the statement on the ground of the camp's situation, equipment, the efficiency of the work and the general conduct of the men.

Camp Allen is the latest road camp from this institution and it is setting a new standard in camp affairs.

OTHER PRISON COMMUNITIES

HOW ONE PRISON PAPER GREW

Here is an inside story of how the press has gotten into prison. It is the story of the evolution of *The Umpire*, published at the Eastern State Penitentiary at Philadelphia. *The Umpire* tells the story:

"Originally it was typewritten, and contained nothing more than the result of our baseball games. A little later a 6x4 'dodger' was struck off when no one was looking, and surreptitiously passed around among a chosen few. It reached the officials finally, who gave permission to issue such a publication during the baseball season. Last September, this privilege was extended to cover the whole year, providing we found enough stuff to put in it. Needless to say, we found it, with such good results, that the *Umpire* is now classed among the most important of prison publications."



MAKING FACES

The men of the Kansas State Penitentiary must be on very intimate and friendly terms with their officers.

Some weeks ago the State boys paid a visit to the Federal boys at Leavenworth and in a match game of ball, "brought home the bacon." Now the Leavenworth fellows want a try against the Lansing orators, and so "Cuba," who speaks for the State boys at

Lansing, addresses the Warden and Deputy Warden thus:

"Dear Sirs—Those boys at the U. S. Prison are making faces at us again. Perhaps you remember what they said about our ball team several weeks ago? Well, they are now saying the same things about our orators. They say we don't know how to debate.

"Now, gentlemen, you know that old K. S. P. Academy doesn't take a back seat for anybody, in anything; so just say the word, gentlemen, and the boys of K. S. P. will prepare to bring home another scalp."

PARAGRAPHS

The Monroe, Washington, Reformatory is very proud of its band, which goes on improving, with a promise of making "some high class musicians."



Night work in the twine plant at the Lansing, Kansas, state prison closed July 30th. The event was celebrated with a movie show and a big supper and ice cream.

. . The Lesson . .

By Hugh Manyte

A Prisoner

Alone by the grated window I mused in the after-glow;
The life I had lived unfolded—I dwelt in the long-ago;
Saw only the blight and sorrow, roamed only the land of tears,
And never a golden moment came out of the buried years.

Like unto a cloud, it faded, yet sadder it left me then;
I had traversed the vale of shadows in my search for the souls of men;
Had bowed at the crumbled ruins of my hopes and fears that day,
As I gazed at the dying colors on the rim of the far-away.

Then, clutching the narrow window, fell the vine—it had lost its hold;
Perhaps it had fought, and yielded to the strength of the breezes bold.
E'en then, as the stem bent inwards, I knew that its tendrils fine
Were groping amongst the shadows for a something they might entwine!

O, blessed the simple lesson—the lesson the vine doth bring:
Should loosened become our anchor we may cast it again—to cling.
The ghost of the Past brings nothing to me of its grim decay,
For the hope that the vine has given must conquer the new today!

A Broad View of the Question of Penology

A Problem Which Is to Be Worked Out Through a Change of Social Attitude Towards the Individual

O. H. L. Wernicke Outlines the Work of the Joint Penology Commission of Michigan

One of the most important of recent utterances on the question of penology and the possible social service of penological methods, is made in the address of Mr. O. H. L. Wernicke, delivered before the Joint Penology Commission of Michigan, of which Mr. Wernicke is president.

The address sets forth certain fundamental principles which must be recognized in any lasting reform movement. Mr. Wernicke sees that progress is possible only through a growing conformity to what is true in human nature; that the restoration of men to a proper social status is to come, not through any discipline that means only a conformity to rules, but through a social culture which will school and qualify men for freedom, for the freedom which must be given them when they are released and which they must know how to live if they are to hold themselves secure against rearrest.

"The whole problem," says Mr. Wernicke, "of reforming a man or a woman almost invariably and in accordance with nature's law, involves the question of sex and other social relations; therefore, no scheme of reform which ignores this truth will ever be successful in the highest degree."

Mr. Wernicke sees that, while it is true that men and women must be taught freedom, discipline is not to be abandoned. He says: "We cannot yet dispense with cages or cells, but we may surely reduce their number."

Discipline is to be *outgrown*, not abandoned. Persons must, from their thought, live the order that a proper discipline would specify; otherwise their being allowed freedom would not be justified.

Mr. Wernicke sees a new attitude for society toward the individual. He says, "There is yet room for progressive legislation and the

exercise of more intelligence by our courts in the trial and commitment of persons charged with crime. Our indeterminate sentence law contains some good features but it does not go far enough."

He says the state should help the man who comes out of prison to establish a home, and declares the new social policy in these words: "Since modern penological thought, as well as public opinion, are on the side of reform, rather than punishment, the practices of our courts and institutions should be brought into practical harmony with this sentiment."

Mr. Wernicke's full address is as follows:

"This Commission was created by the last Legislature for certain definite and much-needed purposes. It is our duty to prove that its creation was both wise and timely; to do anything less would lay the Commission's plans open to criticism.

"We need a reasonable increase in our appropriation to make our own work what it should be, but even without such additional funds we can do much for the good of penology in Michigan. Other states, as well as our own people, are beginning to realize the value and take note of the relative prison situation in this state highly creditable to ourselves.

"The worst feature of all prison methods is the fact that the ex-convict is a marked man and handicapped by society in his efforts to make a living for himself; he is too often driven back into the ranks of crime by the discouraging discrimination of society.

"All the prison discipline—all the effort and cost of convictions and maintenance of prisoners while serving their sentences go for naught—are a useless waste until it is made reasonably possible, instead of practically impossible, for the paroled or discharged prisoner

after he has paid his full debt to society, to engage on equal terms in the business of gaining an honest livelihood.

"In a very large number of cases reform would be more certain and sooner accomplished were it possible under proper guidance to maintain or re-establish the prisoner on a basis of proper family relations and surroundings.

Whole Problem of Reform

"Human nature craves and will have social intercourse. Those who for any reason are kept out of good society must and do fall into bad company.

"The whole problem of reforming a man or woman almost invariably and in accordance with nature's law, involves the question of sex and other social relations; therefore, no scheme of reform which ignores this truth will ever be successful in the highest degree.

"Since modern penological thought, as well as public opinion, are on the side of reform rather than punishment, the practices of our courts and institutions should be brought into practical harmony with this sentiment.

"We cannot yet dispense with cages or cells; but we surely may reduce their number. In most institutions the greatest need of the hour is more intelligent classification and segregation of their inmates, for which our existing laws and facilities are totally inadequate.

"I would so order the whole penological scheme that no man need be kept under lock and key, unless by his own acts no other treatment is possible.

"I would have grades all the way from solitary confinement to complete liberty, through which a prisoner might progress by his own efforts and conduct—each promotion to carry with it more privilege and greater responsibility.

"And I would take particular pains to segregate minor offenders from the more vicious—the healthy from the diseased—the clean from the pervert, and so on, affording to each the particular treatment and instruction best calculated for his speedy reform and restoration to complete liberty.

"I would make it possible to provide occu-

pation or suitable employment for the discharged or paroled men when in need of such help.

Would Reclaim Swamp Lands

"It is a paradox to imprison any person for years at great expense to the state, only to turn him loose under circumstances which are almost certain to drive him back into criminal ways. In such cases, while the initial crime was his own fault, the subsequent offense is too often the fault of society or the state.

"This idea is by no means chimerical—neither is it new. I direct your thoughtful attention to the report by Lyman Beecher Stowe in the *World's Work* of April, 1914—of the penal colony at Iwahig, Philippine Islands.

"There are in Michigan untold thousands of acres of swamp lands now a detriment to the state, every acre of which may be brought under the highest state of profitable cultivation and to the support of additional thrifty industries to the greatest benefit of society, by common sense methods applied to our criminal and other social incompetents.

"This great army of deficient which is now sapping the vitals of our resources should be turned from a dragging liability into a rich asset.

"This continually growing army, under proper laws and wise direction, may be made self-sustaining and even profitable to the state, while at the same time eliminating or reducing the causes for their physical and moral deficiencies.

"Our present methods tend to increase, rather than decrease, the causes which lead to immorality, disease and crime.

"In making these statements I am fully aware that many experienced and well-meaning persons in and out of responsible positions, will take issue with my views. I welcome more light on the situation—my greatest desire is to help, not hinder—wherever progress and betterment are possible.

"The state is possessed of and burdened with vast areas of lands now almost worthless. Some of it is tillable, much of it may be reclaimed, and most of it is ideal for reforestation.

Homes for Released Prisoners

"The intelligent conservation of these lands, the incidental protection of game and prevention of fires may be accomplished under constructive legislation co-ordinating the land office and game warden and possibly the Michigan Agricultural College and University of Michigan with this Commission.

"Other state institutions for the care of the insane, the poor, incorrigible boys and girls—all could and should be linked up in this proposition. This idea can be worked out in such a way as to relieve many of our overcrowded institutions of half their population.

"The idea is reformatory and invigorating. It would provide wholesome and profitable occupations and finally homes for paroled and liberated inmates.

"Any such ideal will require faith, patience, and the right man. No cut-and-dried legislative enactment could anticipate these requirements. The preliminary legislation to be sought need go no farther than the granting of authority whereby all divisions of the state may legally co-operate to these ends under the direction of this commission.

"Before concluding, permit me to urge upon the members of all committees the preparation of the best possible reports that they are capable of making, and place them in my hands on or before June 1st next. I desire this to be done and that each report be accompanied by information, advice and suggestions, to the end that your officers may be early prepared to undertake plans for a really constructive program; so far as permissible under present laws and conditions, including also such further legislation as in the majority opinion, after due deliberation, may be found desirable.

Room for Progressive Legislation

"There is yet room for progressive legislation and the exercise of more intelligence by our courts in the trial and commitment of persons charged with crime. Our indeterminate sentence law contains some good features but it does not go far enough.

"The proper time to remove support or restraint is when reform has been effected. This cannot be determined in advance by the wisest

of judges, any more than a doctor can foretell at what moment a patient will have recovered health.

"Too often the procuring causes of crime are traceable to deficiencies, disease or other circumstances, and in such cases reform may be complete when the cause is removed; and it should be the desire of society to bring this about in the best manner and without needless delay.

"In other cases, the longest sentence may fail to reform the subject—in which case proper care and restraint should not be discontinued, as is now done.

Advisory Boards for Courts

"It seems to me that our courts as now organized should be supplemented by an advisory board, consisting of competent men or women, to determine what particular treatment or treatments will in each case best serve the needs of the person convicted of crime—and from time to time or in conjunction with the pardoning power or other central authority, prescribe further treatment until satisfied that the object aimed at has been accomplished and that the subject may be wholly or partially left to his or her own resources.

"Such a plan would, in my opinion, reduce the number of inmates of our correctional and other public institutions. I have heard that Massachusetts has some such laws now, and it seems desirable that our Committee on Legislation should investigate the present status of this proposition in all the states.

"From the ranks of Michigan Agricultural College and University of Michigan graduates, guards and keepers of our institutions, and elsewhere, the material for an efficient corps of rangers and officers may be disciplined and trained to carry on this work in a thorough manner to the advantage of all concerned.

"I hope that you will adopt this report with instructions to the secretary that it may be made public. I should also like you to consider the adoption of a general rule that the proceedings and all records of this Commission be open to public inspection at all proper times, unless where secrecy may be especially imposed for obvious reasons of public weal."

CONTRIBUTIONS

GIVE THEM CHEER

By George Fee

A Prisoner

Did it ever come home to you with absolute conviction, as you have tried to make your life count a little for human goodness and uplift, that the very best possible gift you can ever make to your fellow mortals is a spirit of incurable, unbounded, persistent hopefulness?

In the first place it will keep your own soul healthy and your own thinking sound and clear.

Discouragement and pessimism are like deadly mists that gather about undrained places; you cannot live in health in the midst of them and you can see neither earth nor heaven in true perspective. There should be none of this. Think of the man beside you; there is nothing you can do for him that will count for so much as to put the light in his eyes, the spring in his step, the ring in his voice, and the iron in his backbone, that come alone from draughts of fresh hope and courage.

Men are halting in good ways; they are giving up splendid undertakings; they are dying with glorious tasks unfinished and all through lack of hope. Give them cheer; it is the best thing which can be given to them.



DUNNE FIELD

By a Prisoner.

Just north of our prison is located Dunne Field, the new, unfinished recreation park. We are handicapped at present in playing baseball and other games within the walls, by the buildings, sheds, wagons and other obstructions. Still, we are thankful for the limited space at our disposal; but we are patiently awaiting the time when conditions will be such that the outside park can be formally dedicated.

While the new baseball diamond will take up a large area in the park, there will still be ample room for a quarter-mile running track. Several pairs of standards can be made and

the different departments can compete in pole vaulting and jumping. A score or more of games with the horseshoes can be played at the same time. We are positive that our friend "Mac," the globe-trotting blacksmith from Killarney, will supply us with old horseshoes and stakes. Undoubtedly there are men here who have played basket ball. Two posts, two baskets and one ball will be about all that is needed with the exception of the teams to play. Those of us who do not play baseball, finding the sphere a little small to handle and the bats a trifle narrow in batting, will experience but little trouble in mastering the game of basket ball.

If our anticipations are realized by the opening of the park we can very readily, at the close of the baseball season, erect two goals and play the great game of football. A half hour's running and jumping during the cool, frosty days of Fall will greatly add to health and pleasure.

REVIEWS

SING SING PRISON AND THE MODERN PRISON MOVEMENT

Remarkable Transformation in Best Known Prison in the Country—The Men Ready for the Change

Any person who looks upon the growing relaxation in prison administration as the expression of a sentimentalism or as merely an accidental feature of good will toward men who hitherto have been subject to great deprivations and hardships, miscalculates entirely the meaning and the power of the new movement.

The movement is not peculiar to prisons; it is social and it affects all phases of society.

That Sing Sing prison of New York, built in 1825-8, the most severe, most famous, and the most conservative of all the prisons of the country, has come into line with all the modern liberties which prisons are granting and that the men of that prison have responded as naturally and in as orderly a way as have the men of any of the other prisons, discloses

that something that has been growing in people has found its way into Sing Sing.

The Warden comes in but the men have become ready and able properly to accept the new opportunities he offers.

There is a new temper in the people—in all of the people—as President Wilson has said. What is being felt in all society and what is taking place in the prisons of Colorado, Kansas, Arizona and Illinois, must also come in Sing Sing. And it has come.

Commenting on the change which had taken place in Sing Sing when Thomas J. McCormick had been in charge for less than a month, the *New York Sun* says:

"When he took charge he found that the convicts were forced to remain in their cells after they finished work at noon on Saturday practically until Monday morning. He plans to relieve this and has organized what he terms a Recreation League. The convicts will play such games as baseball, handball, basketball, and possibly football in the big open lot within the prison walls."

Former Warden Clancy had an idea of bringing in some form of recreation, and had asked for an appropriation to transform the unused north end of the State reservation into an athletic field. Warden McCormick found a way to work with what he had. He made a playground out of a fair size lawn at the south end, which runs down from the chapel between the kitchen and bathhouse and the river.

On the day that the games opened, The *New York Press* said that on this ground,

"which at this time last year echoed with the defiance of rebellious convicts, a baseball game will be played today between two prison nines. Never before has a ball been tossed in the jail, and for the first time the convicts will get an opportunity for outdoor exercise.

"The game marks the beginning of the new self-government policy of Warden William J. McCormick, who took office a few weeks ago. If the game passes off without disorder it will mark the opening of a Sing Sing league—complete attendance at every game and no box office."

"All the week," the *Press* continues, "the prisoners have been excited over the games."

Sing Sing made a long first step from the customary way in which prisons have been

handled. Each Saturday afternoon the prisoners are permitted to engage in outdoor sports, to shout and to smoke and to enjoy themselves generally. And besides this, thirty expert men, two each from the nineteen companies, were over the other prisoners, with power to give orders and to see that the orders are obeyed.

The *New York Sun* gives a comprehensive report of the first field day, a most significant day in the history of Sing Sing. The *Sun* says:

"One thousand five hundred convicts were literally turned loose within the walls of Sing Sing prison this afternoon for the first athletic meet in the history of the grim old institution. For three hours men whom the world by all its standards calls desperate had every rule abrogated except those which govern the ordinary citizen in his association with his fellows. Every keeper was in the background, a spectator only. All discipline was relaxed while they played baseball, medicine ball, handball and lawn tennis, ran, walked, jumped, talked, smoked, sang, shouted, rolled on real grass, lay in the shade, communed with their fellows as free as the air and sunshine which sent the color to their faces and forced the blood coursing afresh through their veins."

Every man in the institution was there except eighteen men in the cells of the condemned, and about forty who are bedridden in the hospital. The *Sun* continues:

"There were 135 'lifers'—men accused of every crime on the calendar except treason, men who have heard sentence pronounced upon them time after time by judges, men against whom just one year ago guns were turned to prevent a riot of bloodshed and murder in that very prison, who were called incorrigible two years ago. All were outside with a new leaf opened for them, not to be turned down until they shall blacken it themselves."

That the men were ripe for the new opportunities offered to them is shown by the experiences of the day:

"Judged from every viewpoint, this first 'outing' at Sing Sing was an unqualified success, and it will be repeated every Saturday afternoon until the snow flies next winter. The men themselves gave their testimony with a cheerful roar of thanks at 4 o'clock when they rushed to fall into line. Acting Principal Keeper Martin Deeley and William K. Watson, confidential secretary to Warden Thomas J. McCormick, who had to attend a meeting

of wardens up at Auburn, both said that they had never seen a better behaved crowd of men.

"There wasn't the least sign of disorder or unruliness, but the presence of the keepers, who lounged way back in the shade, had nothing to do with that.

"I'd hate to be the man who would try to start anything," said one inmate who missed the electric chair by one degree; "the men won't stand for anything that would stop a game like this. The 'screws' [by which he designated the officers] can all go away from here; we don't need 'em.'"

Warden McCormick came to the prison with the idea

"to do away with the ancient custom of locking the men up in the worst prison cells in any state when they are not working in the shops so as to curtail a little the dark, lonely, brooding hours, when all the mischief of a prison is hatched and nourished."

He knew that the one thing to give the men was athletics, as exercise that would send the men to their cells in good spirits but also physically tired. Baseball was to be a leader with other things for those who cannot play ball or who do not care to watch the national game. To carry out these ideas, Warden McCormick worked out the plan of the baseball and athletic meet, and then

"Realizing that the participants might want to say something about it, he appointed a committee of sixty-eight men from the prison, who elected their own chairman and secretary, talked it over with them and then bought a box of baseballs, a dozen or so gloves, protectors, masks, bats, medicine balls, handballs, tennis racquets and other accoutrements."

It is felt that a new era in Sing Sing has really been launched:

"Out of today's meet there is to grow a baseball league which will have its schedule going in about two weeks. There will be five or six clubs in the league and they will represent either industries or companies, just as things best shape themselves. The big day of the season will be an athletic carnival on Labor Day. Some of the warden's friends at Yonkers the other night subscribed \$150 to buy prizes, which will be awarded."

Besides the relief which the recreation will afford, the athletics are to be used to reward the men who faithfully and properly do their

work in the shops. The work day closes at 4:30. Hereafter any man who finishes his work before closing time may go to the athletic grounds and stay there and do what he likes until the shops turn in.

When the Warden told the committee that this was to be, the chairman declared that he "would be willing to bet his commutation against a sentence of ninety-nine years that there will not be any more trouble in the whole institution." The committee passed the word to the men and the prison court, from the following morning, had an average of three cases a day for infraction of the rules, instead of eighteen to twenty-three which had been the rule.

But with all the preparation and the information which had been given out, the men could not realize that such a change had come. The *Sin's* representative was "gripped a little" when he saw how unable the men were to realize their new freedom:

"When the men left the mess hall this afternoon, out of the entire 1,500 not more than 100 of them really believed all those things they had heard about the afternoon. It was incredible. Men some of whom have been there more than twenty years announced that everybody had gone crazy and they had to be shown. They marched out of the hall and instead of going back to the old cells turned to the left around the building, marched to the edge of the green and there their keepers left them. Those were the orders.

"Go on, now," was the last command. It gripped the observer a little to watch that march across the green by those men. They just couldn't break ranks—habit held them. They shuffled over the new diamond, which volunteers made yesterday, got over to the south wall, halted irresolutely and ventured to look around. They had been told that all the rules were to fall in a crash and they were afraid of something, they did not know what. The line swayed around and turned to watch other companies coming across. One man stepped hesitatingly out of line, which would have meant five days on the end of his sentence ten minutes before, and looked around. Another man joined in and finally a tall negro threw himself face forward on the real turf, digging his hands in it and laughing.

"It has been a long time since that negro rolled on the grass; it will be twelve years perhaps before he goes through the old gate. Another man, a lifer, flopped down near him and the whole line plumped down. They were

laughing and asking each other, 'What do you know about this?' They spoke in the prison monotone at first, but soon voices cleared and rose. All the other companies were following suit. One young fellow gave another a shove and not a word was said as the victim rolled over.

"Over the heads of the crowd came red boxes containing new baseballs. They were caught by excited men. The white balls appeared and one man tossed a ball to another. Nothing happened. Two or three men stepped out and began to walk around and nobody stopped them. One very brave man waved his hand over to a friend fifty feet away with a cheerful greeting and was not called down. He started to walk and the two met. Three or four ran out on the diamond."

But the play was on:

"'Get to it!' said Keeper Deeley, pointing at the diamond. 'Bat some out!' and that broke all the ice there was left. Inside of five minutes there were practice games going on the diamond, pitchers were warming up on the side lines, handball games were in progress against the south wall, a hundred or so were playing catch on the gravel walks, and how those balls ever got through the crowd without taking noses and eyes along with them is nothing short of a miracle.

"A long line of men were passing the medicine ball under the tutelage of a giant negro, once a trainer. 'Now ovah yoh haid,' 'Now undah the body,' he commanded, and his panting, sweating pupils obeyed him until their eyes popped out.

"That was not all. One old timer plucked up courage enough to bring forth a pipe, fill it and light it. It went; pipes and the 'makings' appeared. Lucky men shared with less fortunate brothers. Groups lay on the grass and talked, laughed and demanded loudly that the game begin. The elders took the eastern end of the ground, where they at last gravitated to one another and talked and smoked. Of course they talked about the afternoon first and what they thought of it, but later, after that was exhausted, they talked politics, Mexico and the pending campaign. It may be said without fear of successful contradiction that a District Attorney does not start with an even chance in such discussion.

"Candidates for the team from the jobbing shop and from the office men played the first four-inning game. Really, the jobbing men had it all over the office men, as the score of 11 to 1 shows, but the jobbers had a pitcher who once played professional ball. There were two professional players in the game today. This pitcher made what the crowd

very promptly called 'monkeys' out of his opponents, fanning them out until the sidelines after a little practice gave them a very fair imitation of a regular hoarse hoot. You can't expect much at first in the way of cheering or rooting from men whose voices have been used behind closed hands. It started today a little hoarse or squeaky at first, but after a while it grew stronger until it reached a very respectable volume. It will be all right a month from now."

The other players for the day were knitters and painters, with a score of 6 to 3, and the tailors and woodworkers, score 8 to 6. Officer O'Neal was the umpire.

"Just then the bugle from the chapel window sounded 'retreat' and in an instant the turmoil ceased. The scene changed. One minute later the companies had formed and started for the cell block, each man straight, silent and machine-like.

"Only all the discipline in the world could not dim the light of their shining eyes."

The New York *Herald* comments on the game as follows:

"All the companies and squads were broken up and the men intermingled just like folks and talked over the games. Martin D. Ely, assistant principal keeper, was master of ceremonies, and he tossed the ball into the field and the games were on. Smoking was permitted, but those who had cigars were so busy that they forgot to smoke up. Of course, this being a place where everybody was on his good behavior, there was no swearing. Don't get the idea, however, from this that there was any lack of sporting fervor.

"The games were exciting, the day was just the kind of one for sport, and when the bleachers began to yell 'Pirate,' and 'Oh, you burglar' and such things it was just like a game in the Polo Ground."

The New York *Press* acknowledges the change in the following words:

"When the new warden of Sing Sing Prison introduced the national game and other sports in the most notorious jail in the United States he took one of the most significant steps in prison reform that our country has known. Since the gray stone pile on the east bank of the Hudson River was built in 1825 there never were in it before so many care-free hearts as between noon and supper time on Saturday, July 18, while the prisoners were treated as human creatures to whom gratitude was not an unknown quality."

The New York *World*, under the title, "The Convicts' Day Off," notes the material and also the humanitarian value of the new order of things and commends the change highly:

"Warden McCormick's plan of giving Sing Sing prisoners a 'day off' every week has worked so well that it will probably be made a permanent feature of prison reform. On Sunday from 7 a. m. to 4:30 in the afternoon, the prisoners are granted the freedom of the prison yard, with liberty to loaf or read or play tennis or indulge in any rational recreation. And instead of eating in their cells they sit down together to a hot dinner in the mess hall. An immediate result of the relaxation of discipline for the day has been a 33 per cent improvement in their shop work.

"That means a 33 per cent improvement in their health and vitality as well, and a proportionate increase in their interest in life. Nothing tones up the ordinary man so well as the leisure that comes as the reward of work, and the incentive should have the same effect with men in prison. Perhaps it will incidentally reduce the addiction to drugs, the alarming growth of which has raised a new problem of penology.

"But without attempting to measure the material benefits to prisoners of a day of real leisure, the plan has much to commend it on the score of humanity and enlightened prison administration. The purpose of prison confinement is not merely to punish but to reclaim, and an excellent way to that end is to counteract discontent and despair in the prisoner by just such means of healthful recreation as the Sing Sing convicts now have."



THE PUBLIC DEFENDER—A NEW OFFICE IN ADMINISTRATIVE JUSTICE

Los Angeles, California, Proves the Practicability of the State's Defending the Individual as Well As Defending Society

The Chicago Legal Aid Society as early as 1912 perceived the value of the state's taking full charge of cases at law, charge of both the prosecution and the defense. In the society's bulletin, *Illinois Law Review*, October, 1912, appears this comment:

"We may hope that in time a direct appeal to the public official shall start the machinery of justice in motion, providing automatically for redress and defense without the present

preliminary requirement of payment for professional services most needed by those least able to afford them."

In less than a year that which the Legal Aid Society had hoped for began to take form.

The county of Los Angeles, California, under a "freeholder's charter," which took effect in June, 1913, provided for what was to be called a "public defender."

The board of supervisors appoints the public defender and fixes his salary. He is with the classified civil service and cannot engage in any private law practice. The charter specifies the duties of the public defender as follows:

"Upon request by the defendant, or upon order of the court, the public defender shall defend, without expense to them, all persons who are not financially able to employ counsel and who are charged, in the superior court, with the commission of any contempt, misdemeanor, felony or other offense. He shall also upon request, give counsel and advice to such persons, in and about any charge against them upon which he is conducting the defense, and he shall prosecute all appeals to a higher court or courts, of any person who has been convicted upon any such charge where, in his opinion, such appeal will or might reasonably be expected to result in a reversal or modification of the judgment of conviction. He shall also upon request, prosecute actions for the collection of wages and of other demands of persons who are not financially able to employ counsel, in cases in which the sum involved does not exceed \$100, and in which, in the judgment of the public defender, the claims urged are valid and enforceable in the courts. He shall also, upon request, defend such persons in all civil litigation in which, in his judgment, they are being persecuted or unjustly harassed. The costs in all actions in which the public defender shall appear under this section, whether for plaintiffs or defendants, shall be paid from the county treasury, at the times and in the manner required by law, or by the rules of court, and under a system of demand, audit and payment, which shall be prescribed by the board of supervisors. It shall be the duty of the public defender in all such litigation to procure, if possible, in addition to general judgments in favor of the persons whom he shall represent therein, judgments for costs and attorneys' fees, where permissible, against the opponents of such persons, and collect and pay the same into the county treasury."

R. S. Gray, in discussing the inauguration of the public defender in Los Angeles county, in the *Journal of the American Institute of Criminal Law and Criminology*, for January of this year, says:

"In both civil and criminal proceedings the one, single, sole, admissible purpose of the trial is to get at the truth. It would seem that a 'public defender,' such as is provided for by the charter of the county of Los Angeles, would be more apt to bring about cooperation in the efforts to get at the truth than a fight between a public prosecutor and a more or less competent but not 'public defender.'

"The more patent and pressing individual iniquities of our system of private retainer of counsel and trial lawyer that go without any chance for justice may be largely eliminated by such 'public defender,' and the work which will be so done should receive very close study."

Commenting upon the practice that has grown up in the courts of the prosecuting attorneys' seeking the conviction of every person accused, Mr. Gray says the judicial function of our governmental agency

"so far has been merely a halting and partial substitute for war, and wherever it tends to increase and embitter strife it is probably fundamentally wrong in spirit or method rather than merely lacking efficiency."

"We have," he says, "by method and practice, maintained and developed the very type of waste and injustice from which the human race has been seeking to escape by judicial procedure. In fact, both the bar and their clients have become atavistic and have made our courts battlefields for the powerful and slaughterhouses for the weak."

The moral effect of this kind of procedure upon the lawyers themselves and ultimately upon the bench, and the questionable character of the work that will be done, is pointed out:

"We lawyers have gloried in what we have done, and we are just beginning to reap the harvest of contumely, the seeds of which we have planted with the aid of our clients. We have become money changers in the temple instead of the ministers of justice. We have sold ourselves, often to the highest bidders, and have gone to war as hired mercenaries instead of actually being what we pretend, officers of the court, and the court—the bench

—recruited from the bar, can hardly be expected to rise much higher than such fallen and falling angels of justice.

"We certainly cannot evade the fact which cries aloud to heaven that the fundamental characteristic of our procedure, both civil and criminal, is that of a deadly battle in which victory is sought without much regard being paid to either law or fact except as weapons to be used to crush an adversary or to be dodged when swung against our clients, our clients who look to us in court to earn the real retainer (perchance paid to us as counsellors at law) to find the loopholes in the law rather than to build up and strengthen the law."

Mr. Gray penetrates to the inner influences of the court methods on the life tissues of the court itself, disclosing that the vitals of justice are eaten away and that the issue of the court procedure is often a greater "catastrophe" than the original wrong, the court itself becoming, in an abandonment of the rules of justice and truth, a fighting ring where "with a strange perversity" the welfare of the person on trial and of society itself is given over "to passion, prejudice, craft, subtlety and warring self-interests."

"Certainly in both classes of trials (civil and criminal), the first and absolutely necessary steps towards justice is to find the truth concerned, and in the effort to get at the truth everything which savors of combat is liable to cloud the truth and at least should not be favored. With a strange perversity we have (ignoring this fundamental principle) given over the real and vital control of all procedure to passion, prejudice, craft, subtlety, and warring self-interests. No scientific quest calls for more dispassionate and unselfish means than the quest of truth with respect to wrongs between fellowmen. Nevertheless, hugging self-deception to our hearts, we have persistently made the court a prizefight ring where litigants do, and often must (with such hired retainers as they can command, and some without any real aid, and none or but very few fairly matched), butcher their way through, with deceit and evasion, and every conceivable kind of injustice, to a 'judgment' that is often a greater catastrophe, in criminal law at least, than the original wrong, while at least a very heavy portion of the cost is borne, in both cases, by those who have no direct relations to the controversy or the litigants."

The failure of the present court method as a means of genuine justice, either between a

weak and friendless person and the powerful state, or between two strong antagonists, is thus declared:

"There is ample ground for the belief that the greatest cause of all today in the miscarriage of justice is the privilege on the part of the powerful to retain whom they please for trial lawyers, and the inability on the part of the weak and the poor, and especially the friendless, to get anything like adequate legal representation in court in the trial of cases, but the matter is almost as bad when two giants come into court with their retainers and legal advisers and counsel and assistants, and engage in a private battle that absorbs the entire time of the court and the legal machinery for weeks and for months, if not years, and often to a large extent in mere legal skirmishing for position or for some purely technical advantage, when both sides are afraid of the truth and are equally struggling to becloud the issues and tangle the proceedings.

"It has been freely charged that great leaders at the bar desire to see certain men put on the bench. * * * Certainly, as matters now stand, the poor man has little show in court even though the judges wish to do what is right."

"The system suggested," continues Mr. Gray, "would quickly tend to reduce the number of such cases and the number of trial lawyers necessary. No cases would go into court, or but very few, except those which require the aid in truth and in reality of a tribunal so constructed as to get at and ascertain what was fair and right either as to the facts or law or both. Most cases would be ended by a swift and simple trial and new trials and appeals would be rare."

Not the method alone is wrong; the conception of the function of the court is wrong, is too narrow:

"Our method of requiring or permitting litigants to hire legal prizefighters to try cases has inevitably made it impossible, *with human nature as it is under existing circumstances*, for either bench or bar to do much, if any better than they have done. Codes of ethics and tinkering with details of practice will not rescue the realm of jurisprudence from the prostitution into which it has been plunged.

"It has been said, and even by attorneys highly respected, that 'the courts are wholly responsible.' Courts are no more responsible for the condition concerned than the attorneys,

and courts and attorneys combined are no more responsible for that condition than clients. And courts and attorneys and clients combined are no more responsible for that condition than the people at large."

Our conception of the function of the court has been that of an agency for the protection of society against the individual member of that society; whereas, the court should be for the protection of society and for the protection of the individual also.

The *O. E. L. Critic*, of Washington, D. C., says:

"The state exists to protect its citizens, not to set traps for them. If it employs its resources to prove them guilty, it should equally do the same to prove them innocent. It should furnish every accused person who cannot afford it himself, with just as good legal talent for his defense as it employs in his prosecution."

Mr. Walter J. Wood is the person first to hold the office of public defender in Los Angeles county. When the office was first established, Mr. Wood made the following statement:

"From time immemorial the Government has provided an attorney to prosecute cases against persons accused of crime, and a judge or jury to make decisions; but no proper provision has been made for an attorney to present the side of the accused. It is true that the courts appoint members of the bar to defend the poor, without compensation or for a nominal fee, but such appointments generally fall to youthful and inexperienced lawyers, or in many cases to attorneys who chance to be in the court room at the moment of arraignment. It is not fair to the attorneys to be called upon to work without compensation, and it is not fair to the accused to be compelled to stand trial under such circumstances. A person accused of crime should have just as able and industrious an advocate to represent him as the Government provides for the purpose of prosecuting him."

Now, after several months of actual trial, the office of public defender has shown that it has served in just the way Mr. Gray said it would serve, and it has fostered real justice as Mr. Wood said it would do.

The *Outlook*, commenting on a report that has been made of the work of the public defender, says:

"One of the most interesting things of this report is that it indicates the harmonious co-operation of the district attorney and the public defender. A theoretical objection to a public defender was that the prosecuting attorney of the State and the defending attorney of the State would come into a conflict. As a matter of fact, they are working together in Los Angeles county."

Mr. Wood says:

"We are doing what the district attorney tried to do in many cases, but what, on account of conditions which could not be overcome, he was unable to do. We are daily advising the accused of their rights. We are informing them of the law covering the crime of which they may be charged. We are listening to their side of the story and are bringing out whatever points there may be in favor of the defendants, at the same time doing nothing to hamper or delay the administration of justice. Many of our clients come by recommendation from the office of the district attorney, others from the officials at the county jail, and others at the request of the judges."

The County District Attorney, Mr. J. D. Fredericks, says, so *The Outlook* reports, that when the idea was first proposed, it did not appeal to him. He feared conflicting authority and an increase of the county expense. But now Mr. Fredericks believes that "there is a place in our criminal jurisprudence for such an office":

"As to the question of expense, Judge Willis of the Superior Court, says that the office under Mr. Wood's administration 'has been a great saving to the county in the matter of expense.' By encouraging pleas of guilty in proper cases, by always being present in court and ready to aid in dispatching the court's business, and by securing dismissal of cases through conferences with the district attorney, the public defender has been able to save very considerably in the expense of both time and money of the court."

Efforts are being made in the state of Washington to have a law passed to provide for a public defender, and in New York State, Mr. Mayer G. Goldman, a prominent member of the New York bar, is advocating the appointment of public defenders for the different cities at a sufficient salary, to be paid by the state, each public defender to be "a sworn public servant, and to have in the courts a standing as definite as that of the public prose-

cutor, and at the service of all persons charged with crime who are financially unable to retain for their defense competent counsel."

The Outlook suggests:

"This is a subject that might be well discussed at the coming New York Constitutional Convention even if no constitutional action is required to establish public defenders as county officers."

A prisoner at the Atlanta, Georgia, penitentiary, gives in *Good Words*, the paper published at that institution, the prisoner's view of the value and service of the public defender:

"Obviously this provision would be of incalculable benefit to the unfortunates of legal pursuit who are too poor to engage counsel of the ability and importance to cope with the prestige, power and treasure at the back of the prosecutor. The public defender, having an equal standing in court with the prosecutor, having at his command the same resources for the discovery of evidence and the array of witnesses, would automatically counteract the unfair advantage of the state in that subtle influence upon the jury in advance of evidence which is now so marked an asset of governmental prosecutions. With a public defender of earnest purpose, ample qualifications and honorable pride of office, the possibilities of improper convictions could be greatly minimized if not altogether removed. The attitude of the judges could not be other than helpfully affected by so nearly a disinterested defense as that by a responsible state officer not the especially employed attorney of the accused.

"The plan not only makes for a nearer approach to just dealing in criminal procedure, but it is oracular of the spirit of the age which is beginning to write into the consciousness of sane humanity the fact that man, however mean his condition materially or intellectually, is something of vaster importance than a mere pawn in the game of life, to be sacrificed or protected as suits the advantage of competing players. Possibly the creation of a public defender will tend in time to reawakening the public conscience. It is not gracious in the sight of gods or of men that a zeal for prosecution, clamor for conviction in disregard of all the consequences of conviction. Criminal courts should be unprofaned by the virus of selfish ambition. But if ambitions must contend, let the state at least see that the defendant has a fair chance in the game."

The O. E. L. Critic, in contemplation of the perfection of the plan of jurisprudence which will provide for a public defender with equal

power and standing of a public prosecutor, says:

"We would go a step further than this. We would say that in every case the state should bear all the expenses of the trial. No matter whether the defendant be rich or poor, the defense, as well as the prosecution, should be conducted by and at the cost of the state. Rich and poor alike should stand on the same footing; neither wealth nor power nor influence should give their possessor an advantage over him who has them not."



GOVERNOR DUNNE AND WARDEN ALLEN UNITED

(Reprint from the *Joliet Herald*, August 18, 1914.)

"Bosh, mere wishwash of a delirious journalist."

So Warden Edmund M. Allen characterized the stories recently published of the alleged split between him and Governor Dunne over his alleged political affiliations with Roger C. Sullivan, Democratic candidate for the nomination of United States senator.

Warden Allen this morning gave out an interview to a *Herald* reporter regarding the situation as it now exists throughout the state on the Dunne-Hearst-Lewis vs. Sullivan fight.

He said:

"Governor Dunne and I have always worked in harmony. His wish has always been law at this institution and will always continue to be as long as I am warden. I am not now considering resigning nor have I ever considered it.

"Does that 'his wish is law' phrase apply to the present senatorial fight also, Warden?" was asked.

"Don't cloud the issue. Governor Dunne has never said one word to me of politics. He has never told me where to stand on the Sullivan-Stringer candidacy. Until he does, I won't answer your question."

"But, Warden," the interrogator persisted, "isn't it true that you are supporting Sullivan?"

"I am not supporting Sullivan. He is my friend, however. I have never taken an active hand in politics since I became warden of this institution and I am not going to change that rule now."

The interview, while evasive, was characterized by the Warden's usual straightforward replies. Prison attaches and subordinates of Warden Allen bear out their chief in his statements.

Deputy Warden Walsh, a personal appointee of Governor Dunne and a lifelong friend of the Governor's family, backed everything said by Warden Allen.

Deputy Walsh said:

"We are too busy here for politics. I am the closest man to the Warden that is at this institution. He has never said much about the Stringer-Sullivan controversy and what little he did say was non-committal. When Sullivan visited Joliet we attended the reception. Were Stringer to come tomorrow we would do the same. Is there anything compromising about that? We're all Democrats, are we not?"

A POEM TO REMEMBER

HELLO!

When you meet a man in woe,
Walk straight up and say "Hello!"
Say "Hello!" and "How d'ye do?"
"How's the world been using you?"
Slap the fellow on his back,
Bring your hand down with a whack;
Waltz straight up and don't go slow,
Shake his hand and say "Hello!"

Is he clothed in rags? Oh, ho!
Walk straight up and say "Hello!"
Rags are but a cotton roll
Just for wrapping up a soul;
And a soul is worth a true
Hale and hearty "How d'ye do?"
Don't wait for the crowd to go;
Walk straight up and say "Hello!"

When big vessels meet, they say,
They salute and sail away;
Just the same as you and me,
Lonely ships upon life's sea,
Each one sailing his own jog
For a port beyond the fog.
Let your speaking-trumpet blow,
Lift your horn and cry, "Hello!"

Say "Hello!" and "How d'ye do?"
Other folks are as good as you,
When you leave your house of clay,
Wandering in the far-away;
When you travel through the strange
Country far beyond the range,
Then the souls you've cheered will know
Who you be, and say "Hello!"

—Sam Walter Foss.

Little Zeke Visits The Honor Farm



"Golly, Jest Lookie Yondah"



"Yum, Yum, Yum"



"Oh! Lud! Ah Bets Dat Am Scrumtious"



"Golly! It Am Green!"

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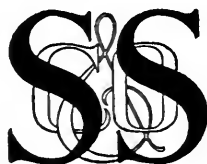
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THE JOLIET PRISON POST

EDITED BY PRISONERS

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No. 10

EDITORIAL

THE THOUGHT OF THE MONTH

I believe that there are more criminals by accident than by intention. For the criminals of intention—the professional cold-blooded criminals—the criminals at heart, I have little sympathy and less pity. But for the criminals of accident—men who are made criminals by circumstances and conditions, more than by their own heart and their own head—I for one would substitute in our punitive system, pity instead of punishment.—*M. A. Glynn, Governor of New York.*



Let the Year 1914 End It

When we reflect that men and women are sent to penitentiaries to serve long sentences of from one year to life, it would seem that penitentiaries should at least be self supporting. How is it possible that the labor of fifteen hundred men does not provide sufficient funds for their own sustenance and maintenance and that of the guards and officers necessary to manage the institution? When one takes into consideration the fact that in prison men are fed at an expense of sixteen cents per day per man, clothed very inexpensively, housed on the intensive plan, denied access to liquor and the right to strike, it would seem that from the commercial standpoint, success was assured even though many of the prisoners are unskilled workmen and many are unfit

to perform hard labor and some are both unskilled and physically defective. It would seem that an average fifteen hundred men would support an institution of the size of the prison and leave a profit in the treasury in view of what has been said, and in view of the fact that prisoners can be compelled to work and the fact that they never have a leave of absence excepting on Sundays and holidays. So long as commercialism is intermingled with punishment and reformation, it would seem that prisons should be self supporting, but the fact remains that this prison has never been self supporting and that the commercial features might as well be wiped out except for their one redeeming quality, which is that the industries furnish occupation for the inmates.

There are many reasons why this prison can not be made self supporting. Prison contract labor has very properly been abolished because of its brutalizing influences and because of the objections made by labor organizations to the injustice of the competition of prison labor with free labor. At first glance it would seem that the total number of prisoners in the prisons of this state as against the working classes, is so insignificant that the result of prison labor must be an almost negligible quantity and viewed from this standpoint alone, the objections of labor organizations seem hypercritical, but other features enter in. One is that very few occupations lend themselves readily to prison industries and that consequently the competition of prison labor conflicts principally with limited lines of endeavor and, viewed from this standpoint, the

proportion of prisoners engaged in these restricted trades as compared with the total number of employes engaged in these same trades, results in a formidable proportion. There is another feature which is of still greater importance and that is that prison-made goods are usually put on the market at low prices and the result of this is that a very small quantity of prison-made goods invariably affects the price of large quantities of the lines of articles produced by free labor. Economists might well argue from this fact that the reduction in the prices of the large quantities of articles which have been manufactured by free labor and which have to compete with prison-made articles, results in cheaper commodities and in that way works for the general good, but the answer to this is that labor organizations are not interested in remote considerations.

Among the reasons why this prison has never been self-supporting, it may be legitimately urged that the State cannot purchase raw material as advantageously as the manufacturing concerns, and that the State cannot discriminate as carefully in the employment of its officers, foremen and superintendents as private concerns discriminate in their employes. There is still another reason which preponderates every other reason, namely, that men in prison are neither mentally nor physically equal in effectiveness to free men. Probably the men in prison communities would not come up to the average in effectiveness with the average free working man if all were free, but it cannot be gainsaid that the prison life itself, the atmosphere, the lack of interest and the sort of lives prisoners live, has a strong tendency towards decreasing their industrial effectiveness.

Prisoners in this prison are necessarily deficient by reason of the fact that they spend one-half of their time in crowded cells where the ventilation is insufficient. It is the common experience at this prison that the inmates feel better in the afternoons than they do in the mornings. This is because there is insufficient oxygen provided during the long hours when the men are in their cells.

It seems that the only experimenting has been done to the effect of the conclusion that if the

State can keep its prisoners otherwise employed it should abandon all commercial enterprises. This is an obligation due to free labor, to the treasury of the state, and to the prisoners who are taught the very trades where remuneration has been affected by the competition with prison labor. In other words, a man who comes to this prison and becomes a broom maker, can, when he leaves the prison and works at his trade, work only in competition with the prisoners then in prisons.

The saner plan of housing prisoners in camps and working them on the roads of the state, coupled with the later plans of working large numbers of them on the state farm, has made it possible for the state of Illinois, at least as far as the Joliet prison is concerned, to put an end to its mistakes by abandoning all of its industries and substituting road building, truck gardening, farming, the care of poultry, etc. It is within the power of the next legislature, which convenes within a few months, to ordain that commercialism at the Joliet prison shall pass with the year 1914.



There Is No Middle Ground

There are two ways to run a prison. One way is for the warden to run the institution with an iron hand and to ask and to give no favors. This is the old-fashioned way of which prisoners are very sick and which they are glad to get away from. Under the old-fashioned way it might be perfectly right for prisoners to do as little as possible, waste the stock and the supplies and to get by with every imaginable miserable stunt.

The other way is for the administration to treat the prisoners like men and to try to lighten their burdens and to make life as nearly normal as is possible in an institution of this kind. No prison can be successfully handled along this latter line without the co-operation of the prisoners.

This does not mean that the administration is asking for favors. It simply means that the administration announces that it will allow the men the pleasanter life only as long as the prisoners show their appreciation of their opportunities and do their share towards making it possible to continue the more pleasant method.

Where prisoners are against the administration, it is probably right for them to be consistent and that means to be against the administration every hour of the day and night, but there is only one way of being with the administration and that is to be with it at all times and in every possible way. It means a fair day's work; an honest use of the state's materials; economy with regard to the waste of food, clothing and raw materials. It means the observance at all times of all the rules and regulations and it further means the discouragement of all remarks and acts against the administration. There is no middle ground and he who maintains that there is, is a hypocrite, pure and simple.



Freedom of the Press

It is impossible in the nature of things that any prison press shall be independent of the prison administration. The prison administration, which represents the state, is and must be sovereign. Freedom of the prison press does not mean that the prisoners who write for the prison papers are either to be independent of or to antagonize the administration. Freedom is to come from being in accord with the administration, not from opposing it.

Possibly no prison publication enjoys more editorial freedom than that accorded THE JOLIET PRISON POST. Certainly no more freedom than this magazine enjoys is needed.

THE JOLIET PRISON POST is published by the Board of Commissioners and the Warden of the Illinois State Penitentiary; it is "edited by prisoners."

All that is needed for the freedom of the press in any prison, is for the prisoners who are editing the publication to be in harmony with the prison administration in its policy and plan of prison betterment.

The managing editor of this magazine counsels frequently with the Warden and with other officers of the administration and all contribute what they can toward making the magazine what it should be. But there is no censorship; no arbitrary death note sounded upon any article that is prepared. Questions are talked over; what is to be attained and the way best to attain it, are considered and what is best for the common

cause in which the administration and the prisoners are interested, is agreed to.

The prison betterment movement is not a movement by prisoners against society. It is a movement in which men and women who have become prisoners, are to find the way in which they can re-unite with society.

These prisoners are to begin to find the way of re-uniting with society through learning how to harmonize with the administration which represents society.

By harmonizing with the purposes and plans of the prison administration, as the editorial staff of THE JOLIET PRISON POST have done, the inmates of any prison will show that they believe in law and order, that they subscribe to it and that they will conform to it.

When prisoners make it known that they believe in law and order and that they will live true to the social needs of the time, they will have begun to make their way toward freedom. They will have begun to be eligible to freedom and, in time, the eligibility will bring the freedom.



Honesty Week Every Day of the Year

In July it was proposed in Chicago that the first week in August should be observed as "Honesty Week."

Every man that had borrowed an umbrella, or that owed a friend a quarter, or that was wearing another man's overcoat; every woman that was still keeping her neighbor's scissors, that was keeping a hat pin which had been borrowed in an emergency, was to return to the owner that which was not his or her own.

Some persons in Chicago thought the move great; others thought it foolish. One woman said: "The idea is simply too silly to be given serious consideration by sensible people. This is an age of sensational and senseless fads and 'Honesty Week' is the most absurd of them all. I believe in honesty every day in the year."

Another woman, a member of the Women's Athletic Club, endorsed the move enthusiastically: "I think the idea is fine. I know that I probably have some umbrellas that don't belong to me and I shall return them during 'Honesty Week.'"

Mr. George Plamondon, of Wheaton, Illinois, member of clubs and business organizations, takes a very practical view of the proposal. "When 'Honesty Week' comes," he said, "I am going to look through my pipe rack, my umbrella stand and see what I've got that belongs to Smith or Brown up the road."

In Boston where "Honesty Week" took the title, "Take It Back Week," it was looked upon as something to encourage public integrity. Secretary Burnstead, in urging this week, said:

"This is merely a means of teaching persons to remember they have certain obligations to others. The man who rushes into your office and borrows a pen knife is likely not to return it until somebody goes after it."



But the spirit which has prompted "Honesty Week" is taking a greater hold of the people than only to move them to take back once a year the umbrellas, the hat pins, the jack knives, the overcoats or the furs they have borrowed.

There is growing in business a new sense of integrity, a requirement which each puts upon himself to be upright and clean in all of his transactions. The Chicago *Tribune* makes the following comment on the new business spirit:

"One of the oldest rules of the common law is, 'Let the buyer beware.' This rule meant that consumers were supposed to purchase articles at their own risk; that it was their business to test, inspect, examine the things they bought, and that the sellers were not to be held to high standards of ethics and veracity. An amusing and familiar illustration of this is found in the dictum of a British judge that 'razors were made to sell, not to shave.' If a man bought a razor that failed to shave the fault and loss were his under the law, which assumed and justified a very low state of business morals.

"Today, whether or not the law has marched with the times, business morals are higher. 'Let the seller beware' is becoming the rule of trade and commerce. The buyers are no longer laughed at when they purchase razors that fail to shave. Such a transaction is frowned upon by the business community as reprehensible and fraudulent. The sellers understand that they are in a position to test and examine the articles they turn out, and they are assuming this burden more and more. They

realize that they can obviate injustice and deception at relatively small expense, and that honesty is the best policy in this as in other directions.

"This remarkable change in business ethics, it is asserted, is creating a greater and greater demand for chemists, analysts, engineers, testers, and like experts. Here is a case where an improvement in morals directly makes for prosperity and increased employment. But it does more than this. In the day of Lord Bacon it was lightly supposed that a certain amount of trickiness and shiftiness was inseparable from trade and business. We are happily getting away from this demoralizing notion. Trade and commerce are forms of social service. These forms of service should be characterized by the strictest honor and the highest integrity. That they are so characterized in our day to an unprecedented degree is the strongest proof of the progress of society toward justice and righteousness."



It seems like a great step from the high class of persons we have just been considering and the trivial offenses that these people intend to obviate, to turn now to prisoners in this penitentiary and to acts of real crime.

But of such degrees of personal quality and of such range in human actions, is the world made up. Small or great, the questions of life are all a part of the one great social problem.

And the spirit of the times which is moving the innocent umbrella borrower to take the umbrella back, is with the men in prison as well as being with the other men and women in the higher walks of life. Life, the moving impulse toward virtue, is no respecter of persons. What the new thought and purpose in men and women is doing through "Honesty Week" and through a higher moral standard in business, to promote public integrity, the honor system in prisons is doing to promote that same integrity in prisoners and in the interest of the same public good.

Honesty pays. That is the thing that everybody, including the prisoner, must learn. It is that that the honor system now being introduced into prisons is seeking to teach.



We have taken three cases at random of men now in this penitentiary to test the question if honesty or if crime pays best. Here

are the actual figures in a case of a pick pocket, a burglar, a forger:

The pickpocket: First conviction; sentence, one to ten years; will have to serve twenty-three months; secured one pocket book containing \$28.00, a watch and a sewing outfit; earning capacity as a clerk, \$75.00 per month. The burglar: Three convictions; first time secured, \$150.00; served two years; second time, secured \$26.00; served three years and two months; third time secured \$500.00, sentence one to twenty years; is here now and has served three years and will have to serve eleven years and three months; earning capacity as a brick layer, \$5.00 per day. The forger: Two convictions; first time secured \$24.00; served eleven months in California; second time secured \$12.00; sentence one to fourteen years; will have to serve eight years and three months; earning capacity as insurance man, about \$200.00 per month.

With very few exceptions, the men here who have had the experience all say that the game does not pay. There are a few who still think it can be made to pay.

The better class of men in prison want to get away from the practice of dishonesty and with these men the honor system is a most welcome innovation. *Lend A Hand*, the paper published at the Oregon penitentiary, under the heading, "Nothing In It," has this to say on the question of crime:

"The trade or profession of crime as followed by the ordinary man or woman is the poorest paid occupation on the top of the earth. It is only the extraordinarily brainy man with power to make and unmake laws that follows a criminal career with success, and, as a rule, men endowed with such talent are not criminally bent. As for the small fish—really, now, how much of a salary, annually, did you ever draw down? Did it average ten cents a day, this crime thing? Remember, it takes a smart man to be a successful criminal and the very fact of your sojourn here is proof plenty that you do not belong to that class."

The new thought of the time is teaching in all ways that negligence, dishonesty or crime does not pay. There is a moral uplift which is raising all men to better things. Let us be thankful for this, in behalf of the prisoners as well as in behalf of the lucky person who gets his umbrella back.

A Lawyer's Advice

It is so generally supposed that a lawyer wants only "to get the money," that when a lawyer appears as a real humanitarian and offers wholesome counsel instead of stipulating a fee, it is a fact worthy of interest and note.

A certain young man in this institution wrote for help to a lawyer in Peoria whom he had known.

Instead of replying and asking the man how much money he could raise, the lawyer sent the following word of counsel:

"Yours of the 24th inst., received. I am sorry to learn that you are in prison and additionally sorry, that you broke your parole after being liberated from there.

"I am also sorry to learn that you lost your arm. You did not tell me for what you were sent to prison.

"If you will realize fully, so as to act upon the fact, that you cannot get good results out of life by disobeying law or breaking your word, that knowledge will be worth more to you than your arm. Society is more powerful than any individual and the final result is that law breakers get punishment; and then only those who do exactly what they say they will do will be trusted.

"I have always assisted the needy and deserving, as far as I could, and believe that in consequence many have changed their course of life from a down grade to an up grade course of conduct. It is easy to go down but it is not very comfortable to strike the bottom. You say that you will not be paroled again for twenty-five months. You can put in a part of your time during that period in mapping out your future course of conduct and you may count on any assistance that I feel I can give you. If I were you, I should rather have one arm, and a fixed determination to be strictly honest and industrious, than to have both arms and have what your letter indicates your past disposition has been.

"The inclination to help those who are down, and those who are disabled, is pretty general and, as I believe, is wonderfully prevalent, considering the difficulty of knowing who deserves help. You write well, as shown by your letter, which indicates that you have a fairly good education and, as I remember you when you worked for me digging on the site of Fort Crevecoeur, you had good physical health. You can make yourself useful in the world with your one arm, and my best wish for you is that you will try to do so when you are given a chance.

"You can always count on me for sympathy, although I met you but once and I may be able to assist you when the time comes."

We learned of this letter and asked both the man who received it and the man who sent it, for permission to publish it.

Here is advice from an attorney for every man in this institution. It comes free and without price.



Parole for Life Term Men

The appeal for a parole law for life term men has a strong support in what has already been done in other states and by the Federal government.

In January, 1913, a Federal law was passed extending the benefit of a parole law to prisoners who have been sentenced for life terms. Such a law had been recommended in two annual messages by the attorney-general and the bill passed had the support of the Federal Boards of Parole and of individuals interested in prison reformation.

Different states have a provision for parole for life term men conditioned on a number of years having been served. Minnesota grants parole to life men when thirty-five years, less good time, have been served; Nebraska, Ohio and Utah grant a parole in twenty-five years; Louisiana, Oregon and Virginia, in fifteen years; Texas in ten years; California in eight years and Kentucky in five years. In Iowa all commitments to the state prison are for from one year to life and, therefore, in Iowa all prisoners are eligible to parole. In Montana, life term men may be paroled when they have served thirteen years and three months, and in Nevada, when they have served seven years. Wisconsin also has a parole law for life term men.

Attorney-General Wickersham, in an argument before the American Prison Association, in 1911, said in behalf of this proposed Federal parole law:

"I concur in the recommendations made by the boards of parole in their report that the law should be modified so as to include within its provisions prisoners undergoing life sentences. I believe it is more to the interest of society that such prisoners should be liberated on parole . . . than that they should be discharged absolutely by executive pardon."

Mr. Wickersham also argues for a Federal indeterminate sentence law as a necessary accompaniment to a system of parole, saying that the system has produced excellent results in the different states and that it is regarded as the most successful method of dealing with social offenders.



Opportunity and Responsibility of First Grade Men

In the August issue of this magazine, we spoke of the fact that the men of the first grade have not shown that they are able to keep their grade clean. The grade has no way to insure that every man in the grade can be depended upon always to live up to what he has pledged.

As it is proved that membership in the first grade is no guarantee that the administration can depend upon the men of the grade for what is expected of first grade men, the grade loses social power: the strength that should come from association, is lacking; the grade as a social body is not able to effect what it should effect.

The men here will sometime see that there is no real victory for them, no winning of the position they hope to win, without their proving their willingness *and also their ability* to conform to all the rules of the administration.

While here, there is no surer way of doing this than for the men who really wish to "make good," so to live individually and so to associate, as to conform to and to help to fulfill the social needs of this community.

The men must not postpone. They must begin to live now what they say they will live when they are set free, otherwise they are not proving themselves.

If the men of this community who are willing to live square and right were to show that while they are willing, they are also able to live square and right, they would prove to the administration and to the public that in time the State can justly grant them their freedom.

There are certain elements of mind that always make for evil; there are certain policies that always make for good.

Men who wish to establish themselves in the integrity and value of life, can begin to do so by avoiding the one and by accepting the other.

An element of mind which always makes for evil, is that which leads a person into secretiveness; a policy which always makes for good is publicity.

Any attempt at a new classification which does not recognize and build on these two facts will fail. Do what we will, if in our purposes and plans we do not avoid secretiveness and if we do not promote publicity, we shall only have a grade in which stealth will soon hold sway and in which all the evils of social life as we know life here, will be allowed to grow.



Naturally, in order to have a classification that will show the administration and the public at large that every man in the classification is becoming socially safe and socially valuable, the classification can be composed only of men who earnestly wish to make something of themselves. A man who is willing to compromise his own character, when, without such a sacrifice the way is opened to effect his practical ends, is not a suitable man for such a classification as is suggested.

But no organization is being proposed. Too many offer improvements and then attempt to carry out those improvements before proper preparation has been made.

Nothing will be gained from a rush to set up something perfect. The men in here will not be able to live socially what they have not yet learned to live individually. Until a man will live square and right in himself and for reasons that are in himself, he cannot be depended upon to live square and right in his relationship with others. The public cannot depend upon him and he cannot depend upon himself so to live.

The first thing is to be willing to live right.

Many who think they are willing to live true will find, when put to the test, that they are not willing. They will find that they were being led, possibly without their own knowledge even, to go into the new classification because of the advantages that were thought to accrue and not because there had come in them the conviction that they should live true for their own sake, that they should live true for the upbuilding and strengthening of their own character.

Emil Guentert, in a communication in this issue, says:

"It seems to me a wise thing to endeavor to keep a grade clean. The good and the bad must be separated, for it is commonly conceded that the influence of bad is stronger than the influence of good. What a delightful thing it would be to have a new grade composed of men who have never been punished; what an appeal it would have to the new men whose intentions are good."

In Guentert is a response to the declaration made in this magazine in August, that

"If the first grade does not or cannot keep itself clean, keep itself so that the administration will know that every man in that grade is keeping true in every particular, it must follow inevitably that there will be another grade, a higher grade in which the men of the grade will keep the grade clean and then the first grade will in reality be a second grade."

A man can learn how willing he is to live true by watching his daily acts and taking note of just how he decides what he shall or shall not do. His deep thought process will tell him how true or how untrue he is.

Always conscience is with us, and with a little attention, we can readily tell if we live true to the truth which conscience speaks or if, in selfish self-interest, we choose rather to do what is of more immediate personal advantage.

A classification which will be a guarantee that the administration can depend upon every man in the classification, must be made up of men who want to live what is right, and who will be constant so that they shall be able to live what is right.

When a man has come to this and has proved it to himself individually, he will be ready to live it with others socially; he will be ready to become one of a classification which will have the social power to maintain something in the service and to the advantage of its members.

There are many men here who, with Guentert, believe in standing with the administration "from the ground up," who wish to have a classification in which no man will seek to have any of his acts kept secret, a classification in which publicity shall be the social policy. When prisoners will live thus openly and above board, the prison administration and the public will begin to have confidence in them.

Prisoners have within themselves the power to win all that they have hoped to win. What prisoners, or what any persons, win that is not first won in their own character, is not truly theirs: and it may any day be lost. The men who wish to qualify for a new classification should make themselves known.



Putting Prisoners to Work

The Columbus, Ohio, *Journal*, under the above heading, raises a question which leads the thought directly to a matter of vital individual and social importance.

Judge Latslaw's statement to the men he released on parole to go into the Kansas wheat fields, quoted in this magazine in September, "Kansas needs men and you need liberty," has been the subject of considerable comment and has been generally approved.

The logic of his position appeals to the humane and to the economic sense of American citizenship.

The best cure for the habit of idleness and for misdemeanors that come from idleness and for other misdemeanors as well, is work.

How many men might be quickened to a sense of self-reliance and aspiration, if sentenced to go to work instead of being sentenced to go to prison!

This is a practicable plan as is already shown in this state, where, for certain offenses, men are released on probation by the judges of the municipal court.

The principle can be extended.

The Columbus *Journal* comments on the general question:

"Strange, isn't it, that in these jobless times we have to take men out of prison to do the work? If this is the only way to harvest the crops, there should be a concerted movement among all prison-keepers to furnish the men. It will do the country good, and also the men. An honest day's work under the blue skies will do a prisoner more good than any prison wall can do. A warden of a penitentiary would not run much risk if he sent, say, 50 men to Kansas to help the harvest. It would be a good moral uplift, and they would all come back."

What self-respect might not be kept, what self-respect might not be created, if as many men

as possible were to be saved from going to jail or to the house of correction, or later, possibly, when the system is further along, from going to prison?

Men could be sentenced *to work* for a term equal to that for which they are now sentenced to serve.

The honor men who have gone to the prison farms and to the road camps, the country over, are proving that a sentence to work would be lived up to. Honor men could be picked by the bench, as they are now picked by the warden. Those who would give no promise of being honor men, could be sentenced to serve time in prison.

When it is seen that most men need uplift and social support, far more than they need punishment, fewer men will be sent to prison. The prisoner who is sentenced to work will not be a burden on the community as is the person who is sentenced to serve. A change of sentence from confinement to industry will be of immense benefit to the individual and to society.



Reform Institutions as Sociological Laboratories

For some time the press and leaders of public thought have been calling attention to the fact that many crimes result from mental and moral defects and not so much as has been supposed from studied determination, intention and choice.

In view of this, the sociological laboratories for the examination of prisoners to determine their mental and moral responsibility, have met with favor, and a beginning of concrete work has been made.

A psychopathic laboratory in connection with the municipal court has been established in Chicago, with Dr. William Hickson as director. There is also in Chicago a pathological laboratory in connection with the juvenile court under the direction of Dr. William Healy.

Following Chicago's initiative, Boston has installed a laboratory in connection with its municipal court, with Dr. Victor Anderson as director. The American Institute of Criminal Law and Criminology, through a commission of which the Honorable Harry Olsen, chief justice of the municipal court of Chicago, was **chairman**, has sent out reports to municipalities and counties

suggesting that laboratories be established for the service of their criminal courts. A year ago Mr. Louis Gibbs, of New York, introduced into the legislature of that state a bill to provide for the establishment of a laboratory in connection with the courts of every first-class city in the state. The move received wide and favorable comment, and it is expected that ultimately it will succeed. The Committee on Prison Reform of the National Civic Federation, New York, has recommended that Sing Sing prison be renovated and be used as a temporary reception prison and a psychopathic laboratory for the study of persons sent there.

Laboratory work is recommended by Dr. J. P. Lichtenberger, of the University of Pennsylvania. Governor George H. Hodges, of Kansas, and Warden J. D. Botkin, of the Kansas State Penitentiary, have begun laboratory work at the Kansas prison.



The laboratory idea began with the purpose to separate the mentally and morally deficient among those who find their way into the courts, from those who are actually vicious and of criminal intent.

Dr. Hickson's tests of the offenders brought before the Boys' Court, Chicago, show that nearly all the boys were mentally deficient. Two hundred and fifty-five boys were examined. Of these 7.34 per cent. are characterized as bordering on a sub-normal state of mentality; 84.49 per cent. were morons, or persons of arrested mental development. The actual average age of these boys was 18.71 years; their mental age, as established by the tests, averaged 10.98 years.

Other tests and expert opinions from long experience and close observation indicate that the conditions in Chicago are a fair representation of the conditions of those who find their way into the courts of any city.

Commenting upon these ascertained facts, the *Chicago Daily News* says:

"These results bear out what prominent judges have long suspected, that a large number of persons who break the laws are subnormal of mind. Should such irresponsibles—persons of child minds in adult bodies—be treated precisely as are the offenders of normal mentality? Evidently it is not justice to punish persons who are

mentally irresponsible for their behavior. What they need is humane treatment in favorable environment, so that their intellectual powers can be strengthened if possible, and their restoration to society as useful members brought about whenever this may be capable of accomplishment."



The work of Governor Hodges and Warden Botkin at the Kansas State Penitentiary, is with persons of more advanced age than that in connection with the Boys' Court at Chicago and in the work in Kansas the laboratory idea has broadened.

In that prison, recently, out of thirty-eight prisoners who asked to be paroled only six were found to be mentally normal for their ages, four were slightly below normal, and twenty-eight men and women between the ages of twenty-three and fifty-eight were found by the tests to compare in mental attainments with normal children of from seven to twelve years of age. These tests were made to ascertain what were the applicants' probable chances of making good, in the event that the paroles were granted. The purpose of this investigation was therefore different from that in Chicago where tests are made to ascertain if the persons under consideration are mentally and morally responsible for the offenses which they have committed.

The Kansas examination determined that about two-thirds of those who had asked for parole were defectives. Governor Hodges says of these defectives:

"These men and women can be easily led into trouble again. They have little sense of right and wrong. They assume toward anyone who befriends them an attitude of childish confidence and accept the instructions of this person without question. Let them out of the prison and they are up against an unequal fight with the world and the human jackals seize them to do their dirty work."



Under the caption, "An Untouched Work," the *Milwaukee Journal* says:

"Kansas is performing a pioneer service in inaugurating the system which asks what a prisoner's mental status is and how, if defective, it may be improved. Other states will watch the results with interest."

Speaking especially of the more defective persons committed to prisons, Governor Hodges says:

"They do not reform, and they seldom improve their condition so that they have a better chance to make good than before they were sent here. The prison is not the place for them. . . . they need development and contact with other men and women to improve their mental and moral condition."

A study of prisoners' deficiencies is valuable to the extent that it discloses the way in which a person's failings can be overcome.

The period of imprisonment can be made, not only a period in which a prisoner's defects are studied, but also a period in which his virtues will be tried.



The new policy of prisons, the classification of prisoners and the attempts at making life in prison as nearly normal as it can be made in such institutions, is a policy of trying virtues and building good in men and women.

In many cases the prisoners are for pastime permitted to play games in their cells, are having daily periods of recreation where they are permitted to indulge in all sorts of sports, including match ball games. They have their own brass bands with band music at their meals; occasionally life is brightened by a vaudeville performance rendered by outside talent; debates among themselves are permitted; holidays are properly celebrated. In some prisons the inmates sleep in dormitories instead of in cells. Many prisoners are permitted to work on farms or on roads far away from the prison, where in the evening the men sit around their door step and smoke, visit, tell stories, sing songs and listen to the music of the phonograph, and among them are many long term and lifetime men. In a few instances nominal wages are paid and in some extreme cases men have been permitted to go home to visit those who were seriously ill, and to attend funerals. There are recent cases on record where prisoners were permitted to go home and gather their harvests in order that their dependents might thereby be supported. In most of the prisons striped prison uniforms have been discarded for uniforms, which, while distinctive, do not cry out loud of degradation.

In some of the penitentiaries the inmates hold meetings regularly at which they discuss questions and make recommendations, and in a few of the prisons organizations of the men have been permitted to discipline some of their members for violations of prison rules. Most of the prisons have good libraries and permit the inmates to receive magazines and daily papers. Nearly all of them have intramural schools of their own, and in some prisons university correspondence courses are allowed. The prison press is becoming more general and with the advance of prison reform measures greater latitude is being allowed the editors.

These various opportunities are becoming more and more possible in nearly all prisons. The constructive power and value of the tendencies toward normal conditions in prisons is becoming known.



No policies, no rules or regulations can be serviceable in promoting normal life for people who are in prisons, which are not of value to persons who are outside of prisons.

The problem in prisons is this: *So to adapt a system of greater freedom to a system of intelligent discipline that that which is good in prisoners may have free and open way to grow and to perfect itself and that that which is evil in them may be restrained as fully as possible.*

Individuals have frequently been held responsible for acts for which they were not alone responsible. Nature, which has limited the person's development and left him a moron or a cretin, is also responsible.

In undertaking through the courts and in prisons to care for the social good, man's offences only have been dealt with; and where there is an offense the man's virtues and possibilities have been ignored. The old method of prisons was punishment. The new method is to awaken the man's honor. The whole principle of punishment is that the wrong in man shall be repressed; the whole principle of the honor system is that the good in man shall be encouraged.

The cause of crime does not lie wholly in man's defects; *it is also in the man's want of a knowledge of how practically to live the good that is in him.*

In the prison problem, society is confronted with a deplorable situation. Law breakers are committed for terms of years. At the expiration of their terms, they are frequently released without any consideration of their ability to take care of themselves and to refrain from crime in the future. The released prisoner goes out to meet the public and finds a thought in the public mind about his having been in prison, which to the public seems to be a stain upon the man. Also society has put upon the man the name of "convict," which, when the man is discharged, it continues to use to indicate that he is something unwholesome, something to be shunned. The press and other agencies keep the opprobrium alive and business men close their places against him. Recognized and helped in prison because of the purpose there is in him, he finds upon his release, no honor system outside to welcome him; "no better chance" after he leaves the prison, says Governor Hodges, "than before he went there." He goes out with the mark of the prison in the kind of clothing that is given to him; he has money to sustain him only about a week. Not the general public only, but the police are suspicious of him; he is suspected of any crime which is committed in a vicinity in which he may be found. Backing up the police in the oldest alibi of incompetent officers, the newspapers repeatedly declare that the "annual crop of holdups and burglaries are due to the discharging of the output of the penitentiaries of half a dozen states into this community."

"The result of all this is," says the *Milwaukee Journal*, that "our prisons are filled with 'repeaters,' men and women who have served term upon term all over the country. When they are released, the warden confidently expects to have them back in a short time or to hear of their being sentenced to some other prison. The record of a person who has deliberately committed a crime of violence ends: 'He has served a number of terms in prison.'"

The *Journal* then makes the following comment:

"The cause of this deplorable situation is our failure to find out the reason for crime. That a man may be a criminal because he is subnormal has not concerned us very much. We have contented ourselves with putting him in jail, releasing him, and putting him back in prison for some

other offense. The stupidity and cruelty of this method is just beginning to dawn on us."

The hope of the present day for a solution of the prison problem, is in society's acknowledgment of its "failure to find out the reason for crime" and in its recognition of the "stupidity and cruelty" of the present method of court procedure and administration.

Dr. Lichtenberger says

"With the scientific method applied to crime, as it has been applied to medicine, biology, astronomy, mineralogy, and so on, the case of the criminal begins to look hopeful. We find out what sort of a man the criminal is and treat him accordingly, with the hope of curing him."

Robert H. Gault, associate professor of psychology, Northwestern University, and editor of the *Journal of the American Institute of Criminal Law and Criminology*, in speaking of laboratory work in connection with the criminal court, says:

"Few delinquent youths can hold a job for more than a limited number of days or weeks. Those who hold on longer are usually inefficient and are the first to be laid off when the employer adopts a policy of retrenchment. The results of this world test, as an index of mental quality, cannot be expressed in quantitative terms. It is a valid test for all that."

Professor Gault uses the term "world test" as a name for trying a person out to see what he is actually able to do. Professor Gault states that the managers of the New York reformatories, in a study of one hundred successive cases of failure on parole, find that the young men fail to meet the conditions of parole because they do not hold their jobs. Dr. Hickson, who makes the reformatory report, refers to similar reports received from social workers. "Commercial establishments are, with good sense," says Professor Gault, "casting about for reliable means by which morons may be sifted out from the group of applicants for situations in their houses." He then says, "We allow unemployed youths between the ages of fourteen to sixteen to remain out of school and lead lives of idleness in the street. It is altogether probable that much of what appears as morosity at the chronological age of twenty is traceable to inexcusable social neglect."

The youthful morons of today will be the criminal inmates of a penitentiary tomorrow. The prisoners of today were the morons of yesterday.

It will be a great advance from what prisons have been to make them laboratories for the study of delinquency and this would naturally be followed by prison administrative methods best calculated to bring about reformation.

The value of penal institutions in the future is to be in making them social centers for laboratory study; for the study of man's lower nature, of his defects, and also for the study of his higher nature, his potential virtue and truth, his possible constructive thought and power.



A Change in the Reformatory Product

Dr. Charles Goring, the English criminologist, author of "The English Convict," is quoted as saying that "the worst delinquents come from the industrial schools and reformatories."

With this verdict of Dr. Goring's long experience in mind, it is well to take particular note of the new policy of management that has been introduced in the Illinois State Reformatory by W. C. Graves, superintendent.

In the special article in this issue of THE JOLIET PRISON POST, the policy which Superintendent Graves has introduced is explained and the results of the policy thus far is told.

Superintendent Graves is demonstrating what the Illinois honor system will do in any one of the state reformatory institutions where it will be tried. Mr. O. J. Milliken, who now has charge of the John Worthy School and who is making preparation to take all of the boys to the country on a farm, is also introducing into his work the principles of the honor system.

In simple terms the honor system is only this: the administration deals with the boys (or with the men, if the institution be a prison such as this) on the basis of the good that is in them; they are no longer dealt with only on the ground of the wrong that is in them.

Hitherto, reformatories have sought to repress the wrong in their inmates and have left the good to take care of itself on the supposition, generally accepted everywhere, that the good needs no supervision.

Reformatories have, therefore, been mainly places of restraint and punishment instead of being also places of encouragement, character building and constructive life.

It is natural enough that "the worst delinquents come from the industrial schools and reformatories." Reformatories hitherto have in no way replaced the evil tendencies in the boys, with good tendencies. Being subject, in the first place, to the lower or perverse instincts, the boys are thrown together in a mass under conditions which make it most natural for them to continue to live out these instincts. Wrong impulses and purposes grow in each because each learns from all the others all the evil that all know.



Under the honor system, good is made effective instead of evil being effective.

Superintendent Graves states his new policy in these words:

"We are freeing the boys' higher purposes by a system of treatment which makes them feel that it is worth while to make something of themselves; by a system of treatment which makes them realize that society has an interest in their welfare."

The change which the honor system is working in reformatory and penal institutions, is fundamental. The policy of administration is coming to be a policy of construction instead of a policy of repression.

People are being taught how to live a constructive life and to understand the value of living such a life. As either boys or men, girls or women, learn this, punishment will not be necessary. Punishment is necessary only when the mental quality is so low that the person is not able to respond to a higher purpose, to an ideal. In any case where the person is mentally and morally able to see the value of the higher things, restraint, which brings the person to realize that evil ways cut him off from the better things, is all that is necessary.

Superintendent Graves makes it clear to his boys that if they do not master the evil impulses, that if they harbor them and act from them, they cannot be allowed to enjoy the privileges which his new constructive policy is bringing forth.

This has been sufficient to put the reformatory boys on an entirely different foundation from that from which they were living before.

Actual experience is showing that Superintendent Graves' understanding of the laws of life and human development is correct. His boys are happier; they are doing more actual work in less hours; they take a greater interest in learning the trades; they are more orderly; they are making a slight beginning in the practice of limited self-government.

The honor system is showing that the innate good in men and women, and in boys and girls, should be made the basis of dealing with them and that in so far as the wrong that is in them is to be dealt with, it should be dealt with in view of what is possible from the good. If a person is shown the practicability and the value of the good, the good will be lived from the person's own choice.

Evil will be found to yield only obstruction or destruction; constructive life comes only from what is true and right.

It is easier to repress and punish than to counsel and guide, which probably somewhat accounts for the way in which reformatories have been handled.

But Superintendent Graves has a new light. His nature asks that the young men under his charge shall be made better. He is taking up his work in the proper spirit and results show that he is working in the right way.



Hoodlum "Fresh Fish"

The late arrivals at the prison are usually the mischief makers. They do not know the hardships of the old-fashioned discipline. They take everything for granted and think they are entitled to all kind of privileges and if spoken to by an experienced prisoner when they violate the rules, they resent the interference. The most offensive of the late arrivals are the hoodlums from Chicago. Their pretensions are usually in proportion to the degradation of their lives before they were promoted to and found refuge in this prison. Those amongst them who can read might be slightly benefited if they were compelled to read every day the language of their mittimus which serves as the

Warden's authority for their detention. They would find there is nothing about privileges or recreation in their commitment papers. We earnestly hope for the day when the hoodlums will be kept by themselves and treated according to their conduct. One is frequently forced to the conclusion that it is as wrong to let some men live as it is to inflict the death penalty.



The Man Under the Brute

The Danville, Ill., *Commercial News* under the caption of this editorial, writes of the possibilities of men who have been found to be violators of the law.

The *Commercial News* cites the case of Jonas Szikely, a Hungarian, who is serving a life sentence for murder in the New Jersey state prison.

The man when brought to prison was little more than a giant brute with a savage, forbidding countenance and uncouth habits. While eating he grabbed his food, spilling it over his clothes. He seemed to be about as low an order as the human family knows.

Several months ago it was found that this man at some time in his life, received a blow on his head and that a piece of bone was pressing on his brain. An operation was performed which relieved the pressure. The result is a change in the character and manners of Szikely that has astonished everybody who has known him. His face has changed its features. His expression is now not that of a brute, his countenance is bright, kindly, human and he seems to have one of the gentlest dispositions in the prison. The question of the propriety of giving the man a pardon has consequently arisen and a committee has taken the matter in charge.

There was, it now appears, in Szikely a man under the brute.

The *Commercial News* says:

"The question at once arises, How much of a man is there under every brute and criminal and 'enemy of society' with whom we have to deal? It seems a pity, if there is in every case some such concealed person, that he is not as easily brought to the front as in this instance. But in the vast majority of cases we do not know where the 'pressure' that holds the real man from manifestation, is exerted."

The *Commercial News* thinks it may not be practicable to bring out into expression right away in every person the real man who is made in the image and likeness of his Creator, but since real manhood is there under the brute, the faith is expressed that the time will come when the way of dissolving the evil in man and of bringing his full good to the surface, will be known:

"We may know more about such problems as the ages advance. In the meantime it is safe to assume that the man is there, no matter what the brute appearance, and that he is our brother. The thought of late years is not to punish the brute, but to pull the real man out of the bad hole he is in."



The practical fact of life is that no man, be he however uncouth, untamed or brutal, lives upon the brute that is in him. It is the man that is under the brute that sustains us all and without this inner reality of life none of us could endure.

Men are committed to prisons by society which wishes to restrain such men and which is willing that the men shall become better. All the time these men are incarcerated, it is the virtue that is in them that keeps them up: their interest in their family and friends, their friends' and their family's interest in the support of them, their hope of what they wish yet to accomplish, their belief in their own right to life. The brute in man has never sustained him an hour. The brute is no part of any man's real life. The brute is only the *want* of the true man. If a person awakens to his real life, to the life that God has given him, as distinct from the brutish life that his selfishness and his meanness prompt, he, of his own choice, will disregard the brute life which comes only from an ignorance of the real and true order of things. No person who has become able to see the true way and who has become able also to desire the true way, continues purposely in the ways that are wrong. Both his moral instincts and his material advantage are against it.

The question of crime is not a question of one's mental ability; it is a question of one's mental quality and moral power, of one's having sufficient character to discern and to be able to live what is true.

Our sociological laboratories, which are being set up in connection with our courts, will go far awry in accounting for crime in the defectives that come under their consideration if they take account only of the arrested mental development and overlook the moral defect that comes from the man's or the woman's want of the real truth of his or of her life.

What is wanted to correct the social life of the world, is not only charts and measures and mental tests, but also sympathy, fellowship and real love guided by a discernment of what there is in the person that is real and true and to which the person can be made to respond. Any person who has erred, needs above all things to be helped to live that which his own better nature promises and is calling for. It is not only that a person's defects must be studied and eliminated; his values also must be studied and promoted. When a man knows the good that is in him and is able to live it, he will of himself abandon the evil.



From the beginning the world has almost exclusively kept to the practice of dealing with social offenders on the basis of the wrong that is in them. The attempt has been made through punishment to make evil so undesirable that men and women will abandon it. The truth has been overlooked that men and women *can* abandon evil only as the good and the truth of life come into them, thus giving them the power to abandon it. Progress in the world, growth in civilization, is not through processes of volition; it is through growth of character. It is right to repress evil, but also the good in man must be built up in order that the abandonment of evil may be complete and final.

Our judicial system has dealt with men and women wholly on the ground of their social offenses and who knows what violations, in ages past, have been done the character that many persons arrested and put through the courts would have gladly lived?

Society is beginning to take into account the possibilities of the good in the person who is arrested.

Dr. Wm. Healy, of the pathological laboratory of the juvenile court of Chicago, has noted that persons who are defective in some one thing

are sometimes efficient and valuable in something else and that when that which is valuable is lived, that which is undesirable and criminal is likely no longer to appear. Dr. Healy says:

"A significant class of defectives are the mental defectives, but even among them are found great differences in capabilities. When we see a feeble-minded burglar with great manual dexterity, who has had a long criminal record, become an honest laborer with country life, we are a little less sure about many dicta."

The "higher justice" spoken of in these columns in September, is merely the introduction of goodness; the individual and social worth of the person accused, is taken into account. In the past the courts have been too neglectful of the person's larger life interest, too unmindful of individual and social rights and values.

Dr. Healy continues:

"Nowadays it is not the anarchists who are questioning the legal values in dealing with offenders, but it is some of the most experienced jurists who watch the alarming number of offenders repeatedly sent back to prison. It is a remarkable fact that one may look almost in vain for jurists who study the data of success or failure of measures carried out."

As the method of criminal jurisprudence becomes constructive as well as being repressive and punitive, there will be a great change in the social value of the criminal courts. In helping to build the good in men, as well as serving to repress the evil, they will aid in permanently doing away with the evil and recidivists, the men and women who are returned to prison time and again, will become less and less. When the building of the good in man is given its proper consideration, crime and other evils will begin to disappear.



Inter-Prison Ball Games

Athletics is coming to be an important part of the betterment work in reformatory and penal institutions. At many prisons it has been found that athletics help to make the men normal, that they gain in health, and that they become more orderly. In a very limited number of prisons and reformatories the officials have seen fit to go even further and from what has happened

it is reasonable to infer that those officials are of the opinion that it is desirable to increase the life interest of prisoners by giving them diversions which from their very nature are bound to prove of great interest. We refer to several instances where the prisoners of reformatories and penal institutions have been permitted to play matched games of ball with nines from the outside and the granting of games with the prisoners at other prisons. As these further privileges do not in any way increase the benefits from the physical exercise it must be that the aim of the officials is to influence the mental condition of the prisoners by first giving them an interest in the contests and secondly by creating a feeling of loyalty toward the institution in which they are confined.

When so radical a change in prison administration is sanctioned by the Department of Justice of the United States, it seems that we have passed the period when the skeptics of the prison betterment movement shall longer laugh in derision thereat. Below we give a list of the games that have come to our notice.

A nine from the Connecticut State Reformatory at Cheshire has been permitted to play a game with the Newhallville team of New Haven. Another game on the same diamond was played with the Waterbury, Connecticut, police team, and later still another with the Reporters baseball team of Waterbury, Connecticut. The fourth game was permitted with a picked nine of ball players from Cheshire. All of these games were played on the reformatory field.

At the Ohio penitentiary at Columbus a match game of ball was permitted between the Federals of the penitentiary and the Indianapolis Hoosiers.

The ball players of the United States Penitentiary at Atlanta, Georgia, recently played a matched game of ball with the Atlanta College Pharmacy nine. At that prison on seven consecutive Sundays the inmates have enjoyed the privilege of recreation and exercise in the yard without a single report or even the slightest violation of the rules.

The Minnesota State Reformatory baseball team has played several match games with a visiting team from St. Cloud, Minnesota. The Minnesota State Penitentiary has played a game

with the Simonets, a baseball nine from Stillwater, and on Labor Day the penitentiary boys played a nine from Hinkley, Minn.

The state penitentiary at Lansing, Kansas, has done something more than the other institutions which have only played outside teams on the home grounds. The Lansing penitentiary has sent its team on three different occasions to play baseball at the United States Penitentiary at Leavenworth, and on these occasions the prison band was permitted to accompany the ball team. In this band were seven life termers and eight men having more than ten years' time to serve under their sentences.

Our observations of the attitude of the press of the United States towards these innovations warrants us in making the statement that they have almost unanimous endorsement.

EDITOR'S COLUMN

We invite communications from the men, but we wish to ask each to write in a single communication on one idea only. If you have more than one thought you wish to develop, write on each thought separately and at different times. In this way you will be able to make what you have to say more clear to other men. A mingling of ideas makes the communication confusing to the reader. If you wish to write about going to the farm or to a road camp, write on that subject only. Do not mix what you have to say about the farm or camps with something about bringing up children or about the prosecution methods of the state's attorney or the unjust attitude which you think you see in the city police. If the men will send in their thoughts, but about only one thing at a time, they will be able to help the prison betterment movement greatly.

We are particularly attracted to the September issue of the *Chronicle*, published at the Connecticut reformatory. The *Chronicle* is of neat appearance. It is well edited and we find it has the moral strength to say what needs to be said while, at the same time, it shows a commendable kindness for the men whom it must criticise. The September issue is "a base ball

extra," a quarto, in which the games are written up with a facile and understanding pen. The *Chronicle's* sporting editor, and its editor-in-chief, are of the right sort. The *Chronicle* recently made a request for suggestions for an appropriate motto. Many responses came and the following sentiment submitted by an inmate of the reformatory was adopted: "Devoted to the best interests of the reformatory, 'with malice towards none and charity for all.'"

NEWS NARRATIVE

LOCAL

CHRISTMAS SHIP TO EUROPE

The Chicago *Herald* is making preparation to send a Christmas ship to Europe which shall carry to the children of that devastated land toys from the children of this prosperous and happy country.

Some men in this institution saw the announcement and finally the following telegram was sent to the *Herald*:

"The honor men at the Joliet prison will do their share toward loading down your ship. While we have no money to spend for supplies, we can manufacture toys and novelties during our spare time. The kiddies of Europe will hear from Warden Allen's men through the opportunity you have made. Yours very truly,
COMMITTEE OF THE PRISONERS."

Mr. James Keely, editor of the *Herald*, immediately sent the following reply to Warden Allen:

"Your men offered to aid Christmas ship. Most splendid exemplification of the brotherhood of man. It brightened our day. It must have brightened the day for the men to offer it. War-saddened Europe will be comforted for many days and wherever men read of your men's spontaneous generosity they will be made better for it. Please thank them for the children of Europe."

The Sunday *Herald*, September 13, made the following comment on the offer the men here have made:

"The kiddies of Europe will hear from Warden Allen's men."

"This was the message from Joliet penitentiary to the *Herald* yesterday.

"In it is condensed the whole philosophy of the brotherhood of man.

" 'The kiddies of Europe will hear from Warden Allen's men.'

"The message contains no reference to the fact that 'Warden Allen's men' are locked up in a great prison because they have done wicked things.

"Prison walls vanish before such a message, just as they did when the Warden put his men on their honor not to run away and let them go out into the sunshine to work as free men.

"It is this group of men—'honor men'—in the great, gray, grim institution that has asked to put its gifts of love on the decks of the Christmas ship, that suffering little children, shivering in the bullet-raining clouds of Europe's war, may find comfort in the sunshine of love and friendship sent across the sea.

" 'The kiddies of Europe will hear from Warden Allen's men.'

"The message that will go to the kiddies of Europe will be in the form of toys and novelties shaped in otherwise dreary hours by patient hands that will work clumsily, painfully, but happily, because they will be in the service of humankind.

"A shaft of sunlight will fill war-shadowed hearts with comfort and cheer at the Christmas time, when only gray skies were expected.

'Stone walls do not a prison make,
Nor iron bars a cage.'

"Thus wrote Richard Lovelace nearly 300 years ago.

"The stone walls of Joliet have not imprisoned the generosity, humanity and common fellowship of the men held there.

" 'They've offered to use their own time to make the little presents for the Christmas ship,' said Mr. Allen. 'I'm going to give them a little extra time for it. They're as happy over it as the children will be to get the toys.'"

The men here will soon begin to make the gifts which they are to add to the heart treasure which the *Herald* Christmas ship is to take across the sea. Next Christmas will be one of the happiest that this community has known. Who can say how much good will come from the Christmas gifts, come to the children to whom they are given, to the men who create and send them and to the people of the country who see these gifts from the prison men to the stricken of sorrowful Europe?

AN IMPORTANT SUNDAY SERVICE

Just as our September issue had gone to press, a chapel service was held the last Sunday in August which was of particular worth.

Three ministers were present: Rev. Charles M. Brown, pastor First Presbyterian Church, of Joliet, Illinois; Rev. Charles H. Johnson, pastor First Presbyterian Church, of River Forest, Illinois, and Rev. Everett E. Hudson, pastor First Methodist Church, of Mason, Illinois.

Rev. Mr. Brown offered the opening prayer. Rev. Mr. Hudson delivered the sermon. A number of ladies were among the visitors.

Our own men did particularly well. A special chorus by the choir, "Far Away in the South"; a solo, "Everybody Loves My Girl," by Samuel Goldstein; a solo, "I Never Heard of Anybody's Dying from Kissing, Did You?" by Lawrence Wade, completed the program.

Wade is a negro and one of the most pleasing of this community's entertainers. He has a jovial, rollicking manner; a waggish way. He is a natural comedian whose repertoire in expression is mostly in facial grimaces. He does not make a clear appeal to the higher senses and neither does he offend them. He just pleases everybody. He is original, imitable and versatile in his way.

Dressed in his full white uniform, his dark features, shining eyes and upright figure, with his marked and expressive walk onto the stage, tell the auditors at once that something particularly amusing is to come.

When Wade closed his solo, he was recalled. He came and gave a new song. He was recalled again. This time he repeated. Still he was cheered.

The public will understand the propriety of some entertainment such as this and of some songs of sentiment, as a part of the Sunday service.

It interests the men and gives them a little of the lighter side of life. In no way does it put aside the sacredness of the service. When the bible reading and the sermon comes, the men give attention and many men—despite their errors—love the truth that is sung and spoken. Very many loved the words that were spoken on this particular day. Possibly

no speaker in the past year has reached the hearts of more men than did Rev. Mr. Hudson in his wholesome, honest sermon. He had a sympathy for the men and that sympathy, illumined with the light which comes from a real spiritual awakening, made his words and his own life a power, even as he spoke.

Rev. Mr. Hudson's first words were: "I consider it a great favor, fellows, to be here." That was a true note, a cordial word and the men began to yield right there. "I am standing here and I am looking down into your faces. Men, we are brothers."

Then came a touch of the story of the young man who went away with his portion to follow his own will.

"If the man had only listened to the words of his mother or his friends." But somehow each man knew that it was of him that Rev. Mr. Hudson was speaking; and the men wanted it so.

Then came the secret.

"I have been preaching only three years. I know what it is to be down and out. I have seen men standing around; I have done it myself. I was so low down underneath all that I could not reach up to the bottom."

But all this is known of Rev. Mr. Hudson, only from his telling it and from his real and deep human interest in other men; an interest such as can come only from experience; from spiritual awakening and from an inner perception of the unity of mankind. A man of fine form, kindly features and frank countenance; the word "fellows" continually coming up all through the address.

No mere story teller to play upon one's sympathy; a real living story from his own life of the power of a mother's love—his own mother's love for him—and of earnest and loving prayer to save a boy from physical disaster; an actual conversion later on—delayed, but still his heart promise, made in the moment of life peril, made good. "I wired my old mother the night of the conversion." What words were these when so told!

"I came here," said Rev. Mr. Hudson, in closing his address, "to see a man whom I know and to take back a word to his waiting wife. I am glad I came."

The men had listened to a true human appeal for a recognition and an obedience to the eternal, indwelling Christ; a passionate, human solicitation.

Usually the men here cheer at the close of a favored sermon, as they cheer the favored numbers of the entertainment. When the cheering began, a hush was breathed from the lips of the thousand and a half of men. The cheer ceased. Nothing that the men could have done here could be a higher tribute to the sacredness with which the sermon was received.

Rev. Mr. Hudson said after the service that he had once come near to the possibility of being chaplain here.

As the lines marched out of the chapel, a young man waited to see and talk with Rev. Mr. Hudson. Finally, the young man went.

The minister looked after him as he made his way down the aisle. "I know that boy; he used to work for me, but I did not know that he was here." And his look lingered as the man he knew passed on out of the chapel door, down the stairs and along the outer walk—the walk for the prisoners—and back to his stone and iron cell.



ITEMS FROM CAMP DUNNE

The men at Camp Dunne, which was recently moved from Ottawa, Ill., to Mokena, Ill., are well pleased with the new site. They are now encamped in an old apple orchard, the property of a gentleman whose residence is within a stone's throw of the camp. The owner has done everything in his power to make it both comfortable and pleasant for the men, lending the lumber to floor the tents, and showing them many favors which have been greatly appreciated.

During the first week in September about one-fourth of a mile of rock was laid. Taking into consideration the prevalent bad weather and also the long hauls which are required, the work accomplished up to date is remarkable.

On September second, nine more men arrived from the prison, bringing the total now employed here up to forty-two.

Fishing is about the only recreation, as baseball has been suspended for a time.

A week before the removal of the camp from

Ottawa to Mokena, an evening launch trip was afforded the men through the kindness of Captain Seth E. Ballard, a resident of the locality, and Mr. Carl Munson, the superintendent of the camp, the trip is thus described by a member of the camp:

"At 5 P. M., Captain Seth E. Ballard called for us at the wharf. On our way down stream we passed the following places of interest: Wild Cat Canyon, Devil's Pulpit, Bee Hive Rock, Kitchen Canyon, Gypsy Island, Illinois Island and Lover's Leap. The first landing was Starved Rock, to the top of which Captain Ballard guided us. From the summit beautiful pastoral scenes unfolded to the eye. Looking to the northwest we could see Ottawa in the distance. To the southwest, Utica, LaSalle and Peru presented an interesting panorama.

"Our next visit was to French Canyon. After following a winding trail for some minutes, we found ourselves at the swimming pool, where all enjoyed a cool drink of artesian water. Owing to lack of time we omitted taking a plunge. Our next point of interest was the dancing pavilion, after which we embarked for the return trip to camp.

"The quartette sang several selections while the boat was laboring up stream. Later refreshments were served on board by our superintendent, Mr. Munson, after which there was more singing until the landing was made at 9:15 P. M."

On August 24, after an early breakfast, all hands were kept busy dismantling the old camp at Ottawa preparatory to pitching camp on the new site at Mokena. The men were taken to Ottawa station on motor trucks; good wishes and waving of hats greeted them on every side. They boarded the 11:48 A. M. train and arrived at Mokena at 12:45 P. M., Warden Allen being at the station to meet them. The site of the camp was reached at 2:00 P. M. and work was at once begun to get things in order. The new tents are 9x9 feet and are in much greater favor with the boys than was the large tent previously used.

On August 26 the washing and bathing tent was put in readiness.

Three extra teams arrived, bringing the total number of working teams now to seven.

The road grader was started at 1:00 P. M., preparatory to getting the road in shape for crushed stone, which must be hauled by the seven teams.

ON THE DIAMOND

On September 9 the Chair Damagers again played the Sun Dodgers, but suffered defeat, the score being 3 to 1. Conroy, the yard nine's crack one-arm pitcher, allowing but two scratch hits, would have been a shut out if Chester had put some glue on his glove before going out in right field for the Sun Dodgers. Manager Leonard wished to give him a try out. Maxie, the smiling pitcher of the Chair Damagers, cracked a nice two-base hit to left field. Rice, a heavy hitter, followed with a pop-up fly, which Chester dropped, Maxie scoring the first and only run, causing Chester to be removed from right field, Brakeman Scarret filling his place.

On September 12, the Sun Dodgers again defeated the Chair Damagers, the score being 6 to 2. Conroy again used his underhand ball, which curves like a snake, leaving the Damagers pushing wind until the fifth inning. Rice hit the ball full on the nose for a three bagger and he was followed by Newbar, who also got aroused and hit a nice two bagger. The Sun Dodgers, seeing that they had the Damagers at their mercy, toyed with them for a while, exhibiting a few acrobatic stunts. Then Conroy, seeing that he had let things go far enough, struck out the next two men up, thus ending the game.

J. Green's Invincibles, Chair Shop No. 3, once again have proved they are masters of the nine of Chair Shops No. 4 and No. 5. The managerial ability of Green loomed large as a contributing factor to the glorious victory.

Hubanks pops up an easy one to Van Baur; Barrow poles a hot one to Covington, out at first. Now comes Rice, who is not only a sure hitter, but a heavy one. The first ball up he swings at, like that home-run clouter, Vic Sans; the pill flies through the air with the swiftness of a cannon ball, looking like a sure base hit, but Hizer makes a leap into the air and stops it with his left; for a moment the fans were speechless, but when they recovered their breath, a shout that could be heard over the walls rent the air. No hits, no errors.

Boisdorf steps to the plate with a glint in his eye, which meant: I'll do or die. His fate was soon decided when he butted a grounder to Kelly, who threw him out at first. Packey then steps to the pan with determination written all over

his features. At the first ball pitched, he made a swing that cut the air with a hissing sound that could be heard up to the administration building; the next ball being wide, he allowed it to pass, but the third one he slammed for two bases. Jozwick, conceded to be the heaviest batter of the bunch, allowed the first ball to cut the plate in order to let Packey reach second; the next one he laced just a little above Hubank's head; it was traveling at such speed that when Hubanks put up his hand to stop it, he was almost bowled over. Jozwick goes to second; Harris bats an easy fly to Curley, who races to second with the ball to double Jozwick, but he is too late. Van Buer, cool and unexcited, faces the pitcher; he lets a couple pass and then catches one and sends it whizzing through the air, sending Jozwick home; Van steals to third by sliding around Kelly, but is left there as Hizer butts a hot one, which careens off Kelly's glove to Hubanks, who makes a swift throw to first. Three hits, 2 runs, 1 error.

Kelly steps to bat smiling and confident. The first one is to his liking and he nails it for two bags. Underwood, an in and outer, knocks an easy grounder to Covington and is out at first. Cleveland bunts a slow one to Murphy, sending in Kelly. Cleveland reaches second on a pass ball; he is advanced to third on a hot grounder batted by Curley to Covington; the latter threw Curley out at first. Bogie also bunts a slow one to Murphy; Covington, becoming excited, races out in front of Murphy, and, grabbing for the ball, just touches it hard enough to put it out of line to Murphy; Cleveland scores and Bogie is safe at first. Archie bats a slow one to Jozwick. One hit, 2 runs, 1 error.

Cleveland fans Covington, Murphy and McCullough. Murphy, not to be outdone at the fanning game, strikes out Hubanks and Barrow. Rice steals second and goes to third on a wild pitch. One hit, 1 error.

Boisdorf hits to Cleveland, out at first. Packey and Jozwick fan. No hits, no errors.

Underwood hits seven or eight fouls, then bats a slow one to Van and is out at first. Cleveland does likewise, with same result. Curley pops up one easy foul, which Packey gathers in. No hits, no errors.

Harris lines a hot one to Hubanks, out at first.

Van is given a pass, steals second, and is sent home on Hizer's two balls to left center. Hizer steals third. Covington is sent to first after being hit. McCullough stands with his bat on his shoulder, reminding one of a soldier who believes that if he fails all is lost. He slashes at the first two with a vengeance, but fails to touch either one; the coacher then gives him the office for a hit and run play, but Cleveland throws a wide one and Underwood tags Kieser out at two feet from the plate; their play may have saved McCullough from being jammed, or, possibly, deprived him of a chance to make a home run, as he was in great form today. One hit, 1 run.

The boys of Chair Shop No. 5 now realize that something must be done to save the game. Rice steps to the pan and butts a fly to right field. Boisdorf, coming in on a run, made a slight misjudgment and got too far, but stopping suddenly, made a leap in the air and squeezed the ball; it was a marvelous catch and was loudly applauded. Kelly, another sure hitter, being unable to do anything with Murphy's twisters, fanned. Someone called attention to the fact that they were batting out of order, and a cry went up that shook the heavens. Bogie, who should have gone to bat first, strode to the plate and was fanned. No hits, no errors.

The last half of the fifth was somewhat uninteresting, as supper time was fast approaching. The boys of Chair Shop No. 5 put up a good fight, but were outclassed.

The end of the baseball season draws near. The pep and ginger which has been exhibited by the players, to say nothing of the loud-lunged enthusiasm, abundantly proves that the introduction of the national pastime into this institution was a move in the right direction.

The beneficial results to the men are plainly evidenced in their eyes and in the erect carriage of their bodies. However, it is not the business of a baseball reporter to write on the moral and hygienic phases of the game; it is his duty to call attention to the brilliant plays and to the bone-head ones too, particularly to the latter, as they seem more expensive than the brilliant plays are valuable.

The game between Leonard's Yardsters and Cleveland's Fivesters, was well worth making a long trip to see; possibly it would not have been

witnessed by so many had the spectators any choice in the matter. This remark is not intended to convey the impression that the game lacked any of those hair-raising, heart-stopping plays commonly seen here; it simply has reference to the trip.

It was expected that much interest would be aroused over Cleveland's marvelous left-handed catch; but this spectacular play was never pulled off. As a result, the game was lost by the Five-sters after a grand rally. Manager Leonard of the yard gang is certainly the equal of any manager of the big leagues. Leonard seems to possess a sixth sense when it comes to judging a player's ability to do his best work at the psychological moment. Even before a player has made a weak play, Leonard will often call him from the field and substitute another man in his place who will play the strongest kind of a game, even though he may be known as a weak player. This unusual gift possessed by Leonard is something he can't explain himself; he simply makes a change and the line-up is strengthened. This game was, after all, a slugger, pure and simple, and, of course, the heaviest sluggers won.

OTHER PRISON COMMUNITIES

OHIO STATE PENITENTIARY AT THE STATE FAIR

The Ohio penitentiary *News* printed a state fair edition and distributed it at the Ohio state fair. The *News* informed the state fair visitors that the edition was "written, edited, set in type and printed by inmates," and that it was issued as a complimentary number in honor of the Ohio state fair to give the men and women attending the fair "an intelligent glimpse of what is really being done by the state's prisoners."

Besides this the penitentiary made an exhibit of a dozen of its principal products and also of a mass of other interesting details of minor importance.

The people of the state were given an opportunity to see what the state prison is producing in material goods. The penitentiary exhibit was housed in a booth constructed throughout of the best grade of timber and with concrete flooring, all of which was prepared by the prisoners. "The booth," says the *News*, "is a work of art, beauti-

fully decorated in purple and white pleated cloths."

The scheme of arranging and decorating the booth was the work of Joseph Wilson, a man who is serving a life term in the penitentiary. "Mr. Wilson is in charge of the booth and has explained the intricacies of the penitentiary, the honor system, the shops and the products, to more than ten thousand visitors," says the *News*.

The state of Washington is also sending products of its state institutions to its state fair for exhibition.



PROGRESS AT SING SING

"One improvement follows another," says the *Star of Hope*, the Sing Sing publication.

When in July Warden McCormick first granted the new privileges to the men, he arranged for one man from each gallery in the cell house and one from the dormitory to assist the guards in conducting the inmates to and from the cell house, the dormitory and to and from dinner. In August, one-half of the guards were excused on Sunday and the prison yard was opened to the prisoners all day.

The *Star of Hope* says:

"After breakfast we were at liberty in the yard free to amuse ourselves as we pleased.

"At noon the bugle call was given and we lined up and went into the mess-hall for a substantial dinner. Then we returned to the yard and remained there doing what we wished to until four o'clock, when we again formed in line and went in orderly manner to our quarters, there to partake of our usual supper of bread and tea.

"The entire day was without an incident to mar its pleasure or cast doubt upon the feasibility of the plan. It worked and it worked to perfection.

"From a day spent in a stuffy, damp, cave-like cell so small that one can scarcely turn around in it, to a day spent in the great outdoors with the sky above for a roof, is a long step, but that step has been taken at Sing Sing."

The Giants, of the New York Nationals, recently sent six first-class baseballs to the Sing Sing players.

These were accompanied by a note saying that the balls were sent at the personal request of Mr. Hempstead, president of the Giants. The gift was properly acknowledged by the Sing Sing players.

Pontiac Reformatory a School With Constructive Methods

Under the Honor System, Industry and Recreation are Made to Serve In Character Building

General Superintendent William C. Graves Introduces the Modern Way of Administering Reformatory Institutions

The Illinois State Reformatory at Pontiac is one of the state institutions to respond to the new spirit of the times and to be transformed from a place of punishment only to a place of opportunity and hope.

The whole country, within the last few years, seems to have had a new awakening in the way in which the human race can carry itself forward to better things. This new awakening has taken a firm hold in the penal institutions of many of the states and in consequence the policy of these institutions has changed.

It is now being seen that the earlier prison methods of combating the wrong tendencies in man are not sufficient; that there must be an acknowledgment and a stimulation of the good that is in man. There must not be punishment only; there must be opportunity and constructive life.

Superintendent Graves voices the soul of the new policy in dealing with the Pontiac boys, in these words, spoken in an address to the boys at chapel service:

"You know the fellow that can lay aside a bad temper, cure an ugly disposition and ill feelings, and let the manly part of his nature come to the front, is the fellow that makes something of himself."

Superintendent Graves then puts the question of what the boys are to make of their lives, wholly up to them in the following words: "The responsibility is on you and it is up to you to make good."

The whole idea of the new prison method is to give each person a chance to make as much of himself as he is willing and is able to make of himself. Society had become willing to clear the way for the individual and to give him all

possible chance. Hitherto in dealing with an inmate of a penal institution the purpose has been mainly to repress evil; now the purpose is also to open a way for the growth of good. When the way for growth is opened, it may be truly said that the responsibility is on the individual and that it is up to him to make good.

Superintendent Graves has clearly seen this truth and he is working it out in the Pontiac reformatory affairs. He says:

"Numerous changes have been made in this institution.

"As a general proposition, we have placed every boy on his honor. Human nature is such that there is in man both the purpose to do right and the tendency to do wrong. A man goes wrong simply when he submits to the baser elements in him. He must learn to control the baser nature and to be master of the situation. I am continually instructing the officers to teach and am myself teaching the boys the power of self control.

"But this, or no other institution, can reform a man if he himself does not have the inclination to reform. Building character is not a matter of enforced ideals. Character is built only as impulses to live what is true and right are quickened in the person himself.

"This knowledge enables us to see that opening opportunity for constructive life in the individual members of society, is something more than an indifferent interest in the individual which merely would say, 'the world is open to you; go and do the best you can.' A man's opportunity is closed not only by adverse conditions in his environment but also by the working of the inner sinister forces of his own mind.



William C. Graves, General Superintendent, Illinois State Reformatory,
Pontiac, Illinois.

"Every boy needs opportunity to live the best that is in him and this, primarily, is a matter of his being able to overcome whatever tendency there is in him to live his worst, or to live whatever is not his best. It is a subjective, a psychological problem. The objective problem of opportunity is a secondary matter, although important in its own place.

"We are freeing the boys' higher purposes by a system of treatment which makes them feel that it is worth while to make something of themselves, by a system of treatment which makes them realize that society has an interest in their welfare."

One of the young men who is witnessing the change of policy now being introduced by Superintendent Graves and who was an inmate of the reformatory under the former method, makes the following statement:

"It is now the absolute right of every inmate to be brought into the presence of the superintendent, instead of its being left to the discretion of the officers. Also while the superintendent used to exercise his judgment as to whether or not a boy should go before the Board of Managers in a month, six months, twelve months, or ever, now this superintendent must see that any boy is presented to the board who makes proper application.

"Not one minute was ever allowed for recreation. Now, we have an hour each day, including Sunday, for every boy here and a half-holiday on Saturday. The power-house boys who used to work twelve hours a day and who were in their cells for the other twelve hours, now have a recreation period of three-fourths of an hour in the morning and three-fourths of an hour again in the afternoon. All the boys are out together Saturday afternoons and for one hour Sunday afternoons. There are also athletic contests during the noon hour between picked teams. Balls, bats, foot balls, parallel bars, boxing gloves and paraphernalia for basket ball, volley ball, medicine ball, are provided. We now also have a building equipped for a gymnasium and play house which we use in rough weather.

"We have a fine band which furnishes music during recreation Saturday afternoons and during the one hour Sunday afternoons and also each day during the dinner hour.

"There is no limit now to membership in the Y. M. C. A. Any boy with three good months can become a member. Heretofore, a boy could become a member of the Y. M. C. A. only with the consent of the superintendent or the captain.

"All standard publications come in without being censored. Any weekly paper or magazine that is good enough to enter the home of an officer is good enough for an inmate to read. We now have two books a week from the library instead of one.

"There are occasional meetings of teachers and instructors, presided over by the superintendent, to discuss ways and means for bettering the boy's condition and opportunity.

"Married inmates—and there are many here—may write five letters a month; one each week to the wife and one to the parents. There are no longer any elevated chairs for guards in work shop or chapel. Tooth paste and brush are provided for each boy."

The interest taken by the boys in their athletics is shown by the athletic reports given each week in the *Pioneer*, the reformatory newspaper. The ball games are reported by innings and many a fine touch of baseball acumen and genius is displayed in telling of the particular features of the games.

The Quincy, Illinois, *Journal* makes the following comment on Superintendent Graves' work with the Pontiac boys:

"Never since the reformatory was established were the inmates permitted any recreation on Sundays until Judge Graves took charge. The inmates were locked in their cells during the entire afternoon, after attending religious services, to remain there until Monday morning.

"Under the system now inaugurated, the boys attend chapel from 10:30 o'clock until 11:30. After dinner, and at one o'clock, inmates who are desirous of doing so, and whose records are sufficiently clean to warrant them the privilege, are permitted to attend Y. M. C. A. exercises conducted by the boys themselves, from one to two o'clock, without the presence of guards. These meetings are arranged by the boys in connection with the chaplain and the librarian, and very seldom have any rules of the institution been violated as a result of this confidence in them.

"After the Y. M. C. A. exercises, every inmate in the institution marches out to the ball ground, following the institution band, which provides a concert for their entertainment during the after-

noon. While the band concert is going on a game of baseball is played by teams of inmates."

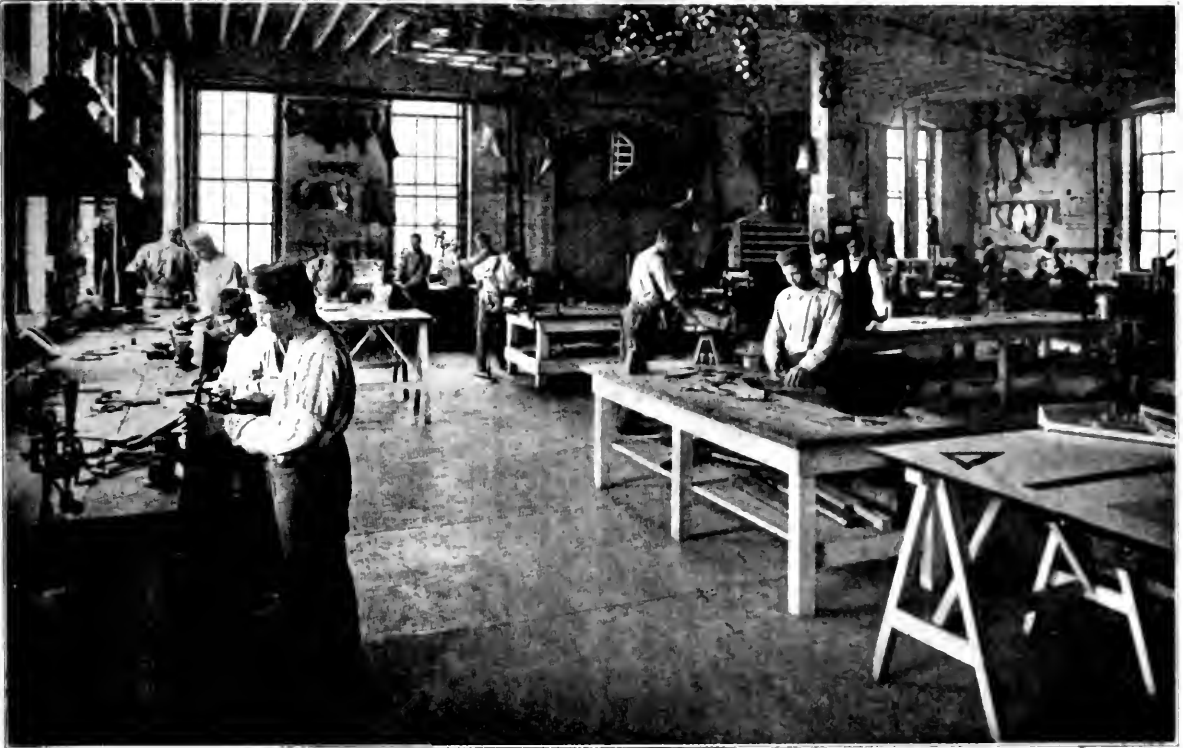
Commenting upon giving the boys the recreation periods and the other advantages which they are now enjoying, Superintendent Graves, speaking from his several months' experience, says:

"I contend that the inauguration of a recreation hour for Sunday afternoons assists in maintaining the health of the inmates, uplifts them morally, makes gentlemen of them and teaches them the value of self control.

and a more orderly bunch of boys cannot well be found anywhere.

Early in Superintendent Graves' administration, he told the boys that there were many things in store for them but that he could not feed them the new privileges faster than they could digest them. He told them that he expected soon to arrange so that good conduct and honest and efficient work in the various departments would be considered in calculating a reduction of time.

"I propose," said the Superintendent, "that



Art Craft and Sheet Metal Shop, Pontiac Reformatory

"I find that since the inauguration of this system, the boys no longer pace back and forth in their cells at night, and that, when the hour for going to bed comes, they lie down in peaceful slumber."

All boys whose conduct is good have the advantage of the athletic sports. Those who do not properly control themselves are denied the Saturday afternoon and the Sunday recreation. So far, less than three per cent have been denied the recreation privileges. Since this new plan of administration was adopted, there has been hardly a violation of the rules of the institution

there shall be an efficiency marking, which will enable you to show that you are not considering making good time only, but that you mean to work faithfully and strive earnestly to learn your trade and to be proficient in your work and study, whether you are in the yard gang, the machine or chair shop, the school or any department of the institution. It is up to you to see that nothing is done to prevent the success of any of the many good plans that have already been put into effect, and that are to be put into effect in the future."

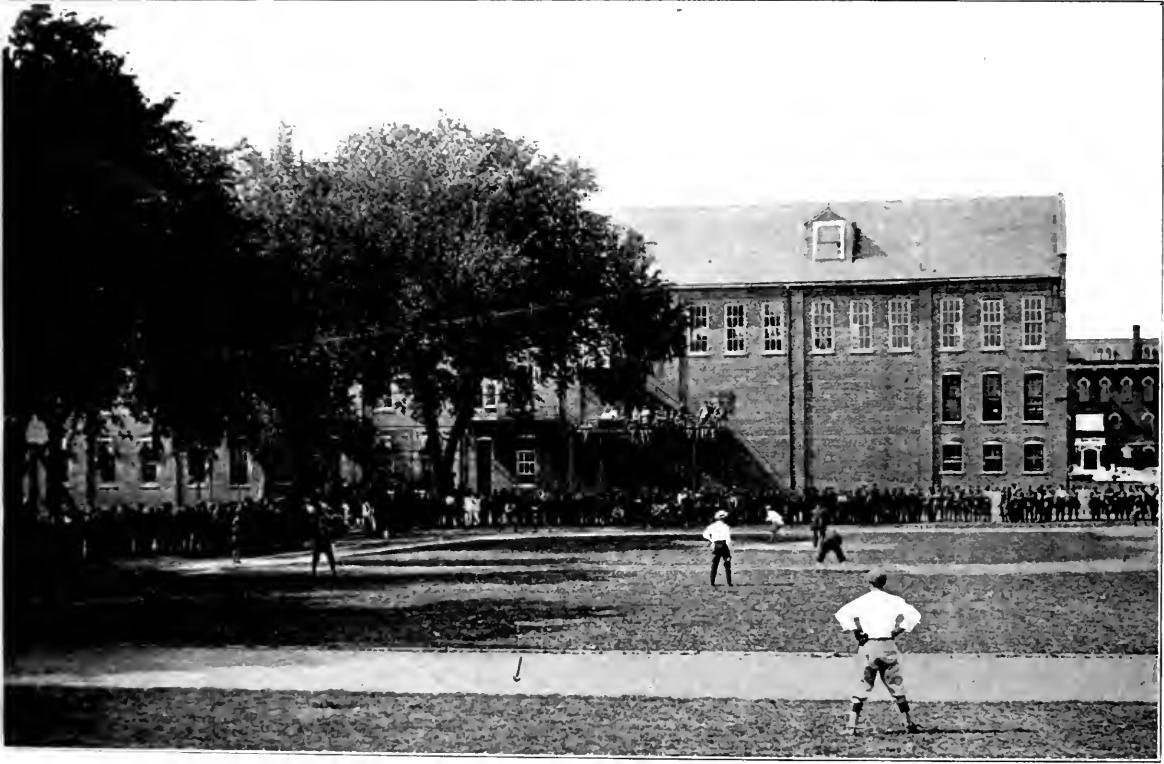
Superintendent Graves told the boys that he adopted the same principles for himself that he asked them to adopt and said that they must all together work out the new and better conditions which all are hoping for.

"If I make a mistake," said the Superintendent, "it will be a mistake of the head and not of the heart and when I do make a mistake, I expect to be manly and gentlemanly enough to correct my mistake; you boys likewise should cultivate an adherence to this principle. If you have been troublesome in any way to the officer in charge,

boys had been on Sunday enjoying your recreation and that I had put you on your honor and that you had not betrayed the trust."

Superintendent Graves is very hopeful of what the new method of handling the boys will do both for their conduct while in the institution and in helping to grow in them the qualities of good citizenship for after life.

With several months' actual trial of the policies he has adopted, he is more fully confirmed than ever in his belief that they are correct policies. He gives his conclusion as to the efficacy



Fiber and Reed Building and Base Ball Diamond, Pontiac Reformatory.

or to the court which hears the complaints against you, go to the officer and apologize, as any man of honor should."

These principles, laid down at the beginning, have been well lived up to during the succeeding months; so well that Superintendent Graves' report in his addresses at other institutions of what his boys are doing, has opened the way for other institutions to grant to their boys recreation privileges also. The Superintendent in reporting to the boys his visits to the other institutions said:

"I explained how gentlemanly and manly you

of the plan he is pursuing, in the following words:

"The one feature of recreation has done wonders with the boys of the institution. It seems almost impossible that the state of Illinois should have allowed these boys to be housed here year after year without giving them any way for natural exercise. It is hard to realize that such is the actual fact. We now give the boys recreation one hour each working day with a half holiday on Saturdays and also a period for play on Sunday afternoons.

"The result is that grievous immoral offenses have been reduced fifty per cent. There is also a remarkable improvement in the boys' health. Our records will show that our sick calls have been reduced amazingly.

"In the last few months we have put the entire institution under a military system with the officers chosen from among the boys themselves. They manage their own drilling and have complete control of their organization. In this and in the part they take in managing the Y. M. C. A. meetings, the boys are being schooled in the ways of self-government.

"Although one hour a day out of the regular time for work is spent in recreation, more work is being done in our factories and in all departments than ever before. Also the boys are more apt in learning their trades than they had been previously.

"The percentage of the boys who, under this system, have made and are making good, is and will be most remarkable.

"Instead of a boy's now going out of the institution crestfallen and sore at the officers here and at the institution itself, they go out with a new hope, with no ill feeling and with the idea that they have really been benefited by being here."

The net result of introducing the honor system into the Pontiac reformatory, as shown by a careful examination of each boy's record since the new system has been put into effect, is that ninety per cent. of the boys of the institution are now on the honor role, which means that ninety per cent. of the inmates are responding to the new method of treatment.

The honor role of the reformatory is published each month in the *Pioneer*. The role includes those who have lost no time during the preceding month, who have shown themselves to be diligent and efficient in their work, earnest in their studies, and faithful in the attempt to learn a trade.

The great demonstration being made at the Pontiac reformatory, is that human welfare can be worked out far more rapidly and more satisfactorily by opening opportunity for the good in man, than by stopping with a policy that only represses the evil. The way of the transgressor must be made hard but also the way of the

faithful must be made correspondingly easy. Right and truth must be taught and practiced. Young men must be helped to experience that which is just and honorable, so that they may come to know its worth and to desire it.

LETTERS OF INTEREST

GOOD NEWS FROM THE JOLIET HONOR FARM

The following letter from Mr. Bert H. Faltz, superintendent of the Joliet Honor Farm, indicates a satisfactory measure of success at the farm. The conduct of the honor prisoners encourages the hope that the next legislature will amend the present laws so as to make long-time men eligible for work on the roads of Illinois. The letter is but one more evidence that the administration and the prisoners at Joliet can prove their claim that our first year with the honor camps has been the most successful first year experienced by any of the prisons in the country where the honor system of working prisoners outside the walls has been tried.

The letter follows:

Lockport, Ill., September 15, 1914.

Editor THE JOLIET PRISON POST:

We are now in a period between Summer and Fall and are making preparations for next year. The corn is beginning to mature and if conditions remain favorable we will have a bumper crop. We have four hundred acres in corn. The stand is good, the ears are well filled and it would be hard to find a better cultivated or a cleaner field. We have baled twenty tons of straw which has been delivered to the prison stable. We have harvested twenty acres of sweet corn of which fifteen tons have been delivered to the prison kitchen. For the past few weeks we have been hauling and spreading manure.

The new tractor engine and plows have been at the fall plowing for the past few weeks and have so far turned under three hundred acres. Much faster headway could have been made if the fields were advantageously laid out, so as to give longer stretches for the tractor and plows, as considerable time is consumed in turning about an outfit of this kind. This will be rectified next year when the farm is properly plotted.

We shall soon start digging late potatoes.

A new sanitary bath house with shower baths for the men has been erected and soon will be in operation.

We are now making arrangements for putting in a mile and a half switch track on the farm. The necessary equipment will be purchased and the work will all be done by the prisoners.

Recently eleven new recruits have arrived to take the place of the men whose time has expired. They have been placed at work with the boys who have already proven their efficiency and by following their example the new arrivals will soon become full fledged farmers. The new men have taken hold with the right spirit. A feeling of good fellowship prevails throughout the entire company, and it is manifestly the aim of every one of the 53 men to do right. The discipline could not be better.

Very respectfully,

BERT H. FALTZ,
Superintendent.



A FORMER PRISONER WHO LIVED TO BE HONORED

A letter which is full of human interest was recently received by Assistant Deputy Warden Michael J. Kane from Mr. Arthur C. McClaughry, who is the son of Major Robert W. McClaughry a former warden of this prison and also a former superintendent at the reformatory at Pontiac and who recently was warden at the Federal prison at Leavenworth. This letter was prompted by the death of Sidney W. Wetmore, a former prisoner here, who after his release was appointed an officer at this institution.

Major McClaughry was warden at this prison from 1874 to 1888 and again from 1896 to 1899. Mr. Wetmore was serving a term here at the time Major McClaughry became warden in 1874. When Mr. Arthur C. McClaughry first knew Wetmore the latter was a prisoner working in the office of the chief clerk, which office corresponded to the present office of general accountant.

The letter shows how humanly interested Wetmore was in others, his loyalty to his benefactor, Major McClaughry, and the different positions of responsibility which he held after he was discharged from the prison, and shows that it is not impossible for a man who has been convicted

to make good, even where it is known that he has been a prisoner.

The letter follows:

September 12, 1914.

Dear Captain Kane:

I am just in receipt of the enclosed postal card from my father, announcing the death of Sidney W. Wetmore at the State Reformatory in Anamosa, Iowa, last Wednesday morning.

The old guards and officers around the prison will remember "Sid Wetmore," as we all called him.

When our family arrived in Joliet in the Summer of 1874, Sid Wetmore was a prisoner in Gallus Muller's office. He was a telegraph operator and kept the "check rolls," etc. I was a lad of six, and in the evenings I used to slip away from mother and go down to the office and sit on his knee while he told me thrilling and weird tales of Indian fighting and hunting bears and all the things that make a kid happy.

I was too young to appreciate how serious the future must have looked to him then, but I was old enough to know that he was anxious and worried about something. His term was about to expire and he had no job in view. He was seriously handicapped by having only one arm; he was not a bookkeeper nor an office man, nor did he know anything at that time about photography; telegraph operators were chiefly employed as railroad ticket agents and had to handle large sums of money, and he knew his record would be against his getting a position of that kind; so he was "up against it" pretty hard, and no wonder he was worried. Up to that time, no prisoner had ever been retained in the employ of the prison at Joliet, after his discharge, if my memory serves me rightly, and "Sid" had no thought of such a thing.

Probably you can imagine his delight when, the day before his term was up, father asked him to remain and serve as telegraph operator and assistant clerk. I have seen few men whose faces shone with delight as his did. I remember the day he first wore the citizen's suit, and how happy he was as the officers, guards, contractors and prisoners dropped in and shook his hand and congratulated him on his "good luck."

He showed his appreciation and gratitude through all these forty years by his devotion to father and his affection for our family. When

we moved to Huntingdon, Pa., in 1888, he soon followed; when we came back to Chicago in 1891 he came with us; when father went to Pontiac I think he was there for a time, but anyhow, when we went back to Joliet in 1897 he joined us there again. I do not think he went to Leavenworth; he remained with Warden Murphy for a time and resigned to travel over the United States with a lecturer and to show his stereopticon views of the Joliet prison. Finally he went to the reformatory at Anamosa, where my brother Charles is Warden, and held a position in that institution until his death.

Wetmore was enthusiastic and untiring in his efforts to secure amusement and entertainment for the prisoners way back in the early 80's. I think it was he that first suggested giving the boys a theatrical performance in the chapel on Christmas day, and father adopted his suggestion and commissioned him to arrange for it. Then he and old Captain Miller, the chief engineer of the prison, put their heads together and designed and built a stage in the chapel; he looked after the decorations, designed programs and looked after numberless details, and at the same time corresponded with theatrical agencies throughout the country to secure a good "troupe" of some kind for that day. The State could not afford to pay for a company to come to the prison for that one performance, so "Sid" arranged for the company to secure the Joliet theater for Christmas night, and this enabled it to accept what the prison could pay for a special performance in the chapel on Christmas morning.

The first performance was the side-splitting Irish farce-comedy, "Muldoon's Picnic." The boys nearly tore the roof off the old chapel building with their shouts of laughter and applause, and moreover they broke up the performance repeatedly. The actors and actresses were so tender-hearted and emotional that the sight of the big audience of men, all in striped clothes, so unnerved them that most of them broke down behind the scenes and between acts and cried like children; but when they were performing on the stage the yells of laughter from the men so upset their self-control that they had to stop and laugh with their audience. And so they passed, from dressing rooms to footlights and from crying to laughter. Several of the actresses were hysterical by the time the show ended.

The performance was scheduled to run about two hours, but the boys encored everything and broke up the play so often that it ran over three. Mr. Leland, the purchasing agent and chief steward of the prison, had provided a hot turkey dinner for the men, with all the "trimmin's" that go with it, and was ready to serve it when the show was supposed to let out, consequently he was running around like a crazy man because dinner was ready and would spoil if it were not eaten at once. Father got up and announced to the boys that a hot turkey dinner was awaiting them, but if they did not stop calling for encores and let the show go to a finish, the company would have to cut out part of the play or else the boys would have to eat a cold dinner. Instantly, one of the men with a fog horn voice yelled, "We'd rather have cold turkey, anyhow!" and the boys cheered and roared their approval. The show went on, the boys demanded encore after encore, and they got everything they demanded. Mr. Leland hustled the grub back to the kitchen and kept it warm, and they got their hot turkey dinner with all the "trimmin's" after all.

Everybody knew that "Sid" Wetmore was largely responsible for that great treat and he was the hero of the hour. It was the beginning of the holiday entertainments in your prison, and it was a beginning of a change in prison methods and discipline which was the forerunner of the broad humanitarian methods that are in vogue in your institution today. The Governor and Commissioners and a lot of people outside were afraid that it would be a dangerous thing to do, that the prisoners would take advantage of it and raise "rough house" or break out into a riot of some kind, but Wetmore argued to my father that there would be no risk, that the men would not take advantage of the treat but that they would appreciate it and probably show their appreciation by better conduct for months to come. And he was right—absolutely right; there was a marked improvement in the conduct and discipline; the men saw that something had been done for them; it was something tangible; it was a performance and not a promise; they had received a great treat that meant much to them, and it was up to them to make good on their part by showing their appreciation and the best way they could do that was by obeying the rules

more cheerfully and willingly. They did make good, too. The experiment was a great success. The sullen attitude and suspicious watchfulness of both the prisoners and the guards began to relax from that time on. I don't mean to say that Wetmore saw all that would result from that experiment—no one could see that far ahead—but he knew from his own experience as a prisoner that that kind of a show would be a great treat for the men, and he felt intuitively that the men would show their appreciation in every way that they could, so as to get more treats of the same kind.

Ordinarily it is not a good thing for a prison to employ a former prisoner in an official capacity; it is a delicate position for a man to fill; he is apt to be suspected by both officers and prisoners as being on one side or the other; but "Sid" Wetmore proved equal to the task and gained the good will and confidence and respect of officers and prisoners and of the citizens of Joliet.

He was honest and straightforward in all his dealings, he earned and deserved the confidence placed in him, he performed every trust faithfully and efficiently. He was tender-hearted as a woman, and generous to a fault. His example was an inspiration to many a man who was serving a prison sentence. There was no sham or hypocrisy about him; he did not pretend to be better than he was, and I think that he was a better man than he pretended to be. The world—especially the prison world—is better for his having lived.

Yours sincerely,
ARTHUR C. McCLAUGHRY,
305 Manhattan Building,
Chicago.

To Captain Michael J. Kane,
Illinois State Prison,
Joliet, Illinois.

BOOKS

"Songs of the Underworld," by Clem Yore; illustrated by O. Irwin Myers and H. Alyn Weston: Charles C. Thompson Co., Chicago. These poems are artistically bound in paper cover, sixty-two pages. Price not given.

In the foreword the author says: "I wrote these verses in the hope that I might prevent

some person from making the journey to the Slough of Sighs, where souls are lost and minds are cast away—and to give hope to some who, marooned, view with tearful eyes our ships sail past their isle of woe." From "The Underworld":

This is a yarn of the Underworld,
The woeful, weary, Underworld—
Shrivelled and shrunken, sinful, core.
Drivelled and drunken; cancerous sore.
The entrance place to the pits of hell—
Where hopeless, hapless harpies dwell,
The Underworld.

"The Man About Town":

In the gray dawn of a bleak, wet day,
A man about town in a casket lay.

When

In came a maid, with downcast eye,
Stifled moans and anguished cry,
Glanced at the brow so broad and fair,
She seemed to prove the man did care.
Her eyes were dimmed as she went away,
"He caused her sin," she heard them say.

The author does not see that conventional ideas quite compass the facts of life. He questions if, after all, there should be as much condemnation as there is:

Is it well to curse them living,
When their only crime is giving
Way to the imps that lurk within?
Their every act is not a sin.
They all are weak, who makes them so?
Does prince or prelate really know?

Two poems are, "Two Natures Struggling Within Me," and "The Beast That Follows Me."

"Down at the Corner" tells the story of the waste of child life:

Down at the corner, the poisonous corner
Where children love to go;
This is the spot, the red hot spot
Where Satan's tapers glow;
This is the place, the luring place,
Primer of vice and woe.

Other poems are "The Women Who Walk," "The Harlot's Farewell," "The Friend of the Underdog," "The Locket of Ashes."

All of the poems have a rich human quality and they show that under sombre cover the underworld has the beating human heart, the hope for peace, for something from this life.

The entrance place of the pits of hell—
Where hopeless, hapless, harpies dwell,
The Underworld.

CONTRIBUTIONS

SOME OBSERVATIONS

By James Leonard

A Prisoner

The present honor system is a splendid thing. The time is bound to come when Illinois will stand in the front line with other progressive states; she is already forging rapidly ahead. The life term men are hoping for the enactment of a law which will allow them to work on the roads; also for the enactment of a parole law for life men.

To attain the good things which have been promised us or which we desire, we must support the hands of the Warden. He has announced that he will meet us half way. We all know that he is striving earnestly to do what he can.

Only a few men at the camps and the honor farm have broken their pledge. That these acts have injured the cause, none will question. My advice to those men who are privileged to work out in the open, and who at the same time lack full faith in themselves, is to declare themselves then and there. Let them throw down the pick or shovel and ask the keeper to bring them back. The Warden will give them credit for such action. They will not return as weaklings, either.

The other day a fellow told me of an unpleasant argument that he had with his wife in the visiting room. To my mind, there seems to be no excuse for relating an incident of this kind. The men should keep their troubles to themselves. Very often, it is the wife, sister or mother who carry the greater burden, who endure the greater sorrow. Visiting day should be the brightest day in the life of the man behind the walls. Men with homes and children should not expect to be cheered up on these occasions. They should send forth cheer; that at least is their duty and should be their delight.

What changes have occurred during the last two years! We can recall with a shudder the deaf and dumb system that was then in vogue. The memory of those days can not be easily obliterated.

A VOICE FROM THE RANKS

By Emil Guentert

A Prisoner

In the August issue of THE JOLIET PRISON Post you published a letter from me and I thank you for the explanation you give. I was afraid at first that all would not understand it, but you make it plain. I shall now work with even more zeal to get the boys on the right side.

I am in a position where I can do a great deal of good, because I am brought in contact with nearly every one in my department. Of the large number of men with whom I am directly associated very few have violated the rules. During the present administration we have had but one fight.

I will mention a personal experience. A fellow reached for a hammer and wanted to hit me because he failed to receive the material he wanted. I explained that the material was not in stock. When I saw that my explanation failed to satisfy him I walked away and made a point of staying away during the remainder of the day.

The next morning I went and spoke to the fellow. I asked him what he would have gained had he fought me yesterday. I told him he would have been put into the solitary and, later, would have worn the zebra suit. I told him that he would have done more than this; he would have broken his word of honor and he would have hurt every man in the institution. This was all said in a laughing, joking sort of way. Later, he held out his hand and thanked me. "I see it all now," said he, "but I could not see it yesterday."

Since that day no one has experienced the slightest trouble with him.

Some of the men are complaining that certain privileges are denied them; that all men are being held responsible for what a few do. These are matters that should be brought up at the honor meetings. The shop is no place for the discussion of these things. Yet, there seems to be a number of men who lack the nerve to speak openly and in public; in the shops these same men are orators.

To return to the subject of privileges, how can the innocent man be protected and the full burden of punishment be shifted upon the shoulders of the guilty, where it belongs?

I have come to the conclusion that we must look into existing conditions which are indirectly responsible for this state of affairs. Should a new man be allowed to sign the honor pledge at once? I think not. There should be a probationary period of at least three months. The new man seldom looks at the honor system seriously. He does not realize what it means to the men, some of whom have spent years under the hard and rigid rule of former administrations. It is not our prerogative to reprimand the new men; if we should attempt to interfere we would, in the average case, be drawn into a quarrel.

It seems to me a wise thing to endeavor to keep a grade clean. The good and the evil must be separated, for it is generally conceded that the influence of evil is stronger than the influence of good. What a delightful thing it would be to have a new grade composed of men who have never been punished; what an appeal it would have to the new man whose intentions are good.

Coming to the fountain head of all the trouble that may be experienced in this institution, the blame most often can be laid to the parents of the men—to the very door of home itself. As boys, these men roamed idly around the streets until their fifteenth or sixteenth year, often staying out until after midnight. They were, in most instances, seldom reprimanded by their parents. If some mischief was reported to the father or mother an attitude, either indifferent or defiant, was assumed towards the complainant. Their boy was a good boy, much better than their neighbor's boy. In this way the downward progress began.

We can, of course, also trace the source of trouble to lack of education, but lack of parental rule is the indirect cause. The ignorance in this place is appalling. I have met American born men here who can be made to believe that Colorado is a kingdom. This class of men—fortunately a small class—usually know where Pontiac and other reform institutions are.

Let it not be inferred that it is my desire to teach anything to my superiors. I have simply made a few suggestions which, if put into practice, will, in my humble opinion, prove advantageous to the men of this community.

ENCOURAGEMENT

By W. R.

A Prisoner

I want to sound a word of encouragement to my fellow inmates. The Warden has demonstrated that he has faith in us. The farm and the road camps testify to this fact. The guards are no longer seen at the chapel services. There are many more changes and it makes my heart rejoice to see them.

I regret to say that this is not my first term in this institution. I am glad to say that I have never before received such good treatment. Let us all endeavor to have faith in ourselves. Let us all do something for ourselves by helping the administration, thereby proving our worth to the world which is watching us.



BEYOND THE BARRIERS

By H. M.

A Prisoner

Here within the walls misfortunes and anxieties lose half their power if met and resisted with true fortitude. For where fortitude dwells, must also be loyalty, forbearance, friendship.

Duty is the first thing that must be faced; and man cannot choose his duties. Duty, after all, is what goes most against the grain, because one is seldom praised for that which it is imperative for one to do.

And there is always a hope that springs from duty.

Hope is the best possession. The most completely wretched are those without hope. Seldom are such men found in prison.

In reformatory and penitentiary, hope is the silver lining to the present cloud. Hope is always liberal. Human life has not a surer friend. She is an antidote to the miseries of mankind, and though she may not always give that which she has promised, there can be no progress, no endeavor, except for those who gather beneath the spread of her golden wings.

And hope deals with the future.

In this place men are confined to very narrow limits. The sunrise and the sunset are but pictures of memory. The sky-line is never seen. Even the ridge of the hills is hidden from sight.

Yet, in spirit, the men are far away. Their hopes concern the future; their dreams are often visions of the far beyond.

Meanwhile, as prisoners go about their duty; as hope springs from the faithful performance of duty; as the future, through hope, glows warm of friends, of home and love, that never-resting something called Time, the measurer of all things, rolls on swiftly, silently. And as it rolls on, the men here will ever look beyond the barriers; this narrow domain will not enchain them; they will traverse again and again those paths that wind to the things of the heart's desire.



A WARNING

By Peter Van Vlissingen

A Prisoner

Most men have mistaken ideas with regard to the proposition of punishing some men for the acts of others, in that they think it is always unjust. There is no such thing as abstract justice. That would mean perfection, and the human race has not yet achieved perfection in anything.

When I was a boy I attended a country school where the boys thought it great sport to play all kinds of tricks on the management and they would stick together and prevent the faculty or teachers from finding the culprits. This was brought to an end by punishing all of the pupils. After that there was peace except for the grumbling by those who thought it was wrong to punish all for the acts of a few. I do not say that was abstract justice, but I insist that the end justified the means.

When some of the soldiers of a regiment of the United States army "shot up" the town of Brownsville, Texas, Theodore Roosevelt, then President, did all in his power to find out who were guilty, but the understanding among the men was so thorough that he was defeated. He then decided that a regiment that would back up a few of its members in so serious a breach of discipline was unfit for the service of Uncle Sam and he disbanded the entire regiment, regardless of the fact that many men who had records of long and honorable service and who probably were without guilty knowledge before

and after the fact, were discharged with the rest and that they, in consequence, lost their prospects of retirement under part pay or pension, which ever of the two it may have been. This was not abstract justice and yet I contend it was the correct thing to do.

There are men in this prison who will complain loudly if their privileges are interfered with for an infraction of the rules unless they are actually caught with the goods and make a voluntary confession. Everything short of this they insist is injustice. If these fallacies were recognized by the officials the prison would require about three officers to every inmate so that they could take turns in relieving one another while watching their man. This proposition is too absurd for serious consideration. Every honestly inclined warden should be very reluctant to mete out punishment to men who have not been absolutely convicted, yet no warden should hesitate to maintain discipline at all cost, though in the matter of meting out punishment it sometimes becomes necessary to take long chances or close the eyes entirely.

A number of years ago in this prison a warden was greatly annoyed by shouting in the cell houses which was resorted to upon every occasion when there was any unusual ground for displeasure. I distinctly remember one occasion when the quarry lines were brought in early because the weather was threatening. This caused dissatisfaction, as the men naturally hated to go to their cells. Their disapproval was expressed in cat calls and hoots which were destined for and did reach the warden's office. The individuals who created the disturbance were all cowards, because as the officers went by to learn who made the remonstrances they kept still and this permitted suspicion to fall upon those who took no part in the disturbance. Would any one say that under such circumstances a warden would have been wrong in taking some of the privileges away from all of the men in the quarry for a long period of time? I believe that if such an occasion occurred in this prison at this time and if it were impossible to locate the culprits by reason of their cowardly acts that the warden would suspend recreation in the quarry for a period of sixty days after each demonstration.

LEST WE FORGET

By Lloyd Baldwin

A Prisoner

The sun drops low in the West and the night approaches. The prisoners feel a peace stealing over them; that passiveness of mind, heart and body in which they commune with those they love, fight with those they hate, in which they live again the events of their lives; that state in which dreams predominate.

Picture in the distant center of the canvas the prison, built of heavy stone, barred of window. To the right, to the left and in the foreground, picture its inmates with their battles of passion and love; the disappointments, fear, anguish and resultant struggles.

See in a distant home a son embracing his mother, love tears in the eyes of each; yonder, orange-blossoms and bridal veil crushed by the iron hand of fate; children caressing again the lost one; the father with his labor of love, the mother with fondest joy; even the gambler with his cards, the scientist with his tools.

Blend these into one vast picture—vast beyond the hand of the greatest artist—so that it can only exist in your mind as a dream.



BEGINNING AT THE ROOT

By Harry Pattison

A Prisoner

From personal experience, I have come to the conclusion that the criminal tendencies which are responsible for the filling of this and other institutions can be traced largely to early environment. The men were neglected during the impressionable age of boyhood; they have likewise, in numerous instances, been the object of inhuman treatment from indifferent parents. Throughout the period of adolescence there was that chord of harshness which had a tendency to incite rebellion and to dull the intellectual and physical growth of the individual.

Such a condition in society should not be offered as an excuse for crime, and convicted men should not look for the sympathy of society because they themselves have been the unfortunate victims of such conditions.

But the condition illustrates the power for

evil that springs from brutal methods, undue severity and negligence on the part of parents or guardians.

May the day soon dawn when every home in the land, no matter how poor, no matter how cheerless or barren of life's necessities, will observe those sacred rights which are the natural heritage of every child.

From that day will begin the depopulation of reformatories and penitentiaries; from that day will dawn the new era of right living and clean thinking.



COMPENSATION FOR PRISONERS

By Hugh Manyte

A Prisoner

In the partial adoption of the compensation system for prisoners at this prison, it occurs to me that the administration has gone a long way towards teaching prisoners habits of industry. From observation, I have come to the belief that energy has been aroused amongst those men who have been granted the wage earning privilege, even though the amount earned does not average five dollars per month per man.

The compensation system in this institution is only an experiment. Let us hope that there will be legislation along these lines, so that in time every inmate required to work will receive a remuneration sufficient to encourage him to work and save, so that upon his release he will have at his disposal a sum which would afford an opening for an honest start in life.



WAKE UP

By E. Westman

A Prisoner

Any man who has brains enough to be a successful criminal, has certainly the makeup in him of a successful man of business.

The criminal, it must be taken into consideration, has the finest brains in the world working against him. So he is on his guard, but ever dreaming, dreaming about that "big haul" that he is going to make some day.

When we come to look into statistics, about one-half of the natural life of this type of man is spent within prison walls. And within the

walls he is still dreaming of and scheming for that "big haul."

Are you built on similar lines?

If so, wake up before it is too late. If you are numbered in that category of brainy people, you should be able to reason things out for yourself; to solve your own salvation. Get into the business or industrial world where you belong. It may come a little hard at first, but it's the safe way.

If, in your opinion, you are classified with those who lack a natural cleverness, stop in your mad gallop and think it over. You would make a bum criminal, anyhow.

If you have brains, reason it out before it is yet too late; if you are like myself, not particularly brilliant, wake up, just the same.



REVELATIONS OF THE PAST

By Frank Matson

A Prisoner

Say, boys, did the thought ever strike you of the changes a few years can bring?

Last year, up at old Saratoga, I was happy and rich as a king.

I was raking in pools at the races and tipping with five spot and ten,

And sipping mint julep at twilight—but today, I am here in the pen.

What led me to do it? What always leads men to destruction and crime?

'Tis the prodigal son tale repeated, tho' he's altered somewhat in his time.

Of his substance he spends quite as freely as the biblical fellow of old;

Persuaded, when wealth has departed, that the husks will transform into gold.

Champagne and a box at the opera; the high steps while fortune was flush;

The passionate kisses of women whose cheeks cannot burn with a blush.

The same olden story of pleasure, its last chapter which closes in tears;

The froth that foams forth for a moment; the dregs which are tasted for years.

Oft, oft on my couch I will ponder o'er my life and its weak, shallow ways;

Again I will live through the hours that wove all of youth's golden days.

And I smile should the phantom scenes linger, though I see them through hot, flowing tears;

Though I tread in Remorse's dominion when I leap o'er the chasm of years.



EXEMPLAR

By George Fee

A Prisoner

Tho' in my journey long
Through shadows dark I grope,
Upon my lips—a song;
Within my heart—a hope.

Though I may stumble oft,
'Tis but to rise again;
With weary eyes aloft,
Unheeding of the pain.

For o'er the briar and stone
That in my pathway lie,
One journeyed, too, alone;
One suffered more than I.



"OUT ON THE HILL"

By Hugh Manyte

A Prisoner

When low at last had run the sand,
When whispers came in painful breath,
No mother held the wasted hand
Or closed the tired eyes in death;
No last hot kiss, no burning tears
Rebuked the evil of the years.

No last and longing look was paid
While in the casket rude he lay;
No fragrant wreath was gently laid
To speak the love of yesterday;
And in the morn's forbidding chill
They sought the grave "out on the hill."

"Out on the hill," the ancient name
That through the restless years has clung,
Where, wrapped within their shroud of shame,
The friendless sleep—unmourned, unsung;
But who may hear the trumpet's blow
Is not for man, but God to know.

THE RECALL

By Hugh Manyte

A PRISONER

N O T H E R E are extant instances on record where escaped honor prisoners have been prompted by conscience to return to prison and where of their own volition they did so. Such an instance as this is of recent occurrence at this institution.

Deep, deep within the night's protecting shade
He creeps with stealthy tread,
Well knowing that the sacred trust betrayed
A stain repulsive on his life has made,
And honor forfeited.
On, on he flees no open road to choose;
On, on, while Fear relentlessly pursues,
And Failure mocks ahead.

And though the night strikes terror in his soul,
He dreads the flush of morn;
He sees his watching enemies patrol
The wide, wide world, its every gate control—
Its every outpost warn;
He shrinks at beck'ning shadows hov'ring near,
As from the gloom his former comrades peer,
Their eyes aflame with scorn.

With open shame his fevered glances rest
Upon the fair white bar
That doth to strength and manliness attest—
The emblem, pinned in faith upon his breast,
That shineth like a star;
Whose princely legend he until the end
Had vowed to keep, had vowed to e'er defend
From infamy's foul scar.

He halts; and yet the dreaded torch's glow
Flares not against the night;
No speeding bullet lays the body low;
No shout exultant from pursuing foe
Has stayed the madd'ning flight;
Yet, lo, he turns, his footsteps to retrace,
As purpose, new born, floods the weary face,
And points it to the light.

To that new light he lifts his tired eyes,
Nor yieldeth to look down;
And speeding on, in fancy he descrys
The prison towers, like a menace rise,
And o'er him darkly frown:
Lo, as the sounding of the soul's deep call
Impels him on, the fairest gem of all
Is set in Honor's crown!

REVIEWS

"THE THIRD DEGREE"

In many cities the police have administered the "third degree" to exact confessions from men who are suspected and accused of crime.

It has been generally conceded that this practice is brutal and it is known that the confessions thus obtained are always unreliable. Innocent men, at times, confess to crimes to save themselves from further beating and from other forms of coercion.

The Georgia senate has passed a bill making it unlawful for the police or other persons to subject prisoners to any of that kind of treatment.

The Pueblo, Colo., *Star-Journal*, commenting on Georgia's action, says:

"The third degree is a relic of barbarism and ought to be banished from the police administrations in every state in the union. The third degree is used on the theory that every prisoner is guilty and that a confession must be forced from him regardless of the methods employed to secure it.

"Under the third degree inhuman treatment of prisoners is the prevailing practice. When a suspect reaches the limit of his endurance a confession is naturally forthcoming in order to stop the torture. The result is that many persons are compelled to confess to crimes of which they are innocent. Even if a prisoner is guilty, the use of barbarous methods is inexcusable.

"Those responsible for the detection of crime and the punishment of criminals ought to find other methods for securing evidence than brutally forcing it from stubborn prisoners. Public opinion strongly condemns the third degree and its only defenders are the police officials who cling to ancient ideas. The third degree should be discarded everywhere and those who persist in employing it should be punished by the severest of penalties."

Judge John B. Winslow, chief justice of the supreme court of Wisconsin, expresses his disapproval of the practice of enforcing confessions and says that in place of such confessions the accused person should be put upon the stand and questioned freely.

He thinks this will more surely bring out the real truth. Judge Winslow says:

"Extorted confessions are notoriously unre-

liable and I would not compel a defendant to answer by force or undue pressure, but I would put him where he may be questioned. If he prefers not to answer, the court should be at liberty to draw all natural inferences from his silence."

The "third degree" will be championed by policemen so long as ignorant men remain on the force. The recommendation attributed to Judge Winslow involves an amendment to the United States Constitution.



PRISON LABOR CONTRACTS EXPIRING

The general tendency in the states of the Union is to abandon the contract labor system when present contracts expire; but in the passing from contract to some other form of prison labor, some states are experiencing great difficulty.

Stark county, Ohio, is facing the requirement of providing employment for its prisoners, although one contract with the Worcester Wire Novelty Company does not expire for two years. Prosecutor H. C. Pontius is leading the consideration of the question.

A statute passed in 1908 provides that the prisoners of the state shall be employed to produce supplies for state institutions or for political divisions thereof.

The county workhouse grounds are not of sufficient acreage for farming purposes; the gardening done already employs all the men that can be used.

"There must be some definite plan arranged," says the Alliance, Ohio, *Leader*, "in order to take care of these prisoners when the indoor industry is forced to end."

At present the workhouse is self-supporting.

A lime-stone quarry and also a brick manufacturing plant have been suggested. The expense of installing these is considered a serious question with the county. County Commissioner Cyrus Stoner says:

"Something must be provided. The workhouse will be a burden on the county unless something of the sort is done. We made no levy for that institution this year because it is self-supporting under the present arrangement."

A "serious problem" also confronts the State Board of Control of Nebraska, where prison

contract labor is coming to an end and where the legislature has not provided money for the installation of state factories.

Nebraska has about three hundred and fifty prisoners. A contract with a broom manufacturer provides for employment for from one hundred twenty five to one hundred fifty men. It is arranged that the contractor shall continue to employ about one hundred men and that the number shall be gradually reduced until only fifty are employed when the contract shall cease. A binder twine plant has been considered but for this an appropriation of \$3,500 is necessary.

The Lincoln, Nebraska, *State Journal* reports the statement of the Board of Control, composed of Judge Holcomb, Judge Kennedy and Henry Gardes, in which the board says:

"The board is endeavoring, although it is handicapped in many ways, to find employment for the largest possible number until all are given employment, but the conditions now are such as to render it impossible to do this and it will take some little time to work out the problem of finding suitable employment on the state's own account for all prisoners confined in the penitentiary."

The Indiana State Reformatory has a contract with the Indiana Manufacturing Company to act as selling agent for its supplies of hollow-ware, etc. This contract expires November 1, 1915.

The agreement with the company provides for the employment of three hundred inmates but a less number have been working. The labor unions have fought the agreement, seeking to have it annulled.

Superintendent Payson, of the reformatory, says:

"With the expiration of the agreement we will have to find other means of employment for a large number of our boys and young men who now are working in the foundry under a state's contract with the company. I long have advocated establishing a place where prisoners could be taught scientific farming, and we hope to bring the matter to a successful issue before the meeting of the next General Assembly in January, 1915."

A special committee appointed by the Missouri legislature has recommended that the system of contract labor be abandoned in that state.

The *Missouri Republic* says of the contract system:

"The system is approved only by those who look to the financial side of the problem of prison management. Students of penology are one and all against it. The states are giving it up and making conspicuous successes of other systems, under which prison authorities have full control of the prison and all its inmates. The most active supporters of the system are men who get rich by hiring men in prisons for less than they are worth and sell prison-made goods in competition with the products of better paid free labor.

"The whole contest over the contract-labor question is a contest of dollars against men and the taxpayer who favors the contract system is on the dollar side.

"But he is not wise here, even from the dollar viewpoint, so far as his interests are concerned. Running a prison in a way which increases the number of confirmed criminals is not good economy for taxpayers. Moreover, the contract system is not the only system under which a prison can be made to pay its way. The manufacture of goods in prisons by the state for the use of the state and public institutions of all kinds is one way of making a prison self-sustaining. Prisons can also pay their way by the use of the men in road work and by selling prison products directly to the state. But whatever the system may be, it is possible, where the state controls, to give emphasis to those reforming and humanizing influences which replace despair with hope and at least set the prisoners on the way to better things."

The *Louisville Courier-Journal* declares against contract labor in the following words:

"Kentucky has made some advance in recent years, but the contract labor system remains to be eliminated. This will be done in course of time. In other respects prison conditions in the state are better than ever before, but the administration of the prisons never can be what it ought to be so long as the demoralizing effects and influence of contract labor must be reckoned with by those who are charged with prison management."

Wisconsin State Reformatory has a contract for the manufacture of overalls which is soon to expire. The State Board of Control and Superintendent C. W. Bowron propose a new class of work.

"The new plan," says the *De Pere Democrat*, "is to have the prisoners make the clothing worn by the inmates of the insane asylums of the state. A study of what is needed in clothing

for the insane patients, the cost of manufacturing the articles and other expense matters in that connection is being made by the officials."

The Bridewell, Chicago, recently closed the contract system. The *Chicago News* makes this report:

"Contract labor gave its last gasp today at the house of correction. When the whistle blows tomorrow night the last 100 prisoners to be hired out to manufacturers will lay down their tools and with that act will go the spirit of subservience and the feeling of dejection that, Superintendent John L. Whitman says, is characteristic of all men when they feel that they are being exploited for the profit of others. For a new spirit reigns at the Bridewell; a spirit of co-operation and readiness to work that has worked a great change in the attitude of the men since the city council finally decided that contract labor had to go.

"Hereafter the prisoners will work for the city alone. No manufacturer will be able to sell the product of their labor. Their goods will be used on the public streets for the public good. Sweepers will handle the brooms, brushes and scrapers; men in white uniforms will push the galvanized iron carts that are to contain refuse.

"Street signs manufactured by the hands of men in the Bridewell will be used on the streets; printing material and books will see service in the city hall, and on every hand the municipal government will make use of the work of the men who are in prison because they abused their liberty."

There is a new spirit at the Bridewell. Compared with what used to be, the men work rapidly and cheerfully.

Superintendent Whitman says:

"I never saw anything like the change that this new system has brought in the men. See those fellows over there working on brooms? They are going at it as if they had done it all their lives and were getting a commission on each broom. They know for whom they are working now. Those brooms will help clean up the city hall and other buildings owned by the city, and not one of them will go out of here to compete with free labor in the market.

"This morning we received an order for forty dozen brooms from the city's business agent, and tonight they will go out of here. Every broom will be a new one, made today by our own labor.

"Take a look at these men and compare them with the fellows who are working in the leather goods factory just below us. There is a world of difference. Downstairs the men are still

under the contract system, the last group to be employed. Tomorrow the shop shuts down and they will work on the city's goods. Today they are doing their work perfunctorily, and that is the way they have done it here for the forty years that the contract labor system has been in use. After tomorrow there will be a big change."

Dr. Frank Moore, of the New Jersey Reformatory, says:

"The contract labor system is always a criminal-making as well as a commercial factory. We found this system in the New Jersey reformatory four years ago. It had made the inmates desperate. The sullen, furtive, dogged expression was on their faces, their conduct was desperate and their souls were hopeless. Since its discontinuance an entire change has come in their character. The rebellious spirit has entirely disappeared. The serious offense against discipline has become a thing of the past. An atmosphere of hope and cheer has come and an era of good feeling has dawned."



PRISONERS' APPRECIATION

A few days before Mr. M. L. Brown, who had been at the head of the West Virginia State Penitentiary, left that office to give place to Senator Mont White, his successor appointed by Governor Hatfield, the prisoners gave testimony of the esteem in which he was held. The *Clarksburg Telegram* says:

"An affecting scene was enacted in the state penitentiary here when the convicts were informed that M. L. Brown would no longer be at the head of that institution. Scores of the prisoners wept. The prisoners declare the Warden has exercised a sort of paternal relation toward them. He has made prison life endurable, they say, and has sent money to the families of many of them out of his own pocket."

Another instance of appreciation of a good officer was at the U. S. Penitentiary at Atlanta, Ga., when recently Deputy Warden Wilber Hawk closed his work there. An Atlanta newspaper describes the incident as follows:

"There is no doubt that Deputy Warden Hawk has made a record that, if not unique in prison history, has no parallel of which we know, for he leaves with the affections of the men he ruled with a firm but kindly authority. Not only has the federal prison lost a beneficent force, but the retirement of Mr. Hawk from the field deprives

prison reform of one of its most intelligent aids. His resignation led to a demonstration probably never before witnessed on the occasion of the retirement of a prison official. The news got around on Friday morning before any authorized statement had been made, and the effect on the men was remarkable. That it fell as a blow was evident. There was no opportunity for anything like an expression of sentiment or emotion until the evening meal hour, though a good many of the men found the chance to speak to the deputy at his office. Everyone had the desire to do something as an indication of his personal regret, but some of the leading spirits suggested that an appropriate act would be for each prisoner to give a military salute as he filed by the deputy, where he stood, in his accustomed post at the exit door. The first men going out did this; but it was not enough for some, and, impulsively, hands were thrust out for a handclasp. The emotion of the deputy changed from surprise to deep feeling; he was visibly affected. The men still seated, nearly 800 of them, seeing this, broke through their enforced reserve and sent up a sudden cheer that was heard beyond the prison walls.

"Three times they cheered, and then after a moment's lull, another rousing cheer told the deputy, more eloquently than words could do, in what affectionate and respectful estimation the men held him. The hand shaking at the door continued until the last man filed by, and tears fell from eyes that probably had not felt the touch of such softening drops for many a year. The deputy himself could not restrain a sympathetic response, and his own eyes were suffused in spite of his efforts at composure. When the men had gone to their cells, the cheering broke out, some of them being able to see the deputy as he passed into the main corridor."

A man who has been long in the prison said:

"I have been under seventeen deputies in my life, but this is the first time I have ever been under a real man, and I feel like I am losing my best friend."

Also, \$200 was raised among the prisoners and \$100 by the officers with which to buy a remembrance for Mr. Hawk.

At Sing Sing the prisoners have expressed their high appreciation of the efforts of their principal keeper, Mr. Martin Terry, who has done much to make the new play spells at Sing Sing as pleasant as possible. A testimonial engrossed in colors and signed by the men under Mr. Terry's charge was presented to him. The engrossment is the work of one of the prisoners.

CONDEMNED JAILS AND IMPROVEMENT

There is a growing criticism of the condition of jails in many parts of the country and out of this criticism there is arising a public interest in giving better care to the men and women who must be locked up. It is being learned that the way in which persons have been housed and treated in the jails and prisons of the country, does not contribute to public good. The conditions in jails and prisons foster crime instead of curing it. It is being realized that, in the interest of public welfare, some change must come and the change is gradually coming.

Mr. W. H. Whittaker, superintendent of the District of Columbia Workhouse, says:

"The average jails are a disgrace to civilization and cesspools for the breeding of disease and crime."

The Chattanooga, Tenn., *News*, commenting on the condition of the Birmingham, Ala., jail, which has recently been in question, says:

"It is surprising that Birmingham, which goes in for progress along all lines would stand for the present jail conditions in Jefferson county. The present building is declared to be insanitary, very poorly located and frequently overcrowded.

The state jail inspector can do two things, if the county does not pay attention to his demands. He can order the removal of prisoners to other counties or to state institutions or he can ask the governor to pardon prisoners and in that manner reduce the number in the county jail."

Dr. W. H. Oates, State Prison Inspector for Alabama, asserts that something must be done at once to improve the jail conditions at Birmingham:

"As state jail inspector I have certain power --to require the correction of insanitary human prisons--and as to the Jefferson county jail I have reached the end of my rope, and I will act. I desire to see this county equipped with a jail which is sanitary, which is hygienic and which will afford the unfortunates incarcerated therein some fresh air and some of God's own sunlight. As it is they are denied this under conditions that do not appeal to me in the slightest.

"This situation that I have commented on before is not the fault of the sheriff, but must be corrected. I will confer with the members of the board of revenue today. I do not know at

this time what I will ask them to do. I believe the best thing is to build a new jail."

The attention of U. S. Marshall Sims has been called to the condition of the jail in Greenville County, South Carolina. The Columbia, South Carolina *State* makes this report:

"Marshal Sims said that he regarded the prison as insanitary and inhumane. The marshal went on to say that the local prison was one of the worst in all this section of the country. He said that unless something was done soon the government would remove all prisoners that the county is now keeping under federal sentences. The county jail here is very old and small. There are practically no sanitary conveniences, according to the modern idea of sanitation. Prisoners are often crowded in the cells almost like cattle."

The St. Paul, Minn., *Pioneer Press* says:

"St. Paul's police stations, particularly those portions where prisoners are housed, are insanitary, poorly ventilated and overcrowded. All the stations, with the exception of the central station, were condemned by the state board about two years ago, but their use was not forbidden owing to an understanding that the city planned to build new stations. The new ones have never been built and little or no improvement has been made in the condemned structures."

Commissioner Henry McCall, who has been giving attention to St. Paul's police stations, says that the stations are too small, that they are insanitary and poorly ventilated. Enforcement of the condemnation order is to be withheld to give the city opportunity to improve the conditions.

The Brooklyn *Eagle* makes this statement concerning the Brooklyn city prison:

"The cells are all dark. None of them are built toward the outside walls of the building, but they are all built toward the center, with the doors of the outer tiers facing the windows and the doors of the inner tiers facing each other. The cells are all equally dark, or at least it seemed as if there were little choice between them in this respect. The prisoners, after their hour of morning exercise in the prison yard, were for the most part, reclining on their beds, which fold up against the wall when not in use. But the cells were very dark, there was no electric light in them, and the few prisoners who were attempting to read, were crouched up against the heavy iron bars, in order to get the little light there was."

Mr. M. W. Woods, superintendent of the As-

sociated Charities of Wichita, speaking of the Wichita jail and of the condition of jails in general, says:

"Our jail develops and fosters petty crime. In conversation with many petty criminals, I have not found one that looks upon a jail sentence as anything more than a joke. The capacity of our jail is only for twenty-four persons and this morning there are thirty-three persons crowded into it.

"At one time I saw the jail with the capacity of twenty-four crowded with one hundred and forty-six persons, and I have known for weeks at a time that jail to hold an average of sixty, the vicious, brutal prisoner taking from the timid and the weak all the accommodations.

"I do not believe that there is a fair-minded man but who will agree that it is absolutely vicious for men to be herded together in an insanitary, foul smelling hole in absolute idleness and at a cost to the city for meals alone an average of \$220.25 a month, giving nothing in return for this expense, other than the return for which society must pay the large price in the new petty crimes hatched during those long hours of idleness and in the low moral tone of the individual who is thus confined."

Mr. Woods proposes in place of the ever overcrowded unhealthy jail, a municipal form to be put into shape and worked by the prisoners. Two paid foremen of construction and two guards, are the only persons needed besides the prisoners themselves. Mr. Woods says:

"This alone would return to the city a real asset in material improvements instead of the absolute waste as it is today, when a man is allowed to sit out his fine at one dollar a day in vicious idleness in an insanitary crowded hole.

"I honestly believe from a study of this proposition for several years that it would decrease the cost of caring for city prisoners, as with ten acres under intense cultivation the larger part of the expense of feeding would be met. It now costs to feed our prisoners in a very unsatisfactory way, \$220.25 a month, and it is plain to be seen that the saving here would offset perhaps a little heavier expense some other place.

"I do not believe that the taxpayers want to put it on this low basis, but on the broad humanitarian basis of a square deal for the man who has not had a chance and who perhaps is a product of our social system, or the man who unwittingly went wrong, or who is the victim of his own weakness and evil habits, as well as for the quiet law abiding citizen who is a victim of the depredation of the man who goes wrong.

"I plead for the man as a citizen, who wants service as well as economy, as a practical social worker desiring constructive social effort, and as a Christian who believes that the least we can do is to give a square deal even to the man who is a blot and a stain and a burden to society. I believe that the very least Wichita can do for this problem, is to get busy on the job."

The Barton, Fla., *Record*, reports a new jail of modern construction for Polk County:

"Work on the new jail building is well up on the second story and is progressing rapidly and when completed will be a credit to Polk county. Not a credit because it will always have one or more inmates, but a credit because it is a \$50,000 structure of modern construction in which prisoners can be safely kept and given humane treatment."



SOCIAL INTEREST IN THE INDIVIDUAL

As the social value of helping men to grow out of the tendency to commit wrongs, becomes more clear, the attitude of society toward the person who has committed offense changes. It is being learned that society will be helped more by aiding the man who has done wrong than by merely punishing him.

The social interest will be to see how many persons can be kept out of prison rather than to see how many can be sent to prison. "The criminal should be studied," says the *Chicago Tribune*, "not after sentence has been passed upon him and he has been confined in an institution, but at the time he is tried. The result of such study should determine his sentence."

The *Tribune* then declares that Chicago is doing this now, and then proceeds

"Our conception of the criminal is changing. When a man, and especially a young man, a first offender, is brought before the bar, where his future, his entire life hangs in balance, we hesitate. Instead of accepting the evidence of guilt without question and meting out punishment accordingly, we have learned to look for causes. We are beginning to proceed upon the theory that no man would willingly thrust a knife into his own back—and that is what committing a crime and being sent to jail or the gallows for it means. We inquire, therefore, why did he do it? Was he misled by improper surroundings? Was it want and poverty that forced him

to criminal ways? Or was it, perhaps, natural disadvantages? Is his brain defective? Is he suffering from injury or disease which makes him irresponsible, and consequently a subject for the hospital, the sanitarium, or insane asylum instead of for the reformatory, the prison, or the gallows?

"In this new attitude toward the criminal we are not alone. Most of the advanced nations of the world have adopted it. The old theory that the criminal is a special type, is of a race apart, has given away before scientific research. Environment—bad environment—poverty, and disease are coming to be accepted pretty widely as the chief sources of crime. Thus often too great emphasis on environment has been assailed from many quarters. Among those disapproving of such overstraining of the environment theory and neglecting heredity and other influences entirely, is the noted Italian student of the subject, Baron Raffaele Carofalo, whose monumental work on 'Criminology' has just been published in English.

"Nevertheless, this view is gaining ground and, even according to Baron Carofalo, has already done much good, for it has acted as a check on the tendency to impose haphazard sentences on criminals—the sort of sentences which are characterized as a 'leap in the dark' and harm both the criminal and society."

Michigan, in a very practical and effective way, has taken up the matter of keeping persons out of prison. Warden Simpson of the state prison says:

"Seven times during the last few months this prison has received boys scarcely out of their teens who had been found guilty of murder. We propose a hard-headed business proposition, the object of which shall be to save young men from going wrong and protect life and property."

The plan which the Michigan State Prison is beginning to carry out in order to effect this purpose is thus stated in the *Chicago Post*:

"With the three-fold purpose of keeping young men out of prison, aiding paroled convicts to keep the promises they made to prison authorities and preventing discharged prisoners from coming back, the management of the state prison yesterday announced the establishment of an extension work department.

"Lectures by men officially connected with the Michigan penitentiaries, and other penologists, will be delivered before various organizations and at special meetings throughout Michigan. It also has been planned to organize associated departments in different districts to assist paroled

and discharged convicts and to help wayward youths."

W. H. Whittaker, superintendent of the District of Columbia Workhouse, with a large farm at Occoquan, Virginia, declares:

"Modern penology, in order to aid social progress, must sentence its unkempt, immoral and diseased citizens to an indefinite term of sunshine, fresh air and honest work, with such system as will make them an asset, rather than a liability, when returned to society."

Superintendent Whittaker urged that courts could accomplish more beneficial results in a great per cent of cases by a friendly word of encouragement to the minor offender than by sentencing him to prison.

"Many of the cases that come to the police and criminal courts for minor offenses," he asserted, "require only supervision, change of surroundings and a new home. Institutional treatment should be the last remedy."



ALABAMA IN LINE FOR IMPROVEMENT

W. H. Oates, state prison inspector of Alabama, recently described the present penal system as "an anachronism—a survival of a barbaric past."

"In its theory," he said, "it is beautifully adapted to the end sought, but in its practical administration, it is absolutely destructive of that desired result." Periods of imprisonment, Mr. Oates declared, should be devoted to the "physical regeneration, intellectual development and moral instruction" of the prisoner.

"Under the present system," he continued, "a convict is worked to produce revenue. For the time being he is an animal, a beast of burden, a slave; his moral and intellectual faculties being unexercised, atrophy and die."

Mr. Oates told of reforms accomplished in Alabama, the remodeling of prisons with especial provisions that they are made sanitary and so constructed that sunlight and fresh air may be freely admitted.

Alabama and other southern states are adopting the new attitude toward prisoners which is proving so beneficial in the North.

EDITORIALS FROM PRISON JOURNALS

These editorials are abridged when it is practicable to do so and still to preserve unimpaired the principal thought.

To Mr. General Public

It is not often that we of the great brotherhood of shut-in men and women, have the opportunity to confer directly with the great general public. Through the courtesy of Warden Preston E. Thomas, we are presenting to you, Mr. General Public, ten thousand copies of our prison paper, every line of which has been written, edited and printed by ourselves. We want you to take this paper home with you—it is *our message from within the walls to you*—read it carefully and ask yourself if our efforts to fit ourselves for a place in society's ranks are worthy of your support?

In other columns you will read of the great shops, the whir of machinery and the trip of the hammer, telling of the busy "what-not" of industry engaged in by the sixteen hundred toilers expiating worldly sins in your very midst. You will read of a marvelous school where more than three hundred matured men, twenty-five of them lifetime prisoners, are striving valiantly to master the rudiments of reading and writing. Throughout you will glean that the mighty machinery of the state prison is daily grinding out an overflowing measure of return to the state whose dignity we have outraged.

We are a city within a city. Sixteen hundred hearts beat beneath our shirts. Sixteen hundred souls are in the process of purging and sixteen hundred future good citizens, or future leeches on the body of society, are in the process of making.

We want to present the entire prison problem as we see it—present it to you fairly and squarely—and then see what you think of it. After all it is you, Mr. General Public, who decides the question as to who's right, not the political climbers!

To sum up: We add nearly a thousand newcomers to our ranks each year and we turn loose upon your communities hundreds of men and women each year. In the great swirl and maelstrom of our high-gear civilization, these "social pariahs"—as we are termed—become an integral part of the community. By confirming and supporting genuine reformatory measures such as are now in operation here, *we absolutely guarantee the continued purity of your homes, your families and your social system.*

Humane treatment, shorn of all sentiment, is in fact simply what Warden Thomas is practicing

every day. It is *natural treatment*. It is giving men and women a chance to better their condition, mentally, morally and physically, during their stay in prison and is helping them to help themselves when released. —*Ohio State Penitentiary News, state fair edition.*



Education and Opportunity for Prisoners

The great matter of educating the men confined for crime, is becoming more and more important as the people come to understand the good that may come from it. Education is soon to be inaugurated in all corrective and penal institutions in America. This is shown in nearly all the reports of prison committees on investigation. Where there has been an honest effort to learn the reason for crime, it is found that about eighty per cent of the inmates are nearly illiterate, or do not average a better percentage than the fourth grade.

Under present conditions it is next to impossible for a man to enter a reformatory or penitentiary and leave there better equipped to fight the battle of life. Most of the institutions have little systematic educational direction and a bit of effort in that line would develop a special interest that would be of economic value both to the taxpayers and the inmates.

A modern educator would set a goal for the inmate to strive for and in that way would add zest to the game. He would learn the individual aptitude of the student and apply himself to bringing out the latent talent the inmate might have for a particular study. Whether it is dairy farming or journalism would make no difference to the instructor, for his aim would be to so fit the inmate to take his place in society as to leave no excuse if again he should break the law.

The time is coming when the recidivist who has had an opportunity will be placed in an institution apart from those who have never enjoyed his chance and he will be kept there under a different arrangement than is now in vogue in America. This new institution will in reality be punitive while the ones for educational purposes will not be affected by its influence.—*The Index, Washington State Reformatory.*



Each person who sends in a contribution must remember always to put his name and number on the manuscript. We cannot use manuscript that is not signed and besides we may need to communicate with the person who furnishes it. Write your name and number plainly on everything sent to this office. The name will not appear in print unless the contributor so desires.

REPRINTS

The headings of the reprints are written by the editors of this gazette.

Canada Commission Would Let Nature Help Convicts to Redeem Themselves

[Reprinted from New Orleans, La., States]

"Old Mother Nature is a kind nurse to the fellow who is at all disposed to get back to his better self. Men who have lived their lives in narrowly circumscribed areas and have fallen into crime are likely to receive moral and physical stimulus from the open air and sunshine."

On these grounds the Canadian Royal Commission gives outdoor work first place in the recommendations for the development of the Canadian prison industries outlined in its report, which has just been released. Work on the highways is probably the most important of the things that can be done outdoors.

The commission was appointed a year ago to investigate the conduct and administration of the Dominion penitentiaries, with a view to bringing about methods which will promote the reformation of the prisoners.

Many of the prisons of this country were visited, and the commission also journeyed to New York for conferences over the labor problem with representatives of the National Committee on Prison Labor.

The stand taken by the National Committee on Prison Labor against the contract system is endorsed by the commission. It suggests, when the prisoner is employed indoors, he should manufacture clothing, boots and shoes, blankets, tents, etc., for the mounted police and the militia; also mail bags and rural mail boxes, as well as the articles usually manufactured in our prisons.

But, above all, the commission approves outdoor work, preferably on the farm or in stone crushing. Farm work has proved a successful means of employing the misdemeanor prisoners in the province of Ontario, and its development in the Dominion penitentiaries is urged.

Road work is also suggested in the report, but the commissioners have the old fear that exposure to the public eye is scarcely fair to the prisoners. The stretches of stone roads built long ago by the convicts in Australia are referred to as proof that excellent roads can be built by convicts, but the commission sees also the chains and other degradations which attended the building of these roads.

Such things have passed away in the road camps of the Western States, where the men work under the honor system. In Ohio the gangs of prisoners working on the roads cannot be distinguished from gangs of free workmen.

Road building is a valuable factor in the develop-

ment of the industrial system of a prison, while the sense of freedom which attends it can contribute greatly to the upbuilding of the prisoner. Moreover it trains the prisoner for a field in which there is constant demand for laborers and where there is every opportunity for one who wishes to make good.



Warden Henry Wolfer of Stillwater Minn. State Prison Recommends Road Work by Prisoners

[Reprinted from Bemidji, Minn., Pioneer]

Employment for prisoners at Stillwater state prison on road work, as approved by the Northern Minnesota Development Association, is urged in the biennial report of Warden Henry Wolfer, who retires Oct. 10, to the state board of control, made public today. As an alternative Wolfer recommends that a third state industry be found to go with the twine plant and the harvester factory. About 250 prisoners employed heretofore in the shoe factory, are now on the warden's hands, as the shoe contract expired Tuesday. They are being used to clean up the grounds at the new prison, and this will keep them busy for some time, but eventually work must be found. The attorney-general has held that prisoners cannot be used on road work without amending the constitution. Wolfer's plan is for the state to acquire rock quarries and employ convicts on them in the winter months in movable camps of about fifty prisoners each. In summer he would use them in road building. Wolfer strongly urges a separate building for women prisoners, to be built near the new prison, and suggests that it would be built by prison labor at a cost of \$40,000. In the last two years, the report says, the state industries, manufacture of binding twine and harvesting machinery, have earned a net profit of \$687,794.17, after charging up 75 cents a day for each man employed and crediting it to the institution support, and an average of 25 cents a day for the benefit of inmates. In the last year the plant made 19,481,410 pounds of twine and 11,153 harvesters. The twine plant is large enough now, the report says, but the harvester plant can be increased and for the next year he expects 14,000 machines will be turned out. Families of twenty-eight prisoners are being given special aid, ranging from \$5 to \$30 a month. The per capita cost of prisoners last year was \$238.52. The prison population was 1,069 at the beginning of the year and 1,131 at the close, including 242 federal prisoners. There are 122 prisoners on parole. Out of 285 life prisoners who have been committed to the prison to date, 121 are still there, 37 have died, 48 have been pardoned, 4 discharged by court proceedings, 60 have had terms commuted, of whom 15 are still serving new sentences, and 15 have been transferred to asylums. The warden recommends strongly a new institution for criminal insane, and says it would start with 200 inmates weeded out of the prison and asylums for the insane.

Paroled Prisoner States His Views on Honor System in Nevada

[Reprinted from San Jose, Cal., Mercury]

Out in Nevada they have a prison reform system that is attracting favorable attention, according to an interview with a Carson City paroled convict as published in a San Francisco paper.

"You talk about honor," said this man, "I'll bet you there isn't another state in the Union that has the sort of honor they have on the convict farm at Carson." Protesting that he regarded it as a matter of simple justice to the warden and officials of Nevada penitentiary to give a meed of praise to the system of convict control which makes a prisoner practically a free man, he explains at some length how the system in vogue at Carson works and why it is a success. "I have nothing to gain by telling the truth about these men," he declared. "They will probably never know who is the author of this statement."

He then explained that on the state farm there are no guards, no guns nor other appliances to enforce discipline and no apparent steps are taken to that end. The men wear citizen's clothes, and are free to do anything they please, except getting drunk, out of business hours. The "grub" is plentiful and good. The men who are to work on the farm are picked out by Warden Denver S. Dickison. These number about 30, besides the superintendent and foreman. The men are not minor offenders, some of them being life termers for serious offences. Instances of violation of the honor system are reported to be rare. Similar conditions are said to prevail in the prison itself where convicts converse with guards on friendly terms and even with the warden. The leniency in administering the parole laws by the Nevada prison board, without adhering to hard and fast rules, is another subject of favorable comment. The men are said to feel kindly toward the warden and the prison officials and demonstrate their appreciation of the generous treatment accorded them as "human beings."

While all this sounds like a fairy tale, the enthusiasm of this paroled man in telling his story warrants the assumption that there must be something in prison reform if it is of the right sort and fairly administered. The way to reform in prison conduct is to reform and if a system will not stand a fair and ample test it should be discarded for a better one. The matter, however, should not be conducted in a half-hearted way, but should be broad enough and long enough to give opportunity for reasonable success.

That there is urgent need for reform in prison management goes without saying, for every effort should be bent to cure degraded men of crime, rather than to wreak vengeance, which comes too late for effectiveness. The system, however, should first of all be fair and at the same time liberal in its terms. It should not be judged by occasional lapses, but rather by the quantitative results on the

principle of the greatest good to the greatest number. If such a system makes for the uplift of the individual, it will also uplift the community. In contributing to greater manhood it must be counted a success and worthy of emulation. The Nevada system seems to be one of that kind.



Missouri Needs Good Roads; Prisoners' Labor Is Advised

[Reprinted from St. Louis, Mo., Star]

One of the big clothing companies which employs about 1,000 convicts, has notified the prison officials that it will terminate the contract with the state six months from date, on February 20, 1915. State officials are disturbed because they do not know how to employ the men.

That should not be a difficult problem to solve. The General Assembly of 1911 abolished the contract labor system, to become effective upon the expiration of the existing contracts. The Assembly meets again in January. A committee named by the last Assembly has prepared a report on a substitute for the contract system. This committee has visited a number of states in which the contract system has been abolished. Doubtless the committee has a workable plan which can be whipped into shape and passed in the first few weeks of the session.

Few of the progressive states retain the contract system, which puts convict labor in competition with laborers who must pay rent and support families. In some states, huge farms are operated upon which nearly all the food and fruit used by the state institutions are raised. In others, factories are operated by the convicts, but the products are used only in the state institutions. Others, notably Texas, Colorado, New Jersey and Illinois, the men are worked upon the roads on the honor system. The men of the first grade are promoted to the work as a reward for good conduct. In many of the western states this system has worked out admirably.

If there be one thing Missouri needs more than another, it is good roads. Two or three days' work a year done by those citizens who answer the call of the Governor, may accomplish something, but the work is done by inexperienced men and often is misdirected. The State will have available 1,700 or more men, many of them accustomed to manual labor and all of whom would be benighted morally and physically by work in the open.

The State has been spending a great deal of money in the maintenance and improvement of roads. The use of the convicts upon them would not only be an economy, but would result in a few years in the State of Missouri having the finest system of highways in the United States. Once completed, the employment of the convicts in their maintenance would keep the men busy, well and contented all the time and make the state roads second to none.

Who Pays?

[Reprinted from Fresno, Cal., Republican]

The action of the governor of Arizona in taking the convicts off public road work and substituting for them citizens who have lost their jobs through the occurrence of war, is an example of proper action to fit circumstances in spite of general economic laws. In general it is poor economic policy for a state to maintain convicts in idleness on the ground that they compete with free men outside of prison if put at profitable work. But like all conclusions, this is true or not true according to circumstances. And in this unusual condition of the war's throwing workmen out of jobs in mines and elsewhere, it is the best for the state to give them work, and if necessary even to keep the convicts in idleness in the meantime. But of course they do not need to be kept without work. Less profitable employment can be found for them within the prison walls.

Under such a well balanced economic system as would give to each man his earned share in the economic output of the world, there would be no reason at all for favoring the free man as against the convict in the matter of working. The convict must be maintained by the state, and, therefore if he is maintained in idleness, the citizens, who are the supporters of the state, would be paying for his keep without remuneration to themselves. Certainly work itself should not be considered a feature of punishment or of penalization. We may even come to the time when compulsory work is not a stigma of crime, but will be rather the necessity of all of us. We may not have the choice even of working or starving. We may be prevented from committing suicide by starving, and as long as we live and eat, we may have to work for our sustenance and work where we are given a chance to work. This is the picture that is held out to us by the Socialists, and is not an attractive one, even as an incident to conferring economic justice.

But for the time being, there should be no penalty inflicted on crime except that of restraint, and the notion that the work of any sort, including remunerative work, is peculiar to either convicts or free men, should not be tolerated. Convicts should work for their living, just as do free men.

But there is considerable justice to the objection of men in certain trades to the competition of convicts in their occupations. The throwing into the trade scale of great quantities of goods made under large manufacturing conditions, by the state, with convict labor, may not be fair to men striving for a livelihood at their vocations, and struggling with their employers for improved economic conditions. The state competition may not be fair, either, to the employers. There is justice in the contention that the government should not nibble at a trade. It should either take it over as a whole, as has been done in the case of handling the mail, or else it

should leave the whole business severely alone to private competition.

As between those who contend that they should not be burdened with competition from convict-made goods because the state should maintain the convicts, and those who declare that the workers maintain the state and therefore maintain the convicts, there is some truth on both sides, because taxes are not equitably administered.

The workman does pay to some extent for the maintenance of convicts. Therefore he is to some extent interested in seeing that penal institutions are self-supporting. But, on the other hand, he does not pay equally from year to year, under the changing circumstances of work, a fixed proportion of taxes, and thus, if his working conditions continue steadily, he may be much more interested in maintaining the working conditions in his trade than he is in keeping down either direct or indirect taxes through having convicts work for their living.

It is not likely, however, that conditions in Arizona will call very long for the putting of miners to work on the public roads in the place of the prisoners.



Approves of Humane Treatment of Prisoners

[Reprinted from Wheeling, W. Va., Register]

Does the new idea in prison management, which gives the convict the status of a human being susceptible to uplifting influences, pay? The warden of Auburn penitentiary answers the question affirmatively, and the results of his humane treatment of the 1,300 unfortunates committed to his care sustain his view.

Warden Rattigan has organized a Mutual Welfare League, which is purely an Auburn institution. Under its direction the prisoners are allowed to play each afternoon from 4:30 to 6:15 o'clock within the prison grounds. When a bugle call is sounded the prison band starts to play, and the convicts form in six lines. At another signal there is a rush to favorite spots. Six baseball games start; bowling teams compete, using balls and pins of their own make; checker players take up an indeterminate series; a mandolin player gives outdoor lessons, there is a strumming of banjos in the hands of darkies, and a piano plays dance music.

Prisoners who wear the white and green buttons of the league conduct the games and enforce discipline. It is said to be sufficient punishment for any ordinary offense to be suspended from the league and denied the privilege of recreation in the yard, which also includes the freedom to carry on conversation. There has been but one fight since the play hours began. No keeper was on hand, but league members stopped the row, reported it to the warden, and the offenders were punished. Can anybody doubt that such treatment of convicts will have a beneficial effect upon them?

Dairymaids for Ohio

[Reprinted from Jacksonville, Fla., Metropolis]

There is a plan on foot in Ohio to turn the women prisoners of the State into dairymaids. The State Board of Administration has the matter under advisement in connection with the new reformatory for women near Marysville. It is expected that the new buildings there will be ready for occupancy before the first of next year. The reformatory is said to be one of the most modern institutions of its kind for women in the world.



"Bad Medicine"

[Reprinted from St. Joseph, Mo., Gazette]

Beef for use at the Missouri state penitentiary during the coming year will cost the commonwealth \$17,500 more than ever before. The meat is intended to keep the convicts strong, so they will be able to work for the prison contractors at a wage of 75 cents a day, payable to the state.

It might be cheaper financially—and a lot more satisfactory generally—to put the prisoners on a vegetable diet, tell the contractors to move out, and let the work now done inside the institution go instead to honest mechanics outside who are keeping up homes and rearing families to the great credit and lasting good of the entire state.



Federal Department of Agriculture to Investigate the Value of Road Work by Prisoners

[Dennison and Uhrichsville, Ohio, Paragraphs]

The increasing tendency on the part of state governments to use convict labor in works of public improvement, such as road construction, has caused the office of public roads of the Department of Agriculture to get in touch with the situation as it has been worked out in a number of states. The purpose of the federal government is to study the question with relation to the practical results obtained in road improvements, and these studies will begin in Colorado this month, and thereafter will be carried into Utah, Wyoming, Idaho, Oregon and Washington. Later the studies will extend to Michigan, Illinois, New York, New Jersey, Oklahoma, Texas, Arizona and New Mexico and a number of southern states. This road work has been carried on by the states with an idea of demonstrating that the condition of the convict would improve by reason of employment in the open. Wonderfully satisfactory results have been reported from Arizona as the result of the policy of Governor Hunt, while Illinois has also made satisfactory tests of the more humanitarian methods of treatment for convicts, while affording them privilege of out-of-door activities. The national government has gone on the scent with the idea of encouraging the movement providing it can be fully demonstrated that the good roads movement can be advanced in this manner.

Honor System in West Virginia Proving Out Value of New Law

[Reprinted from Dayton, Ohio, Enquirer]

Success in convict road work is reported from West Virginia. This road work has been developed as the result of legislation passed at the last session of the legislature. Prior to this session Governor Hatfield and representatives of the legislature and supreme court journeyed to New York for conference with the national committee on prisons and prison labor.

At the conference, in which representatives of the department of highway engineering and the bill drafting bureau of Columbia University participated, a state road bureau was planned to co-operate with the state prison department in working the prisoners upon the public roads.

A recent report received by the national committee on prisons and prison labor from A. D. Williams, chairman of the road bureau, states that to date three convict road camps have been established, the men being under the honor system and living in tents. Two of the camps are located on a stream and the men each evening go bathing and enjoy all the liberties of camp life. Three Italians have attempted to escape, but the Americans and negroes are proving themselves worthy of trust.

At St. Mary's camp, in solid and loose rock the men have averaged 4.03 cubic yards per day. At the Inwood camp the average was 1.10 cubic yards, which included the erection of one concrete culvert 20x30 feet, 27 feet long, and 16 days labor for one man out of 118 laying tiling.

A crew of citizen labor was also working at St. Mary's camp on the same work and an interesting comparison of costs was made, the cost of moving material by citizens was 81 cents per cubic yard against 30 cents with the prisoners.

These developments indicate that through road work West Virginia will, to a great extent, solve her prison problem, as will any state wherein co-operation is secured between the highway and the prison departments.



Prison Problems in Missouri

[Reprinted from Kansas City, Mo., Herald]

The practical abandonment of the convict labor system in Missouri places squarely before the next legislature a problem which previous legislatures have had before them in one form or another, but which they have not attempted to solve in any comprehensive and effective way. The last legislature took a forward step in the matter by enacting a law providing for abolition of the system by the end of the current year, but nothing was substituted for it—at least, in two important particulars. In the first place, nothing was done to provide for the thousand and more convicts the employment which is universally recognized as necessary for the health

and morals of prisoners, and in the second place, nothing was done by way of offsetting the loss of the revenue which has been derived from farming the men out to contractors.

The penitentiary is now, roughly speaking, virtually self-supporting, but thoughtful men everywhere are looking askance at this kind of automatic maintenance of penal institutions, achieved at the inevitable expense of free labor. Contractors may be rendering a valuable service in providing employment for the convicts and at the same time furnishing the state with a revenue, but this is accomplished at a heavy cost. For one thing, the wages paid the convicts are about one-fourth the wages received by the free labor with which the convict goods come into competition, and the difference, of course, goes into the pockets of the contractors, for there is no record that free goods are distinguished from penitentiary goods in the matter of price. The families of the convicts do not receive any of the profits of the contract system, and in many instances the community is compelled to support the families while the convicts themselves are working for one-fourth regular wages and coming into competition with the free labor which has to pay the taxes that support the state government, even though the penitentiary be self-maintaining.

It is a bad system from several points of view, but the problem is not solved with its abolition. In fact, the solution hardly more than begins at this point. There is, for example, the matter of providing work for the idle men, and there is the matter of providing several hundred thousand dollars every year to maintain the penitentiary, with its 1,500 or more convicts to feed. Free labor is relieved of the competition of convict labor, and the contractors are compelled to hire free labor, at regular wages. These are material and desirable advantages, but there still remains a large share of the problem unsolved, and this undoubtedly will give the next legislature plenty to do before the question is satisfactorily settled.



Plan Whereby Michigan Is to Speculate in Real Estate Under the Pretext of Prison Reform

[Reprinted from Saginaw, Mich., Valley-News]

At a meeting of the board of control of the Michigan state prison at Jackson held recently, a new plan to give convicts work and at the same time give the state the benefit of that work will be outlined by Land Commissioner A. C. Carton and James N. McBride, member of the present house of representatives from Shiawassee county, the candidate of the National Progressive party for lieutenant-governor.

For two years or more Messrs. Carton and McBride have been at work on a plan to settle the convict labor proposition, and at the same time to make the work of the reclaiming of cut-over lands

in the state a much easier one. The plan will entail the appropriation of the next legislature for the work in the neighborhood of \$100,000.

The plan is to purchase large tracts of the cut-over lands, in both peninsulas, then let convicts build good roads over them, divide them into fair sized farms, clear a few acres and erect a house. Then each farm is to be sold at auction to the highest bidder and the money go to the state.



Demoralizing the Prison

[Reprinted from Trenton, N. J., Times]

Governor Fielder, in order to favor the Martin faction in Hudson county last winter, helped jam through the legislature a series of bills that has resulted in the utter demoralization of the State Prison. And, then to cap the climax, it became necessary to juggle the funds of the State Road Department to make ends meet. All of which shows the loose manner in which the state is being run at the present time.

But that is not the worst of it all. As the Newark *Sunday Call* points out, nobody seems to fully realize that the State Prison population is made up mainly of young men and that a large percentage of the "hardened criminals" are hardened in prison, and not before. We defy any man of sensitive nature and experience and education to visit the prison, and not emerge with a sense of shame for the manner in which those out of prison treat those within. There are those who have felt that the outsiders deserved the severer punishment.

The courts find a man guilt of a statutory crime, and by a haphazard system, which varies in every county in every administration of the courts, and, sometimes, according to the mood of the moment of the judge sentences him to a term in State Prison. The prisoner soon recognizes that he is under no settled and logical government of the prison, that he has chances of parole or pardon which depend largely upon the success with which his case is presented, and that hypocrisy and sinuous device will obtain for him privileges which are denied others. If he is a cunning rascal, he will get along easily; if he is turbulent, he will incite riot, and if he is the ordinary prisoner—who is almost invariably mentally deficient—he will emerge a wreck of a man. It is all bad, and the whole plan is to blame.

We agree with others that the main trouble is in the criminal courts, at the start, and heartily approve the suggestion for systematizing sentences and for an agreement through conference, of the judges who have the matters in charge. But the reform of the State Prison, the complete change of the control, and the simplification of the management can be effected by legislation, if the legislature will ignore the fact that some powerful persons will have to lose their political jobs thereby.

Gives the Credit Where It Belongs

[Reprinted from Chicago Journal]

The honor system and the use of convicts in road building is proving as great a success here as it has elsewhere. It brings hope to the prisoners and good service to the State. The system should be extended as fast as possible.

Meanwhile, it is well to remember that Illinois owes the present working of this beneficent reform by Gov. Dunne.

The legislature merely permitted the use of convicts on the roads and stopped there. Gov. Dunne stepped in and made the plan workable by pledging his word to commute sentences in such manner that every thirty days of honest work on the roads would count forty days in reckoning a prisoner's sentence.

This is the Colorado plan, the plan which has solved the vexed question of convict discipline in open-air work; and for the adoption of this wise and just system of compensation, the state may thank Gov. Dunne alone.



Union Labor Will Ask Law Against Labor by Prisoners

[Reprinted from Jackson, Mich., Patriot]

Legislation to change the present plan of convict labor in Jackson, and other state prisons, will probably be considered at the coming state convention of the Michigan Federation of Labor. A statement, just issued by Secretary Homer F. Waterman, of the Michigan Federation, says the officials of the state unions' organization have decided to ask the coming convention to take action on the present convict labor system followed in Michigan. Jackson delegates to the state meeting at Lansing, later this month, will have an opportunity to express themselves on the convict labor plan in use at Jackson prison.

"The labor federation is fully aware of the necessity of prison authorities finding some means of utilizing the convict's time and keeping him active rather than idle," says Secretary Waterman in his statement. "What organized labor opposes, particularly, is the system by which prison inmates are put in competition with free labor. If prison authorities would pay inmates the salary paid free labor, we would have little objection against competitive labor," said Mr. Waterman, "for two reasons: First, the worker would then receive a just wage and, second, prison goods would command a higher price and not offer unfair competition against goods made by free labor. Prison goods sell cheaply because the labor used in making them is dirt cheap. Such a system makes it hard for outside goods to successfully compete and the labor market is cheapened by the convict labor system."

The state has materially reduced its number of convicts who were in competition with outside labor, by allowing contracts with manufacturers, for

the use of prisoners, to expire. A large percentage of the work done by Jackson prison inmates, now, is farm work. It is understood the union labor forces of the state favor a general advance in pay for all kinds of convict labor, including farm labor.



Prisoners on Roads in West Virginia

[Reprinted from Cincinnati Enquirer]

Success in convict road work is reported from West Virginia. This road work has been developed as the result of legislation passed at the last session of the legislature. Prior to this session Governor Hatfield and Representatives of the Legislature and Supreme Court journeyed to New York for conference with the National Committee on Prisons and Prison Labor.

At the conference, in which representatives of the Department of Highway Engineering and the Bill Drafting Bureau of Columbia University participated, a state road bureau was planned to co-operate with the state prison department in working the prisoners upon the public roads. These developments indicate that through road work West Virginia will, to a great extent, solve her prison problem, as will any state wherein co-operation is secured between the highway and the prison departments.



New York's First Camp for Prisoners

[Reprinted from New York Engineering Record]

The New York State Highway Department is completing quarters for a gang of convicts from the prison at Ossining who are to spend three seasons locating a 4½-mile road near Palenville, in the Catskill Mountains. The establishment of this community, the first of its kind in the state, was noted in the Current News pages of this journal July 26 and is described at length in the July issue of the New York *Highway News*. Fifty men are now housed at the camp, and plans which include a sewerage system and a ½-mile water line are going forward. It is expected that eventually 200 men, including the officials, will be stationed at this point.

The conditions of the project lend themselves readily to the use of prison labor. The highway starts at Palenville, about 14 miles south of Catskill, and skirts the south side of Kaaterskill creek on a shelf which at times is 175 feet above the bed of the creek. Rock cuts to reduce the 25 per cent grades will make the work slow and costly. The legislature has appropriated \$190,000 for this project. The road will, in fact, form a direct route over the hitherto almost impassable barrier between the Hudson river and the interior towns of Green county.

Three large buildings—the guards' living quarters, and a dormitory and a mess room for the workers—have been built at an isolated point about 3 miles

from Palenville, where a relocation of the road will necessitate heavy work. The camp is directly at the foot of a hill below Sunset Rock on Kaaterskill Mountain, surrounded by South Mountain and North Mountain, and it is necessary to travel a mile and a half to reach another habitation.

In addition to the large buildings there have been erected a well-equipped bath and dressing room for the men. Water for the engines and for cooking and drinking purposes will be secured by tapping a spring on Round Top Mountain, 3,600 feet high. It will be necessary to run 1,600 feet of 2-inch pipe down the mountain, crossing the creek above high-water level and proceeding underground to a 4,000-gallon tank immediately back of the bath house. The steep gradient will allow a pressure of approximately 20 pounds.

Besides establishing this comfortable home for the unique community, the highway department has had to purchase an expensive road-construction equipment. This includes a 5-ton traveling crane, a traveling derrick and a 20-horsepower boiler, three rock drills, a 48-horsepower portable boiler, a blacksmith outfit, four dump cars, a 30-hole blasting battery, a 3-ton, double-chain screw hoist and 4 tons of rail for tracks.



Prison Labor Problem in Missouri

[Reprinted from St. Louis Post-Dispatch]

The canceling of the Houchin contract for convict labor in the State Penitentiary is a timely reminder of the task of the Major administration to provide a substitute for the present contract system. The cancellation anticipates by a year the time fixed for the abolition of the system.

The next State legislature should make provision for a radical change in the methods of handling convicts. Plans should be well defined for the change. Whatever may be the final disposition of the convicts, steps should be taken to relieve the State Penitentiary of overcrowding. Conditions there are intolerable. They are insanitary and make for vice and crime.

A State farm for convicts offers an excellent solution for the worst part of this problem. Many convicts could be utilized for outdoor work which would greatly benefit them and could be profitable to the State.

Gov. Major favors the farm system and is reported to have outlined a tentative plan. If he will perfect his scheme for submission to the legislature next session he will do good service. Public opinion in the State is strongly in favor of prison reform and doubtless the legislature would adopt a practical project.

Conditions in the penitentiary are a reproach to the State. They should be rectified as soon as possible. The closing of the Houchin shop makes prompt action imperative.

Favors Prison Road Work If Intelligently Managed

[Reprinted from Buffalo Times]

"Give a dog a bad name," etc. That is about all there is to the argument against road-building by convicts in Erie county. If it were put to a vote of the prisoners themselves, they would vote for the road job by a large majority.

Whether convict labor on roads is a good or a bad thing depends entirely on how it is managed. In the South, convict road construction used to be associated with the chain-gang, the bloodhound, and all-sorts of brutality, crookedness and graft.

This evil tradition, due wholly to wicked men and shameful methods, has hung like a nightmare about honest efforts in Northern states, to give convicts outdoor employment, to create hope and renew self-respect in the heart of the criminal, and to provide the State a fair return from the labor of those it supports.

We may as well get rid of the notion that convict work on roads is intrinsically detestable. There is no comparison between the conditions in the South before the Civil war and in some of the less progressive regions of the South and Southwest at a later period, and the situation in Erie county today.

With the advance of humanitarianism and penology, convict labor on roads, especially in the North, has assumed a totally different aspect from that which it formerly presented. There is nothing in its objects, customs or development to identify it with the grim legends which once made convict road employment a synonym of oppression.



Prisoners' Prohibition Petition Arouses Ire

[Reprinted from Indianapolis Barrels & Bottles Magazine]

It is not probable, says the *Washington Herald*, in discussing the prohibition petition of the inmates of the Eastern Penitentiary, that the legislature of Pennsylvania will give more attention to this petition from a thousand convicts, than it will to the voice of the 8,000,000 people in the State who have never been convicted of crime. If this petition were for a modification of the criminal code, changing the penalty for murder, highway robbery, rape, and theft from imprisonment to a fine, no one would pay any attention to it. But we have abroad in this country today a considerable number of alleged sociological teachers, who lose sight of the healthy, normal and law-abiding people, and devote their whole attention to the reform of the social outcasts and degenerates who are incapable, from physical, mental, or moral defects, of taking a responsible part in a government of the people. To such emotional enthusiasts the petition of the convicts in the Eastern Penitentiary of Pennsylvania will appear as a convincing argument why the 8,000,000 law-abiding residents of the State should be placed in straitjackets as a means of reforming the lawless.

Sterilization Law Held Unconstitutional

[Reprinted from Chicago Legal News]

The United States Circuit Court of Appeals has pronounced the Iowa statute providing for the sterilization of habitual criminals unconstitutional and void. Judge McPherson in his opinion says: "Complainant in his verified bill alleges that the statute is in violation of the United States Constitution in that it is in effect a bill of attainder in that there is to be no indictment or trial; that the statute abridges his privileges, and that he is denied the equal protection of the laws; that he is denied due process of law; that the statute is in conflict with the Iowa constitution in that the statute denies the inalienable right to enjoy life, liberty and to pursue and obtain safety and happiness; that there is no jury trial awarded him and that the statute provides cruel and unusual punishment." Judge McPherson, after a full discussion of the case, concludes: "Our conclusion is that the infliction of this penalty is in violation of the constitution which provides that cruel and unusual punishment shall not be inflicted." He also holds that the statute deprives the convict of due process of law and that it fulfills the definition of a bill of attainder, a legislative act which inflicts punishment without a jury trial.

**More Men Go Out**

In the past month thirteen short time men have gone to Camp Dunne and three long time men and eight life time men have gone to the Joliet Honor Farm. When the eleven men went to the honor farm there was a great deal of interest among the men of the yard who saw them go. Seeing a number of the prisoners start for the honor farm looks like a step towards freedom to the men who remain within the walls.

**The Honor Band**

The band headquarters has been tastefully decorated with bunting and flags, giving the almost over-large room an air of warmth and comfort, while chairs and tables have added greatly to the general appearance.

The new uniform of cadet gray, trimmed with black braid, has made a most favorable impression among the inmates.

A few of the musical numbers which have met with hearty approval at the dining hall daily concerts are Remicke's Hits, No. 14; Hall's Wedding of the Winds; Rollinson's marches; Dalby's and Southwell's overtures; serenades by Pettee and Southwell, and the ever popular Sousa and R. B. Hall marches.

A POEM TO REMEMBER

JOYS

You needn't be rich to be happy,
You needn't be famous to smile;
There are joys for the poorest of toilers,
If only he'll think them worth while.
There are blue skies and sunshine a-plenty,
And blossoms for all to behold,
And always the bright days outnumber
The dark and the cheerless and cold.

Sweet sleep's not a gift of the wealthy,
And love's not alone for the great;
For men to grow old and successful,
It isn't joy's custom to wait.
The poorest of toilers have blessings
His richer companions may crave
And many a man who has riches
Goes sorrowing on to the grave.

You'll never be happy to-morrow
If you are not happy today,
If you're missing the joys that are present,
And sighing for joys far away,
The rose will not bloom any fairer,
In the glorious years that may be,
Great riches won't sweeten its fragrance,
Nor help you its beauties to see.

Today is the time to make merry,
'Tis folly for fortune to wait;
You'll not find the skies any bluer
If ever you come to be great.
You'll not find your joys any brighter,
No matter what fortune you win;
Make the most of life's sunshine this minute,
Tomorrow's too late to begin.

Edgar A. Guest

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PETER VAN VLISSINGEN, *Editor*.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this twelfth day of September, 1914.

WILLIAM WICKERSHAM,

[NOTARIAL SEAL]

Notary Public.

Little Zeke Goes Hunting on the Joliet Honor Farm



"My lawd! He sho am smellin' sumthin'."



"Golly! Ise sho gwine to 'joy to-morrow's dinnah!"



"Gosh a'mighty! Ise hit!"



TAM.

|||||

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EDITED BY PRISONERS

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EDITORIAL

Can Prisoners Solve a Problem Which Society Has Failed In?

How shall a discharged prisoner make an honest living? This question is of vital interest to the man who has served time, but it is also of great interest to the community in which he is to take up his abode. We do not pretend that all men who leave prisons would acquire a living by honest labor if they could do so, but we insist that the safety of life and property will be greatly enhanced when those men who leave prisons determined to live within the law shall have a better opportunity than they now have.

It is frequently found hard by men who have no prison record to earn an honest living; how then about men who have to lie about their past lives in order to get an opening or who go to work under the handicap of having it known that they have served time?

We do not invite sentimentality to enter into the consideration of this question. We submit it on the grounds of expediency, pure and simple. We are not dealing with a theory. It is a fact that every state turns loose each year thousands of prisoners. These men were sent to prison because they had failed to comply with the requirements of present-day civilization, and they are constantly being returned to society to comply with its demands.

The right of initiative has been taken from the prisoner during the period of his incarceration, the state has taken upon itself his guardian-

ship for the time being. Does the state during this period of guardianship use its opportunity to the full extent to fit the man for his re-entry into society? Does society protect itself as fully as it can by present-day prison methods?

We are not urging sympathy for prisoners or ex-prisoners; we are not making excuses or urging any advantage for them. We are submitting the matter only from a point of society's protection of itself, knowing that this includes the interest of all prisoners who intend to become good citizens.



The prisoner has served his time. He is returned to the world. He must find employment at remunerative labor. He has no references. His is the choice, to obtain employment by means of fraud or to tell his past history. If he secures work through lying, he makes a false start. In order to obtain employment in an honest manner he must find an employer who will overlook his past conduct, and then he must take his chances on what his fellow workers will do about having an ex-convict in their midst. Where are his chances best—in the rural districts or in the larger cities? As prisons have been conducted, where has the state failed? How can society best protect itself in the future?

We believe that prisoners can find the solution to these questions and that theorists cannot. We believe that the questions can be solved, and we invite suggestions from prisoners from all parts of the United States for publication in future issues. Names will not be published unless we are expressly authorized to do so, but they must accompany all communications.

Conduct Inside the Walls, at the Camps and the Joliet Honor Farm

A prisoner occasionally enters into a fight with a fellow prisoner in a very light-hearted manner. He overlooks the fact that in prisons records are kept of all violations of the rules, and that these records exercise a great influence in the conclusions of the officers who choose men for trusty positions and for preference in assignments to road or farm work. The men in this prison cannot wipe out their past records but they can keep their future records clean. Those behind the scenes in the work of selecting men for road or farm work know that the officers strive to get men who are peacefully inclined, as they can handle a fight within the walls much more easily than outside, and consequently the men who fight have little or no chance until sufficient time has elapsed after the latest fight to give the officers who make the selections, confidence that the prisoner under consideration has outgrown his pugnacious proclivities. It is a remarkable fact that out of the two hundred men who have left this prison, to go to the camps or farm, only two have engaged in a fight. Another of the men selected so far forgot himself as to make threats against a prisoner and was immediately returned within the walls. This remarkable record shows that the prisoners selected for road and farm work are masters at self-control, and that the officers who have made the selections have performed their work in an able manner. While on the subject it may be well to remind the prisoners in this institution that there is a rule here making a prisoner ineligible for road or farm work within six months of his having been punished in the solitary for any infraction of the prison rules.

It is timely to announce that during the past year there has not been even one complaint by a citizen against the conduct of any of the men who have been selected for either road or farm work. It is doubtful if any other two hundred laboring men in the State of Illinois have as good a record.

From this we do not argue that prisoners, as a class, are better than the average common laborers, but we do maintain that a given number of prisoners will make a better record than the same number of free men, and that this is due to the unusual responsibility carried by the

prisoners, to which is added their sense of loyalty to the officers who have selected them for preferment, and the restrictions of discipline under which they are employed. Conduct which might result in a fine inflicted in court to a free man would surely cause a prisoner's being returned to the penitentiary.

The men so far sent out of this prison for road and farm work have always succeeded in winning the good will of the free people with whom they have come in contact.



A Burial Service

Recently an inmate of the Kansas State Penitentiary was laid to his rest in the prison cemetery.

The prison publication of that institution, *The Bulletin*, tells us that the prison band led the march to the burial ground, and that it played "Departed Comrades" over the open grave.

Few men confined within the walls of a penitentiary can picture this scene without feelings of emotion; and to men out in the world the picture must open a page in the life of the prison house, a page over which they will ponder the hopes and fears of those who cry for freedom.

It is best that this is so. For the things of life are but shadows until the heart itself is touched; until then, men are not endowed with the life that is real and true. And those within the walls, as well as every freeman who reads these lines, must come to the realization that because this man was buried in the prison field he had borne something more than the pressure of sorrow and remorse upon his heart—that his had been the burden of loneliness, the weight of which only the friendless know. Always must his heart have been hungry. A home there once had been, but its appeal had long been lost; perhaps its love call was not far flung. And as for friends, long absence had destroyed them all. In the distant past, some soul may have been taken into his own—but so far, far back, we can imagine, that no remembered joy had flooded the heart when he caught the shadow of death's still valley; in his last hour he had looked into no eye that kindled in common with his own.

And yet he was remembered. Out in the open, his comrades in adversity yielded reverence to his memory. There was a service of music.

There was a service of prayer. Around his open grave was made manifest a brotherhood of sympathy, of simple, human pity, more helpful to that gathering than all the wisdom of the world.

It is a picture of deep, human heart-interest; a picture of the new awakening; of the eternal good which is in every soul.



Courts' Orders to Leave the City or Town

It is a common practice in Cook county in minor cases for judges of the Municipal Court, as well as for justices of the peace, to order a man who is brought before the court and charged with a misdemeanor to leave the city within a stated time, usually twenty-four hours. We pass lightly over the fact that there is no law for such decrees, to ask what right a self-respecting community has to unload its miscreants upon other communities? If the accused man has done wrong, the law fixes his status, and directs what shall be done to him. If he has done no wrong and is simply deemed an undesirable character, what right has a judge to make threats as to what will be done to him unless he leaves town within a stipulated time? If every community should follow the example of the Cook county courts many men would be driven from pillar to post and never have a chance to obtain a foothold anywhere.



Aliases Not Necessarily Indicative of Sinfulness

At the trial of a man accused of crime, the fact of his having one or more aliases is usually a great handicap to him. It is not generally known that men who come into conflict with the law frequently acquire one or more aliases through no fault of their own. After an arrest, and upon being booked, names are frequently added to the one given by the prisoner without either his suggestion or consent. This, constituting a part of his police record, will follow him through life. It often happens that a man is arrested by mistake, having been taken for some other person who is wanted by the police. In such cases the prisoner will usually give his own name, but he will be booked under the name of the man sought, plus that person's aliases, and with his own name as an additional alias. From that moment the man will have his own name

and the name of the man sought, plus all the aliases of the man sought, and all of these names will constitute his aliases upon any future trial.

Foreigners coming to this country acquire one or more aliases at the caprice of a shop foreman who disapproves of the long real name of the person and gives him one easily remembered. This results in instances like Danbernowsky alias Smith alias Johnson.

Prosecuting attorneys are wont to lay great emphasis on the fact of a man's having one or more aliases, and the play usually is effectively prejudicial with the average juror. A man under these circumstances may readily have several aliases and yet be as innocent of wrong as a new-born babe.



Proving a Previous Prison Record Upon Trial

An ex-convict knows that if upon a trial for crime he takes the witness stand in his own behalf, his record of a previous conviction will be introduced and that it will damn him. He also knows that if he does not take the witness stand in his own behalf, his silence will count against him, usually to the extent of his undoing. We do not claim that it is wrong to introduce a man's past record but he should be permitted to show everything possible in his favor, and we think that there are many occasions when a person accused of crime who has been in prison on a previous occasion could materially change the atmosphere of his case were he able to produce an officer from the penitentiary or reformatory—as the case may be—to testify as to his conduct while in prison. For instance, in the case of a person accused of a crime of violence the fact that he was an ex-convict who had served a long sentence might create a prejudice sufficiently strong to result in a conviction on evidence which would otherwise be considered insufficient. In such a case the evidence of a state employe, such as an officer of a prison, to the effect that the man on trial had been under close supervision for many years during the term of his imprisonment, and that he had during that period conducted himself as a peaceful person, might more than overcome the prejudice against him by reason of a former conviction, and yet the man on trial would be receiving only what he was justly entitled to. Under the law and the

rules of evidence a defendant could not be permitted to introduce such evidence.



Vocational Training vs. Failure

Many of the unfortunates who have proven themselves unable to cope with the standards of society have had the advantages of many years of schooling, and some of them left school before they had completed their studies, because through lack of interest they could not be induced to remain. Had an opportunity been given to these young people to choose a trade by means of vocational training during their years of schooling, many of them would have been fitted to occupy positions of independence, or at least had the foundations laid for a trade or a profession.

A lack of interest in the every-day life leads children and young men and young women to seek diversion, and all too often the diversion found does not come within the scope of the standards of society. Had the individual interest of each of these children and young people been centered on some branch of the vocations of life there would have been little chance of their seeking and finding diversion that was dangerous.

If the education of the first ten years of schooling were to be made more interesting and practical and less monotonous and theoretical, then there would be fewer human derelicts.



Why Men Get Into Prison

It is inevitable that society shall try to protect itself from persons who violate that which is looked upon as being good for society.

Once, many an individual act would pass current in social affairs that cannot now be allowed. Ideas have changed, the social standard has been raised and the requirement is different.

The least that can be expected of even the highest order of society in protecting itself is that it shall restrain social offenders from mingling with society. The idea and custom have been, along with this restraint, to punish the offenders so as to avenge the wrongs they had committed and more lately there is the purpose to make the punishment exemplary so as to restrain others.

To punish for exemplary effect is somewhat

redemptive in its purpose; it seeks to restrain others from committing crime.

It is natural as society has moved along toward a consideration of the welfare of the persons who offend, for it at last to ask why men get into prison, and to begin to inquire in what ways men can be kept from the things that lead to prison.

The address, therefore, of Mr. C. C. McClaughry, Warden of the Iowa State Reformatory, at Anamosa, on "Why Men Get Into Prison," is timely and of interest. It carries the question of social offenses from a consideration of a penalty for such offenses to a consideration of the removal of the offenses themselves.



Warden McClaughry declared that the great social lack with reference to social offenses is want of proper home training for the young. He suggests that the Ten Commandments, which are recognized by Jews, Catholics, Protestants and by all intelligent men, shall be put on bronze tablets on the streets of the cities. These, he said, would be better than any police patrol box, and he declared that if boys and girls were taught so that they would follow the right as their conscience guides them that they would be in no danger of getting into a penitentiary.

Warden McClaughry says that while not all of the prisoners at Anamosa will acknowledge the previous use of liquor or drugs, forty-two per cent of them do admit the use of liquor and a few admit the use of drugs.

The average age of the men in the reformatory is twenty-five and one-half years. The minds of about sixty per cent are the minds of children ten years of age or less. Warden McClaughry says:

"Out of 311 prisoners examined by the Binet-Simon scale of mental measurement, 138 were mentally only eleven years old; eight, ten years old; twenty-seven, nine years old; one, eight years old; two, seven years old, and ten, five years old." To quote further: "This means that just as in the case of 90 per cent of the 190,000 insane who crowd the asylums of the United States, the cause of their mental feebleness lay in the combined agencies of alcoholism and venereal disease, either in themselves or in their parents 'unto the third or fourth generation,' preceding them.

"While very few of this 60 per cent of subnormal minds in our institution are incapable of following the simple laws of God's Ten Commandments—for even a little child may follow

them—it means that with bad environment, neglect, lack of familiarity with these simple laws, in addition to the burden of enfeebled mentality through bad heredity, coupled with the strong passions and temptations of physically full-grown men, they have come into the position of active enemies of the law. For the 40 per cent. who are normal, the problem is one of the individual's willingness to return to the position that he might have maintained or may regain * * * Experts in the study of insanity claim that in addition to the 190,000 patients who are in the asylums, there are 80,000 insane who are privately cared for. Does this bring to your mind a view of the great blessings that would ensue if liquor was totally wiped out of our list of manufactures, when I tell you that eminent experts proclaim that 60 per cent of the men and boys of our nation are victims, to a greater or less degree, of venereal disease, either acquired or inherited, and that three-fourths of venereal disease owes its existence to the folly and passion and blindness induced by the use of liquor? Now, it is folly to attack the tree of evil by knocking the diseased and degenerate fruit from its branches. The ax should be laid at the root of the tree."



Another person who is taking the question of social offenses back to the question of why men get into prison is Rev. A. C. Petrie, superintendent of the Wisconsin division of the Prison Reform Association.

In recent addresses Rev. Mr. Petrie said that "instead of reforming our criminals after they are sent to prison, they should be reformed before they are sent there."

The Prison Reform Association deals with persons who have been released from prison and Rev. Mr. Petrie reports that seventy-eight per cent of the 2,800 released from prisons who have received help from the association have made good. He said that he believes that men who have fallen into the rut of crime are not given a chance to recover themselves by the people as a whole. He continued:

"An organized attempt should be made to give these unfortunates the opportunity and assistance they need in order to make them citizens of a desirable caliber. In the first place, reform should begin with the child who has a tendency for criminality. These children should receive every assistance to enable them to see and follow the better and nobler side of life. In this connection a great deal of responsibility falls on the teacher of the public schools as well as on the parent in the home. The teacher has the child under her care almost as much as the parent and should

never allow the tendency for waywardness to develop."

The association proposes to provide a farm for released prisoners where they can find suitable and healthy employment that will take the prison pallor from their faces and that will bring back the glow of health and hope.

Rev. Mr. Petrie is addressing meetings in different parts of Wisconsin for the purpose of quickening the interest of the people in the welfare of men who have been let out from prison and who want to come again to good citizenship, and in the interest of having the public take up a work that will so train people that a less number of men may be sent to prison.



All Labor Is Competitive

It is the general consensus of opinion that it is wrong for the products of prison labor to compete with the products of free labor. The view is also generally held that prisoners must be given employment. Yet there is no way in which prisoners can be given work to do without the products of prison labor entering into competition with the products of free labor.

If a company of prisoners is sent out to improve a road they do just so much work which free men could do. If a company of prisoners work on a farm the crops which are raised will enter the market in competition with the products of free farm labor, or if the crops grown by prisoners are used in state institutions these institutions will purchase just so much less farm products, consequently the result as to competition is just as effective.

What difference does it make if a prison makes brooms for state use or sells them on the market? If prisoners did not supply state institutions with brooms these institutions would purchase them in the open market, consequently every prison-made broom takes the place of a broom which would have been made by free labor if there were no prison labor.

The products of labor are all competitive and this fact must be recognized. If prisoners were kept in idleness it would be at the expense of the taxpayers, and as free labor contributes its proportion to the tax levies the results would be even worse.

Can it truthfully be said that men sentenced to lose their freedom are also sentenced to lose their right to work?

If society attempts that attitude let it not overlook the consequences of keeping men in idleness for a number of years and then turning them loose to earn a living by honest labor.

The question of prison labor has never been settled right because the adjustments which in the past have been attempted have considered only those interests which at the time were actively presenting their particular claims.



Classification of Prison Labor Systems

The Secretary of Labor of the United States has recently published an interesting document on convict labor. One of the features of this document is the secretary's classifications of the different systems under which prisoners are employed throughout the United States.

The secretary classifies the different systems under six general heads, which are named and defined as follows:

The lease system.—Under this system the contractors assume the entire control of the convicts, including their maintenance and discipline, subject, however, to the regulations fixed by the statute. In general, the prisoners are removed from the prisons and are employed in outdoor labor, such as mining, agriculture, railroad construction, etc., though manufacturing is sometimes carried on. The nature and duration of the employment are, within the restrictions of the law, fixed by the lease.

The contract system.—The employment under this system is usually within the prison shops or yards, discipline and control remaining in the hands of the officers, only the labor of the convicts being let to and directed by the contractors for manufacturing purposes. The state usually furnishes shop room and sometimes also provides power and machinery.

The piece-price system.—Not only the discipline of the convicts, but the direction of their labor as well, is retained by the state under this system, the contractors furnishing the material to be made up and receiving the finished product, an agreed price per piece being paid for the labor bestowed.

The public-account system.—There is no intervention of outside parties under this system, the employment of the convicts being in all respects directed by the state, and the products of their labor being sold for its benefit.

The State-use system.—This system is similar to the above, except that such articles are produced as will be of service to the State in supplying and maintaining its various institutions, and are appropriated to such use instead of being put on the general market.

The public-works-and-ways system.—Under this system convicts are employed in the construction and repair of public buildings, streets, highways and other public works.



Take Your Choice

An interesting dispatch appeared in the *Chicago Journal* of August 29. It reads as follows:

"San Francisco, August 29.—The first arrest in the history of the state under authority of section 650-A of the penal code was made here. The section makes it a misdemeanor to give information to any employer that an employe has served time in prison. Frederick Schroeder, a painter, has been accused. Decision was reserved."

From the dispatch above quoted it seems that if in California a son informed his father of the fact that an employe of the latter had been in prison, the son would be guilty of a misdemeanor.

In many European countries it has long been the law that no one may name a person as having been in prison. This is on the theory that a man who has served his time has paid his debt to society in full and that he is immune from further punishment or inconvenience by reason of the commission of the act which led to his imprisonment. This provision rests on great justification. On the other hand, it would only seem right for an employer to know all about the history of his employe.



Prison Press Policy

The new editor of *Our View Point*, published at the Washington State Penitentiary, announces in *Our View Point's* platform principles that in the columns of that magazine there shall be no "spirit of vindictiveness"; he says that "such a spirit cannot possibly result in anything but evil." The editor also announces that the magazine is published in the interest of both the prisoners and the general public and that communications will be welcomed from all persons, whether

prisoners or not. The closing statement of the editor's announcement is that the magazine "will be managed without fear or favor and with malice toward none, with love for all and with conscientious devotion to truth as God gives us to see the truth."

As we see the office of the prison press, *Our View Point* has taken the right position.

Nothing can come from the championing by prison journals of the interests of the prisoners as against the interests of the public. The trouble with prisoners is that they have lived too selfishly; no man possesses power to win anything of real good as long as he lives only in his own interests.

Prison betterment will come only as prisoners unite their interests with the interests of the people as a whole. Prisoners should realize that prison betterment is something more than extracting from society a grant of larger privileges.

More than ever before, society is set upon protecting itself and upon its improvement. The prisoner who wants only to be released so that he can again pursue a criminal career will find that ere long society will decree that he shall not be released at all. The leniency felt toward prisoners is not that society is less careful of its own interests; the leniency is for the protection of its interests, interests which hitherto it has overlooked, as well as in acknowledgment of the interests of prisoners.

Society has found that confinement and punishment alone do not serve either itself or the prisoners except in a very few cases where the quality of human life is so low that ideals do not appeal to the person and when only suffering and the fear of suffering will restrain the person from doing wrong. There have always been among prisoners men and women who have had the capacity and the willingness to grow into good citizenship. Society is now beginning to see that it is right that these persons should be helped to become good citizens; that it is right for the person himself and that it is right and far better for society as a whole.

Society is beginning to realize that it is far better to reform a prisoner than to dehumanize him, and going farther by means of paroles from the bench it acknowledges that the present view is that it is frequently better to give a person accused of crime one more chance to "make

good" before being incarcerated. It seems probable that the milder methods will tend to gradually lessen the weight of prisoners upon society.

But the change in public attitude which makes all of this possible and which is working to provide freedom for all who, either before or after imprisonment, will properly unite in a common social interest, does not mean that the new attitude is to provide freedom for everybody. Just as surely will it provide that men and women who will not live right, who will not live true to the social interest, shall not be released at all. Treatment of even the worst of the criminals who are not released will be better, will be more humane than in the past, but freedom—which is an entirely different thing—will be farther removed than ever. Inevitably the improvement of prison conditions will lead to longer sentences for those prisoners who will not live true.



It is clear that the position of *Our View Point* is correct and that it is the logical position for every mind that sees the tendency of the times. A spiritual purification is going on within the men and women of this day which is a part of life's own natural and necessary forward movement, and that spiritual purification is beginning to work out into individual and social affairs.

The spirit of vindictiveness cannot result in anything but evil. And it is just as true that the spirit of fairness cannot result in anything but good.

As the prison press comes to recognize these two truths as *Our View Point* has recognized them, and as the prison press teaches these truths to the inmates of prisons and as the prisoners begin to recognize and to live these truths, a tremendous change in prison policy and in court methods will come.

All correction can be in kindness with solicitude for the welfare of every person involved.

It will be found that if *Our View Point's* platform is lived up to in all prison betterment work, that progress in the work will be secure and that it will also be rapid.

Only that which is true endures; and only that which is true really helps to build that which is to endure. Fairness in all that we say and do will unite us with the people of the earth; the people will come to our support as we prove ourselves to be worthy of their help.

The Prison Press Guards Its Own

In August we quoted a report made in a reputable Chicago newspaper of a mock court at Sing Sing prison in which a prisoner was tried for stealing meat and which, the report said, "asked the Warden to inflict the severest penalty, as the man had stolen meat, thus depriving other prisoners of food."

We pointed out the moral bearing of such an attitude by prisoners.

The *Star of Hope*, published at Sing Sing prison, says that the newspaper report upon which our comment was made, is untrue. It says that the man did steal the meat; it gives the exact weight of the meat and tells how the fact of theft was established. But the *Star of Hope* wishes to have it known that the prisoners' court did not ask for "the severest penalty" and that, in fact, it did not fix the penalty, preferring not to do so, although it did pronounce the man guilty:

"The court could see no possible justification for not finding him guilty. When, after it had declined to fix his sentence, it was urged to do so, it still refused to name a penalty, but suggested that as this was certainly a second and possibly a third offense, his punishment should be greater than on his first conviction. The sentiment of the court was such that, had it been possible for him to eat the food, it would have recommended mercy, but he could not possibly have eaten one-tenth of it."

The correction of the newspaper report, which, under the new administration at Sing Sing, the *Star of Hope* is able to make, indicates the value to prisoners and to the prison cause, of the prison press having now a freedom of expression and a freedom to circulate among the general public.

The *Star of Hope*, together with other prison journals, rejoices that the day of *no voice* for prisoners has gone or is fast going. It is an event in the history of prison life that the *Star of Hope*, from out of the hitherto silent depths of Sing Sing prison, can send forth its voice and say that that which has been said about the men of Sing Sing is not true; and yet so lingers the spell of the old confinement and isolation that it is felt even as the newly liberated voice speaks:

"It is one of the unfortunate conditions of life in Sing Sing, which we have until recently had

to bear in silence, that sensation mongers have at all times felt at liberty to misreport the doings in Sing Sing and when it served their purposes to slander us. That we believe is passing and we thank God for it."

To a greater extent than many have yet come to realize, the hope of the prison cause is in the growing purpose and power of the prison press.

THE JOLIET PRISON POST is glad that the *Star of Hope* can today correct an untrue report about the men of its community.

What is true must at last come to be known, since finally only what is true can stand.



Honor System Applied to Jails

It seems that putting prisoners upon their honor shall more and more come to be the policy in handling the men who have come under the charge of the state.

Calhoun county, Michigan, has begun to apply the honor principle to its jail inmates and with very satisfactory results.

Fifteen prisoners have been selected to work at a gravel pit some distance from the jail and every morning a wagon drives to the jail to get the men and take them to their work. When the day's work is finished the wagon appears again and takes the men back to the county lock-up. The men go to their work and return alone, without officer or guard. So far, one man has attempted to escape, but he was captured.

The Battle Creek, Michigan, *Enquirer* says:

"The honor system as tried in Calhoun county is little different from that seen in Illinois penitentiary, or the penal institutions of several other states. If anything, it goes even farther than they do, for where they have guards to watch the men at work, none are used in this county.

"The one principle in the honor system is the placing of implicit trust in men.

"Those men may be criminals. They may be men of the worst stamp. They may be men in whom courts and juries have come to believe all honor dead. And then again they may be men who have slipped down the ladder in life and are merely paying the penalty of a deed done, not by premeditation or because they were bad inside, but on the spur of the moment. But even in thieves there can be found honor, and Calhoun county is learning this.

"It isn't unknown for men to betray a trust placed in them. Such things are common. But there are many men of honor among the so-called criminals, and it is these that the state

and county is benefiting by placing in them a trust and then relying on them to keep it.

"And the plan has been found a success here, as elsewhere."



Keys as Phony Evidence

There are many subjects on which prisoners can give information to the general public, and one of these is the value of certain kinds of evidence in criminal cases. As experts on the subject, we wish to warn future jurors of the unreliability of all evidence against a man on trial for burglary or a highway robbery when that evidence consists in part of keys belonging to the victim or one of the victims and found in the pockets of the accused man. To an average juror the testimony of a policeman to the effect that he found upon the accused after his arrest, keys which were later identified by the victim as belonging to him, would seem almost conclusive evidence of guilt. If such a juror had had even a little experience as a burglar or highwayman he would know that men of this class have no use whatever for old keys and that they know their danger as incriminating evidence. Let a man attend criminal trials often enough, and he will find that the number of cases in which keys play an important role is so large as to cause wonderment in view of the fact that no burglar or highwayman will touch them. If a juror knew "the ropes" he would look with suspicion upon all evidence where the finding of keys is a feature. Unfortunately for some men who are tried and convicted, juries are nearly always composed of men who are inexperienced in criminal proceedings.



He Is Making Good

There is a man at the Washington State Reformatory at Monroe, Washington, who did not wait for his release to begin to make good. He began a year ago when he first entered the prison. "He took the view," says the *Index*, the reformatory paper, "that no one could hurt him but himself and he set about to improve his own condition."

The prisoner was by nature a talented pianist. He had had some experience in carpentry. He decided to study something of architecture and

asked for a position in the carpenter shop, which was given him. He joined a night class in mechanical drawing. Later he went from the carpenter's shop to the chaplain's office, where he had time to study books on mechanical drawing and architecture. When he had studied about two months a vacancy occurred in the office of Mr. Fey, the chief engineer. The prisoner, Ogden by name, accepted the position in Mr. Fey's office of timekeeper for the civilian mechanics. This was still greater opportunity for his study, as he came in direct contact with the men who were doing the actual building and he also had access to the blue prints of all the institution's buildings, which he diligently studied.

Ogden is now about to be released. He has drawn plans for a five-room bungalow which he intends to build. "There are," the *Index* says, "several original ideas in the plans for this cozy little home." The work is reported to be creditable to the young draftsman. Ogden will enter a school for a further study of draftsmanship when he leaves the Monroe institution.

NEWS NARRATIVE

LOCAL

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE BOARD OF PAROLE

The Board of Parole, speaking through its president, Mr. Lewis G. Stevenson, has instructed us to publish the following announcements:

1. In the future very few prisoners will be permitted to serve their parole periods in Cook county. The exceptions will be only those prisoners whose records encourage the opinion that the temptations of a large city such as Chicago are no particular menace. All others will be required to secure employment in some small town, or failing to do this they will be held in the prison until their maximum time has been served.

2. The Board will do its share in every possible way towards making an end to the violations of parole, which have been all too numerous, and in this connection serves notice on the inmates of this prison as well as on all prisoners out on parole that every prisoner who is returned

for the violation of his parole, where the violation seems serious, will be required to serve his maximum sentence.

3. Every prisoner who comes to this prison, having been caught with a deadly weapon on his person, or having been associated with a person caught with a deadly weapon on his person, who might otherwise be paroled short of doing his maximum term, will be required to remain here one year extra for this feature.



JEWS CELEBRATE ANNUAL HOLIDAY

The Jews of this institution celebrated the Jewish New Year, Rosh-Hashona, from sunset Sunday to sunset Tuesday, September 20 and 22, with services in the chapel, the release of the men from any requirement by the administration continuing during the period. A number of friends from the outside attended. The management of the celebration was in charge of Judge Philip P. Bregstone, of Chicago, who was present at all of the services and who also addressed these meetings.

On September 29 and 30, from sunset to sunset, the Jews were again given the privilege of the chapel, where they celebrated the holiest day of the Jewish calendar, Yom-Kippur, the Day of Atonement. Friends from outside again took part in this celebration and Judge Bregstone again addressed the men. Father Peter and Rev. A. J. Patrick, Catholic and Protestant chaplains of this prison, also spoke. Mrs. Robinson and Mrs. Freeman, of Joliet, were particularly instrumental in making the celebration a success.

Judge Bregstone told the men that he had been in conference with the Jewish committee of Chicago and that through the kindness of the warden, the committee would be able to do a great deal more for the Jews here than had been possible heretofore.

Judge Bregstone first took part in the celebration of the Jewish holidays here last year and now he has become very much interested in helping the men who are held here and who need help.

The Yom-Kippur celebration was concluded with a banquet on the evening of the 30th, which was spread in the Administration building dining room and which was provided for partly by the men and partly by the friends from Joliet. This was greatly enjoyed by the forty-eight Jews here,

each of them duly appreciating the great favor of the prison administration showed them in allowing so much liberty for their festival season.

The Jewish prisoners unanimously adopted the following resolutions in acknowledgment of the prison administration's granting the privilege of the festivities, and of the support of the Jewish people of Joliet and of Chicago, who helped to make the festivities a success:

WHEREAS, The administration of this prison has adopted principles of kindness and humanity in the treatment of the prisoners and has recognized the principle of religious liberty and tolerance among the prisoners, and

WHEREAS, The Jewish people of Joliet and of Chicago, with the approval of the prison administration, have made possible the celebration of our two most important holidays, Rosh-Hashona, the Jewish New Year, and Yom-Kippur, the Jewish Day of Atonement, and

WHEREAS, Judge Philip P. Bregstone, of Chicago, representing the Jewish people of Chicago, has given his time and interest to making the celebration of the two holidays a success, and

WHEREAS, Rev. Father Peter and Rev. A. J. Patrick kindly addressed the meetings, therefore be it

Resolved, by the Jewish prisoners duly assembled, that we appreciatingly acknowledge the privileges that have been given us and that for these privileges we thank the Hon. Edmund M. Allen, warden, and Mr. William Walsh, deputy warden, as the personal representatives of the prison administration, and that we also thank the subordinate officers whose kindness, tolerance and patience contributed to making the holiday spirit helpful and happy, and be it further

Resolved, that we thank the Jewish people of Joliet and of Chicago for their kind work in our interest and for their material aid in making the celebration so successful. And be it further

Resolved, that we thank Judge Philip P. Bregstone for his earnest and devoted work both prior to and during the festivities and for his helpful addresses made to inspire and to lift the men to better things. And be it further

Resolved, that we thank Rev. Father Peter and Rev. A. J. Patrick for their kind addresses, for their presentation of the high philosophic and religious truths in which all faiths and all civilized people can and do unite.

JOLIET HONOR BAND IMPROVEMENT

Since the organization of the Joliet Honor Band several months ago it has been passing through a period of continuous improvement.

The band was organized under the direction of Mr. J. F. Saville, who was conductor of the orchestra and who from the first took a keen interest in his new organization and brought it into



Guido Mattei, Bandmaster, Illinois State Penitentiary, Joliet, Illinois

great favor with the men. Mr. Saville has now resigned his position and a young man of good musical culture and high spirits, Mr. Guido Mattei, has been appointed band master and orchestra conductor. Mr. Mattei was born in Italy, where he received his musical education. He has been in this country almost ten years and during that time has played with different bands. For the last six years he has been with the Delwood Park Band of Joliet.

The Joliet Honor Band now has 27 pieces; three more are to be added soon. The instruments are: five clarinets; four cornets; one saxo-

phone alto; four altos; two tenors; one baritone; four trombones; three basses; one snare drum, one base drum; one cymbal. The three pieces to be added are: one baritone saxophone; one solo alto; one snare drum.

Mr. Mattei takes the deepest interest in his new work. He has the ambition to make the band the highest possible credit to the institution and also to himself. He is taking hold of his work with the intense interest peculiar to the Italian temperament. Music is in his blood, and his whole body expresses the intense emotion he feels. He throws his whole being into conducting any composition of particular expression and force and carries his audience as well as his musicians along with him in the turbulence and to the height of his own realization.

The new director is in the band room all day. He comes to the institution at seven o'clock in the morning and does not leave until six at night.

The men say that Mr. Mattei's method of conducting the band gives them inspiration.



ON THE DIAMOND

For the last few weeks of the baseball season the baseball nines in this institution have been doing their utmost to improve their percentages in order that they might be eligible to play in the post-series games. The standing of the different clubs at the close of the season was so even that it was suggested, as a way out of the difficulty, to let Manager Estelle, of the Wrappers, and Manager Murphy, of the Sun-Dodgers, pick out the best players of the several nines so that there could be played a series of three games, the winners to be proclaimed champions of the institution. Although there was no purse to be divided between the players, no silk flag to go to the winners, there was, nevertheless, sufficient enthusiasm to stir the boys to their best efforts.

For the first few innings of the first game of the series it looked like a cinch for Estelle's aggregation, they having gained a three-run lead before the Sun-Dodgers had put a man past second. The Sun-Dodgers, instead of becoming discouraged, continued to fight desperately, and though failing to win, managed to tie the score, a remarkable feat considering the odds that were against them. The leading features of the game were Conroy's steady pitching in the face of the



The Joliet Honor Band

weakest kind of support, and Kuerle's homer, with two down, three on base and the count two and three on him.

When the tied game was played, Estelle's Wrappers won by a score of 6 to 0. The pitching of Murphy was almost faultless, but the weak support and errors of his team mates, coupled with their inability to do anything with Van Buer's out drops, deprived Murphy of a victory.

The second game of the series was played on a perfect October day, and the opposing forces appeared to be in the pink of condition. Estelle's men looked serene and confident, while the attitude of the Sun-Dodgers was one of dogged determination. The Sun-Dodgers won by a score of 3 to 1. In the last half of the fourth inning the Wrappers and their followers began to entertain high hopes of winning, or at least tying the score, for Jaswick, the first man up, started things off with a hit for a home run. The next batter, Packey, hit a safe one, reached second on Van Buer's sacrifice to the pitcher, stole third, but he

could not reach home because of the real inside brand of baseball put up by the Sun-Dodgers, including a clever catch of a remarkable high fly by Conroy, the one-armed pitcher, for the second out, and the scooping of a red-hot grounder out of the dust by Rabinau for the final out.

On October 5 the final game of the post-series was played, and won by Estelle's Wrappers. Before the break came in the fourth inning, it was a game full of that intense excitement that finds expression in such phrases as "bully boy, Gus," "fine and dandy, Johnny," "that's the stuff, Moran," and other remarks of like nature. But when Cleveland hit one for a home run the floodgates of enthusiasm broke loose, and from that time on shouts of derision or cheers of approval, as the case might be, greeted every poor or good play.

The Wrappers have reason to be proud of defeating their opponents, for included in the lineup were men who are conceded to be the very best players in the institution.

The line-up by sides was as follows:

Wrappers.	Sun-Dodgers.
Rice, s. s.	Kuerle, s. s.
Jaswick, c.	Brophy, c.
Maher, 1st b.	Rabinau, 2d b.
Van Buer, p.	Gardner, 1st b.
Myers, 2d b.	Moran, 1. f.
Stevens, r. f.	McMann, 3d b.
Packey, 3d b.	Moran, L. r. f.
Cleveland, c. f.	Murphy, p.
Dago, 1. f.	Conroy, Mgr., c. f.
Estelle, Manager.	

Umpires: Hynes, Covington, King.

It would be pleasing to all of the fans here to have given a more detailed account of these post-series games, the most interesting and the best played games of the past year; but the baseball reporter has been tipped off as to the amount of space at his disposal. We hope that arrangements can be made with the editor of THE JOLIET PRISON POST next year to secure more space for the recording of baseball news, as we are convinced that such arrangement would materially increase the circulation of the magazine. With this suggestion and attendant prophesy, we bid all farewell for the season of 1914.

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REPORT FROM THE JOLIET HONOR FARM

The Joliet Honor Farm, October 17, 1914.
Editor THE JOLIET PRISON POST.

Dear Sir:—The fall season is here and we have husked the first load of corn. The quality is excellent. Four of my men are picking seed corn. So far they have picked 200 bushels of well selected Western Plowman yellow dent of a very fine grade. Our corn crop is up to expectations; we estimate that the yield will be 15,000 bushels. Some progress has been made at potato digging, 1,000 bushels have so far been delivered to the prison commissary department. We are making daily deliveries to the prison commissary department of onions, tomatoes, cabbage and turnips, from our truck garden. We have 75 acres of millet which will soon be cut. It will be used for feed for the stock on the farm. The 40 acres of alfalfa which we seeded last August is doing finely, and if conditions continue favorable we will have a large yield next year.

The farm work at this season is so scattered it is hard to enumerate all we are doing, but I

can truly say everything is moving along in fine shape.

The prisoners played a game of ball last week with a visiting team from Joliet, but I am sorry to say, our men were defeated. While my men may not be up to the standard as ball players, they make up for it as first-class farmers, and of the two, I prefer good farmers.

The discipline on the farm could not be better and the men all seem anxious to do their part. The experiment of working prisoners on the Joliet Honor Farm, on their honor, is a great success. No employer of labor ever worked a better lot of men than are the forty-nine prisoners under my care.

Yours very truly,
BERT H. FALLZ,
Superintendent.

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BASEBALL AT THE JOLIET HONOR FARM

The prisoners' baseball team at the Joliet Honor Farm played a return game on October 18 with the Hazer's Colts, a promising young team from Joliet, which had recently administered a defeat to the prisoners in their first clash.

The defeat did not daunt the prisoners from clamoring for another chance, and they were accommodated by the Hazer's Colts on the assumption that the latter "had it" on the prisoners in forty different ways, whatever the different ways were.

The prisoners, from the beginning to the end of the return engagement, administered a complete drubbing to the visitors, who are, without a doubt, clean, fast and aggressive players.

Kelly, for the prisoners, pitched a masterful game and should have scored a shutout. Eleven of the Hazer's Colts whiffed the atmosphere. The whole team of the prisoners played the game as it should be played and deserved the victory which they won. The score:

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	T
Prisoners	1	2	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	—5
Hazer's Colts	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	—1

Batteries—Prisoners, Kelly and Clark.
Hazer's Colts, Nagle and Murphy.

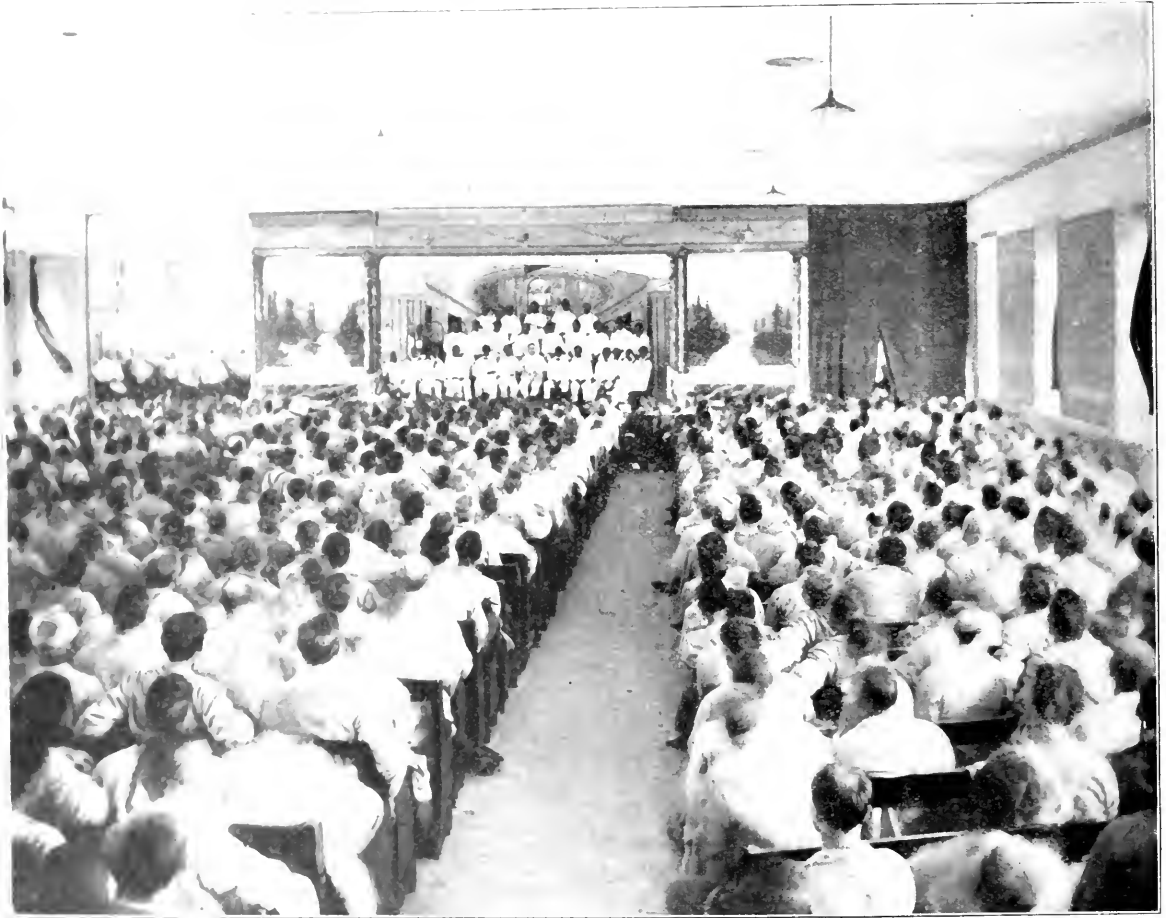
THE AMERICUS MINSTRELS

The Minstrels of the Americus Council of the Knights of Columbus, Chicago, favored the men here a few Sundays ago with an entertainment which the men thoroughly enjoyed.

These minstrels visited here in June and when it was announced they were to come again, there was great interest awakened.

The troupe has twenty-seven members, all

accommodate all the men, Mr. Frank Stretton and Mr. E. J. Donnelly acting as interlocutors. One of the special features was an impersonation of Bert Williams of Williams and Walker by Mr. James Cleary, which was loudly applauded. The members of the minstrel company, since their visit here in June, have come to a great interest in the prison betterment work which is under way here.



A Minstrel Entertainment in the Chapel of the Penitentiary at Joliet

Chicago professional and business men, who have taken up the minstrel work as a social pastime. They have been brought to a high state of efficiency by their manager, Mr. John F. Dffen-dorffer, who was with them on their visit here.

The men "blackened up" and, in tiers of raised seats across the stage, they looked very professional in their white suits and with the proper decorations in red and blue for the end men.

The minstrels gave two performances, one in the forenoon and one in the afternoon, so as to

They explained to Father Peter, our Catholic chaplain, that their ideas of prisoners have undergone an entire change and that they will be with him to a man to help him carry out a plan which he is developing for helping discharged prisoners who are believed to be worthy.

The plan will be more fully explained later, when the details are more completely worked out. It may, however, be said now that the plan is not institutional; in spirit it is a big brother movement and the men who leave here are to be

given a chance on an equal footing with other men.

Father Peter has explained his plan at different meetings in Chicago and he will address other meetings. He has had cordial support from all with whom he has talked so far.

The visiting minstrels left for home in their automobiles at the close of the day, a happy lot of young men.

They had been most cordially entertained by the prison administration and they knew that the prisoners had heartily welcomed them also.



A FUNERAL SERVICE

The funeral of Charles Masters, the victim of the vicious attack of a fellow prisoner, was held here in due form by Father Peter, after which the body was taken to Chicago by a friend. Father Peter blessed the body and said prayers. The band then led the funeral conveyance to the east gate, playing Hall's "March Funebre," from where the casket was taken to the station for shipment. Father Peter, Captain Michael J. Kane and other officers followed the casket. On the Sunday morning following, mass was said for the deceased.



BECOMING ACQUAINTED WITH C. J. CARLSON

An impromptu meeting of the men employed in the machine, foundry, tin, blacksmith and carpentry shops was held at the close of work Saturday evening, October 3, 1914, and the following resolution was unanimously adopted and ordered presented by the chairman of the Executive Committee to Mr. C. J. Carlson, steward of the convict kitchen:

"You have given us several exceptional Saturday dinners; the last batch of pies was better than ever heretofore. The 'inner man' feels glad. We thank you and beg to encourage you in your good work.

"Let us hope, dear sir, that our sincere appreciation may spur you, and the higher powers, on to even greater betterments."

Cordially yours,

A. POOLE, Chairman.

A MESSAGE FROM JUDGE BREGSTONE

Judge Philip P. Bregstone of the Probate court of Chicago, in a letter to the editor of THE JOLIET PRISON POST has expressed his appreciation of the courtesies shown him during his attendance upon the Jewish holidays recently celebrated by the Jewish inmates of this institution, and wishes us to announce that while his interest is primarily for the Jewish prisoners here, he is also deeply interested in every man and woman whose misfortunes have brought them to this prison, and that upon each visit to this institution he observes a friendly response from the prisoners to him.

OTHER PRISON COMMUNITIES

EXHIBITS OF PRISON PRODUCTS

Last month we mentioned that the Ohio and Washington state penitentiaries had exhibited their products at their respective state fairs.

Michigan joined in the new line of prison enterprise and made an exhibit at the Jackson county fair of its prison products. The Jackson *Citizen Press* says that one of the most unique exhibits at the county fair is that placed there by the Michigan State Prison for the inspection of the public; that the exhibit is a credit to the prison and of great interest to all visitors.

So successful was the Jackson county exhibit that exhibits were afterwards made at the fairs of different counties of the state. A car-load of products was sent to Hartford, Van Buren county, and a large exhibit was also made at Hillsdale county, the exhibits being increased over that first made in Jackson county. The products of every industry within the prison were shown.

The Alabama State Prison also made an exhibit of its manufactured products at the Alabama State Exposition. Mr. Hartwell Douglas, president of the board of convict inspectors, made arrangements for the exhibit with Mr. F. C. Salter, president of the fair association. Concerning the exhibit, Mr. Douglas says:

"The convict department has decided to make an exhibit at the forthcoming exposition. The display will consist of cotton goods, feedstuffs and manufactured products made by the convicts under the direction of the department. President Salter of the fair association, has called upon the

department and states that he thinks such an exhibit would be one of the most profitable that could be shown, and he promised that the space allotted to the department would be one of the most prominent in the exposition hall.

"The convict department feels that in making this display the public will have the opportunity of seeing exactly the various products raised and the kinds of manufactured goods which the convicts at the present time are making. These are not only a source of profit to the state, but an education to the prisoner in teaching him different kinds of trades and pursuits which he can follow after his release from prison."



LABOR DAY AT SING SING PRISON

Sing Sing has been the most famous of the prisons of this country as prisons have gone heretofore—the most "infamous," says the *Star of Hope*, published at Sing Sing. The *Star of Hope* says:

"Sing Sing in days gone by the home of the 'water cure,' the yoke, and many other devil-born instruments of cruelty—Sing Sing where men were formerly restrained and degraded and their manhood repressed until they became worse than beasts—Sing Sing, within the memory of many now here, a place where stool pigeons and tale-bearers flourished and a man awoke in the morning trembling with fear that ere the sun set some one of them would 'job' him into a punishment cell, that hell which stole away a man's health and dethroned his reason."

With the advent of the new warden, Mr. Thomas T. McCormick, a change began at Sing Sing which was radical and which seems to promise to become complete.

According to reports Sing Sing went beyond all other prisons of the country in its recognition and celebration of Labor Day. Sports had been introduced at Sing Sing and it was natural that a Labor Day celebration would take form in sports.

Of this day the New York Press says:

"Convicts in Sing Sing passed the greatest day of their prison lives. They held an all-day athletic meet, and wound up with a baseball game on which the lead in the Golden Rule League championship for the year hinged.

"All rules and regulations were suspended and the men were put on their honor to behave themselves. They did.

"The athletic meet was the first of its kind ever held in Sing Sing. It was the idea of Warden McCormick, who already has established a full-day holiday for the men on Sunday."

The New York *World's* comment is that:

"The convicts took on so much spirit and were so gladdened by 'liberty day' that it is likely to be repeated."

The *Star of Hope* published a three-page report of the Labor Day event with large and very well defined photographs of the different features of the day. The photographs show spacious grounds and a large and intensely interested crowd. The ball field illustration with its clearly defined diamond, its players in action, its field grandstand away to the opposite side of the picture and its line of interested observers standing along the diamond, tells a vivid and graphic story of what was actually lived by the men of the old, historic walled town which sits, cold, unimpassioned, and severe, on the banks of the majestic Hudson which, unmindful of the prison's tragic life, moves its mighty waters ceaselessly on to the sea.

Other illustrations show with fine perspective, the sack race, the high jump and boxing.

The *Star of Hope* opens its three-page report of its "greatest day" with the following words of spirit and hope:

"We had on Labor Day in Sing Sing, to quote the words of our principal keeper, 'the greatest day Sing Sing has ever seen and probably the greatest day that there will ever be in Sing Sing,' for the conditions that made the day great—the recent riving of the fetters that bound us to old methods and old ideas of prison management—can never be repeated. The prisons of the past, so far as New York state is concerned, are gone forever, and in their stead have come, not only new kinds of prisons, but also new kinds of prisoners, for kindness remakes men as nothing else can. For seven weeks we have had the new liberty in Sing Sing, and Labor Day came as a sort of climax and it was a fitting climax.

"No one who was within the walls of Sing Sing on Monday last will ever forget Labor Day, 1914. There was something about the occasion that made an indelible impression on the mind of every man present. It was not the fact that nearly 1,500 men, branded by the law and exiled from society by its stern decree, were enjoying a measure of freedom that one short year ago would have been deemed beyond the range of possibilities, although that contributed to it. It was not that the day passed without a note of discord or any angry word, although in a gathering of such size that was remarkable. It was not the interest taken in the games, the good natured spirit of emulation displayed or the

character of the athletic feats performed, although all of these were noteworthy. But it was the atmosphere of freedom, so foreign to a prison; the feeling of good fellowship everywhere apparent; an all pervading spirit of confidence that exists only when men are trusted and known to be worthy of trust. All these there were, and there was something more, an indefinable something that words cannot express, but which caused those present who realized what prison means to the proud, the ambitious, the sensitive man such as many of us are, to rejoice that at last a ray of sunlight had penetrated within the gloomy walls of Sing Sing."

The grand stand which had been reserved for visitors was filled with many prominent citizens. Among them were Mr. Richard M. Hurd, president of the Lawyers Mortgage Company; Senator John H. Healy; Dr. F. F. Buermeyer; Mr. J. M. Reynolds; Mr. A. P. Taliaferro; Mr. Thomas M. Mulry, president of the Emigrant Savings Bank, and others.

The Ossining Post of the Grand Army of the Republic marched through the prison grounds, and as they passed, the Aurora Band, "our band," says the *Star of Hope*, played the Star Spangled Banner, "and all the men in the vicinity, including the thousand or more of the inmates on the grandstand, stood up and took off their hats as a token of respect, not alone for the national anthem, but also for the veterans who had honored us by their presence."

Perhaps nothing has happened in the history of modern prison betterment work which more clearly shows the great transformation which is taking place in prisoners themselves and in the relationship of the general public to prisoners than this great celebration at Sing Sing where men from "outside" mingled, without differentiation, with the men who are "inside," and where all with uncovered heads arose as one man in acknowledgment and in honor of the nation's soldiers and the nation's song.



FLYING MACHINE EXHIBIT AT LEAVENWORTH PENITENTIARY

A most unusual privilege was granted the men at the Leavenworth, Kansas, U. S. Penitentiary, recently.

Warden Morgan and Deputy Warden Zerbst arranged to have "Mickey" McGuire give the prison men an exhibition of real air travel-

ing, which most of the men had seen only in picture books.

Arrangement for the exhibit was made by the Warden and Deputy with the Leavenworth County Fair Association, which had the contract with the aviator.

The biplane arose from the fair grounds of Leavenworth, which are such a distance from the prison that the airship was barely discernable to the naked eye. As the biplane moved toward the prison, it grew larger and later the cracking of its engine could be distinctly heard. The walled in men were thrilled at the sight as the air machine came nearer and nearer and many saw what they had never dared hope to see.

The *New Era*, the penitentiary newspaper, gives this description of the biplane's work.

"And what an exhibition it was!

"Approaching the prison at a great height, McGuire inclined over the south wall at a height of perhaps two hundred feet, and dropped something which many thought to be a bomb, but which proved to be brand new baseball.

"With a salutary 'Hello,' and wave of the hand, 'Mickey' circled the walls and showed us how easy it was to incline an aeroplane this way, that way—every way—until he had our necks twisted like corkscrews, and heads of curly hair standing straight.

"The eyes of the multitude nearly popped out as again the 'human bird' circled and pointed the infernal thing straight at us. Those of us who claim to have been 'brave' when we joined this or that secret society years ago must have since lost our nerve, for many there were who broke for lumber piles and dodged around the corner of buildings, thinking that the thing was running away with 'Mickey,' and was about to prepare us for a trip to Government Hill.

"But, with a villain's 'Ha, ha,' 'Mickey,' squeezed the goose upward and circled again, this time looping-the-loop once directly over our heads. This stunt got our goat for fair.

"After more soaring, planing, dipping, and whatever-else-you-may-call-it, which continued to hold the crowd aghast, the 'Wild Irish Rose' as 'Mickey' proudly dubs himself, started for us from the west wall at a sixty-mile-a-minute clip. The demon descended as he approached, until one could almost touch him with upreached arms, and then ascended and gracefully soared over the east wall, and flew far north and over Fort Leavenworth. Rising to a great height over the Fort, Mr. McGuire circled and returned, passing over the prison at a height many calculated to be 'a mile in the sky.'

"It was great! It was more than that! It was the biggest little thing we ever witnessed."

Prison Industry Under the Ohio Penitentiary Plan

Initiative In a Prison Factory System With the State Use Plan for Handling Products

Prisoners Earn Wages and Upon Discharge Draw Accumulated Earnings in Lieu of Accepting a Gratuity From the State

The Ohio State Penitentiary is continually forging ahead in methods of modern social uplift for its prisoners, and late reports from this prison indicate that the prison authorities are well pleased with the result of their experiments.

There are in the prison proper 1,623 inmates. These are employed in about twenty different lines of work, which makes the Ohio institution a busy industrial community.

The interest, however, in the Ohio prison, in the light of modern prison methods, does not center so much in the central institution as in the extension of the prison community to settlements outside of and away from the penitentiary buildings.

The *Cleveland Plain Dealer* says of the Ohio penitentiary:

"Hundreds of prisoners are out on honor, miles from the prison they have not seen or entered for months or years. Only four per cent of men out on honor broke faith and made their escape last year. Great farms are being operated this year by convicts.

"Trainloads of food products are grown for use of prisoners. The cost of their keeping is reduced. The health of the convicts is improved. Better food and more outdoor exercise give better dispositions and fewer infractions of rules are reported."

The *Ohio Penitentiary News*, the prison publication, in its special state fair edition, makes a detailed report of the prison's honor system, characterizing the system as "a practical, humane application of common sense principles."

"Despite cries of protest," says the *News*, "that an honor system founded on the convicts' word of honor is 'fallacious in effect, anarchistic in principle and dangerous in precedent,' the hundreds upon hundreds of men placed upon honor by Warden Thomas, have made good, have splendidly maintained their pledged word."

The Ohio State Penitentiary with its 1,623 in-

mates is situated in the very heart of the cosmopolitan city of Columbus with its 215,000 inhabitants. Away from the prison and outside of the city are several honor camps at which there are different forms of industry, and besides these camps there are a number of prisoners stationed on honor at different state institutions.

A number of men also hold trusty positions in and about the state institutions in Columbus.

There are now 316 prisoners on the Ohio prison's roll of honor. As stated by the *Cleveland Plain Dealer*, less than four per cent of the honor men have broken their faith. "This," says the *Ohio Penitentiary News*, "in a large measure, is owing to the ennobling efforts and sacrificing labor of an administration pledged to the conservation of the welfare of the human race."

The stone quarry, located at the western border of Columbus, is one of the honor "suburbs" of the Ohio State Penitentiary. Thirty-five men are employed. The men do not march back to the prison at the close of their day's work, but are housed at the quarry in a modern dormitory which has been built for them. The food is wholesome, the regulation "prison fare" having very happily been forgotten.

The quarry is a scene of industry, not a scene of discipline and punishment. A new and up-to-date crusher has a capacity of 1,000,000 pounds of crushed lime and a machine utilizes the dusty waste, converting it into a high-grade fertilizer. This machine has a capacity of 400,000 pounds of this product each day. The quarry men take an interest in their work and are making themselves felt as a part of the industrial strength of their state.

Thirty-five miles from the prison, at Junction City, there is a brick plant which gives employment to eighty men. Here also the industrial interest completely overshadows any punitive



Preston E. Thomas, Warden Ohio State Penitentiary, Columbus, Ohio

purpose that may still be lurking in Ohio's penal system.

Aside from the over-seers, the brick plant is manned wholly by prisoners sent out on their honor from the Columbus institution. The men are showing qualifications for honest and valuable work and for citizenship. The *Chicago Post* prints the following concerning the plant:

"Other states have prisoners working in 'honor squads' on roads or employed in penitentiary shops, but it remained for Ohio to establish a model factory system for convicts. This plant, going full blast today, is not within the penitentiary walls. It is thirty-five miles from the prison. Eighty prisoners work six days a week making bricks. No guards stand by to see that they do not escape. They are alone except for ten skilled brickmakers, all employed by the state, who direct the work.

"The men live in a big dormitory built by themselves. They have a baseball diamond near by and a small baseball league has been organized among the prisoners. But their favorite diversion is the holding of a mock trial. They take delight in addressing the jury and in giving ponderous 'judicial' decisions.

"The capacity of the plant is 30,000 paving brick or 45,000 building brick a day. Five more kilns are to be built and more prisoners will be sent to work on the plant. The entire output is used by the state. Expenses of the plant, outside of pay to the men employed and the amounts allowed the prisoners, consist almost entirely of food and fuel bills."

At Morgan Farm, near Orient, eighteen miles from the Columbus prison, is a colony of thirty-five men returning to the state an overflowing measure of valuable service, as well as living in God's sunshine.

The *Ohio Penitentiary News* says:

"Here they serve their sentence with no walls to remind them of their sorrow, no uniformed guards to censor their actions and no cell bars to add to the torture of the long night. They have the freedom of the azure sky for a prison, the tentacles of 'pledged word of honor' for guards and a natural, human desire to make good."

The farm is under the direction of a practical farmer, Mr. R. R. Hiatt, and the men stationed at the farm learn farming and also the care of live stock and poultry. Last year the Morgan Farm products amounted to \$10,000, of which one-half was a clear saving to the state. The Ohio prisoners, through their enlarged opportunity in industry, are lifting from the state the expense of the support of the state's prisoners.

Besides the Morgan Farm there is the New Prison Farm of 1,500 acres located near London, in Madison county. Here twenty-three men are employed on the "honor squad," to which more men will be added as the New Prison Farm is developed. The ambition of the prison authorities and of the farm honor men also is to make the new farm a model prison farm and one of the most famous farms of the country.

There is a farm at the Ohio Sanitarium for Tuberculosis at Mt. Vernon, Ohio, where seventeen men are employed. Four honor men have been assigned to positions at the State School for the Blind; five men at the Delaware Girls' Industrial School, and twenty-four at the Delaware Stone Quarry, all of whom are performing valuable service.

The state laws of Ohio do not provide for the employment of prisoners on roads. Ohio, not being able to work out the prison betterment plan by putting its prisoners on the roads, has turned, therefore, to fields that are open and is applying the new principle to farms and particularly to industry.

In a personal letter from Mr. P. E. Thomas, warden of the Ohio State Penitentiary, to THE JOLIET PRISON POST, he writes as follows of the work of his institution:

"I am glad to see the prison betterment movement; better prison conditions mean better prisoners, and better prisoners mean eventually better men when release comes, and all is for the betterment of society as a whole.

"Referring to our industries in the Ohio penitentiary, I am sending you a copy of the *Ohio Penitentiary News*, containing mention of the various activities here. The prisoners are employed eight hours a day and receive from one to three cents per hour for their labor. No set task is assigned them. Ninety per cent of the earnings of a prisoner is sent to his dependents and the remaining ten per cent is placed to his credit here to give him a fund on which to begin again. I find this excellent in this way—the discharged prisoner instead of accepting a gratuity, steps up and receives his 'earnings,' and the moral effect of this is not to be underestimated.

"As to the work of the men in the honor camps, at our quarry near Columbus and at the quarry at Delaware a fine grade of limestone is produced which is used in highway construction and in the manufacture of limestone fertilizer. Brick for highway building and also building brick are made at the plant at Junction

City. General farm work is done by the prisoners at the Morgan farm, at the New Prison farm near London and at the farm of the Ohio Sanitarium for Tuberculosis at Mt. Vernon.

"The honor system was inaugurated nearly three years ago, when the last of the shops operating under the old contract labor system left the penitentiary. At that time there was not enough work to provide all the prisoners with employment and the honor system was given a trial. It has been enlarged upon since then, until now I constantly have three hundred or more prisoners out on their honor.

"Since the contract system was abolished all the prisoners are employed under the state-use system; that is, all the products of their labor are consumed by this and other state institutions or departments, none of the products being disposed of on the open market."

From Warden Thomas' letter it is to be seen that Ohio is doing away with the old penal idea

of subjugating the prisoner and breaking his will. The prisoner in Ohio does not now need to accept a gratuity from the state when he is dismissed from prison. Instead of this he draws the money which he has earned with his own toil and which, therefore, he feels and which, the state grants, is his own. In the meantime the prisoner who has a family has been contributing nine-tenths of what he has earned to the support of his family.

The prisoner who goes out of the Ohio State Penitentiary goes with a feeling that he has lived a somewhat normal life and he must be far more ready to enter normal life in the world than if during the period of his imprisonment he had lived abnormally and had been kept a dependent.

Ohio's demonstration that normal industry is practical to prison life will be of inestimable value to the country.

Iowa State Penitentiary Tries Original Method to Solve Prison Problem

Warden Sanders and Board of Control Accept Jobs from Citizens; Prisoners Go Out to Work by the Day

Plan is Protested by City of Fort Madison and Case Is Now Before Supreme Court; Plan Has Proved That the Normal Life Is Good for Making Prisoners Into Good Citizens

According to the local situation and the temper of the inmates, the different prisons of the country that have entered the work of bettering prisoners' conditions have each taken up some feature of work that is peculiar to itself and its circumstance.

Colorado sends some of its prisoners to build roads; Kansas lets some of its men go to work on the Kansas farms and occasionally allows its prison ball teams to play inter-prison games; the Washington State Reformatory has given a prisoner a leave of absence to prove up on a tree claim; New York has introduced limited self-governing organizations at Auburn and at Sing Sing which include nearly all of the inmates of those institutions; the Cheshire reformatory, Connecticut, the United States prisons at Atlanta and at Ft. Leavenworth and other prisons al-

low their prison baseball teams to play matched games with outside teams; the Arizona prisoners have a baseball diamond outside of the prison walls; the Eastern Penitentiary of Pennsylvania allows individual initiative and many lines of work have been taken up that develop individual ability and provide individual revenue; the Illinois prison at Joliet has sent over fifty of its prisoners to a 2,100-acre farm and over one hundred of them to road camps; the Ohio penitentiary is developing industries for prisoners outside of the prison where the men are working under nearly normal conditions.

Prison Labor Contracts Expire and Prisoners Work for Citizens

With all of these various features peculiar to the many prisons that have taken up the prison betterment work, it has remained for Warden J.

C. Sanders of the Iowa State Penitentiary at Fort Madison to undertake something still different.

Warden Sanders found the contracts expiring under which his men were given employment by manufacturing firms, and he felt the necessity of making some other provision to keep the prisoners occupied.

All prisons face a problem in the transition from the contract system to a state-use system of industry, and since no machinery for state-use work had been provided by the Iowa legislature, it remained for Warden Sanders to work out some plan for himself. He conceived the idea of allowing some of his men to go outside of the walls to do any kind of suitable work that he could get for them to do. In this the Warden was supported by the Board of Control, the prison governing body of the state.

In time Warden Sanders' practice brought him into conflict with the town of Fort Madison, and the discussion that has ensued has raised the "cherry picking" of Warden Sanders' men to the prominence of national interest.

Long ago Warden Sanders was a band master; later he was superintendent of schools; and then the Iowa authorities sought him for the hardest task he had undertaken—the wardenship of Iowa's worst prison, that to which the hardened criminals were committed.

A critic reviewing Warden Sanders' work says:

"Warden Sanders is setting the whole prison world by the ears because of his reforms here. He has received letters from wardens all over the land and even foreign countries, wanting to know more of his work. He believes that there is good in every man and that the good should be developed even among prisoners. He thinks the only way to protect society is to send out the ex-convict with a higher conception of citizenship. He conducts the only prison lecture course in the world, and this course is partly paid for by the prisoners themselves."

Warden Sanders' lectures are illustrated with word pictures. They are intensely interesting, absorbing. They are graphic and are weighted with a deep human interest. The lectures bring before the public the prisoner's measureless burden of human wickedness and woe; a city of fallen manhood and shame and tears, but also of hope. "There are," says an observer, "pathos, humor, sense and conclusion in the lectures."

Warden Sanders has filled many engagements under Chautauqua managements, as well as having spoken at different times under the administration of various other organizations.

All newspaper comment shows that in allowing the men under his charge to go to work outside of the prison for the townspeople and farmers of the vicinity, Warden Sanders was conscious of doing something of far more importance than merely adopting an expedient which offered itself.

Back of all of the Warden's work is the impulse to bring into practical and permanent expression the latent manhood which he believes is potential in each of his prisoners. His great object is to teach the men self-reliance and thrift and to quicken in them the aspiration that will awaken them to higher and ennobling things.

The New York *Evening Post* pays Warden Sanders the following high compliment:

"J. C. Sanders, warden of the Iowa State Penitentiary at Fort Madison, has gone farther than any other warden in the world to make life worth living for the men behind the bars. The primary purpose of the amusements, and especially of music, is to regenerate the souls of the imprisoned men and to refine their natures. Never is a convict called by his number, but by his first name. This is one way in which the management recognizes that each convict has a soul and an individuality. In the privileges of games, the enjoyment of the night school and the library, and in permission given to decorate their cells with pictures, and in the 'honor' system practices, the convicts are not allowed to lose sight of the fact that they have been incarcerated for the protection of society and the punishment of crimes."

The citizens of Fort Madison overlook the great problem of the upbuilding of human character to which Warden Sanders in all the particulars of his work is devoting himself, and see only the small detail of some of the prison men "picking cherries" in competition with the Fort Madison women and taking some of the odd jobs of the neighborhood away from the Fort Madison men.

Fort Madison Sues Warden of Penitentiary

"The employment of prison labor is a serious question down at Fort Madison," says the Cedar Rapids, Iowa, *Republican*.

The differences between the city administration and the prison authorities have brought a



J. C. Sanders, Warden Iowa State Penitentiary, Fort Madison, Iowa

dash which has resulted in a lawsuit in which the town of Fort Madison sues Warden Sanders. The suit is brought under an ordinance drawn to meet the case, recently passed by the Fort Madison council. The Warden is charged with permitting the prisoners to go about the city and to do odd jobs and ends of labor and, it is charged, this brings the prisoners in competition with free men. The citizens say that at times their municipality is overrun with prisoners seeking jobs. The Warden's reply is that the prisoners go where they are sent to labor and that the prisoners are desired and that for their labor they are paid the prevailing prices that any men would receive, that they do not work for lower wages than would be paid free men.

The Cedar Rapids *Republican* says:

"The labor situation in our penitentiaries is undergoing adjustments. We no longer believe in the contract labor systems of the past, under which private contractors have made what they could out of the ill-paid labor of the unfortunates. At the same time we have come to believe in a wider industrialization of prison labor. The task is to find the place for such labor, where it will be profitable to the state and to the convicts and their dependents, and still offer no serious competition to free labor. While we are bringing about this readjustment, it may be well for all of us to have patience and not jump into hasty criticisms. The adjustment must be reached somehow. Surely, there ought to be places where a few hundred men, under sentence, can work without injury to society."

During one month the prisoners received \$918.14 as wages for work done for private business houses and individuals, according to a report made to the Board of Control. Only one of the men who have been given permission to go outside of the walls to work has tried to get away and he changed his mind and came back.

About two hundred men are now on Warden Sanders' honor roll, and the possible increase in the men beyond this number is one of the things that has brought the question to an issue.

The Iowa *Republican* states the question clearly as the question looks to the eyes of the men and women who see their possible jobs taken by Warden Sanders' men:

"We assume it is not so much what has been done in the way of prison employment as the possibilities that stir Fort Madison people. There are something like six hundred men in the prison.

"The state is moving to abandon inside contract labor. This makes it necessary to give the men work elsewhere. The state has done nothing in the way of permanent outside employment. This brings to the people of Fort Madison the possibility of having several hundred men offered them in competition with free labor. It does not affect the men in the factories or shops, but it does affect many who live by day labor. Women pick cherries, and they find men from the prison picking them for money or on shares. The women have lost their work.

"Old men and boys mow lawns, cut weeds, make gardens, care for barns and furnaces. Prisoners are doing that kind of work and many men and boys have lost their work. Contractors employ common labor in building, in digging and laying sewers, in paving, and free labor gets considerable in that way. These men are in danger of losing their work.

"The *Republican* can see the possibilities of the situation. It is not criticising the Warden, for he has to look after his part in the contest. The best way to judge this proposition is to put one's self into the place of the cherry pickers, the grass and weed cutters, the street cleaners, the laborers on contracts, and then ask how we should feel."

The Fort Madison *Democrat* takes up the question of its home town and undertakes to set the municipality right in the eyes of the public:

"There has been a general misinterpretation of the object of the ordinance which resulted in the Warden's arrest, and there has followed a broadcast idea that Fort Madison as a city is antagonizing the policy of finding outdoor work for prisoners. Nothing was further from the minds of those who framed the ordinance. The city of Fort Madison has ever been a persistent advocate of the outdoor use of prisoners in a manner which will be directly beneficial to the state of Iowa, a use which has a hundred variations. The ordinance was directed against a retail use of prison labor where it came in opposition with privileged labor of individuals in the city, and to curb the promiscuous appearance of prisoners at large within the city limits."

The Clinton, Iowa, *Herald* questions if the public mind of Fort Madison is as free from feeling because of the mere fact that the men who are working in the neighborhood are prisoners as the *Republican* thinks it is. The *Herald* presents a similar case of the state university students working in competition with local citizens where no such objection to the work of transient citizens has been raised. The *Herald* says:

"The people of Fort Madison object to convicts picking cherries on shares, because it competes with home industry. But the students of the state university earned \$40,000 in Iowa City last year, and the students at Ames and Cedar Falls earned large sums. The people of Iowa City, Ames and Cedar Falls have as much right, legal and moral, to forbid the students of the state educational institutions to work in those cities as the people of Fort Madison have to forbid the convicts. In each case it is competition with local labor by people whose homes and main interests are outside. The course taken by Fort Madison is both foolish and futile."

The Council Bluffs *Nonpareil* also takes the broader view, endorsing the broad humane principles which Warden Sanders is following out. Under the heading, "A Heartless Ordinance," it says:

"Fort Madison city aldermen have passed an ordinance forbidding the working of prisoners within the city limits from the state penitentiary located at that place. Warden Sanders, acting under instructions from the Board of Control, gave no heed to the ordinance. He has been arrested for violation of the statute and a test case will be made.

"It looks at this distance as though the Fort Madison authorities were exceedingly narrow and selfish. Instead of forbidding this work by ordinance, they should co-operate with Warden Sanders in his effort to redeem men to lives of useful service to themselves and to the state.

"This is a Christian country. There is a sacred obligation resting upon every individual to be a good neighbor and friend to his fellow man. This obligation rests upon cities as it does upon individuals. Fort Madison people owe it to the state of Iowa and to humanity to work with and not against Warden Sanders in his efforts to save men."

Concerning the personal character and purpose of the Warden, the *Nonpareil* says further:

"Warden Sanders is one of the most humane and progressive wardens in the country. His whole aim is to transform the men placed in his charge from criminals into decent citizens. He tries to convince these men that the state desires to help rather than to punish them. To this end he has bent every energy. He has taken prisoners out of the penitentiary to work for wages. He has had them picking cherries and doing all sorts of work. Through his efforts these men have earned in dribblets thousands of dollars with which they have provided clothing for themselves or saved funds to help them when they were finally paroled or freed. In many

cases this money has gone to support dependent families."

A summary of the general opinion of the work Warden Sanders has been doing and of the correctness of his position in the present crisis is given in the Des Moines, Iowa, *Tribune*:

"Aside from the legal phase of the matter, there can be but one opinion among those who know anything of what Warden Sanders has been doing to encourage the men of the prison to become trustworthy workers.

"His men have done an enormous amount of work that otherwise would have not been done, have earned a large sum for the prison, and have become themselves the guardians of peace and good order that they might enjoy the opportunity."

Warden Sanders' Own Explanation of the Case

In order to give a clear understanding of the facts in the case, this magazine wrote to Warden Sanders for a statement of the local particulars, which, in a personal letter, Warden Sanders gives as follows:

"The custom of permitting certain inmates of this institution to work for some of our farmers so that they can earn money to help their families does not come from a special act which provides for that. Rather the question is from the administration's taking advantage of a clause in the statutes which permits the Warden to work the men outside of the prison walls.

"I began the custom in a small way several years ago when I first came here. As different farmers saw the benefit to themselves of the prisoners' work, the requests for help increased and the prison administration was able to try out a policy which, I am thankful to say, has proved of immense help to all concerned.

"I believe it would serve public good if all legislatures would pass a law permitting wardens of prisons to work trusted men at any place in the state in any way that would help along the individuals, providing always that prisoners be paid for their labor.

"I find that when a prisoner is directly benefited by his labor and is given the immediate and sole use of that benefit, he becomes a better man, not only as a prisoner, but also in contemplation of his future life as a free citizen. In fact, as we branch out and get further and further away from the old beliefs and therefore nearer to a normal existence under penal confinement, the moral natures of the men become strengthened, and through encouragement and with a continuation in good habits, many who were bent and crippled become straight and erect. A sense of personal responsibility and honor is

aroused and duties which were once tossed aside are carefully observed.

"From what I have said, it is not to be inferred that we lease men out. Our men do job work for the farmers, help them plow if needed, reap their harvests, clear wooded patches, build and paint barns, and in fruit season we assist them in gathering their fruit; and we do other things of like nature. We clean carpets, repair and varnish furniture, make brooms, do upholstering and contract for almost any kind of work we can get that is not in competition with skilled labor—and for all this we pay the men who do the work.

"We also work the men in camps and have three camps out at this time—one at Glenwood, one at Woodward, and one at Mt. Pleasant—each under the supervision of my own officers. The men are well fed, comfortably housed and are given all the freedom possible under the circumstances. The men at the camps are also paid for their services.

"The total number of men on our trusty list at this time is about two hundred. I could work twice as many if I had them, but there are still contract shops in the prison and the prison work must be done, therefore the number who can go outside is limited.

"My policy in all this work, as well as in the government of the men inside of the walls, has been to treat them fairly in every particular, having found by experience that in the heart of every man, however good or however bad, there is an undying respect for the 'square deal.' This method and the bolstering up of broken natures have kept the men at their posts under conditions which are not encouraging.

"I have not the power or the authority to offer the men any inducements to remain loyal except fair treatment. I cannot shorten the sentence of the deserving or hold out the faintest hope to any man that his work will be recognized in a way to help him get a parole or other release. Therefore, I can say with the keenest pleasure that even without any of these inducements, only one of them has violated the trust I put in him. This one man ran away, but even he, after being out one night, became conscience stricken and surrendered to a farmer. He asked the farmer to telephone to me that he had given himself up.

"From this record I believe that I am safe in saying that the nearer prisoners are permitted to live a normal life, the more they can be trusted to act as men. In this I should make one reservation: Some of them must first be educated to where they will wish to do the right thing."

Warden Sanders was charged with violating a city ordinance by allowing prisoners to pick cherries for a citizen. Mr. John Fletcher, assistant

attorney general, appeared in defense of Warden Sanders, which action took the case out of the local courts to the district court. Finally Judge W. S. Hamilton of the district court handed down a decision in which he ruled that the city ordinance prohibiting prisoners from remaining within the city unless on state duties is valid. Thus far the town of Fort Madison has won in the controversy with the state's warden.

An appeal has been taken to the Supreme Court of the state. Those who have supported Warden Sanders in his attempt to open a way for the employment of his prisoners and for them to come more into normal life believe that the Supreme Court will reverse the decision of the lower court and that the prisoners will be entitled to continue in the work they have been doing.

The prison authorities feel that they cannot now say what they will do if the case is decided against them. In all such matters the Warden is governed by the Board of Control and the Board now awaits the decision of the Supreme Court.

In further explaining the case, Warden Sanders at a later date in a personal letter to THE JOLIET PRISON POST writes:

"Conditions do not make it possible for money received for jobs to be paid directly to the men by the farmer or other person employing them. The men who do the work know what the job is worth. The prison receives the money and distributes it in proper proportion to the men who do the work.

"In some cases a piece of work is taken for a lump sum. In other and in most instances, the jobs are done by the day, conditions varying in regard to expenses, such as the supply of tools, feed, teams, etc. The prison does not solicit work. In all instances the work is done at the special instance of the men wanting it.

"I am very glad to say that all we have done has given eminent satisfaction. All men have at all times conducted themselves with decorum and I believe they do better and more faithful work than the majority of free men would do. Perhaps that is the reason that so many farmers and others want to employ our men. They do want our men and if I had more men at my disposal I could make use of them all.

"I am firmly of the opinion that the time to reform a man is while he is in prison, not after he goes out, and I am proud to say that most of my men who are getting the normal treatment are acting like normal, self-reliant beings and that they are falling into good habits. If I can only get them to save their money I shall

have accomplished a great deal. Saving is thrift and it may be that the lack of this ability or gift has had something to do with getting these men into trouble. I feel that this is true, for I am sure that many who have been denounced as bad men are not so at heart, and I believe the time will come when prisoners will concede to the punishment inflicted by the courts and will willingly get into line with any plans proposed to better their lives and to strengthen their purposes for morality.

"The whole question is to a great degree one of education and public opinion. When the public begins to meet the prisoner as an erring man and upon a fairer basis than that upon which it has met him, he will come out of the shell of suspicion which now encrusts him and will accept reasonable truth in the interest of society's protection. That appears to be the trend of conditions even now."

A deep human problem is being worked out at Fort Madison. A broader conception of human rights and of social duties is to be born and a clearer understanding of the adjustment of individual and social life to each other is to be gained. The interest of the men of the penitentiary and the men of the city of Fort Madison are one interest. The authorities of the two communities are to find how the interest of each is to be kept unimpaired.

CONTRIBUTIONS

THE POLICE COURT

By Joseph Matthew Sullivan

Of the Boston, Massachusetts, Bar.

The police court always possesses a peculiar fascination for loafers. Here the college rowdy, thief, loafer, and drunkard are supposed to meet on an equal footing. A burly court officer is stationed at the door to keep out idle busybodies and loafers. The fellow who is supported by the labor of his hard-working mother invariably has the most important business before the court. The police court runner is in evidence to carry the grist of business to the police court lawyer and incidentally to promise in return for his fee "freedom while you wait." The dock is filled with the offscourings of last night's revels from the saloons. The respectable housewife who in a moment of weakness stole some trifling articles from some department store will in a few min-

utes feel the wrath of the law. The department store lawyer is there to exert a malicious influence on the court in the matter of sentence. The stereotyped legal routine, the disposition of judges to believe only one side—that of the police—makes the administration of the criminal law in the police courts of our large American cities a screaming farce. The legal scale swings with a heartless regularity. Here we have a hospital of contagious moral leprosy, the judge is the legal surgeon and the police are the knives. The tout is there with wide-open ears, listening to obtain information and sell it, the stool thief is there to assist the police and therefore distract attention from his own villainy, the fellow with his "near dope" is sleeping on the benches, the "chump copper" is there dreaming of promotion; the fallen woman still promises to reform if wicked men will let her; the second-hand dealer is there to identify thieves and also to feather his own nest. Each and every type of humanity, crooked and straight, is there to keep informed on the business of his neighbor and incidentally neglect his own. The drunk who has forgotten the name he gave when arrested adds to the humor of the situation and his lapse of memory delays the court's business and increases the troubles of the clerk. Volumes could be written about the police court, the legal slaughter house, the place where justice too often miscarries, and where mistakes are made which can never be rectified.



LIMITED SELF-GOVERNMENT

By Fred E. Stuart

A Prisoner

Some of your contributors have dwelt upon the question of limited self government in this institution. Yet it seems to me that there are many men here who fail to grasp both the meaning of the expression or the full significance of the idea.

While the liberty which we associate with the term "limited self-government" does not imply a too open freedom it does mean that, through co-operation and helpfulness a large majority of the prisoners will to an extent be able to control the actions of their lives while here.

Too many of us have expected the administration to give us a "ready-made" system of self-

government. This is impossible. But a community such as ours could be managed successfully under the laws of *limited* self-government, should the laws be founded, as they would be, on justice. Justice is the unchanging, everlasting will to give each man his right. The plan must be worked out by the prisoners, subject to the approval of the officers of the administration. It may seem slow in coming, but we will yet reach it.



THE MESSAGE

By I. N. Mate

A Prisoner

Although an empty life of sin
Has always been my part,
Alone, tonight, I've won the fight,
And pledged another start.
In that still hour on bended knee
Within my heart there grew
A hope divine as I read this line:
"I will always pray for you."

Before me, through the flowing tears,
I saw a figure stand;
Close, close, she came, and breathed my name,
And held my drooping hand.
And now when hang the leaden skies,
And I am feeling blue,
I bend my ear, these words to hear:
"I will always pray for you."



A WHEEL WITHIN A WHEEL

By J. L.

A Prisoner

It has occurred to me that it would be a commendable plan for those prisoners here who, through either conduct or efficiency, have shown their appreciation of the Warden's efforts to lighten their burdens, to organize a "close corporation" honor squad of their own that would not only be honorable upon the surface, but honorable clear to the core. An organization of this kind, it seems to me, would be valuable to the men behind it and to the administration because of the principles of loyalty which are involved.

Doubtless there would be a number of persons who would disapprove of a movement of this

character. Through a perversion of facts and because of narrow vision some prisoners here have come to the conclusion that the officers of this institution are partly responsible for their condition. The result of this is that many are indifferent or, as too frequently is the case, antagonistic to the prison betterment policies of the administration.

REVIEWS

THE GROWING STATE USE PLAN

The practicability and naturalness of the state use plan in prison industry, is gradually being shown.

An Ohio paper publishes the following:

With the gradually disappearing prejudice against the use of prison-made goods on the part of county institutions, the demand for prison labor in producing such goods under the new law abolishing the contract labor system, is rapidly increasing and in many lines of such goods, the prison shops find difficulty now in keeping up with the demand."

The Youngstown, Ohio *Vindicator* says that the creation of a board to take the places of the twenty different boards that have hitherto managed the different Ohio state institutions, indicates that a marked economy is to ensue:

"The latest saving is in the rags that heretofore went to waste. All the rags are to be saved and sterilized and shipped to the penitentiary, where a machine will pick them to pieces, after which thirty per cent of new wool will be mixed and the material woven into blankets, ten thousand pair of which are needed every year at the institutions. This bit of saving means something like thirty thousand dollars to the State. Besides, the prisoners in the penitentiary have something to do that benefits the State, where formerly prisoners' labor was sold cheap to contractors who worked the prisoners on products that entered into competition with those of free labor."

In Nebraska the contracts for prison labor are terminating and the prison administration is gradually transferring the prisoners to other forms of industry.

The Lincoln, Nebraska, *State Journal* makes the following report:

"Machinery is being installed in the state penitentiary carpenter shop so that furniture can be

made on a larger scale than heretofore. Warden Fenton has planned for some time to increase the facilities of the shop so that most of the furniture required by all state institutions can be made at the prison. At present the prison shop has an order for fifty rocking chairs and thirty-five chiffoniers for the school for the blind at Nebraska City. Convict Snow, who is a skilled cabinet maker, will direct the work of the furniture manufacturing part of the carpenter shop."

The report of Warden W. V. Choisser, of the Southern Illinois Penitentiary, shows that the state use plan is well introduced in Illinois. Warden Choisser says:

"It is perhaps not generally known that our clothing factory manufactures practically all the clothing which is worn by the inmates of all the penal and charitable institutions in the state.

"The state penal and charitable institutions obtain their shoes and furniture from the Illinois State Penitentiary; they have their printing done at the Illinois State Reformatory and they obtain their clothing and hosiery from the Southern Illinois Penitentiary.

"When one of the state institutions desires clothing, they make a requisition on the Board of Prison Industries, specifying the kind of material and character of clothing desired, the number of suits or dresses and the sizes wanted. The State Board of Prison Industries, if they approve the requisition, forward the same to the Southern Illinois Penitentiary to be filled.

"When this requisition has been received by us we send samples of the goods to many wholesale dealers for bids. We award the contract to the lowest bidder. By following the competitive system we save the state approximately \$500 to \$1,000 a month.

"In addition to the clothing made for the Southern Illinois Penitentiary during the last year we made clothing for the Elgin State Hospital, Anna State Hospital, Kankakee State Hospital, Watertown State Hospital, Jacksonville State Hospital, Peoria State Hospital, Lincoln State School and Colony, Illinois School for the Blind, Illinois Soldiers' and Sailors' Home, Illinois Soldiers' Orphans' Home, Illinois Charitable Eye & Ear Infirmary, Illinois State Penitentiary, Illinois State Reformatory, St. Charles School for Boys, Illinois State School for the Deaf, Illinois State Training School for Girls, Chester State Hospital and Illinois Soldiers' Widows' Home.

"It will perhaps be interesting to know the great variety of clothing for the different institutions manufactured here, among which are men's suits and overcoats, youths' suits and boys' extra pants, men's and boys' extra vests, brown duck suits, ladies' aprons and bonnets, men's and boys' caps, underwear for men, women and boys' pajamas, house dresses for women, gloves, cotton and

leather palm, night gowns and night shirts, handkerchiefs for men and women, jumpers and jumper coats, overalls for men and boys, shirts for men and boys of percale, cambric, etc., skirts for women of muslin, flannelette, etc., undershirts for men and boys, waists for women, white lawn, etc., and waists for boys of gingham, etc.

"The establishment of the clothing factory was begun here by order of the Board of Prison Industries in September, 1904. By a slow process the factory was built up until we now have 90 sewing machines in full operation. The value of the machinery used in this plant, according to the last appraisement, is only \$7,511.80. Last year an average of 114 men were employed."

When the Booher-Hughes bill to limit interstate commerce in prison-made goods was before congress, William H. Whittaker, superintendent of the District of Columbia, Washington, which institution has a farm of 1,150 acres at Occoquan, Virginia, appeared before the Interstate Commerce Commission and made the following statement:

"Within the boundaries of a state the authorities can find employment for all prisoners under the state use plan.

"There are 700 prisoners at Occoquan, and there is work for all of them. The institutions of the district are taking the output of the labor of these people and never will there be any reason for shipping a dollar's worth of supplies from the labor of the prisoners other than to public institutions of the city of Washington.

"Our output consists of common brick, paving brick, crushed stone, and products raised on the farm. We have work for every prisoner in the open, without bars, locks or cells. It is not a question of the dollars and cents we can make out of these men. We must have an organization that will make of them, when possible, better citizens, and you cannot do this if you confine them to the machines, as is done under the contract system, and do nothing else with them.

"This is one of the great wrongs of the contract system. Six years ago when I stood before a similar committee and argued a good deal as these gentlemen have who are opposing the bill, I thought if the bill passed it would stop the business of the prisons of the country. I have changed my mind in this respect since and am convinced that the prisoners of each state can be worked within the boundaries of the individual state under the state use plan and a large per cent of them redeemed to society.

"One state may solve this problem in one way and another state in another. We solve it in the District of Columbia by honest labor, sunlight and fresh air on the farm—by doing all sorts of work that is done in any city of a thousand people.

There is not a state in this union but has thousands and hundreds of thousands of acres of waste land to redeem and roads to build, the waste land can be redeemed and the roads constructed with the labor of the prisoners."

Mr. Whittaker has been in prison work for twenty years and for the last four years he has been developing the work of the Oecoquan farm. His experience and practical knowledge in prison work, make his remarks well worthy of consideration.

It is not clear that in the large circuit of exchanges counted in periods of years, the state use plan will have any different effect upon the market than if the prison made goods were sold in a regular way to dealers who would offer them for public sale. In the whole country a certain quantity of goods are manufactured and a certain quantity are consumed. Selling prison made goods to the state or selling them for final private consumption, can make no ultimate difference.

But particular interests are affected when goods of one or another line are manufactured and put upon the market and it is the particular interests that make the cry. But while this is all true, the state use plan serves the rights of the prisoners as well, and it does avoid the conflict with interests which feel that they are not properly considered.

The *Register and Leader* of Des Moines, Iowa, criticises the restrictions which the platform adopted at the progressive state meeting in Iowa would put upon prison labor in employing it only in producing goods for state consumption. The *Cedar Rapids Republican* commends the position of the *Register and Leader* and further says:

"There is no human sense in such limitations. It will not free other labor from competition, for 'it means that the state institutions will be getting along without the products of free labor.' It curtails the markets of the free laborers to the same extent. It is a mere beating around the bush. There is nothing in these contentions and distinctions. Surely there ought to be a place where the products of a few hundred imprisoned men can be used without upsetting our industrial system. A few hundred men cannot glut the markets of the country with their products, when it is known that the efficiency of such labor is not high."

The *Republican* then takes up the question on humanitarian grounds and says further:

"The men who are under court sentences are still human beings and they are entitled to do work that will keep them out of idleness. The thing that free labor objects to most is the fact that such labor, in the past, has been sold to contractors at prices below the wages commanded by labor outside, thus creating unfair competition. There are no objections to men in prisons working, but there are objections to them working for contractors at a rate of 50 or 60 cents a day. That is the basis of the evil that has been complained of."

But it is found that the humanitarian demands can be met under a state use system of employment as fully as under any other system, and since the state use system will do away with all question, it is likely that it will gradually make way.



PRISON PROGRESS IN THE SOUTHERN STATES

An effort is being made by the North Carolina Prisoner's Aid Society, headquarters at Raleigh, to abolish the flogging of prisoners of that state. North Carolina has a law against this practice, but the guards sometimes indulge their own feelings at the expense of the prisoners.

Rev. Sidney Love, secretary of the society, makes the following statement:

"We are kept busy trying to make prison guards obey the law prohibiting flogging. When we hear that some ignorant, brutal prison guard has flogged a prisoner, we file affidavits against him with the prosecuting solicitor, charging assault and battery. We have had several guards at Raleigh indicted recently. It was only the other day that the supreme court of North Carolina upheld the constitutionality of the anti-flogging law by confirming sentences imposed on prison guards for flogging prisoners."

Judge Carter of Elizabeth City, North Carolina, has ordered that no prisoner shall be struck by a guard and also that the shackles shall be removed from the legs of the prisoners of Pasquotank county. Twenty-five prisoners were liberated from shackles. A number of the guards resigned their positions, saying that they cannot manage the prisoners if they do not have some way of enforcing their authority over them.

The Norfolk, Virginia, *Virginian Pilot* says:

"Judge Carter has plainly indicated that he does not approve of the manner in which the convicts have been handled by the officers of the

gang. He has made reference several times to iron neck rings and other such things in an impersonal way. Recently he ordered the convicts to be brought before him and all day he was engaged in holding a private examination of the convicts as to the manner in which they have been treated by the guards.

"Before court adjourned he ordered that the shackles be removed from the legs of the convicts and that they should be brought before him in the morning free of these incumbrances. He also issued an order that no convict shall be struck, and if any person disregards this order, while he is in Pasquotank county, that person would be brought before him and punished.

"The order of the judge was complied with and the shackles were removed.

"Judge Carter advocates the honor system among the convicts and believes that it will work. The officers are doubtful if the plan can be made to work here and they believe members of the gang will run away at the first opportunity.

"Various rumors have been going the rounds for some time as to the cruelties practiced upon the convicts and Judge Carter is determined to get at the bottom of these reports and find out the truth."

But the system of working prisoners out in the open without shackles is proving out and it is being found that those who propose to deal with prisoners more on the basis of manhood and less on the basis merely of master and subject, are in a great measure right.

Dr. W. H. Oates, state prison inspector for Alabama, who has been inspecting conditions, has filed a report in which he says that at Bessemer he found thirty-six prisoners confined in the jail and that all of the prisoners had on shackles.

Dr. Oates has several times taken up the matter with the city officials and he had supposed that something had been done toward removing the shackles. He says:

"They are put on when a prisoner is convicted and worn continuously by him until he has served his sentence. A number of prisoners have ugly sores upon their ankles caused by these leg irons.

"I was under the impression that they were removed at night, if not altogether discontinued, but I find that I was wrong and that neither has been done.

"In my opinion, the shackling of prisoners from the moment of their incarceration until their dismissal, particularly when prisoners have been convicted only of misdemeanors, is to say the least, inhuman, if not cruel, and is a sad commentary and reflection on the city of Bessemer, and should by all means be instantly abolished.

"I respectfully call the attention of the mayor and city council of Bessemer to the fact that several of the counties of this state, including Madison, Pike, Morgan and Etowah, are working long-term convicts on the roads without shackles, with very few escapes."

The Birmingham, Alabama, *Ledger* reports that Mr. Frank Gafford, street commissioner, says that fifty of the 120 city prisoners now at work on public roads are working without shackles. It is being conceded that State Commissioner Weatherby's experiment of working men without chains, is proving a success. Mr. Gafford says:

"One of the unshackled prisoners who escaped from the work on the new crematory at West End about ten days ago, was captured Monday. Only three unshackled prisoners have run away so far. We have caught two of them and hereafter those two will wear the chains."

At New Decatur, Alabama, the plan of putting prisoners on their honor has been tried and it is found to be a decided success. The putting of men upon their honor has been carried to the extent of allowing the prisoners to sleep and to board at home, if they wish to do so, instead of being kept in the city jail. As will be seen, the men are placed on their honor entirely.

Mr. J. Newton Hendrix, prisoners' guard for New Decatur, says of the plan:

"The plan is working admirably. We have but little trouble with the convicts now. It is very seldom that a convict tries to escape, and when he does, the other convicts assist in his capture. We place them entirely on their honor and they are given extra time for good behavior. And I tell you what, I find that but very few convicts will take advantage of the liberty given them. They work better and it costs the city less to work them under this plan.

"The convicts are allowed to sleep and board at home, if they have a home and want to go there. If they board at home they are allowed on their time for boarding themselves. If they have no home they can board and sleep at the city jail, but they are not locked up. They are at liberty to go at will, the same as anyone.

"I tell you it doesn't matter if a man has broken the law and how low he has become, he still has some honor about him. I have found this out in working convicts under the plan we are now using in New Decatur. The man who has broken the law feels that he is still a man and he appreciates that someone still has some confidence in him when he serves out his sentence on the streets; he responds to being placed on his honor instead of being treated like a brute."

The Birmingham *Age-Herald* gives the following endorsement of the honor system as it is working out at New Decatur:

"The New Decatur city jail is no longer used as a place of confinement for the city convicts. New Decatur is today, perhaps, the only city in Alabama, if not in the entire South, that places its convicts on their honor.

"New Decatur convicts are no longer shackled, and they are not locked up in the city jail when they are not at work. When the day's work is done, they are allowed to go home. If they have no home they are allowed to sleep in the city jail, but they are not locked up. They are at liberty to go and come as they choose. They can board at home if they like and, if they do, they are given credit on their time for their board.

"J. Newton Hendrix, who has charge of the New Decatur city convicts and who is largely responsible for the inauguration of this plan, says that this system has been in practice in New Decatur for several months past and that he has not lost a single convict. He states if a convict attempts to escape the other convicts will assist in his capture and return."



WIVES AND CHILDREN AND THE PRISONERS' WAGE

While the southern states are somewhat behind the West and North in improvement of prison conditions and in making their penal policy more humane, the South, nevertheless, is moving along in the same direction in which the other sections of the country are moving.

At a recent meeting of the Louisiana Prison Reform Association, at New Orleans, the New Orleans *Picayune* reports, Secretary John L. Sutton gave a detailed report of his appearance before a senate committee in the interest of the parole law, indeterminate sentences and provision for the wives and children of prisoners.

Senator E. M. Stafford, in reporting on the passage of reform laws, declared that the association's interest in matters affecting reform was felt deeply by the law-makers at Baton Rouge.

Colonel Fairbrother, publisher of *Everything* has taken a deep interest in the betterment of the condition of prisoners in the South, and deplors the fact that prisoners are farmed out by states to private corporations. *Everything* urges that a part of the wages paid for the men should go to the men's wives and children. It asks:

"What moral right have we to detect a man in crime and send him to some corporation—take his wage from him and leave his wife and innocent children to suffer and maybe to starve unless they go to a county home with its humiliation and shame because the man violated a law of society?"

Everything's plan is that prisoners who are working in camps "should each day be given credit for the work they do. At the end of the year each should be charged with his actual expenses and his account settled—in the meantime, the state should advance monthly what is really due his wife and children."

The Charlotte, North Carolina, *Observer* comments on the question of the right of the prisoner's family to a portion of his wages for its support and says:

"The question of the state's responsibility to the family left helpless by the conviction of the man upon whom its support has depended, is one which is being agitated in many parts of the country and one which sooner or later will have to be faced by the law-makers."

Members of the Detroit Woman's Political Civic Club recently visited the Jackson, Michigan, state prison as guests of Warden and Mrs. Nathan F. Simpson. The visitors sought information of how they might best aid the dependent wives and children of the men confined in the prison who had been sent from Detroit.

The Indianapolis *News* makes the following comment on the question of a prisoner's wage and on using it as a means of support for the prisoner's family:

"That a gradual change is coming over the effort at apportioning punishment to make it better fit the crime, is apparent even at a hasty glance. The whole course of the indeterminate sentence has been in this direction. There is, and has long been, an attempt to adjust the punishment even in ordinary cases so that the effects will fall as little as possible on the innocent.

"It is now suggested that the Chicago Bridge-well inmates be paid for their services, the proceeds to go to the families of the prisoners. This plan is advanced by the civil service commission of the city as one of the methods of relieving the rigors while holding the essential substance. The suggestion is not entirely new, but its success in Detroit and its essential justice may bring it into general use in time.

"It is plainly seen that one of the great results is the relief of the wives and children and other

dependent ones of men who are justly sentenced. With them society has no quarrel. But in a large way society has to support them while the bread-winner is incarcerated and their dependence is gone, and so they are punished, and society itself is punished, while it maintains the guilty ones in idleness."

Mr. E. A. Snively, former chairman of the Board of Pardons, of Illinois, in remarking upon a statement by Judge Coverly, says:

"During a service of sixteen years on the board of pardons, I took part in the investigation of hundreds of cases similar to that to which the judge refers. There have been and are now many men serving time in the penitentiaries and houses of correction whose imprisonment inflicts more punishment upon their wives and children than upon the prisoners.

"At my request James F. Morris, of Springfield, introduced a bill in the last legislature providing that the wardens of the various prisons keep an account with each prisoner, and, after charging him with the expenses for his keeping and clothing, should then give him credit for his work and the difference should be paid to the wife and family of the prisoner. In a large number of cases it is the innocent who suffer, while the guilty man is better fed and better clothed than before his conviction."

The Milwaukee *Wisconsin* considers a possible concrete case and discusses the principles involved as follows:

"The woman's party of Cook county, Illinois, has come out in advocacy of a law whereby the convict in prison shall be employed in public work at prevailing wages, such pay to go for the support of his family, thus relieving them from dependency upon charity.

"This suggests a problem which is lost sight of too often in the punishment of individuals who misbehave. Often it happens that fines are exacted from men who have been arrested for drunkenness when the men are the sole supporters of families, and the mulcting of them in fines imposes punishment not on them but on those dependent on them. There have been numerous instances in Milwaukee of this phase of the miscarriage of justice. A man becomes crazed by drink and beats his wife. The wife, alarmed for her safety, calls upon a policeman for aid. The policeman arrests the offender, who is sentenced to pay a fine or stand committed to the house of correction.

"If he pays the fine the money comes out of the family coffer, and his wife and children suffer the loss. If he is unable and his family are unable to command the ready cash for paying the fine, he goes to the house of correction, in which

case his wages stop and it may be he loses his position as a bread-winner, to the serious detriment of those dependent on his earnings.

"The system is crude—barbarously crude. It is a travesty on justice. It whips the victims of the offense. It is vicarious atonement of a kind that finds no sanction in religion or common sense. There ought to be a better method of dealing with drunkenness, and with disorderly conduct, than this, which often punishes the sufferers by the misdemeanor more severely than the misdemeanor."

Ohio pays certain of her prisoners a wage and provides that nine-tenths of the prisoner's earnings shall be sent home to his wife.

New Jersey, since 1911, has had a law which provides for a prisoner's wage and that a part or all of this shall be sent to the prisoner's family.

EDITORIALS FROM PRISON JOURNALS

These editorials are abridged when it is practicable to do so and still to preserve unimpaired the principal thought.

Ground for Permanent Betterment

[Reprinted from Our View Point, Washington State Penitentiary, Walla Walla]

We hope to convince the public that the only sane and economically sound method of treating the criminal, is that which is based upon his reform rather than upon his punishment; and that this can be accomplished only by fostering, instead of destroying, his self-respect. We believe that the people will see that it is poor business policy to keep men confined at unremunerative labor, at an actual expense to the state, when they may, as is the case in Minnesota and elsewhere, become a source of revenue, and at the same time earn enough money to help support their dependent families, who otherwise will become a public charge or will be forced into a life of immorality. We hope to arouse the people of this state to an increased sense of their responsibility toward the men confined in this institution; to convince them that their civic duty is only begun with the apprehension and conviction of the criminal; that their greater duty consists in leaving nothing undone which may lead to his rehabilitation.

On the other hand, we hope to be able to influence the attitude of the men within the walls

toward society in general; to arouse into activity that higher nature which lies dormant in all men; to inspire them along lines of self-development and self-restraint; and to help turn their thoughts into channels which will fit them to become useful citizens—useful alike to themselves and to the community in which they may live.



Do You Believe in Prison Friendship?

[Reprinted from The Mirror, Minnesota State Prison, Stillwater]

We believe it is true that prison life to a great extent is unnatural, but that does not signify that the nature of man undergoes a change unless he wills it. We have heard that a prison is a poor place to form friendships.

Naturally, the population of a prison is cosmopolitan, the inmates are of every description, but social conditions to an extent prevail and personal likes and dislikes are not altered because of prison restrictions. Personal attributes, we believe, are more noticeable here because of close confinement. Noting these attributes we are more inclined to express opinions than were we in the world at large.

We all know the value of true friendship. Friendship is a joy that knows no sorrow; we trust it as we trust a mother-love and its spark will kindle anytime. But, these friendships are rare. If you find that you like a fellowman in prison, like him as you would like to have him like you, regardless of the opinions of others. And as the years go by and you find him true, still regardless of the opinions of others—like him more.



Grading Prisoners

[Reprinted from New Era, U. S. Penitentiary, Leavenworth, Kansas]

Nebraska's state board of control has arranged to furnish its prisoners in the state penitentiary at Lincoln with three different colored uniforms, as provided for by the last legislature. The uniform for the first grade will be blue with gold braid on the sleeve; second grade, blue without braid; and the third grade will wear plain uniforms of gray. The men are assigned to the grades according to their conduct.

The grading system, with new uniforms for

the first grade men, is in the course of evolution here and we feel certain that the moral effect of this recognition of good conduct will prove beneficial. It creates a distinction, a goal to strive for, with a reward of merit for effort.

We approve of the grading system even more than of abolishing numbers, which is also taking place here. Human nature demands something tangible for reward of endeavor. Men serving sentences go backward, mentally, morally and physically, when they have nothing to look forward to other than the monotony found in doing time.

Many create for themselves a goal while in prison. But the oppressiveness of confinement on the great majority, whose creative powers are limited, serves to offset any method they put forth for their own rehabilitation or advancement.

And so we are thankful for the grading system, and for the abolition of numbers and for any and all things that will help men out of the ruts so common and so easily gotten into, in prison life.



An old negro was recently brought before a justice in Mobile. It seemed that Uncle Mose had fallen foul of a bulldog while in the act of entering the henhouse of the dog's owner.

"Look here, Uncle Mose," the justice said informally, "didn't I give you ten days last month for this same thing? It was the same henhouse you were trying to get into. What have you got to say for yourself?"

Uncle Mose scratched his head.

"Mars Willyum, yo sent me ter de chain gang fer tryin' ter steal some chickens, didn't ye?"

"Yes; that was the charge."

"An don't de law say yo' can't be charged twice wid de same 'fense?"

"That no man shall be twice placed in jeopardy for the identical act, yes."

"Den, sah, yo' des hab to let me go, sah. Ah war after the same chickens, sah."—*Pittsburgh Chronicle*.



Under severe discipline each infraction of the rules meant cruel and degrading punishment, frequently causing loss of health and hastening death.

REPRINTS

The headings of the reprints are written by the editors of this magazine.

Sound Prison Reform

[Reprinted from Chicago Tribune]

From Maine to California, says a writer in the east, prisons are getting back to mother earth, back to the land. The old style congregate penitentiary with its gray walls and gray buildings is disappearing. Its place is taken by the prison farm. The convict in these newer prisons is garbed in a farmer's costume with a dominant shade of gray, but no stripes. He works in the open air. The number of guards has been reduced to a minimum. Finally, when the prisoner is restored to society once more, he comes out of his confinement not a frail, broken down individual, diseased in body and anti-social in spirit, but a man whose physique has been built up and whose sense of honor has been developed to a much higher standard than the one that characterized him before he was deprived of his freedom.

The adult convict is not the only one who responds readily to the call of mother earth, who is benefited and rehabilitated by the close communion with nature. The incorrigible lad who has been the bane of the old fashioned reform school, who apparently seemed "too tough" for any reforming influence to reach him, was found to lose many of his subversive traits when taken from the reform school that savored too strongly of prison and placed in a reformatory that was in practically every essential a farm. Miss Katharine B. Davis, commissioner of correction in New York, has recently taken some forty of the toughest young offenders from an old style reformatory and placed them on the land under the honor system and the result was fairly marvelous. With the exception of an escape or two the rest of the boys have lost their savage hatred of all rules and order and are rapidly going forward in the direction of decent, respectable manhood.

It is a pity, however, that this benign influence of mother earth is employed only in restoring convicts to society. It should be used to keep men and boys from becoming convicts. The world's ancient and honorable profession of tilling the soil is too often neglected nowadays for more glittering but less substantial positions behind store counters or factory benches in the large and overcrowded cities. The back to the land movement in prisons is a good way out of a bad situation. Such a movement to the land among the thousands upon thousands of men who waste their lives in a hand to mouth existence in the cities would go far towards reducing not only our prison population and burdens, but also many of our acute civic and social problems.

No Closed Season for Killing Husbands in Cook County

[Reprinted from Chicago Tribune]

The lengthening roll of women acquitted of murder in Cook county is impressive enough—no one can doubt that. Is it really impossible to convict a woman of serious crime hereabouts? In the Higgs case the state did not demand the death penalty, but the jury was not willing to send the woman to the penitentiary. Why?

Assuming that the evidence was legally sufficient and a conviction warranted, assuming that it was ably presented; assuming that the jury was representative of the average character and intelligence of the community, the conclusion must be that the jurors permitted sentiment or sentimentality to override their judgment and conscience. The "ifs" are formidable, but no one who has not sat in court and followed the whole trial attentively can discuss a case without many such ifs. However, we do not believe that Cook county is peculiar in its treatment of women charged with murder or homicide. There have been no revolutionary changes in its population. There have been no general waves of hysteria or emotionalism. If nations cannot be indicted, populous and settled counties, with schools, newspapers, churches, civic bodies, etc., are equally immune. Offhand comment is inevitable, but its value is slight.

It is, however, reasonable to suppose, as some leading women do, that mixed juries of men and women would bring in fairer verdicts in a certain class of cases. Of course, society is gradually approaching that consummation, and we shall see what we shall see. Woman is not cruel to woman, but lawyers' trade tricks and melodramatic accessories that affect mere man when judging women won't go down with experienced and thinking women.



Public Policy Demands That Suits for Divorce Be Contested Where the Defendant Has a Legitimate Defense

[Reprinted from Philadelphia, Pa., Record]

The judge who announced that he should grant an order for alimony in all uncontested divorce cases was moved by his observation that a man would part with his wife without a pang, but could not part with any of his money without keen anguish. A general practice of this sort would end collusive divorces. Of course, in most cases where one party seeks a divorce the other is not particularly anxious to maintain the marriage. But if the husband has any defense against his wife's charges good public policy demands that he should make it. Otherwise, divorce is granted practically at the application of either party.

Slow, but Coming

[Reprinted from Louisville, Ky., Courier-Journal]

The chairman of the Kentucky prison commission has come forward with the gratifying assurance that the commission has plans for the employment of the convicts; that no contract will be let for a period of years and that no contract will be made "unless it contains a provision subjecting it to all acts of the legislature affecting contract labor."

There is the further assurance in the chairman's letter, published in Saturday's Courier-Journal, that no contractor has made a demand for a return to the practice of whipping the prisoners, and that the present warden of the Frankfort prison "is secure in his position . . . and if an attempt is made to displace him it will fail."

The Courier-Journal has no desire to misrepresent the commissioners, the contractors or any one else and has no interest in the matter other than a feeling in common with all good citizens that no backward steps should be taken in prison management. The state has made some substantial progress in its penal affairs. The day of deliverance from the leasing system is still far distant, but we are getting nearer to it. Time has been when prison authorities ate meekly out of the contractors' hands. If the situation in this respect has been reversed the commission and the commonwealth are to be congratulated.



No Law Nor Place for Defectives

[Reprinted from Chicago Tribune]

In sentencing a boy "moron"—in plain lay English a mental defective—to an indefinite term at the Pontiac reformatory the other day Judge Dever pointed out that if the boy defendant had not changed his plea of "not guilty" to one of "guilty" all the testimony of Dr. Hickson of the municipal psychopathic laboratory, or of other psychologists and scientific experts in criminology, would have had to be excluded. The boy having admitted his guilt—the charge was murder—the court was free to hear experts and take their statements as to the boy's actual mental limitations and arrested development into account for the sole purpose of fitting his punishment.

Judge Dever further pointed out that Pontiac was only a makeshift and that society has provided no proper place for morons or other mental defectives who are degrees below normal without being idiots or insane persons.

This means that as a matter of fact there is neither law nor local habitation for a class of delinquents and defectives that is known to science to be quite large. And not to science alone. Sheriffs, wardens, keepers, and prison commissioners who are innocent of the least claim to psychological authority know from direct and abundant experience and say very frankly that many of their prisoners, adult and

other, are mentally defective, though not "insane" in a medical sense.

The law treats these as if they were normal persons, and expects results from ordinary punishment that cannot possibly be secured in the penitentiaries and houses of correction. Here, then, is a problem for the legislature. The criminal law, as *The Tribune* has said already and now repeats, must catch up with science and with fact. The legislature should provide for an investigation of the whole situation with regard to defectives whom chance or bad environment seizes upon and tempts into grave crime.



Keeping the Door of Opportunity Open in Wisconsin

[Reprinted from La Crosse, Wis., Tribune]

Perhaps not many Wisconsin people are familiar with the facts set forth in the following statement:

Wisconsin's prison system is headed in the right direction. At Waupun they are beginning to trust the convicts. The men are taken to various parts of the state to work on the roads, and are allowed the same freedom which any other group of workmen have. They work under foremen instead of guards and their clothing does not suggest convicts.

The idea is working well and promises to be of great economic value to the state.

However, its greater value lies in the effect upon the convicts. The true mission of the law is to reform, not to punish. Modern courts recognize no such thing as vengeance. Penalization is a deterrent, not retribution. The more we make our convicts feel that the door of honest opportunity is not closed to them, the less we convince them that they are lost souls, the more shall we be able to restore them to useful citizenship. To this end we must work as strongly as is consistent with public safety. Wisconsin has not been a leader in this direction, but she gives evidences of falling in line.



Honor System a Success in Wisconsin

[Reprinted from Fond du Lac, Wis., Reporter]

That the honor system recently adopted at Wisconsin state prison is proving a decided success is shown by a recent statement of Ralph Smith, chairman of the state board of control. He said: "Not an incident has occurred nor a circumstance arisen in connection with the experiment in adoption of the honor system in the Wisconsin penitentiary institutions to upset our faith in that system." Smith's statement in itself furnishes sufficient argument in favor of a continuance of the honor system which Wisconsin is still experimenting with, a system which has proven successful in states throughout the union. The honor men employed in the convict camps at Taycheedah and on the Chester r,

while taking full advantage of the liberties allowed them, nevertheless have not violated any of the rules adopted for the government of the camps. They are enjoying their liberty to the utmost, but at the same time by strict observance of the rules are demonstrating that they are in earnest in their desire to reform and to again become law abiding citizens. The exchange of the grey prison walls for fresh air and sunlight is doing wonders with those honor men. They are viewing life with new eyes. They are realizing what law observance will mean to them and they are doing all in their power to prove that the prison officials have adopted the right course in dealing with them.



Let the German Army Come to Joliet

[Reprinted from Chicago Daily News]

London, England, Oct. 10.—A dispatch from Amsterdam to Reuter's Telegram Company, dated Friday night, says:

"During yesterday's bombardment of Antwerp some shells exploded on the roof of the prison. The warders immediately liberated the prisoners.



A Kentucky Gentleman

[Reprinted from St. Paul, Minn., Pioneer Press]

Warden Wells of the Kentucky state prison was heartily applauded when at a recent session of the American Prison Association he declared himself to be in favor of permitting prisoners to converse with each other. His avowal, if it could be heard, would find an echoing response in the heart of every prisoner in every silent and lonely cell in the land. For of all the methods employed to punish criminals, that of refusing them permission to hold converse with their fellows is the most cruel and blighting to the human spirit ever conceived.

One has only to isolate himself from his fellow men for a day or two, speaking to and being hailed by no one, to bring him to a profound realization of the absolute need of conversation in one's daily life. With a prisoner the prohibition against talking is infinitely more depressing than it would be with a free man. Cut off from converse with his neighbors, he is driven in on himself, the sickening sense of his isolation is made doubly real to him, and brooding and moroseness become almost second nature to him.

If reformation and not mere retribution, is to be the new note in prison management, then it must inevitably follow that conversation—if only in a limited way—may be indulged in by the prisoners. For how can a man be reformed if he is forced to consider himself so much of an outcast that he cannot even speak to and be spoken to by his comrades?

Release the Innocent and Punish the Guilty

[Reprinted from Chicago Tribune]

The council committee that is investigating the causes of the growth of crime in Chicago has been provided, in the statistical report and study of Miss Edith Abbott, with an excellent and indispensable basis. Of course, statistics may "prove" anything and nothing in certain hands they require careful interpretation. But certain conclusions emerge almost at once from the report, and these raise grave issues.

Crime is increasing. The crime waves are realities, not fictions. Yet the mills of law and justice show little improvement in efficiency. The person arrested for a serious offense actually stands only one chance in thirty of going to the penitentiary. The county's costly machinery of justice seems to be maintained almost wholly either for the purpose of freeing the innocent or for the purpose of fining and imprisoning those who are charged with petty and trivial offenses; the criminals who are a menace to the community—as to habitual criminals, by the way, there are no figures or data worthy of the name in the county or city—somehow escape conviction and punishment.

Now, justice is not justice unless it promptly releases the innocent apprehended on suspicion in addition to punishing the guilty. But the "in addition" is vital. If too many of the guilty go free, there is something wrong with the machinery, from the patrolman and detective up to the Appellate courts. And it hardly needs adding that if something is wrong with the machinery that is set up to prevent, deter and punish crime, that defect itself becomes a potent cause of crime—or of the disproportionate increase in criminality.



Arousing the Better Instincts in Prisoners

[Reprinted from Mankato, Minn., Review]

Convict life becomes increasingly pleasant. One of the most cheerful pictures of it is given in a description of the daily routine at Auburn, N. Y.

Every day, at 4:30 p. m., the 1,300 inmates knock off for recreation. A bugler sounds the call, and the men pour out from the cells and corridors to the big prison yard. Another signal, and they break ranks and proceed to have a good time for an hour and three-quarters.

Scores of them organize baseball games. Others start bowling, with the level ground for alleys and balls and pins of their own making. Others sit in the shade and play checkers. Old friends, weary of silence, meet and stroll about in conversation. Here and there the tinkle of a mandolin or banjo is heard. A piano is hauled out, and a gifted convict "bangs the ivories" while others practice the tango and maxixe.

There are no guards in sight. Their places are

taken by officers of the Mutual Welfare League, a local prison organization. If any man abuses his freedom, they suspend him from membership and bar him from the yard. So there is little trouble.

If the warden happens to wander into the yard, carrying the gold-headed cane the league has given him, the men touch their caps and he responds with a friendly "hello!" Sometimes he joins in the games.

"A nice way to treat murderers and burglars and highwaymen!" snorts a citizen with old-fashioned notions on penology.

But somehow, it seems to make human beings out of a good many of the prisoners, and arouse better instincts in all of them.



Third Honor Camp in Wisconsin

[Reprinted from Milwaukee, Wis., Free Press]

The third convict honor camp to be established in the state this summer was founded recently when Warden Woodward sent four prisoners from the state penitentiary to the site of the new tuberculosis sanatorium at Tomahawk lake.

The men were placed on the honor roll and are in charge of Superintendent Grosskaupf. Their privileges and the camp regulations are the same as those at the Taycheedah camp and at the Chester road camp, between Waupun and the village of Chester. The convicts will assist in the construction of the new tuberculosis sanatorium.

The camp is distinctive inasmuch as it is located more than 150 miles from the state prison. The other two camps are within twenty miles of the penitentiary.



Flowers and Music

[Reprinted from Youngstown, Ohio, Vindicator]

The state prison authorities at Santa Fe in New Mexico have learned something of how to arouse the better nature of the prisoners, as prison authorities and workers everywhere have learned that after all it is not punishment so much as the right kind of treatment to be given those who must pay the penalty of violated law with their freedom. There's a different notion generally held now of the purpose of penalty and the method of enforcing it.

But to go back to the case of the prison authorities way down in New Mexico. It appears they've learned the one great truth that it's near to nature that man must get, where he can not easily go wrong, for, as Young says, the course of nature is the art of God. Somebody thought of building a conservatory and permitting a few of the convicts to work among the flowers. Others of the prisoners found out about it and were eager to be employed about the place where flowers were grown. The warden of the prison says it is impossible to estimate the good the flowers have done the prison-

ers, some of them the most desperate men in the country, who when free were held in terror. They have been as happy as children when having the opportunity to work in the conservatory.

It is in flowers and music that we find the influence to arouse the best that is in people, no matter whether they be free to go about as they please or be serving time for their misdeeds. It is to childhood we must look for the largest love and enjoyment of flowers, and childhood is the stage of innocence, of appreciation of good because every effort is made to surround it with only that. It is not the appreciation of contrast that comes of years of experience in the world of affairs and events and misfortunes that befall.

After all this would be a rather dreary earth if it were not a blooming earth. It's the blossoms on our pathway that cheer us to the noblest impulses.



The Probation System in New York State

[Reprinted from New York World]

New proof of the satisfactory working of the probation system is given by the figures showing the increase of the number of probationers in the state from about 2,000 seven years ago to the present total of 10,029.

Ten thousand first offenders at liberty under suspended sentence and free to earn an honest living and reclaim themselves—and with the incentive to exert themselves to that end as the alternative of imprisonment—are 10,000 good citizens in the making. Is there any question that they are far more likely to live down their offense and regain their self-respect under these conditions, than after confinement in a cell?

Society nowadays exhibits great concern over the "reclamation of the criminal" as the best object of prison punishment. In providing individual offenders with the incentive to work out their own reclamation and in giving them the opportunity it supplies the best method of accomplishing that desired result.



West Virginia Prisoners at Road Labor

[Reprinted from Iowa City, Iowa, Republican]

It appears that West Virginia has solved, in part at least, a problem of interest to every person in the United States—good roads—by employing its prisoners on such work. One cannot commend convict labor when it competes against free labor, but when employed for the public good, under regulations that insure proper treatment of men paying the penalty they owe to society for violating the law, and this use does not conflict with the freeman, it is good for the state to so employ them.

The economic side of the question of convict labor appeals to the common sense of the public generally, as the report of the committee on prisons

and prison labor on the work done in one West Virginia camp shows that the average cost was 83 cents for citizen labor compared to 30 cents for prison labor. When it is remembered that these men are not in competition against each other, and that free labor is not menaced in any way, it shows that West Virginia has solved to a great extent her prison problem and at the same time has made a great stride forward in the movement for good roads, which also means better schools. The report shows that three convict road camps were established, the men being under the honor system and living in tents. Two of the camps were located on a stream, and the men each evening would go bathing and enjoy all the liberties of camp life. Three Italians attempted to escape, but the Americans and negroes proved themselves worthy of trust.



Sentence the Man to Work

[Reprinted from Canton, N. C., Observer]

A man by the name of Smith was sent to the roads Tuesday for selling whisky. At the trial appeared his wife and baby and several other small children. They are, we have been informed, left without support while this man builds roads for his county. We are not objecting to his being punished, but we do think that it is wrong for the mother and children to suffer because of the crime of the husband and father. If such men could be hired out so that his family could receive his wages, it would be much better.



Miscarriage of Justice in Criminal Cases

[Reprinted from Chicago Tribune]

The statistical report of Miss Edith Abbott having shown that there's something wrong with our whole local machinery of criminal justice, the council committee on crime is prepared to hear explanations and specifications from informed witnesses. Judges of the Municipal court have made statements to the committee that strangely take one back to the old justice shops and the articles they turned out under the label of "law."

There is room for difference of opinion concerning the parole system or even the grand jury as an institution. But what room is there for difference of opinion concerning the professional alibis, the pickpocket lawyers' trust, the "friendly jurors," the activity of politicians in securing nonsuings on a wholesale plan? Who will dispute the statement that the city prosecutors are useless in many cases and worse than useless in some? Who doubts that the office of the city prosecutor needs a thorough overhauling?

One valuable and practical statement made by the Municipal judges who have given testimony is that a central police court is necessary for the trial

of criminal cases. The scattering of the police courts helps the "system" or the "alliance" of crooks, blackmailers and political parasites.

We owe many distinct reforms to the Municipal court, but on the criminal side that institution leaves much to be desired. The more flagrant abuses, fortunately, can be corrected by the introduction of efficiency and method into the prosecuting and judicial machinery. Will there be the courage and the determination to tackle the abuses and put pull and politics aside?



An Unanswerable Argument

[Reprinted from Detroit, Mich., News]

Efforts toward the solution of the prison problem have been more fruitful of results than have efforts to make better places of our jails. The man sent to prison is under conviction of crime. From the established viewpoint he is deserving of confinement, if not of punishment. Yet society is striving more and more to reform prisons, to make them places of moral improvement rather than of degradation.

Prisoners in county jails are merely accused of crime. A large proportion of them are acquitted in the course of time. Innocent men are held for days and weeks because of crowded court dockets.

The worst penalty that can be visited upon a man is involuntary idleness. Loafing is unnatural. It corrodes and softens the fiber of character.

Sheriff Oakman, in providing indoor baseball and calisthenics for prisoners, has acted in accord with modern ideas of prison management.

How much better the hours of wholesome exercise provided by the new system than the day-long inertia, varied only by the telling of dubious stories and boasting of shady exploits on the outside.



Interpreter Needed

[Reprinted from Penitentiary News, Columbus, Ohio]

"And what do you do?" inquired the prosecuting attorney of the German laborer who was in the witness chair.

"Ah vos bretty vell," replied the witness.

"I am not inquiring as to your health, I want to know what you do?"

"Vork!"

"Where do you work?" continued the counsel.

"In a vactory."

"What kind of a factory?"

"It vos a bretty big vactory."

"Your honor," said the lawyer, turning to the judge, "if this goes on we'll need an interpreter." Then he turned to the witness again.

"Now Britzman, what do you make in the factory?" he asked.

"Eight dollars a week."

Then the interpreter got a chance to earn his daily bread.

BORROWED HUMOR

Mr. Justice Hawkins, whose name is not yet forgotten in Yorkshire, is the central figure in the following incident:

In a murder case, counsel for the prosecution discerned the prisoner say something earnestly to the policeman in the dock. He demanded to know what the prisoner had said. The policeman said he would prefer not to repeat it. But counsel was obdurate, and the judge supported his demand.

"I would rather not, your Lordship. I was—" stuttered the officer, getting red.

"Never mind what you would rather not do. Inform the court what the prisoner said."

"He asked me, your Lordship, who that hoary heathen with the sheepskin was, as he had often seen him at the race course."

"That will do," said his Lordship. "Proceed with the case."—*The Law Student's Helper*.



The late Dennis Spencer of Napa, Cal., was noted as a lawmaker, orator and lawyer.

One day there entered his office in Napa a bright-looking, well-dressed Chinaman. He took a chair and proceeded straight to the point:

"You Mr. Spencer, the big lawyer?"

"Yes."

"How much you charge to defend a Chinaman?"

"For what crime?"

"Murder."

"Five hundred dollars."

The Chinaman said he would call again.

A few days later he returned to Spencer's office, gravely placed \$500 in coin on the desk before the astonished attorney, and said:

"All lite, I kill 'im."

Spencer defended and acquitted him.—*The Bar*.



Juror—We acquitted him out of sympathy.

Friend—For his aged mother?

Juror—Oh, no—for having such a lawyer.—*The Law Student's Helper*.

Although he ate the documentary evidence against him while on the witness stand in full view of court attaches and spectators, a Seattle contractor was bound over to the grand jury by Municipal Judge Stevenson on a charge of passing a bad check for \$35.

While testifying in his own behalf, the prisoner asked to be allowed to examine the check, retaining it while being questioned. He was noticed holding his handkerchief to his mouth, and court attaches said his jaws were busily working.

Later, when the prosecution called for the check, the prisoner declared he did not have it. A search failed to reveal the slip.—*The Bar*.



"What's the discussion?"

"The boys had assembled to lynch a horse thief."

"Well?"

"But now a knotty point of jurisprudence has come up. Seems he stole an automobile."—*The Law Student's Helper*.



"Mrs. Brown has the kleptomania."

"Indeed; what is she taking for it?"

"Anything that looks good to her."—*New York Times*.

A POEM TO REMEMBER

SOMEBODY CARES

Somebody cares, so he clings to his duty,
True to the trust will he valiantly stand;
Somebody cares, so he fashions with beauty
Every high purpose that comes to his hand.

Somebody wishes him happiness ever,
Ever his name is in somebody's prayers;
So goes he forth to each noble endeavor,
Braved by the thinking that somebody cares.

Somebody cares, so for friend and for neighbor;
Self, and the world must he fashion his part,
Striving to offer, whatever his labor,
Every good gift of the hand and the heart.

Somebody cares; as the sun to the flower
That spills its rare scent on the redolent airs;
As to the meadow the joy-giving shower
Is the thought, to the toiler, that somebody cares.

—Nixon Waterman, in *Christian Science Monitor*,

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EDITED BY PRISONERS

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No. 12

EDITORIAL

ANNOUNCEMENT

After this number this magazine will be issued quarterly. The subscription will be the same, \$1.00 a year. Unexpired subscriptions will be filled with the magazine in its new form unless a subscriber wishes the amount due him refunded.

THE EDITORS.



The Greatest Holiday

There is a certain holiday which brings forth a revelation to most people—people both within and without the prison precincts. On that holiday the ear is inclined towards the voice of the destitute and sorrowing; the eye sees with a fuller vision and beyond the interests of self; the tongue is ever on its guard that it may not unwittingly offend.

And that illimitable thing called Time, drawing us daily nearer to the valley of the shadows, brings to us at the close of every year, this, the greatest of all earth's holidays.

It is the greatest holiday because from its origin can be traced the welfare of the human race.

It is the greatest holiday because in the outer world that single and glorious thing called Happiness, visits alike the palace and the hovel.

Strange as it may seem, happiness can and does visit on that day the narrow world of our own life; it enters the silent corridors of the

prison house; it knocks at the iron door of every prison cell. And yet, happiness is not the object of pursuit. Rather, it is born in the heart of every man; it grows during the Christmas day in the light of other men's eyes. And on that day, more than on any other day of the year, every action, every deed, every spoken word, bears the test of sober judgment; men see in each other a self-approving conduct.

On the greatest of all earth's holidays the thoughts of the men within the walls are not dependent on language. Memory writes her shining characters upon the black page of oblivion, and men take themselves out of servitude into freedom; they are guided over the threshold of home—life's best defence, life's best reward.



Limited Self-Government in Prisons

The supreme court of the state of Washington has ruled that the kangaroo court is a beneficent institution.

Commenting upon this ruling the *Seattle Times* says:

"The decision proves that it is possible for good to come out of a county jail. The kangaroo court, as is well known, is organized and conducted by prisoners themselves for the laudable purpose of aiding the peace officers to keep the jail decent and orderly.

"The ruling is based on wisdom. Men are pretty much the same, wherever they be found.

"Some good men get into jail; many bad men escape that predicament. But the fact remains that men, in jail or out, must proceed according to order and system largely dictated by themselves.

"Hence the kangaroo court, within reasonable limitations, gains a just and deserved recognition from the highest tribunal in the state."

The importance of the supreme court's ruling is that it affirms the value of self-government even in bodies of men who are imprisoned.

The *Index*, published at the Washington State Reformatory, recognizes this significance of the ruling and argues a reorganization of the Brotherhood of the reformatory. The *Index* points out that there are many offenses which disturb the peace and interfere with the progress of the men, which those affected do not wish to report to the officers. All of these matters could be met by the men themselves who would realize the need of dealing with them and who would also enjoy the experience of going through the forms of legal investigation and decision. The *Index* says that if there were an inmate court to deal with the culprits, the acts against the comfort and property of other inmates would soon cease and that every privilege extended to the men would be protected. The men would not stand for one man's hurting all with his selfish action.

"Besides," says the *Index*, "if we wish to take our places in governed society, we should know something of the reason for laws. If men practiced self-government they would learn the rudiments of the laws which govern society outside and would thereby avoid another fall; they would realize the justice of majority rule. The court should have a judge from each of the dormitories, a prosecuting attorney, a defending attorney, a sheriff and his assistants—possibly one from each dormitory—a clerk, bailiffs, in fact, it should be as nearly like an outside court as possible."

The *Index* does not aspire to have a public defender at this time, although it thinks that that, too, will be practicable when more of the courts of the country have adopted such an office, which they will do "before many years, if the good results being obtained in Los Angeles count for anything."

The idea of self-government in prisons is growing and in Auburn prison, New York, the plan has assumed great scope.

The following quotation from *The Bulletin*, issued weekly by the Mutual Welfare League, the Auburn prison organization, gives an idea of the detail work of the League in dealing with the prison community's daily problems; gives an

idea of the latitude permitted the prisoners in self-government:

"Grievance Committee No. 6 was called by the assistant clerk, and the following cases disposed of:

"Irving Allen and Alexander Moore—Reported for boxing in the yard. Reprimanded.

"Jappano of the chair shop; case dismissed.

"Alonzo Seeds, returned from the road for being a general trouble maker. The Committee, after an investigation, found Seeds guilty, but owing to his bad health he was paroled in the custody of the Sergeant-at-arms.

"Frank Rogers returned from the road, after a careful investigation the following motion was passed: That Rogers was justly returned from the road, but owing to the good work he had done for the League before going on the road, and after being returned from the road under charges lost a good job, that he be reprimanded and given a chance to get back to his former good standing.

"Joseph Michaels—Reprimanded.

"John Toolan—Case Dismissed.

"Grievance Committee No. 2 was called on Tuesday and heard the following cases, which they acted on:

"C. Deckstein—Reprimanded and paroled in the custody of the Delegate.

"Andrew Stillato, Joe Nicola and G. Fiorello reprimanded and paroled in the custody of Delegate J. Murphy, of the Invalid Co.

"Louis Rosinski—Case dismissed.

"Joseph Rosso—Reprimanded.

"Edward Jones—Reported for shirking work. Delegate Morris was asked to see the doctor in Jones' behalf.

"Thomas Murphy—Reprimanded and paroled in custody of Delegate.

"Joseph Schaefer—Reprimanded and paroled."

The League, besides dealing thus through its grievance committees with the offenses of its members, takes up larger questions through its Governing Body.

The Governing Body elected Delegates Crowley, Lefczyk and Gec to act as the parole board for the ensuing month.

The appeal of Delegate Aromillino was heard and the findings of the Grievance Committee was reversed and Aromillino was restored to good standing as a delegate.

A motion was also made to be voted on at the next meeting, to amend the by-laws so as to read: "In every case the decision of the grievance committee shall be subject to an appeal to a committee to be known as the Appellative Committee, said committee to be selected by the

Board of Delegates from their own members."

Also a motion was made "to have a circular letter sent out to the wardens of the different prisons in the United States asking for statistics regarding the operation of their parole laws, where such laws are in force, in order to enable the League to place before the members of the coming Legislature such statistics so that they may be fully informed relative to any proposed legislation along similar lines for this state."

The Governing Body also considered and referred to the Athletic Committee a request to allow the use of boxing gloves.

These items indicate to what extent the men of Auburn prison are handling their own social affairs and no one can question but that the work of thus administering their own affairs helps to fit them, when they shall be released, for a proper interest in the social matters of society in general.

Hon. C. F. Rattigan, warden of the Auburn prison, in a letter to THE JOLIET PRISON POST, says of the self-government plan of his institution:

"The system is not what is commonly called an Honor System, but is a plain in and out self-government movement, inaugurated by the prisoners themselves. The officials of the prison have no voice in the selection of the delegates and whenever a man violates a rule of the League he is brought before a committee of his own kind and they investigate the matter and, if necessary, discipline the man by taking away the privileges which they have been able to secure for the men.

"I feel that the League has been the means of taking a lot of work and worry from the shoulders of the officers. A better feeling prevails among the men and I feel morally sure that the League will be of great service in bringing about the reformation of the prisoners. The great object of the League is to fit men in prison to bear responsibility so that when they leave here and have to battle with the outside world they will be able to take care of themselves."

Within the past few months Sing Sing has introduced a plan of limited self-government similar to that of the Auburn prison. The reformatory of New Jersey is planning to introduce the same method and to a degree self-government is being introduced at other prisons. The Washington state supreme court's endorsement of the kangaroo court of the county jail seems to be justified by the practicability which in other and larger institutions is being shown

of even more extensive plans for self-government.



Governor Hodges Declares in Favor of Family Aid

Governor Hodges, of Kansas, has come out squarely in favor of state aid to the families of men who are sent to prison and who must suffer when thus deprived of their natural means of support. Governor Hodges does "not believe in lessening the punishment of the wrong doer," but he does believe that "the state should step in and alleviate, if possible, the suffering of innocent persons." Governor Hodges says:

"Not only do I believe that Kansas should provide for a mother's and widow's pension, but I firmly believe the state should in some manner provide for the care of dependent wives and children of men sent to prison. Every man and woman who is in touch with existing conditions in Kansas knows that there are dozens of cases where dependent mothers and children suffer unjustly when a husband and father is sent to prison for crime."

The governor declares that if he is returned to the governorship, he will incorporate in his message to the legislature a recommendation for the passage of a law that will relieve the condition of the prisoners' families of his state.



Benefits of Probation System

There is a growing interest in many states to show leniency particularly to persons who have transgressed the law for the first time and who have been led into the offense by conditions or through a weakness of their nature rather than from viciousness of nature and intent.

In his campaign for justice of the District Court of Appeals, Superior Judge Sargent, of California, made the following declaration:

"It is impossible for us to delve into the human mind to know just how it yields to the temptations of want or the desire for the better things of life. We must accept these matters as found after they have resulted in a criminal act, and the unfortunate offender is before the judge for sentence. It is within his power to brand these unfortunates as felons or to extend a helping hand in an endeavor to place the erring one in the right path. The latter I have found to be the more successful way of dealing with offend-

ers, and my efforts in this respect have been eminently satisfactory.

"In but few exceptional cases have I condemned a young man to the state prison for his first offence, or even for his second one, where the fault was the weakness of his nature rather than the viciousness of his character.

"Many a man is serving a sentence in state prison who, had mercy been extended to him, might today be an upright citizen, and a number of probationers are now in lucrative positions and leading honest lives with their misdeeds entirely erased.

"This is no maudlin sentiment, and I believe a man who has transgressed the law should be punished for his acts, but the methods employed should be as humane as possible. Incarceration in prison, condemnation to hard labor under strict guard, will never, to my mind, reform the prisoner. We are too prone to judge harshly, and too often forget to extend charity and sympathy to the less fortunate whose misery and want we cannot fathom."

By the side of these principles announced by Judge Sargent, may be placed the figures of the report of Prof. Charles R. Henderson, chairman of the committee on prevention and correction of the Civic Federation of Chicago.

Prof. Henderson reports that the earnings of the adult probationers of Cook county in the year ending October 1, 1914, amounted to \$1,754,769, which is an increase of more than \$1,200,000 over the preceding year. Also the report shows that probationers who had been guilty of theft have made restitution to the amount of \$33,105 as against \$21,790 last year.

Of the probation work in Chicago, Judge McGoorty says:

"Adult probation in Cook county has been of great value. With approximately 3,000 men and women on probation all the time, fully 75 per cent of the cases are making good, and the probationers are earning more than \$1,000,000 a year instead of being jailed at public expense while their dependents become objects of charity, and in cases of theft and embezzlement are making restitution to the extent of \$31,000 a year. It is important, therefore, to safeguard this system from abuse and promote its efficiency."

The New York *World* makes the following report of New York's experience with probation:

"New proof of the satisfactory working of the probation system, is given by the figures showing the increase of the number of probationers in the state from about 2,000 seven years ago to the present total of about 10,029.

"Ten thousand first offenders at liberty under suspended sentences and free to earn an honest living and reclaim themselves to that end as the alternative of imprisonment—are 10,000 good citizens in the making. Is there any question that they are far more likely to live down their offence and regain their self-respect under these conditions than after confinement in a cell?"

"Society nowadays exhibits great concern over the 'reclamation of the criminal' as the best object of prison punishment. In providing individual offenders with the incentive to work out their own reclamation and in giving them the opportunity it supplies the best method of accomplishing that desired result."

In Indiana the spirit of probation has been adopted even in imposing sentence; without being locked up, men are to be allowed to prove their ability to live orderly lives. What state prisons and some county jails are doing in selecting men who wish to "make good" for work outside of prison walls and without guards, Indiana is to do directly from the bench. A new law requires that when the buildings are completed on the new state farm in Putnam county, the circuit, superior, criminal and city courts shall sentence prisoners committed for more than sixty days, and they may sentence prisoners for less than sixty days, to work on this farm.

The Indiana plan of sentencing a certain class of its prisoners to work on a farm does not allow the prisoners as full freedom while proving themselves as does the probation system of Chicago and of the state of New York, but it does provide "individual offenders with an incentive to work out their own reclamation" and give them a way "to live down their offence and to regain their self-respect" without having to bear the added stigma of "confinement in a cell."

These practical steps and material results show the value to society of the probation system as against any policy of merely confining men in jail or in a workhouse at public expense. They also help to establish as a social policy such principles as those announced by Judge Sargent.



Drop the Word "Convict"

The *New Era*, published at the U. S. Penitentiary at Leavenworth, Kansas, asks all the prison papers to "set a good example for the outside press" in dropping the word "convict" and using instead the word "prisoner."

It is to be admitted that there is a stigma at-

taching to the word "convict" which at least the more humane element of society no longer wishes to have attached to any person even though he may have had to pass some of his days in prison.

The time for the untempered condemnation of a man who has been convicted in a court has passed. Society looks upon the man differently from the way in which it has heretofore looked upon him, and society's purpose with the man is different from what it used to be.

The use of the word "convict" continues now more from habit than from any set purpose in the people's mind to continue to use it. Let the prison papers themselves get out of the habit. The new editor of the *New Era* says that he has adhered to the rule of not using the word. This magazine, also, does not use the word except when we quote.

EDITOR'S COLUMN

The offices of THE JOLIET PRISON POST have been permanently moved to the second floor of the chapel building. The new quarters, consisting of two large and airy rooms, well heated and lighted, possess every requisite for a live and up-to-date newspaper office.

Elsewhere in this issue appears an able article written for THE JOLIET PRISON POST by Mr. W. H. Whittaker, superintendent of the District of Columbia Work House. The manuscript was obtained through Mr. W. R. Blackwelder, Home Visitor Board of Administration, through whose influence we succeeded in getting in touch with Mr. Whittaker.

Any man can work out some improvement in the condition which he is in. Things may be bad but why use all your life force just complaining?

If the heart purpose or heart quality is weak, one cannot stay long with any cause—not even the cause of his own welfare.

Every able-bodied inmate, upon leaving a penal institution, should be skilled in some trade and be capable of his own support and of those dependent upon him.

NEWS NARRATIVE

LOCAL

THANKSGIVING DAY AT JOLIET

On Thanksgiving Day all work was suspended at the institution, in keeping with the general custom.

In the morning an interesting program was rendered in the chapel, after which the men filed back to the cellhouse, anticipative of the good dinner which was soon to be served.

The dining hall presented a pleasing appearance to the fifteen hundred men as they later entered it through the three big entrance doors which had swung hospitably open to receive them. Each plate—and there seemed to be endless gleaming rows of them—had thereon a generous portion of the succulent turkey, together with those appurtenances which go toward making up a "square" as well as a wholesome Thanksgiving meal.

After dinner, the men returned to the cellhouse, there to remain until the following morning. The outer world was rejoicing for the blessings that it had received. And upon the faces of the men who were returning to their narrow rooms, thankfulness could also be read—the fertile soil on which all gladness may thrive.



MISSOURI'S GOVERNOR VISITS JOLIET

Governor Major, of Missouri, recently paid a visit to the Joliet prison, the Joliet Honor Farm and Camp Dunne.

Governor Major is contemplating a prison farm for Missouri and expects to recommend to the next general assembly the purchase of 1,000 and possibly 2,000 acres of land in the Missouri river bottom in Callaway county.

The Missouri prison has about 2,500 inmates and the Governor believes that nearly one-half of them can safely be employed at farm work which will aid materially in helping to solve the problem of what shall be done with prison labor. The contract system is soon to expire in Missouri and the State authorities realize that something must be done.

Governor Major favors the intensive system of farming which will give employment to a large

number of men per acre. He would raise vegetables and garden stuffs of all kinds, as well as cattle, hogs and sheep. He is also considering a canning factory for preserving the produce that is not consumed in season on the prison table, similar to the plan in Michigan. The governor believes that such a farm will be of great material benefit to the State in lessening the cost of maintaining the prison.



THE GIFT DISPLAY IN THE SHOW ROOM

The long lines of tables in the show room are now loaded with many attractive gifts, all made by the inmates of the institution. This quiet corner of the penitentiary possesses, perhaps, a deeper attraction for the visitors to the institution than any other place which is open for their inspection. The genial "Mac" and his obliging assistant, who are in charge of the exhibit, are going through a veritable course of salesmanship without knowing it, and getting, we dare say, lots of fun out of it all at the same time. There is a rumor afloat that "Mac" is so loaded down with the root of all evil at the end of the day's sales that a special guard is delegated to see him safely "home."



THE STUDIO IN ITS CHRISTMAS DRESS

The Christmas cards and water color sketches which are now to be seen in great profusion in the Studio, are a source of delight to all visitors who view them. Considering the quality of work, prices are reasonable, and many visitors, as well as some of the inmates of the institution, mindful of the inspired slogan, "Do your shopping early," have taken advantage of this opportunity to purchase their holiday gifts.



THE PRISON HONOR BAND

Since the publication of our last issue, the headquarters of the band has been moved to the first floor room formerly known as the vegetable room. The room has been renovated to meet the requirements of the band, the ceiling freshly painted and new electric lights installed. The walls and columns have been tastefully decorated

with flags and bunting, and it is the intention to further adorn the walls with cartoons and pictures, which are now being drawn by a local artist.

The noticeable improvement in the Prison Honor Band, both in artistic interpretation and technique, is due not more to the labor of its enthusiastic leader, Mr. Guido Mattei, than to the deep interest that each member has in his work. Mr. Mattei has felt the "pulse" of the men, so to speak, and has been so judicious in his selections that in his repertoire is something that has its special personal appeal to each man.



THE VOICELESS PLAYGROUND

Excepting for those who pass occasionally across it, bent upon their various duties, the recreation ground presents a deserted aspect in these days of crisp winds and snow flurries. The wooden benches, toned to a soft gray by the suns and showers of many seasons, stand out in tragic loneliness, while the course which designates the baseball diamond is fast losing all semblance of a beaten path. Indeed, these once enlivening opening spaces seem to stretch out before the eye in hopeless resignation to winter's inexorable demands.



REPORT FROM THE JOLIET HONOR FARM

The Joliet Honor Farm, November 25, 1914.
Editors THE JOLIET PRISON POST:

Dear Sirs:—For several weeks we have been hard at our fall work. Everything is now out of the fields with the exception of the corn and we are now starting a full force at the husking. If the weather remains favorable, we expect to finish the husking within three or four weeks. We have finished harvesting the farm products and the amounts of the same so far delivered to the prison commissary, are as follows:

Potatoes, 2,529 bushels; tomatoes, 251 bushels; turnips, 1,323 bushels; onions, 150 bushels; cabbage, 32,997 heads and sweet corn, 60,381 pounds.

We are making excellent progress with the fall plowing and have turned under so far five hundred acres. The ground is all plowed to a depth of seven inches.

We have just finished cutting and storing seventy acres of millet hay and threshing 100 bushels of navy beans and 200 bushels of millet seed.

The fall work is progressing well; the boys are anxious to get along with the husking; there is considerable speculation among the men as to who will be able to carry away the honors by husking the greatest number of bushels of corn in a day. As soon as sufficient progress has been made at the husking, we will start work on the new one and a half mile railroad switch, which is to be laid.

The discipline could not be better. The men under my charge certainly deserve great credit, for no body of men could do a more creditable day's work.

Very respectfully,

BERT H. FALTZ,

Superintendent the Joliet Honor Farm.



BUSY DAYS AT MAIL OFFICE

The mail office now presents a scene of strenuous activity owing to the usual increase of outgoing and incoming mail at the Christmas season of the year. Mr. J. H. Rooney, superintendent of mail, since his occupancy of office has won the respect of all inmates of this institution who have had reason to council with him on matters pertaining to the duties of his office.



PARAGRAPHS

Every Saturday afternoon during the winter months the "movies" will be shown in the chapel; two exhibitions are given, one for each wing of the cellhouse, the first show starting at 1:00 p. m. By this arrangement the auditorium is less crowded and proper ventilation is obtained. Great interest has been manifested in the weekly entertainment.

Mr. James J. Corbett, who was recently in Joliet at the Orpheum theatre, was a visitor at the prison and entertained the men with a short talk after their midday meal in the dining hall. He told a number of amusing stories of his experiences as a pugilist which were heartily enjoyed by his audience. Two other members of the theatre company gave a number of mandolin and guitar duets.

The Protestant and Catholic choirs, which heretofore have sung at chapel services on alternate Sundays, have now been united, and henceforth the combined choir will sing at both the Protestant and Catholic services. Charles J. Schreiber has been chosen pianist and his accompaniments are a helpful part of the new song service.

Father Blackman, Catholic chaplain of the Indiana State Penitentiary, Michigan City, Ind., visited this institution recently. Father Peter showed the visiting Father about and explained to him the methods that are being introduced here. Father Blackman was well pleased with the plans now under way in this institution.

Mr. J. T. Conley, who has several times visited this institution with the Americus Minstrels, was here again on a recent Sunday. He gave a short talk to the boys at the close of the service, telling stories of his experiences. In the course of his remarks, he said: "I've a lot of friends and pals here whom I wish to see"—and when the men interrupted him with vehement cheering, he added as soon as he could make himself heard—"in Chicago." Mr. Conley promised another visit in the near future from the Americus Minstrels, with a new show.

OTHER PRISON COMMUNITIES

THE HELPING HAND FROM THE EASTERN STATE PENITENTARY

The Umpire, published at the Eastern State Penitentiary, Philadelphia, anxious that every inmate of that institution should be given the opportunity at Christmas to assist the charity workers of Philadelphia, through themselves providing Christmas cheer for their own families, has started a fund known as "The Umpire Christmas Fund," to which contributions by the prison men are solicited. *The Umpire* says:

"In the city there is much distress because of the lack of work in almost all departments of trade. Charity workers, and other benevolent people, will have many families to care for this winter and an unusually large number of 'kiddies' to provide with Christmas cheer.

"The *Umpire* believes that the men of this place would be glad of a chance to take part in this good work now going forward in every direction.

"Why shouldn't we consider it a great privilege to look after these poor 'kiddies' ourselves. We are just one great big family here, and it is known that no appeal to relieve the distress of some outside member of it, has ever been ignored. Let us all combine to give our own poor a 'Merry Christmas' this year. In doing so, we will not only be assuming a care which really belongs to us, but indirectly we will be aiding the other little ones, in that organized charity workers will have just that much more to spend for their account.

"In former years, charity workers have taken care of an average of forty families of 'kiddies' whose fathers or mothers were inmates of this place. This year, it is believed, we want to do this ourselves.

"Therefore, the *Umpire* asks for contributions to its Christmas fund from every inmate of this place. No sum will be too small, for in movements of this kind, more so than in any other, 'every little bit helps.' We would rather see the sum hoped to be obtained, made up by individual contributions from 1400 men and women, than receive it all from a dozen, or less. It is desired to have this fund represent the true spirit of our men; to show that they are willing and eager to extend their earnest sympathy and support in a practical way, to the poor little children, who are the innocent sufferers through their father's shortcomings."



THE FOOTLIGHTS AT FORT LEAVENWORTH

In the United States Military Prison at Fort Leavenworth, the inmates look forward eagerly to the weekly entertainments held in the prison auditorium. In the institution's weekly publication, *Stray Shots*, mention is made of a minstrel troupe, "whose twenty-one comedians took possession of the auditorium and unwound a varied array of entertainment which included everything from eccentric tumbling to sentimental ballads. The minstrels sang and danced their way into generous appreciation and the final chorus by the entire company closed an altogether excellent show in a fitting manner."

In another issue, *Stray Shots* comments on the local talent of the institution as follows:

"Each act was well received, and fully merited the generous applause that followed its turn. We do not desire to detract from the credit due the Orpheus Quartette, nor from the worthy efforts of Green and O'Toole, whose roller skating was clever, but again that unmistakable comedy pair, Lang and Tufts, proved the big clean up hit of

the bill. Here are two popular favorites who receive an ovation regardless of their frequent appearances, and well they should, as they are a hard working pair who possess wonderful versatility. It is amazing the way these boys can bring out something new at each showing, considering the inferior props, wardrobe and make-up they are compelled to employ."



A MEMORY OF THE ST. PAUL CONVENTION

In a recent issue of *The Delinquent*, published by the National Prisoners' Aid Association, are printed three interesting articles which were among the many excellent papers read at the recent American Prison Association at St. Paul, Minn. The subject, "Prison Discipline," is ably handled by Dr. A. G. Wells, Warden of the Kentucky State Penitentiary at Frankfort. The other two papers, "Probation and Parole," by Charles E. Vasaly, chairman Minnesota State Board of Parole, and "The Field of the Prison Physician," by Guy G. Fernald, M. D., physician at the Massachusetts State Reformatory, are worthy of attention and study.



A PRISON Y. M. C. A.

The strength and appeal of the Y. M. C. A. has been felt by reformatory institutions—a healthy sign. We read in *The Pioneer*, of the Illinois State Reformatory at Pontiac, of a Y. M. C. A. meeting recently held at that institution, attended by 300 seniors and 20 juniors. Selections were rendered by a graphophone and addresses were made by inmates.



THE NEW ERA

It appears that the *New Era*, published at the United States Penitentiary, Leavenworth, Kans., can be sent only to those "especially interested in prison work and to government officials." This is a condition in the ruling of the Department of Justice, which provides for the publication of the *New Era*. The paper has received many inquiries from persons who would subscribe, and the editor says that if general subscriptions could be received, "an enlargement and a circulation to be proud of would follow."

A Christmas Reverie

By Hugh Manyte

A Prisoner

"Life is a campaign, not a battle, and has its defeats as well as its victories." *Donn Platt*

I

Beyond the mists that round me prey,
Far, far beyond the encircling walls,
A melody of song today
Like some sweet benediction falls.

Enchained, my hollow voice I lift:
Set free the soul's enhungered cry.
With craving eyes, I seek the rift
Between the clouds that dull my sky.

O, radiant morn of hope! Far, far
Beyond control in this lone hour
Though tide and circumstances are,
Yet conduct—*that* is in my power!

II

The cynic's voice I have withstood,
Which ever mockingly maintains
That life is but the choice of good
That least of sinfulness contains.

Oft blessings come in failure's guise
Ere journey's goal we may discern;
Through misadventure, men arise—
The bravest of life's lessons learn.

So armored am I for the storm,
I hold my strength, whate'er betide;
In cheerfulness essay to form
The track on which my life shall glide.

III.

In safety, with her priceless freight;
Out of the sea's mist-laden breath,
The Christmas ship has reached the gate
That opens on the plains of death;

Where for dominion, lust is rife;
Where Peace weeps at her broken throne,
Where jewels of manhood and of life
Over the red expanse are strown.

Above the thunderous voice of war
Another note bestirs the land;
A tender host entreating for
The olden kiss—the absent hand.

Its eyes behold the disarray
Of home's fair altar, as they long
For one glad vision of this day—
For one sweet fragment of its song!

IV

O, Yuletide strain! Within me wake
The simple faith I knew of old;
And if my golden hopes should break,
Then let my patience bravely hold.

Bearing the yoke that sin entails,
(His all omnipotent decree),
O'er life's broad deep I'll spread the sails
Which He has vouchsafed unto me.

And when the storm subsides; the charms
Of breaking light the waves assuage,
I'll sight the harbor's welcome arms,
Where I may cast my anchorage;

Home's harbor, where the love-light streams;
Where round me shall those faces smile
That I had greeted in my dreams,
That I had loved—and lost awhile!

The Joliet Prison's Message of Christmas Cheer to the Children Overseas

Emerson has beautifully said: "The only gift is a portion of thyself. Therefore, the poet brings his poem; the shepherd, his lamb; the farmer, corn; the miner, a gem; the sailor, coral and shells; the painter, his picture."

In response to the inspired appeal of the *Chicago Herald*, an appeal that rang from the Atlantic to the Pacific, and from the Canadian border to the blue waters of the Gulf, the prisoners of this institution, isolated from the outer world as they are, and bowed under the burden of society's condemnation, have given of themselves as best they knew how.

For the men heard that far-sounding call. In this age, the age of the new reform, prison walls prove no barrier to the working out of the good and generous impulse. Opportunity knocked at the forbidding gate of the prison house; and while it has made its occupants better known to a doubting world, it has achieved a still greater miracle—it has given them a fuller insight of their true self-hood.

It was not so very long ago that a large number of the inmates of this institution were busily engaged in the making of the useful articles and toys which later were to be packed in the capacious hold of the "Christmas Ship." At about this time, a poem, entitled, "The Little Toy Shops," appeared in the *Chicago Herald*, which, in its comment upon the verses, said that "it revealed one of the deepest aspects of the ideal of the brotherhood of man." The poem, written by the writer of this article, and an inmate of this institution, is here reproduced:

O, I hear the hum of labor down the gloomy cell-house aisle;
I can hear the hammer rapping and the sing of saw and file.
And the long, long row of workshops, sending forth their shafts of light,
Seem pervaded with a spirit that is strangely new tonight.

I incline my ear to listen * * * fancy bears me oversea,
To the withered lands of tumult, rent by war's catastrophe;
Where the dying fill the trenches; where the living sternly wait;
Where the sacred Red Cross emblem streams its folds, inviolate.

See I, too, the dull-eyed mothers scan the east and scan the west,
Home returning, but to find there—Grief, the uninvited guest.
In the silent marts and spaces I can see the children throng,
But the ring has left their laughter, and their eyes have lost their song.

Stately ship of Christmas greetings! When your precious freight is stored,
From the Golden Gate to Gotham will resound your "All aboard!"
For the world will bend to listen when your deep-lunged whistle blows;
When, as massive hawsers loosen, proudly seaward swings your nose.

So those noises come a-tumbling down the dim-lit cellhouse aisle;
I can hear the mallet falling and the rasp of saw and file.
And the endless row of workshops, casting forth their beams of light,
Seems pervaded with a spirit that is strangely new tonight!

There is no great achievement that is not the result of patient working, of patient waiting. The weeks passed by, and every evening those "noises come a-tumbling down the dim-lit cellhouse aisle," until the lights were extinguished at nine o'clock. And when, on one Sunday morning at the conclusion of the regular service in the chapel, it was announced by the Catholic Chaplain, Father Peter Crumbly, O. F. M., that the gifts that had been made by the inmates of the penitentiary for the children of war-stricken Europe were to be exhibited in the show room, the greatest interest was manifested. As the men filed out of the chapel and passed into the show room adjoining, a most pleasing sight greeted them. Long tables had been arranged in the center of the spacious room, and upon these the gifts were displayed in delightful profusion. The men were told to make the circuit of the room, leaving by the door through which they had entered. It was an impressive scene. The gaze of many of the men was directed towards the specimens of their own handiwork; often in such instances, they would pause for a brief moment to view them in their Christmas setting and, for aught we know, to breathe out upon them the honest wish that had found lodgment within their heart. Satisfaction and repose seemed to play upon many of the faces as the ever-moving lines passed

through the aisles, created by the indulgent massing of potted plants, ferns and palms, all of which contributed to the warmth and heart-interest note of the scene. As the procession of men silently passed by, there was brought home to the writer, half hidden as he was from his vantage point of observation under the spreading fans of a big palm, the beautiful truth that it is not what one takes up but what one gives that makes one rich.

A few days before this article was written, a "moving picture story" of the Christmas ship was told at the La Salle theater, Chicago. It was a private showing of the most interesting "movies" of the year. The *Chicago Herald*, which gave the exhibit, says that "one of the most interesting exhibits shown in Friday's films was that made by the honor men of the Illinois State Penitentiary."

The Christmas ship, or to be exact, the Christmas ships, for there is more than one, have already sailed, and before these lines shall have been read by the inmates of the Illinois State Penitentiary, the countless thousands of gifts which had weighted the prayer blessed vessels down to their water line, will be speeding by train or moving by van across the blackened wastes of Europe.

The ship in which the men of this prison and the country at large is most interested, is the United States Navy collier Jason, which sailed out of New York harbor Saturday, November 14, flying its flag of the single Christmas star. President Wilson had wired his best wishes, and as it steamed down the bay, every passing vessel saluted it, from the ubiquitous little tug to the four-funneled leviathan of the seas. Commenting upon the enormous cargo of the Jason, the *Chicago Herald* says:

Not for a minute did the projectors of the ship forget that the Europeans, for whom these gifts were designed, needed the bare necessities of life. The practical nature of the cargo may be seen in the following list.

There are 10,000 cases aboard and this is what they hold:

Fourteen cars of children's clothes.

Five cars of women's clothes.

One car of men's clothes.

Five cars of toys.

Two cars of shoes.

Two cars of foodstuffs.

One car containing \$13,000 worth of merchandise bought in New York.

Twenty three cars of miscellaneous merchandise.

Twenty-nine cars of assorted goods.

A total of eighty-two carloads of Christmas presents.

There are about eighteen carloads of small packages, making the total number of Christmas donations placed on the Jason an even 100 carloads of Christmas happiness.

The destination of the Jason was Devonport, England. From there the gifts for the Belgians were trans-shipped to the steamer Rotterdam on the advice of the Belgian minister, "where the machinery of the American relief commission might be utilized for their distribution."

After discharging at the Devonport navy yard her cargo of gifts for the English children (which were in turn sent by rail to London for distribution), the Jason sailed out of Plymouth naval basin on November 28 for Marseilles, where the consignment of presents for the boys and girls of France was unloaded.

The Christmas gifts for the Russian children are aboard the steamer Korsik, of the Russian-American line, which left New York Friday, November 20. The Korsik will not touch at neutral ports, but will go direct to Archangel, the most northern port of Russia. From there, her precious cargo will be shipped by rail to Petrograd and other large centers, where the relief commissioners will take charge of the distribution.

Far away in those war-swept lands, the faces of Europe's children will flood with happiness on that day which is called Christmas. For, being children, they think not of what is past nor what is to come. One thing is known to all—that they sweeten the labors of the tired mothers who are surveying the far horizon with dull fear in their eyes, yet hope, always hope, within the inmost recesses of their hearts.

So the men of the Joliet prison have sent their Merry Christmas overseas, and they will be happy on Christmas day, for, like the light of heaven, happiness is reflective. In fancy, they will see the glint of the childish eye; they will hear the ring of the childish voice. They will realize that the greatest grace of a gift is that it anticipates and admits of no return; they will come to the fullness of the knowledge that all the sentiment of the world weighs less than a single unselfish action.

Camp Allen an Example of Prison Road Labor

A Demonstrated Business and Moral Success. The Prisoners Loyal to the Camp

The Neighboring Farm and Village People Believe In the Camp and Give It Their Support

By A. R. Person

A Prisoner

"We shall arrive in time for supper," said the officer who conducted me to Camp Allen.

We reached the camp at about 5 o'clock. The prisoners had begun to gather from the different posts where they had been at work during the day and were preparing for supper. Greetings came from a number of them and already I began to feel at home.

Camp Allen is located one and one-half miles east of Beecher, Will county, Illinois, on the farm of Dr. D. D. Van Voorhis.

A mound about eight rods in width and forty rods in length, with natural drainage on all sides, runs north from the roadway rising above the broad level field which surrounds it. Skirting the borders of this mound, is a narrow grove of second growth oak trees, which have been building up trunk and shade for fifty years, since the land was first cleared and put under cultivation by the thrifty Germans and Hollanders whose sons and daughters now own and cultivate the rich fields.

The center of the mound is clear, forming a broad avenue running the length of the mound between the two lines of trees.

One may dream that from the beginning life has held in store the new hope which was to be held out to men who, in the present year, would go out from the prison house to prove to themselves and to show to the world that there is in them yet that which makes good citizenship and that Nature, handmaiden in all life's great purposes, laid her plans and fructified her trees to make for these men the place that should be suitable to them; that should cheer them and that should make them feel that circumstances are supporting them in their new move.

The natural features of Camp Allen are ideal.

Under the shade of the thickly set oak trees along either side of the mound, are pitched the tents of the men who have gone out from the Joliet prison.

The tents are 9x9 army tents, lent by the state; water-proof and warm. Each has a floor well up from the ground and a small heating stove. Two board buildings stand in the west row of tents—the kitchen and the officers' dining room. A large tent with a well-laid floor, with tables carefully set with white porcelain ware, serves as dining room for the prisoners. Near the kitchen on the side of the mound is a well which, from a depth of only twenty feet, gives forth pure cold water. West of the mound by the side of a stream flowing northward is a large tent used for laundry purposes and for a wash room. Here a small hot water plant is installed which, in cold weather, makes possible proper provision for baths. The officers' and the commissary tents are the first of the east row near the road. A tall flagstaff stands at the head of the camp near the roadway from which floats the Country's banner and a streamer bearing the words, "Camp Allen."

First Night at Camp

Such is the camp as I saw it upon my arrival. I was to learn more of it as the days would go by.

The prisoners began to arrive in groups and finally the whole camp of sixty-three were present. Straight to the wash tent they went to clean and freshen up for the evening meal. Up the side of the mound from the wash tent they came singly and in groups, light of speech, cheery of countenance and buoyant of step. Cordial greetings came from all who knew me; and nearly all did know me. "What do you think of the camp," everybody asked. Of course I answered, "I think it is very fine, but," I added, "I do not know all about it yet." "You will like it," they all said. I soon found that the men of Camp Allen believe in the camp and are proud of the record that it has made.

Different men as they came near the dining tent were greeted by the others and all waited

for the gong to sound. In a few minutes the gong sounded and the men marched in an orderly way to their places at the tables, which had been neatly set by the head waiter and his helper. I saw later that after each meal every piece used in the table service is thoroughly washed and carefully wiped by hand, which accounts for the neatness of the tables as they appeared to me on that first evening.

We had hash for supper that night, carefully prepared from the roast beef of the day before. There was bread and butter, prunes for sauce, and tea with sugar. "Water, boys, water," called a waiter coming down between the tables. "Do you need any more tea, Hank," asked another waiter in a happy voice. "I'm glad to see you enjoying yourself," said one man at the table to another as he watched his neighbor disposing of a fair allotment of food. All was pleasant and companionable. The men were cheerful and contented as one could easily see. Near the close of the meal each was served with four cookies and some with a second dish of prunes.

After supper I went to Beecher with the prisoner who was to bring back supplies that had come from Chicago. He carried the kitchen waste which was to be delivered to a farmer from whom the supply of milk is obtained. We went into the large barn where were the long rows of sleek-looking cows, and down the line I could hear the fresh warm milk streaming into the pails. And yet the man who was with me driving the team and myself, were prisoners held under the authority of a prison forty miles away, where all the inmates had been securely locked in their cells fully three hours before. It was dark now and the men were going about the barn with lanterns.

We went on from the farmhouse to Beecher and at the depot loaded in the wagon a quarter of beef, other smaller cuts of meat packed in ice, a tub of butter and things that were needed in the camp's equipment. As we drove through the streets nearly every boy, it seemed to me, called out to my companion, "Hello, Clyde," and Clyde called back, "Hello." They knew him, dark as it was; he was as one of the young men of the town to them, a good fellow who always spoke cheerfully. They had seen and knew nothing of the gray and cold prison walls from which the man had come, to the rules of which, as applied to the camp, the man must be obedient.

The word "prison" meant nothing to them. As for the camp, they liked that; they had visited it and had found it interesting; the men were of a good sort.

When we returned to the camp the night had grown dark. The day's work was finished. Even in the dining tent the tables had all been set for the early morning meal. The men were relaxed and in or out of their tents or out through the trees or up the road for a stroll—they were at their own affairs.

When the Lights Are Burning

All of this was so different from what I had seen twenty-four hours before in the community of 1,500 men from which I and these sixty-three men of Camp Allen had come.

Last night at about this same hour—having had late detail at the Joliet prison—I looked into



The Camp

the long grated windows, high up from the ground, in the east and west wings of the prison at the men in their cells behind the iron grating of their doors; men sitting on bunks or pacing the vacant floor space, an area two by seven feet.

But I was to get the meaning of all this change later when I should talk with and learn the purposes of the men of the camp and when I should go out over the miles of good road that they are building. Work, efficient service to the state, earning the rights of citizenship—these are the explanations. But as yet I am only the first night in camp; let me see how the men live when they have finished their day's work and take up their own personal thought.

But I find that all the men are not at leisure; some have again gone out to work. Eighty rods away at the railroad side track, I hear the continual shoveling of crushed stone being passed slowly but continuously from the large flat cars down the long line of chutes into the small cars of the "dinky" line which distributes the stone along the roadway now being built. And I hear the whistle and the puff of the "dinky" engine as it starts out on its night trip, a three to five mile haul, with twenty-eight to thirty cars of the road material.

The men work in shifts: From 3 o'clock a. m. till noon and from 1 o'clock p. m. till 9. A number of the men of the morning shift also have gone back tonight to work overtime—and to get the sixty or eighty cents which the three or the four extra hours of work bring.

I walked up and down the forty-rod avenue between the two rows of tents.

Occasionally a man passed me in the dark. Sometimes the man would speak. I, being less familiar, could recognize no one. The ends of the tents were somewhat open and streams of light shone through. There was a suggestiveness of security, satisfaction and rest, and, withal, a happiness, such as any well-ordered industrial camp might show when everything is going well and where peace and hope reign. I walked up and down the avenue many times—alone, thinking and dreaming of the dreams that men might be dreaming: the men are happy, not only for the camp's advantages but for the open way which the camp is to that which lies beyond—home, liberty, re-establishment. There are men who go to prison who have not these purposes but those who get out to a road camp are mostly of this sort.

Through the opening in the tents I could see men sitting on the low single beds conversing; some were playing checkers; and in a number of tents the men were diligently at work on the trinkets—necklaces, charms, etc.—which on the following Sunday would be placed on display in front of the tents of the ingenious and industrious, for sale to the visitors who on Sunday never fail to come. In the dining tent a number had gathered and the strong and loud talk of several men at once justified the declaration of one of the men that they were having a "regular debating society." From an occasional tent came the strains of music from a harmonica in the hands

of a contemplative or light-spirited man who wished to pass the evening by himself. These harmonicas I afterwards heard again from within the mysterious little tents on a number of rainy days that followed. I looked into one tent. The light, which through the opening, had invited me, was from an oil lamp set securely in a bracket made fast to one of the tent poles. At intervals toward the north end of the row of tents, midway in the avenue, were evening fires around which groups of men had gathered telling stories—some of them not altogether wholesome—talking about their experiences and reviewing their cases. Their cases are a continual theme. Even here at the camp, with all its naturalness and freedom, I find that the men still realize they are in prison; the prison holds them and they want the earning of time and the extra ten days given for each thirty days of road work, to count as rapidly as possible—or they want their time still further shortened. Oh, it is prison. None of the men for a moment forget to recognize that.

The sky was clear. The stars shown out overhead, the constellations looking down from their accustomed places. Pointing to the pole star, hung the great dipper at the angle which told us that the night was coming on. Suddenly there was the night-watchman's cry all along the line, "All in; lights out."

The day was ended; the men must rest so as to be ready for the morrow's work, for it is *work*—not the amenities—which justifies the road camp. The time was half past nine o'clock.

Lodging and Food

Camp Allen is not a recreation place, it is a business organization. The township pays fifty cents a day for each man, whether employed at actual road work or at camp duties.

The men get none of this as wages and the state asks none of it for a state profit. The money goes to the camp for camp expenses. So long as the camp keeps within its earnings of fifty cents per day per man, it is industrially independent. The men themselves earn what the camp spends. Thirty-five cents a day per man is apportioned for food and incidentals, such as soap, lamp oil, postage stamps, etc., and fifteen cents a day for clothing and shoes. There is no extravagance. The men live within the camp's income.

The day following my arrival I began to take

account of things. I had slept in a water-tight tent on a regulation prison hospital bed with springs and mattress; the tight board floor was high enough from the ground to be free from any excess dampness. The corner of the tent had been raised and I felt the pure, fresh air sweeping across my face all through the night. There are two beds to a tent, each with four good army blankets.

In the course of the forenoon I was shown the kitchen.

The first thing that met my eyes was a bushel basket half full of large fresh country eggs. In a corner underneath a cupboard which had been built for the long loaves of fresh white bread, were piled four large bags of flour, nearly 600 pounds; in the corner opposite was a spacious flour bin, and a sugar bin in which I saw a quantity of granulated sugar. To one side of the kitchen stood a large steel range in the oven of which the loaves of white bread were baked fresh each day and on the top of which, the range having been built for this purpose, the hot wheat cakes which were to be served mornings at breakfast, were baked; in one corner was a meat block; there was a set of counter scales and a meat choper; on the wall hung soup ladles, skimmers, cake turners, a horseradish grater, egg beaters, gem pans and cake tins; on the shelves were packages of soda, baking powder, etc.

One man sat peeling potatoes in preparation of the noon-day meal. On the range was a patent soup stock boiler, always kept in use, it was explained to me. A large patent coffee boiler is also used.

Everything looked neat and under command and, as I learned, the meals always come 'round on time. I turned to the chef who likes his work and who is very competent, and said: "Don't you want to go back to Joliet?"

He looked at me and smiled, drew in through his nostrils some of the savory odors rising from a cut of meat that was being prepared, looked out of the south window at the sun which was shining brightly that day, took a sniff of the fresh country air coming in at the top of the lowered window and replied. "No, I'm going to stick around here now."

The man had been chef at the Administration building while at Joliet. He was making good at the camp. Then one of the chef's helpers spoke up: "There ain't anything there to go

back to." And so all the men at the camp feel. They want never to see the prison walls or to hear the clang of the prison doors again.

I went down to the outside cellar in which I saw pumpkins and cabbage, hams and bacon hung from the ceiling and tubs of butter at one side. A barrel of syrup stood by the door.

Dinners are put up and carried to the men at work on the road three and four miles from camp. Once, owing to a road that had to be avoided, the trip with the dinners was twelve miles. A prisoner makes this trip alone; sometimes one prisoner, sometimes another. The train crew and the men working on the cars at the siding come in to the camp for dinner. The dinners taken out are put up in bulk and served to the men on the roadside on clean porcelain



Loading the Small Cars from the Chutes

plates, the meat and potatoes hot and the coffee steaming. There was trouble during the hot summer days in keeping the meat, and of this there was some complaint. Another summer there will be a larger and better refrigerator, when this difficulty can be avoided.

The meals served at the camp were particularly palatable. The coffee is served with cream and sugar (the camp has a cow of its own besides the milk it buys) and so good is it that you will ask for another cup when you have already had enough. The potatoes are browned to a fine color and the browned gravy does credit to the man who makes it.

In the dining tent I heard the head waiter say several times as he inadvertently brushed against a man at the table: "I beg your pardon, please." The chef, when asked if the women who visit

the camp and inspect his kitchen ever criticize, said: "I have never yet given them an opportunity to criticize anything." To a few men, talking and laughing as they came from the well just before dinner, I said: "Are you happy?" "Happy?" came the answer, "Just look at our faces, and when we get into that dining tent around there, you will see." "Does it seem better here, Bill, than among the old smokestacks?" I said to one man whom I knew. "Oh, yes," he replied, "a thousand per cent."

And so we see the camp as the men see it and as they live in it, in hope, day by day.

What of the deeper principles involved; what of the tragedies in these men's and in their families' lives, which all the gaiety and the passing good will would cover and put from sight?

Officers and Relationship with the Men

There are at Camp Allen literally no guards in the sense in which guards are known at the prison. T. G. Keegan, superintendent of road work, calls at intervals, inspects and directs the work. William J. Mahoney, who was stationed at the quarry at the prison and who knew most of the men personally before they went out on the road, is superintendent of Camp Allen. John Ristau is night watchman. The camp superintendent and the night watchman are the only officers continuously at the camp.

Representing the people in whose behalf the highway work is being done, are F. H. Hathaway, of the state highway department, civil engineer; D. S. James, state highway commissioner, who has charge of finishing the roads; Floyd Little, master mechanic, who superintends the machinery and places the stone, and Fred Thatcher, who attends to the grading of the road bed.

Mr. Mahoney calls the roll each morning at breakfast time and Mr. Ristau counts the men in at night. The state and township officers deal with the men only as workmen; they have no responsibility of the men's not going away.

Camp Allen is a construction camp, pure and simple. Outside of remembering that the prison has prescribed a certain time which is to be fulfilled, the men have forgotten the prison. The time that is required for them they remember, and day by day they count the obligation less. As a construction camp, Mr. Keegan says, it is as clean and feeds its men as well as any other

construction camp in the country and he thinks the men are treated better than men are treated in most camps. "The Illinois camps are strictly honor camps," Mr. Keegan continued. "There is nothing of physical force to hold the men here if they want to get away. The whole restraint is in what the men feel within themselves, in what the other men would think about their running away and in their pledged faith to the prison administration." Night watchman Ristau reported that he once missed a man from one of the tents and "I hollered," he said. Quickly came the cry from the man who had stepped outside of the tent, "I am here, I am here."

Mr. Keegan said that he had never had occasion to reprimand a man. Mr. Mahoney, who is with the men every day and who knows their daily experiences, has to speak with authority at times. Yet, only one man from Camp Allen has been returned to the prison and that was to prevent something threatened, not because of anything that actually happened. The men have respect for their officers and a great loyalty to the camp. Almost to a man they regret that the one man had to be sent back to prison. "That is the only blemish on the camp," was said to me time and again.

If in Camp Allen's success there is a secret it is in the one word, *confidence*, which characterizes the relationship of the prison administration and the camp officers with the men. And that confidence is born, primarily, of a new conception of the relationship of the state to its prisoners, of the relationship of society to the individual.

"It is more creditable to the state," said Mr. Keegan, "as well as to the man himself, to send a man out from the institution with some color in his face than with the prison palor which comes with being locked up in those close and narrow cells for three or four years."

"This new treatment of the men by the state is bound to show in each man's attitude where the man has the least spark of honor in him. The state's confidence in him makes him feel that he wants to and that he can become a better citizen, a really useful citizen."

"I tell you," said one of the men to me, "it's encouraging to have them treat you that way."

No man will be sent back to the prison without a hearing. The officers, I am satisfied, mean always to do the square thing. If a man is sick,

a physician from Beecher is summoned. There is no distinctive clothing and no mark to designate to the public that the men are prisoners. On the new clothes which come into the camp even the register number is not used. When the men went out from the prison they were each given two suits, a working suit and a suit for traveling. Sundays the better suits are worn while some have bought new ready-made store suits for themselves.

The Work

The men went out to the camps to build roads and also to get away from the prison walls, for fresh air and more liberty, and to shorten the time which they would serve. But the getting away from the prison walls, the fresh air and liberty and the shortening of time are all contingent on the practicability and the economy of the road building.

All the men realize that the work they do is the justification of the camp. Thirteen miles of good roads were to be built; one part running east and west, another north and south and intersecting at Beecher.

The roadway is surveyed and the grade line fixed by the state engineer. The lines are determined according to the topography of the land, cuts and fills being made to equalize one another so as to do away with the minor undulations. After the grading the road bed is turn-piked, when the sub-grading is done in preparation for laying the stone.

The subgrading is the excavation made along the center of the roadway of a depth and width determined by the road that is to be built. The east and west subgrade is ten feet wide and ten inches deep; the north and south road, twelve feet wide and twelve inches deep. The north and south road is a part of the Chicago road, a highway running from Chicago to Kankakee, and is largely used by automobiles. The ten or twelve inch shoulders at either side of the subgrades keep the crushed stone in place.

"The main thing in building these roads," said Mr. Keegan, "is to have good drainage." To provide this side outlets from the road bed are dug at intervals somewhat lower than the sub-grading and filled in with the crushed stone. These protect the new road from any water accumulation.

At the siding, bins and chutes have been

erected into which the crushed stone shipped from Joliet is unloaded. From the chutes the "dinky" cars are filled, when they are drawn out in trains of twenty eight or thirty cars by the "dinky" engine along the track laid in coupled sections in the new road bed. About sixty cars of stone are used to the mile, forty two yards to the car. Four men unload into the chutes three cars a day, each man shoveling thirty one and one half yards of stone (twenty one wagon loads) in nine hours. At about the same rate of handling, the stone is loaded from chutes into



Visitors

the smaller cars. When the stone is dumped along the road bed, the track is lifted and the stone leveled with a road machine drawn by two teams. The subgrading is done with traction power, furrows being plowed three and four miles long.

Small squads of men work at finishing the leveling by hand after the road machine has done its work; other men spread the top dressing of fine stone or of gravel, which is drawn by team or has previously been placed at the side of the subgrade by the construction train.

Three twenty-ton steam rollers press the foun-

lation stone into place and, when the top dress stone is placed, the road is rolled again.

The squads of men work by themselves, the most of them literally alone, two, three and five miles from camp. At one place a little station from which gravel was being drawn, I found four prisoners on a car waiting for the next wagon to be loaded. These men were entirely alone, six miles from camp and three miles from any of the other men and, as one of them said, "Freight trains go by here every twenty minutes."

It is to these squads of men that the dinners are taken from Camp Allen. As I looked at the men loading the wagons, I said:

"It looks like real work here."

"It is, too, and lots of it," came the ready but cheerful reply.

Another man said: "I tell you we are working out here. When a man tells the warden that he can stand hard graft, he wants to know that he can stack right up."

During the hot summer the work bore down heavily, the men said.

I helped to load one wagon and shoveled stone from a car one hour myself just to see what the work is.

I noticed particularly how the men kept to their tasks as the natural thing, worked faithfully, without anyone to observe or direct them further than one of their own number who, by the nature of the situation, was the natural "foreman" of that squad. One of the men said to me:

"The men are as much interested in having the work well and quickly done as the officers are."

One township officer, a "boss" of the old school, looking upon the men as "convicts," tried to push the men unreasonably. Mr. Keegan sent word of this to the highway commissioners and the "boss" was given other work. D. S. James, the highway commissioner, who superintends the finishing of the roads and who at this writing is the only officer out with any of the men, said to me:

"No one is shirking. There is not a man out here who is not working right."

Mr. Keegan accounts for the particular efficiency of the men in their being of a higher class than men who usually work in construction gangs and in the men's interest in helping to make the

road work plan a success both for their own good and for the good of the other prisoners.

Mr. Hathaway said the work is being done cheaper than it would be done by regular labor but the difference is not so great as the difference in pay to the men might suggest. The township pays fifty cents a day for each man, but this includes rainy days and Sundays. Seven men do not work on the roads, being employed at the camp. The men must be at the camp at a certain hour for supper, which makes the workday short when the work is far away; the township pays the night watchman, furnishes the coal used at the camp, bore the expense of placing the well, erected the two camp buildings, etc., all of which adds to the expense of the prison labor.

"There would be a possible further economy another year," said Mr. Hathaway, "through what has been learned from the experience of this year." The prison labor costs the township near one dollar a day a man. The Beecher road costs about \$4,000 a mile, the grading costing about \$1,000 a mile. The exact figures can be given when the job is completed and the initial expenses equalized over the whole work.

As explained, the men work in shifts, one shift from 3 o'clock a. m., until noon; the other from 1 o'clock p. m., until 9. The men change shifts each alternate week. Five hours' work only on Saturdays. Every day some men from one of the shifts work overtime unloading cars for which they receive twenty cents an hour. The camp men also have their turn and besides they are credited for their own work with one and one-half hours' overtime for Sundays and holidays. Three hours are the regular extra time after supper during which four men unload one car of stone. Sometimes there are four hours' work when the men earn eighty cents. One man made \$1.20 from overtime in one day. Another put in nine hours besides his regular day to the state and made \$1.80. He worked from 3 o'clock a. m. until 11 p. m. Some have earned and saved from \$15.00 to \$40.00. Two or three have earned \$65.00. One man, from September 2 to October 7 earned \$14.40; one from July 17 to October 7, \$45.00; one had fifty-two cents when he came, now he has \$21.00 even; one said, "When I came out here I hadn't a bean; now I have \$21.00." One man earned, per week, \$4.00, \$10.70 and \$7.62; for the three

weeks, \$22.32. He earned it "shoveling rock," he said.

I watched one man on a car at the siding. He was a Lithuanian who, quite through the accident of circumstances, an affair that involved his wife, had committed and had been convicted of manslaughter. He had come from Russia fifteen years ago. He was an honest, even-tempered, industrious man.

"Hard work?," I inquired.

"Sure, hard work; but I make a dollar twenty cents this day."

The man had worked overtime and had earned about twenty-five dollars.

"A long time to make that," he said. "Work nine hours for the state, then work evenings to earn this. Yes, we have to work hard in this place."

I learned afterwards that this man was one of the most trusted men in the camp. Before his trouble he had worked in coal mines for thirteen or fourteen years. "I work hard all time," he said. One man explained, "The reason I do not work at night is that I am afraid it will pull me down. I work the half-day extra time on Saturdays." Some work during their spare hours for neighboring farmers, one or two miles away, shocking oats, filling silos, husking corn, plowing. Other men make trinkets, necklaces, charms, etc., which are sold to visitors. Some have sold \$20 worth or more. Two men in one tent advantageously situated sold \$15 worth in one day.

"Every man in camp has a bank account," said Mr. Mahoney.

The men have bought new suits and other supplies. They have spent three times the amounts that have been sent to them by their friends. On October 5 the men had a collective bank balance of \$827.79.

One man of the construction train gang who shared the tent with me, responded one morning to the night watchman's 3 o'clock call and while still sitting on the side of the bed said, "I'll be glad when the shift changes to afternoon." Without further word the man dressed and went quietly out into the dark. Later I heard the little engine whistle down in the yard; then I heard it puff its way out along the track where its noise faded away into the distance and all was silent again.

This man every day worked extra time for a farmer.

I went to sleep. I next heard the breakfast call at 6 o'clock.

Why these men stay faithful to their duties at the camp is a question of some importance. But it is a question that can be answered and that is being answered by the daily lives of the men at the road camps and at the state farms, and the answer is unsettling the public's conventional thought about prisoners and the hitherto accepted theory of the criminologists.

The Freedom

I have said that the one word in which is the secret of the success of Camp Allen, is "confidence." To break the confidence which is now between the prison administration, the camp



Leveling

officers and the men, would change the whole character of the camp. That of the camp which is vital and in which is the hope of the men and the security of the state, would be gone.

The prisoners who have been sent to Camp Allen from the Illinois State Prison feel that so far as society and as the state are represented by the prison administration and the camp officers, there is a new conception of the relationship of the state to its prisoners, a new and more true and wholesome relationship of society to the individual.

The men believe they can make this same condition good with society at large if the relationship at Camp Allen can be maintained so that while there they can fully prove themselves. It can hardly be hoped that every one of the men

at the road camps will make good when they leave the camps, but the most of them will and it is the large percentage who will become a social asset, who will add something to the social worth of the state or of the country at large that I am taking most into account.

The whole prison problem is to bring men to live a normal, social life and to make them strong enough to continue in that whatever be the stress of circumstances or the opportunity for apparent advantage to do otherwise.

As I understand it, Warden Allen's purpose is to make the men's life at the camps as normal as possible. There are really only two prohibitions over the camp—the men shall not run away and they shall do nothing to bring the camp into disrepute.

Mr. Keegan, superintendent of road work, says:

"One thing that has helped the camp more than any one thing else, is Warden Allen's liberal nature. He has granted nearly all that the men have asked and that gives the men confidence in our purpose here to open to them every possibility which we can see they will make use of. They see that they are not abridged except in ways which they themselves recognize are necessary in order to preserve the authority of the state and to keep intact the Warden's obligation to the people as a whole. The Warden can call every man in camp by his given name and all of the men are glad to see him when he comes.

"Our experience shows that a great many men in prison can be taken out into the country and put to work as any ordinary men work. It is a great thing to find this out.

"When any question of a particular freedom at the camp comes up, I do not say 'yes' until I know I am justified in saying it and that to give that freedom is within the law and within the rules for the camp that have been laid down by the Warden. When I know that I am justified I say 'yes' and then all that I promise I fulfill.

"Our road work is not compulsory. No man need work on the road if he does not choose to. Only, of course, each understands that the camp is for men who do want to work on the road and that he who does not want to work is to be taken back to the prison.

"This is a camp of free workers; it is not a corral of men under enforced servitude. Every movement in the work of every man here is a

free movement from his own will and from his own choice. He wants to do what he is doing because he knows that it is winning him his complete freedom.

"Freedom is the foundation principle of the Illinois camps and the freedom that is allowed the men in working or not working on the road must also be given them in their other life here so long as they recognize and protect the camp's obligations.

"There," said the superintendent, as he pointed to a tall, lanky fellow with a dinner pail who was just about to disappear over a hill, "is a man going away a mile to work by himself." Before the man went out of sight he turned and waved his hand to us and smiled.

"It is necessary to send the men out like that," continued Mr. Keegan. "I make a study of the men and I know their ability; I know the nature of the work to be done. If a man is able to do the work we send him right out and trust him.

"Every man of this camp has just one object in view—to 'make good.' He calls up everything in him in order to do the work. Every man seems to say: 'They have put all this confidence in me and I am going to prove myself and to win.'"

One man has bought an air rifle and the different men in their odd hours hunt English sparrows with it in the trees of the camp or in the trees on neighboring farms. Two sleek cats of the camp have learned to hunt and they go along. The men enjoy seeing the cats rise on their hind feet waiting for the birds to fall, which, when shot, they catch before the bird reaches the ground. Besides having learned to hunt, these cats have been taught a number of tricks. Two dogs are also pets at the camp. The man who owns this air gun escaped from the prison once, and under Mr. Keegan, too, when Mr. Keegan had charge of the quarry, but now, as it suits his fancy, he gets up at 4 o'clock and, all alone with his gun and the cats, goes away into the neighboring groves hunting sparrows.

The camp fellows are all boys when the day's work is over and can enjoy a little fun as do other people. Once, when starting in from the work on the road, it was found that the wagon would not carry all. One colored fellow said: "I'm a horse jockey, I'll ride the mule." He mounted the mule, set his legs firmly against the mule's sides, saying, "Well, look out, boys, I'm

going to the camp." The young colored fellow went straight up into the air and the mule was home eating her oats in the little camp stable when the "jockey," now not quite so certain of himself, arrived.

One holiday I took a walk with the head waiter of the dining room out over one of the new roads that had been built. After walking about a mile we encountered two other men who had started out from camp for a walk ahead of us. We four walked until we came to the Indiana state line but not a man would cross the middle of the intersecting road; no one would pass from under the sovereignty of the state to which, while a prisoner, he was under obligation. On the Illinois side of the road is a creamery and we had some new and refreshing buttermilk. We returned to the camp and reached there in time for the head waiter to set his tables for dinner, which had been his concern all the time we were out. We had walked nine miles.

At one place on the road one man spoke up, "Right along here is where I made \$1.80 overtime in two days."

Late one evening two men asked me to go for a walk. When out a little way from camp we met a prisoner coming out of the dark turning into the road from the railroad where he had been walking by himself.

Men who want them have their own razors and other articles of a shaving outfit and also they buy what other personal accessories they need. One Sunday afternoon a man came down the row of tents hurrying from the superintendent's tent saying, "Say, have any of you fellows got the catalogue of Sears, Roebuck & Co?"

The naturalness with which the men, when not at work, pick up and go to their baseball field reveals the worth of a method like that of Camp Allen to make men again of those whom society has come to doubt and who themselves had almost abandoned manhood.

The camp men had given a minstrel show at Beecher. During the preparation a piano had been lent with which the men practiced their parts at the camp. The twenty-two members of the company made a dress parade in the afternoon preceding the show. The hall was furnished free. With a paid admission, they filled the hall and turned away as many more. The show was repeated a second night. Many

snatches from different sketches were recited to me when I arrived.

Sunday is visiting day. The visitors are met at the train with automobile or carriage and taken to the camp. They remain all day and are given some of the chief's excellent coffee to drink with their lunch—a compliment of the camp. Everybody expresses his good will to the visitors when they go. To one mother who had visited the camp each Sunday, I said an encouraging word. She thanked me, "But," she said, "I want you to do something to get my boy out."

Mail comes twice a day and the men write as



Dumping Stone for New Roadway

often as they wish with material and stamp furnished.

Attracted by the National flag and the streamer bearing the words, "Camp Allen," which float from the top of the tall flag staff at the head of the camp, men who come along stop and ask for work, not knowing what kind of a camp it is.

On one of my first days in camp I saw a meal being set up by the chef in the kitchen for a man whom I did not know. I noticed that the man had coffee with a liberal amount of cream, potatoes, bacon, three eggs, bread and butter and

cookies and that when the meal was finished the man was given an additional number of cookies to take along with him. I asked who the man was. None knew. "We often feed men such as he who come along the road," said the chef. The man was a stranger, a "tramp"—and can a convict know a tramp? Outcasts both in the conventional thought of the world!

Saturday nights a change of clothing begins. Sunday morning all are dressed in their best suits for the day. Another week of camp freedom passed and every one answering to the morning roll call!

The Camp's Influence

Camp Allen was established June 15, 1914, when forty-four men were sent out. Since then twenty-one men have been added to the camp while some of the original men have earned their discharge.

Camp Allen has made the best record of any Illinois camp so far. The men were carefully picked. But yet they are mostly men of prison experience, men with "records;" they are not men all of whom have not before been enmeshed in the law as might be supposed. There is a tremendous importance in what is being done in the road camps and on the state farms throughout this American commonwealth. The older theories of penologists of the genesis of crime, and the opinion of the world that punishment, and punishment alone, cures crime, is being dissolved. Constructive methods are being found to be of far greater value than the old penal policies.

An individual cataloging of the men at Camp Allen could be made to show their court and prison experiences. A few cases will be suggestive:

One young man, who, with great interest is now learning to cook under the competent chef, has been in the Joliet penitentiary twice, on one charge, however, he having been returned to the prison on broken parole. Another man is now serving a third period of a sentence to the Illinois penitentiary. He broke his parole and was away from the prison four years; he was again granted parole, broke it and was out eleven years. He is now making good at the camp. I saw him one day with two other prisoners working, the three wholly alone, fully three miles from camp. One man, assistant waiter in the dining

room, has been once in the John Worthy School, twice in the state reform school, six or seven times (he could not remember) in jail, twice in the bridewell and twice in the state penitentiary. One man who, when fourteen years of age, ran away from home, has served one term in the Illinois reformatory, one in the Colorado state prison and, as he said, "fifteen or twenty times in the bridewell," and he is now in the Illinois State Penitentiary for the third time; altogether seventeen solid years inside prison walls. In the seventeen years he was reported once only. In the evening after I had taken these notes, this man came and put his head into the opening of my tent and said: "If, with the prison experience I have had, I can make good, any man can make good. You may use my name if you want to if it will help anybody." This man was working on the car of stone where I took my hour's experience in helping to unload. One other man has been ten times in the bridewell, three times in the state reformatory and once in the state penitentiary. The last sixteen men who went from the penitentiary to Camp Allen on July 17 are nearly all, they told me, men with records. I was told that not over ten men in the camp are without records, that is, men who have been convicted but once. And yet all these men are getting on.

It is the new social attitude toward the individual, the new attitude of the prison administration toward the prisoners that is doing the work. Men and women need moral strength; *the state supplies a measure of that strength through showing the men that it has confidence in them.* If the prison administration and the camp officers should fail the men, the men would fall inevitably. In this is the whole secret of the men's new strength to go forward toward the fulfillment of their hope, to go forward, at least, while under the beneficent influence of the prison authorities. A man at the camp voiced it: "*This camp is named after the Warden, and we are all trying to do our best.*" Another said: "Mr. Keegan is well thought of by every man in the camp, and his word is as good as his bond." It is the help that the men get that is carrying them forward. It is not that the men are so much stronger than they were before. The simple thing is that they have found a *friend*. In the want of such a friend when they go out into the world is the explanation of why men

who make good in the camps fail when they mingle with society; the life bond of pure uplift and helpfulness is wanting.

"There isn't a man here," said a man who works at the siding, "but is ready to do his level best."

One man, an Italian, who felt deeply the contrast of the camp with the prison, said to me one evening as he came from work:

"I was given a time to do and I never expected to be out here and to see the stars until I had done all of it."

"Well, you can see the stars now," I said, looking up.

"Yes, I see them now," said the man, looking into the clear sky and raising his hands and clasping them together. Then he continued: "God bless the administration; all of it, all of it. And this is all of prison for me; this is the end."

I said: "Are you tired from your day's work?"

"No," he replied, and then added, "just a little, but that don't amount to anything."

One man wished that the legislature would give a larger allowance of good time, one-third, as is given in some states, instead of one-fourth. "I think," he said, "if they will do that the men will do their utmost to prove themselves of worth to society."

Concerning the influence of the camp in fitting the men to stand up in the world at large when they are discharged, Mr. Mahoney said:

"There is many a man here who, if he had been sent out directly from prison, would have gone back to his old habits, but when these men leave here they will be good citizens. Nearly every man now is figuring where he can get a job when he gets out."

Mr. Keegan, the superintendent of the road work, is a strong supporter of the camp plan. His endorsement has grown with his experience. He saw a number of the same men in the quarry at the prison and he knows how the men have acted and have felt under the different circumstances and with the different prospects.

"The men now," said Mr. Keegan, "are not so irritable, their minds are easier than they were. At the prison they were cranky and fault-finding, now they curb themselves. That they are out here on their honor is foremost in their minds. They are changed men under the new conditions. What has taken place in these men upsets the whole former view of how such men should be

dealt with. The criminologist's view and consequent theory is all wrong.

"Take that colored man there. He tried to get away from me at the quarry. I have two other men who tried to escape from there. I thought there was some good in this fellow and I said to him one day:

"Will you fail to make good if I take you out on the road? Will you run away?"

"No," he told me. I brought him out and the months have passed and there he is.

"The constructive policy of camp life gives men a chance to get outside into good surroundings and fresh air where they can prove themselves. It is a benefit for both the men and for society. There will come a time when we won't need any prisons. Men sentenced by the court will go directly on the road."



The Finished Road

The men of the camp who have needed to grow into the idea of the right and propriety in earning wages and of living thus upon their own resources, are learning these from the normal life they are beginning to live. The social value of what is being done at prison camps and farms is that the camps and farms are showing that men who have been sent to prison can be made into good citizens, and from this it will be learned that many men can be made into good citizens without being sent to prison.

Why the Men Stay

Why the men stay with the camp can best be known by talking with the men themselves, by living among them day by day, so that they

will come to know that one is considering their best interests. They then will talk with one freely and one may know what they really feel.

The foundation of the camp's security is the confidence the men have of the administration's intention to deal well with them. The men's thought may be wrong of what they consider injustices, but that is one of the peculiarities of the situation; the men themselves are subject to the quality and character of their own minds. One man said to me: "Twenty-five per cent of the men who run away do so because they think they have been given a raw deal."

But most men who leave, do so, I find, because they do not want to give up from their lives the time that the state is requiring of them. One man, the manager of the camp laundry, said:

"At the prison, under the old conditions, eighty per cent were trying to get away. Now, at this camp, one hundred per cent are staying. The old way called out the worst that is in us; the new way calls out the best that is in us, and we want to live up to it."

I was told by a man of prison experience that three per cent of the men even at camps stay only because they do not have the courage to get away; they are governed by fear rather than by any virtue.

But I am convinced that the great majority of the men stay because they feel it is the wisest thing to do. The percentage of men who stay *only* because their honor is pledged and because the administration has faith in them, is comparatively small; all the men, I believe, have this reason, but the great majority of them have an additional reason also. They accept the obligation due the state as a man accepts the obligation due the person who holds a mortgage on his land, or as a man accepts any obligation which he acknowledges, and they set themselves to the task of fulfilling and dissolving the obligation so that they may be free from another's authority over them as the man with the mortgage is free when he has his mortgage paid.

I found this wholesome and rational judgment in most of the men at Camp Allen. They recognize that their sentence is not something that is to be escaped; here, if anywhere in the world, most of the men recognize that not one jot or one tittle shall pass from the law till all be fulfilled.

The men's confidence that the prison adminis-

tration is really doing its best for them is of great moral strength in stimulating the men to "come clean." It furnishes them with a stamina that, without the state's helpful attitude, would be lacking. In becoming a big brother to the man, the state gives the necessary help. Many of the men are not themselves big enough to be the first to show the good, but when the state shows its good to them, they can respond.

One man said, and let us take his own words:

"It is too confining there at the prison. One is shut in too much like a dog. Here in the open there is fresh air, more freedom. No man here will run away."

One young fellow was looking on wistfully when we were talking about the finishing of time. I said:

"Here is a boy who wants to go home very badly."

"You bet I do. I have been here a long time."

"How long?"

"Nine years; I have two years and seven months more to do."

The man had a twenty-year sentence, but was earning eight years and nine months good time by not getting into trouble and being reported.

To a colored man of round face and sturdy form, I said:

"Does the idea ever enter your mind that possibly it might pay to try to run away?"

He looked at me squarely, rolling his big eyes:

"No, I never think of that. I came out with the first bunch. There is so much freedom here and everybody who lives around here is treating us so well that nobody wants to run away. It is just like home here."

There are a number of minor complaints in the camp and many that will never come to the ears of the officers, and there are indications of undermovements which, however, may never come to the surface. The men accept the things complained of because they do not see that they can be corrected and also some of them fear that a complaint would send them back to the prison. One man said: "The thought of things back there makes us put up with the smaller things here." But, as I have said, I believe that every officer at the camp means to do right by each of the men and I think that any man of the camp, if he knows how properly to offer his criticism, will have consideration.

In the main, the men stay with their obligation

to the state because, in sober judgment, they believe it is the best thing for them to do. They have reasoned it out and they see that to earn their freedom is best.

The Neighborhood

When the Camp Allen men reached Beecher they found a large crowd of people waiting to see them, brought mostly through curiosity, of course. The men, in their citizen's suits, left the train as any other like number of men traveling together would have left it; the first to go out from the prison and not to march in line with officers when passing through a town.

The men report that at first when they met women and children in the road the women kept the children close to them and when alone the children would go away out into the fields.

One farmer said to me:

"Before I saw the men I locked up everything. Since I have seen and talked with them, I see that they are the same as other men and I have implicit confidence in them."

In town one afternoon I could see that in the stores there was no distrust of the prisoner who was with me.

The show that the men gave at Beecher drew farmers from the country around as well as the townsfolk.

Dr. D. D. Van Voorhis, who owns a large farm adjoining Beecher, has brought grapes to the camp for the men; once he came with a half bushel of peanuts which he distributed; after I came he brought a large basket of pears which his young son distributed from tent to tent.

The neighborhood people have inaugurated Sunday services at the camp and services are held each week which a number from outside attend. At the first service I attended flowers had been brought which were placed upon the organ. At the first service the visiting men and women shook hands with all of the men of the camp. Always on Sunday afternoon there are neighborhood visitors, several automobiles standing about at one time.

One weekday afternoon a farmer lad came driving in with a flourish; he loaded in an empty egg case and drove away. It all seemed so normal and natural.

Dr. Van Voorhis and his wife and others with them have come in on week days and played the organ and sung with the men.

I said to several of the men: "Do the neighborhood people treat you all right?"

"So well that we cannot wish to be treated any better."

Mr. Fred E. Helt, justice of the peace, said:

"At first the people were afraid that the prisoners would take the work away from the residents, but when they began to see what kind of men they are they felt different about it."

"Bringing men from the prison out here and having them mingle with the people again will make better men of them. Whenever the camp men have any idle time the farmers all want them and wherever they have worked they can



After Service, Sunday Afternoon

go back and work for the same farmer again.

"I don't believe in putting men away behind the bars and leaving them there. The world should not try to put a man down; it should try to build him up. I don't mean us farmers around here; we are up already. Help must be given the men who are down and who need help."

Dr. Van Voorhis said:

"I saw the men every day when they first came out here. I eyed them with a great deal of suspicion. Their physical condition has im-

proved. I feel that their coming out here has been a great help to them.

"The move to take prisoners outside of the prisons is yet in its infancy. I believe the work will branch out. It is a benefit, not only to the men, but also to the state. Laboring men cannot object; the road work is different from the work laboring men are generally engaged in.

"I have not the least anxiety about any misdeeds by the men. The camp men are as well behaved as any camp doing public work that I have ever seen. A number of the men have worked for me."

One man who had worked for Dr. Van Voor-

his and other farmers made a contract for the coming year with one farmer; the contract was signed one month before the man's time expired. Three other men whose time will be finished, have been asked to go with one of the township representatives on a large road job he will have next year.

And so, as typified by the farming community about Beecher, the people of the state are giving their approval of the plan to "give the men a chance" who have gotten into prison and who now wish to make good and to quit the life of unlawful acts. The men are making good, and they are being accepted again by society.

The Honor System as Applied In the Prisons of Different States

Men Gradually Introduced Into the System; Work Without Guards; Earn Wages for Support of Their Families

Educational Facilities Offered; Natural Means of Social Uplift Used to Solve the Problems of Prison Communities

The foundation of the prison honor system is that there is in every man a spark of divine life which, if recognized and trusted by the prison administration, will live and grow so that also the man himself will heed it and obey it.

"My policy," says J. C. Sanders, warden of the Iowa State Penitentiary, in a letter to THE JOLIET PRISON POST, "has been, in all the work which I have enumerated as well as in the government of the men inside the walls, to treat them fairly in every particular, having found by experience that in the heart of every man, however good or however bad, there is an undying respect for the 'square deal.'"

Honor is in the men who are finally developed as honor men, but they need the strength that comes from an acknowledgment and a trust of that honor in order to enable them to live it. Many a man who is weak in himself, is made stronger when somebody believes in him.

Not all honor men prove up finally, but the percentage of success is so high that there is a general confession that the honor system is a success in the management of prisons.

The Zanesville, Ohio, *Courier*, while criticising some of the actual results in the working out of the honor system, still endorses the system as a policy and believes it can be made a success in all states:

"Two more Ohio convicts disappeared yesterday from a so-called honor squad. We have no idea as to the total of such disappearances for the year, but the number must be large judging from the frequent reports of 'escapes.' From this it might be inferred that the honor plan of handling convicts is a serious mistake, but as a matter of fact it has proved very successful in other states hence one is warranted in the conclusion that the fault is not with the system, but with its application."

The *Courier* thinks that prisoners are probably

sometimes promoted to the honor squad, not as a reward for good conduct which the prisoners have already shown and proved, but more as an inducement to have the men live square who without such inducement might not do so. This, the *Courier* thinks, is not the acknowledgment and trust of the men's honor which so strengthens the man that he is henceforth able to live true to the trust that is put in him, but that it is more of a bribe offered to insure better deportment which is something wholly different from quickening a man's honor; it only makes a bargain with the man. "Either this is true," says the *Courier*, "or else there has been a woeful lack of common sense in selecting prisoners fit for the honor squad experiment. Something more than a mere official designation is required, to give a convict a sense of honor."

The *Courier* then makes this closing comment:

"No right-thinking person would wish prisoners at the penitentiary to be treated with undue harshness neither do any such want criminals taught that the state cherishes them and is only anxious to make the penalty for their misdeeds as light as possible. The frequent disappearance of honor men in this state, is not a reflection on the wisdom of this plan of handling convicts but is merely an indication of the bungling way in which the experiment is being tried."

A Municipal Farm in Ohio

The Louisville, Ky., *Courier-Journal*, under the heading, "Outdoor Treatment for Crime," speaks as follows of Cleveland's beginning in the experiment of employing city prisoners on a municipal farm:

"A number of years ago the city of Cleveland began the experiment of working city prisoners on a municipal farm. In the outset it was very generally predicted that the result would be a failure, but subsequent events have demonstrated the entire feasibility of the plan."

This Correction Farm is under the management of Harris R. Cooley, director of charities. It is a part of a tract of 2,000 acres which has four divisions of 500 acres each and which are used respectively for the farm, the city almshouse, a tuberculosis colony and an extensive municipal cemetery which is to be graded and developed by prison labor.

Trusties began to take care of the farm in 1905 when they were lodged in the old scattered buildings then on the land. In 1906 two frame

buildings were erected with accommodations for 150 men. Three years later a building 200 feet square with a large open court was erected and the prisoners moved into this building in October, 1909. This was the first of the permanent buildings which now form the Correction Group.

The *Courier Journal* says:

"Mr. Cooley says the men work much more heartily on the farm than they ever did in the workhouse. 'Some of them took great interest in the animals and the growing fruits, vegetables and grains.' They have better air and better food. Their dispositions are more agreeable and their health is better. The trust and confidence placed in them 'call forth the remnant of manliness.' Of the thousands of prisoners sent to the farm, many are vagrants and in these cases strict discipline is not enforced. If the men run away and take care of themselves the purpose of the law has been accomplished.' These cases make the reports of escapes seem large, but at that the escape percentage is only 10 per cent."

Mr. Cooley recognizes that all men committed cannot be trusted to work in the open. He classifies the men under his charge as trustees, semi-trustees and untrustworthy. The trustees often work entirely alone; the semi-trustees work in gangs of twenty or thirty with a foreman present. The untrustworthy are always under guard.

Mr. Cooley has come to the following conclusions as the results of his experience:

"Our experiences at the Correction Farm have demonstrated that the treatment is much better for the prisoners. The outdoor life is just as rational and effective in cases of vice and crime as in cases of tuberculosis and insanity. These people have lived in an abnormal environment and have developed abnormal physical, mental and moral conditions and desires. The reasonable and first thing to do, is to place them in the normal environment of the country life. It may not always cure, but it is surely the first thing to do for them.

"The land furnishes unlimited opportunity for useful work. All kinds of labor can be employed productively. There is a healthful, physical, mental and moral influence in work in the fields under the open sky.

"The most important thing which the Correction Farm has demonstrated, is that Cleveland has become kinder and broader with its more rational and human treatment of its prisoners. The heart of Cleveland has grown in its sense of right and justice. Instead of contempt and malice, there has come a desire 'to know the path up which the crime has come,' and the general disposition to give opportunities for normal lives.

This reflex influence is really the larger part of the benefit. For its own sake society cannot afford to be cruel and brutal to its meanest and most unworthy member."

Commenting upon the years of experience at the Columbus Correction Farm upon Director Cooley's policy of management, the *Courier-Journal* concludes:

"To say the least, the outdoor treatment of crime has many advantages over the old-time method by which prisoners of all classes were treated with practically the same degree of severity and the same disregard for humanitarian principles. There is little doubt that Mr. Cooley is right in saying that 'with the proper spirit and wisdom in the officials, there is no reason why this outdoor method may not be applied to all our penal institutions.'"

The Kentucky State Penitentiary

A. J. G. Wells, warden of the Kentucky State Penitentiary, which has a population ranging from 1,200 to 1,400, has taken up work with the men of his institution on the ground that what helps to promote good citizenship in society in general will help to promote good citizenship in any community, including prison communities, and that what does not help to promote good citizenship in society in general will not help to promote it in any prison community. Warden Wells believes in using within the prisons the means which the best thought of the society of the day thinks is the best for social improvement and he adds to this policy of individual and social betterment, the purpose to make the men of his prison realize that what he does is for their good; is the opening of the way for them to help themselves as other communities help themselves. "If the management," says Warden Wells, "can beget in the minds and hearts of eighty-five per cent of the inmates, not only an earnest desire to do right themselves, but gently, by example, to induce the other fifteen per cent to do right, prison discipline is made comparatively easy."

On the need in prisons of natural ways of improvement, Warden Wells, in his address delivered at the recent American Prison Association Conference at St. Paul, says:

"What are the agencies in the village that are reasonably calculated to build up character and destroy malicious and evil tendencies? They are the home, the school, the church, good books, healthful exercise, plenty of hard work—leaders, teachers, stalwart men and women inspired with

their work—a flame of fire as it were, consuming the dross and daily molding and building human character.

"The same agencies must be on the inside. Is not humanity the same? Has not the young man who enters the prison door the same head, heart and soul that he had back at home? Is he essentially different from the boys of his school days back at home? If there be any difference he only needs these agencies the more.

"If the church, the school and the community spirit need to be alive back at home to save the boys from prison, what shall I say of the energy, the love, the patience, the revitalizing force that should permeate the prison and make it easy to reform the life and go out into society again strong enough to meet the demands of enlightened citizenships."

The Louisville *Courier-Journal* makes this comment on Warden Wells' address:

"The prison spirit, in the opinion of Warden Wells, is not the creation of a day. To bring it about, he insisted, the warden or superintendent 'must give largely of his time and energy to the shops, the games, the school, the Saturday and Sunday meetings and both by precept and example teach the better way.' The prison life, he pointed out, will assert itself in some direction and 'the prison as a whole is all the time getting better or worse.'"

Warden Wells recognizes that the fundamental necessity in making the honor system practical, is to let the men know that they are to be dealt with fairly, that the prison administration on its part will be true to the "square deal" for which, as Warden Sanders says, every man has "an undying respect." Warden Wells makes this the foundation principle in his relationship with his men; he then meets with them personally and makes them feel that his interests are one with their own: his own faith in his men, and his disclosure of that faith in ways that make the men realize its genuineness and the men's consequent faith in him, is the rock of hope in the new era which is coming in the Kentucky prison. The Warden says:

"If the state, through her officials, fails to provide all those agencies which are reasonably calculated to inspire, encourage and ennoble, it must happen that the first offender, the occasional or accidental criminal will, on account of his environment, be made worse instead of better.

"There must be a feeling that those in authority are attempting in good faith to give a 'square deal.'

"Proper punishment administered in a kindly

and proper way on a proper subject, is altogether wholesome. Indiscriminate punishment, on the other hand, is very destructive to good government.

"I do not believe in the silent system. There are times when prisoners can with propriety converse.

"Music and flowers are indispensable to the best government of a prison. The management that wants all its money in guard force and none in music and flowers, has not studied very profoundly the hearts of men.

"Punishment in the great majority of cases, should be the withholding of some privilege from the prisoner which he would otherwise enjoy.

"Fresh air, good water, well-cooked foods, proper sanitation, are prerequisites to good order. Many fights are caused by a bad condition of the stomach. The state has a right to imprison a citizen convicted of crime, but it has no right to rob him of these fundamental things, vouchsafed to all creatures of the globe.

"A good prison library is worth much if it circulates. I have but little patience with the idea that the reading of the daily papers will hurt anybody. One of the very best things that the management can do is to create and foster the reading habit. The intelligent prisoner is generally the good prisoner. The low and the vicious are generally the ones that are steeped in ignorance. There may be some exceptions, but this is clearly the rule. Let the electric light burn until 9 o'clock, see to it that each prisoner can read well, furnish him with good literature; let him subscribe for a daily paper, and you have done much toward good discipline—finally, toward good citizenship.

"The work required of a prisoner should be that of a reasonable day's work.

"The question is asked: Will these influences and agencies reach the real bad men in the prison? My answer is that a mosquito cannot live on a mountain. It is possible to make society so good in a prison that the very bad man will go into winter quarters."

Warden Wells also said that prisoners should have the right to see the warden daily, that "nothing so conducive to good government in prison as the never failing daily right to be heard at the close of working hours." The honor system, music and flowers are urged as invaluable aids in maintaining discipline.

During the last two years more than one-half of the men at the Frankfort prison have enlisted in the night school work, which has been offered.

The St. Paul *Dispatch* says that the association before whom the Kentucky warden's address was delivered, applauded the Warden's remarks again and again, particularly when he declared that

prisoners should be allowed to read newspapers and that the day had passed for silence among the men.

The *Courier Journal* says:

"Twenty years ago such an address before an assemblage of prison officials would have fallen upon unsympathetic ears. The people of Kentucky are familiar with the work of Warden Wells at Frankfort. In the beginning his efforts were derided by some, who declared that a prison could not be run 'on the Sunday-school plan.' There are, perhaps, a few who are yet of the same belief, but the consensus of opinion is that the warden has made good."

Prison Work in Wisconsin

The honor system has been in operation in the Wisconsin State Penitentiary for two years and a half and during that time there has not been an attempt to escape or any other serious infraction of the rules.

Guards were kept at the prison farm and with the men on other work outside of the walls until April 1, 1912, when they were all discharged. A general superintendent was put in charge to oversee the work, but he is not in any way made responsible for keeping the men from leaving.

The Appleton, Wis., *Post*, publishes an address by Rev. Daniel Woodward, warden of the Wisconsin State Prison. Warden Woodward says:

"The results attained by this application of the honor system were very gratifying to all concerned. The men thus employed feeling the touch of true manhood and that they had been trusted by the officials, were in every way prepared to go out and take their places in society again at the expiration of their sentences. The state received more efficient service, saved the expense of unnecessary guards, and with one exception, of the more than three hundred men who have been thus trusted during the two and one-half years, only one has been returned to this institution to serve a second sentence, or in any other way to become a burden to society."

The trusted men leave the prison at five o'clock in the morning and, after working all day unguarded, they return unaccompanied to the prison at seven or eight o'clock in the evening. In the past summer two honor camps were put in operation. One camp which is one and one-half miles from Waupun, has been building the Waupun-Chester macadam road and the other camp is at work on the buildings of the new Womens Reformatory at Taycheedah, a few miles east of the city of Fond du Lac.

There are seventy-seven men in the camps who never return to the prison. The work is supervised by a superintendent and an assistant superintendent, unarmed. These officers oversee the work of the camps exactly as any superintendent would direct the general work of a camp of ordinary laboring men. The superintendents retire at night at regular hours. A prisoner acts as night watchman and during the night makes a count once an hour "for their own protection and to warn the superintendents in case any outsider is seen lurking about the camp."

During the past three years several additions have been made to the prison buildings, the inmates doing almost all of the construction work. A binding twine plant was installed and it has been made a paying business.

Warden Woodward says:

"It is conceded by all that our camps surpass the average construction camp, in efficiency, co-operation, moral conditions, sanitation, and general good fellowship among the men.

"The work has given such general satisfaction that we are now planning to establish a third camp about one hundred and fifty miles from the institution for the purpose of building a second state tuberculosis sanitarium.

"This is my fourth year in the wardenship of the Wisconsin State Prison and during that time it has been my constant policy, to maintain good discipline along rational lines, to administer the business of the institution in the most business-like manner, and for the warden to come into personal touch with the entire prison population.

"In short we believe that this and all like institutions should stand for a three-fold policy: the protection of society, the reformation of the inmate, and as far as possible to reimburse the state for the expenditure of the prosecutions and the money expended in the operation of the institution."

Some of the improvements under Warden Woodward's administration are: The installation in each cell house of a locked mail box into which all prisoners who wish may drop a request to see the Warden. These requests are a matter between the men and the Warden only; other inmates and the officers need know nothing of them. The Warden himself holds the key to the box. The plan enables the men to come into close personal touch with the Warden and enables the Warden to hear from the men their side of the many questions that come up in prison life between inmates and officers. Warden Woodward

says that he has had thousands of interviews with the men and that never has one of them used imprudent or abusive language to him or in any way tried to take advantage of the opportunity given to make their side of any question clear. The Warden says:

"Another of the reforms has in mind the personal feelings of the inmates; that is, the permitting of the inmates to write their letters to their outside friends on perfectly plain paper, in a plain envelope and without any inspection stamp or other mark to show the origin of the letter; nor is any keeper, clerk, or any inmate permitted to handle the mail of the inmates, the chaplain and his assistant being under instructions to seal the letters as soon as they have read them. This reform has resulted in allowing many men to communicate with their families or friends who under the previous system, were deterred therefrom by a feeling of shame of revealing their positions. I feel that this is important, as to many of the inmates the only uplifting influence in their lives, is the faithfully kept love of a good mother or patient wife and children, whose letters not only greatly mitigate the monotony of confinement but keep alive in the breast of the prisoner to once more go back into the homes and lives of those he loves.

"Another reform instituted this summer, is the Saturday half holiday. Every Saturday at noon the factories and all other departments of the institution are shut down and after dinner the inmates are marched to the ball park and permitted to mingle together, talk and visit during the afternoon. There is always a ball game, generally between teams made up of inmates, but on special occasions a team from the outside is admitted and then the inmates, loyal as any fans, root madly for their own team. The band plays throughout the afternoon and impromptu foot races, wrestling matches, etc., serve to make the day one of rounded and complete enjoyment for the inmates, who are for the time encouraged to forget that they are prisoners."

Wisconsin has long abolished the practice of clipping the hair of the prisoners except sometimes for sanitary purposes. It is an invariable rule of the prison administration to contract for only the better grade of food and the dietary is at all times wholesome and palatable and sufficient in quantity to give every inmate all that he desires. During the noon and evening meals the prison orchestra plays in the dining room. In addition to library privileges, standard magazines are furnished so that each prisoner who wishes may have six magazines to read each month.

Warden Woodward speaks as follows on edu-

cation and prisoner's families and prisoner's compensation:

"During the last school year the attendance at times ran as high as two hundred twenty-five. The school term has been lengthened to include all but the summer months and three nights per week during the nine months of the session, all who desire may have the benefit of this chance to improve their education. To those who desire to take up the higher branches, the privilege is afforded for taking up a correspondence course of study, either through the State University extension department, who sell the courses upon easy terms and at actual cost to the state, or from one of the commercial correspondence schools.

"Many of the inmates have taken this method of completing their education and have gone forth from the institution better equipped mentally than when they were committed. In all cases where a man has a trade or profession or is partly grounded in some special line, he is given, if possible, work along that line.

"Thus men who have been electricians on the outside, are placed in the electrical department; if a man is a tailor he is put into the tailor shop; carpenters are assigned to the wood working departments, and practically all of the construction and repair work about the institution is done by the inmates, some of whom were already tradesmen and many who were booked as only common labor on their commitment are so drilled in the work of the trades, that upon their release they can and do secure positions as plasterers, masons, bricklayers, concrete workers, etc. By this policy the state is saved the cost of highly paid artisans, but still receives efficient service; the man is benefited by being given congenial work and by the added wage earning ability, and finally society is benefited by being given back a tradesman, hardened to physical labor and accustomed to regular work in place of the occasional laborer or habitual idler.

"To the end that the families of the inmate might suffer as little as possible through the confinement of the bread-winner, when he is committed to this institution, we have arranged a schedule of wages by which every man in the prison who is able to work, receives some recompense. The men employed in the stocking shops have a task system by which they are permitted to earn considerable sums by applying themselves industriously to the work, the amount paid to them aggregating between twelve and nineteen hundred dollars per month, the amounts earned by single individuals sometimes exceeding twenty-five dollars in one month. The men employed in the twine plant are paid on a basis of the tonnage of material produced, and are enabled to earn slightly higher average wage than the men in the stocking shops. For ordinary labor about

the institution a wage of fifteen cents per day is paid by the state. For the construction work done by contractors on the buildings so built within this and other nearby state institutions a wage of fifty cents per day is allowed to each man for common labor, and ten cents an hour to the skilled laborer. For all the men employed in the camps, an allowance of fifty cents per day will be credited to each man."

In selecting men for the camps or for work outside of the walls, Warden Woodward talks with each man at some length. He then makes a careful record of the man's statements regarding his family, his home life and his opportunities. He inquires concerning the man of the judge and of the district attorney who conducted the trial. He writes to the man's former employers and to reliable citizens of the community in which the man had lived. The information obtained gives a basis for estimating the man's purposes, character and ability.

Each candidate for a camp must have worked long enough within the walls to have thoroughly drilled himself in self-control and to have come to realize that he is gaining a great deal in being given the privilege to leave the monotony of prison life and to go to the freer and healthier life of the camps.

When the results of all these means show that the candidate for the honor camp is worthy of being trusted, the Warden puts the question to his "own mature judgment of the man," and if his judgment approves, "then and not till then" the honor position is given.

The precaution taken in selecting men from the prisons for honor positions has a great deal to do with the public's approval of the honor policy and, as the Zanesville, Ohio, *Courier* says, with the honor system's success.

When properly applied, the honor system is demonstrating some astonishing and most valuable results, both for the individual and for society. Warden Woodward's policy is the growing policy of prison administration throughout the country.



Men within the walls should, if they can, get a broader view of life than their immediate experience. Within the walls is not the only place where people are handicapped and in trouble. Did we ourselves not have problems outside?

The Modern Idea of the Industrial Farm Thoroughly Practicalized at Occoquan, Va.

By W. H. Whittaker, Superintendent District of Columbia Work House

If results are ever obtained in the handling of unfortunates it will be through right treatment. There must be a thorough investigation before the stain of a prison sentence is passed. In a great percentage of the cases for minor offenses, these unfortunates require nothing more than a dismissal with a friendly word of encouragement from the courts, or, if in the judgment of the courts they need supervision, they then should be turned over to a practical probation officer who should see to it that it is not necessary to commit them to imprisonment.

A prisoner should never be committed to jail to serve time. The average jail of this country is a disgrace to civilization. It is a cess pool for the breeding of disease and crime. Many of the cases that come to the police and criminal courts for minor offenses only require supervision, change of surroundings and a new home. Institutional treatment should be the last remedy. What we must do is to abolish the fixed sentence and de-institutionalize our institutions. Finally these people must be made to feel, whether in an institution or out, that they are working for home-making.

Modern penology must not be sentimental; it should be practical. Then we must have prevention, which is formation, not reformation, for ninety-five per cent of our subjects in the penal institutions and reformatories of the country have never been correctly formed in their mental and physical make-up.

Modern penology in order to aid social progress must sentence its unkempt, immoral and diseased citizens to an indefinite term of sunshine, fresh air and honest work, with such system as will make of them an asset rather than a liability when returned to society. Modern penology must be able to say whether this can be done. If not, sterilization or definite isolation on the farm must be resorted to. In addition to all this, modern penology must bring to bear upon society the importance of ideal administration for its way-

ward subjects,—that of humane, educated and trained employes in all departments of our penal institutions.

At the District of Columbia Farm, we are attempting to lay the foundation and inaugurate a system which will be practical, a system in which the inmates will not suffer by having too much done for them, a system in which the inmates must be made to feel, whether in an institution or out of it, that there is a work for them to do individually.

We believe beneficial results cannot be obtained successfully in the old-time prisons with high walls, locks and bars. We believe the walls must come down and the locks and bars must go to the scrap pile. We believe that for every bar of restriction removed, more rays of sunlight and hope will reach the heart of the convicted man.

With these preliminary thoughts, I will now briefly describe the District of Columbia Farm, which less than four years ago was a wilderness in the hills of Virginia, twenty miles south of Washington, D. C. The farm consists of 1,150 acres of land, which cost the general government \$18.00 per acre.

On this land, we have constructed some thirty buildings, including dormitories, dining rooms, lounging halls, hospitals, horse and dairy barns. These are all one-story buildings, made of wood, with a view to giving ample light and ventilation. The plan for the prisoners is that of the congregate, or dormitory system. There are no cells, locks or bars about the institution. Two hundred prisoners are taken care of during the night in each dormitory and as we have six hundred male prisoners, this requires three buildings. Cots are arranged side by side in these dormitories on raised platforms, sufficient bedding, consisting of mattress, sheets and pillows, blankets and comforts, are given to each prisoner. All the buildings are equipped with steam heat and electric lights and have ample water, both hot

and cold in each of the buildings, with modern and up-to-date sewerage systems.

During the evening and after the day's work is done and on Sundays, the men are taken to a large building known as the Rest Hall and Library, where they are permitted to talk, play checkers, or read the daily newspapers, which are bought for them by the management. They have access to the library of over four thousand volumes. On summer evenings and on Sundays, the inmates are permitted to take the benches out into the yard where it is possible to enjoy more freedom and have an abundance of fresh air.

In one of the buildings referred to, there is a shower bath and arrangements for the inmates to make their toilets. In this building, one hundred twenty-five men can be taken care of at one time. We have no wash basins, but have a faucet for each man which makes it more sanitary and the men are also furnished with individual towels and soap.

The prisoners are sent to us for short sentences, the time now being from fifteen days to three years, or average sentence being thirty-five days. This makes it very essential and important that sanitary conditions should be closely looked after as from ten per cent. to fifteen per cent. of the prisoners sent us, when received, have vermin on their persons. This, however, is looked after so closely that although we handle from five to six thousand people a year, we are absolutely free from vermin in all of the thirty buildings.

In working prisoners, we give from fifteen to twenty men to an officer. His part is to direct this number in a humane and intelligent manner and to have them understand it is our purpose to be helpful. With such methods we have very little trouble as far as discipline is concerned.

Work on this 1,150 acres of land consists of building roads, constructing buildings, farming, making brick, crushing stone, building and repairing wagons, painting and white-washing the buildings, poultry raising, dairying, etc.

At the present time, we are working seventy head of horses. These are all cared for by the inmates without an officer over them, and neither the farm nor the buildings are enclosed by so much as a fence. We lose very few prisoners through escape; less on an average than two a month. Our results show we get a fair day's work from each of our able-bodied inmates.

I have handled prisoners for the past sixteen

years, starting with the old-time methods of having a thirty foot wall, cells, locks and bars, and striped clothing. In the early days when a prisoner was reported by an officer for failure to comply with some order, he was taken into a room, his clothing removed and he was lashed with a "cat-o-nine tails" by the officer who reported him. My experience convinces me that the open-air method, with as few restrictions as possible, so far as the inmates are concerned, gives better results from the standpoint of discipline and reformation.

We handle the women prisoners from the city of Washington with the same system of buildings provided for the men. The Women's Department is managed by women and the two institutions are some distance apart. The average number of prisoners in the Women's Department is about one hundred. They do the laundry work and make the clothes for the prisoners of the two institutions. In addition, a number of them work on the lawn and in the garden, do the painting and other sanitary work about the buildings. The Women's Department, like the Men's Department, has neither cell, lock nor bar. The buildings are one story, with neither wall nor fence around them. We have handled three thousand women in the past three years, and have only lost three through escape.

We have very little sickness. This, we attribute to our method of work, sanitation and to the construction of the buildings, which gives plenty of fresh air and sunshine at all times. Ninety-five per cent. of our inmates, both male and female, show a decided improvement after being discharged, both in their mental and physical condition.

The time is coming when the District of Columbia Workhouse will be self-supporting, if not more. When it is, I believe an appropriation should be provided, whereby, the dependent families of the inmates, whether they be sent to us because of non-support or for other violation of the statutes, should be paid a sum of money sufficient to provide comfortably for their support during the confinement of the offenders. If such a system were inaugurated, the financial benefit to the family would be only a secondary consideration. The greater benefit would be the lasting impression made on the individual while at the institution, developing in him industrial habits and self-confidence which would help him

to become a self-supporting citizen, capable of caring for his family after he is released. This certainly would be true in sixty per cent of the cases we have, if there can be brought about a change in the penal code of the District of Columbia to have inmates committed on an indeterminate sentence, rather than on a fixed sentence, as is now the plan.

CONTRIBUTIONS

A CORNER OF BOHEMIA

A Christmas-tide Pilgrimage

By E. K. S.

A Prisoner

Long, long ago I had discovered it; it had left its delicate imprint upon my memory because it had strangely satisfied a longing of the heart. There had been brought home to me the truth that within the prison precincts something beautiful and uplifting, detached from my books, could be found for the seeking; that my heart had always been hungry for that which had been subconsciously missed.

The other day I again set out upon a similar journeying, eager to view this place of pleasant memory in the warmth of its holiday dress, with the Christmas spirit its soft and inspiring background.

In answer to my knock, the Little Painter welcomed me in. A stranger must woo him out of a natural shyness, but we—were we not friends of long standing? How could he serve me?

"I'm not going to purchase anything," I assured him, my eye sweeping the long and lofty room in a helpless attempt to take note of its treasures. "I've come only to 'look around,' as people say in the big stores, outside. I wish to look, look—and perhaps I shall ask you some questions; will I be in the way?"

In answer, the artist pointed to a chair adjacent to his own at the heavy oak table that ran nearly half the length of the room. It was a massive affair was this table; the kind around which one might readily imagine King Arthur and the Knights of the Round Table had gathered in merry comradeship in the days bygone. But, alas! This table was not *round*—so the simile is shattered!

"This is my latest work," said the Little Painter, enthusiastically. Before us on the dull surface of the table, in rows and in confused heaps, were sketches in water color. They were painted on white and tinted cards of various sizes, while others were made up in pretty booklets, tied with varicolored ribbons and gold and silver cord. While I saw many winter landscapes, most of his pictures breathed forth the soul of the spring-tide and the summer; but the hint of the Yuletide season was engraven upon them all in such phrases as, "Merry Christmas," and "Best Wishes."

And then I commenced my tour of exploration upon that riotous sea of color. How fond nature is of color! She has made nothing without it. I wandered through the meadows and scaled their broken fences and time-gray walls; I followed the voice of the brook, from which the cowpath threaded its serpentine course to the foothills beyond; I sought the stillness of valley and fragrant lane, with their wealth of foliage, fern and flower; the blue shoulders of the mountain, distant and illusive, breathed of the solitude which all men need at times; in the lake I beheld nature's crystal mirror, reflecting the chariot clouds and the overhanging arms of oak, pine and willow.

Little Painter, you're a genius!

But, no; I would call you by a homelier name. It carries its wealth of meaning when said in a certain way; when it is accompanied by a glint of the eye or a pressure upon the shoulder: Little Painter—you're a brick!

He was talking rapidly to me now. At times he gets away from his art, and talks war; then, and then only, do we disagree.

"How can you paint all of these beautiful things?" I find myself inquiring every once in a while. "You are not outside, wandering in the open with your palette and easel. From where do you get your inspiration?"

And his modest answer is generally the same at all times:

"I just remember what I have seen."

Then I look into his eyes, and understand. They are the eyes of the artist; they would fill at a vision, at a thought of loveliness. He paints his landscapes and flower studies from memory, yet his art is unfalteringly truthful; he has a clear perception, a firm, bold hand, while technical dexterity is displayed by him to an unusual

degree. He has had no academic training, and a man of less talent would have suffered from the lack of it.

At last I arose. "I'm going to poke around," I told him. My eyes had been attracted to the many sketches, all artistically framed, which hung upon the walls with a delightful disregard for order. I have discovered that it requires an artistic temperament to be able to hang pictures in any old way, and yet in the right way, if I may use the paradox. In the past, I have vainly attempted to hang my own pictures in accordance with conventional ideas; yet no matter how I arranged them, they always presented a painfully straight and stiff appearance from whatever angle they were viewed.

In all of his pictures, I caught the note of lyric loveliness; in many, their emotional appeal was poignant. I could see no portraits in the entire collection; he paints what he loves—not what others have loved. From picture to picture I passed. Some of them carried me away from my narrow world, out beyond—but why should I tell where? . . . Suddenly the artist's voice fell upon my ear. He had stepped up softly behind me, and I had not heard him because of the ridiculous, soft slippers that he always wears. (I wonder if all artists wear slippers *all* of the time?)

"Look at the stage curtain," he was saying. "There is a particularly favorable light just now."

The stage curtain! His *coup d'essai* in this school of painting. Several times in the past I had peeped into the studio to watch this curtain "grow." But in those days, the Little Painter was in an incommunicative mood. He was not wont to be disturbed when engaged upon a work that called forth his best endeavor. His art comes first—visitors and friends next. Such is the way of genius' children.

At the far north end of the room the curtain hung, stretching almost from floor to ceiling—and the ceiling is very high. I had seen the painting before in its completed state; it had already twice been used on the auditorium stage. But somehow, on this visit, I viewed it with a new and growing interest. The artist was at my side, answering my amateurish (and to him, doubtless, very silly), questions on perspective and color tones.

The curtain represents Pocahontas being

brought captive to Jamestown. In the background loom the dim outlines of the ship that brought the English across the water. In the foreground, seven commanding figures, life size, rivet the attention at once. Prominent amongst them are the Virginian colonist, Rolfe, and Pocahontas, the lovely daughter of the Indian "emperor" Powhatan. The Indian girl in her picturesque native garb, is represented in an attitude of humility and appeal. The story is well known. Fourteen figures in all are shown upon the canvas.

The figures of the men and women display dignity and sweetness of pose and bearing. And the clothes and draperies! The artist has evoked the admiration of all visitors to the studio by the magic with which he has melted and merged his colors into harmony.

Ah! Little Painter! Though you may lack the brilliancy of the old masters, you have dipped your brush into your own soul, and though yours may not be the vision of a Gainsborough or a Van Dyck, or of those other great minds who have satisfied the deepest need of the human heart, still, you are an *artist*, inasmuch as you respond spontaneously to every fleeting hint of loveliness.

In the pale light of the December afternoon, I left him. And as I passed out to face the stern realities of my environment, where light heartedness is an effort, and where laughter seems banished beyond recall, my good wishes went out to the one of whose hospitality I had just partaken. May he ever be ambitious of the unachieved! May his art remain anchored in nature; may he succeed in snatching her innermost secrets. And when he passes out through the gate, out into the new freedom which he shall have rightfully earned, may he gain new inspiration as loosened fetters are cast aside into the dark gap of the buried yesterdays. This is my wish—my Christmas wish—for the Little Painter.



A prison is what the officers and the prisoners make it; the greater share of the responsibility rests upon the inmates.



Whenever a man or woman is tempted to crime, the devil is working overtime.

REVIEWS

A CRUMB OF COMFORT

Dr. Sydney Strong, pastor of the Queen Anne Congregational Church, Monroe, Wash., spoke recently on "A Message From a Prisoner's Cell."

Dr. Strong declared that "all prisoners are not criminals and prison life may be a fruitful life." There is a crumb of comfort in what Dr. Strong says. He continues:

"Some of the best men have been in jail. Isaiah was thrust into prison. Paul was in jail. Daniel and Joseph were in jail. Bunyan spent years in jail. Galileo was thrown into a dungeon. Cramner and Hampden and Cromwell and Garrison served their terms. In fact, in achieving tip-top greatness one almost has to give explanation why he was never incarcerated by the judgment of his generation."

We may have no Isaiahs and no Pauls among us, but there are many here who, in their own way and to the measure of their own light, stand for something as real as that for which Paul or Bunyan or Cromwell or Garrison stood.

The honor system, which is making such rapid strides in the prisons of the country, is fast becoming a cause. It began as an expedient, but now it is seen that it involves some of life's deepest possibilities, some of humanity's greatest virtues, some of the world's highest hopes. The honor system, where it is so applied that each is put back on his honor for decision in everything he does, is of necessity a practical method of character building. Every man in prison can at least be building his character while he is here. Dr. Strong says:

"A prison life may be a fruitful life. Paul had been in prison for two years. No doubt he often wondered why he should spend all this time in idleness. When he wrote the letters to the Ephesians, to the Colossians, to the Philippians, he was chained to a Roman soldier. Yet those three letters have inspired and strengthened millions; have done more good than any two possible years of intensest activity. Many prisoners of disease or sorrow or infirmity have done magnificent work for humanity. A prison life may be the most fruitful of lives."

In some way each man and woman who is waiting for liberation, can do something of value while still here.

A POEM TO REMEMBER

BELLS ACROSS THE SNOW

O Christmas, merry Christmas! Is it really come again?

With its memories and greetings, with its joy and with its pain,

There's a minor in the carol, and a shadow in the light,

And a spray of cypress twining with the holly wreath to-night;

And the hush is never broken by laughter light and low,

As we listen in the starlight to the "bells across the snow."

O Christmas, merry Christmas! 'tis not so very long

Since other voices blended with the carol and the song.

If we could but hear them singing as they are singing now,

If we could but see the radiance of the crown on each dear brow,

There would be no sigh to another, no hidden tear to flow,

As we listen in the starlight to the "bells across the snow."

O Christmas, merry Christmas! this never more can be;

We cannot bring again the days of our unshadowed glee;

But Christmas, happy Christmas, sweet herald of good-will,

With holy songs of glory brings holy gladness still;

For peace and hope may brighten, and patient love may glow,

As we listen in the starlight to the "bells across the snow."

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