

## Behind Prison Bars.

(Continued from page 5.)

where the victim has screamed and begged for mercy within the hour, after being 'cinched up.' . . .

"From no viewpoint can the strait-jacket be defended. It is purely and simply a relic of barbarism. It accomplishes no good. I have never seen one man who has suffered punishment in the jacket who was not filled with bitterness and who was not a worse man by reason of the humiliation and torture he had been through."

Alexander Berkman's "Prison Memoirs" is even more interesting—because more subtle—than Donald Lowrie's "Life in Prison." Mr. Berkman will be remembered as the young anarchist who tried to shoot Henry C. Frick in Pittsburgh at the time of the Homestead riots in 1892. He served fourteen years in the Western Penitentiary of Pennsylvania. He is now the editor of an Anarchist monthly.

It is interesting to note that Mr. Berkman, like Donald Lowrie, draws on Wilde's "Ballad of Reading Gaol" for inspiration. As a sort of keynote to his book, he sets the lines:

But this I know, that every Law  
That men have made for Man,  
Since first Man took his brother's life,  
And the sad world began,  
But straws the wheat and saves the chaff  
With a most evil fan.

Mr. Berkman, indeed, is a romanticist through and through, and his vivid memoirs, chronicling his boyhood in a Russian village, his entry into America, his thwarted effort to wreak vengeance on a man whom he regarded as an enemy of the people, his years of torment in confinement, his unsuccessful plan to escape from the penitentiary, challenge comparison with Tolstoy, Dostoyevsky and the great writers of his native land.

Frankness of utterance is carried here to its farthest point. No detail of prison conduct or prison psychology is lost on Berkman's mind. He dramatizes, in particular, the abnormality of the prison situation. He shows us what happens when men are separated from women, when sex-instincts are repressed. We realize, in passage after passage, the corruption that falls alike on jailer and jailed when an artificial world of punishment is created.

"Beneath the torpid surface smolder the fires of being now crackling faintly under a dun smothering smoke, now blazing forth with the ruthlessness of despair. Hidden by the veil of discipline rages the struggle of fiercely contending wills, and intricate meshes are woven in the quagmire of darkness and suppression.

"Intrigue and counterplot, violence and corruption are rampant in cell-house and shop. The prisoners spy upon each other, and in turn upon the officers. The latter encourage the 'trusties' in unearthing the secret doings of the inmates, and the stools enviously compete with each other in supplying information to the keepers. Often they deliberately inveigle the trustful prisoner into a fake plot to escape, help and encourage him in the preparations, and at the critical moment denounce him to the authorities. The luckless man is severely punished, usually remaining in utter ignorance of the intrigue. The provocateur is rewarded with greater liberty and special privileges. Frequently his treachery proves the stepping-stone to freedom, aided by the Warden's official recommendation of the 'model prisoner' to the State Board of Pardons."

One of the most notable sections of the book is that in which Mr. Berkman tells of his agonized efforts

to readjust himself to the outside world after his release from prison. He felt dazed for many months. He wandered distraught and solitary. He almost went out of his mind. His "resurrection" came at last when he "found work to do."

No one can read such records as these of Alexander Berkman and Donald Lowrie without feeling that existing prison methods are in urgent need of revision. "It is remarkable," Hutchins Hapgood writes in the New York Globe, "how a very great number of people now know, in their hearts, in their deeper conscience, that prisons are immoral monstrosities." He continues:

"No human being ought to be shut up in a place where he is under the absolute control of a body of men whose acts do not automatically reach public knowledge. Absolute power makes men into beasts, and also tends to kill all spark of humanity in their victims. Even a keeper who originally was an angel would tend to become a beast after being a prison keeper for a certain length of time. Lincoln Steffens was once asked by a prison reformer if he would accept the position of warden of a certain penitentiary. He replied: 'If I did, I would be as bad as any other warden after a few years.'

"Prisons affect the health unfavorably. They affect the mind unfavorably. They affect the character unfavorably. They are bad industrially and economically. They do not reform. They do not make better. They make the convicts worse. They make keepers worse. They demoralize the community. They increase rather than diminish crime, for they help to render men incapable of work, and they also fill them with hatred and the sense of wrong. In the great majority of cases they do greater wrong to the criminal than he, by his crime, does to society. Wrong inflicted on the wrongdoer does not help. It makes him feel the balance of iniquity is still on the side of society.

"If we are interested in the building up of a better society we cannot take hope away from any person; we cannot tear down the health and the character. We must build it up. Ask anybody who knows anything about prisons whether health and character and fineness and 'sweetness and light' and idealism are built up there. They will laugh or cry, in accordance with their specific character, at the absurdity of such a question."

What we need ultimately, Mr. Hapgood asserts, is a system of penology highly individualized, that shall operate like the will of a just but kind father in his relation to his children.

Someone had given little Willie a pocket compass. His teacher was carefully explaining the different points.

"See," said she, "you have the north in front of you, the east to your right, and the west to your left. Now, what have you behind?"

Willie pondered for a moment. "There," said he, "I knew some one would see that patch, but mother says I must wear these trousers for a month yet."

### JAMES A. SALTER

Architect

RALEIGH : : N. C.

Call to see me when in town or if you can't come write and I will come to see you.

## Rubber Stamps

That satisfy with prices to suit. Deep cut and artistic. Reference: State, County and City Officers. Send for Catalogue. **W. T. TERRY, The Stamp Man, 210 1-2 Fayetteville Street.**

## Where Buyers and Sellers Meet

If you are a buyer or seller of anything, let The State Journal help you through these columns. Write for price of space under this head and also for regular display advertising. Remember The State Journal circulates from one end of the State to the other, and is read by all classes of people who have money to spend or things to sell. Use the mails and increase your business.

**BEAUFORT Insurance & Realty Company, Beaufort, N. C. Insurance and Real Estate.**

**CASH PAID for old stamps.** Address "STAMPS," care The State Journal, Raleigh, N. C.

**WHEN IN RALEIGH** don't fail to visit Toyland, the great China and Toy Store. A little city within itself.

**RALEIGH, N. C.—J. M. Broughton & C.,** oldest real estate firm in the city, offer very desirable homes for sale or rent.

**SOY BEANS FOR SALE.—**Mammoth Yellow Soy Beans for sale at \$1.50 per bushel f. o. b.—**MENDON DAVIS, Pungo, N. C.**

**BERMUDA GRASS SETS—**Guano sack full, one dollar f. o. b. station.—**LAWRENCE S. WOLFE, Orangeburg, S. C.**

**PEAS! PEAS! PEAS—**All varieties for sale; price and sample on application.—**HATTAWAY & COMPANY, Spartanburg, S. C.**

**FOR SALE CHEAP.—**One boiler and engine, one Dewey saw-mill, one cotton gin, press and fixtures. Address, **W. N. PARKS, LaGrange, N. C.**

**FARMS FOR SALE—**Large or small in many of the best counties in the State. State size and location preferred.—**R. E. PRINCE, Raleigh, N. C.**

**COWPEAS FOR SALE—**Several hundred bushels best quality, cheap. Samples and prices on application.—**B. P. RONEY & CO., Memphis, Tennessee.**

**WANTED—**You to write to-day for our free book about 6 per cent bonds secured by real estate mortgage.—**PIEDMONT TRUST CO., Burlington, N. C.**

**WANTED—**Position. Office work, hotel clerk, etc., during the summer, by high school principal. Address, "HUSTLER," care The State Journal, Raleigh, N. C.

**IF YOU WANT to make money,** buy Real Estate from the leading agent in North Carolina. Record: two and one-half million dollar sale.—**E. L. EDMUNDSON, Goldsboro, N. C.**

**WANTED—**You to know that the Carroll Advertising and Letter Writing Company has the best equipped letter writing plant in North Carolina. Located at Raleigh, with Ernest R. Carroll as Manager.

**WILLIAM WALKER JONES** Manufacturers' Agent, Wood and Iron Working Machinery, Engines, Boilers, Pulleys, Hangers, Steel Rails, Logging Cars, Railway and Mill Supplies. Office 511 Tucker Building, Raleigh, N. C.

**READY NOW.—**Genuine unmixed stock of our famous Nancy Hall and Porto Rico sweet potato plants at \$1.75 per thousand. Globe, Earliana, and Redfield Beauty tomato at \$1.50.—**THE BEAR'S HEAD FARMS, Pine Castle, Florida.**

**FANCY PATENT FLOUR—**Forty per barrel—car lots. Baking samples by parcel post upon request. Timothy hay—sixteen-twenty-five per ton—car lots. Correspondence solicited.—**J. G. SIZER CO., 302 Mutual Building, Richmond, Va.**

**FIRELESS COOKERS—**Saves fuel and cooks while you sleep. Roasts, bakes, steams, boils. Never burns the food.—**ALDERMAN, TOY & CHINA CO., Raleigh, N. C.**

**NON-TAXABLE —**Investors seeking a security bearing 6 per cent, free from taxes, will find it of interest to communicate with **A. L. COX, Attorney, Raleigh, N. C.**

**THE BEST INVESTMENT.—**A good home among good people, with room for flowers and garden, in Cameron Park.—**PARKER - HUNTER REALTY CO., Raleigh, N. C.**

**ANCONAS, Silver-Spangled Hamburgs, Rhode Island Reds, Barred Ringlets and White Plymouth Rocks.** State Fair prize-winners; 15 eggs, \$1.50; 30, \$2.50.—**S. E. WINSTON, Youngsville, N. C.**

**FOR SALE at greatly reduced prices,** seventy-five thorough-bred S. C. White Leghorn pullets and hens at 75 cents and \$1.00 each; forty nice Buff Orpington hens and pullets at \$1.00, \$1.50, and \$2.00 each; also fine male birds of each breed at \$2.00 and \$3.00 each. These are all splendid birds, worth more money, but must be sold at once.—**MRS. SARAH GRAY, Route 5, Lebanon, Tenn.**

**DO YOU WANT cash and interest-bearing notes for your real estate?** Land at auction our speciality. We sub-divide land into town lots, or large farms into small tracts, and sell at auction. We do vigorous, up-to-date advertising, and with our force of auctioneers, advertisers and ground men (the best in the South), we get the best result possible, and get it quick. We sell in ten States. We sell on commission. We have had six years' experience and know how to get results. Write or wire us—**SOUTHERN REALTY & AUCTION CO., E. M. Andrews, Manager, 229 South Elm Street, Greensboro, N. C.**

**FOR SALE.—**350 acres, fine water-power corn mill. One hundred acres in cultivation, balance in timber, will cut half million feet. (Two and a half miles of station on railroad now being built). Two seven-room dwellings, two large stock barns, out buildings, orchard, school house on place, near churches. Price, \$7,000. Fifty-two acres one mile from center of Statesville. Eight-room dwelling beautifully located, barn and out buildings, fruit. Forty acres in cultivation, balance in timber, level, productive. Well located for dairy and truck farming. Eight months' school near. Price, \$6,400. Other small farms for less money.—**E. G. GAITHER, Statesville, N. C.**

## Cut Flowers

## Designs

DAY OR NIGHT

## H. STEINMETZ

Raleigh, N. C.

When writing advertisers, please mention this paper.