

Educational Program at Prison Is Success

The educational program for illiterates, instituted at the Joliet Prison and Statesville by Rodney H. Brandon, director of public welfare, under Governor Louis L. Emmerson, has produced highly satisfactory results. Men who were totally illiterate when enrolled a few months ago, now are able to write their own letters to friends and relatives.

Prof. John T. Taylor, principal of the Illinois School for the Deaf at Jacksonville, was appointed educational supervisor to establish the schools. Attendance was made compulsory by the establishment of the

general policy that no more illiterate men and women would be paroled from the Illinois penitentiaries.

The state also is conducting a school at the women's prison. It has an enrollment of 48 and is supervised by Mrs. John T. Taylor.

A Chicago woman held a 13 diamond hand in bridge, bid six no trumps and lost. Her husband broke a cut glass bowl over her head and she wants a divorce. We should say that she got off easy considering the offense.

They have a hermit in India who held his hands aloft for twenty-five years. Wouldn't he make an ideal traffic cop?

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A National Theatre

Footlights Across America, by Kenneth Macgowan: A study of the new theatrical system that has spread through little theatres, universities, and high schools all over the United States. Photographs show buildings, settings, and scenes.

Scotland

In Seach of Scotland, by H. C. V. Morton: A discursive, personal record of a motor journey around Scotland. It is not a guide-book but an enjoyable mixture of anecdote, description, and stories from the past, well seasoned with humor.

The Old Time Religion

Ol' King David and the Philistine Boys, by Roark Bradford: One should prepare for reading this book by going through the old series of Stories from the Bible. The reader who has done this, or who does not need to do this because he knows the stories already has a great treat awaiting him in this book. Each chapter in the book is a well-known Bible story told in negro dialect, and illustrated with allusions sure to be familiar to the preacher's listeners. Two of the chapter titles are "The Widow Woman Named Ruth" and "Throw Down Jezebel."

The Green Pastures, by Marc Connelly: Closely related to the preceding book is "The Green Pastures." The author tell us on the title page that this book was suggested by Roark Bradford's, "Ol' Man Adam an' His Chillun," which preceded "Ol King David an' the Philistine Boys."

This play is so popular on Broadway that seats can be bought only from speculators. The action starts in a negro Sunday school, and consists of pictures of Heaven, and how the Lord moves on earth to enforce His will. These pictures are the creation of a Sunday school superintendent to make real to the children the stories he tells them. The play was recently awarded the Pulitzer prize for 1930.

Controversial Times

Unafraid; A Life of Anne Hutchinson: Anne Hutchinson would have been an outstanding character in any age. As a religious leader in seventeenth century New England her dissenting views and her fearlessness made her a center of controversy, and led to her expulsion from the Massachusetts colony. In this entertaining biography her life is imaginatively reconstructed, on a basis of authentic fact, with a real feeling for the temper of those controversial times.

Antiques

Furniture Treasury, by Wallace Nutting: These two large volumes contain 5000 illustrations of objects dear to the collector of antiques, covering the field indicated by the subtitle: "All periods of American furniture, with some foreign examples in America, also American hardware and household utensils." The descriptions are very brief but the examples of each type are so numerous and the photographs so clear that verbal

description is hardly necessary. Perhaps the most surprising, if not the most beautiful item, is a chair with a fly-switch over the sitter's head, operated by a pedal and evidently invented before the day of window screens.

This book will be on exhibition for one month before being circulated.

The First in the Trilogy

Australia Felix, by Henry Hendel Richardson: In the early days of the colonization of Australia, it was "Australia Felix, blest, thrice-blest Australia!" Often true. Fortunes were made in the gold rush over night, and lost as quickly. This novel, the first of the trilogy, of which *The Way Home* is the second, and *Ultima Thule* is the last, clearly shows sides of life in the old Australia. The story is centered around Richard Mahony, an Irish doctor, who, at the beginning of the book, is a storekeeper in a struggling gold-mining town. The novel deals with his rise to a prosperous practice as a physician in Ballaret, and ends as he and his wife sail for England, because of Mahony's dislike for the country and its inhabitants.

God Will It!

The Crusades; Iron Men and Saints, by Harold Lamb: Harold Lamb continues to delve in the Orient, and this time he has taken the crusades, a field as yet somewhat free from modern writing. We know so little about the causes of the Crusades, and the actual process of getting the men to the Holy Land, that this book is certain of a cordial welcome. The book is full of pictures that remain in the memory, as the final end of the hosts of Peter the Hermit.

Americana

A History of American Magazines 1741-1850, by Frank Luther Mott: "This volume is intended as an introduction to the magazines of which it treats, and an outline history of magazine development since 1850."—Preface.

American periodicals have long been in need of this book, since their history is so closely allied to that of the country in all fields. Mr. Mott is preparing a second volume to carry the history to date.

Dearie Mother

Oft a little voice is calling
To an ever listening ear,
And the childish wants are falling
Where a tender heart and dear
Patient harkens as no other
To the call of "Dearie Mother!"

When the child, no longer youthful,
Leans upon her mother's heart,
Tells her woes in accents truthful,
Seeks for comfort ere they part,—
Then how sweet her head to smother
On the breast of "Dearie Mother!"

An Iowa man buried alive for 391 hours claims the record. And here is one endurance record that not many people will seek to break.