

56 NARRATIVES
OF
PRISON LIFE

E-LIST 5
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MARCH, 2014





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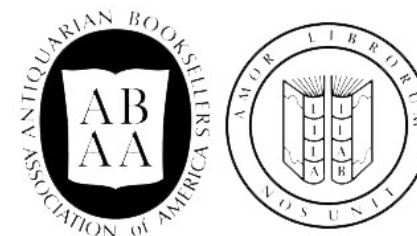
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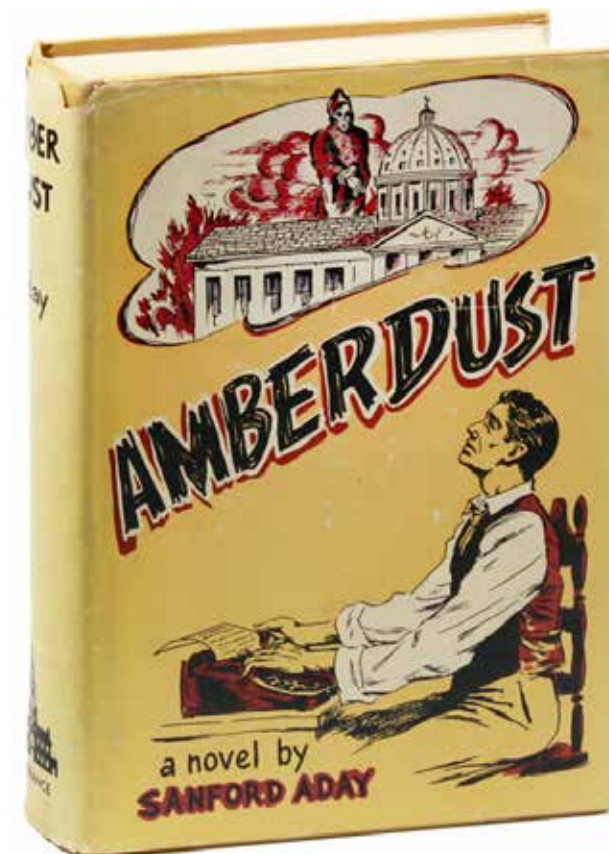
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1. [PRISONS - FICTION] ADAY, Sanford

Amber Dust.

Philadelphia: Dorrance & Company, 1952. First Edition. Octavo (19.5cm); dark yellow cloth, with titles stamped in gilt on spine and front panel; dustjacket; 362pp. Warmly inscribed by the author (likely contemporary) on the half-title page. Slightly nudged at spine ends, else Fine. Dustjacket is unclipped, lightly sunned at spine and front flap, with a few short tears and some shallow chipping at the crown and corners; Very Good+.

A violent and graphic prison novel by Sanford Aday, who would gain notoriety as a publisher of soft-core pornographic books under the Fabian, Vega, and Saber Books imprints. In addition to being a member of the Mattachine Society, an early gay rights group, Aday was among the first to publish early gay and lesbian-themed books. In 1963, Aday and his partner were sentenced to 25 years in prison for the publication and distribution of "obscene" materials; with the case centering on the publication of the notorious pseudonymous 1959 novel Sex Life of a Cop, by "Oscar Peck." The current work, an early, vanity-published effort, is rare; OCLC notes just three holdings in US institutions, none others in commerce (2013).

\$450.

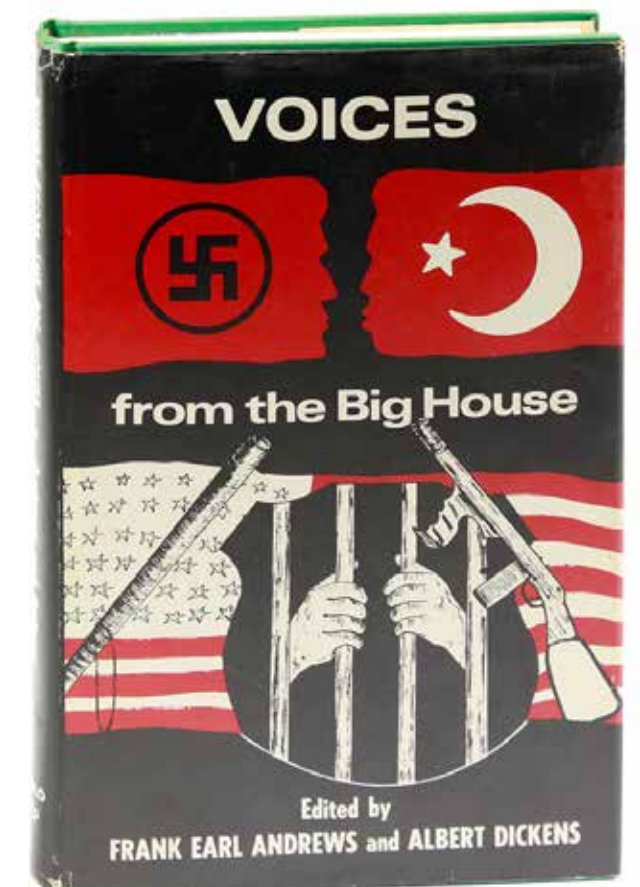
2. [PRISONS - NEW JERSEY] ANDREWS, Frank Earl and DICKENS, Albert (editors); CARTER, Rubin "Hurricane"

Voices From The Big House.

Detroit: Harlo Press, 1972. First Edition. Octavo (22cm); green cloth, with titles stamped in gilt on spine; dustjacket; 190pp. Upper edge of text and board edges lightly foxed, else Near Fine. Dustjacket is unclipped (priced \$7.00), lightly edge-rubbed, with a few short tears and light foxing to extremities; Very Good+.

Collection of writing by prisoners serving time at the Rahway and Trenton facilities in New Jersey. The volume notably collects "Return of the Kid" by Rubin "Hurricane" Carter, who at the time was serving a triple life sentence.

\$45.





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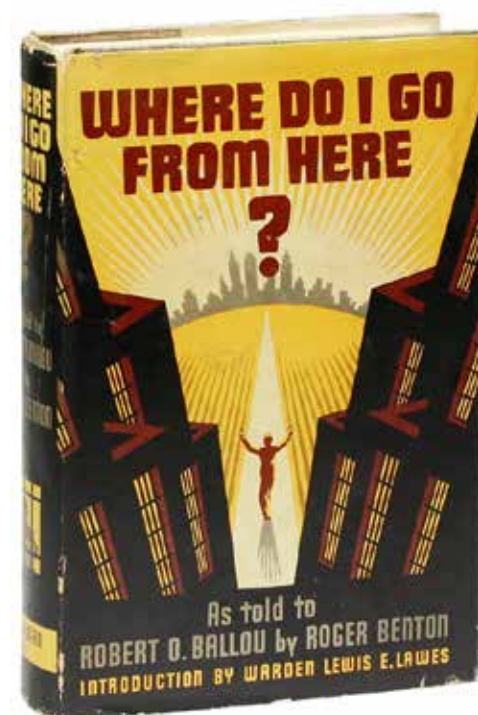
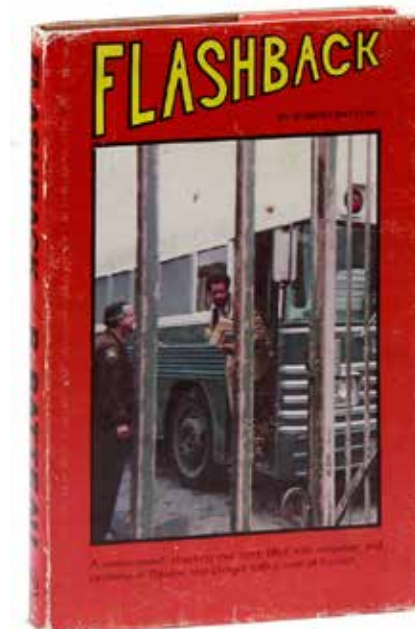
3. [PRISONS - CALIFORNIA] BATTEAU, Robert W.

Flashback.

San Francisco: Mystic Cult Publishing Co., 1976. First Edition. Octavo (22.5cm); dark brown cloth, with titles stamped in gilt on spine and front panel; dustjacket; 143pp. Front board slightly splayed, with a few faint spots and a tiny dent to upper edge of textblock; Very Good+. Dustjacket is unclipped (priced \$7.95), lightly worn overall, shallow dampstain along upper edge verso, with a few scrapes and two tiny stains to rear panel; Very Good.

Black man's story of both the events leading up to his incarceration, as well as his time spent in the San Bruno County Jail. OCLC notes 10 institutional holdings. Not in SUVAK.

\$75.



4. [PRISONS - GEORGIA] BENTON, Roger, as told to Robert O. Ballou. LAWES, Lewis E. (introduction)

Where Do I Go From Here? The Life Story of a Forger.

New York: Lee Furman, Inc., 1936. First Edition. Octavo (21cm); black and gray textured cloth, titled and blocked in brown on spine and front panel; dustjacket; 314pp. Faint spotting along top edge, with a hint of offsetting to endpapers; Near Fine. Dustjacket is unclipped (priced \$3.00), lightly edge-rubbed, with some old, faint dampstaining along front flap fold, spine and rear panel, noticeable mostly on verso; Very Good.

Pseudonymously-written account by a famous ex-convict, a career forger, whose misdeeds "resulted in prison sentences around the country. He decries racism and convict labor contracts at the Louisiana prison farm; spends a chapter adulating Eugene Debs, his cellmate at Atlanta; praises the policies of Warden Lawes, and complains of anomie at Walkill." Accurate depictions of prison life in Angola, LA, Sing Sing, Walkill State Prison, and US Penitentiary in Atlanta, among others. With an introduction by Warden Lewis E. Lawes. SUVAK 20.

\$100.

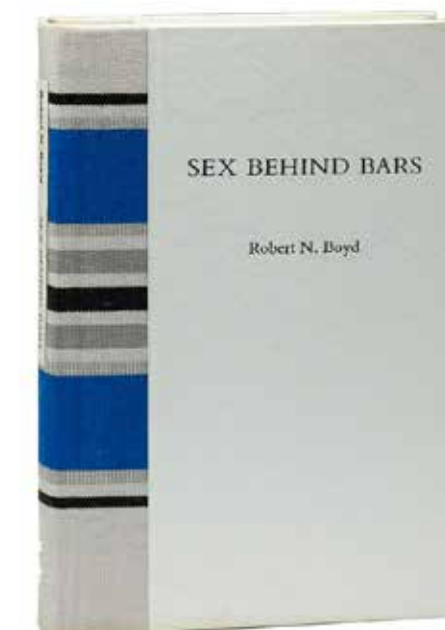
5. [PRISONS - CALIFORNIA] BOYD, Robert N.

Sex Behind Bars: A Novella, Short Stories and True Accounts.

San Francisco: Gay Sunshine Press, 1984. First Edition. Limited Issue, one of 26 lettered copies signed and dated by the author on the title page, this being letter 'V.' Octavo (22.25cm); 3/4 pale blue paper-covered boards over quarter patterned cloth; publisher's original (unprinted) glassine; 237pp, [3]. Some trivial wear along the edges, else very Near Fine in the glassine dustjacket.

Scarce limited edition of this classic account of gay prison life, issued originally as a trade paperback original. Boyd, a former convict in the California prison system, has written a brutally frank and highly-detailed account of nearly every facet of gay life behind bars, including a useful glossary of prison slang. No copies of the limited edition in commerce.

\$300.





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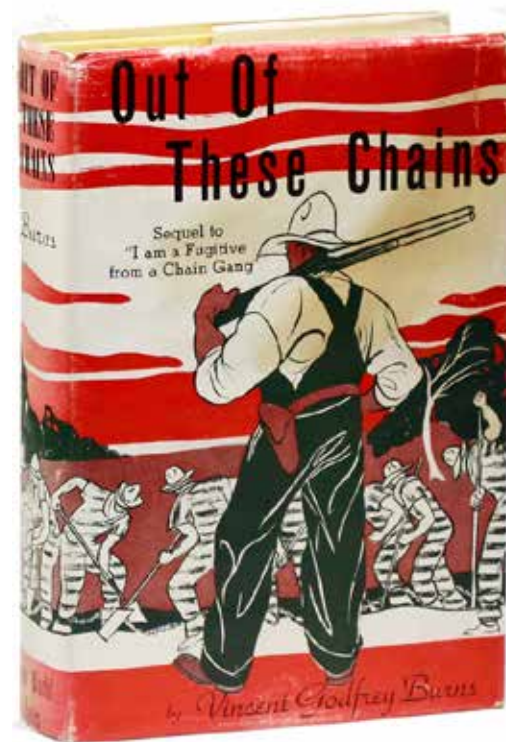
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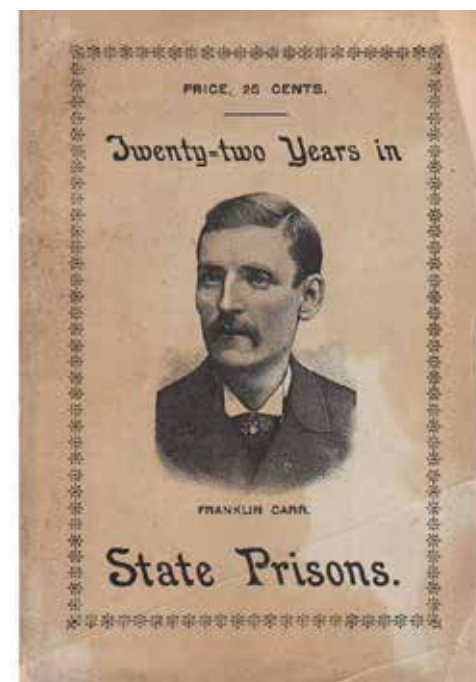
7. [PRISONS - TENNESSEE & NORTH CAROLINA] CALLAHAN, Jack

Man's Grim Justice: My Life Outside the Law.

New York: J.H. Sears, 1928. First Edition. Octavo (21cm); black cloth, with titles stamped in red on spine and front panel; red topstain; dustjacket; 296pp. Spine ends gently rubbed, contemporary owner's name and date to front endpaper, with some offsetting from front flap fold onto same; Near Fine. Dustjacket is unclipped (priced \$2.50), lightly spine-sunned, with some shallow chips at spine ends (not affecting lettering); Very Good+.

Memoir of a fairly prolific safe cracker who spent time in various prisons throughout the South. "Describes the hostility he felt as a Northerner in Southern prisons...Deciding to go straight, he suffered greatly from his reputation, with several reverses and imprisonments, but eventually married, secured a good job, and wrote." SUVAK 45.

\$75.



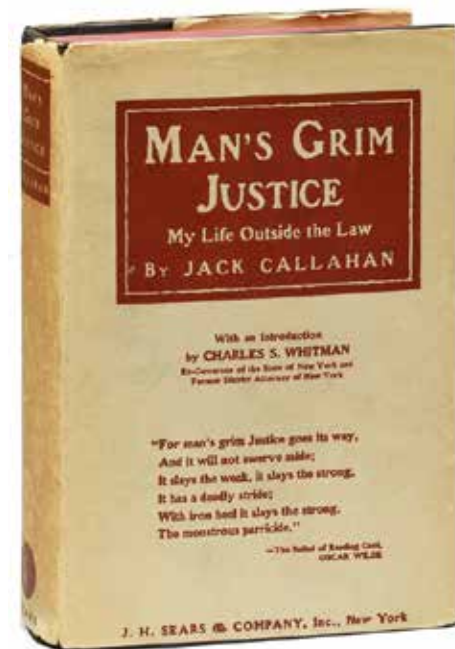
6. [PRISONS - GEORGIA] BURNS, Vincent Godfrey

Out Of These Chains: Sequel to the Sensational Prison Epic 'I Am A Fugitive From A Chain Gang' [Inscribed].

Los Angeles: New World Books, 1942. First Edition. Octavo (21.5cm); canary yellow cloth, with titles stamped in black on spine; dustjacket; 464pp. Inscribed on the front endpaper: "Best wishes of the author / Vincent Godfrey Burns." Light, scattered soil to cloth, with occasional spotting to text edges and waviness to preliminary leaves; Very Good. Dustjacket is unclipped (priced \$3.00), lightly edgeworn and spine-sunned, with faint stain to front panel; Very Good.

The complete, uncensored story of Robert Elliot Burns, the subject of the book *I Am A Fugitive From A Georgia Chain Gang!* Written by Burns's brother Vincent, his long-time advocate, who paints a portrait of a shell-shocked WW2 veteran, down on his luck, who takes a wrong turn and pays.

\$95.



8. [PRISONS - OHIO, MISSOURI, PENNSYLVANIA] CARR, Franklin

Twenty-Two Years in State Prisons, together with an original broadside: "The Life of Frank Carr".

Philadelphia: Franklin Carr [Gazette Printing House], 1893. First Edition. Octavo (18.25cm); pale gray illustrated wrappers, stapled; 48pp; illus. Wrappers edgeworn and creased, with scattered soil, several short tears, and a long, shallow chip along upper left edge of front wrapper, affecting neither artwork nor titling; Good, sound copy. Broadside measures 11.5cm x 30.5cm, printed in black on off-white stock; three old horizontal folds, else Near Fine.

Hard-luck story of Philadelphia native Franklin Carr, orphaned at the tender age of seven, and sent to a reformatory school, where he began associating with delinquents and petty criminals. Carr traveled the country working the occasional "straight" job, and pulling off jobs with various gangs and criminal associates. He spent a total of 22 years behind bars in Ohio, Missouri, and Pennsylvania before converting to Christianity and re-directing his life to missionary work. The broadside - sans imprint or date - was likely written by Carr himself, a 60-line autobiographical poem written in a largely repentant tone. OCLC shows the book was reprinted in 1894, and again in 1895; just 5 institutional holdings for the first edition, with the broadside unrecorded. SUVAK 51.

\$350.



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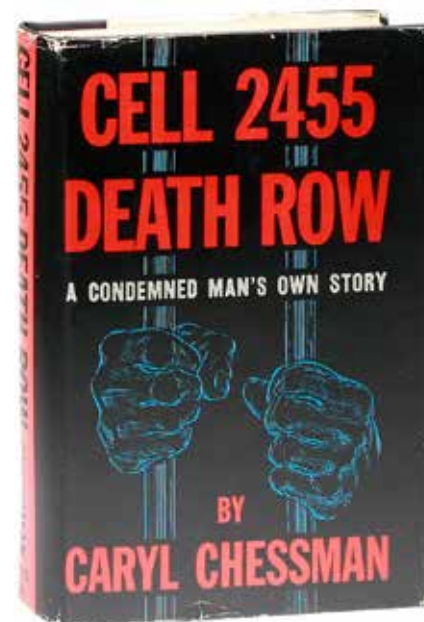
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9. [PRISONS - CALIFORNIA] CHESSMAN, Caryl

Cell 2455 Death Row.

New York: Prentice-Hall, Inc., 1954. First Edition. First Printing. Octavo (22cm); black cloth, with titles stamped in gilt on spine; brown topstain; dustjacket; 361pp. Base of spine gently nudged, else a clean, Near Fine copy. Dustjacket is unclipped, lightly edge-rubbed, with a few tiny tears and creases to same; Very Good+ to Near Fine, with the spine notably unfaded.

Chessman's classic account of life on San Quentin's Death Row, adapted for the 1955 film of the same name, directed by Fred F. Sears in 1955, starring William Campbell as Chessman. After publishing three books and exhausting a number of appeals, Chessman was finally executed in 1960. An unusually nice copy. SUVAK 57.

\$200.

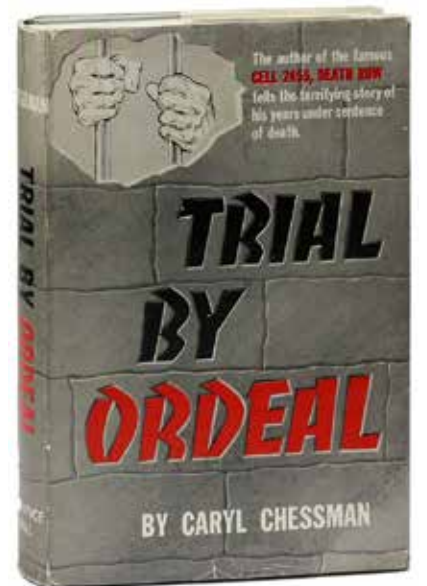
10. [PRISONS - CALIFORNIA] CHESSMAN, Caryl

Trial by Ordeal.

Englewood Cliffs: Prentice-Hall, 1955. First Edition. Octavo. Gray cloth boards, stamped in red and black; dustjacket; 309pp. Tight, fine copy in lightly rubbed dustwrapper, Very Good or better.

Second of four memoirs by Chessman, a San Quentin inmate whose first book - Cell 2455 Death Row - is one of the classic Death Row narratives. After publishing three books and exhausting a number of appeals, Chessman was finally executed in 1960. Quite nice copy. SUVAK 58.

\$75.



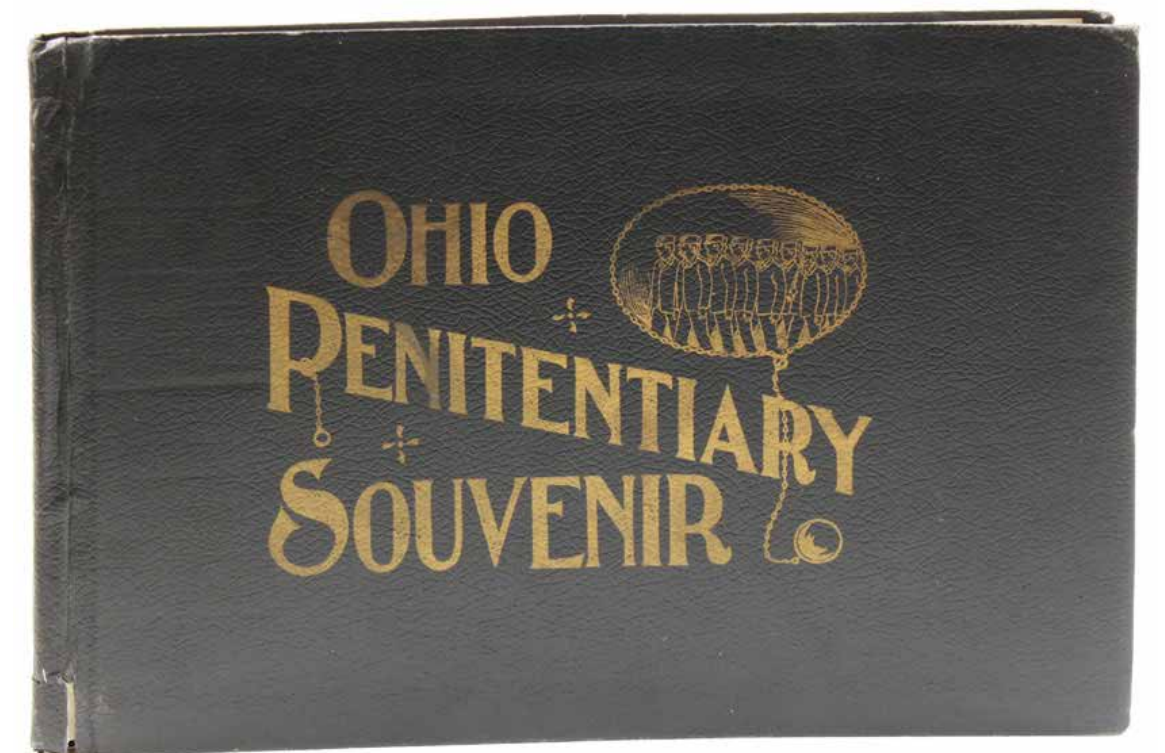
11. [PRISONS - OHIO] [COFFIN, E.G.]

Souvenir of the Ohio Penitentiary.

Columbus: E.G. Coffin, 1899. First Edition. Oblong quarto (20cm x 28cm). Flexible leatherette boards with pictorial gilt title on front cover; 64pp (chiefly illus). Boards slightly warped; vertical crease to rear board has been internally reinforced with archival tissue. Contents clean and unmarked, but with slight marginal ripping to final 20 or so leaves; Good or better.

Photo-illustrated pictorial souvenir of the Ohio State Penitentiary, claimed by the author to be "the largest prison in the United States, if not in the world." Illustrated with 52 halftone plates of the prison grounds, portraits of officials, and prison scenes, including work-gangs, a group portrait of the prison's female population, and several execution scenes (apparently genuine, but possibly staged) in the prison death-house. Uncommon; OCLC gives 7 locations, all but one in Ohio.

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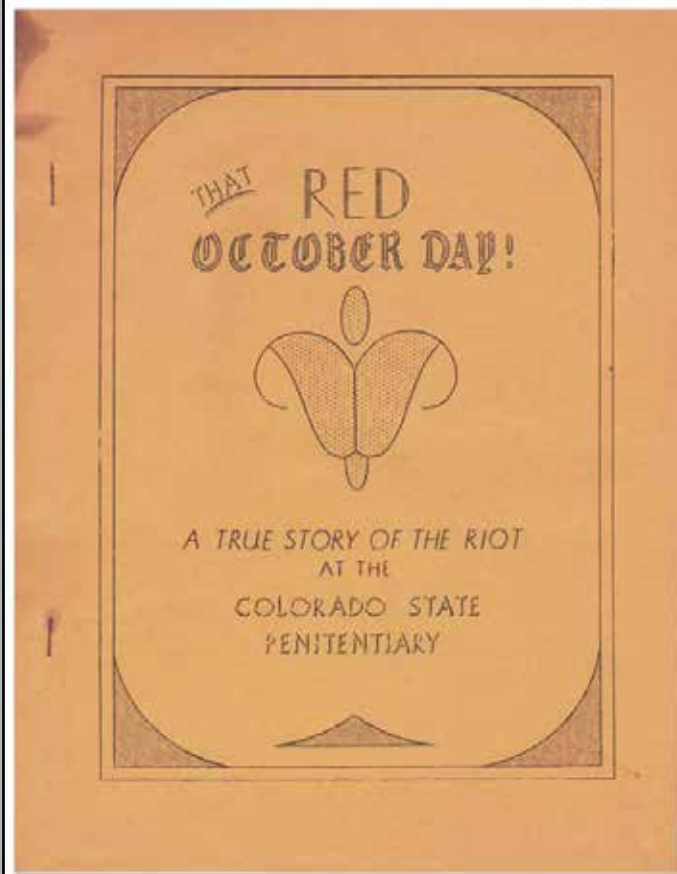
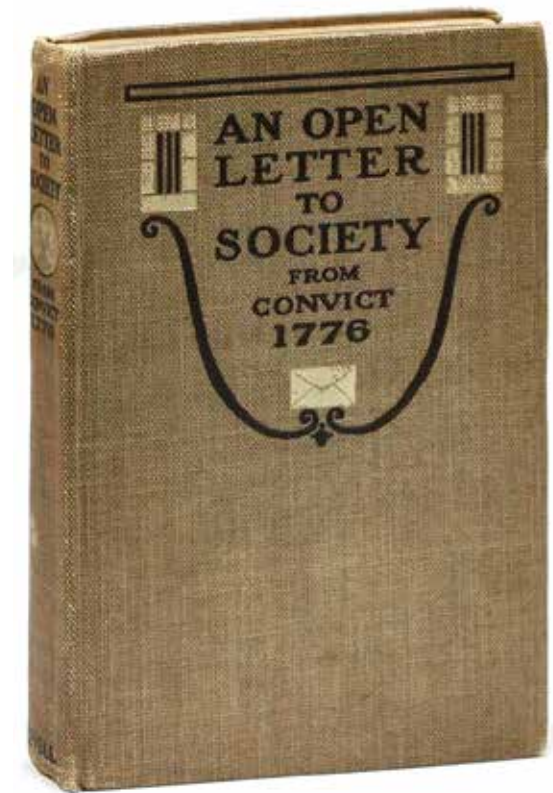
12. [PRISONS - WESTERN UNITED STATES] CONVICT 1776; BOOTH, Maud Ballington (introduction)

An Open Letter To Society From Convict 1776.

New York: Fleming H. Revell Co., 1911. First Edition. Octavo (19.5cm); light brown cloth, with titling and decorations stamped in black and beige on spine and front panel; 160pp. Light rubbing to boards, spine slightly sunned, with ownership bookplate and bookseller's stamped to front pastedown, and an early gift inscription to front endpaper; diagonal crease to pp.125-130; Good to Very Good.

Scarce work by an unnamed convict who spent time in two west coast prison facilities. "This is a calm, philosophical work on the aims and effects of punishment." Among the author's recommendations are the abolition of convict labor, the silent system, keeping prison sentences short to minimize the reinforcement criminals provide one another in confinement, and having the offender compensate his victim. Uncommon in the trade. SUVAK 242.

\$75.



13. [PRISONS - COLORADO] CRANE, R.M. and FRADY, Lloyd

That Red October Day: A True Story of the Riot at the Colorado State Penitentiary.

[Cañon City, CO]: R.M. Crane, 1932. First Edition. Quarto (28cm); 8.5 X 11 mimeographed sheets, side-stapled into orange orange covers; 28pp. Staples oxidized, some shallow, moderate staining to upper margins (not affecting text), with rear wrapper detached from top staple; Very Good.

Detailed account of the 1929 riot at the Colorado State Penitentiary, which, at the time, was one of the largest riots in the history of the American penal system; the October 3rd events claimed the death of 8 guards and 5 inmates, and ultimately caused over a million dollars in damage to the facility. This particular account was gathered by two inmates who were not present during the riots, but interviewed several men who were. While several notable accounts have been written on the 1929 riot, this is the only one we have seen written from the perspective of the inmates. Scarce; none in commerce (2013), with OCLC showing 7 holdings in member institutions.

\$250



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14. [PRISONS - KANSAS] DALTON, Emmett

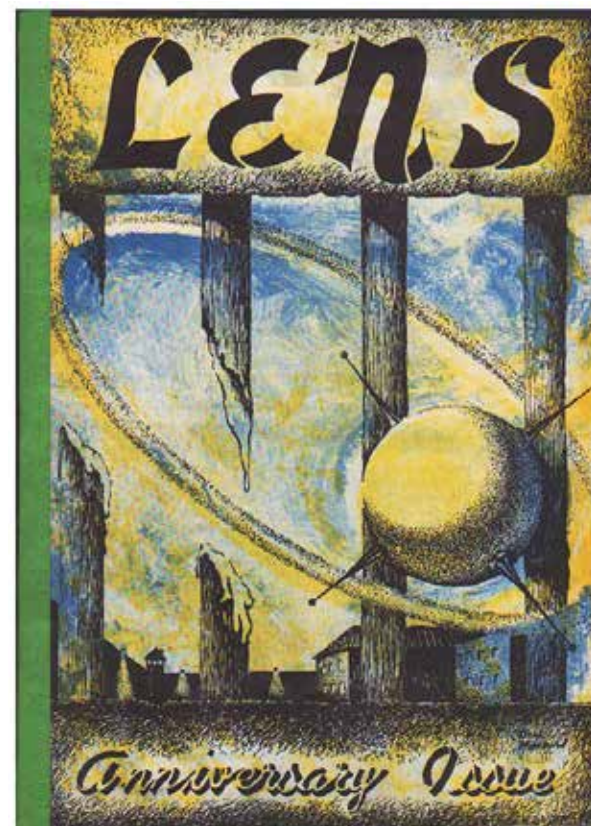
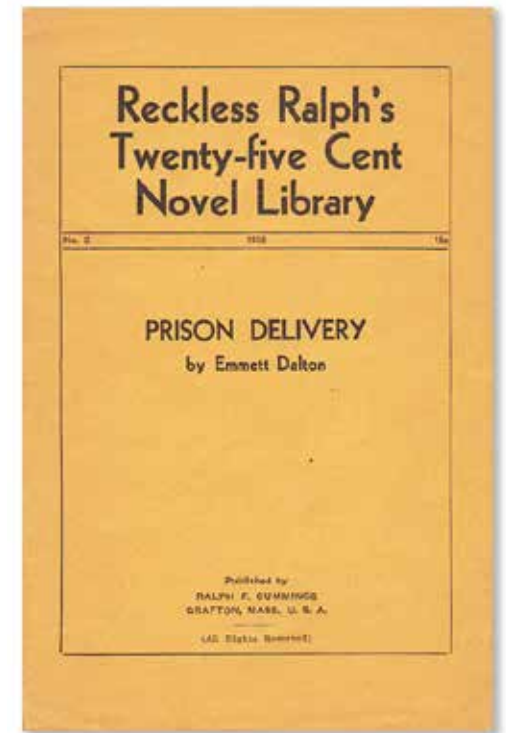
Prison Delivery (published as **Reckless Ralph's Twenty-five Cent Novel Library, No. 2**).

Grafton, MA: Ralph R. Cummings, 1935. First Edition. Slim octavo (21cm); folded sheets laid into yellow wrappers, with titles printed in black; 8pp. Some trivial wear to extremities; text slightly age-toned, else Near Fine.

Scarce first appearance of this brief prison memoir by Emmett, the only surviving member of the Dalton Gang. Emmett Dalton spent 14 years in the state penitentiary at Lansing, Kansas following his gang's unsuccessful attempt, in 1892, to rob two banks at once in Coffeyville, Kansas (in the ensuing shootout, all the brothers were killed but Emmett, who survived despite receiving 21 gunshot wounds). In the present essay, Dalton recounts his days in Lansing and waxes philosophical about the American prison system, of which he states: "Prisons, as we know them today, should either be abolished or put on a higher plane if erring humans are to be reclaimed to any appreciable per-cent."

The essay does not appear to have been previously published, and appears here in Ralph Cummings' "Twenty-Five Cent Novel Library," one of the earliest dime-novel fanzines in the U.S. (continued into the 1990s as "Dime Novel Roundup"). Dalton died in 1937; we are uncertain whether this essay was written earlier, or specially for this issue. This issue also includes a brief article by Cummings, "Two Remarkable Heroes: The Deadwood Dicks, Senior and Junior, are the Gentlemen" Dalton's essay was reprinted in "Old West" magazine in 1971. Not in Suvak; not in Adams; OCLC gives 7 locations under this title and author.

\$450.



15. [PRISONS - PENNSYLVANIA] DANTON, Andrew (ed). Harvey Matusow (et al, contribs)

The Lens. Publication of the U.S. Federal Penitentiary - Lewisburg, Pa. Volume 28, No. 5 - "Anniversary Issue"

Lewisburg, PA: Lewisburg Federal Penitentiary, 1959. First Edition. Octavo (23.5cm); pictorial card wrappers, 69pp; illus. Light external wear; faint circular stain to rear cover; else Near Fine.

Single issue of this inmate-produced prison periodical. An unusually inventive example of the genre, with text printed throughout in different colors of ink; many reproduced prison artworks; literary contributions range from the dry and historical ("The Wheat Field at Gettysburg") to thinly-veiled celebrations of the criminal lifestyle ("Portrait of a Bad Man;" "Kid in the Streets"). Of primary interest is a short fantasy, "Dear Baby Doll - Love Spike," by the noted Communist turncoat Harvey Matusow (1926-2002). Matusow's 1955 tell-all memoir, False Witness, had revealed his role in fabricating testimony against supposed communists during the House Un-American Activities Commission hearings. Following publication, Matusow was convicted of perjury, a sentence he served at Lewisburg until his release in 1959. After his release, Matusow emigrated to England, where had had a long career as a filmmaker and experimental artist. A scarce American prison periodical; OCLC finds only one location for any holding (Bucknell University which, interestingly, appears to own only this issue).

\$125.



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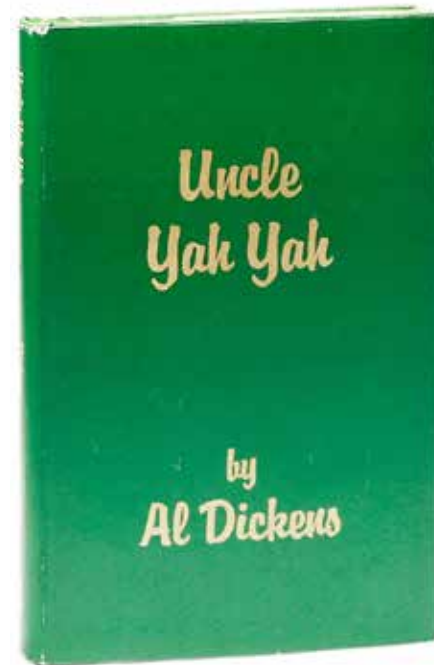
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16. [PRISONS - FICTION] DICKENS, Al

Uncle Yah Yah.

Detroit: Harlo Press, 1976. First Edition. Octavo (22cm); green cloth, with titles stamped in gilt on spine; dustjacket; 135pp. Ordering information rubber-stamped on endpapers, else Near Fine. Dustjacket is unclipped (priced \$10.00), with light rubbing to extremities and some faint spotting along flap folds; Near Fine.

Dickens's scarce fourth book, a novel about a modern-day African American holy man who provides wisdom for the troubled and downtrodden souls who come to him for guidance. Dickens, a native of Winter Haven, FL, wrote Uncle Yah Yah while serving a 16 year prison sentence - the last 3 of which were spent in a ward for the criminally insane. The first edition is scarce; no copies available in the trade (2013), with OCLC noting 7 institutional holdings.

\$125.

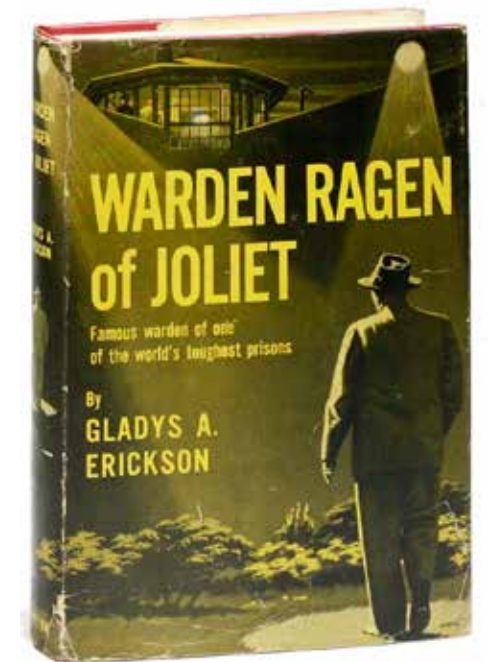
17. [PRISONS - ILLINOIS] ERICKSON, Gladys A.

Warden Ragen of Joliet.

New York: E.P. Dutton, 1957. First Edition. Octavo (21cm); red cloth boards, lettered in gilt on spine; dustjacket; 248pp. Lengthily inscribed on front endpaper by the author, dated 1957. Mild rubbing to bottom board edges, else a tight, Near Fine copy in a bright, unclipped dustwrapper.

Biography of Joseph E. Ragen, long-time warden of the Illinois State Penitentiary at Statesville-Joliet (home to Leopold & Loeb, Roger "The Terrible" Touhy, Basil "The Owl" Banghart and, fictionally, Jake & Elwood Blues). Includes an introduction by Ragen and a foreword by Harry Reutlinger; well-illustrated with photographic plates (halftones). Very nice copy; uncommon signed.

\$150.



18. [PRISONS - ILLINOIS] ERICKSON, Gladys A.

Warden Ragen of Joliet.

New York: E.P. Dutton & Co., 1957. First Edition. Octavo (21cm); red cloth, with titles stamped in gilt on spine; dustjacket; 248pp. Some pinpoint rubbing to board edges, else Fine in a price-clipped, Very Good+ dustjacket, lightly edgeworn, with a few nicks and tears and an old price sticker at lower rear panel.

Biography of Joseph E. Ragen, long-time warden of the Illinois State Penitentiary at Statesville-Joliet (home to Leopold & Loeb, Roger "The Terrible" Touhy, Basil "The Owl" Banghart and, fictionally, Jake & Elwood Blues). Includes an introduction by Ragen and a foreword by Harry Reutlinger; well-illustrated with photographic plates (halftones).

\$50.



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19. [PRISONS - MICHIGAN] FLOCH, Maurice

These, Too.... Are Human! Essays on Criminal Lives.

Plymouth, MI: Detroit House of Correction, 1951. First Edition. Quarto. Printed card wrappers; mimeographed text, 133pp (text printed recto only). Covers creased and lightly soiled, with ca 1" corner chip to rear wrapper; text clean tight and unmarked; Good or better.

Case studies of criminal at the Detroit House of Correction. The author was the prison psychiatrist; he characterizes his subjects as "...plain ordinary folks who hardly ever used the jargon of crime movies, who laughed and cried pretty much as the average man on the street, and whose dreams, in most instances, differed little from the dreams of humble, little men and women. Their chief trouble was that they chose strange and devious ways instead of the crowded and monotonous paths travelled by most of us ordinary mortals." A fragile, prison-produced publication which, though adequately represented in institutional collections, is uncommon in commerce.

\$125.

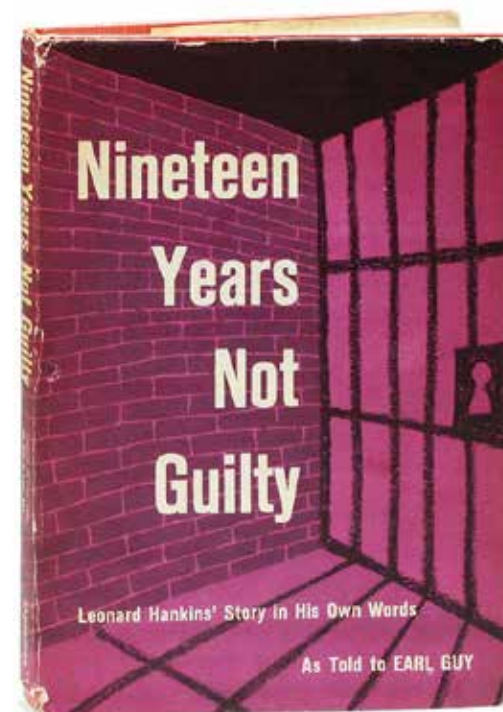
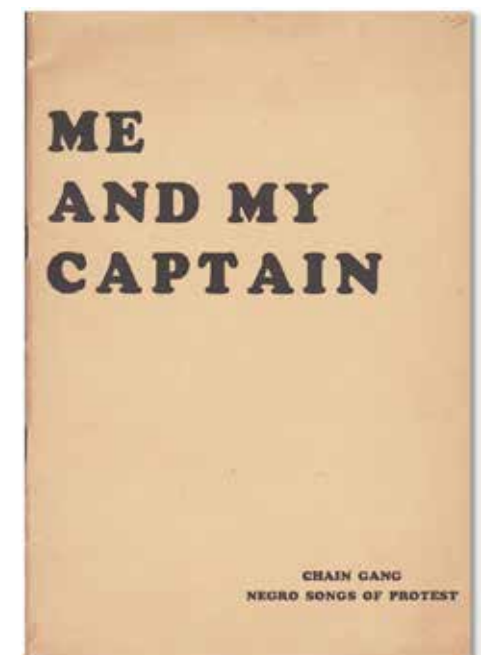
20. [PRISONS - FOLKLORE] GELLERT, Lawrence and Lan ADOMIAN

"Me And My Captain" (Chain Gangs). Negro Songs of Protest from the Collection of Lawrence Gellert, arranged for Voice and Piano by Lan Adomian.

New York: Hours Press, 1939. First edition. Octavo (25cm). Original printed wrappers, printed in black; 31pp. Light external toning and soil; still a very fresh copy, Very Good to Near Fine.

Scarce collection of African American chain gang chants, the second of four proposed compilations using source materials from the Lawrence Gellert collection (only two were actually published).

\$250.



21. [PRISONS - MINNESOTA] HANKINS, Leonard and GUY, Earl

Nineteen Years Not Guilty: Leonard Hankins' Story in His Own Words, As Told To Earl Guy.

New York: Exposition Press, 1956. First Edition. First Printing. Octavo (21cm); red-orange cloth, with titles stamped in black on spine; dustjacket; 110pp. Light wear to board edges, else Near Fine. Dustjacket is unclipped (priced \$3.00), edge-worn, with shallow chips at spine ends, sunning to spine, and some dampstaining to same, noticeable mostly on verso; Very Good.

Horrorfying account of Hankins' unjust and unlawful conviction for murder, and his nearly two decade-long imprisonment in the Minnesota State Prison. With descriptions of his legal fight to get out of prison, and the many obstacles he encountered at Stillwater while attempting to do so. SUVAK 138.

\$45.



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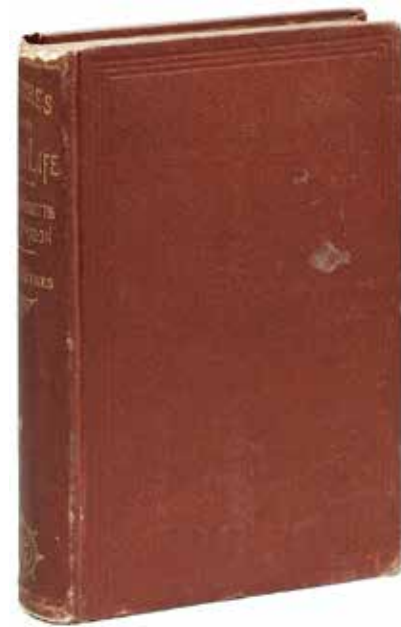
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22. [PRISONS - MASSACHUSETTS] HAYNES, Gideon

Pictures From Prison Life. An Historical Sketch of the Massachusetts State Prison. With Narratives and Incidents, and Suggestions on Discipline.

Boston: Lee & Shepard, 1869. First Edition. Demi-octavo (17.5cm). Publisher's terra-cotta cloth, lettered in gilt on spine, ruled in blind on front and rear covers; double woodcut frontispiece, 290pp. Sound, slightly worn copy, with cloth rubbed through at board corners, light soil to cloth and brief (<1/8") fraying to spine cloth at crown; about VG.

Fairly typical 19th-c. warden's account, offering a history of the facility along with some desultory opinions on prison reform and the praxis of penology.

\$85.

23. [PRISONS - FICTION] HOPPER, James and Fred R. Bechdolt

9009.

New York: The McClure Company, 1908. First Edition. Octavo (19cm). Pictorial cloth boards, blocked in white ink; 195pp. Portions of stamped design partially flaked from spine cloth (still legible); endpapers toned and with a spot of white-out to front free endpaper (attempting, unsuccessfully, to obscure an inked price); else a straight, well-preserved copy with front cover design nearly intact - much better than usually seen.

Novel of prison life, including an account of escape and re-capture; according to the authors' preface, the story is based on actual events, though it is not clear whether either author writes from direct, personal experience. HANNA 1757. SMITH H-837

\$85.



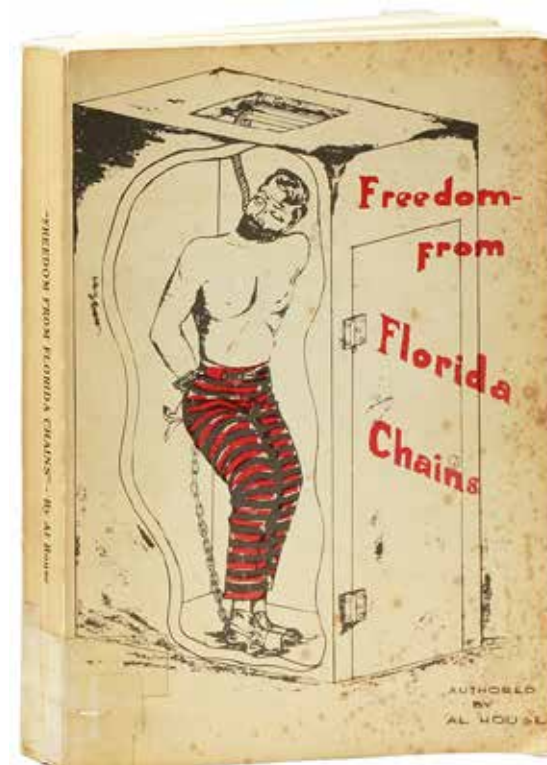
24. [PRISONS - FLORIDA] HOUSE, Al [alias of Albert R. Brown]

Freedom, From Florida Chains [inscribed presentation copy].

Terre Haute: Moore-Langen Printing & Publishing Co. , 1974. Second Printing. Octavo. Pictorial wrappers; xxv, 279pp; illus. Presentation copy, lengthily inscribed to author's cousin, dated 1976; with laid-in letter (from an intermediary) transmitting the book; with a few ink corrections to text in author's hand. Covers foxed; spine rolled, with tape repairs to front cover; no better than Good.

The author was arrested in Florida in 1925 for transporting liquor over state lines, then framed on a murder charge for which he served 25 years' hard labor at Raiford State Prison in Florida. This highly personal narrative includes a detailed account of injustices perpetrated by the Florida penal system, with many of the perpetrators identified by name. House's murder conviction was overturned in 1949. Includes 5 pages of illustrations after the author's crude original drawings of prison scenes.

\$150.





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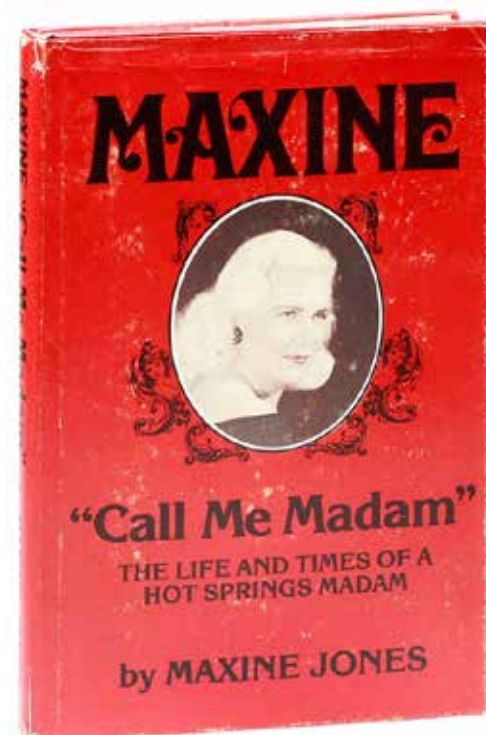
25. [PRISONS - OHIO] JENKINS, T.C.

The Ohio State Reformatory, Mansfield, Ohio, 1896-1934.

[Mansfield, OH: Ohio State Reformatory], 1934. First Edition. Quarto (31cm); light gray photo-illustrated wrappers, stapled; 56pp; illus. Light wear and faint creasing to extremities, hint of toning along left edge, with a single closed tear near upper right corner; Very Good+.

Souvenir book of the Ohio State Reformatory in Mansfield, OH, compiled by Superintendent T.C. Jenkins and tracing the institution's development from its earliest years through 1934. Contents are largely devoted to the various industries within the facility (Manufacturing and Sales, Furniture, Print Shop, Clothing and Shoe Factory), as well as highlighting the successes of staff and administration. Richly illustrated with black and white photographs throughout. OCLC notes 6 institutional holdings - all in Ohio.

\$150.



26. [PRISONS - ARKANSAS] JONES, Maxine Temple

Maxine "Call Me Madam".

Little Rock: Pioneer Press, 1983. First Edition. First Printing. Octavo (23.25cm); red cloth, with titles stamped in gilt on spine and front panel; dustjacket; 194pp. Some pinpoint rubbing to board edges, else Fine in a Near Fine dustjacket, price-clipped, with light rubbing to extremities.

Autobiography and prison memoir of Maxine Jones, a former prostitute-turned-madam in Hot Springs, Arkansas. The book covers her years of "learning the ropes" in whorehouses, her rise to becoming one of the most powerful madams in the state, her brushes with organized crime, and her time spent behind bars.

\$85.

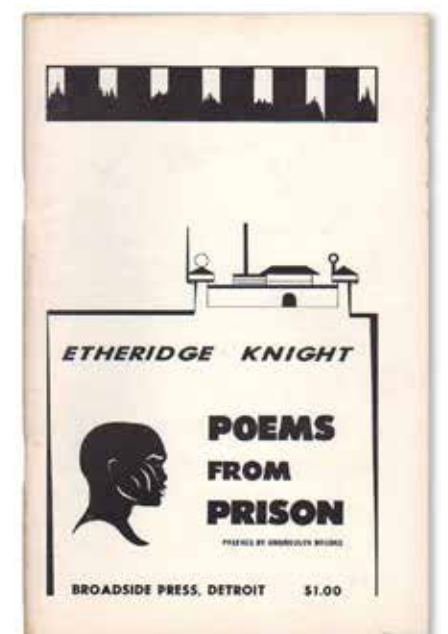
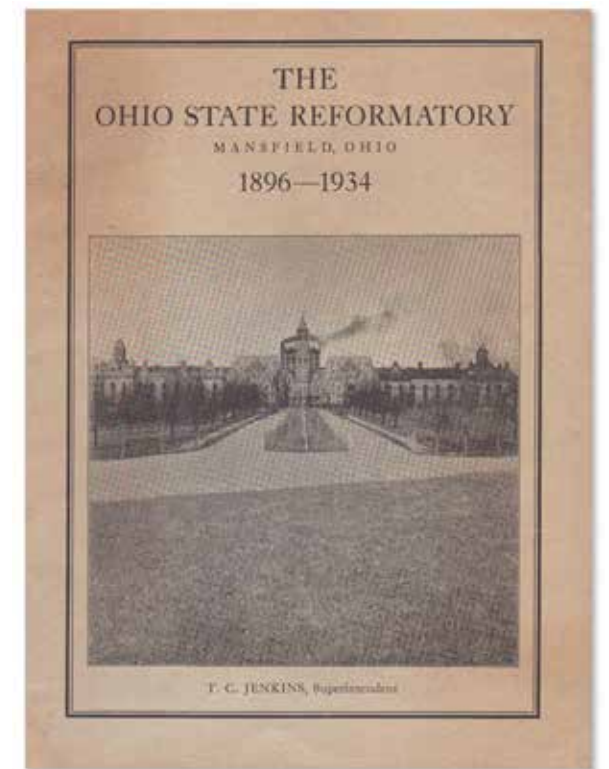
27. [PRISONS - INDIANA] KNIGHT, Etheridge (poems); BROOKS, Gwendolyn (preface)

Poems From Prison.

Detroit: Broadside Press, 1970. Fourth Printing. Slim octavo (21.5cm); black and white illustrated wrappers, stapled; 30pp. Faint spotting to extremities, else Near Fine.

A well-preserved copy of Knight's first published book of verse, written while doing time at Indiana State Prison.

\$25.





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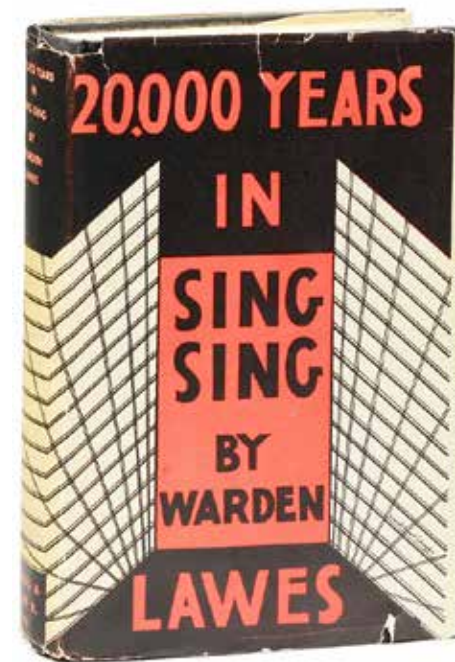
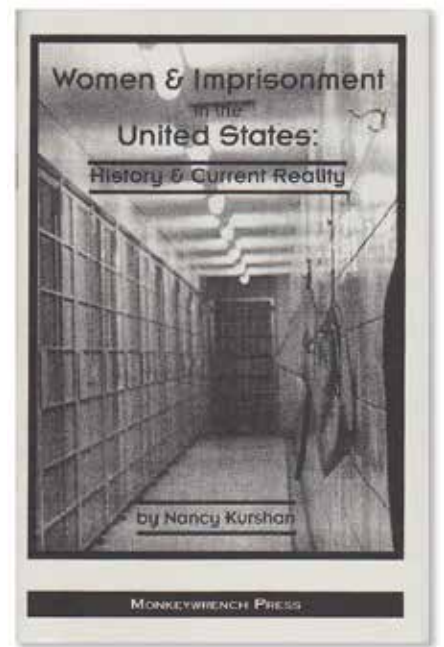
28. [PRISONS - WOMEN] KURSHAN, Nancy

Women & Imprisonment in the United States: History & Current Reality.

Philadelphia: Monkeywrench Press / Industial Workers of the World, [1995]. First Edition. Slim octavo (21.5cm); black and white photo-illustrated wrappers; 32pp. Faint, shallow dampstain to upper right corner of first 3pp, else Near Fine.

Brief work on the history of women's prisons in the United States, from their emergence in the early 19th century through the present day. Scarce work by Kurshan, one of the founding members of the Youth International Party and a staunch advocate for prison reform.

\$25



29. [PRISONS - NEW YORK] LAWES, Lewis E.

20,000 Years In Sing Sing.

New York: Ray Long & Richard R. Smith, Inc., 1932. First American Edition. Octavo (22cm.); black silk-finish cloth stamped in silver and red; dustjacket; 412pp. Spine ends gently nudged, with a few faint spots to upper edge of text and bookplate to front pastedown; Near Fine. Dustjacket is unclipped, gently spine-toned, with a few small edge chips, tears, and associated creasing; Very Good.

The Warden's non-fiction account of his twelve year tenure at Sing Sing prison, where he gained a reputation both for reforming prison conditions and humanizing those behind bars. Basis for the 1940 film Castle on the Hudson, directed by Anatole Litvak and starring John Garfield, Ann Sheridan, and Pat O'Brien.

\$250.

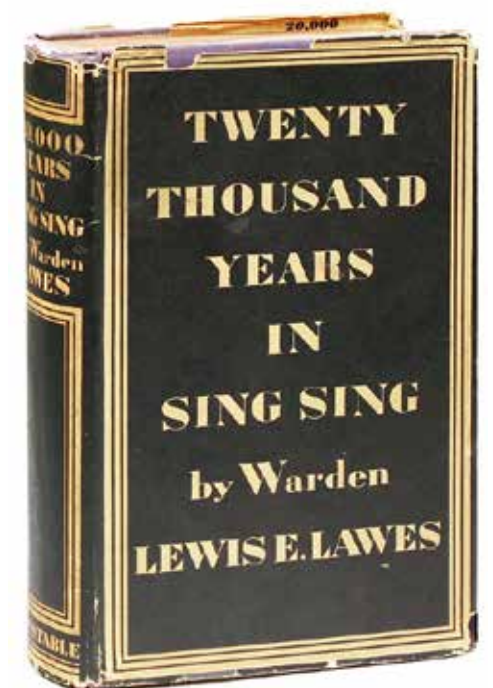
30. [PRISONS - NEW YORK] LAWES, Lewis E.

Twenty Thousand Years in Sing Sing.

London: Constable & Co. Ltd., 1932. First UK Edition. First Impression. Octavo; purple cloth, with titles stamped in gilt on spine; brown topstain; dustjacket; 422pp. Fading to board edges and topstain, bumping to corners, some offsetting to preliminary and terminal pages; Very Good. Dustjacket is unclipped, paper toned, with moderate edge-chipping (none affecting titles), light foxing and short tears; Very Good.

The uncommon British imprint of Warden Lewis E. Lawes' non-fiction account of his twelve year tenure at Sing Sing prison, where he gained a reputation both for reforming prison conditions and humanizing those behind bars. Basis for the 1940 film Castle on the Hudson, directed by Anatole Litvak and starring John Garfield, Ann Sheridan, and Pat O'Brien.

\$75.





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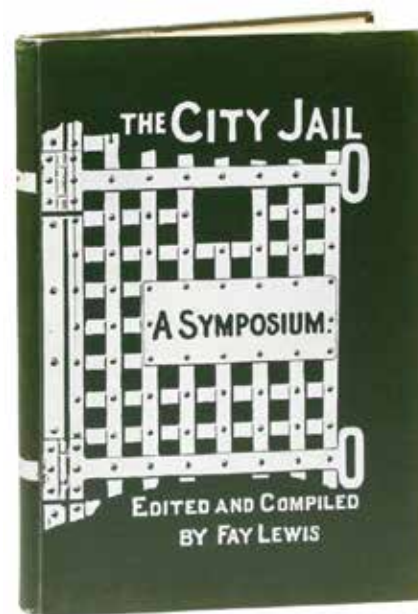
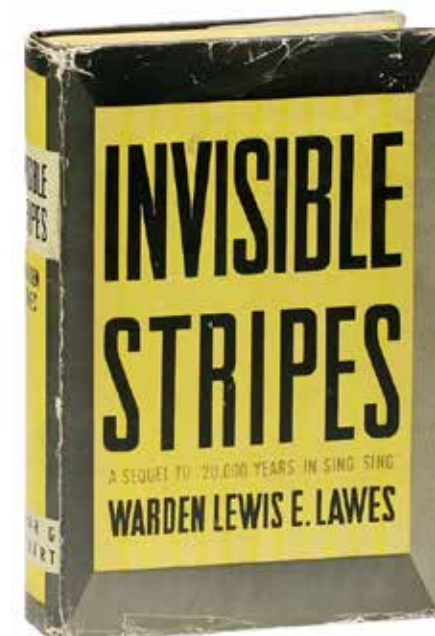
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31. [PRISONS - NEW YORK] LAWES, Lewis E.

Invisible Stripes.

New York: Farrar & Rinehart, Inc., 1938. First Edition. Octavo (21cm.); black silk-finish cloth boards, yellow stopstain, with titles stamped in gilt on the spine and front panel; dustjacket; 315pp. Inscribed by Warden Lawes on the front endpaper at Sing Sing, in chte year of publication. Topstain a little soiled, with some negligible wear along the board edges; Near Fine. Dustjacket is unclipped, with light soiling to the panels, a few shallow chips at the crown, and some wear and creasing along the edges and front flap fold; a VG+ example of a difficult jacket. The sequel to Lawes' well-received book 20,000 Years In Sing Sing.

\$150.



32. [PENOLOGY] LEWIS, Fay (editor); DARROW, Clarence (contributor)

The City Jail: A Symposium.

Rockford, IL: Calvert-Wilson Company Press, 1903. First Edition. Octavo (20cm); hunter green vertical-ribbed cloth, with titling and decorations stamped in white on spine and panels; 95pp; illustrated with two half-tone plates. Some negligible rubbing to corners and spine ends, else very Near Fine.

Lewis's anthology on penology, featuring a number of short contributions on the subject, most notably excerpts from Clarence Darrow's "Resist Not Evil." A nice copy, without just trivial rubbing to the fragile decorative cloth.

\$150.

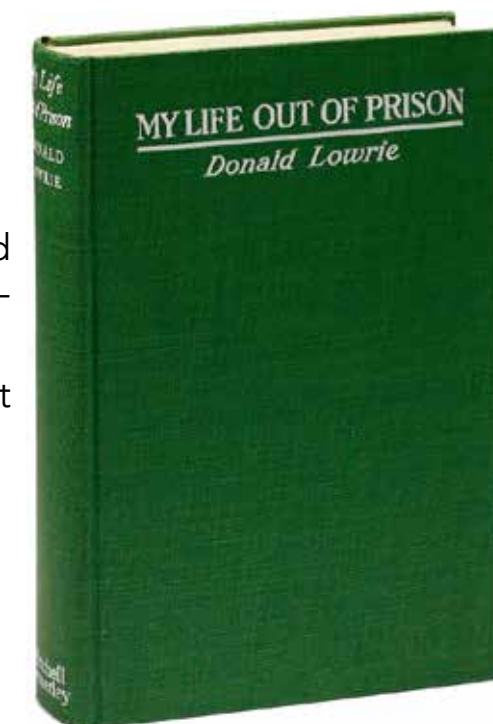
33. [PRISONS - CALIFORNIA] LOWRIE, Donald

My Life Out of Prison.

New York & London: Mitchell Kennerley, 1915. First Edition. First Printing. Octavo (19cm); green cloth, with titles stamped in white on spine and front panel; 345pp. Some faint spotting along top edge, else a Fine copy, lacking the scarce dust-jacket.

The author's memoir, in which he "discusses his last days at San Quentin, the conditions of his parole (he was to write about his prison life for a newspaper), and his prison reform efforts." Quite scarce, particularly in this condition. SUVAK 198.

\$150.





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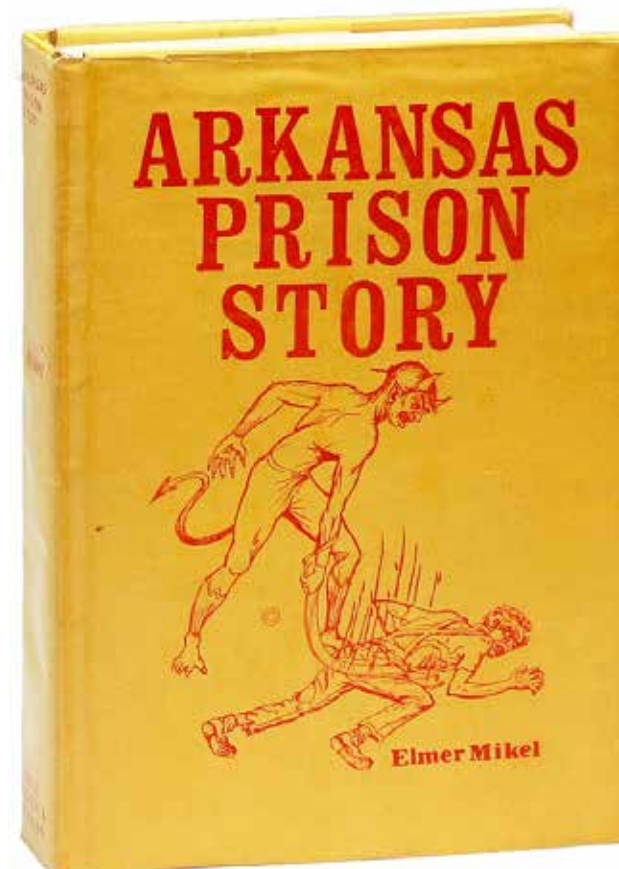
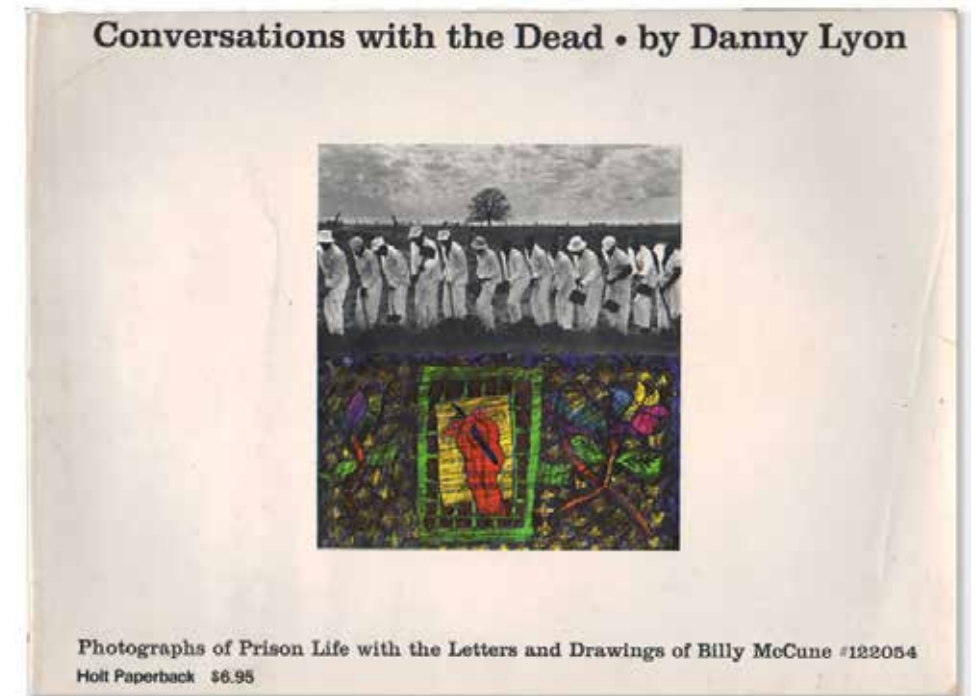
34. [PRISONS - TEXAS] LYON, Danny and Billy McCune

Conversations With The Dead: Photographs of Prison Life with the Letters and Drawings of Billy McCune #122054.

New York: Henry Holt, 1971. First Edition. Oblong quarto (ca 21cm x 28cm). Glossy pictorial card wrappers; 196pp (chiefly illus). Front wrapper faintly creased and rubbed along upper edge, else a tight, unmarked Very Good copy of the first paperback edition (issued simultaneously in cloth).

Lyon's now-classic collection of prison photographs, taken in various Texas correctional institutions including those at Huntsville, Midway, Rosharon and Winston. Includes a post-script of writings and paintings by Billy McCune, a lifer at Huntsville who speaks eloquently of the failings of the Texas prison system. SUVAK 202.

\$150.



35. [PRISONS - ARKANSAS] MIKEL, Elmer

Uncle Tom's Prison [title from dustwrapper: "Arkansas Prison Story"]

Santa Monica: Elmer Mikel / Dell Monica Press, 1970. First Edition. Octavo (18.75cm); yellow cloth, with titling and illustrations stamped in red on spine and front panel; dustjacket; 161pp. Inscribed by the author on the title page: "To Karen Carter / June 7 - 1973 / With best wishes / Elmer Mikel." Slight separation at front and rear hinges (a binding flaw), else Near Fine. Dustjacket is lightly spine-sunned, with a touch of edgewear and a few faint splash marks to spine; Very Good+.

First-hand account of life in the "hell holes," or prison farms of Arkansas by an ex-convict who did time during the 1930's. A highly detailed account of the atrocities experienced in these prison farms, and more disturbingly, an exploration into the nearly 1750 bodies of convicts who had "disappeared" during a decade-long period in Arkansas, allegedly at the hands of crooked prison bosses. A cheaply-manufactured self-published volume; we note one jacketless copy in the trade (2013), with OCLC showing 6 holdings in member institutions - more than half of these in Arkansas. Not in SUVAK.

\$200.



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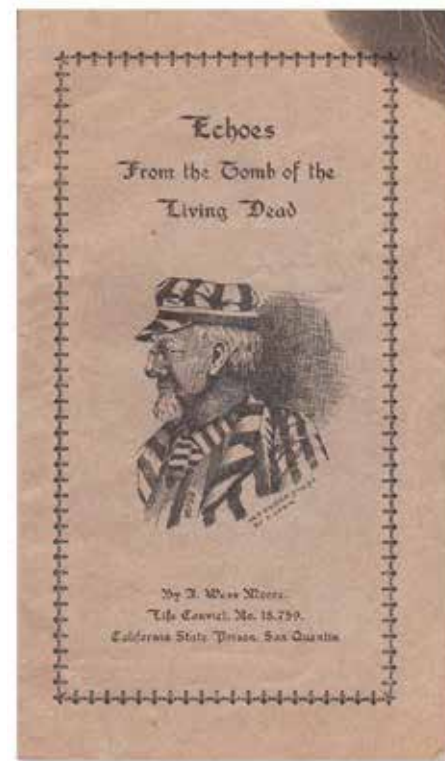
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36. [PRISONS - CALIFORNIA] MOORE, J. Wess

Echoes from the Tomb of the Living Dead.

Berkeley: Keystone Publishing Company, 1908. First Edition. Slim octavo (20.5cm); gray and black illustrated wrappers, stapled; 16pp. Wrappers creased and edgeworn, with a few short tears, semi-circular stain to upper left corner of front wrapper, and some scattered spots to rear; Very Good.

Brief pamphlet of poems, prayers, songs, and aphorisms by Moore, an elderly convict serving out a life sentence at San Quentin for homicide. The pamphlet is dedicated "to the children of America...to try and create a better feeling between the bond and the free, and I know of no better field in which to labor than the great field of children. When I was a child, one of the impressions made on my young mind was, that all persons who went to prison as convicts, were the veyr worst and most cruel of people...since then I have learned better, and wish to "pass it on."" Rare: we note no copies in the trade (2013), and OCLC notes 2 institutional copies, both in California.

\$350.

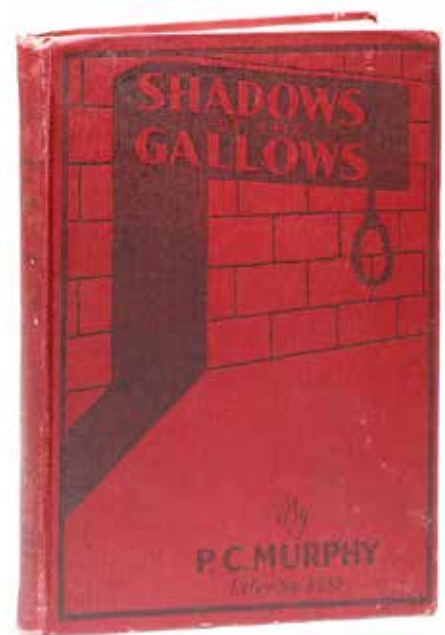
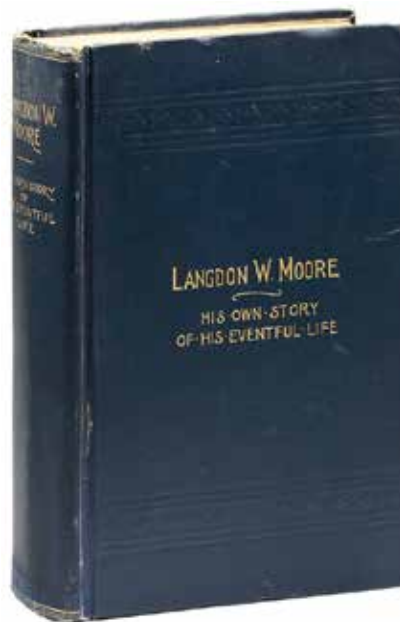
37. [PRISONS - MAINE] MOORE, Langdon

Langdon W. Moore: His Own Story of His Eventful Life.

Boston: L.W. Moore, 1893. First Edition. Octavo (23cm). Blue publisher's cloth, lettered in gilt on spine and front cover; decoratively blocked in blind on front cover; 659pp; 49 inserted leaves of photographic plates (halftones). Light wear, including some minor bumps to board edges; engraved bookplate of Edwin L. Brown to front pastedown; Very Good.

A compendious and rather exuberant memoir by this career gambler, grifter, and professional criminal, including excellent descriptions of life in various Maine correctional facilities including the jails at Rockland and Belfast and the State Prison at Thomaston. Though putatively a reformed man by the time of this writing, there is no mistaking the pride Moore takes in describing his exploits in the fields of bank robbery, safe blowing, counterfeiting, and fraud. Not an uncommon book, but probably an under-appreciated one. SUVAK 223.

\$75.



38. [PRISONS - IDAHO] MURPHY, Patrick C. (Life Prisoner in the Idaho State Penitentiary)

Shadows of the Gallows.

Caldwell: The Caxton Printers, 1928. First Edition. Octavo (23.5cm); crimson cloth, with titling and decorations stamped in black on spine and front panel; 192pp; illus. Vintage bookseller's ticket to rear pastedown, light wear to extremities, with a hint of sunning to spine and light spotting to terminal leaves; Very Good+

"Hodgepodge of history of executions and torture, home-cooked theories of criminality, and a picture chapter on the Idaho State Pen, with some poetry" (Suvak, p.65). Facts compiled by Murphy (a lifer at Idaho State Penitentiary) during a 12 year period serving out his sentence. An attractive, well-preserved copy. SUVAK 231.

\$65.



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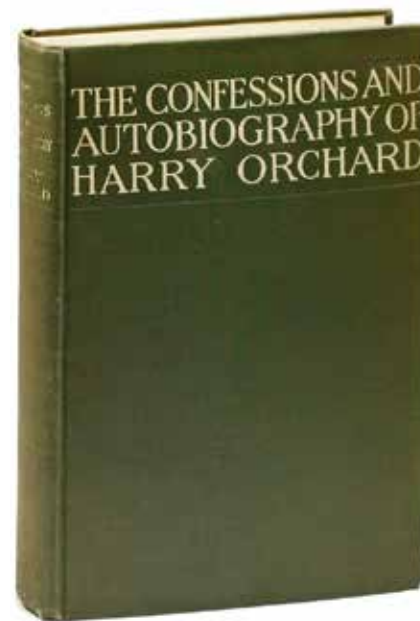
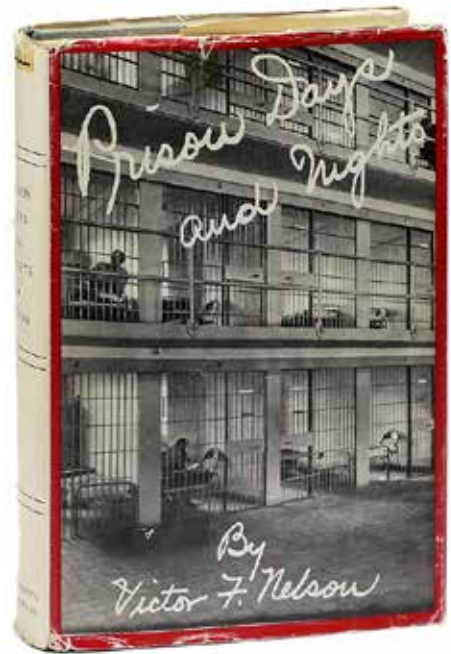
39. [PRISONS - MASSACHUSETTS] NELSON, Victor F.

Prison Days and Nights.

Boston: Little, Brown & Co., 1933. First Edition. Octavo. Pictorial cloth boards; dustjacket; 283pp. Boards a little dusted and faded, else a tight, VG copy in the original pictorial dustwrapper, minutely edgeworn but price-clipped and with old tape-stains to edges; Very Good.

Candid and surprisingly graphic account of prison life by a career criminal, with chapters on drug use, homosexuality, prison violence and gang activity. The author did long stretches at the Massachusetts State Prison in Charlestown and at Auburn Penitentiary in New York, and is described on the jacket copy as "...an articulate prisoner [who] possesses that rare gift among prisoners of writing impersonally on life in correctional institutions...truly in him the intelligent prisoner speaks and speaks with authority." Rare in jacket, this a particularly well-preserved copy. SUVAK 236.

\$200.



40. [PRISONS - IDAHO] ORCHARD, Harry (alias of Albert E. Horsley)

The Confessions and Autobiography of Harry Orchard.

New York: McClure, 1907. First Edition. Octavo (19cm); olive green vertical-ribbed cloth, with titles stamped in ivory on spine and front panel; 255pp. Spine lightly sunned, with titling mostly flaked off and some old, faint damping to lower right corner of textblock; Very Good.

"Horsley (who often used the alias Harry Orchard) admitted to killings and bombings while working for the Western Federation of Miners." He spent time in Canyon County Jail (Caldwell, ID) and the Idaho State Penitentiary in Boise, and his memoir "discusses thoughts of suicide, repenting, reconciliation with God, and clearing his chest of wrongdoings." SUVAK 154.

\$85.

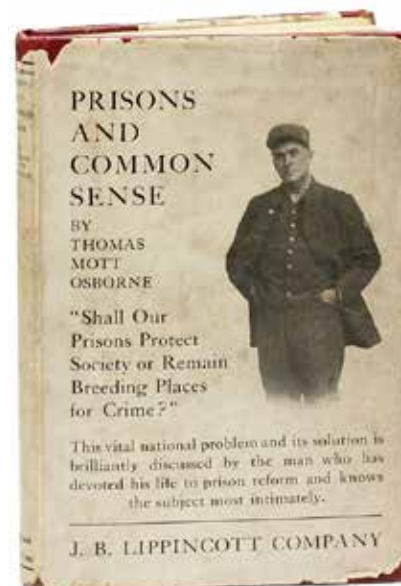
41. [PRISON REFORM] OSBORNE, Thomas Mott

Prisons and Common Sense.

Philadelphia & London: J.B. Lippincott Company, 1924. First Edition. Octavo (18.5cm); maroon cloth, white labels on spine and front panel, with titles printed in black; dustjacket; 105pp. Contemporary inscription on the front endpaper: "The call of these men behind the walls ought to be heard. Cordially / Leslie L. Sanders / 1963 Ruckle St. Indianapolis, Ind." Light dustiness and faint spotting to upper edge of text, else Near Fine. Dustjacket is unclipped (priced \$1.25), dust-soiled, with chips at spine ends, corners, and upper rear panel (affecting text), and a dozen small tape mends verso and to rear panel; Good, complete example.

Late volume written by the one-time chairman of the New York Commission on Prison Reform, who once famously volunteered to spend a week in prison. Osborne grapples with the challenges of prison administration, prisoner welfare, and making "an intelligent plan of prison management a thing of general social concern." While the exact identity of the inscriber is not known, we find one Leslie Lee Sanders of Indianapolis, IN, a former convict sentenced to four years in Leavenworth for mail fraud in June of 1925, as a likely candidate (The Indianapolis News - 8 June, 1925; p.12). A scarce volume, not previously seen by us in the fragile pictorial dustjacket.

\$250.





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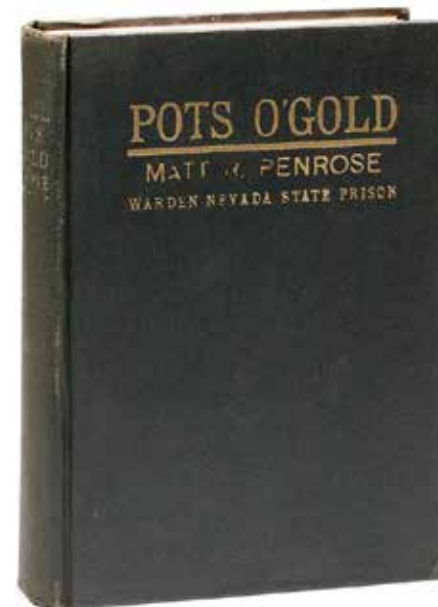
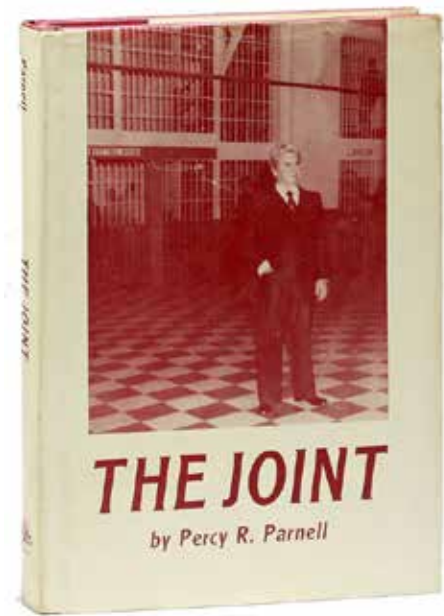
42. [PRISONS - OKLAHOMA] PARNELL, Percy R.

The Joint.

San Antonio: The Naylor Company, 1976. First Edition. Octavo. Cloth boards; dustjacket; 113pp. Spotting to upper edge of text block, else a Near Fine copy in price-clipped but just lightly worn photo-pictorial dustwrapper, Near Fine.

Personal narrative of prison life in the Oklahoma State Penitentiary at McAlester. The author, son of the prison warden, grew up in the shadow of the penitentiary, then did time there after being convicted of forgery. Illustrated with photographic plates (halftones), and including much on the history of the prison and grounds. SUVAK 247a.

\$50.



43. [PRISONS - NEVADA] PENROSE, Matt R.

Pots O'Gold.

Reno: A. Carlisle & Co. of Nevada, 1935. First Edition. Octavo (20cm). Gilt-blocked textured cloth boards; 233pp; illus. Presentation inscription, apparently non-authorial (though signature is hard to decipher) to front endpaper. Minor external wear; slight loss to gilt on spine; Very Good.

The author was warden of the Nevada State Penitentiary at Carson City and Superintendent of Nevada state police. In addition to a history of the prison, includes accounts of several noted Nevada outlaws including Henry Plummer and Farmer Peel. Includes a detailed chapter on the first executions conducted by lethal gas, a method pioneered by Penrose and his staff beginning in 1924. Adams, SIX GUNS 1714.

\$75.

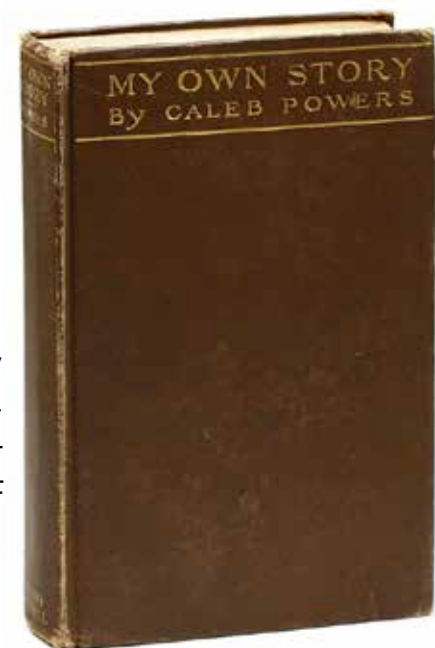
44. [PRISONS - KENTUCKY] POWERS, Caleb

My Own Story. An account of the conditions in Kentucky leading to the assassination of William Goebel, who was declared governor of the State, and my indictment and conviction on the charge of complicity in his murder [...]

Indianapolis: Bobbs-Merrill, 1905. First Edition. Octavo (19cm). Gray cloth boards, lettered in gilt on spine and front cover; 490pp; 16 inserted leaves of plates (halftones). Binding slightly rubbed and soiled; dusting to page edges, still a VG copy with internals clean and unmarked. Illustrated from contemporary photographs.

Detailed account of political conditions and criminal details relating to the assassination, in 1900, of newly-elected Kentucky Governor William Goebel. The author, the sitting Attorney-General, was wrongfully convicted and sentenced to death for complicity in the crime. Powers goes to great lengths to provide evidence exonerating himself from the assassination, and it's clear that the book's primary purpose was to elicit a state's pardon (which, in fact, Powers received in 1908). The true identity of Goebel's assassin has never been established. The book was written from the author's jail cells in Fayette County and Louisville, Kentucky, and includes some brief but colorful accounts of life behind bars. SUVAK 260.

\$85.





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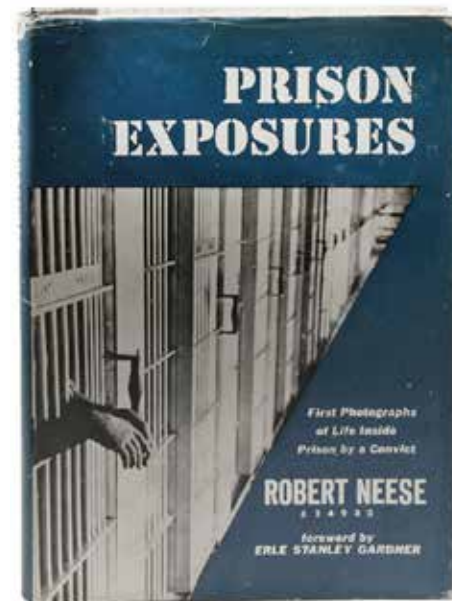
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45. [PRISONS - IOWA] NEESE, Robert (fwd Erle Stanley Gardner)

Prison Exposures: First Photographs Inside Prison by a Convict.

Philadelphia: Chilton Company, 1959. First Edition. Quarto. Cloth-backed boards; dustjacket; 135pp. Lightly worn in mildly edge-rubbed jacket; Very Good to Near Fine.

An inmate's intimate photographs of life inside the Iowa State Prison. A note on the copyright page states: "The older photographs in this book were taken by former prison photographer 'Satan' Andrews and by Tom Runyon. Both men are deceased." Reprinted in year of publication; the first edition is somewhat uncommon.

\$125.

46. [PRISONS - PENNSYLVANIA] By B.8266 (pseud Clarence Alexander Rae); Wm. Stanley Braithwaite, introd.

A Tale Of A Walled Town and Other Verses. By B.8266, _____ Penitentiary.

Philadelphia & London: J.B. Lippincott, 1921. First Edition. Octavo (19.5cm); yellow and navy blue cloth, with white printed title labels at spine and front panel; 121pp. Discreet rubber-stamped name to front endpaper, light wear to board edges, with rubbing and light soil to title labels; Very Good.

Collection of poems written by Rea during his imprisonment for kidnaping at Eastern State Prison, near Philadelphia. Includes an 11-page introduction by William Stanley Braithwaite, comprising an account of his visit to Rea in prison and a brief, glowing assessment of the poems. The inclusion of an introduction Braithwaite, at this time among the leading African-American literary figures, is compelling; but we can find no evidence, either internally or in secondary literature, that Rea was an African-American prisoner.

\$75.

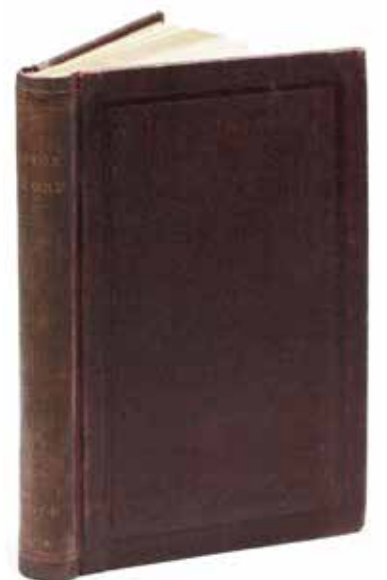
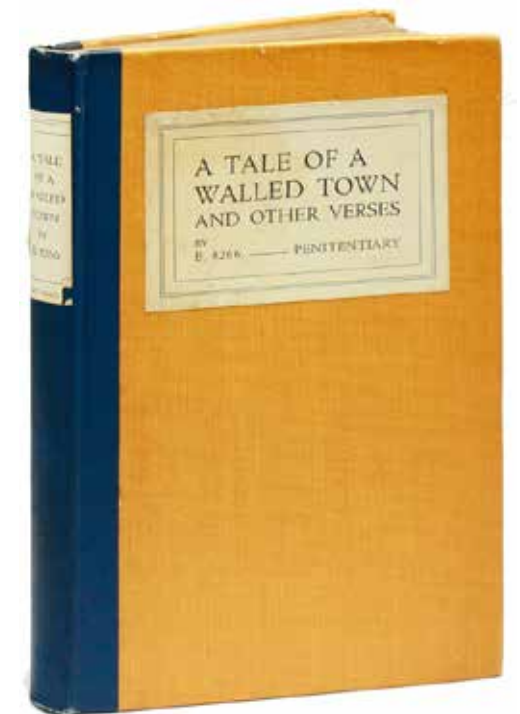
47. [PRISONS - OHIO] SCOTT, Milton R.

Prison Reform and Other Topics.

Newark, OH: Tribune Book Print., 1894. First Edition. 12mo (15.5cm). Maroon cloth boards, ruled in blind; gilt title to spine; 204pp. Neatly rebacked, preserving most of original spine cloth and endpapers; internally fresh and unmarked; Very Good.

Privately-published collection of essays on the penal problem, mostly from a Christian standpoint and with special attention to Ohio institutions. Includes a chapters on "Capital and Labor," touching marginally on criminal actions within the labor movement. Despite the odd imprint, not a particularly uncommon book; OCLC gives 19 locations, most in Ohio.

\$45.





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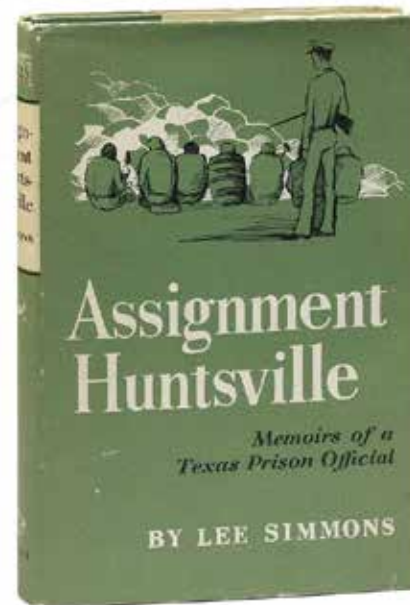
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48. [PRISONS - TEXAS] SIMMONS, Lee

Assignment Huntsville: Memoirs of a Texas Prison Official.

Austin: University of Texas Press, 1957. First Edition. Octavo (23.5cm); hunter green cloth, with titles stamped in white on spine; green topstain; dustjacket; 233pp; illus. Light foxing to text edges, else Fine. Dustjacket is price-clipped, gently spine-sunned, with light edgewear and some foxing to flap folds; Very Good+.

Memoir by Simmons, an old-line lawman who served as General Manager of the Texas prison system from 1930-1935. In addition to orchestrating the pursuit and ultimate demise of Bonnie Parker and Clyde Barrow, Simmons' achievements also included a whole-scale reform of the Texas prison system, improving conditions for inmates in the areas of health, diet, and education. With numerous black and white illustrations throughout. Uncommon in the trade.

\$150.

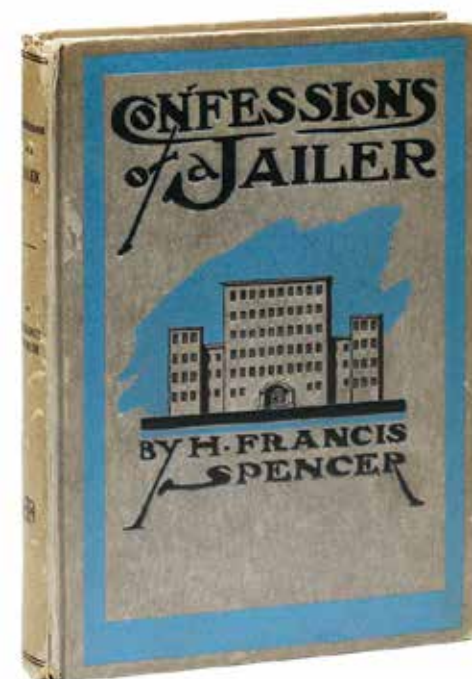
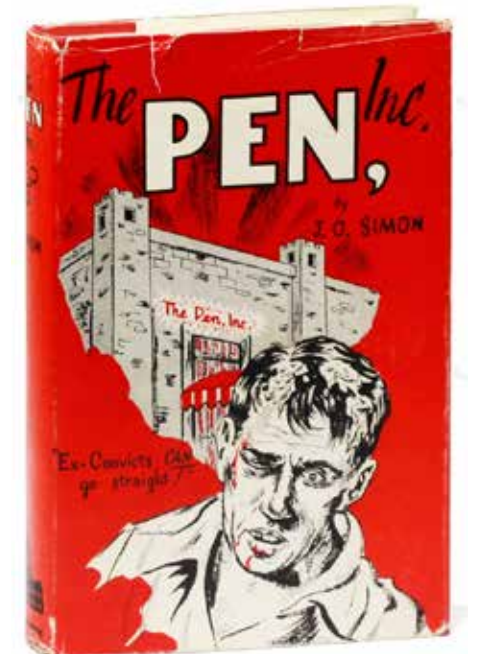
49. [PRISONS - FICTION] SIMON, J.O.

The Pen, Inc.

Philadelphia: Dorrance & Company, 1952. First Edition. Octavo (19.5cm); red cloth, with titles stamped in gilt on spine; dustjacket; 212pp. Top edge slightly dusty, else very Near Fine. Dustjacket is unclipped (priced \$2.50), lightly edge-worn, with a few short tears and tiny nicks; bright, Very Good+ example.

Scarce novel of a wrongly-imprisoned ex-convict, who leaves prison with a seething hatred of society. "Convinced that society will not let an ex-convict go straight, he plans a criminal organization. In a blackmail attempt he is beaten up and shocked into conceiving the idea of The Pen - a big restaurant and nightclub, built to simulate a prison with stone walls, guards and cells for booths. Every employee, from warden to janitor, must be an ex-convict." Uncommon in the trade, with OCLC showing just 6 institutional holdings for this title.

\$150.



50. [PRISONS - CALIFORNIA] SPENCER, H. Francis

Confessions of a Jailer: A Prison Story of the Present Day.

Long Beach: By the Author, 1914. First Edition. Octavo (20.5cm); pictorial boards; 186pp. Boards rubbed and worn, with bumps to corners and lower rear board, and thin splits at either end of front joint; just Very Good.

Exposé of brutality in the California prison system, written by a retired jailer. Spencer begs the reader for forgiveness while describing the arbitrary punishments, inedible rations, and rampant corruption that prevailed under his tenure.

\$125.



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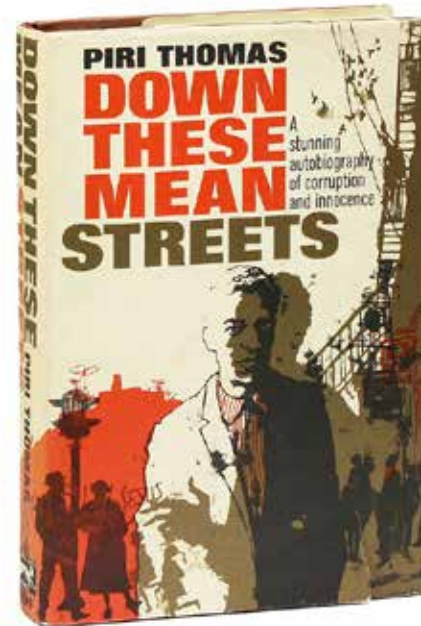
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51. [PRISONS - NEW YORK] THOMAS, Piri

Down These Mean Streets [Double Presentation Copy].

New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1967. First Edition. First Printing. Octavo (21.75cm); brown cloth, with titling and decorations stamped in red, blue, and gilt foil on spine and front panel; light blue topstain; dustjacket; 333pp, [3]. A double presentation copy, inscribed on both the copyright and dedication pages: "March 15, 1999 / To my brother Jack Wayne Fleming / "United we stand, divided, we're stuck" Love your bro / Piri Thomas." Second inscription reads: "Nov. 7th 1993 / To Richard...We are all earthlings, part of earth and universal / so how small can any child be? / Best always / A Brother / Piri Thomas." Topstain slightly faded, else Fine in a Near Fine dustjacket, unclipped, with some light edgewear and two closed tears to front panel.

Autobiographical account by a Puerto Rican of life in Spanish Harlem, telling of his childhood in the slums, the violence, and his rebellion against it. Thomas also discusses his six-year prison term, as well as time spent at Bellevue, Great Meadow, Sing Sing, and Manhattan House of Detention. Optioned at one point by Elia Kazan, who considered filming it, though sadly the film was never produced. SUVAK 319; VIVÓ 17:89.

\$175.

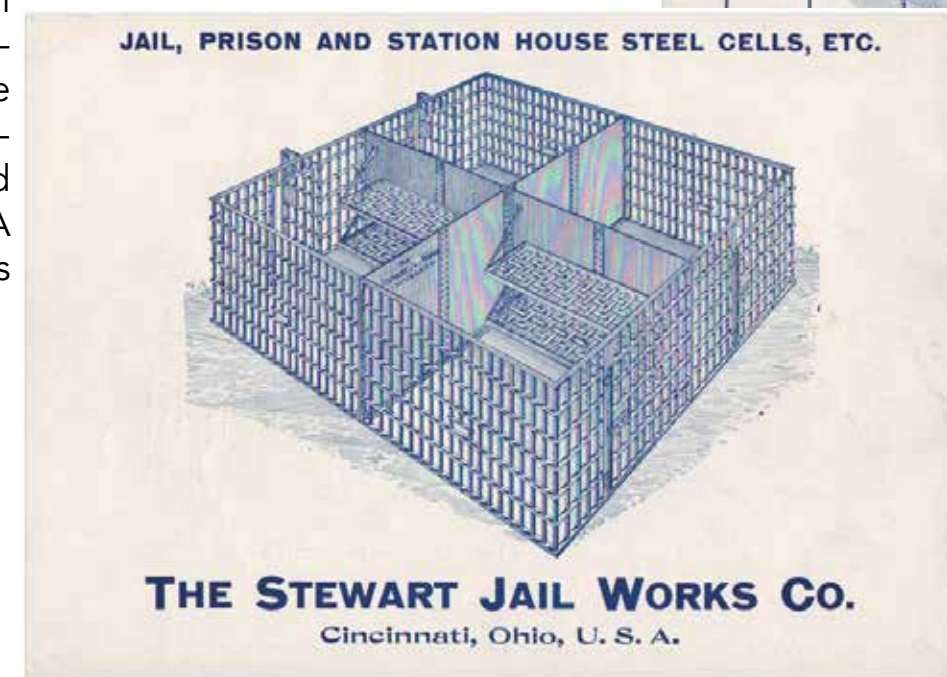
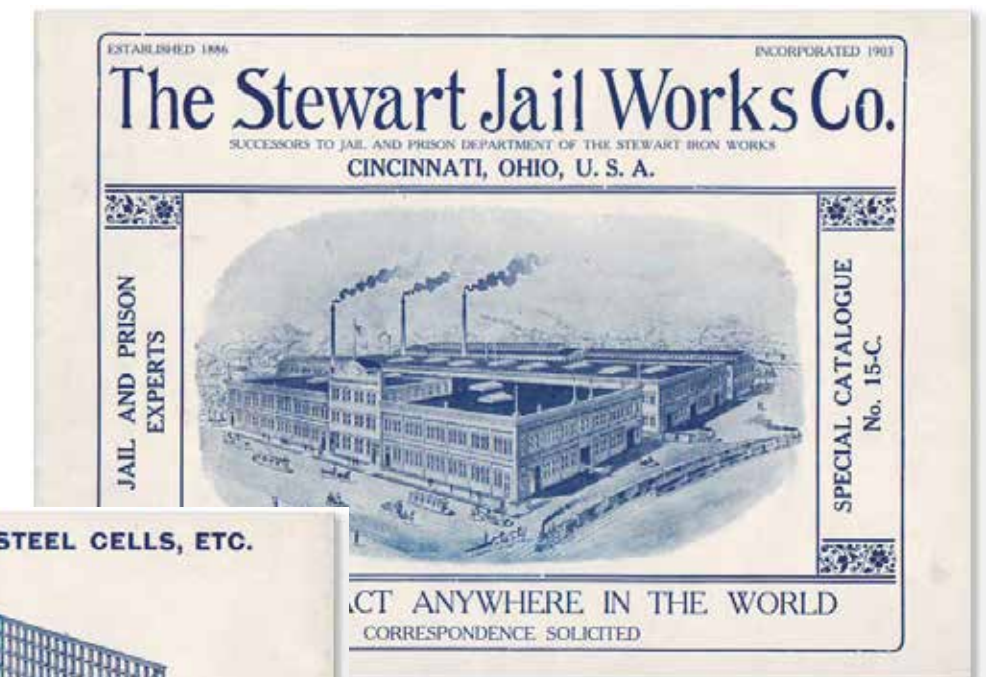
52. [TRADE CATALOG]

The Stewart Jail Works Co. - Special Catalogue No.15-C.

Cincinnati, OH: Stewart Jail Works Co., [n.d. but ca.1904-05]. Oblong quarto (27cm x 19.5cm); white and blue illustrated wrappers, stapled; 28pp; chiefly illus. Some trivial dust-soil and rubbing to extremities, else Near Fine.

Early sales catalog of The Stewart Jail Works Co., "Jail and prison experts and manufacturers of steel cells and steel works, etc., for jails, prisons, and city lock-ups." A fully illustrated catalog, devoted principally to iron and steel cells, cages, doors, window guards, etc., providing model numbers, measurements, and special features for each of their products. A well-known company, whose steelworks were used in facilities like the New Jail (Newport, KY), Onondaga County Penitentiary (Syracuse, NY), US Federal Prison (Atlanta, GA), and the Virginia State Penitentiary in Richmond, et al. A rare and early piece of prison ephemera; OCLC notes just 2 copies (Columbia and Virginia Tech).

\$250.





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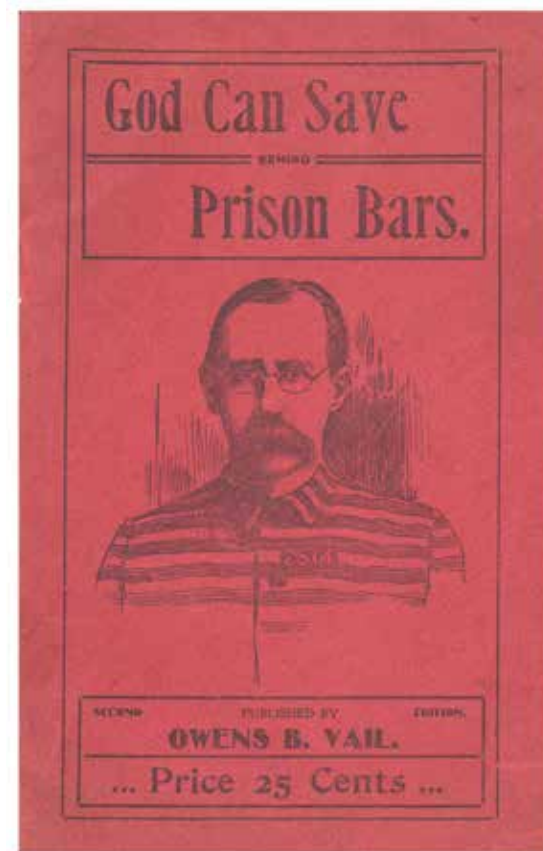
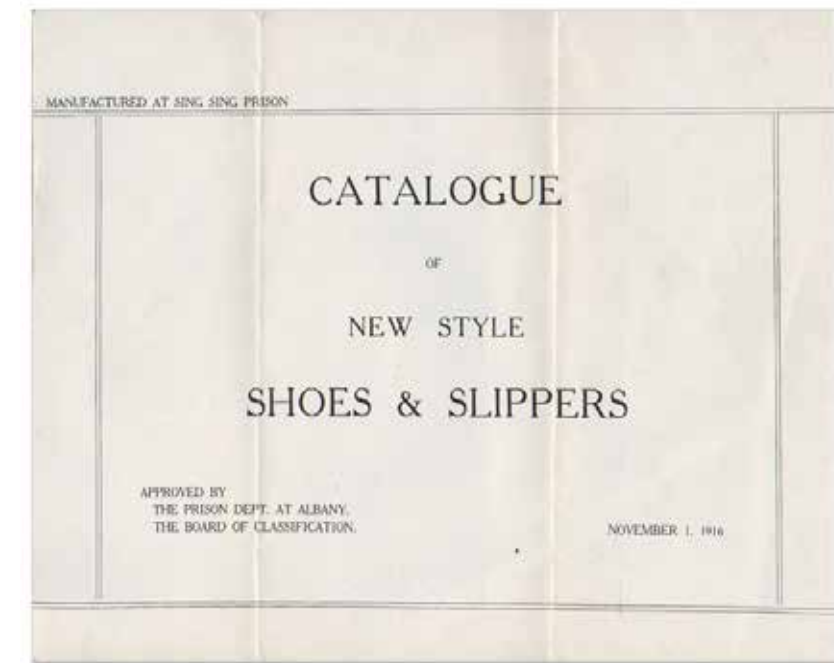
53. [TRADE CATALOG]

Catalogue of New Style Shoes & Slippers, Manufactured at Sing Sing Prison.

Ossining, NY: Sing Sing Prison, 1916. Tenth Edition. Oblong quarto (27cm x 21.5cm); black and white printed wrappers, stapled; [4pp]; chiefly illus. Light wear, folded vertically in thirds; Very good.

Illustrated catalog of men's and women's shoes and slippers made by inmates at Sing Sing Prison, one of the many items produced within the prison's industrial shops. A total of 18 styles are depicted. Not located in OCLC.

\$200.



54. [PRISONS - MINNESOTA] VAIL, Owens B.

God Can Save Behind Prison Walls.

[Minneapolis]: Owens B. Vail, [n.d. but ca.1900]. Second Edition. Slim octavo (21cm); brick red wrappers, stapled, with titling and illustration printed in black; [i], [1-3], 4-32pp. Light wear along spine fold, handling to wrappers; complete, Very Good copy.

Partial memoir by Vail, an Ohio man who was arrested and imprisoned in 1896 for counterfeiting U.S. currency. The pamphlet tells of his exploits dodging the law in Nebraska, Colorado, Illinois, and Minnesota before finally being arrested and incarcerated. Vail ultimately served four years, four months, and eighteen days in a Minneapolis prison, during which he converted to Christianity. Interspersed with a series of poems and songs, presumably written by Vail. Rare; no copies available in the trade (2013), not in Suvak, and unrecorded in OCLC.

\$450.



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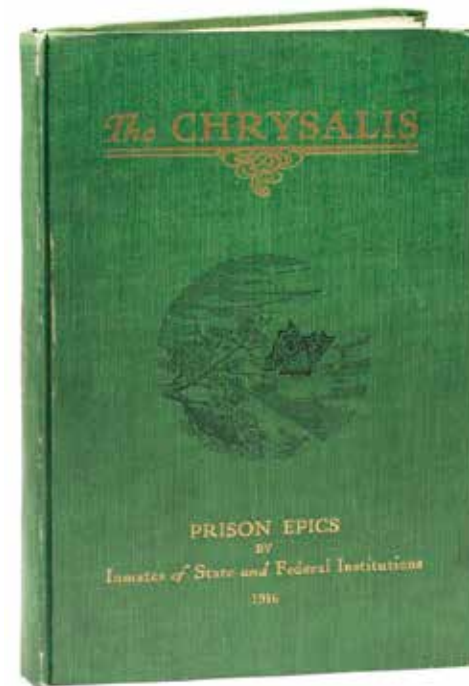
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55. Various Authors [J.J. O'Donnell, ed?]

The Chrysalis [title from cover: Prison Epics by Inmates of State and Federal Institutions].

Atlanta: J.J. O'Donnell, 1916. First Edition. Octavo (23.5cm). Green pictorial cloth, lettered in gilt on spine and front cover; [1-32], 33-150, [3]pp; illus. Tight, straight, Near Fine copy. Verso of final printed leaf is an order blank for more copies of the book (unused).

Compilation of prison verse, fiction, drawings and essays, preceded by 32 pages of testimonials solicited from various authorities, ranging from Jane Addams ("I'm sorry I could not contribute an essay to your book") to Ella Wheeler Wilcox (whose poem "Resolve" appears here with the -- we think dubious -- claim that it was "written expressly for and dedicated to The Chrysalis"). The prisoner-produced content tends towards the insipidly inspirational, but does include a few good first-hand prison accounts, all anonymous but identified by institution. An uncommon work in exceedingly nice condition.

\$125

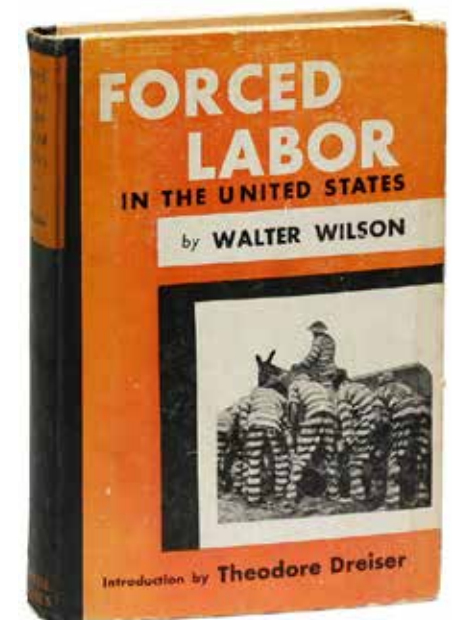
56. WILSON, Walter; DREISER, Theodore (introduction)

Forced Labor in the United States.

New York: International Publishers, 1933. First Edition. Octavo (19.5cm); 3/4 printed paper over quarter black cloth, with titles stamped in black and orange on spine; 192pp. Property stamp of People's World to endpapers, rubbing and wear to board edges and panels; solid Very Good copy.

Critical study of convict labor, with a special emphasis on the chain gang system of the south. Includes a section on forced labor in the British colonies and in the Soviet Union. With a two-page introduction by Theodore Dreiser.

\$50.



THE END.