

MERCY FOR CONVICTS

Strongly Urged at the National Prison Congress.

PAROLES AND GRADING.

Systems Which Tend to Decrease the Population of Jails.

CONTRACT LABOR NOT PROPER.

Warden Hale Insisted That Money-Making Was Not the Object of Punishment.

DENVER, Colo., Sept. 16.—The first business session of the National Prison Congress was held this morning in Unity Church. Warden R. S. Allen of Joliet, Ill., read a paper describing the merits and advantages of the State account system of employment of convicts, which elicited a lively debate.

In the debate which followed the reading of the paper Warden George of Kentucky indorsed the plan. Kentucky has had the system in vogue two years and has found it successful. About 1100 men are employed on "State account" and about forty on contract. The contract men give more trouble than the 1000 or more men employed by the other system.

Warden Chambers of Michigan did not agree. It had not been successful in his State. By a question from Warden Hale of California it came out that the Illinois institution has a number of salesmen on the job, selling all over the country to jobbers only, and not at cut prices. Hale insisted that "systems" for making money were not the end and aim of prisons.

Warden French of the United States Prison at Leavenworth, Kans., made an impassioned appeal for an application to prisoners of the principles set in action at Elmira, N. Y., by Mr. Brockway. He pleaded for humanitarianism and charity, and not for money-making.

In reply to questions Warden Allen said that convicts produce less than "free men"; their hours are shorter and their tasks lighter, so that in his State there was no complaint from laboring men. The opposition to this system in Illinois comes not from labor organizations, but from the contractors.

In a paper on reformed prison methods Henry Wolfner, Warden of the Minnesota Penitentiary at Stillwater, said:

"The object of prison government is to protect society. Any system which does not do this is a failure. The parole system will raise the tone of prison life. It teaches the prisoners self-giving lessons of discipline and order. It has not yet been brought to its full development."

"The parole and the indeterminate sentence will certainly bring a great reform in the conduct of prisons. We are coming to believe that crime, like insanity, may be cured. Men who follow crime because they like to do it, like parole and grading. Show them that the parole system, grading, the indeterminate sentence and the Bertillon system have come to stay, and you decrease prison population one-half. That is something to accomplish."

A paper on the parole system prepared by the Hon. W. F. Spaulding of Massachusetts was read by his colleague, Mr. Bailey.

The prison chaplains held a session in the afternoon. Papers were read by the president, Rev. G. H. Hicks of Jackson, Mich.; Rev. J. H. Albert of Stillwater, Minn.; and Rev. W. J. Bott of Concord, Mass.

At the evening session of the Prison Congress a paper, prepared by Professor A. G. Warner of the Leland Stanford University on the subject of "Politics and Crime," was read by a delegate. It was marked by a frankness of assertion and a positiveness of conviction which created a sensation. Many delegates discussed the paper, but could not deny its statements.

Warden Hale of San Quentin Penitentiary objected strongly to the statements contained in the paper and intimated clearly that much of it was not well founded in fact.

In this paper Professor Warner held that the young of a community look upon the police officers, justices, constables and other officers of the law as successful men, and their standard of morality is copied by the admiring youth. Thus political corruption begets crime. The wealthy and influential citizen of such a community, even church members, in order to secure profitable prison contracts, municipal franchises and the like are not averse to using corrupt methods to gain their selfish ends. They also set examples to the young which lead to crime, and political methods which are consequently vicious.

Warden Nichols of the Federal Prison at Fort Leavenworth made a statement of the inferior condition of that institution and of its needs, closing by stating that if he did not hold his position there but three weeks he would be boss and politics should not influence his work.

TO ENFORCE PENALTIES.

Gunboats Hurriedly Sent to the Scene of Chinese Disturbances.

There Seems to Be Another Prospect of Further Attacks Upon Missionaries.

FOO CHOW, CHINA, Sept. 16.—In consequence of the attitude of obstruction assumed by the Chinese officials toward the progress of the inquiry into the recent outrages at Ku Cheng, and their refusal to carry out the sentences imposed by the examining court upon the ringleaders in the attacks upon the Christian missions at that place, two gunboats were ordered to ascend the river to demand the enforcement of the penalties imposed. A rebellion has begun in the province of Fe Kien, and the local officials instead of attempting to suppress the rising have fled. A force of imperial troops are on their way to the scene to try to put down the insurrection.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Sept. 16.—The chief intendant in Washington to the dispatch from Foo Chow that a rebellion has begun in the province of Fe Kien is as to the fate which awaits the American and European missionaries in that province, should any still remain in the vicinity of Ku Cheng. Reports

reached here through diplomatic and private sources, several weeks ago, that the missionaries, after the recent massacres in the interior of the province, had with their families sought refuge at Foo Chow, which is near the coast, and where the presence of foreign men-of-war make them safe from further violence. If they have remained at Foo Chow, or rather at Pacoda anchorage, which is a foreign settlement only a few miles removed, no danger can happen to them.

If, however, in their zeal to begin again their work of Christianizing the natives they have returned to the interior of the province, the gravest apprehensions will be felt for their safety unless they receive the protection of the European or American forces. It is surmised that the rebellion is the work of the "Vegetarians," who were responsible for the assaults some weeks ago upon the foreign missions.

The State Department is without advice regarding the alleged latest phase of the Chinese situation in regard to a refusal of the Chinese Government to execute any of the men convicted of being connected with the missionary massacre unless they are assured that with the execution of these men all demands will cease. According to latest information, the Ku Cheng commission was at work with its labors uncompleted, and the investigation had not been begun. No dispatches have been received from Minister Denby, but they are expected this week and awaited with interest.

GOLD IN ONTARIO.

Rich Discoveries Made in Several Northern Districts.

QUEBEC, Ontario, Sept. 16.—Official reports of a recent visit to the gold mining districts of Ontario have just been made by William Hamilton Merritt, mining engineer, of Toronto. He tells of the discovery of gold-bearing veins in the Seine River district and of the renewed activity in the mining and milling of gold ore in the northern part of the Lake of the Woods.

Merritt expresses his surprise at the well-mineralized gold-bearing quartz veins that have been developed. He notes that in some of the Ontario goldfields it is not only in the mountainous districts where the disturbing influence has been prodigious that auriferous veins have been disclosed, but in a comparatively flat country areas of ancient volcanic disturbance exist, which a network of veins containing coarse gold is found.

One of these areas which is attracting thousands of miners is near that part of the Seine River system which widens into Shovel Lake. Between Shovel Lake and Bad Vermilion Lake an elongated mass of granite has a splendid example of a well-mineralized auriferous vein system. Some of the best ore at Mine Center went as high as \$100 per ton, free milling, with concentrates which averaged over \$600 and \$1100 per ton. The only capital to speak of which so far has come into the Seine district is from Duluth. In the district near Port Arthur, however, a mill of five stamps has just started through the enterprise of Port Arthur people. The first run of the mill yielded forty-nine and a half ounces of gold from seventy tons of ore in a five days' run. The country is only waiting to be prospected and its geological features have not yet been minutely defined.

CAUGHT IN THE CABIN.

Six Women and a Child Perished in a Fire at Sea.

During the Panic Several of Those Imprisoned Were Burned to a Crip.

LONDON, Eng., Sept. 16.—The London and Edinburgh Steamship Company's steamer Iona, plying between Leith and London, caught fire early this morning while on her trip to Gravesend. The fire started in her cabin. Five women and one child, passengers, and the stewardess were burned to death, and a number of others were badly burned or otherwise injured. The fire was extinguished by the ship's fire apparatus.

The manager of the London and Edinburgh Steamship Company was interviewed, and made a statement as follows: The steamer Iona left Leith Saturday evening with 100 passengers and children, five second-class. The part of the boat in which the second-class passengers slept was used as a saloon during the day and at night was divided by a partition into sleeping compartments for women and men.

At 2 o'clock this (Monday) morning fire was discovered in the ladies' compartment on the port side. The flames spread so rapidly that the crew was prevented from rescuing all the passengers. The fire was under control by 4 o'clock, and then the bodies of the victims were found. They were so badly burned that they were unrecognizable. The cabin on the starboard side was only slightly injured.

During the progress of the flames the wildest excitement prevailed. The saloon passengers—men, women and children—rushed on deck. Some were almost naked. Women screamed and children cried, and it was not until the flames were subdued that they could be pacified.

The Iona is lying in the dock at Wapping. She was inspected by a representative of the United Press to-day. The ladies' cabin was completely demolished. Some of the killed appeared to have fallen from their berths in their efforts to escape. The bodies were found lying almost in ashes on the floor. The fire originated in the lamproom, which adjoins the cabin.

Affairs of Mexico.

CITY OF MEXICO, Sept. 17.—Congress opened last night. The President's message says that the arrangement with Guatemala has been duly ratified. The prevalence of yellow fever in Salvador and Guatemala rendered precautions necessary on the Mexican Pacific coast. On the reiterated request of the managers of the Atlanta Exposition, a commission has been appointed to collect objects, and Mexico will be represented by exhibits.

Have a Man for Duels.

LONDON, Eng., Sept. 16.—A dispatch from Madrid says: A serious quarrel has recently been going on between the editorial staffs of the journals Pase and Nacion, which has resulted in a number of challenges. Four duels were fought with swords yesterday, with the result that in each incident the Nation's representative was wounded. Twenty-four other duels are pending.

Was Mayor Suro's Nephew.

NEW YORK, N. Y., Sept. 17.—The Herald's special cable from Valparaiso, Chile, says: A. E. Suro, the American who was missing when the English steamer Santiago dived here and checked off her passenger list, was, it is reported, the nephew of the Mayor of San Francisco. There was a severe earthquake shock here last night, but no serious damage was done.

ON EASTERN TRACKS.

Interesting Events at the Nebraska State Fair Meeting.

BIG CROWDS ATTENDED.

Jockey Ream Lost His Life by a Racehorse's Somersault.

TAME SPORT AT BRIGHTON.

Three Favorites and Three Outsiders Won, But Did Not Finish Close Enough.

OMAHA, NEBR., Sept. 16.—The Nebraska State Fair opened here to-day with the largest crowd in its history for opening day. This is the first of a five years' term during which the fair will be at Omaha, and the city is decorated in carnival colors as never before. It is estimated that there are already 25,000 visitors in the city, and to-morrow there will be 50,000. The financial success of the fair is assured. Among the exhibits to attract most interest was the alfalfa palace, the first one ever erected, showing fifty many uses of alfalfa. The races were very well attended and the track is said to be nearly perfect.

Two-year-old, trotting, 3:00 class, Belle J. won, D'Oyley second, Lily D. third. Time, 2:47 1/2-2:43 1/2. Two-year-old, under pacing, 2:38 class, Lena V. won, Nell Cathey second, Charaduz third. Best time, 2:24 3/4. 2:28 trot, Star Medina won, Callie K second, Dede third. Time, 2:25. Running, one mile, Joe Courtney won, Berry second, Captain Hardy third. Time, 1:43 1/2.

The last race was between a team and Ned Reading, a bicyclist, five miles. The horses won by twenty yards in 12:58 2/5. The great event of the day was the bicycle parade along the principal streets to-night. Over 6000 bicyclists were in line with Chinese lanterns, fireworks and floats. The mounted police led the procession, of which the first wheelmen were the Western Union messenger boys, then followed the various wheel clubs, male and female, all wearing carnival costumes. The sight was applauded by over 50,000 people, who crowded along the streets.

WINDSOR RACETRACK, Ont., Sept. 16.—Lepros Lyon, in the first race to-day, was bumped into at the turn and got his feet tangled up so that he turned a complete somersault. Jockey Ream, who had the mount, fell under the horse and was carried to the Hotel Dieu Hospital in an unconscious condition, where he died an hour afterward.

BRIGHTON BEACH, N. Y., Sept. 16.—Brighton's one-day meeting was not a success to-day, the attendance being very small. The weather was cool and clear, and the track in fast shape. Though three favorites and three outsiders carried off the honors to-day, the races were not exciting and on the whole the sport may be said to have been very tame.

Five furlongs, Longbrook won, Chattanooga second, Cuckoo third. Time, 1:01 1/2. Six furlongs, Bessie B. won, Divienta second, Imperial third. Time, 1:02 1/2. One mile, Applause won, Second James second, Thyrone third. Time, 1:42 1/2. One mile, Little Tom won, Adelbert second, Little Tom second, Pige third. Time, 1:56. One mile, Lookout won, McKee second, Nero third. Time, 1:43 1/2. One mile, Dunbar won, Sprite second, Jack Rose third. Time, 1:45. ST. LOUIS, Mo., Sept. 16.—Ma Diavolo won, Weaver second, Wells Street third. Time, 1:17. Nine-sixteenths of a mile, Ardelle won, Tagline second, Beck's Blues were not exciting, and on the whole the sport may be said to have been very tame.

SANTA BARBARA, CAL., Sept. 16.—James W. Hutchins, a Marysville wheelman, has broken the cycling record between Santa Maria and this place, covering the distance, estimated at ninety miles, in twelve hours.

CARSON, Nev., Sept. 16.—The directors of the Agricultural Association have decided to hold a five-days' racing meet here, beginning October 1. Two thousand dollars in premiums will be given.

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., Sept. 16.—The University of Pennsylvania-Oxford-Cambridge cricket match was finished this afternoon, and resulted in a victory for the former team by 100 runs.

FLOW OF THE RESERVE.

Domestic Bankers May Supply Gold to the Government Coifers.

Various Men of Money Who Would Readily Assist in Preventing the Issue of Bonds.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Sept. 16.—The true treasury gold reserve stood at the close of business to-day at \$55,248,642, the lowest point it has reached since the last bond issue raised the reserve above the \$100,000,000 mark. Secretary Carlisle to-day declined to accept the tender of \$100,000 in gold from the Associated Banks of Springfield, Ill., as the conditions imposed were unfavorable to the Government. This particular lot of gold is said to have been light.

PITTSBURG, Pa., Sept. 16.—Telegraphic advices from Washington and New York state that Pittsburgh banks are going to furnish the United States treasury with \$1,000,000 in gold to help keep the reserve fund above the \$100,000,000 mark.

"What I saw in the papers is as far as my knowledge of this matter goes," stated William Montgomery of the Allegheny National Bank this morning. "There is always plenty of gold on hand in the local banks, and I do not believe there is any question but that the Pittsburgh bankers could spare \$1,000,000 to the Government if it was wanted. An estimate, which I do not claim to be accurate, would give the aggregate of gold usually in the Pittsburgh banks at \$2,000,000, and it possibly may be \$3,000,000."

President Given of the Farmers' Deposit Bank, who is on the Clearing-house committee, was asked if the Clearing-house was going to do anything in regard to assisting the Government.

"I know of no concerted action as yet, but I believe there is a willingness on the part of some of the banks to give the Government the benefit of their gold," I heard yesterday that two banks had made offers to this effect. Any kind of money is of course good, and we would just as soon have paper as gold."

Reform Leaders Quarreled.

COLUMBIA, S. C., Sept. 16.—In the constitutional convention to-day the reform leaders, Tillman and Irby, along with other political stalwarts in South Carolina, became entangled in a personal and political controversy. The president had to call upon this party and the other party of the convention and order to preserve the peace. The trouble arose from General George D. Tillman's speech in regard to the election of Butler County, and the action of the convention in so establishing, and naming it in the absence of Mr. Tillman.

A Reformatory Quarantined.

TOPEKA, KANS., Sept. 16.—The State Reformatory School here, with 200 boy inmates, has been placed under quarantine restrictions by Dr. A. L. Ryder, the attending physician, on account of a case of diphtheria. The patient is from Cloud County and has the disease in a malignant form.

Sons of Veterans.

NASHVILLE, TENN., Sept. 16.—The ninth annual encampment of the Sons of Veterans of the United States assembled in Knoxville to-day. Commander-in-

ENTERED THE TRAPS.

Spanish Soldiers Met Death from Rebel Dynamite.

THE EXPLOSIVE BURIED.

While Marching Over a Road Two Officers and Sixteen Men Were Blown Up.

TROOPS FLED IN WILD TERROR.

One Entire Company Then Deserted and Joined the Insurgent Forces.

SANTIAGO DE CUBA, CUBA (via Key West, Fla.), Sept. 16.—In the engagement between the Spanish Colonel Canellas and Jose Maceo in Santa Maria Savigne, near Ramon de las Yaguas, on August 31, the rebels had prepared more than sixty holes filled with dynamite on the different roads the troops had to pass. When the engagement was over a Spanish regiment marched past one of the traps and the dynamite exploded, blowing to pieces Lieutenant Francisco Ruiz, Captain Gregorio Romero and thirteen soldiers.

When the troops saw this they were so filled with terror that a company deserted to the rebels and remained with them. During the engagement between the Spanish General Dinareo and the rebel leader Rabi, in Descano del Muerto, near Mangangis, the Spaniards took a Spanish soldier prisoner who had joined the insurgents at the beginning of the revolution.

His name was Pedro Rovira Esterez, and he belonged to the regiment of Havana. He was brought to this city, tried by court-martial and sentenced to death. He was shot this morning in front of the slaughterhouse in the presence of all the troops that were in the city. He was so weak that he had to be taken to the place of execution in a carriage.

This is the first execution of a rebel in this city. He was taken prisoner because during the engagement he went into the Spanish ranks to obtain arms and killed a Spanish lieutenant and a Cuban militar.

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Meanwhile vigorous organization goes on. Immense quantities of supplies are being received and distributed to bases of supplies all over the island. Small fortifications have been erected in a number of places.

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The Herald correspondent at Puerto Principe says: It is reported that General Bartolome Maso has resigned and that the Presidency is now in the hands of the Cuban Assembly at Najasa. Delegates from the provinces of Santiago and Las Villas are urging Maso to withdraw his resignation, but Maso thinks that Gomez is the majority in the assembly, and the election of the latter is now believed probable. The appointment of Maso to take command of the insurgent army at Camaguey is also talked of.

The Herald's Havana special says that Major-General Salcedo, who was lately relieved of his command by General Martine Campos and received passports for the peninsula, is to-day much talked about in Cuban cafes.

Salcedo's column of 1800 men having been ingloriously repulsed on the heights of Jarueca the latter part of April by Maceo's body guard, numbering less than 180 men and all of them badly armed, he returned to Santiago disposed to wreak vengeance upon insurgent sympathizers in this city. His orders were so arbitrary and unjust that Campos refused to indorse them. Salcedo endeavored to convince Campos that the time had arrived for the bitter persecution of rebel sympathizers, and suggested that by way of example the political prisoners Frank Agramente, Sanz and others confined in the castle at the mouth of the harbor should be publicly shot. Campos refused to agree to this, and Salcedo became such an unruly assistant that it was decided necessary to put a more willing man in his place.

John A. Pemon Dead.

HOLLIDAYSBURG, Pa., Sept. 16.—Hon. John A. Pemon, ex-Auditor-General of Pennsylvania, and who was the incumbent of a seat in the State Senate from Blair-Cambria district for the fifth term, died at his home in this city at 1:30 o'clock this afternoon from typhoid-pneumonia.

Races at Stockton.

Two Events on the Opening Day of the San Joaquin Fair. STOCKTON, CAL., Sept. 16.—The San Joaquin Valley Fair opened here to-day very auspiciously. There were not a great many people in the city, but the crowd was considered good for a first day. At the track there was a fair first-day attendance, with many ladies in the grandstand. Betting was not very heavy, and, as usual on the first day, favorites won. The programme was short, consisting of only two races, a district running race, five-eighths of a mile dash, for a purse of \$100, and a trotting race, 2:40 class, for a \$1000 purse.

The entries for the first event were Pembroke, ridden by Gilbert, J. Shepherd, owner; Jim Bozman (Gannon), owned by E. S. Starkey; Mrs. E. Ruggles' Nerver, ridden by Don Jones; and a fourth, owned by Mrs. E. Starkey and owned by J. F. Davis. May Jones was easily the favorite in the betting. It was twenty minutes after the horses went to the post before they got off. Bozman acted badly and caused the quartet to be sent back several times. Nerver led at the half. Bozman then passed her. May Jones was nearly four lengths behind and taking it easy. In the stretch the favorite caught the leaders and came under the wire a short length ahead of Nerver, Bozman third.

The second event, the 2:40 trot, created but little interest among spectators. The starters were Theresa, driven by T. N. Duncan and owned by T. L. Duncan; Charivari (T. C. Snyder), owned by C. W. Hug; H. W. Meek's Edwin (George Gray); T. J. Cecil's Peter Jackson, driven by owner Anita, driven by C. Rodriguez, owned by E. F. Green and Jasper Paulson (T. Keating), owned by Winship & Keating. Paulson was easily a favorite. The trotters got off well in the first heat, Paulson in the lead. He kept his advantage all the way around coming under the wire in 2:20 1/2. Charivari was second and Peter Jackson third. In the second and third heats the results were the same.

On the Bell Field.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Sept. 16.—First game: Washington 18, 19, Brooklyn 12, 17, 0. Batteries—Mercer and McGuire, Kennedy and Grim. Umpire, Hyder. Second game: Washington 3, 3, 5. Brooklyn 11, 10, 1. (Called at end of sixth inning on account of darkness.) Umpire, Hyder. Third game: Philadelphia 10, 10, 1. Batteries—Bohney and Wilson, Carney and Clemens. Umpire, Hurst. BOSTON, Mass., Sept. 16.—Boston 4, 4, 4. Batteries—Stitts and Gansel, Hemming and Robinson. Umpire, Murray. CLEVELAND, Ohio, Sept. 16.—Cleveland 7, 13, 2. Cincinnati 0, 4, 1. Batteries—Cuppy and Zimmer, Parrott and Vaughan. Umpire, O'Connell. PITTSBURG, Pa., Sept. 16.—Pittsburg vs. Chicago game postponed; rain. LOUISVILLE, Ky., Sept. 16.—Louisville vs. St. Louis game postponed; rain.

Death of a Turf Mast.

PONTIAC, Mich., Sept. 16.—Ezra R. King, Michigan's oldest turf man, died suddenly at Sturgis, Mich., yesterday. He has been his entire life a follower of grand and smaller turf races. He was known from Maine to California, and from the great lakes to the gulf.

One Fight Postponed.

NEW YORK, N. Y., Sept. 16.—The Hudson County Athletic Club announced late this afternoon that the "Kid" Madden-Jimmy Barrett fight, scheduled for to-night, was postponed because of the decision of the Jersey City authorities to prevent the contest.

Broke a Local Record.

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WHEN OTHERS FAIL CONSULT DOCTOR SWEANY

INDIANAPOLIS, IND., Sept. 16.—Commander-in-Chief Walker of the G. A. R. announces that it is his wish that during his term of office a suit shall be prosecuted in the United States Court to settle the question as to whether a pension once granted by the Government becomes a vested right.

Commander Walker will meet the members of his council of administration here soon after his return from Chickamauga and Atlanta and the proposed litigation will be discussed. It will be necessary for the council to pick out the case of some veteran whose pension has been arbitrarily cut off by the department at Washington and bring suit to have the pension restored.