

Convict Labor.
Chicago Journal.

Louisiana has passed an act abolishing the leasing of convict labor to contractors—a practice that the State has known since 1868. The great scandals and abuses of the old system, and the attack of organized labor, backed by the Prisons Reform Association, have brought about the change.

Four systems of disposing of convict labor are in use in the various States: The public account system, by which the State furnishes the material and then sells the goods; the contract system, or leasing of convict labor; the piece price system, by which outsiders supply the material and sometimes the machinery, and the State manufactures the articles, and the system by which the convicts themselves are leased out, clothed and fed by the lessee, and receive scarcely any further attention from the authorities.

Louisiana proposes to employ one-third of her convicts on public works, particularly roads and levees, and to utilize the labor of the remainder on cotton and sugar plantations, to be owned and operated by the State, on the plan adopted by Mississippi and Texas.

Up to the year 1886 Illinois was cursed by the practice of leasing convict labor, authorized by statute, but in that year a constitutional provision was adopted that "Hereafter it shall be unlawful for the commissioners of any penitentiary or other reformatory institution in the State to let by contract to any person or persons, or corporations the labor of any convict confined within said institutions." We have also a statutory provision under which no such labor can be performed outside the walls of the penitentiary, except labor for the State.

It is notorious, however, that, notwithstanding these provisions, free labor employed in cooperage, furniture, saddlery and harness, boots and shoes and other industries in Illinois comes into direct competition with the products of the penitentiaries. This is accomplished under the guise of the "piece-price plan," by which the product of the convict labor is sold, instead of leasing the convict himself.

The efforts of Louisiana and other States toward reform in this direction will be futile, while convict-made goods can still be shipped into those States. The importance of this phase of the question has already been recognized in Congress. As recently as January 8, 1900, Representative Cochrane, of New York, introduced a bill to protect free labor from competition with prison labor; prohibit the transportation of goods manufactured in prisons between the States, and providing that all such goods be labeled "Convict made." Doubts have been cast on the constitutionality of this measure, but it is a step in the right direction.

The best solution yet proposed seems to us that by which the convict will be kept employed as much as possible on permanent public improvements, and where his labor is utilized in other directions he should be permitted to receive fair wages, to be given to him on his release from prison, or paid out to those who were dependent on his earnings before he was deprived of liberty.

The wolf in the fable put on sheep's clothing because if he traveled on his own reputation he couldn't accomplish his purpose. Counterfeiters of DeWitt's Witch Hazel Salve couldn't sell their worthless salves on their merits, so they put them in boxes and wrappers like DeWitt's. Look out for them. Take only DeWitt's Witch Hazel Salve. It cures piles and all skin diseases. For sale by Lafayette Drug Co.

Roosevelt's Merry Pilgrimage.
Washington Post.

Let us attune our hearts to music and sing glad songs. Roosevelt is about to sally forth. The portcullis is to be lowered, and, clad in his rough rider suit, with his slouch felt hat athwart his manly brow, our hero is to appear. Up and down the broad land he is to travel and talk. The fanfare of trumpet will welcome him, he will wrap himself in the American flag, he will surround himself with captured cannon, and he will disport himself as one who knoweth not fear. For the time being the small boy will lay aside the thrilling but imaginative adventures of "Daredevil Dirk, the Sanguinary Scout of the Sierras," and gaze upon the real thing.

We envy the joy which is to be experienced by certain favored cities in Indiana, Michigan, Wisconsin, North Dakota, and even far-off Montana. They are to be stirred by the human cyclone. For them

Roosevelt will display his teeth, sound the loud timbel, and beat the resonant bass drum. No wonder that towns innumerable clamor for the show. They want the three rings, the double tent, the glitter of the spangles, the procession headed by elephants and beasts of the desert and with the steam calliope bringing up the rear. Compared with the Roosevelt combination, all other exhibitions will be fifteen-centers traveling by wagon and exhibiting only poor, broken-down performers. No wonder there is sorrow in Oshkosh and Kalamazoo.

We wait impatiently for the show to begin its journey. When it moves, South Africa will be forgotten and Pekin will fade into insignificance. Over the northwestern sky will appear the reflection of red fire, rivaling the glory of the aurora borealis. We can only see it from afar. Such joy is not for us. The District of Columbia, having no electoral vote, is not even to see the procession go by. We must languish on the rocks, like Andromeda of old, but our Perseus will never come.

It will surprise you to experience the benefit obtained by using the dainty and famous little pills known as DeWitt's Little Early Risers. For sale by Lafayette Drug Co.

Mr. Bryan and the Flag.
New Orleans Picayune.

Mr. Bryan opened his Presidential campaign yesterday at Auburn, Neb.

He paid particular attention to imperialism and militarism as the leading doctrines of the Republican party, and he warned his hearers that the evil spirit with which they would obsess and infest the American people would drive them to attempt the conquest of every country where the people were weak enough to invite assault. Alluding to the concessions and surrenders to Great Britain in the determination of the boundary of the territory purchased from Russia, Mr. Bryan said:

"They say that we cannot haul down the flag in the Philippines once it is raised there. Even this administration does not find any trouble or difficulty in hauling down the flag in Alaska. I suppose they contend that in a cold climate you can haul it down, but that you cannot in a hot climate. The American flag represents the purpose of the American people. Nobody can haul our flag down against our will, but the American people have the right to put it up where they want it and to take it down where they desire. The flag is the servant of the nation; the people are not the servants of the flag. If that is true, how are you going to bring the American troops back from Pekin? They planted the American flag there. I want the American flag to come down from the Philippine Islands in order that the flag of a republic might rise in its place. I would rather that we have two flags representing two republics than one representing an empire."

This utterance on the national flag has almost the point and pungency of an epigram, and it is a right view of the American standard, which is not a mere fetich to be worshiped with a blind devotion, but is an expression of the spirit and purpose of the American people to make no wanton aggression upon any, but to defend their country and their country's honor at all times, under all circumstances, and against all comers, and over the brave and patriotic people engaged in so grand and noble a work let their flag wave in the sky as another rainbow of hope and promise for human liberty and human justice and right.

In India, the land of famine, thousands die because they cannot obtain food. In America, the land of plenty many suffer and die because they cannot digest the food they eat. Kodol Dyspepsia Cure digests what you eat. It instantly relieves and radically cures all stomach troubles. For sale by Lafayette Drug Co.

Notice.
The cotton gin at Scott heretofore owned by Mme. Frejean, will gin cotton during this season at 25 cents per hundred pounds. JOSEPH DUGAS, Agent and Manager. Scott, La., August 20, 1900.

Money TO LOAN
With proper Sureties.
IN AMOUNTS TO SUIT
Rates and terms reasonable.
Apply or Write to
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BROUSSARD, LA.
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When You Visit
SCOTT Stop At
Delhomme's Hotel,
(North of the Railroad, near Depot.)
Livery Stable in Connection With Hotel.
Transient Trade Solicited
P. A. DELHOMME, Proprietor.

Louisiana Cane Rates.
[Special to the Picayune.]
Baton Rouge, La., Aug. 23 — The State railroad commission has issued the following, to take effect at once:

Ordered that the cane tariff published in the commissioner's order No. 91 is hereby canceled, and the following tariff on sugar cane, with the foot note added, is hereby adopted for the use of all carriers handling that commodity in the State of Louisiana:

Distances.	Rates per ton of 2000 lbs.
1 to 25 miles	50
25 to 35 miles	55
35 to 50 miles	60
50 to 100 miles	75
100 to 150 miles	85
150 to 200 miles	1 25

Minimum, 15 tons to a car.
Note—This tariff shall not affect any rates now on file with the commission which are less than the rates above prescribed.
Above rates shall govern, provided the cane product is shipped by the same carrier; provided further, that said carrier will make as low rates as are made by other competing carriers.
If the product is not shipped as above provided, the rate will be 100 per cent higher.

A very enjoyable surprise party was given at the home of Mr. F. E. Darby Wednesday evening.

New School Boards.
A special to the New Orleans Picayune says: "The new boards of the school directors have been appointed in accordance with the law for all the parishes except eight, and for those the governor will make appointments in a short time. The commissions have all been made out, signed and forwarded to the newly-appointed members, who are expected to meet and organize without delay, as many of the public schools in the large towns and the parish seats are to be opened in September. It is expected that the new parish superintendents will, when elected, furnish to the State superintendent a statement of the organization of their respective boards, giving the names of the president, the superintendent and his salary, the names and post-office addresses of all the members, with their wards, and the personnel of the committee on examinations and the committee on the appointment of teachers. The amount of money appropriated by the late general assembly for educational purposes for the parishes and institutions outside of New Orleans is over \$500,000. An active and profitable session is, therefore, reasonably anticipated. The State superintendent has been busily engaged in official work, especially for the last three weeks."

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A practitioner in the State 25 years and in Lafayette parish 15 years. Specialties: Chronic Bronchitis, Catarrh, Liver and Kidney diseases. New treatment for Consumption (external and internal) also for deafness.
Consultations from 9 to 12 m. and from 2 to 5 p. m.

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Mothers endorse it, children like it, old folks use it. We refer to One Minute Cough Cure. It will quickly cure all throat and lung troubles. For sale by Lafayette Drug Co.

Miss Jennie Hacker, of New Iberia, is a guest of the Misses Darby.

Home Charity Association,
of Lafayette, La.

A local organization whose aim is to extend practical aid to all that are found to be deserving, after a personal investigation.

Contributions of money and donations of clothing and of books, magazines, and other useful publications, are solicited from members of the association and the public.

Contribution boxes to receive donations of money are located in the following places in town: Post-office, Crescent Hotel, Rigues House, First National Bank, Cottage Hotel, Bank of Lafayette and Gardebled's drugstore.

Donations of clothing will be received at the homes of Mrs. Edward Mouton and Mrs. F. Demanade.

Donations of books, magazines, etc., should be dropped into the box or receptacle that has been placed in the post-office for that purpose.

The founders of the association invite all charitably-disposed persons to become regular members of the organization, the only requirement for membership being the payment of the monthly dues of 25 cents. Applications for membership must be addressed to "The Secretary of Home Charity Association of Lafayette, La."

All communications addressed to either the "Society" or the "President" of the Association, will receive prompt and courteous attention.

We are representing "The International Tailoring Co., Chicago, Ill., the largest tailoring firm in the United States. We have now over 500 samples on display for you to select. Fit and workmanship guaranteed. We will take your orders now to be shipped when desired.

Yours anxious to please,
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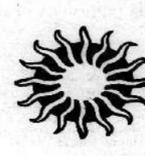
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