

LABAMA PUTS END TO CONVICT SLAVE SYSTEM

Halt Called to Reign of Brutality; Lease Plan Is Abolished.

BY JACK BETHEA

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., July 2.—The State of Alabama today stood at the end of the long, long trial that has led through suffering and blood to the abolition of the convict lease system.

Alabama today ceased to sell her convicts to private employers and ceased to work them herself in coal mines and thus ended a battle that has lasted more than a decade.

Eight hundred fifty Negro convicts were taken from two State-operated coal mines yesterday and distributed to prison farms and road camps of the convict department.

Simultaneously, 200 convicts leased to a lumber company were taken over by the State and will be used to build roads for the highway commission.

Lease System Ends

These men were the last of those to pass under protection of the act of the 1927 Legislature, fixing June 30, 1928, as the final day on which convicts in Alabama should be leased.

White convicts in the coal mines were removed nearly a year ago. County convicts leased to private coal corporations were taken over by the State and removed from the mines nine months ago.

Today's hegira therefore completes the abolition of the last vestige of the convict lease system and climaxes a spectacular fight against the system, lasting over thirteen years.

Long, Brutal Story

The history of convict leasing in Alabama is a lurid one, a story of horror, of brutality and of exploitation of helpless men, both by the State and by private industrial interests which bought their labor from the state.

The convict lease system literally was legalized slavery. The State sold the convicts to the private coal corporations of the district, who worked them in the mines with only nominal supervision from the State.

The lease system was as old as the coal mining industry in this state. Alabama had sold its prisoners for nearly half a century, when the first organized effort was made to abolish the practice.

SUBMIT PLANS ON CITY THOROUGHFARE SYSTEM

Civic Affairs to Hear Proposals at C. of C. Luncheon Thursday.

City officials' views on development of a thoroughfare plan for Indianapolis will be laid before the civic affairs committee of the Chamber of Commerce at luncheon Thursday noon, preliminary to the bureau's consideration of the 1929 civic city budget.

Mayor L. Ert Slack, City Engineer Albert H. Moore and City Plan Commission President George T. O'Connor will attend the meeting, called by William Fortune, civic affairs committee chairman.

The city officials have indicated, probably will ask a 3-cent tax levy for development of the thoroughfare plan. This is the maximum amount allowed for this purpose. The levy has been 1/4 cent since the law was enacted in 1923.

By the close of 1928 approximately \$230,000 will have accumulated in the fund available for this work. A 3-cent levy would add another \$190,000.

SCHOOL BUDGET WILL GO TO BOARD TODAY

Covers Expenditures for Last Six Months of 1928.

A budget covering expenditures of Indianapolis public schools for the last six months of 1928 was to be before the school board for approval this afternoon.

The budget provides \$4,128,986.70 for the period. Of this amount \$2,115,359.71 is for the special fund; \$209,421.00 for the library fund; \$1,783,205.99 for tuition, including teachers' salaries, and \$21,000 for free kindergartens.

The budget for six months of the calendar year marks a departure from the usual procedure. The school year is from July 1 to June 30 and under the old arrangement, the school expenditures were made as late in the school year as October before the State tax board approved the budget.

Albert Walsman, business director, worked out the new plan to bring conformity with the calendar year and give the school definite budget approval before the period for the expenditures begins.

HOOVER AVOIDS CROWD BY CHANGING CHURCHES

Worship With Orthodox Friends as Curious Throngs Wait in Vain.

WASHINGTON, July 2.—Secretary of Commerce Hoover changed churches Sunday, apparently to escape a crowd gathered to see him at the Friends meeting house, which he customarily attends.

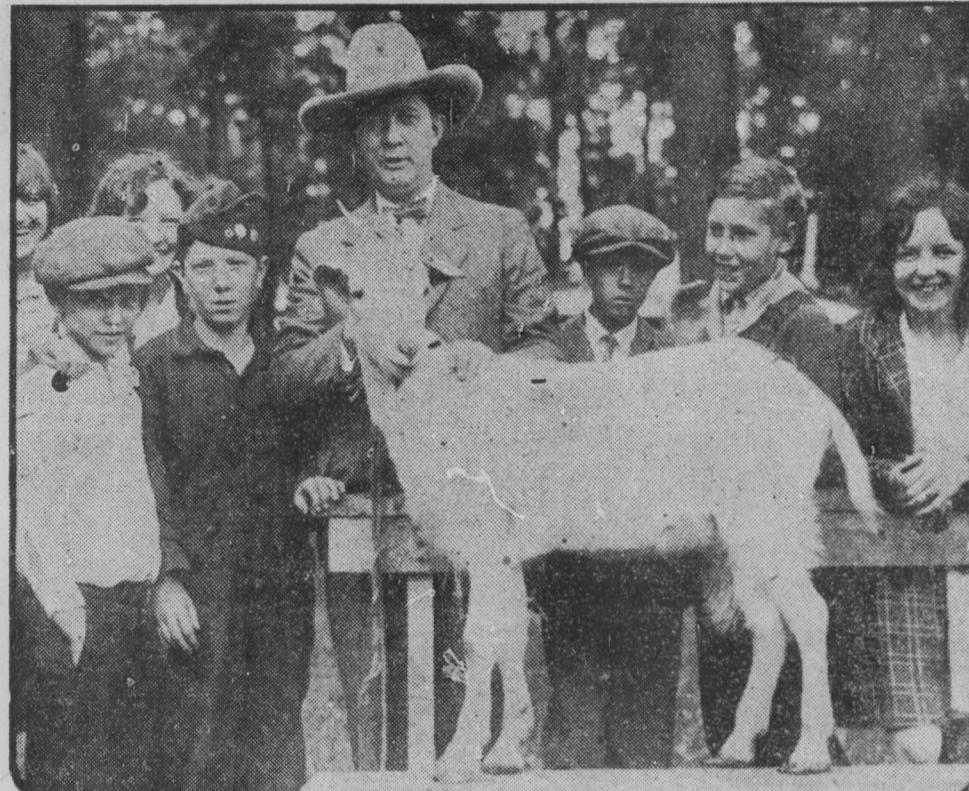
Accompanied by Mrs. Hoover and others of his family, the presidential nominee went to the Friends Orthodox Church instead.

The church the Hoovers usually attend belongs to the Hicksite or Reformed branch of the Quaker Church, which separated from the Orthodox Church more than 100 years ago.

Fix Date of Fall Buyers' Week

The wholesale trade committee of the Chamber of Commerce today was to fix the date of the annual fall buyers' week. This week each year climaxes the trade committee's work. Buyers in the Indianapolis wholesale trade territory are brought in for a series of conferences and entertainment.

Mascot Frolics With Kids Fun Klub



"Billy Whiskers," official mascot of The Indianapolis Times-Broad Ripple Park All Kids Klub, held by Sidney Jerome, movie director, and master of ceremonies for the club, while an excited and happy group of youngsters look on admiringly. The goat formally was inducted into the lodge, and received his button at the first meeting, Friday, at the North Side fun-grounds.

REVEAL GIANT ALIEN 'RING'

Thousands Smuggled Into U. S. Through Detroit.

By United Press

DETROIT, July 2.—More than a million aliens now illegally are residing in this country and the number is constantly increasing through operations of gigantic human smuggling syndicates, the Detroit News stated today in the first of a series of articles detailing machinations of the smuggling ring.

Detroit is the greatest port of entry for this constant stream of aliens, according to the News, and many of the trusting aliens meet death on the hazardous voyage across the Detroit River from Windsor and other Canadian cities to Detroit.

From Detroit the aliens, many of them undesirables of moronic and criminal classes, are sent to Chicago, Pittsburgh, St. Louis and other industrial centers by runners.

Large numbers of the aliens lose their lives in the river crossing through carelessness or intent by the smugglers.

The article stated that common practice of the runners is to throw the aliens overboard to drown in event border patrol boats approach them during the river crossing.

PROGRAM IS ARRANGED FOR G. O. P. EDITORS

Politicians Will Be On Speaking Program for Meeting.

Senator Arthur R. Robinson and Harry Marshall, publisher of the Lafayette Journal-Courier, will address the banquet of the fifty-first annual midsummer gathering of the Indiana Republican Editorial Association at West Baden, Thursday, July 19, it was announced after a meeting of the convention committee at the Columbia Club Sunday.

A ball for editors and their families will follow the banquet. Friday second day of the outing, will be at Corydon and Wyandotte.

Harry Leslie, Republican nominee for Governor, will address the convention Friday morning in the old State Capitol building at Corydon.

In the afternoon at Wyandotte,

where a tour of the cave will be made, Senator James E. Watson will make an address.

OHIOAN WILL ENTERTAIN

Cleveland Song Leader in Charge of Rotary Luncheon Here.

Harper Garcia Smyth, personnel director of the Domestic Electric Company, Cleveland, Ohio, and a professional song leader, will be master of ceremonies and principal entertainer at the Rotary Club luncheon Tuesday at the Claypool.

Rotarians of Group 5, and their families will have their annual mid-summer outing at Greencastle, Thursday, July 26.

HALTS CAP GUN SALES

Police Chief Claude M. Worley today ordered sales of converted cap pistols that shoot 22-caliber blanks halted. He had learned that they were being sold by pawnshops in the city. Most dealers agreed to abide by the order, but one threatened an injunction suit, although admitting that the guns were unsafe and his own son had been wounded with a similar weapon last year.

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Crippled Boy's 'Biggest Fourth' Dream Ended by Explosion; Six in Hospitals

NEW YORK, July 2.—Six persons are in hospitals today after a Fourth of July arsenal, manufactured by a 17-year-old crippled boy, exploded and spread smoke and flame through the tenement in which he lived.

Philip Rosenblatt, who never recovered from a case of septic poisoning three years ago, began tinkering with chemicals when he realized his injury would keep him from playing with other children.

His experiments were to reach a climax Wednesday, when he was to have staged "the biggest Fourth of July the neighborhood ever had seen."

The Rosenblatt family was asleep when the seventy torpedoes got tangled up with radio wires and more than half of them exploded.

Philip was hurled from his cot and suffered a

fracture of the skull. Mary Margaret Snee, 3 months old, was also thrown out of bed in an adjoining apartment and has internal injuries.

Five hours later Inspector Robert Withers of the fire department was completing his investigation. He wrapped seven of the torpedoes in a piece of paper.

Just as he was thrusting them into his pocket, they exploded. Withers' hands were mangled and may have to be amputated.

Esther Rosenblatt, 16, sister of Philip, was burned, and Louis, 11, another of the Rosenblatt children suffered bruises. The sixth person injured was Patrolman William Seubert, who was struck in the right eye by debris.

FOUR HOLDUPS YIELD CAR, \$33 OVER WEEK-END

Bandit Forces Couple to Give Up Auto, Fails to Get Money.

Four holdups and a series of burglaries marked the week-end in Indianapolis.

Otto Geiss, 21, of Vincennes, Ind., stopped his automobile at Thirtieth St. and Martindale Ave. Sunday night to ask a pedestrian the route to Anderson, where he is employed. The man said he was going that way and climbed in the rear seat.

After traveling a short distance he covered Geiss and his companion, Miss Margaret Showalter, 17, of Middletown, Ind., with a gun, ordered the machine to halt at Thirty-Eighth St. and Arlington Ave.

Driving away with the stolen machine, the bandit said he would leave it at Elkhart, Ind. Geiss and Miss Showalter saved their money and values by secreting them in their clothes.

Bandit Trio Gets \$6

Three youthful bandits held up Burchard Carr, 120 E. Fifteenth St., a mile north of the canal on Kessler Blvd., late Saturday night. They took \$6 and a watch after driving alongside Carr's auto and forcing it to the curb.

A Negro bandit had Thomas Winkie, 1510 N. Illinois St., taxi driver, take him to 714 W. Vermont St., from the downtown district Saturday night, drew a gun and took \$2 and a watch from the controls.

"We cracked up, and everyone thought I would never fly again. The student gave me this little leather duck, and my recovery was almost instantaneous.

"I'm not superstitious, but I very seldom fly without the duck. He hasn't a name yet, but I'll christen him one of these days."

INITIATE LARGE CLASS

City Sons of Veterans Convene Work at Connerville.

Routs Burglar From Home

August Bentlage, 903 Iowa St., reported that a youth stuck what he supposed to be a gun to his back Saturday night as he walked near Ringgold St. and Pleasant Run Blvd.

Turning around he asked the youth what he wanted and the would-be bandit fled.

It was met at the station by Everett Sanders, the President's personal secretary, and James W. Good, pre-convention manager for Secretary Hoover, now slated for the Western management for the Republican campaign.

"I'm not trying to get a lot of sleep right after the contest closed. That wouldn't have been healthful. We must start out slowly on the sleeping and get a little more each night until we get back to normal."

"The diet I was on helped me last through the marathon. I ate nothing but raw food and vegetables."

"Today I think I'll take a long walk and tonight, well, I might go somewhere and dance a bit."

TOMMY NOLAN of Pittsburgh, said he also felt well, but attributed it different reasons.

"The first thing I did after the marathon was to get eight hours sleep," he said.

"Then I went to church. I'm going right on and get eight hours sleep a night, even if doctors do say I should not have too much of it right away."

"I can't give any formula for my success. Of course my partner, Anna King, and I were in training before we ever entered."

"After Anna and I rest up, we're going back to Pittsburgh and get married."

Most of the dancers went cabaretting after the contest ended. Each team will receive \$475 of the \$5,000 prize which was offered. In addition they made an average of \$600 each in special prizes.

Tonight they enter the cast of the Greenwich Village Follies, the eighties receiving a total of \$2,500 for six minutes work a night for a week.

The gifts, a minister received \$10 for each of two speeches delivered at as many banquets given by Patterson are back the money and a \$500 diamond ring Patterson gave a young woman will also be returned. A man who was given a Masonic emblem ring announces he will turn it over to the camp July 4.

Eighteen reserve officers from the 61st Infantry, Fifth division, reported for two weeks' duty at the camp Sunday.

Boxing bouts are to be staged tonight in the open-air arena under supervision of Capt. J. J. Albright, camp athletic officer.

CITY HOSPITAL PLANS UP AT CONFERENCE

Employment of Architect Is Expected by Slack Soon.

City hospital plans were discussed at a conference between Mayor L. Ert Slack, health board members, Dr. William A. Doeppers, hospital superintendent, and Dr. Herman G. Morgan, board secretary, today at the Mayor's office.

Final decision on the selection of architects for the hospital building program was expected so the board can act formally tonight.

Robert Frost Daggett, Vonnegut, Bohn and Miller, D. A. Bohlen & Sons, and Herbert Foltz, architects, were said to have built more hospitals than the other architects interviewed. Slack planned to get councilmen's approval of the architect before announcing the decision.

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A gang of youths are believed to have robbed the J. W. Roader poolroom, 448 N. Davidson St., of cig-

ars and candy valued at \$25.

While R. Neal and family were away from their home at 5120 Winthrop Ave., burglars took a sarge machine valued at \$25, fifty yards of serge cloth valued at \$45 and a sewing machine valued at \$45.

The greatest Shirt Sale

that we hold. Most of the shirts have the famous

"Kumfit" collar that fits and sets

perfectly and does not shrink.