

**STATISTICS OF CONVICT LABOR:
ADVANCED CHAPTERS FROM THE
4TH BIENNIAL REPORT BUREAU
OF LABOR STATISTICS OF THE
STATE ILLINOIS**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649517244

Statistics of Convict Labor: Advanced Chapters from the 4th Biennial Report Bureau of Labor
Statistics of the State Illinois by Various

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

www.triestepublishing.com

VARIOUS

**STATISTICS OF CONVICT LABOR:
ADVANCED CHAPTERS FROM THE
4TH BIENNIAL REPORT BUREAU
OF LABOR STATISTICS OF THE
STATE ILLINOIS**

STATISTICS
OF
CONVICT LABOR.

ADVANCED CHAPTERS FROM THE
FOURTH BIENNIAL REPORT
OF THE
BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS
OF THE
STATE OF ILLINOIS.



TABLE OF CONTENTS.

CONVICT LABOR.

INTRODUCTORY.....	1-8
-------------------	-----

CHAPTER I.

Systems of Prison Labor.....	9-12
The Experience of Illinois.....	12-14
The Illinois Penitentiary under the Lease System 1839-1867:	
At Alton.....	11-21
At Joliet.....	22-29
The Illinois Penitentiary under the Public Account System, 1867-1871.....	29-34
The Illinois Penitentiaries under the Contract System, 1871-1836.....	34-39
Popular Hostility to Convict Labor.....	39-41

CHAPTER II.

Statistics of Prison Labor in United States.....	42-43
Convicts in Prison and at Work—By States.....	44-57
Recapitulation.....	58
Convicts at Work—By Industries.....	59-62
Recapitulation.....	62
Systems of Prison Labor under which Convicts are employed in all States.....	63
Prices paid for Convicts under the Contract System in various States.....	64-67
Recapitulation.....	67
Contract prices—By Industries.....	68-70
Contract prices in specific branches of Industry.....	71
Classification of Penal Institutions as to their character.....	72-75
Skilled and Unskilled Occupations pursued in Prisons.....	76-77
Occupations of Convicts before Incarceration.....	78-80
Statistics of Illinois Penal Institutions, State and Local.....	81-82
Textual reference to foregoing tables.....	83-87

CHAPTER III.

The Contract System versus Other Systems.	
The Contract System as a Hindrance to Reformation.....	88-89
Testimony of Prison Authorities.	
Rev. F. H. Winsor.....	90
W. M. F. Bound.....	90-91
A. G. Byers.....	91
Hon. Z. R. Brockway.....	91

The Contract System as an Injury to Free Industries.	
Is Prison Competition Trifling?.....	92-93
Testimony of Manufacturers:	
Boots and Shoes	98-100
Harness and Saddlery.....	100
Cooperage.....	101-104
Marble Workers.....	104-106
Brick Making.....	106-107
Broom Making	107
Barbed Wire.....	108
Wagon Makers	109-112
Hollow-ware	113
Provision Cooperage in Chicago	114-121
Must Competition be as Great Under any System of Convict Labor?	121-124
What Shall the System Be	124
The Public Account System as a Remedy.....	125-126
The Piece-price Plan as a Remedy.....	126-127
Suggested Remedies.....	127-128
I. The Making of Public Highways and Employment at Un-killed Labor, ..	129
II. The Employment of Convicts in the Manufacture of Supplies for State Institutions	129-130
III. The Introduction of a Great Diversity of Industries, and the Reduction of the Hours of Labor	130-131
IV. Exclusive Employment at Manual Trades, and the Abolishment of Power Machinery.....	131-123
Summary	133-134
Conclusions.....	134-136

APPENDIX.

Recent Action of Other States in Regard to the Contract System of Prison Labor:	
Ohio.....	137-138
Pennsylvania.....	138
New Jersey.....	138-140
New York.....	140-142
California	142

COMMISSIONERS OF LABOR.

CHARLES H. DEERE, Moline, President.

ETHELBERT STEWART, Decatur.

DANIEL McLAUGHLIN, Braidwood.

P. H. DAY, Springfield.

A. W. KINGSLAND, Chicago.

JOHN S. LORD, Secretary, Springfield.

1. The first part of the document discusses the importance of maintaining accurate records of all transactions and activities. It emphasizes that this is crucial for ensuring transparency and accountability in the organization's operations.

2. The second part of the document outlines the various methods and tools used to collect and analyze data. It highlights the need for consistent data collection procedures and the use of advanced analytical techniques to derive meaningful insights from the data.

3. The third part of the document focuses on the implementation of data-driven decision-making processes. It discusses how data can be used to identify trends, forecast future performance, and optimize resource allocation across different departments and projects.

4. The fourth part of the document addresses the challenges and risks associated with data management and analysis. It provides strategies to mitigate these risks, such as ensuring data security, maintaining data integrity, and addressing potential biases in the data.

5. The final part of the document concludes by summarizing the key findings and recommendations. It stresses the importance of a continuous and iterative process of data collection, analysis, and decision-making to drive the organization's success in a competitive market.

CONVICT LABOR.

INTRODUCTORY.

The following joint resolution was passed at the close of the session of the XXXIV General Assembly of Illinois:

“Resolved by the Senate, the House of Representatives concurring herein, That there be submitted to the people of the State of Illinois, for their ratification or rejection at the next general election for members of the General Assembly, the following additional amendment to the Constitution:

“Resolved, That hereafter it shall be unlawful for the commissioners of any penitentiary or other reformatory institution in the State of Illinois to let by contract to any person or persons, or corporations, the labor of any convict confined within said institution.”

This resolution was the final fruit of a prolonged contest in both houses over various bills to abolish the so-called contract system of labor in the penal institutions of the State.

There had been during this session of the legislature thirteen different bills presented in the two houses, all having for their object the reorganization of the labor systems of the two penitentiaries, on some basis other than that of the contract system. Nine of these bills were introduced in the House of Representatives, and were rejected by the committee to which they were referred. One of them was, however, taken up in spite of the recommendation of the committee, and pushed to its final passage in the House and forwarded to the Senate.

This bill was duly considered and advanced in the Senate, but in the last hours of the session failed to receive the two-thirds vote necessary to take it up out of its order for final action, and consequently did not become a law.

During the same session four bills of a similar character had originated in the Senate. One of these had also been finally passed by that body, and was submitted to the House, but was there defeated.

After the many close divisions on this question, which arose in the course of the deliberations upon these various bills, it was not difficult for both houses to unite upon a proposition to submit the issue direct to the consideration and vote of the people.

The foregoing joint resolution was accordingly framed, providing for the submission to a popular vote of the proposition to so amend the constitution of the State as to prohibit in future the making of contracts for the labor of convicts. This was introduced in the Senate and received the approval of that body by a vote of 49 to 1; and afterwards being referred to the House, it was there concurred in by a vote of 119 to 9.

This action has brought the subject of prison labor directly before the people, who will be called upon at the next election for members of the General Assembly to declare their wishes in regard to the continuance of the present system.

There are in the two penitentiaries of Illinois 2,308 convicts, of whom all but 34 are male adults; and in the Reform School 312 boys, making in all 2,620 inmates of these three institutions. Of this number 2,555 are at work, and of these 1,873 are at work under the contract system, as follows: 1,304 at Joliet, 410 at Chester, and 159 at Pontiac.

The contracts under which they are employed have been made for terms varying in duration, under the law which instructs the commissioners to let the labor of convicts "for such periods as they may deem advisable, not exceeding eight years." By virtue of this act the contracts now in force have for the most part been made for the longest period permitted, and the more important contracts have been so recently made or renewed that they cannot expire for a number of years. The exact situation in this regard in the penitentiaries is as follows:

Contracts for	25	men	expire	in	1886.
"	267	"	"	"	1887.
"	305	"	"	"	1889.
"	350	"	"	"	1890.
"	472	"	"	"	1892.
"	295	"	"	"	1894.

In other words, 292 will be released under existing contracts in about one year, 305 in about two years, 350 in three years, or 947 in