LEASING OF CONVICTS ABOLISHED IN FLORIDA

Both Houses of the Legislature Pass Bill to Take Effect January 1.

Tallahassee, Fla., May 24.—Florida's second convict reform came today when the legislature effected final passage of a measure to abolish the county convict lease system next January 1. With this measure went a second and more emphatic prohibition against administering corporal punishment to prisoners.

The lower house adopted without discussion a conference report on the subject, while in the senate, fourteen votes were cast against the manner in which it was drawn. These fourteen members were for the most part those who vigorously fought the passage of an outright corporal punishment ban.

The measure as passed deals broadly with the supervision of convicts and requires that convict wardens give bond of $2,500 while guards must be bonded for $1,000. They are made subject to suit for damage for any abuse of authority.

No leasing of convicts shall be permitted after January 1, next, and all existing contracts become null and void. One county, however, may turn its prisoners over to another county for work on the public roads or they may be turned over to the State road department for similar work.

THREE DAUGHTERS DIE TRYING TO SAVE MOTHER

Aged Woman Perishes in Burning Home Together With Her Would-Be Rescuers.

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