As signed into law:

State penitentiary "reform" bill. Introduced as House bill # 227, the bill enables local communities to come to agreement with the gov to send overflow prisoners to Parchman state prison even upon conviction on municipal charges such as traffic violations. The bill also reduces the number of lashes which may be given a prisoner for infraction of prison rules from ten to seven.

This law, coupled with the new highway patrol expansion bill, allows Governor Johnson to keep control of prisoners from the time they are arrested (by the patrol) to their incarceration at the state pen- where prison labor is used to grow cotton.

Parchman is considered by state officials as a model of the ante-bellum planation, according to Miss newspapers. It receives one of the largest federal cotton subsidy allotments in the state.