

BETHINKING OF OLDE ORLEANS

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JAIL MENU



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

BY C.W. LATTIN

The following menu for prisoners in the Orleans County Jail may be found in the Proceedings of the Board of Supervisors, dated Dec. 23, 1904.

By Supervisor Bliss:

"Resolved that the Sheriff-elect of the County of Orleans for the year commencing Jan. 1, 1905, and ending Dec. 31, 1905 be directed to furnish but two meals a day to the prisoners confined in the Orleans County Jail. That the first meal shall be served between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 9:00 a.m., and the second meal shall be served between the hours of 5:00 p.m. and 5:30 p.m.; be it further

"Resolved, That the said meals shall consist of the following: For the morning meal, two slices of bread, one fair-sized slice of fried pork and two medium sized boiled potatoes, with a gravy made of pork grease and the water thickened with flour, and all the cold water they care to drink.

"For the evening meal, two slices of bread, two tablespoons full of warmed over potatoes and all the cold water they are

to drink, except on Tuesdays and Fridays, the evening meal shall consist of one cup of bean soup and two slices of bread, and on Sundays the evening meal shall consist of one plate of cold beans and two slices of bread. No butter shall be served to the prisoners, nor shall either tea or coffee be served to them at any meal; be it further

"Resolved, That no claim of the said Sheriff to be reimbursed for food supplies bought by him shall be allowed by this Board, or allowed or certified by the committee heretofore appointed by this Board to audit and certify the expenses of said Sheriff, except for the necessary amount of salt pork, potatoes, flour and beans necessary to furnish the prisoners, actually confined in the jail, with the above meals.

"Adopted"

At the time a local newspaper reported this particular resolution and made the following editorial comment: "Such a bill of fare ought to clear the jail of its crowd of rounders." Indeed, such a bill of fare would not tickle the pallet

of any gourmet.

The sheriff-elect was Weston Weatherbee who served one term for the years 1905-1906.

The picture which accompanies this story shows the old Orleans County Jail as it would have looked back in 1905, when the above resolution was made.