

BRISBANE GAOL FULL.

CONVICTED SEAMEN.

ST. HELENA BEING USED.

BRISBANE, September 23.

With the excess of prisoners due to the conviction of seamen in connection with the current strike the Brisbane Gaol has become full to overflowing, and to relieve the congestion the prison authorities have arranged to send a number of the men to St. Helena.

The first batch of forty or fifty men will be sent to St. Helena to-morrow.

A statement was current to-day that union and Trades Hall authorities intended to protest strongly against these men being sent to the island, holding that it was an establishment for penal offences.

It has been pointed out, however, that St. Helena, which can accommodate about 200 prisoners, really is being used for first offenders—not men of the criminal type—and that it is conducted on the honour system, the men being allowed a large measure of freedom.

It is understood that summonses have been issued against about 650 seamen.