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# THE STATE OF OREGON AND ITS GOVERNMENT

## ADMINISTRATION OF AFFAIRS OUTLINED

Governor Chamberlain Gives Comprehensive Explanation of System Under Which Commonwealth Is Run

By Governor George E. Chamberlain. T is probable that Thomas Jefferson was the first and only statesman of his time to realize the importance to the United States of establishing Ameri-can supremacy in the Northwest Terri-fory. He conceived the idea of sending an emissary to explore the Oregon coun-



and climate, and it is safe to say that within the life time of many now living it will be one of the most populous states in the Union.

In vogue in Oregon might be useful. Under the Constitution, the government is divided into three separate depart-ments: The Executive, including the ad-ministrative, the legislative and the judi-cial. The Executive Department, in-cluding the administrative, embraces the Governor, Secretary of State, State Treasurer, the Attorney-General and Superintendent of Public Instruction, and in addition thereto the several counties of trative officers of the several counties of

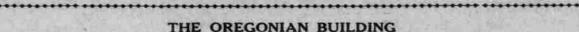
in addition thereto the several adminis-trative officers of the several counties of the state to which attention will be called later. The state officers named are elected at a general election held on the first Monday in June every four years, the last election having been held on the 4th day of June. 1906. The Governor for the term of four years. The constitution to two terms, while any of the other officers are eligible for re-elec-tion as long as the people may see fit to continue them in office. The many of the states negarate boards of control are provided for the conduct, su-pervision and management of the several tate institutions, but under the laws of thave the management and control of the Insare Asylum and Reform School, and in addition therete constitute the Fish of Trainees of the Slind School and the Mute School. These boards this consti-tuted are vested with the power of ap-pointment of the employes of these sev-eral institutions, control and direct the affairs, purchase supples and addit and allow claims for the conduct thereof. The Governor alone controls the affairs of the state institutions control and direct the affairs, purchase supples and addit and allow claims for the conduct thereof. The Governor alone controls the affairs of the Home for Old Soldiers and the period allow claims for the conduct thereof. The Governor alone controls the affairs of the Home for Old Solders and the peni-tentiary, appointing those who have have mediate charge of each.

<image><image><text> under which the people can directly with-out the intervention of the Legislature enact laws, and can have referred to them

within the life time of many now living it will be one of the most populous states in the Union. Oregon was admitted to the Union on the lifth of February, 188, and one of the lifth of February, 188, and one of the first questions asked by the Intending homeseeker is "What form of govern-ment has the state, and what is the dis-tribuition of powers". It may be stated generally that there is no very essential difference in the con-stitutions of the several states of the Union, but for the information of those who contemplate coming amongst us eith-er as tourists or as homeseekers, a brief statement of the system of government in vogue in Oregon might be useful. Under the Constitution, the government is divided into the system of government is overy essential difference in the con-stitutions of the system of government in vogue in Oregon might be useful.

is the court of last resort in the state. In addition to the Supreme Court, the state is divided into 11 judicial districts, state is divided into it junctul districts, each district being composed of one or more counties and the Judges being elect-ed by the electors of their respective districts. These courts are designated as Circuit

Courts, and in addition to the Judges each district has a Prosecuting Attorney-and in some cases two-whose duty it is to represent the state in all proceedings pending in these several courts





# PEOPLE INDEPENDENT OF THEIR LAWMAKERS

## Initiative and Referendum Give Voters of Oregon Powers Possessed in Few Other Commonwealths

this article principally for the informa-tion of people who may be looking to-wards our state as a future home, there-fore I hope our own citizens will pardom the recital of a story that is old to them. the recital of a story that is old to them. In 1962 our state adopted a constitutional

amendment for the initiative and referendum on all general laws. By its pro-visions 8 per cent of the voters may pro-pose to the people of the state any law or amendment to the constitution by their initiative petition: 5 per cent of the vot-ers may file their referendum petition demanding the submission to the people of any act passed

W. S. U'Ren. by the Legislature: these petitions are filed with the Secretary of State, who then submits to the people at the next general election all measures for which such petitions are filed.

filed. In 1966 the people again amended the constitution to extend the initiative and referendum powers to the people of every county, district, city and town as to all local, municipal and special legislation, and also applying the referendum to any item, section or part of any hill passed by the Legislature. Every measure subreferendum powers to the people of every county, district, city and town as to all local, municipal and special legislation, and also applying the referendum to any item, section or part of any hill passed by the Legislature. Every measure sub-

by the Legislature. Every measure sub-mitted is approved or rejected by a ma-jority of those voting thereon. The per-fect power of the people is indicated by the enacting clause of every bill. "Be it enacted by the people of the State of Oregon." which means all it says. The Secretary of State mails to every voter a pamphiet containing a copy of all measures to be voted upon and of the arguments and reasons offered for and against each measure. The expense for paper and printing the arguments must be paid by the parties offering them. The purpose is to insure to every voter the utmost possible information as to every question on which he may vote. The total of all expenses for printing, postage and of all expenses for printing, postage and all other things caused by the initialize and referendum voting does not exceed H5,000 at each general election for the

REATE. Last year the people approved an amendment to the constitution granting home rule to the people of cities and towns in enacting and amending their charters and taking that power from the Legislature. Eight of our principal cities have already amended their charters or taken steps to submit amendments. In cities not more than 15 mer cent may he cities not more than 15 per cent may be required for the initiative petition, nor more than 10 per cent for the referendum against acts of the City Council.

against acts of the City Council. At the election in 1904 a direct primary nominating election law was proposed by initiative petition and enacted by the peo-ple. By its provisions conventions for the nomination of all officers except Presidential electors are abolished for all political parties casting more than 3 per

and almost unanimously ratified by the Legislature, without any charge of cor-rupt or undue influence in any form. This law has largely destroyed the power of

law has largely destroyed the power of the party boss and his political machine, both in local and state government. The existence of the infinitive and referendum powers of the people has removed temptation from the members, of the Legislature, but sot all of those who would like to be tempted. One member was heard to say, at the last session, that 'I have not mide enough to nay for my media and if the referto pay for my meals, and if the refer-endum crowd gets in its work for an-other two years we might as well all stay at home."

A local option liquor law was proposed by initiative petition, and en-acted by the people in 1934. The or-ganized liquor dealers complained very bitterly that it was unjust, and tried to amend it out of existence in the Legislature of 1995, and by an initfa-tive bill before the people in 1996, but were defeated at the election by nearly 10,000 majority. That seems to have

election and each separately on its own monits appears to be faisl to the per-fection of party discipline and organ-ization. Nine measures have been ap-proved and four rejected by the people proved and four rejected by the people since 1992 by majorities ranging from 2000 to 63,000, the whole number of voters being less than 100,000. The measures that have been proposed by initiative petition and approved by the people have been rejected or lost one or more times in the Legislature. It seems likely that two and possi-bly three referendum petitions will be filed next month against acts of the Legislature. Other novelties which may be pro-

Legislature. Other novelties which may be pro-posed by initiative petition next year, new for the most part only in the sense that they are not in operation in the United States, include the re-call, by which the people may by peti-tion order a special election and dis-charge any public official by majority vate: election of members of the Lects. charge any public official by majority vote; election of members of the Legis-lature by proportional representation, so that each political organisation may be represented by a number of mem-bers proportionate to the number of its voters: a law to place a poor man-on an equal footing with a rich man in aspiring to public office; corpora-tion tax measures proposed by the State Tax Commission and rejected by the Legislature; a Woman Suffrage amendment, and perhaps others. Men who are looking for a home where there is no political boss, and where each may's influence in the gov-ernment depends on his integrity and

# WAGEWORKERS' STATUS IN THE STATE OF OREGON

Compensation Never Greater in All Industries Than at Present - Conditions Are Superior

tendiary, appointing those who have lim-mediate charge of each. In addition to these duties the Gov-ernor, Secretary of State and State Treas-urer constitute and compose the State Land Board, and as such they have charge of the sale and disposition of all of the public lencis belonging to the state and the control and management of the irreducible school fund, amounting at this time to nearly \$5,000,000, which they are required to loan on mortgage securities, distributing the interest semi-annually among the school districts of the state. Each successive Legislature imposes new

## IMPORTANT EVENTS IN THE HISTORY OF OREGON

Facts and Figures Bearing on Settlement and Growth of Beaver State Given in Their Chronological Order

George R. Himes, Secretary Oregon Historical Society.
S INCES the space at my command is necessarily Butted, only the salient points of Oregon history can be mentioned, and these will be referred to in chronological order without further introduction.
(1) The origin of the name "Oregon" is much sought for, but it is not known. There are many theories commercing the sector of the States.

is much sought for, but it is not known. There are many theories concerning it, but investigation proves them to be with-out foundation. The first allusion to the word was by Captain Jonatian Carver, a



## HOME OF THE OREGONIAN NEWSPAPER.

Oregon's history and that of The Oregonian newspaper are inseparable. When Portland was little more than rillage, lying entirely upon the west bank of the Willamette. The Oregonian was established, and from that to the present day it has chronicled the development of the Oregon country and been the chief exponent of its people

The first issue of The Oregonian was printed December 4. 1850. At first the paper was published weekly, each issue containing four pages of six columns each. Its first issue as a daily was February 4, 1851. Three years after The Oregonian was established Henry L. Fittock became identified with it and soon assumed the active management, which he holds up to the present day. Harvey W. Scott became editor of The Oregonian

Three years after The Oregonian was established Henry L. Pittock became identified with it and soon assumed the active management, which he holds up to the present day. Harvey W. Scott became editor of The Oregonian in May, 1866, and is still its editor. Throughout the years of its publication The Oregonian has maintained unquestioned preeminence among the newspapers of the Northwest, and this position is recognized throughout the United States. Its circulation ex-ceeds that of any other newspaper in this territory. Its mechanical equipment is of the best, and its nine-story home, completed in 1885, is one of the finest newspaper buildings in the country.

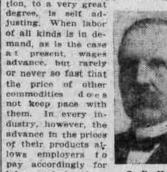
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imothy grass were introduced into Ore-gon, also seedling fruit. Dr. McLoughlin built a sawmill six miles cast of Vau-couver in 1828 and a gristmill in 1828—the first mills west of the Rocky Mountains in United States territory.
(i) The effort to colonize Oregon was bague by Hall J. Kelly, a Massachusetts schoolmaster. In 1829, as general agent of the American Society for Encouraging (b) In 1828 Captain Nathaniel J. Wyeth came overland to Oregon to establish a trading post. He was the first to plant
(ii) The first stuite persons to be mar(iii) The first stuite persons to be mar(iv) Oregon to establish a

Ry O. P. Hoff, State Commissioner of Labor.

AGES in Oregon at the present industry than ever before, the only exceptions being in a few branches during territorial days when special conditions, growing out of the isolation of the Pacific Northwest, for a time existed. On the other hand, as in all other states of the Union, the cost of living has increased correspondingly. The wage ques-



r, and to share O. P. Hoff. with the workers the general prosperity.

ment as a rule, are sanitary and plea ant and due to the balmy climate t laborer engaged in outdoor work in himself far better situated than in t states of the Central West and East.

cases, paid with longer hours. However, the difference in the cost of living is generally less: Wages in Oregon.

The lot of the workingman or woman in Oregon, however, is exceedingly pleasant. Disasterous strikes and lock-outs are practically unknown. The relations between employer and employe generally are more intimate and cordial than in older communities. Conditions of employ-

Domestic, 10 hours, (per month)..... Dressmakers, 10 hours..... Dressmakers, 10 hours Electric workers, 10 hours. Engineers, 10 hours. Findineers, 10 hours. Findineers, marine, 12 hours (hourd). Findineers, marine, 0 marrier white labor) Fruit canneries, (marrier, 10 hours. Fruit canneries, (female), 10 hours. 2.75 1.25

2.00

The wages given in the appended table are the average for each class of work, and with few exceptions show last year's rate of pay. If in any way changed, there is a slight increase in a few cases. The figures, with the exception of those referring to domestic help, fishcannors, fruitcanners, hotel help, laundryworkers, railroad men, stock and farm hunds, millers, miners, saw-mill workers, and woolen-mill hands, are Portland wages. Outside of Portland less b, in many crease raid with bourse hours. However

Traveling goods workers (female), 9 1.00

2.50

### Portland's School Growth.

Rapid increase in the population of Portland is shown by the gain in the registration of the local public schools. The attendance for the present year has already passed the 30,000 mark and will prohably be about 20,400. Last year ft was 17.031, and the year before 15,577. Five years ago there were 13,220 public in the schools, and 10 years ago there were 10,220. Besides the attendance in the public schools there is a large registrapublic schools there is a large registra-tion in the parochial schools and private institutions of elementary grade.

12.00 8.00 3.00

Bookpinders (remains, o nours) Boakbuilders, 10 hours Brickingers, 8 hours Brickingers, 9 hours Brickingers, 10 hours Butchers, 10 hours Carpetiars, 8 hours Carpetiars, 9 hours Carpetiars, 9 hours Carpetiars, 9 hours Clerks, (remains, 10 hours Clerks, (remains, 10 hours Cooks, waiters (femains), per week Cooks, waiters (femains), per week Coopers, 8 hours

 Bakers, 10 hours
 \$ 5.50

 Barbers, 11 hours
 2.00

 Bartenders, 10 hours
 2.50

 Beer drivers, 8 hours
 2.25

 Blacksmiths, 9 hours
 2.25

 Boltermakers and fron ship builders,
 9

 Bookbinders, (male) 8 hours
 3.20

 Bookbinders, (male) 8 hours
 3.20

 Bookbinders, 10 hours
 3.20

 Bookbinders, 10 hours
 3.20

 Browers, 8 hours
 3.20