

Eastern Oregon about the management of the State Board of Immigration. The complaint is not of incompetency or neglect of immigrants, but of favoritism. It is charged that the Board is directing its efforts solely for the benefit of the Willamette Valley and those portions of Western Oregon by nature tributary to Portland; in other words, that it is managed in the interests of Portland as a short-sighted and narrow-minded man would conceive them to be. It is asserted that the literature circulated by the Board is calculated to convey the impression that Western Oregon is the agricultural region of the State, while east of the mountains the country is suitable only for cattle ranges, ignoring the fact that the latter contains thrice as much available agricultural land and produces more grain than the former, in addition to its great wool and cattle interests. It is also charged that the Board, in securing stop-over privileges and special rates for immigrants, has neglected Eastern Oregon. "Why," says the *Wasco County Sun*, "must the immigrant go 170 miles past Umatilla to Portland and subject him to pay back charges at full rates over this 170 miles if he wishes to go to Eastern Oregon. We do not question the right of the Willamette Valley counties to make to the immigrants a good showing and to getting a reduction of fares, etc.; but that does not call for the Board of Immigration not to allow the immigrant to stop at Umatilla and go where he pleases, and give him and the eastern portion of the State the same privilege of sixty days' over-lay and fair prices for round trip as is given to the same man if he goes to Portland." If there is any disposition manifested by the Board to slight Eastern Oregon it is most reprehensible and a betrayal of the trust reposed in them by the Governor as representative of the whole people of the State. THE WEST SHORE has always maintained that the true interests of Portland never have called for and never will require the development of the Willamette Valley at the expense of the interior. If Portland expects to be simply a local trading point for a small section of country then such might be the case; but if she aspire to be a commercial metropolis she must foster the development of every region within her reach. The gentlemen composing the Board were selected from among the foremost business men of the State, men who have sufficient intelligence to recognize the State nature of the work they are engaged in, even if their sense of duty to the people who furnish the funds did not impel them to do justice to all sections. One of these is a citizen of Eastern Oregon, a man of attainments and position, possessing the confidence of his county sufficiently to be its chosen representative in the State Senate. It is presumed that he was selected to look after the interests of his portion of the State, and if it is misrepresented in the printed pamphlets, or has no efforts made in its behalf with the railroads, he is the man upon whom his constituents should fix the responsibility. As far as printed matter is concerned, a remedy for that is within the power of the complainants. Nearly every county west of the mountains has organized a local immigration society, has

issued its own printed matter and placed it in the hands of the State Board for distribution. When the counties east of the mountains exhibit the same enterprise and adopt a similar plan then they will be placed upon an equality, so far as literature is concerned. The Board is about to issue a new and revised edition of its general pamphlet, and now is the time for the representative of that section to see that it receives just treatment. Much of the difficulty in regard to facilities offered immigrants to examine Eastern Oregon arises from the geographical situation and the fact that the Board does not come in personal contact with the immigrant until he reaches Portland. The only adequate remedy for this is an increase of the appropriation sufficient to enable the Board to maintain a branch office in Eastern Oregon, where the immigrant can report and receive all the favors and courtesies he now obtains only in Portland. It is the duty of the Board to establish such a branch as quickly as the finances will permit, and make arrangements with the railroads for the same stop-over privileges and special rates from the branch office now obtained only at the general office in this city. Eastern Oregon is in a position to assert her rights, through her business men, the Legislature and her representative on the Board of Immigration.

#### OREGON STATE UNIVERSITY.

AT Eugene City, on the 28th of July, the corner-stone of the new building of the Oregon State University was laid with Masonic ceremonies. The day was pleasant, and a large concourse of people witnessed the impressive rites and participated in the procession. The organizations present were Eugene City Lodge and Chapter, Ivanhoe Commandery, a delegation from the Oregon Commandery, Portland, and the Grand Lodge of the State, in all 175 Masons. The ceremonies were conducted by the Grand Lodge, and the oration was delivered by Professor J. W. Merrit, of Jacksonville. The casket deposited in the stone contained eighty-two distinct articles, covering a wide range, some of which, a century hence, will have much value. The old building being unequal for the growing needs of the University, the Legislature made an ample appropriation at its last session for another. The Board of Regents adopted the plans of W. H. Williams, of Portland, and began the construction of a building which will cost between \$20,000 and \$25,000. The new edifice is 116x72 feet, and has a large entrance in front and one on either side. From the ground to the top of the corners it is seventy-five feet. On the first floor are five large class rooms, while the second floor is devoted to one large hall, with a stage and two waiting-rooms at the end. The ceiling of the hall is high and the roof is supported by iron trusses. The whole building will be heated by a furnace in the cellar. Both externally and internally the structure is ornamental and pleasing. On another page are given engravings of the two buildings and the corner-stone ceremonies. The University is now worthy the pride of every citizen of the State.