

One of the leading educational institutions of the Pacific coast is the Willamette university, located at Salem. This university is the oldest and largest institution of the kind in the northwest. It embraces colleges of medicine, liberal arts, law, ladies' college or boarding school, an art department and the university academy. The faculty comprises thirty professors and instructors, and nearly four hundred students are enrolled and in attendance in the different departments. This is one of the most important public institutions of Salem. The university building is large and well equipped in every particular.

The Oregon penitentiary is located a little east of the corporation limits of the capital city. It is built for utility rather than for ornament, and is one of those adjuncts of civilization that place a distinct barrier between its patrons and the outside world. In its appointments this prison compares favorably with the best of similar institutions in the east. Its accommodations are sufficient for securely keeping four hundred prisoners. The main building is two hundred and sixty feet long, with a wing eighty-five feet in length, and is thirty-six feet high, containing three rows, or tiers, of cells. In the basement is the culinary department, and in the top of the building are the guard rooms, chapel and hospital. A brick wall sixteen feet high and seventeen hundred and fifty-three feet long surrounds the penitentiary buildings. Within this brick enclosure are six large brick structures, built at a cost of \$40,000.00, for workshops, where the convicts are employed. One hundred and eighty prisoners are employed in a stove foundry, and the remainder in various other occupations.

The deaf mute school and the school for the education of the blind complete the list of state institutions located at the capital city. These are well supported, and are doing work creditable to the state. The deaf mutes publish a monthly periodical called *The Sign*, in their school, doing all the work themselves. About fifty deaf mutes and fifteen blind children received instruction at these institutions in 1888.

The Marion county court house, located at Salem, is the finest county court house in the state, it having been built at a cost of \$130,000.00. In the basement of this building is the county jail, on the first floor the county offices, and on the second floor the court room, judge's room, jury rooms, etc. The building is furnished in first-class condition throughout, an important feature being excellent fire-proof vaults for the safe keeping of records.

Salem has four school buildings, one of which, completed last year at a cost of \$40,000.00, is the finest public school building in the state outside of Portland. The system of schools is well graded, and seven hundred teachers are employed, at salaries ranging

from \$40.00 to \$120.00 each per month. The total number of children of school age in the city is about two thousand, of whom eight hundred and eighty-three are enrolled in the public schools, and about five hundred and sixty in the private and denominational schools. The school government is vested in three directors and a clerk, who is also treasurer, elected by the people at the annual meeting, which is entirely removed from any connection with other matters of politics. The school tax last year was two mills on the total taxable valuation of property in the city. The Salem schools are fully abreast of the city's general advancement, and changes now contemplated will place them in a still better condition for supplying the educational needs of the citizens. The several private schools, Roman Catholic, Episcopalian and others, perform an important service, and with an excellent university right at home to supplement the work of the lower schools, the educational facilities of the capital city are exceptionally complete.

An orphans' home has a fine building, with homelike surroundings, and is one of the excellent charitable institutions of the city performing an important service to the community, and it is well supported. The city has one opera house, with a greater seating capacity than any other in the state outside of Portland, and has two good hotels.

The churches of Salem are fully equal to those of any other city in Oregon. One church edifice is capable of comfortably seating six hundred people, and is, perhaps, as fine a church as is now open for service in the state, it having cost \$50,000.00. There are nine other church edifices of plainer design, but comfortable and substantial structures, in the city, and they are all well attended. The denominations which have church buildings are the Methodist Episcopal, Christian, Episcopal, Congregational, Evangelical, Presbyterian, Roman Catholic, Cumberland Presbyterian and German Reformed. Unitarians and Seventh Day Adventists have organizations and hold regular services, and there is a branch of the Holiness society in the city. Odd Fellows, Methodists and Roman Catholics have cemeteries there.

Fraternal orders are well represented in Salem. There are three Masonic organizations and a Masonic library of fifteen hundred volumes; two lodges of Odd Fellows and an Odd Fellows' library of fifteen hundred volumes; two of the Ancient Order of United Workman; one Grand Army post; one Good Templar's lodge, which has had over two thousand persons in its membership during the twenty-three years of its existence; one Knights of Pythias lodge, and an assembly of Knights of Labor. These fraternal orders are in a flourishing condition, and their benev-