

olent work is an important influence in the community. Most of them were among the earliest organized in the state.

One of the best wagon bridges in the state, and the first free bridge across the navigable portion of the Willamette river, is the one at Salem. It was built in 1887, at a cost of \$50,000.00, \$30,000.00 of which were furnished by the city of Salem, \$15,000.00 by Marion county, and \$5,000.00 by Polk county, which lies directly across the stream. The entire length of the structure, including approaches, is two thousand two hundred and forty feet. There are three spans, of two hundred and thirty, two hundred and seventy and three hundred feet respectively, and in the middle of the stream the bridge is eighty-six feet above the water, permitting boats to pass freely at all seasons. The structure was dedicated to the free use of the public, and makes directly tributary to the city of Salem a large area of rich farming country on the opposite side of the Willamette that would otherwise go to other markets and trading points.

Five miles north of Salem on the railroad is Chemawa, where the government Indian industrial school is located. Several hundred Indian children, of tribes from Alaska to California, receive instruction in letters and manual training. The work shops, school, boarding buildings, etc., are neat and comfortable structures, and the disciplinary provisions are suitable for training the young aborigines to honest and useful lives. There are now nine buildings, erected at a cost of nearly \$30,000.00, comprising the plant of this institution, and the boys have cleared a farm of nearly a hundred acres in the woods, on which a large portion of the provisions for the institution are produced.

The manufacturing interests of Salem are large. There are two saw mills, which obtain their supplies of fir timber from tributaries of the Willamette above, and their oak, maple, etc., from the bottom lands of the river near by. Two sash and door factories are now in operation. The agricultural implement works were burned last year, but the factory has been rebuilt and will soon be in running order. There are two fruit drying establishments, one of which has a capacity for drying a thousand bushels of apples or five hundred bushels of prunes per day. The Jory patent fruit evaporator is manufactured here. A tile works and two brick kilns, besides the penitentiary kiln, are worked during their season. There are three flouring mills, with a total capacity for manufacturing twelve hundred barrels of flour per day. The largest mill is owned by a company in Edinburgh, Scotland, and owing to some trouble in the firm the plant is not running just at present, but the

prospects are that matters will soon be adjusted so that this valuable property can be set at work. There are five cabinet shops, one foundry and machine shop, one tannery, two wagon and carriage shops, one soda works, a cider, vinegar and fruit preserving establishment, a book bindery, three job printing houses, and sundry other small manufacturing enterprises in various lines.

Salem has exceptionally good facilities for factories, it being a market place for raw materials and having a first-class water power. This power is created by turning a portion of the North Santiam river, eighteen miles above, into Mill creek, which empties into the Willamette at Salem. Thus the natural channel of the creek is used to convey a much larger volume of water than naturally flowed in it, and as the descent of the stream is rapid near its mouth, the water is gathered in a flume and distributed to factories along the bank of the Willamette and in other portions of the city, where the fall is sufficient to admit of using the water two or three times in some cases. There is abundant water in this flume at all seasons of the year, and when necessary a vastly greater quantity of water can be secured at a comparatively small cost, by increasing the capacity of the canal and clearing the channel of the creek. One of the advantages of this power is the ease with which it is controlled. There are excellent sites for building factories where this water can be obtained without extra expense, and the citizens of Salem offer special inducements to manufacturers to locate in that city. Preparations are now being made for the erection of one of the largest woolen mills in the northwest at Salem. The supply of wool from the surrounding country is sufficient to warrant the establishment of such an enterprise, and certainly the conditions for manufacturing at this point, for power and labor, are unexcelled.

Fruit, wheat, wool and wood should be extensively manufactured at Salem. There is opportunity for factories in other lines to do a profitable business here, but those above mentioned offer more pronounced advantages, perhaps, than any others for the investment of large amounts of capital. The fruit industry is just now commanding most attention, and rapid progress is being made in that line. The largest orchard in the state of Oregon is only a few miles from Salem, and by far the largest evaporator in the state is located in the city. During the past year or two the farmers of Marion county have gone into fruit raising on an extensive scale, and as the orchards are coming into bearing condition, the fruit production is increasing enormously. Many acres that have hitherto grown only wheat are annually being set in fruit, and the indications are that in a few years this will be one of the greatest fruit centers on the Pacific