

SALEM, THE CAPITAL OF OREGON.

Salem has just been undergoing its annual excitement in the form of the Oregon state fair. Always a busy and bustling city, with many industries and a large trade, it takes on added life and action during the season when the people of the state gather there to attend the great fair conducted under the auspices of the state. The fair began on the fifteenth and closed on the twentieth, and was in every respect the most successful and beneficial that has been held by the state association. The fair grounds lie just outside the city, and are reached by a splendid road, by a line of horse cars and by the Southern Pacific railroad. People attended from every portion of the state, and many strangers went to see the superb collection of Oregon products that were displayed in the large pavilion. The stock exhibit was a magnificent one, and fully marks the great progress Oregon has made in this important branch of agriculture the past few years. This was also illustrated by the splendid collection of speed animals that contested for the liberal purses offered by the society.

The state fair, however, is but an incident coming but once a year, while the city of Salem itself is a living and enduring reality, pulsing with life the year round and nobly demonstrating its right to be the capital of the state. On the center pages are given a number of views of state, county and city buildings, as well as street scenes, while on the accompanying pages are some of the industrial institutions that are



adding so materially to the prosperity of the city. They show the metropolitan character of the city and give an idea of the prosperity and growth that must result from the possession of such institutions.

Salem is not only an active business community, but a beautiful city. The visitor is impressed with it at the first glance. The large public buildings, the handsome residences and beautiful lawns, the wide streets bordered with shade trees, the long rows of business blocks of brick and the factories that line the banks of the softly-flowing Willamette, all combine to make a picture of beauty and strength that appeals to one who has an eye for the beautiful as well as a mind for the material. The fact that the city is in no way cramped for room renders it easier to make beautiful homes. Horse cars and motor lines bring fine residence tracts in the suburbs into close relation with the business portions, and this opportunity to secure ample grounds for a pleasant and beautiful home at a moderate cost is being improved rapidly. All around the city neat and even elegant homes are being built, and they are a suggestion of growth and prosperity highly gratifying to the citizen and impressive to the transient visitor. Like new growth on a tree, they are indications of vigor and vitality.

Salem has made a remarkable growth the past few years. Until recently it had been pushed slowly forward by the mere advantage of its location and its prestige as the seat of state government, but for



SALEM IRON WORKS.

several years past the active business men have made a systematic effort to promote its growth, with such gratifying results that the census just taken shows an excess of 10,000 people living within its limits. This has not been done by the usual booming methods, but by the establishment of industries and the development of its resources both within and without the limits of the city itself. There are now quite a number of important industries that employ a large number of men, some of which have been established as a result of the movement alluded to. Three large roller process flouring mills, a new and extensive woolen mill built within the past year, a large fruit and vegetable canning establishment, two fruit dryers, iron works, two sash, door and blind factories, a factory for the manufacture of agricultural implements, two saw mills, electric light works, tile works and brick yards, a tannery, and a large number of shops and small industries of various kinds. The splendid water power secured by conducting the water of the North Santiam to the city through the channel of Mill creek, and the excellent factory sites available, render Salem a specially desirable location for manufacturing establishments, especially as it lies in the heart of the great valley of Oregon and has splendid shipping and receiving facilities by both rail and water. Splendid roads lead out into the surrounding country, so famous for its agricultural products and fruits, rendering a large area locally tributary to the city on both sides of the river. A substantial iron bridge spans the Willamette.

The public buildings in Salem are numerous and of a splendid character. The state capitol is a large and imposing structure of iron, stone and brick, erected at a cost of half a million dollars. It is 75x275 feet in size, and lacks but the dome of being entirely completed. The state asylum for the insane is one of the best institutions of the kind in the country. The building has a frontage of 485 feet, with a wing at either end extending back 220 feet. About 600 patients are cared for. The advanced position Oregon has taken in the matter of scientific and humane treatment of its unfortunate insane speaks volumes for the character of its citizens. The state penitentiary is a large and substantial structure of brick, with a capacity to accommodate 400 prisoners. All its appointments are of the most improved in modern penal systems. The prisoners are employed in making stoves and in various other occupations. The state reform school is a new institution, the large structure for which, shown in the accompanying engraving, is now in process of erection. It has long been needed, and will be another evidence of the advanced position taken by Oregon in the matter of a proper treatment of its unfortunates. A deaf mute school and a school for the blind are also located there, both of them state institutions, and are doing good work in their special fields.

The public buildings of the county and city compare favorably with those erected by the state. The court house is a fine structure that cost \$130,000, and presents an imposing appearance. Four



OREGON STATE REFORM SCHOOL.