

FACTS OF OREGON SCHOOL BILL SHOW ERROR OF ITS OPPONENTS

Distinguished Minister of Pendleton Demolishes Objections and Points Out How All Private Schools Can Continue and Grow More Prosperous and Useful.

Opponents of the Oregon Public School Bill will despair of answering the defense of that great Act by the Rev. W. A. Gressman, pastor of the First Christian Church of Pendleton, Ore., given below.

To the Editor:

So far it seems that not one single fact or reason has been given, showing that it would be necessary for any parochial or any other private school in Oregon to close when the school bill goes into effect in 1925.

Why not every private school send its pupils to the public school for their public school studies and reserve to itself instruction in matters for which such private school exists?

Reclaiming Men at State Prison

(Continued from Page 1) of barrels filled with syrup, etc., is on exhibition.

There was a huge waste in the purchase of fuel, under Lewis and his board of control. He had on hand, when Warden Smith took charge, an immense quantity of the cheapest slab wood.

Graft in Beef Purchases? Anyone would smell graft or gross wastefulness in the contracts for the purchase of beef, made six months ago by the Olcott board of control.

infringement on religious rights and privileges of parent and child. It does not in any respect touch religion.

You say the child belongs to the parent and not to the state? Let's see about this. If a parent is unduly cruel to his child, or is incapable of caring for its health, education or morals, we will see how surely the state will take that child in hand and put it under proper care.

No Slur on Private School But such control by the state is no slur nor stigma against any good private school. Let us keep clear the fact that the basic institution for making American citizens is the public school—not the private school.

Concerning the Escapes. Upward of 200 prisoners are working outside the prison, mostly in the wood and logging camps. Out of this number 19 had run away down to May 6, but five were retaken and two were found who ran away during a previous administration.

Dealing with the prisoners as human salvage, well worth saving, the Warden's long experience in prison work, his finished education in sociology and psychology, have led him wisely to the practice of a policy that always works well and gets the best results.

Prisoners aren't taken from the top of society, but from the bottom and each man is different from every other. Each must be restrained, reformed, and by kindly treatment re-inspired with the desire to live honestly and decently.

They were living in squalor and idleness, in a vast house of crime and misery. They had been allowed to loaf on masses in the dog-house, playing cards, fighting, drinking, committing unnatural acts—a veritable hell-hole of bestiality.

Idleness Always Fatal. Warden Smith declares that a good man, if kept idle for a year under prison environment, never afterward will be worth much. His constructive aim now is to develop the industries of the institution so to earn substantial profits for the state, which shall be divided fairly with the producers.

Disgraceful and lawless booze parties were held frequently in the prison before Warden Smith came. Let ex-Warden Lewis, Upjohn, Putnam and the rest dare deny this charge and we will publish the names and details.

Consider This Crime. Certain evil and designing men lately have been trying to supply booze to the honor men who are employed at the wood camps, 10 to 40 miles from Salem.

The commissary, receiving and shipping department of the prison, formerly referred to as junk and garbage, now is like that of a well-regulated army headquarters. System has been established.

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Inmates Keep Clean. Every inmate of the pen is required to keep himself clean, taking a bath at least once a week. Hot and cold water showers are provided. Just outside of the shops, during the heat of the day, a number of employees were observed having a great time all by themselves.

In the prison barbershop the inmates were living like animals, degenerating, discouraged.

Salvaging Olcott Stores. In the halls of the basement the former administration stored vast quantities of perishable vegetables, onions, potatoes, etc., and of canned goods, now mostly spoiled.

Saving in Tailor Shop. More than \$500 net cash was the saving to the state in the tailor shop alone (commissary department) in April, as compared to April of last year, with far greater efficiency.

Miracle in the Laundry. The employees seem proud of their new laundry. Formerly it was "hay-wire," as they described it. Nobody cared. Clothing was washed indifferently and it took an hour and a half to dry them.

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