

# CHILD SOCIETY GETS INDICATION

## Legislative Committee Voices Only Praise for Institution of Portland.

### GOVERNOR IS TO BE TOLD

#### Conduct of Home Excellent, Inmates Well Behaved and Seem to Love Those in Charge, Says Report—No Extravagance.

In a report made public yesterday by the joint committee from the Senate and House named by the last Legislature to investigate the Boys' and Girls' Aid Society of Portland, the institution and its management is cleared of implied charges made at the time the committee was named of mismanagement and improper conduct.

The committee is composed of I. N. Day, of Portland, and Hal G. Patton, of Salem, from the Senate; D. E. Loftgren and J. H. Nolte, of Portland, and P. O. Bonbrake, of Corvallis, from the House.

"We have investigated the morals of the institution," reads a portion of the report, "and in particular the conduct of the officers in charge, and their conduct toward the inmates, and the conduct of the officers in charge toward each other. During the investigation we examined witnesses, among them former attaches of the institution, and found that the moral standard of the institution is high and the personnel in charge conducts its duties with regard to its responsibility and position."

"Morals Are Safeguarded." "The boys and girls are segregated and have separate sleeping quarters. The manners and morals of the children are duly safeguarded. The building is kept scrupulously clean. The conduct of the home is excellent and the children well-behaved. They all seem to be in love with and have due respect for the persons in charge."

The investigation was carried on from last March, shortly after the end of the legislative session, until November. In that time the committee held one hearing lasting two days, at which many former employees of the society were questioned under oath, as well as persons who had taken wards of the society into their homes.

"At this hearing, in subsequent investigations," said D. E. Loftgren, a member of the committee, yesterday, "we were not able to find even the remotest basis for any charges of mismanagement, immorality or improper conduct against those in charge of the society."

**Records Looked Up.** So carefully did the committee delve into the affairs of the society that the names, records and final disposition of 4199 children received and cared for from the founding of the institution in 1857 to May 1, 1913, were looked up and incorporated in the report. An itemized account of expenditures of the society from January 1, 1911, to May 1, 1913, was found correct by an expert accountant employed by the committee.

One of the implied charges contained in the resolution calling for the investigation, as introduced in the Legislature by Lou Carpenter, member of the House from Multnomah County, was that the rolls of the society had been padded to obtain larger legislative appropriations. This intimation was found to be without basis of truth.

Of the 4199 children whose records were investigated, only one case was found where the same child had been entered twice in the rolls. That this second entry had been due to a clerical mistake was demonstrated further on in the records, where the duplication had been corrected.

**Home Is Inspected.** The committee also made a personal inspection of the home of the society in East Twenty-ninth street. The visit was unannounced, and members of the committee acted as their own guides in going through the building. They found the children well cared for and the home in first-class condition, their report sets out.

To compare the cost of running the Oregon institution with that of the California Boys' and Girls' Aid Society, the committee obtained statistics from the latter institution. The comparison was all in favor of the Boys' and Girls' Aid Society here.

In the California society the daily average cost per inmate was found to be \$1 cents, with an average of 133 inmates a day; the average daily cost of the society at Portland was only 27 cents a day for each inmate, with an average of 66 inmates.

The cost of visiting children who have been sent out to private homes, to make sure that they are well cared for, was found to average only \$14.38 a year for each child.

Although children in the care of the society are fed at a cost of only 24 cents a meal, the committee found that the food, though plain, "is substantial and sufficient."

**Mr. Gardner Vindicated.** When Representative Carpenter's resolution demanding an investigation was first filed in the House at the Legislature session it was understood that W. T. Gardner, for many years superintendent of the society, was the target aimed at. Mr. Gardner is completely vindicated by the report.

ed as being admitted for the first time, we believe that it has been done through inadvertence and mistake and as far as we can learn from the records we do not find more than two such instances during the existence of the institution.

**Suitable Homes Sought.** It is the plan of the institution to find suitable homes for the children who come into and under the control of the institution. When the children are placed in homes for care or adoption an officer of the institution visits the children in such homes at frequent intervals, in order to ascertain if the children are well cared for and receive suitable attention and education. A complete record of each child is kept at the institution, which record can be inspected by the proper parties at any reasonable time. In the report will be found the names of children placed in homes and also the names of children returned to the institution.

We have audited said report (the biennial report of the society made to the 27th Legislative Assembly) and have found the same to be true and correct. We find that the money, funds and donations of all kinds have been used directly for the purpose for which they were donated or appropriated. We find that all of the said money, funds and donations have been economically, judiciously and systematically handled and disbursed. We have investigated the morals of the institution and in particular the conduct of the officers in charge and their conduct toward the inmates and the conduct of the officers in charge toward each other.

Education—All the inmates of school age attend the public schools. The girls previously had little or no opportunity to attend school, and the boys had little or no opportunity to attend school at the home. In the forenoon they assist in keeping the home in order and learn to sew, mend and do other household work. A fairly good course in domestic science, in the afternoon they attend classes in the common school branches, conducted in the schoolrooms of the home under the instruction of a teacher furnished by the County School Board.

The visiting of children who have been sent to homes for care or adoption is done solely with regard to the welfare of the children and this work is carried on efficiently and economically.

In case of sickness or ordinary ailments of children medical attention is furnished free of charge to the inmates by a medical staff. This includes also the necessary attention of competent dentists.

**MEXICAN MENU ARRANGED**

Musical Programme Will Follow Woodlawn Church Supper.

A Mexican supper will be served by the women of Woodlawn Christian Church, in Green's Hall, Friday evening from 6 to 8:30. The menu will consist of chile con carne, frijoles, rice, tamales, sopa de arroz, tortillas, coffee and pan de azucar. After the supper the following programme will be given free to those purchasing supper:

Piano solo, Mrs. Bellamy; recitation, Miss Ruth McDonald; vocal duet, "The Lark," Mina Barnett and Howard Harvey; vocal solo, A. E. Gardner; recitation, Emma Starr; matrilinial sweets, Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Courter; piano solo, Miss Amelita Esparsa; reading, Mrs. Nellie Anderson; duet, "The Woodbird's Song," Miss McDonald and Mrs. Smith; reading, Mrs. Mellinger; "The Train to Mauro," Mrs. Fraser, Mr. McGilivray, Howard Stansberry; solo, "What Shall I Say," Mrs. Sutherland; instrumental duet, Mrs. Bellamy and Mrs. Harvey; pantomime, "Silent Courting," Sally and Rubie.

**COUNTY FAIR DATES SET**

Washington County Selects Three Days, September 24, 25 and 26.

**FOREST GROVE, Jan. 27.**—(Special.) At a meeting of the directors of the Washington County Fair, held Thursday, Friday and Saturday, September 24, 25 and 26, were fixed on as the dates for the county fair.

The following officers have been chosen: J. W. Hughes, president; Charles O. Roe, first vice-president; John McNameer, second vice-president; W. E. Newell, third vice-president; J. S. Buxton, secretary; H. J. Goff, treasurer.

**"KING" COAL FOR COMFORT**

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**BOYS AND GIRLS TO BE SEEN IN TWO CONCERTS**

Programmes Arranged Under Direction of Parent-Teacher Association Promise to Be Best Ever Given by School Children of Portland.

**G**IFTED young violinists, sweet-voiced singers and an orchestra composed of 100 boys and girls, will appear Friday and Saturday nights in the concert programme arranged under the direction of the Portland Parent-Teacher Association. Mrs. Thomas Carrick Burke, chairman of the programme committee, with the assistance of Frederick E. Chapman, director of music in the schools, has worked up a wonderful programme that will represent all the schools of the city.

The young musicians will make their appearance Friday night at Jefferson High School and Saturday night at Lincoln High School. They have been drilled carefully and the committee in charge predicts that the concerts will be the finest school affairs ever presented in Portland. The following is the programme:

- Overture, "The Chocolate Soldier," Strauss
- "The Rose and the Nightingale," Van Hook
- "General Bum Bum," Poldini
- "My Own United States," Stange
- Fifth and Sixth Grade Chorus, Bellwood School
- Song from Tenyson's "Princess," Lindley
- Allan Mac Donald
- Zigeuner Walzer, Sarate
- Albert Greiz
- "Stars of the Summer Night," Woodbury
- "The Light-hearted Fairy," Edmunds
- Seventh Grade, Thompson School
- Valse, Eugene from "Coppelia," Delibes
- Antia Lachmund
- "Hush, Ye Hills," Parkes
- Boys' Glee Club, Pentonska School
- "Romanza," Edward Hazel
- Grand Orchestra
- "Rigaudon," Bat
- Irene Heyns
- "A Winter Night," Fred F. Bullard
- "The Dixie Kid," F. C. Macey
- Boys' Glee Club, Lincoln High
- "Somewhere, My Love," Clara and Mr. Tate
- "The Little Damselle," Nevell
- Meditation from "Thais," Massenet
- "The Bee," Schubert
- "Sint Ciliamano Mimi ('La Bohemia'), Puccini
- Mildred Anne Kingsley
- "Souvenir," W. A. Mozart
- Beethoven
- Minuet in G, J. S. Bach
- "A Summer Night," Foreman
- "Voice of the Woods," Rubenstein-Watson
- Girls' Chorus, Trade School

Holman Parent-Teacher Association will meet Tuesday, February 3. An excellent programme is being planned. Mrs. Richard Prince and Mrs. G. R. Stephenson, members of Holman Parent-Teacher Association, went to Hillsdale last Friday to organize a parent-teacher circle. Although the weather was stormy, there was a good attendance and much enthusiasm was shown. Mrs. Prince, who made the opening address, was the first teacher in the Hillsdale school. In 1873, when a mare girl, Mary Slavin, was chosen to fill the place as teacher. Her father, John Slavin, one of the pioneers of the district, donated the land for the school site.



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## PORTLAND BANKERS PREPARED TO ARGUE

### City as Northwest Financial Center to Be Shown Regional Bank Committee.

## SEATTLE CASH COMES HERE

### Distributing Houses in Northern Town and Much of Its Alaskan Trade Financed by Local Capital—Party Due Today.

On the theory that Portland is the financial center for the entire Northwest and Alaska, Portland bankers will go before the Federal Reserve Board's organization committee on Friday and attempt to procure for this city one of the regional banks provided under the newly enacted currency act.

Financiers in Portland have learned that the currency officials are concerned principally with the banking activity and the banking resources of a city rather than its trade and commerce.

Although, as a rule, banking activity follows commercial activity, this rule is not invariable.

Portland is a case in point. While Seattle boasts much of its trade relations with Alaska, much of Seattle's Alaskan trade is financed in Portland. Testimony will be submitted at Friday's hearing to prove this.

And Portland merchants are not ready to concede that Seattle is the sole gateway for Alaska's trade. In fact, Portland now is doing a large volume of business with Alaska, and with the inauguration of steady service next month this business is certain to grow.

While this fact will be pointed out to the organization committee, the further fact that many of Seattle's large distributing houses that deal with Alaskan merchants almost exclusively are

financed and owned right here in Portland will be presented to the Commission. Much of their banking business is done in Portland. Seattle banks are required to carry heavy balances in Portland to meet this business.

On the other hand, Seattle does no business whatever in the Portland territory. Portland banks carry no balances in Seattle.

Hearings in Seattle will begin this afternoon, but it is probable that Spokane's claims will be taken up at that time.

Spokane continues to make serious efforts to be designated as a reserve center, and it is understood that a big party of Spokane financiers will be in Seattle today to present arguments for recognition.

Tacoma, on the other hand, is supporting Seattle. Many Eastern Washington bankers are supporting Spokane, but it is understood that most bankers in that territory give Portland as their second choice.

In fact, the joint committee of Portland Chamber of Commerce and Portland Clearing-House officials already has obtained the indorsement of many financiers in Eastern Washington and all parts of Montana.

**Many Volunteer Testimony.** Bankers from various parts of Oregon, Washington and Idaho have volunteered to come here and give testimony. J. H. O'Neill, district passenger agent for the O.-W. R. & N. Company at Seattle, arrived in Portland yesterday and will conduct the party to Seattle this morning. They will arrive here on O.-W. R. & N. train No. 9 this morning, but will not leave the car and will depart for Seattle at 8:30.

Meanwhile, plans are being made for the complimentary dinner at the Commercial Club Friday evening. The full seating capacity of the big dining-room has been sold.

Mr. Mills will be toastmaster. William D. Wheelwright, president of the Pacific Export Lumber Company, will deliver the address of welcome. No other Portland men will speak. Mr. McAdoo, Mr. Houston and Mr. Williams will be invited to speak, however.

The banquet will be attended by prominent men from various parts of Oregon, Washington and other parts of the Northwest. Local, state and Federal officials, as well as leading bankers, business men and foreign diplomats, are among those who have arranged to be present.

The Portland hearings will be conducted in the courtroom of the Federal building instead of at the Multnomah Hotel, as was originally planned. The headquarters of the party will be at the Multnomah, however.

**Board Passes Through La Grande.**

LA GRANDE, Or., Jan. 27.—(Special.)—Secretary of the Treasury McAdoo, Secretary of Agriculture Houston and their party passed through La Grande tonight at 5:45 on their way to Portland. The men are traveling in the private car National and the Pullman is attached to the fast mail train.

**POLAR BEAR ENJOYS SNOW**

Park Attendants Fill Up His Cage at Washington Park Zoo.

The big white polar bear in the zoo at Washington Park thoroughly enjoyed Portland's first snow of the winter yesterday morning. The big animal abandoned for the first time in months his perpetual walking up and down his cage, and took a roll in the snow.

Park attendants shoveled his cage half full of the congenial vapor and all day he enjoyed all the comforts of his native country.

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Miss Franz, the present teacher, is an earnest worker, and much of the recent success of the school is due to her interest.

Mrs. W. B. Barnes served as chairman of the recent meeting, and the roll will be left open for a few days longer. W. B. Barnes, Mrs. Kohril and Mr. Wilson were appointed on the agricultural committee. The children of the locality will be instructed in raising asparagus and other vegetables in the most efficient way. Extra credits will be allowed for this work.



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