MAKES USEFUL CITIZENS

WORK OF THE OREGON STATE REFORM SCHOOL FOR BOYS.

What the Institution Costs the State and How It Is Managed—Parents of the Inmates.

SALEM, May 26.—The Oregon State Reform School is becoming more and more an industrial institution. With each succeeding year a greater effort is made to teach the boys who are committed to the school useful occupations by which they may earn honest livings when they have been paroled. To this end each boy is kept in school half of each day, and is required to labor on the farm, in the shops or about the buildings the other half. The number of inmates of the school, 113, makes it convenient to divide the boys into two classes, one for work and the other for study, as the number engaged in each occupation can be regulated so as to meet the needs of the different departments.

The Oregon State Reform School was opened for the reception of boys November 5, 1891, and on the following day the first boy was received. At the close of that year 20 boys had been received, and from this number the enrollment has gradually increased, until the highest enrollment, 197, was reached in 1897. With the increase in the attendance a more perfect system became possible, until now the school is organized into departments that work in entire unison. The educational department has the entire school in charge each day, but only half of it at a time. There are two teachers, making about 56 boys to each teacher, or 28 in charge of each teacher all the time. As the boys are of all ages, in all stages of education, and of all degrees of intelligence, the school is necessarily ungraded and each boy is permitted to make progress as rapidly as he can, and will, regardless of the advancement made by the other boys in his class, and independently of any rigid course of study. All the common school branches are taught.

But while two Reform School officials are engaged in teaching one-half of the boys the knowledge learned from books, 10 other officials are working with the other half as they gain instruction regarding every-day, practical work. These other officials are the farmer, engineer, talloress, laundress, carpenter, shoemaker, cook, dining-room superintendent, housekeeper and seamstress. Each of these officials is given charge of a detail of boys each morning and afternoon, and the boys are employed in the work indicated by the title of the officials.

Where the Boys Work.

At this season of the year the farmer is given a detail of 16 boys, nine in each half-day. The institution has a farm of 600 acres, about half of which is under cultivation. The land under cultivation is sowed principally to grain and hay, but there are large gardens and orchards that supply the school with vegetables and fruit. Under the supervision and with the assistance of the farmer, the boys do all the farm and garden work, and learn all the details of caring for the farm and farm machinery and stock. They are taught the art of planting, pruning and spraying fruit trees and how to care for all kinds of crops.

The shoemaker has a detail of 12 boys. All the shoes worn by the Reform School boys are made entirely at the institution, and are made principally by the boys themselves. Two styles of shoes are made—brogans, for everyday wear, and "Sunday shoes," for special occasions. Some of the boys become very proficient with the cobbling tools, and turn out work that would grace the display windows of a shoe store. One boy is able to turn out four pairs of shoes per day, beginning with nothing prepared for him. While one of the principal objects of this department is to furnish a useful occupation for the boys, it is found that when the entire expense of the department is taken into consideration the cost of shoes is reduced 40 per cent by their being made at the school.

The talloress has charge of 12 boys, who are engaged in making the clothing for the inmates of the school. They make all the underclothing, uniforms and caps. A mending department is also maintained, and in this the boys learn to patch, darn and otherwise repair garments.

The engineer's department has, besides the heating apparatus, an electric light plant, a water-power pump, portable engine for wood sawing, and steam laundry machinery. Eight boys are detailed to this department, and are taught the management and care of the machinery as well as the work of plumbing. One of the early "graduates" of this department is now an engineer in Portland, and is earning a good living. He recently paid a visit to the institution, and spent the day around the buildings before revealing his identity. Just before departing he told the superintendent, much to the latter's astonishment, that he was a "graduate" of the Reform School. He said he learned his trade there, that he had been reformed, and did not care who knew the name of his "alma mater."

Ten boys are engaged in the kitchen, and they learn all the work that is usually done by a cook—from dishwashing to the baking of all kinds of bread and cake. As there are so many persons to prepare food for, the boys learn all the methods that must be employed by professional cooks.

There is one negro boy who waits on the table of the superintendent of the school. While a visitor's first impression is that a negro waiter is a luxury out of place in a state institution, on second thought it is evident that the negro is getting a training which will fit him for a paying position when he shall have been discharged from the school. Such is the object of his being thus employed, and if he does not learn to do his work well he can blame no one but himself.

The Daily Routine.

The daily routine at the Reform School is such as to teach the boys system and method in everything. They are called early in the morning—at half past 5 or 6—and after dressing are marched to the washroom, and from there to the breakfast table. Each boy knows his place, and stops behind his chair. At given signals they seat themselves at the table, and with bowed heads repeat in unison a very pretty prayer of thanks for divine favor and supplication for divine guidance. After breakfast, which consists of plain but substantial food, the boys are assigned to the various details, and are taken in charge by the various officers under whom they are to work. When an officer takes charge of a detail of boys he gives a receipt for them and gets a receipt when he turns the boys in at the end of the day's work. All boys not otherwise employed are taken in charge by the family manager. It is a rule of the institution to permit no boy to be idle or to have any opportunity to cultivate bad habits. It is presumed that the boys at the school are the most incorrigible and vicious of any in the state. They have been sent there because it has been found impracticable and unsafe for the community that they be kept at home, and while they cannot be confined like criminals, they must be closely watched at all times. Coming, as most of them do, from families in which industry and morality are at a low ebb, they are in no condition to take readily to study or to useful occupations. To transform them and make of them intelligent and ambitious young men is the duty which the state owes to them, and to fulfill this duty it is necessary to have a sufficient number of employes and teachers to keep them busy. There are 16 employes, with a total monthly salary of $755, as follows:

	Per month.
Superintendent	$125
Matron	50
Principal of school	50
Teacher	35
Steward and farmer	50
Family manager	40
Dining-room superintendent	25
Housekeeper and nurse	30
Seamstress	25
Night watchman	35
Engineer	65
Talloress	35
Laundress	30
Carpenter	70
Shoemaker	35
Cook and baker	35

Antecedents of the Boys.

As shedding light upon the subject of the home surroundings of boys who find their way into the Reform School, the following is taken from the last report of that institution:

"The subjoined table will give the observing student some idea of the basic causes leading up to the necessity of placing these boys under the care and tuition of the state. From the figures here recorded it will be seen that of the 348 boys committed to the school only 94 had both parents living together at the time received here; that is, in those 94 cases the records say both parents were living, and nothing else, so they were presumably together. The character of the homes which they provided for their children cannot be ascertained, and can only be surmised, which is an easy matter in many instances, though in some cases the home seemed to be blameless and to be conducive to good behavior. The other figures in the table tell their own story, and none so sad or prolific in evil consequences to the youth as the record which shows the parents of 90 of these children to be either divorced or separated, chiefly the former. Following is the family record of all the pupils:

Parents divorced or separated	90
Parents both living	94
Parents both dead	19
Father dead	62
Mother dead	60
Father dissipated	14
Conditions unknown	9
Total	348

It often occurs that two or more members of the same family will be committed to the Reform School, though it is not common to have more than one member of a family in the school at the same time. At present the register shows that there are four pairs of brothers in the school.

Superintendent Bickers has recently received a number of letters asking whether arrangements cannot be made to receive incorrigible girls at the school. As it would not be practicable to care for girls in the Reform School, the inquiries are invariably answered in the negative. It has been suggested that incorrigible girls might be cared for at the Mute School, near the Reformatory, and this proposition may be given consideration.

Expenses of the Reformatory.

The expenses of the school for the last five years have been as follows:

Year.	Salaries.	Total expense.
1895	$16 645 57	$72,122 69
1896	10 665 57	29,181 79
1897	11,811 85	25,787 50
1898	11,811 85	27,989 79
1899	9,855 45	25,231 71

The appropriations for the school are made biennially and cover a period of two years. The appropriations for the six years ending with December 31, 1900, are as follows:

1895-1896	$73,000 00
1897-1898	62 277 22
1899-1900	25,500 00

The appropriation for 1895-96 included expenses of repairs, as also does the appropriation for 1899-1900. It is estimated that there will be a deficiency of $12,000 in the present term of two years. The appropriation was cut down almost one-half by the last Legislature, and the board of trustees have found it impossible to run the institution on the amount appropriated. The appropriation bill contained a provision that no deficiency should be created, but as the school must be operated, it is expected that the next Legislature will be asked to appropriate money to cover a deficiency in the Reform School account.

The officials of the Reform School find it necessary to employ various methods to prevent the boys from running away. As a precaution against their escaping at night their clothes are locked in one room while they sleep in another. The boys march to the clothes-room, undress, and then march to their beds. They all kneel by their beds, repeat a prayer, and slip in between the bed covers, all in accordance with signals. As soon as they are in bed they are supposed to be asleep and not a word of conversation is permitted.

A device that is used in the case of boys who show a disposition to run away, is the "Oregon boot." This "boot" is made of iron and riveted about the ankle of a boy who has given trouble in attempts to escape. The "boot" weighs 7½ pounds, and cannot be removed without the use of good iron-cutting tools. Only two of these boots are now in use.

oNt many of the boys manifest a desire to escape. Most of them have a better home than they did before they came to the institution, and, while they are required to keep busy, they are not overworked. Many a boy, upon receiving his parole, has shed tears as he stood upon the station platform and thought of leaving his Reform School friends and associations. There is one boy at the school now who has earned credits enough to give him a parole, but he lacks two years of serving his time. He refuses to take advantage of the credits he has earned by good behavior, but insists upon remaining in the school the remainder of his time.

What Becomes of Them.

What becomes of the boys who "graduate" from the Reform School is an important question to the people who contribute towards the support of the institution. Upon the answer to this question depends the value of the school. If it is accomplishing the work for which it was instituted and is making good citizens of boys who were on the verge of a life of crime, the people will make no complaint. The information upon this point is gathered from that portion of the last biennial report, which says:

"Of the boys who succeeded in escaping from the school, and these whose bad conduct necessitated their return to the counties sending them, six have since been convicted of crimes which caused their incarceration in penitentiaries, one of them being sentenced to serve 40 years. Of these and other former inmates of the school, 24 have attained the age of 21 years, one was killed by accident since his parole, and six have become soldiers in the armies of the United States, while a number have been taken by their parents in other states.

"I am pleased to state that the remaining boys who are out on parole are, as a rule, doing well. By far the greater number are either at their own homes, living an orderly life, or are working for good, respectable families, where they have an opportunity of earning something, of getting an education, of learning a trade and of making themselves productive and useful citizens. The reports received from them are in the main very satisfactory."

While the Reform School boys are kept busy at all times, they are not always at work or study. They have a good ball ground near the building and are allowed a half holiday once a week to devote to outdoor sports. The school also has a good reading-room supplied with periodicals, donated by the public or furnished by the state. A library has been started in connection with the reading-room, but as yet numbers but 200 volumes. The boys have access to the reading-room Sunday afternoons and evenings and nearly all of them improve their opportunities to the best advantage.

Once every week the boys are given a bath, this operation being performed on all of them at once. They strip off their clothing and march into a large room having a cement floor. By means of pipes overhead a heavy shower of water is thrown upon them until they have washed themselves clean. When they march out of the bathroom they find clean clothes awaiting them and with these donned they justly feel that they have a quality close kin to godliness.

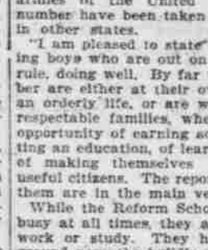
Religious exercises are held regularly at the Reform School. Preaching services are held every Sunday either in the morning or evening and Sunday school is a regular feature of Sunday forenoon. A mid-week prayer meeting is also held. Sunday is also mail day. The letters that come for the boys during the week are held until the close of the Sunday school exercises and are then distributed.

The board of trustees of the Reform School recently purchased a set of band instruments, and the boys have organized a band that is rapidly becoming proficient in discoursing the National airs. This new feature is expected to develop some appreciation of music and to relieve the monotony of the routine.

NATHAN H. BIRD.

Independent Republican Candidate for Sheriff of Multnomah County.

N. H. Bird was born in Yamhill County, December 12, 1846. At the age of 16 he came to Portland, where he was educated in the public schools.



In 1887 he became attached to the police force, serving with perfect satisfaction until the demands of machine politicians retired him. Mr. Bird has had large legal and criminal experience, is an honest and upright citizen, and has a spotless political record. He is and always has been an uncompromising Republican, though not connected with any ring or faction. He offers himself as a clean, independent Republican, and asks the suffrage of every citizen who believes the Sheriff's office should be conducted in a strictly business-like manner, without regard to personal or political preferences. Mr. Bird is a "Native Son," and will doubtless receive the support of a large majority of the members of that organization.

Point of View.

The beautiful Griselda deprecated his passionate praise.

"I am but a worm, after all!" she sighed, the traditions of her Puritan ancestry being strong upon her.

"But you look nice enough to eat!" protested the youth.

"Oh, you're a bird!" the shy girl faltered, as if to indicate that she deemed his attitude of mind largely a matter of point of view.—Detroit Journal.

USE OF SUGAR AS FOOD

EFFORTS TO INCREASE CONSUMPTION OF BEET-SUGAR.

Large Overproduction Makes Exportation an Absolute Necessity —The Foreign Demand.

In Grandeau's pamphlet, entitled, "Le Sucre et l'Alimentation de l'Homme et des Animaux," Paris, 1899, the following estimate of the world's sugar production is given:

	Tons.
Cane sugar	2,432,000
Beet sugar	4,822,000
Total	7,254,000

Nearly one-fourth of all the sugar produced is German beet sugar, which amounts to 1,700,000 tons annually. Of this German production, more than one-half is exported, and accordingly the price is dependent upon sugar consumption in other countries and the demand in the world's markets, says George H. Murphy, United States Consul at Magdeburg, in his report to the State Department. The growth of the beet-sugar industry in the United States and the increase of production in other parts of the world are already causing anxiety in Germany. The calm and intelligent German mind is accordingly now busy with investigations, upon the results of which plans can be based for preserving a healthy equilibrium between consumption and production, and thus protecting industries in which millions of Germans have a vital interest.

The questions, therefore, which Germans are now considering are these:

There is a large overproduction of sugar in Germany, which at present makes exportation an absolute necessity. Will natural causes maintain this foreign demand for German sugar, and can Germany's overproduction be decreased by increasing the consumption of sugar at home?

The use of sugar began in the Orient and gradually spread to Europe and America. The quantity used per capita is constantly and everywhere increasing, as is shown by the following table:

Country—	1870-5	1885	1897
Great Britain	59.8	71.8	85.7
America	35.9	54	62.3
France	17.1	23.5	28.6
Germany	14.7	17.1	25.6
Austria	...	...	19.5
Russia	...	4.9	10.8

Owing to the growth of the sugar-using population, the total increase in the amount consumed is much larger than is indicated by the gain per capita.

The increase of consumption is shown by the following table:

Country—	Increase from 1874 to 1897. Total. Per cent.	Annual. Per cent.
Great Britain	91	3.3
America	2.8	12.1
France	142	6.13
Germany	157	6.91
Austria	107	4.65

Unless, therefore, the world's production be very much increased, it is probable that the demand for German sugar will at least remain stationary. But the German prefers to be ready to meet any emergencies which may arise. It is always possible that the foreign demand for German sugar may be lessened by increased production abroad by measures growing out of international customs wars and by other unforeseen causes. Furthermore, the amount of sugar which must be exported may be increased by the extension of beet culture in Germany. The protection of this great industry and of the people dependent upon it therefore demands a large increase in the home consumption. The table given above shows that the amount of sugar used in Germany per capita is rapidly growing, but it is realized that this growth must be encouraged and largely accelerated. This can be done in two ways—namely, by increasing the manufacture and exportation of conserves, marmalades, etc., and by increasing the amount of sugar used by individuals, especially in the army, where increased consumption may be made compulsory. The question of increasing the manufacture of conserves is a practical one, which does not require consideration here.

But before raising the amount of sugar to be used by individuals, German scientists have investigated the question as to whether this can safely be done. They have decided that the amount of sugar used by individuals can be increased without hesitation, as sugar has many valuable characteristics. Its value lies not alone in its sweetness, but in the fact that it is a valuable dietetic remedy and an excellent article of food. Sugar is a very easily soluble carbon hydrate, and as such is quickly assimilated in human and animal bodies, producing warmth and force. It is also fattening, and can be used as a mast. As a developer of strength, it has long been used, especially by mountain-climbers. Various experiments have been made for the purpose of ascertaining whether sugar can be advantageously used for fattening animals. The results have proved favorable so far as hogs are concerned. It has been found that by-products of sugar fabrication, denaturalized and free of tax, can be advantageously used as food for hogs. Molasses, which contains about 50 per cent of sugar, is already much used, mixed with palm flour or peat, as cattle food.

The principal object of the experiments, has, however, been to ascertain positively whether, as alleged, sugar possesses the power of quickly increasing or restoring strength, and thereby making men fit for unusual exertion. This point has been carefully investigated, the scientist not watching the entire muscular action of a man, because that would have been too difficult, but confining himself to observing a single finger through an instrument called an ergograph—i. e., "work-measurer." He allowed the middle finger of the right hand to lift a weight, and then registered the degree of the lifting force. The experimenter found that after sugar had been eaten the lifting force was stronger than before, and he therefore concluded that sugar is a strength-producing material. Other investigators claim, however, that sugar has merely an exciting effect through its sweet taste, and that a dulcine solution, which contains no carbon hydrate, and accordingly cannot be nourishing, has the same effect as sugar water. The inference from this is that the assertion that sugar produces strength is a fallacy.

This disappointing experiment has, however, been repeated by two scientists, and the same result was reached when the man experimented upon had his full strength; but the effect of eating sugar was found to be entirely different when the man had first tired himself by turning a heavy wheel (ergostat). The eating of sugar brought to the exhausted man new strength, and the ergograph registered increased force, which was not the case when dulcine was eaten. It is accordingly accepted in Germany as satisfactorily proven that sugar can renew the strength of a wearied man through giving his tired muscles carbon hydrate as a strengthening material. Extensive experiments have since 1888 been made upon German soldiers at the maneuvers, with moderate success. It is believed that by eating half a dozen cubes of sugar more than usual in a day a soldier's power of endurance is increased. The Germans, at any rate, think it worth while to continue the experiment, for the purpose of ascertaining positively whether sugar can give renewed strength to exhausted troops, thereby increasing their value in moments of emergency.

If in these ways the domestic consumption of sugar can be enlarged, the overproduction will be lessened, and it is hoped that thus beet culture and the sugar industry will continue to be of great value to Germany in the future.

OREGON AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE BASKET BALL TEAM AND ITS COACH.

CORVALLIS, May 26.—The right of the Oregon Agricultural College basket ball team to the title, "Champions of Oregon," has been well earned and is justly merited. Organized three years ago, the team, which still contains some of its original members, has never met defeat. Its record has been remarkable, under the direction of Coach Beach. Every individual player is a star, and their team work is phenomenal. Having easily defeated all aspiring college clubs this season, a game was arranged with the ladies of the Y. M. C. A., of Portland. The contest was a beautiful one, and resulted in a victory for the Oregon Agricultural College. Following is the line-up of the team:

Bessie Smith, right forward captain; Ines Fuller, left forward; Letia Ownbey, center (manager); Lizzie Hoover, right-back; Minnie Smith, left-back.

Their record for this year is an enviable one: O. A. C. vs. Albany, 47 to 2; O. A. C. vs. Monmouth Normal, 22 to 2; O. A. C. vs. Chemawa, 31 to 4; O. A. C. vs. Portland Y. M. C. A., 7 to 5.

BUSINESS ITEMS.

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Clerk of County Court	Hanley H. Holmes
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Constable, West Side	Thos. McNames
Justice of Peace, East Side	Thad W. Vreeland
Constable, East Side	Capt. A. M. Cox
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2d—R. L. Glisan
3d—W. F. Burrell
4th—W. T. Branch
5th—F. W. Mulkey
6th—W. Y. Masters
7th—A. C. Lobmire
8th—J. R. Stoddard
9th—Wm. Schmeer
10th—A. F. Nichols
11th—F. Walker

The Hour

When retail clerks and business men should be released from indoor confinement. The public are earnestly petitioned to make all purchases before this time, thereby making it possible.

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Justice of the Peace (E. S.)	Lawrence Connell
Justice of the Peace (Mult. Prec't)	F. P. Hale
Constable (West Side)	Robert Brady
Constable (East Side)	T. DeBoest
Constable (Multnomah Precinct)	H. W. Lang

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