

# HERRIN'S RISE AS LAWYER'S RAPID

Highest Salaried Man on Coast  
Tells of Career From Time  
He Left Oregon Farm.

LUCK PLAYED SMALL PART

Chief Counsel of Southern Pacific  
Got Start in Profession as Re-  
sult of Chance Acquaintance  
Made in Public Library.

BY LIONEL A. JOHNSON.  
How William F. Herrin, vice-pres-  
ident and chief counsel for the Southern  
Pacific Railroad Company, worked his  
way from the farm, of which he was  
born in Southern Oregon, to become  
the highest salaried man on the Pacific  
Coast is a story that has just been  
obtained for the first time in all its  
details. Mr. Herrin's visit a few days  
ago to the Oregon Agricultural College,  
where he had not previously been since  
he graduated from that institution in  
1873, and his later visit to the place of  
his birth, the old farm near Jackson-  
ville, has revived much local interest  
in him and his early life.

From Mr. Herrin's most intimate  
friends and partially from himself  
has been collected many of the de-  
tails of his younger life that have never  
before been printed. Among news-  
paper men Mr. Herrin has the reputa-  
tion of maintaining the silence of a  
sphinx when being appealed to for in-  
formation about himself, and thus it  
was with some difficulty that he was  
induced to talk, which he did in a  
modest and conservative way, of his  
boyhood days and the sentiments that  
were given him when he returned last  
week to his old school.

William F. Herrin is the eldest son  
of John Herrin, an Oregon pioneer who  
immigrated from Union County, Mis-  
sour, in 1852, settling on a farm near  
Jacksonville. William was born there  
the following year, and his early years  
were spent on the farm.

Goes to Corvallis College.  
At an early age William came to  
realize that he would not be contented  
on the farm, and when still quite young  
he arranged to become a student at  
Corvallis College, now the Oregon Agri-  
cultural College.

In those days free scholarships to  
the institution could be obtained  
through legislative representatives.  
Thus it was that James D. Fay, one of  
the best known lawyers of pioneer  
times in this state, secured for William  
Herrin his appointment to Corvallis  
College, which he entered in the Fall of  
1884.

Although William's father was a  
well-to-do farmer, the boy felt a cer-  
tain independence regarding his school-  
ing, and he earned the greater part of  
the funds necessary to take him  
through college.

As a matter of economy William Herrin  
and J. E. Weatherford, now an at-  
torney of Albany, "kept bachelors'  
hall," cooking their own food and car-  
ring for their own household duties and  
endeavoring to learn their lessons  
while at work. It proved to be a rather  
hard life, with but little recreation,  
but both young men were serious and  
earnest in their work, and kept up with  
their studies.

During vacation time, young Herrin  
worked as a farm hand wherever he  
could obtain employment, and thus  
earned a large part of the money neces-  
sary for his next year's expenses. One  
year he went to the Wisecobar farm  
near McMinnville to work during his  
vacation.

After graduating from the college,  
Herrin returned to his home in South-  
ern Oregon and taught school for a year  
near his old home. It was during this  
year that he contended his ambitions to  
become a lawyer to Judge P. P. Prim,  
who had taken a special interest in the  
young man. Judge Prim had graduated  
at the Cumberland Law School, at Leba-  
non, Tenn., and he induced young Herrin  
to take a course at the same in-  
stitution.

Began Law Study Early.  
Mr. Herrin was but 23 years old when  
he went to the Cumberland Law School,  
from which he graduated with honors.  
From the law school he went to San  
Francisco, where he determined to enter  
upon the practice of law, in case he  
could find a way to earn a living while  
working up a business.

At first things in San Francisco were  
not as promising as he had expected to  
find them, and his small capital was  
soon almost gone. It was harder for a  
young man to get clients in the strange  
city than he had imagined, and it began  
to seem to him that he must either re-  
turn to the farm of his father or starve.

A story has been published to the effect  
that at this juncture in Herrin's career,  
he was picked up by Judge Van Cleef,  
and made the latter's law clerk, but Mr.  
Herrin denies this. The true story is  
that he was in the public library one  
day looking over some law reports when  
Clarence Greathouse came in to see  
copies of a law decision. Finding that he  
would not be permitted to take the book  
to his own office, he asked for someone  
who could copy the decision for him,  
and seeing Herrin at a desk reading,  
asked him if he were an attorney.  
"Well, perhaps you might call me  
that," the young man explained, "for I  
am fresh from a law school where I  
graduated."

"If you'll copy this decision for me,"  
Mr. Greathouse said, "I will pay you well  
for your work."  
This proved to be the turning point  
in Mr. Herrin's life for he did his work  
so well for Mr. Greathouse that the latter  
engaged him to work in his office, and  
later he was introduced to Mr. Van  
Cleef, of the firm of Van Cleef & Stewart,  
who took him in as an partner. Later he  
married Van Cleef's daughter, Annie,  
with whom he lived until two years ago  
when she died.

First Famous Case Won.  
Mr. Herrin gained his first distinction  
as a lawyer when he was selected to be-  
come an attorney in the famous case  
involving the Sharon Land Company,  
and better known attorneys had failed  
to give satisfaction, and as a last resort,  
the rising young lawyer was made chief  
counsel. He won the case, and also the  
lasting confidence of the moneyed men  
of the city.

He was at once made the attorney  
for the Bank of California, and about  
1888, he accepted the invitation of  
Collis P. Huntington to become the chief  
counsel of the Southern Pacific Com-  
pany, a position he has since retained.

Seventeen years ago Mr. Herrin was  
asked by the management of the com-  
pany to abandon his private law prac-  
tice and give his entire time to the  
company's affairs. His salary at that  
time was \$5,000 a year, and according to  
reports published in the newspapers of  
that date, Mr. Herrin was given twice  
that salary, or \$10,000 a year, to turn his

## HIGHEST SALARIED MAN ON PACIFIC COAST, WHO BEGAN CAREER ON OREGON FARM.



WILLIAM F. HERRIN, CHIEF COUNSEL FOR SOUTHERN PACIFIC.

entire attention to the work of the rail-  
road.

An effort to gain from Mr. Herrin and  
his most intimate friends recently his  
exact salary, proved vain, but there is  
reason to believe that his present salary  
is even in excess of the amount said to  
have been agreed upon when the change  
in his work was made.

At present Mr. Herrin is the active  
head of the Southern Pacific Company  
on the Pacific Coast. Like other railroad  
officials, he talks but little for publica-  
tion concerning the advance plans of  
his company, and he has even less to say  
concerning himself.

Although a man of much energetic ac-  
tion and large business responsibilities,  
Mr. Herrin finds time to enjoy himself  
according to his own peculiar likes. Ac-  
cording to those who are with him most,  
he enjoys, probably more than anything  
else, to retire to his summer resort that  
is near Shasta Springs, and enjoy na-  
ture.

This summer resort he named Wild-  
wood, and in honor of it he also calls  
his private railway car, on which he  
travels when away from home, the same  
name. Even when business affairs press  
him most, he manages to find time for  
the enjoyment of literature, and delights  
in reading the best poetry.

Mr. Herrin is scientifically inclined.

too, and makes a study of the various  
plants and trees at his summer home.  
To visitors he readily names and de-  
scribes the various forms of vegetable  
life about his mountain resort.

One of the more noticeable charac-  
teristics of Mr. Herrin is his loyalty  
to his old-time friends. It is asserted  
by those who know him that he never  
goes for a long journey without first  
inviting some friend to accompany him.  
Among his most intimate friends are  
some who have gained recognition in  
art and science.

In his home at Broadway and Scott  
streets, San Francisco, Mr. Herrin has  
a large collection of the best paintings.  
Artists who have gained their reputa-  
tions while working on this coast find  
him a good patron.

Next to his liking for the study of  
botany, which he takes up almost daily  
while in San Francisco, going into  
Golden Gate Park for the purpose, Mr.  
Herrin enjoys most, it is said, the study  
of political philosophy, concerning  
which he reads extensively.

Mr. Herrin has three children, all un-  
married. One is a son 15 years of age,  
who is at school at Groton, Mass., and  
the other two are daughters, Katherine  
and Alice, who are at present in Euro-  
pe.

## GIFTS PRESENTED BY D. A. R. ON FLAG DAY

Mrs. Rose Bloch-Bauer Given Silk Flag in Appreciation of Singing of  
National Air—Mrs. Chapin's Service Rewarded.

THE observance of Flag day by the  
Daughters of the American Revolu-  
tion is invariably an impressive  
and real patriotism.

The meeting of the local chapter of  
this organization was held last Tuesday  
in honor of the day at the home of  
Mrs. A. E. Rockey on Flanders street.  
The rooms were particularly beautiful  
with a profusion of cut flowers and  
greens intermingled with a lavish num-  
ber of flags and banners. In the music-  
room several large flags were promi-  
nently displayed, crossed above the  
plane, with masses of flowers on either  
side.

The programme was most fittingly  
opened with a reading by Mrs. Warren  
E. Thomas of an official proclamation  
from Governor Benson, in which, for  
the first time in Oregon, Flag day was  
recognized by the state.

Following this, by request, Mrs. Rose  
Bloch-Bauer sang "The Star-Spangled  
Banner" with such patriotic fervor and  
richness of tone that the audience ap-  
plauded most heartily. She was ac-  
companied by Mrs. Warren E. Thomas.

At the conclusion of the three beauti-  
ful verses Mrs. Rockey stepped forward  
and presented Mrs. Bauer with an  
American flag of silk, saying: "This is  
but a small token of our appreciation  
of your wonderful rendition of the  
"Star-Spangled Banner." Our hope is  
that you may live many years to favor  
us with the song."

Mrs. Bauer's little speech of accept-  
ance was all the more effective because  
of the nature and surprise of the gift,  
and assistance to the order as its record-  
ing secretary for 14 years.

Following this the remainder of the  
afternoon was given over to sociality and  
tea.

Mrs. Bauer tells most entertainingly  
of a prior occasion on which her singing  
of the national air was not so hap-  
pily received.

It was several years ago—four or five,  
she said—and Portland was  
holding its annual celebration and Fourth  
of July observance in the Plaza blocks.  
As every one knows, the programmes on  
such occasions vary little with each suc-  
ceeding year. There's a certain number  
of speeches handed down, I believe, from  
the original observance of the day; there's  
the reading of the Declaration of Inde-  
pendence and singing of patriotic songs.

I've never known a programme to deviate  
from this tradition. Well, as was cus-  
tomary, I sang the "Star Spangled Ban-  
ner." I love that song and really en-  
joyed adding my contribution to the pro-  
gramme. On the occasion to which I  
refer, I had just finished singing when  
the querulous voice of an old lady was



Mrs. Rose Bloch-Bauer, Honored of Patriotic Society with Gift of Flag.

heard demanding of no one in particular,  
"Well, for heaven's sake, don't get  
know nothin' to sing but that "Spanglin  
Banner" piece? I been to two celebra-  
tions, an' she's went an' sung that same  
piece two times afore!"

## AS ACID BURNS, MAN RUNS

Wit of Jack Hill Probably Save His  
Own Life.

With his mouth terribly burned by gar-  
bolic acid, Jack Hill, a fireman attached  
to the Portland Heights Company, rushed  
into the Jefferson Pharmacy, Third and  
Jefferson streets, yesterday afternoon,  
crying that he had been poisoned. Samuel  
Richardson, the proprietor, immediately ad-  
ministered an emetic and applied a  
stomach pump, and after working for  
over an hour, brought the man to a  
condition such that he could be removed  
to St. Vincent's Hospital. He may re-  
cover.

Hill said when he was partially re-  
covered, that he had been visiting a woman  
at Third and Jefferson streets, and was  
attacked by a pain in his stomach. The  
woman told him to go to the pantry and  
get a certain bottle, which contained  
medicine to fit the case. By mistake, he  
says, he got the wrong bottle and drank  
a quantity of the carbolic acid before  
he realized his mistake.

## NEW SCENIC ROUTE.

The Soo-Spokane-Portland Service  
of Lake and the Crow's Nest Pass route  
affords a trip of unusual interest. A  
handsomely equipped electric-lighted  
solid train of library-compartment-obs-  
ervation cars, standard and tourist  
sleeping cars and dining car. The best  
of service.

## DERELICTS MUST WORK

JUDGE ORDERS VAGRANTS BACK  
TO FIELDS AND MINES.

With Employers Crying for Men, Un-  
profitable Idleness Will Not be  
Tolerated by Police.

"Back to the woods," was the burden  
of Judge Bennett's song in Municipal  
Court.

"Lots of work, employers crying out  
for men," he said, as he directed one  
after another of the derelicts to the  
fields where the flowers bloom and  
the birds sing all day long.

Through the magistrate's efforts  
Hood River, Tillamook, The Dalles,  
Shauko and many other places will  
benefit, if the floaters keep their  
promises.

It was round-up day on the Burn-  
side-street beat. Patrolmen Martine  
and Johnson, pursuing their regular  
policy, had gathered together the  
week's accumulation of masterless  
men and sent them in for disposition  
by the court. In all 20 were gathered  
in, representing every flag in the civi-  
lized world, hard-bitten, hard-drink-  
ing wrecks, cast up on the unhospi-  
table shores of Burnside street from the  
mines, the grading camps, and the  
woods. Each told the story of having  
come to town to spend the accumula-  
tions from his last job, of riotous liv-  
ing and eventual bankruptcy. Each  
had intended to go back to work the  
next morning, had not the firm hand  
of the law gripped him untimely. In  
each case where there was no crimi-  
nally charged the judge gave the pris-  
oner an opportunity to leave town be-  
fore dark, administering a few advis-  
ory words as to the call for labor in  
this or that section.

William Tegan was one of those  
who had meant to go yesterday morn-  
ing, had not his calculations been set  
awry by the police. He failed to heed  
the current maxim to "beat it while  
his shoes were good," for he told the  
judge that ere then he would have  
been at Tillamook, working on the  
railroad grade, had it not been that  
his footwear was in bad order. Time  
until evening was allowed him to get  
in condition for travel.

Surprising familiarity with the com-  
ings and goings of the outside labor-  
ers who frequent the Burnside district  
is shown by the officers on the beat.  
Stored in their memories are the  
names, faces and records of hundreds  
of old-timers, and woe unto him who  
has broken faith with the court and  
returned to his haunts after being al-  
lowed to leave. Seldom does an old

## THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE

Are today living on the interest of their  
money, every cent of which they made by  
investing in lots at the

## Beach Resorts of Southern California

This, in spite of the fact that when the prop-  
erty was first put on the market thousands  
of people said that it was poor property and  
would never amount to anything.

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A better opportunity is now offered the  
people of Portland and the Northwest. Bay-  
ocean is the most beautiful and best adapted  
spot for a Summer Beach Resort in all Amer-  
ica. It is the nearest point on the coast to  
Portland, and as soon as the railroad now  
building to the coast is running and the mag-  
nificent hotel and other improvements, guar-  
anteed by the company, are completed it will  
certainly attract people from all parts of the  
country. This means that property at Bay-  
ocean will go to several times its present  
price. Your own judgment must tell you that  
this is true and that those who take advantage  
of this opportunity and put a few dollars a  
month into Bayocean lots now will surely  
make a handsome profit, just as was true of  
those who bought lots in the Southern Cali-  
fornia resorts.

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ket on July 16, this year.

Act! Act now! Later you can sell at  
a profit to the man who waits.

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the most beautiful and  
lasting work known to  
dental science. Spaces  
have been lost, we re-  
place to look so natural  
that detection is impos-  
sible. Ask to see sam-  
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years with great  
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