

ST. HELENS GROWS AS BEAUTY OF TOWN AND VICINITY BECOMES KNOWN

Many Plants Established Attract Large Numbers of Laborers to City, While Activity in Business and Professional Fields Is Marked—Highway Advertisces Scenery of Valley.

ST. HELENS, OR., Aug. 1.—(Special.)—Much has been written about Oregon. Many pictures to lure the people to whom the slogan "Go West, young man," has a charm have been drawn. A great deal more could have been said about Oregon that has not been told generally.

Columbia County has come in for its share of inflated advertising. What ever has been said, more of the real conditions can be told. The City of St. Helens, the county seat of Columbia County, has been making a growing and becoming a factor in the development of Oregon without making very much noise about it. St. Helens is situated on the west bank of the Columbia River at the point where the Willamette Slough joins the river, and directly opposite the lower point of Siuslaw Island. From Portland it is almost due north 27 miles.

Before the river was made navigable above St. Helens was the farthest inland Oregon port. The terminus of the Northern Pacific Railroad was here and connected with the steamship lines. Directly opposite the lower point of Siuslaw Island, from Portland it is almost due north 27 miles.

Today the population is above the 2000 mark. The reason for the increase is that the Charles R. McCormick's mill, one of the Charles R. McCormick's mills, was established here, with facilities for logging with the best of the men. Camps and logging roads in the timber take several hundred miles. This mill has a capacity of 100,000 feet of lumber a year to the Columbia River and is shipped to foreign ports. This same company operates the St. Helens shipbuilding company, where four lumber schooners have been constructed since its beginning in 1912. These boats were built for the company's own use and are now in operation by the company.

Crossing Plant Built.
It next established the St. Helens crossing plant, where now lies, piling and other lumber are essentially stored and sent to all parts of the world.

Employing a large number of men also is the Columbia County Mill, located on the Willamette Slough.

Other industries for which St. Helens is noted are block-making, quarrying and fishing. The Belgian blocks taken from the St. Helens cuts are world famous. The quarries operated by Montague O'Reilly Company and Columbia Contract Company supply much of the crushed rock used in the state. The income to fishermen of St. Helens from their season's catchings runs close to the \$100,000 mark.

With four years the city has installed a water system with fresh mountain water in abundance that should supply a great city. An electric light plant also has been put in operation within that time, and a lighted boulevard from the city to the railroad station, more than a mile, is the city's main street.

The river bank is one of the perpetual beauties of the city. The bank is deep enough so that harbor facilities for large vessels are afforded. The bank stands some 25 feet above the water. There is a flat for the stone courthouse, standing like a sentinel and a lasting advertisement to all the boats that pass to Portland of St. Helens' beautiful river.

On the bank next to the river stand the business houses of the city. The stone courthouse, standing like a sentinel and a lasting advertisement to all the boats that pass to Portland of St. Helens' beautiful river.

From this bank the verdant hills of Washington, maple shaded below, and green-belted with firs above, are within constant view across the river. Behind these two mountain peaks, Mount St. Helens and Mount Hood, rise up in all their snow-capped beauty.

An ideal drive for the citizens is to have a beautiful drive all along this bank and around a point just north of the city.

Within the past year two new business blocks have been constructed and a fine new Masonic building completed. The St. Helens Mill Company is planning an addition that will increase its already extensive plant by half. It has just completed a modern wood-burner that cost into the thousands.

If the city has developed in the past six years, the past year has seen even more growth, as marked by a new drug store, candy factory, merchandise store, two grocery stores, ice cream and confectionery parlors, undertaking establishment and a moving picture theater. Additional professional men have come to the city the past year. A dentist, a doctor and two attorneys.

The city has expended and is expending for sewer work and street improvement the past year more than \$50,000, and has just made arrangements to construct a new city dock costing \$500,000.

A consolidation with the town of Houlton was perfected a few months ago, so that St. Helens has increased in area a considerable number of miles. A modern equipped four-year high school and two grade schools are maintained within the city limits.

Highway Nears St. Helens.
The State Highway Commission has, only last month, decided to run the Columbia Highway into St. Helens down almost to the river bank. In fact, so near to it that all tourists will make the drive into lower St. Helens to take a view of the Columbia River from the Courthouse Park. The Commission also decided to spend on appropriation hard-earned the road from Multnomah County, so that soon the first county seat north of Portland will be connected to Portland by a continuous boulevard.

Someone said that he has lived among the luxuries of the wide streets and magnolia shades of the famed city, Washington; that he has driven up the historical Potomac from the falls utilized by George Washington to the walled embattlements at Harper's Ferry; followed the beautiful Shenandoah through Virginia, overhung by the verdure of Blue Ridge Hills; that he has tramped the Appalachians at their highest points, Alle Monts and Terra Alta, Maryland, where the world-renowned Deer Park lies; that he has sailed up the mighty Hudson viewing nature's majestic wonders there and stood enraptured many times with eyes upturned at Niagara Falls. He said he has seen the Rocky Mountains from Montana to Colorado and in Southern California with snow-capped Old Baldy always in sight; that he has hastened to get out of Yellowstone National Park and been enraptured with Seattle's view of sea and mountain sky line, but



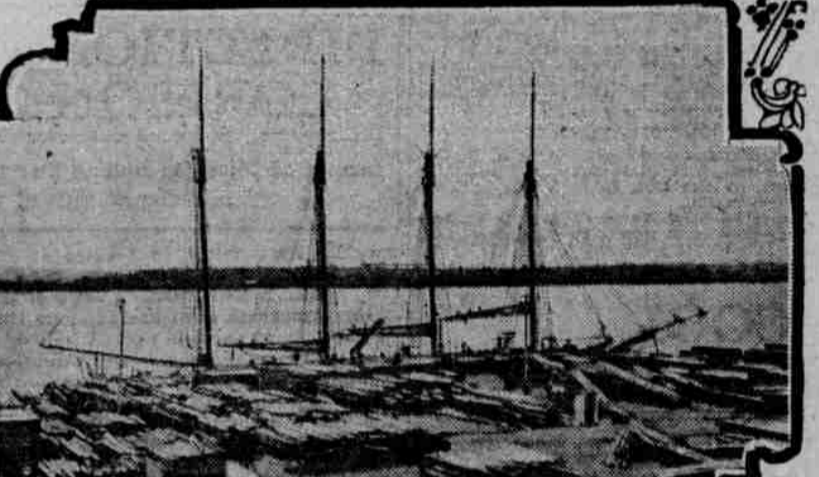
Courthouse and Bank.



View of St. Helens.



High School.



Loading Lumber.



Business Section.



Masonic Temple.

that the most beautiful of all is along the route of the Columbia Highway. That there a combination of city, plain, river and lakes, surrounding green hills overtopped with great snow-capped

mountain peaks in seeming command of all is given, and that the culmination of all was attained on the ride from Portland to the county seat of Columbia County, St. Helens.

Under the old system convicts were taken to Sing Sing by prison van to the Grand Central station, and thence by train. Sheriff Griffenhagen has instituted a change, and hereafter all prisoners will travel in style in autos. True, their conveyances will not be expensive touring cars, but large steel vans. The experiment has already been tried, and has met with approval from both guards and prisoners. The men are loaded into the vans at the Tombs prison, have a brief rest at Police Headquarters, where they are photographed and fingerprinted, and then bowl along over excellent roads to the prison on the Hudson. Not only is the new plan more satisfactory to both sides, it is not likely to be changed for some time at least.

Police Commissioner Woods is highly pleased over the result of a secret investigation of his department. Charles Commissioner Kingsbury, it seems, decided to find out if the men of the force were not better off. He ordered Sam Rhodes, one of his investigators, to find out. Rhodes dressed himself up as a tramp, and started out on a tour of the city. At various times he approached 50 patrolmen, and told each one that he had beaten his way from Chicago on a freight train, and that his money, \$100 bill, had been stolen from him. He variously described himself as a carpenter's helper, a laborer, a farmhand and a railroad brakeman.

Rhodes reports that with but three exceptions, the policemen were kindly and sympathetic. Forty-four directed him how to get to the Municipal logging-house, and three others suggested other practical suggestions. Several gave him money, and one secured a meal at Churchills, a Broadway lobster palace.

Publication of the investigator's report has aroused much interest among policemen, and the standard of politeness has increased, for no one knows whether or not their responses were the department of charities are off.

These are lively days for the officials of the "Life Fresh Air Farm," a charitable Summer home conducted under the auspices of Life, the weekly paper. A number of children, who have been guests there, swear that they would rather be at the farm than at the city. Rev. Dr. O. Mohr, the superintendent, beat and lilted them, and that their Summer "outing" was a terrible experience. They say that immediately after breakfast they were turned out of doors no matter what the weather, and that if they tried to return to the house they were driven away by Papa Mohr, who whacked them with a lawn tennis racket. Now Superintendent Moore, of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, is making an investigation.

Complaint First in 27 Years.
In justice to the farm officials it must be stated that the establishment is a 27-year-old charity, has cared for nearly 20,000 children, and this is the first time that any complaint has been made. Heretofore it has always been regarded as a valuable factor in helping the poor to get their children out of the city. Most of the children sent to it come from the upper East Side of town and there is naturally much excitement in that section of the city at present.

Mrs. Filomena Costa is one of the most interesting prisoners in the Jersey City jail. She is being held pending indictment by the grand jury on a charge of selling love powders and telling fortunes. The woman does not deny it, but declares she does not fear any jury, for if it makes trouble for her she will "cast a spell" over the men responsible.

The police say they have known of the woman's activities for some time, but were unable to get any of her customers to testify against her. Finally, a female detective called, and bought three love powders. Mrs. Costa assured her that "the first will make a strange man love the woman who sprinkles it on his coat tails; the second will drive away a bad husband or an unwelcome admirer; while the third sprinkled in food, will revive a flickering love into budding flames."

When the police broke into the house many detectives went to the big-hearted American public eye on the lookout for a likable, sensible, healthy story—one filled with common sense and minus those foolish things called "nerves" and "the love of the West." "Letters of a Woman Homesteader," can be cordially commended.

The story is told in the form of letters and the writer certainly displays extraordinary insight into human character and a cheerful humor all her own. It is to be assumed that the story is one from real life, if one may judge from the published preface: "The writer of the following letters is a young woman who lost her husband in a railroad accident and went to Denver, Colo., to seek support for herself and her 2-year-old daughter, Jennie. Turning her hand to her nearest work, she went out by the day as a housecleaner and laundress. Later, seeking to better herself, she accepted employment as a housekeeper for a well-to-do Scotchman. Mrs. Stewart, who had taken up a quarter section in Wyoming. The letters, written through several years to a former employer in Denver, tell the story of her adventures in the new country. They are genuine letters and are printed as written, except for occasional omissions and the alteration of some of the names of the people. The first letter is dated from Burnt Fork, Wyo., April 18, 1909, is addressed to "Dear Mrs. Conroy," and the first part reads: "Are you thinking I am lost, like the Babes in the Wood? Well, I am not and I'm sure the robins would leave the time of their lives getting leaves to cover me over here. I am way up close to the forest reserve of Utah, within half a mile of the line, 60 miles from the railroad. I was 24 hours on the trail and two days in the mountains. Those two days, the snow was beginning to melt and the mud was about the worst I ever heard of. The first stage we tackled was just about as rocky as it could get, and I was not a bit offended when the Indians told me that I was especially after a Mormon. But, of course, as I had no chaperone, I looked for some of the wind and mud as allies, and told him my actual opinion of Mormons in general and particular."

The letters, taken with witty and crisp observations concerning men and women neighbors and ranch life in particular. The widow had an easy position of it as Mr. Stewart's housekeeper and she had various outings, visiting neighbors—outings which were both enjoyable and instructive. She had only known her employer for several months, when he proposed to her and they were married. Such a cheerful, willing, hearty, snow-matured help-met did she become!

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The Training of a Forester, by Gifford Pinchot, illustrated, J. B. Lippincott Co., Philadelphia.

"I urge no man to make forestry his profession, but rather to keep away from it if he can. In forestry, a man is altogether at home, or very much out of place. Unless he has a compelling love for the forester's life and the forester's work, let him keep out of it."

So writes Mr. Pinchot, as a warning to the unwary. His new book of 143 pages is instructive, cogently logical and contains many important books on the subject, written by an expert with whom many critics can't agree. Yet with all his cautious warnings, Mr. Pinchot is an enthusiast on his hobby, and he is frankly a recruiting sergeant anxious to hunt up worthy recruits.

We are informed that a forest, like a city, is a complex community, with a life all its own, and that the members of the forest live in an exact and intricate system of competition and mutual assistance of help or harm, which extends to all the inhabitants of the complicated city of trees. "The trees in a forest are all helped by mutually protecting each other against high winds and by producing a richer and moister soil than would be possible if the trees stood singly and apart. They compete among themselves for the roots for moisture in the soil, and for light and space by the growth of their crowns in height and breadth. Perhaps the strongest weapon with which trees have acquired in their growth in height. In certain species intolerant of shade the tree which is overtopped has lost the race for good."

What is the central idea of the forester in handling the forest? Mr. Pinchot says it is to promote and perpetuate its greatest use to men. "His purpose is to make the greatest good of the greatest number for the longest time. The forester must look forward because the natural resources with which he deals mature so slowly and because if steps are to be taken to insure for succeeding generations a supply of the things the forest needs they must be taken long in advance. Forestry is a profession, and essential to the national prosperity, both now and hereafter. National degradation and decay have uniformly followed the excessive destruction of forests by other nations, and will inevitably become our portion if we continue to destroy our forests three times faster than they are produced, as we are doing now."

"The principles of forestry, therefore, must occupy a commanding place in determining the future prosperity or failure of our country. This commanding position in the field of ideas is naturally and properly reflected in the dignity and high standing which the profession of forestry, you may say, has already acquired in the United States. The sort of man to whom forestry appeals is the man with high powers of observation who does not shirk his responsibility and whose mental stamina is balanced by physical strength and hardiness."

We are familiar with the statements that the forest is a protector and protects the flow of streams, and that its effect is to reduce the height of floods and to moderate extremes of low water. Our National forests now cover an area of 187,000,000 acres.

On page 59 we learn of the examinations the applicant passes before he becomes a forest assistant. The best district offices are the Forest Service shows, Missoula, Denver, Albuquerque, Portland, Ogden and San Francisco.

Silvics is stated to be the knowledge how trees behave in health and disease toward each other and toward light, heat, moisture and the soil. Silviculture is the art of caring for forests. One of the most interesting chapters is the record of fires extinguished in forests.

The first forest school in this country was founded in 1898 and today there are 23 forest schools which prepare men for the practice of forestry as a profession and 51 schools which "devote their public eye to the lookout for forestry or to courses for forest rangers and guards." There are about 335 trained foresters in the United States Forest Service.

Publications of the United States Forest Service can be obtained by addressing a letter of application to the Forester, Washington, D. C.

Letters of a Woman Homesteader, by Ellen Fruit Stewart, \$1.25, illustrated, Houghton, Mifflin Co., Boston.

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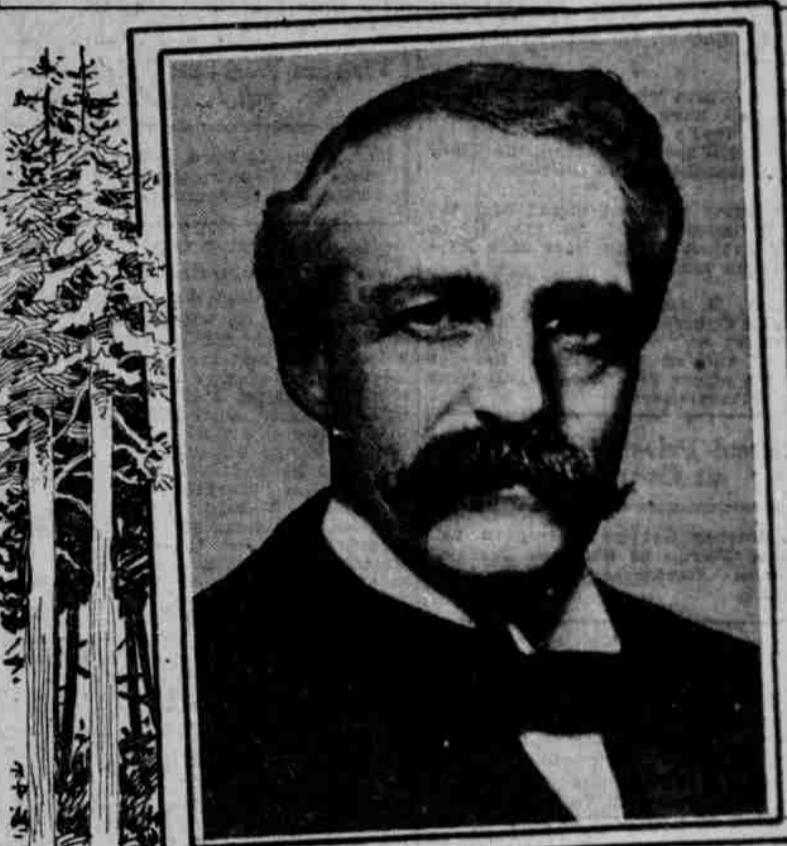
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"Give a man a taste for reading and the means of gratifying it and you can hardly fail to make a happy man, unless, indeed, you put into his hands a most perverse selection of books."
—J. F. W. HERSCHEL.



Gifford Pinchot, Author of "The Training of a Forester"

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FEEBLE MINDS IN NEW YORK AROUSE GOVERNOR

State Commission Investigating With View of Preventing Increased Number of Mentally Weak Persons.

NEW YORK, Aug. 1.—(Special.)—New Yorkers are becoming so feeble minded that Governor Glynn has felt called upon to name a state commission to investigate the subject.

Robert W. Hebbard, secretary of the State Board of Charities, leads this organization, the members of which serve without pay. They are directed to work as hard as they can until next February, when they are obligated to submit a report to the Legislature with recommendations for legislation.

Figures which cause Governor Glynn much concern, and have led him to

take action, show that although there are 30,000 feeble-minded persons in the state, there are only accommodations in the various institutions for 4000. On the other hand, the insane asylums care for 30,000.

One of the greatest dangers to society is that the majority of the feeble minded are unable to provide for the care of their children, the latter finding their way into foundling asylums. In many cases these foundlings are adopted into normal families, and grow up to spread a moral and physical contagion into otherwise normal homes.

Dr. Max G. Schlapp, one of the Governor's committee, a professor of neuropathology at the Post Graduate Medical School, has made an exhaustive study of conditions. In his report he says: "These defectives have cost the com-

NEW CHECK IS DEvised

St. Louis Company's Carfares Recorded in Office Also.

ST. LOUIS, Mo., July 27.—(Special.)—A newly invented electric automatic register that records every fare paid on streetcars, both on the car and at the office of the auditor of the car company, has been proved perfect after a month's trial on the Cleveland avenue line of East St. Louis, it was announced today.

Both the 5 and 10-cent fares are recorded and when the car passes the Metropolitan building the number of fares recorded in the car is shown on a recorder in the office, which is operated by an electric connection as the car passes the register point.

"These defectives have cost the com-