

# The Oregon Statesman

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## THE BOYS' INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL

There are several misconceptions concerning the state industrial school for boys.

First, it has seemed to be assumed that the "cottage" system is a new idea. It is not new. The "cottage" or "family" system has been employed ever since the Oregon institution was opened. It is being employed now.

The difference between the present system and the one proposed is that each "family" of boys, under the proposed so-called new system, will have to be provided with a separate building; a "cottage." Each "family" will also, under the so-called new system, have to be provided with a man and his wife, as heads of the "family." The new system will require a greater number of employees; a greater number of buildings; more equipment.

Some 17 new buildings will have to be provided under the proposed new building program.

This will make a magnificent new state industrial school plant, without doubt. But the writer does not believe it is justified at the present time—

For about 150 boys—

Boys for the most part now enjoying the kind of training they need, and having more comfortable surroundings than most of them had before being committed to the institution—

And enjoying all the benefits of the "cottage" system excepting separate cottages.

Also, it does not seem to the writer that Oregon needed to go out of this state to find a superintendent of the institution, and to propose to pay him and his wife \$5000 a year.

L. M. Gilbert, the present superintendent, and his wife as matron, are receiving \$2100 a year. The reader should understand, however, that the state provides for its employees in such institutions their living; their ordinary medical attendance—everything but their clothing. And the ordinary citizen of Oregon will conclude that \$2100 a year clear is not a low salary, in the present times, for a good man and his wife.

And, by the same sign, that \$5000 a year, with a new superintendent's cottage to live in, is a high salary. It is twice the sum the proposed new superintendent is now receiving in Iowa, in a much larger institution, in a much greater and richer state.

This is no reflection on Mr. Kuser, the Iowa man selected, for he looks like a competent man, and his wife looks like a competent woman, and no one should be blamed for attempting to better his or her condition in life.

But the Gilberts are fine people, and they had their first training, too, in the Iowa school; and they have had greater experience than the Kusers have had, and have proved themselves efficient.

The irony of the thing is that Superintendent Gilbert recommended this proposed new state industrial school plant. It will mean the junking of the whole present plant, or its use for some other purpose—

And it is a fine plant, and has cost about as much as the proposed new one, some \$280,000. In the erection of the first main building for the present plant, however, Governor Penney insisted upon appearance above utility; he wanted a tall building on a high hill; and so all the buildings there have been built too tall to be perfectly adapted to the "cottage" system. But the present buildings are well built; some of them under the direction of the same architect who is planning the new ones. The present buildings serve very well for 150 boys. The wise plan would be to use them as they are, and to provide new cottages in the location selected across the road as the institution grew—commencing with one for the smaller boys.

The present location is a good one. Most of the 600 acres of land in connection with the institution is capable of a high state of cultivation, in the various crops that do well in this locality. A magnificent farm may be built up there, under the right management; and plans ought to be laid in this respect for a long period of years, with a view to growth as the state grows.

People are living who will see Los Angeles the chief Pacific port as to foreign trade. Stick a dray pin there.—Los Angeles Times. Respectfully referred to San Francisco, Portland, Seattle, and Vancouver.

Just to show that England is in favor of limiting her armament she has just laid the keel for a new super-submarine. They are building their navy while the building is good.

"In the last four years such a thing as a gambling house or a disorderly house has been unknown in New York for the first time," says former Governor Smith, speaking for Mayor Hylan's administration. Important, if true.

Lord Northcliffe, who is visiting in Manila, says that the rule of the Philippines by the United States is worthy of all praise, and that this country is making a most interesting experiment in

### FUTURE DATES

November 5, Saturday — Football Willamette vs. Pacific university  
November 5, Saturday — Semi-annual meeting of Marion county Parent-Teacher association. High school.  
November 8, Tuesday — Examinations of National Guardsmen for entrance to West Point, Salem Army.  
November 8, Tuesday — Special election in Polk county on \$70,000 road tax levy.  
November 8, Tuesday — Admiral Maye to address Kiwanis Club.  
November 16, Wednesday — Annual Willamette university cross-country race.  
November 21, 22 and 23 — Marion county Teachers' business.  
December 4, Sunday — Elks Memorial service, Grand Theater.

uplifting a people. This leaves about everybody on that side of the fence but Bill Bryan.

Hungary's request for the abdication of Charles is quite in order, but for practical purposes he has already abdicated; it would be hard to organize a corporal's guard for a third attempt on the throne.

Germany has an original way of squelching competition. When the Ford tractors won all of the prizes at the Munich show the authorities simply seized the machines for being illegally in the country. They are determined that the German machines shall be "uber allies."

The percentage of one native American to nine foreign-born violators of the prohibition amendment still holds good. There are two reasons for it—one is the foreigners have been accustomed to do as they please on the question of drink; the second is that they like the money coming out of the illicit traffic. Some of the judges in this country are performing a public service in requiring aliens when they qualify for American citizenship to swear that they will obey the 13th amendment.

### DRILLING DETECTIVES

William Jennings Burns, who is now the head of the govern-

ment's secret service, is trying to throw off the cloak of mystery with which so many detectives seek to surround themselves. He would put the work of the detective on a par with the grocery business or house decorating. He doesn't want to conjure up a person who wears false whiskers and walks in gum shoes.

He is going to establish several schools for the detection and prevention of crime. These are already in operation in New York and Chicago. These men are taught the line of work to which they are best adapted. They are also instructed in the identification of crooks and criminals. If all the wild blades were personally known to all the policemen of the cities there would be a great lessening of crimes of all kinds. The detection and capture of the criminal would also be made easier. With a co-ordination of the police of the cities the work of all would be much improved and general results made more satisfactory. If the police systems were on a par with the army it would be possible to have a mobile force that could be moved to fit the demand. Men with special gifts, talents or knowledge could be placed where they would be of the greatest service. Detective Burns would place the police department in the confidence of the public and bring about an intelligent co-operation between all law-abiding citizens and members of the force. Whenever there is an emergency the best police talent of the country should be available—no matter where the location may be. What is more important than the detection and punishment of crime is its prevention, and in this the intelligent and active patrolman is a most essential factor. More cops; less crime.

Superintendent Gilbert is the logical man to supervise the building and establishing of the new school. Having made such a wonderful showing with the old plant, he will do better for the boys and for the state with the new institution than any outsider who does not know Oregon boys and Oregon people can possibly do.

Oregon is not behind other states in progress. Oregon has set the pace for other states in form of state government, in reforms and new methods, and it is not necessary for Oregon to go outside of the state for her public officials. In fact Oregon can supply them to other states to the great benefit of those states.

Superintendent Gilbert and his wife as matron have together been paid the pittance of \$2100 a year and living expenses. It is proposed to pay W. L. Kuser and wife \$5000 a year, together with living expenses, and to build them a new cottage, which, properly furnished, will cost the state probably \$10,000. Living expenses for the family under these conditions will cost the people not less than \$3000 a year.

### BAD NEWS FOR OREGON

Editor Statesman: The announcement that the Kusers had decided to accept the position of head of the boys' training school, was bad news to a majority of people in Oregon.

I have hesitated to criticize the action of the state board of control, in the hope that Mr. and Mrs. Kuser would discover from expressed public sentiment that they were not wanted here.

It is evident that, as stated at the time the offer was made, the offer of \$5000 a year salary was the amount that had been named by the parties themselves, and would therefore be satisfactory.

But the deal has not yet been closed, and it is not yet too late to make a change in the interest of the taxpayers and of the boys who are and will become the future inmates of the school.

L. M. Gilbert has made good. He has done more than simply

be superintendent. He has been a father and a confidant of the boys, and has sent them out into the world as good citizens, determined to mold their lives according to their ideal of Americanism as embodied in their true friend, Superintendent Gilbert.

Mr. Gilbert has made good under the old system, without modern equipment, and all of the handicaps of an antiquated system, old buildings and improper equipment. He is abreast of the times in modern methods of handling boys. It was Mr. Gilbert who advocated the cottage system, and it was on his recommendation that Governor Olcott asked the last legislature to build an entirely new plant at a cost of \$280,000.

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And the Kusers are such aristocrats that they decline to live in the present superintendent's quarters until the new cottage has been completed. So the board agreed to provide a home for them in Salem while the new home is in process of erection. This in itself brands them as unfit for the position. They are not Oregon people. They do not have Oregon ways and are concerned with their own comfort and happiness rather than the good of the state's wards, who are right now in the molding process and will either become good citizens or criminals, many of them, while waiting for a resident superintendent and matron.

The state is going to pay more than twice as much for a man who may make good, but who is at present an unknown quantity under Oregon conditions and

whose attitude at the outset is wrong, and at the same time turn down a tried official without giving him an opportunity to use the new plant which is to be built upon his own recommendation.

It isn't fair to the faithful Gilberts, and it isn't fair to the taxpayers of Oregon, who are already so overburdened with taxes and who are demanding a reduction in expenses of the state government.

O. P. Hoff, state treasurer, and a member of the board, made a brave fight against this wanton extravagance and it is to be hoped that the governor and the secretary of state, the two members who favor the Iowa superintendent, will come over to Mr. Hoff's way of thinking and the will of the people, before it is too late.

—OREGONIAN, Salem, Nov. 3, 1921.

### WE ARE KEEPING FAITH

Disarming our country is in direct response to a public demand, based on protests against the burden of taxes and powerful sentiment favorable to disarmament.

It would seem that too little attention has been given the achievements of congress and the Harding administration in this matter. Certainly any attempt to create the impression, either at home or abroad, whether for political or other reasons, that this country is trying to lead in the armament race falls before the facts. Reduction of the navy personnel, along with the huge slash in naval appropriations, furnishes sufficient proof of that statement.

Keeping faith with ourselves and practicing what we preach. Uncle Sam's delegates will attend the disarmament meeting with clean hands. America has started to disarm before she asked other nations to do likewise. We have set an example for other nations to follow, to the end that the danger of war shall be minimized.—Milwaukee Sentinel.

### "GONE GLIMMERING"

(Springfield Republican.) Thomas Riley Marshall, vice president of the United States during the two Wilson administrations, is reported as having said before the Sunday Afternoon club of Evanston, Ill.:

"The League of Nations has gone glimmering into oblivion—a school boy's dream of an hour, but a wonderful ideal."

Mr. Marshall is in error. That the League has not gone glimmering is evident from Viscount Grey's speech in London last week. The viscount called attention to the use made of the League in breaking the Silesian

deadlock. Whether the solution was a wise one or not, at least a solution had been reached. As for the coming Washington conference Viscount Grey said:

"He did not regard the conference as a rival of the League. He contended that any real and safe reduction in armaments must be simultaneous, world wide and comprehensive, and that the League has the machinery essential to insure that result. The Washington conference could not take the place of the League because it will not be provided with any machinery which can deal with European questions."

Mr. Marshall will also be interested to learn that Gen. Sir Frederick Maurice, an eminent English military authority, has come to the conclusion that to make any considerable reduction of armaments possible, safe and enduring it must be done through the League of Nations.

If Mr. Marshall is to continue to instruct people in the middle west, he should keep abreast of developments in world affairs.

### KINGS IN EXILE

Why not exile all retired kings, emperors and other potentates to Catalina? There they wouldn't bother Europe much and they could put among themselves and the mountain goats without doing any harm. They might also add to the attractions of the place. Bill Wrigley would be willing to put up a stone schloss among the hills for their occupancy and they could put on their crowns and go down and meet the afternoon boat without disturbing the Balkans. Emperor Charles and his Zita are only playing with fire. At Catalina they could be happy and prosperous selling abalone shells to the tourists.—Los Angeles Times.

### THE GERMAN BOGEY MAN

"Stinnes will get it if you don't watch out" seems to be the cry in Europe. Cablegrams say business circles in Holland are becoming alarmed by the peril to Dutch firms arising from the constantly spreading activities of the German Northcliffe. Stinnes is said to own so many newspapers, banks, shipbuilding yards and other industries that he has lost count of them, though he always was good at figures. It is not desirable to believe all that is printed about the war-made industrial magnate. For instance, a fanciful yarn has just come out of Italy to the effect that Stinnes is secretly negotiating a Franco-German alliance. A leading Italian newspaper is said to have created a great sensation by pub-

lishing an article in which it more than hints at an understanding between the Stinnes interests and a group headed by a French captain of industry. It is declared that an agreement has been reached to absorb certain works in old Austria and to act together in Russia. It is hard to believe that anyone can seriously consider France in such company and with such designs. Yet the Italian journal seems to be under the impression that the German bogey man has been able to induce rich Frenchmen to join him in an effort to gain economic control in the land which now suffers under Lenin and Trotzky. France hopes to see Russia restored, but would see no party to any scheme promoted chiefly to add to the growing power of Herr Stinnes. And if that financier really has any designs on sovietland he is too astute to seek

a partnership in Paris, unless it might be for the purpose of throwing dust in the eyes of certain statesmen there. Even were he to throw the dust he would be certain to miss the eyes. It would seem that the Italian journal is laboring under an optical delusion.

Read The Classified Ads.

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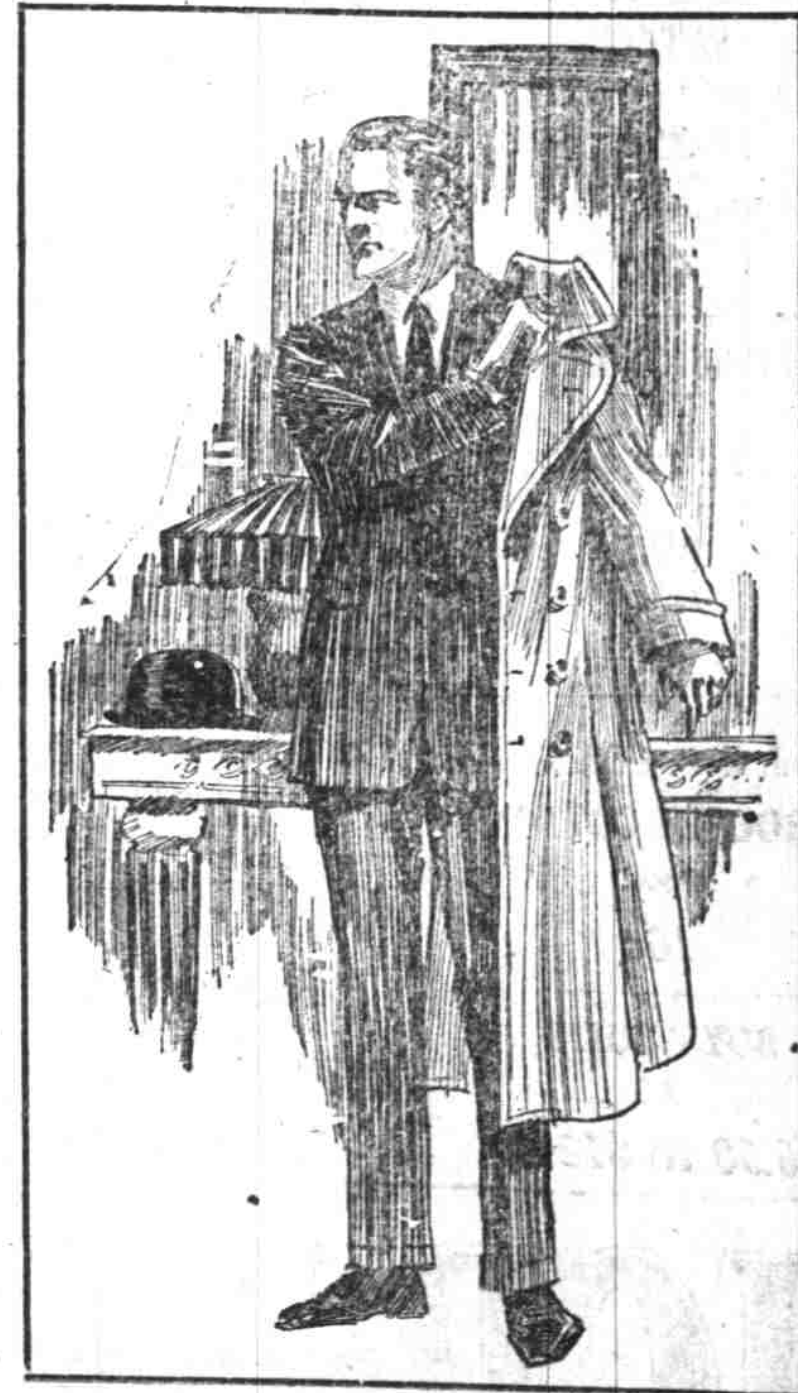
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