The Oregon Statesman

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ASA'S PRAYER:—Lord, it is nothing with Thee to help, whether with many, or with them that have no power: help us, O Lord our God; for we rest on thee, and in thy name we go against this multitude. 2 Chronicles 14:11.

"MENTAL, PHYSICAL AND SPIRITUAL DEATH"

"One day early in my term I went to the Eastern penitentiary.

"Eighteen hundred men were crowded into cells intended for eight hundred. Out of that eighteen hundred more than one thousand were absolutely idle; and idleness in prison means mental, physical and spiritual death. First offenders were commonly housed in cells with hardened criminals. There was never anywhere on earth a more completely successful school of crime than Eastern penitentiary.

"The prisoners within the walls of the Pennsylvania prisons fare a different prospect in 1926, than did those who were huddled there in 1923.

"I believe that no one ought to be kept in idleness in a penal institution. I believe that he should be made self supporting, that he has the right to be taught good citizenship.

"The prisoners under the present system are at work making clothes, furniture, brooms, kitchenware, sheets, towels, etc. These are used in state institutions.

"Every man who is able and willing to work is at work. There is at least the reasonable chance—which there never was before—that the man who leaves the prison will go straight.

"The penitentiary, in 1926, is a school of citizenship and not a school of crime. What makes the difference is that the people in charge are putting the welfare of the prisoners and of the commonwealth in the first place."

The above are some paragraphs from an interview with Governor Gifford Pinchot of Pennsylvania in the Success Magazine for January.

"Idleness in prison means mental, physical and spiritual death," says Governor Pinchot. The same thing has been said by every forward looking governor of every state having a situation of idleness, from Walla Walla to San Quentin and from Colorado to Maine.

That is the curse that is being removed, under the operations of the revolving fund law, at the Oregon penitentiary. Just now, in the middle of the winter season, every man is at work—and it was said on Monday that the working forces there could have used twenty more men.

The thing at the Oregon penitentiary now is to find more and more profitable employment. This can be done. Already over $100,000 a year is being saved through the industries here at the Oregon penitentiary. The whole expense can be wiped out, by proper choice of industries and good management, and that before long.

"I believe that he should be made self supporting, that he has the right to be taught good citizenship," says Governor Pinchot of the prisoner.

He is right. That is what we are coming to. That is the goal of every forward looking man in the United States who has to do with criminology and penology.

KIWANIS CLUB FINE TO GO TO CHARITY

Members Are Assessed on Fake Charges to Raise Christmas Fund

Members of the Salem Kiwanis club were each assessed fines of various sorts at their luncheon yesterday. Any pretext was used to collect a fine, as the money all was to go for charity work.

Judge Cosnow was assessed $1 "for the publicity he received for the speech made by Judge Belt at the luncheon of the Chamber of Commerce Monday."

Some one moved that John Carson, district attorney, be fined $1 for eac hfoot of his height.

Santa Claus was presented for the luncheon. Members of the club made the discovery that Santa Claus is descended from the same grandparents as Rev. Shanks pastor of the First Baptist church.

Governor Pierce was presented with his portrait and that of one of his white-faced calves.

EDUCATIONAL CLASS WILL MEET WEEKLY

Explanation of Organized Labor's Aims Basic Motive for Course

Classes under the direction of the Portland Labor college will meet for the first time on next Tuesday evening ,with an assured enrollment of at least 15.

Meeting weekly, immediately after the council sessions on Tuesday nights, all interested in the trade labr movement are invited to attend, registration fee being $2.50. Because of difficulty in arranging a convenient hour for the meetings, butchers, through their delegates, volunteered to change their meeting night from Wednesday to Thursday.

Aaron Director, of the Portland Labor clolege, outlined the nature of classes to be offered. Need of education in aims of organized labor is the background of the work.

NINE DROWN IN SEA

PARIS, Dec. 22.—(AP)—Nine passengers were drowned tonight when during a raging storm a ferry boat crossing the Seine, six miles above Ruen capsized. The ferryman alone was saved. All victims were working men.

W. E. PURDY DIES, FUNERAL THURSDAY

Well Known Local Figure Passes Tuesday Ending Protracted Illness

Death of William Ellsworth Purdy, early yesterday morning, takes from Salem one of its most well known characters and leaves only the memory of a romantic figure whose talents have been devoted to the pulpit, to politics and to the professions.

Funeral services will be held from the Terwilliger funeral Thursday afternoon at 1:30 o'clock. Rev. H. F. Shanks and Rev. R. L. Putnam will officiate. Committal services will be held at the Lee Mission cemetery under the direction of the Masonic fraternity.

Mr. Purdy was born at Westmoreland, N. Y., February 27, 1862. Twenty-four years ago, he came to Oregon. He has owned land here and engaged in the building occupation for some time. Recently he is remembered in connection with politics.

He was candidate for the democratic nomination for congress for the first district in 1924, defeated by H. L. Clark, of Salem. Earlier he was sent to the democratic national convention at San Francisco in 1920, having been named from a large field of candidates.

At the convention he voted for the Bryan prohibition amendment, the only vote so cast from Oregon. Following the resignation of George E. Chamberlain, he received the endorsement of a goodly number of republicans and democrats for a position on the United States shipping board.

A measure introduced in the last sessions of the legislature, through the medium of Senator La Follette calling for the posting of the Lord's prayer in public places, was endorsed by clergymen, but failed to pass. His activities leave him well remembered throughout the section.

He is survived by his wife, Olly J. Purdy and nine children; Mrs. Grace Sears, of West Salem, Mrs. Winnie Parry, of Jerome, Idaho, Mrs. Gladys Wygant, of Astoria, Mrs. R. H. Bassett, Mrs. R. F. De Sart and William Jr., Kenneth, Lloyd and Fern, all of Salem. One brother in Pennsylvania also survives him. He was a member of the Champoeg lodge A. F. & A. M.

SILVERTON TO MAKE CHRISTMAS JOYFUL

Great Tree Will Stand on Main Street, Funds for Poor Are Raised

SILVERTON, Ore., Dec. 22.—(Special.)—Silverton's Christmas Cheer committee will play Santa Clause to at least 19 adults and 59 children this year according to the sub-committee which has been investigating the needs of the community's unfortunates.

The financing of the work is being done by the Christmas Cheer committee which is made up from the Silverton churches, fraternal, civic and social organizations. Two hundred dollars has been raised to cover the work. Besides the acutla cash donations a number of clothing and food donations have been made. The Silverton Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, Camp Fire Girls, Girls' League, are gathering and distributing the Christmas gifts for the committee.

The local order of Loyal Legion of Loggers and Lumbermen is also arranging for the large community tree which occupies a prominent place on Silverton's Main street during the holidays. Each year, for the past few years, the Four-L organization has secured an immense tree and placed on the intersection of Oak and Main street and this tree has been kept lit throughout the holiday season for those who have no other tree. And on Christmas day Silverton has gathered about this tree to hear the Christmas gospel read by Silverton pastor's and to sing the old Christmas carols. The custom will be carried out this year again.

Bits For Breakfast

Two more days to buy 'em.

Nights growing shorter, also the Christmas purse.

The postoffice crowds with outgoing mail slowed down yesterday, compared with the day before. But the incoming mail is at its peak load; high as a mountain peak.

If you can help the Slogan editor on his cherry number, please do so, today. Too late tomorrow.

E. E. Woods, the Salem milk goat breeder, has sold a pure bred Saanen doe kid for $100, and the kid has not yet been born. Will be shipped early in the new year. Going to Washongal, Wash. Milk goats are coming up.

The building activities of 1926 will likely far exceed those of the present year in Salem. Some big projects are already in sight, and others on the tapis.

Work is progressing on the New Year Statesman. It will be a splendid publication to go to the people of the east who are looking for more room and better conditions.

Oregon beekeepers will hold state convention at The Dalles, January 19-20.