

# The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us; No Fear Shall Awe."  
From First Statesman, March 28, 1851

THE STATESMAN PUBLISHING CO.  
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CHARLES A. SPRAGUE - Editor-Manager  
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Member of the Associated Press  
The Associated Press is exclusively entitled to the use for publication of all news dispatches credited to it or not otherwise credited in this paper.

Entered at the Postoffice at Salem, Oregon, as Second-Class Matter. Published every morning except Monday. Business office 215 S. Commercial Street.

Pacific Coast Advertising Representatives:  
Arthur W. Stuyves, Inc., Portland, Security Bldg.  
San Francisco, Sharon Bldg.; Los Angeles, W. Pac. Bldg.

Eastern Advertising Representatives:  
Ford-Parsons-Steecher, Inc., New York, 271 Madison Ave.;  
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### Notes on a California Trip

THE editor was one of a group of Oregon newspaper men who visited San Francisco Monday, accompanied by a number of Washington publishers, "selling the Northwest" to the advertising agencies at that city. Despite the heat which persists in interior California the trip was a delightful one. Even San Francisco was warm, and the persistent fog shut off visibility. Saturday the ride down the Sacramento valley was like the path of a cookie in the making, traveling on a conveyor through an oven. The train thermometer went to the top, 107, and stayed there for hours. The temperature at Gerber had been 113 the day preceding and no cooler Saturday. The party left the train at Woodland, where the members of the Allied Sacramento Valley papers entertained them with a ride around the city and a dinner in the evening. One of the unique institutions in Woodland is the Woodland Clinic, a hospital which is bringing to the city the reputation which Mayos have brought to Rochester, Minn. From small beginnings the institution has grown until it has a staff of 12 doctors, and a 100-bed hospital. Its work has attracted coast-wide attention.

San Francisco is busy with bridge proposals. The newest is to span the Golden Gate with a great bridge. Highway traffic from the north now uses the bridge at Vallejo over Carquinez strait; and the Southern Pacific is building a bridge farther up at Martinez. This will do away with the old train ferry which has long conveyed trains across from Port Costa to Benicia, at much delay and heavy expense. Bridges, tunnels must be the answer to San Francisco's problem, giving quicker ingress and egress for its workers and its visitors. The city itself is essentially a business city and seaport; not a "home" city like Oakland, Berkeley and smaller places along the peninsula to Palo Alto.

Water is a major deficiency in California. The great Sacramento Valley looked quite completely burned up, though now in the fall of the year it makes little difference. The California-Hawaiian Sugar company is going away up in Napa county to get water to pipe down to its plant on Carquinez strait, because the diversion of water in the streams entering the bay has resulted in the backing up of salt water so the plant can't get fresh water out of the stream along which it is built.

The water level in the great fruit valleys has been going down. One informant said that in the Santa Clara valley pumping from wells had lowered the level so they had to go down fifty feet and more farther than ten years ago. That adds to the expense and gives some concern about future supplies.

The damage from frost to California fruit was no myth. Some orchards have nothing; others a mediocre crop. At that California has 300,000,000 pounds of prunes even in this "poor crop" year.

There seem to be as many brokerage offices in S. F. as "bars," and they are far more conspicuous. Board rooms are crowded with speculators watching the tape. The phenomenon of the Bank of Italy has made Californians intensely and actively interested in stock speculation.

We reached there just a few days after stop-go signals had gone into use. With all the streets angling off Market street, one almost has a brainstom keeping track of the lights, finding the line for pedestrian travel, and getting across before the signals change. The system was working fairly well, and that is about as hard a place as one could find to control traffic, owing to the chopped up angles on the north side of Market street.

The San Francisco Junior Chamber of Commerce took our party on a tour of the city Sunday afternoon. W. H. Brewer, well known in Oregon, where he was stationed for years as fruit-buyer, was the "spieler." He is now account executive with M. E. Harlan advertising agency.

The Standard Oil company did the delegation the courtesy of taking them by launch across to Richmond and on a trip through their great refinery, which proved of great educational value. A similar tour was made through the plant of A. Schilling & Co. The Southern Pacific showed the party every courtesy, supplying them with a special car and sending along Traveling Passenger Agent Gormley to see that the group was properly conducted to their destination.

### Guarding Against Fire Losses

FIRE in this year in the forests has been very disastrous. The pall of smoke covers the coast from Canada down into California. Heavy damage has been done in northeastern Washington, and on both sides of the Columbia river in its lower stretches, and in southwestern Oregon. Foresters and forest communities are worn out with watching and fighting. The increased humidity has come as a great aid in stopping the spread of fires.

While the damage has been large and serious, still in amount it probably will not measure up in any degree to the fire losses caused in cities, losses far more easily prevented than in the scattered forest areas. The loss at Stevenson will amount to a quarter of a million dollars. Yet a fire like that which occurs frequently in cities, receiving no such amount of publicity.

Forest protection has grown to be the settled program and policy of private owners and of the state and federal governments. It is a wise policy and has been productive of much good. Similar education of the public toward protection of property in cities from fires would be equally effective. As it is we hire a fire department and let it go at that. What if we had regular and thorough inspection of business houses and homes not only in cities but in towns? Some might object to more "inspection," but an intelligent person welcomes a fire inspector who can give wise suggestions as to how to avoid fires. In default of such inspection every household ought at frequent intervals to give his premises a careful inspection just to see where fire hazards may be, and how they may be removed.

### New School to Open Sept. 23

DALLAS, Sept. 19.—The new school at the camp of the Williams Valley Lumber company, will open on Monday, September 23.

While this school will be a part of the Dallas school system, it will open two weeks in advance of the Dallas city schools. Miss Eugenia Somers of Monmouth, a graduate of Oregon State College and of the Monmouth normal, will have charge of this school at the camp.

### Can This Be Progress?



### BITS for BREAKFAST

By R. J. HENDRICKS

How fortunate—

Is Oregon with her project looking to the self support of her penitentiary. This is indicated in part by a news item in The Statesman of Monday, telling of the visit here on Sunday of Governor Balderson of Idaho, together with Warden Joe Wheeler of the Idaho penitentiary at Boise. They inspected the Oregon penitentiary and made inquiries especially concerning the industries carried on at our prison.

"Oregon's state prison at Salem has come nearer to a happy solution of the employment problem with which all penal institutions are forced than has any other such institution which he has ever visited, according to Governor Balderson of Idaho," reads in part the news item concerning the visit.

Governor Balderson has probably not visited the Minnesota penitentiary at Stillwater. Or if he has, his conclusions concerning the Oregon prison are colored by people's forecast—that is, they take into consideration all the conditions towards which the industries of the Oregon penitentiary are surely working and tending.

The Stillwater prison's employment problem is largely a finished product. That institution has been self supporting since 1905. This condition was brought about quickly, through a large appropriation for machinery and equipment, and (which was permissible under the constitution of that state) unlimited credit for the purchase of raw materials. The raw materials used there are sisal, grown in Yucatan, Mexico, with which binder twine is made; manila hemp grown in the Philippines, from which rope is made, and the steel, wood, etc., for the making of binders, mowers, reaping machines, etc., for the use of the farmers of Minnesota. The revolving fund of the Stillwater prison soon grew to large proportions; however, has stood at \$5,000,000 or more for several years, so that the credit is not now needed.

But most of the money for raw materials must be sent out of the state and paid for foreign growers supplies, and ocean and other freights, by the Stillwater institution. On the contrary, the bulk of the money for raw materials used by the Oregon prison industries will always go to the people of our state—to our farmers growing flax, to the men who furnish agricultural lime, etc. This is indeed a "happy solution." The revolving fund law of the Oregon penitentiary was copied largely from the Minnesota law. The main difference is that our constitution permits of a loan or credit of only \$50,000 for the purchase of raw materials. But, as things are going, even that is not needed, nor will ever be needed. It will just take longer to reach the desired consummation of self-support than it did in Minnesota, because the Oregon prison is being and will be required to provide its own revolving fund surplus for the purchase of raw materials, which must become larger as the operations grow—a larger acreage of flax is required, etc.

Our conditions will be better and more nearly ideal than those of the Minnesota prison, or any other, when we pile up the revolving fund to the proper size. The proper size for what? For more machinery and equipment, and for buying needed raw materials. (The raw materials must be paid for as delivered, and the finished articles made from them are from a month to a year or more in being produced and sold and the money returns for them realized.) What else? For paying a wage to every worker, besides providing the money for the entire support of the institution. The Minnesota institution does

this. The Oregon prison so far pays a wage only to workers in the state flax plant. The rest will come. Looking only a few years ahead, the statement of Governor Balderson of Idaho will be entirely true. The "happy solution" here will be the best in any prison in the country.

The problem that bothers the governor of Idaho and the warden of Idaho's state penitentiary is worrying every far seeing and upstanding official of that kind in this country, outside of Minnesota and Oregon. The prisoners in the Idaho penitentiary are working on shirts, mostly. All sorts of federal and state laws exist or are being passed that hamper the sale of such prison made products. The interests of free labor run counter to such manufactures. The leaders and the rank and file of labor organizations fight against the sale of such prison made goods. The Missouri state penitentiary is self supporting, but its products are mostly like those of the Idaho prison, and there is a fight to maintain its status of self support—and it is not likely to grow less strenuous or less bitter. The fight runs throughout the country.

What is Idaho to do? She cannot grow fiber flax. What is Missouri to do? What are the other states to do? Prison reform must stand on prison industries. There is no other place for it to stand. Here is one of the biggest problems before the country. It is easy in Oregon. It is easy in Minnesota, but less so, on account of the raw materials problem. It is not easy in any other state.

The then governor of California, Mr. Friend, told the then governor of Oregon, Walter Pierce, five or six years ago, that he envied the position of Oregon with respect to the possible working out on the right basis of her prison problems, because in California they could do little in the way of carrying on industries in the prisons and reformatories of that state. For all the work that were up in arms against anything in that line that had been proposed or could be thought of.

At the San Quentin penitentiary of California a model educational system has been established but about all the work that has been carried on by the prisoners there or at the Folsom penitentiary has been labor on the public roads—and that is among the worst kinds of employment that can be thought of for prisoners, either from the standpoint of appropriateness or economy. Working on the roads is good neither for the prisoners nor for the people of the communities through which the roads are constructed.

The Bits man is very proud to have it known that Oregon is taking such high ground in prison management that this state will in the future be the magnet of students of penology all over the world from now on. In this we are especially fortunate with respect to our own people in the matter of efficiency and economy—we are still more fortunate in that we will be able to confer benefits on all the rest of the world in the working out of the problems that confront all progressive peoples in this domain of governmental practice. Is there any other problem of statesmanship that is more important?

FIGHT ENDS IN DRAW  
SAN FRANCISCO, Sept. 18.—(AP)—Wesley Ketchell, Portland middleweight, and Chick Devlin, San Francisco, fought a hectic ten round draw battle here tonight. A knockdown by Ketchell in the last round gave him what ring-siders declared a perfect draw as Devlin had a slight edge until that time.

the gathering until information on it has just leaked out. L. H. McMahan of Salem was nominated one of four electors for the party at the meeting here last week.

GANGSTERS KIDNAPED  
CHICAGO, Sept. 19.—(AP)—Police tonight were confronted with a new gang mystery in which two men, as yet unidentified, were

kidnaped from their automobile on the south side, hustled into another car and driven away, apparently the victims of gang vengeance.

KOTEX  
34c  
BOX  
Limit 2



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Hose  
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long hose, 1/2  
to  
50c 11c

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PURSES  
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Underarm styles  
Basement

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Tweed Mixtures  
49c  
All sizes  
Basement

Lucky Strike, Camel, Chesterfields, Old Golds .....11c Pkg.



## SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT Fair Visitors—

You may secure reservations for the Horse Show and the Grand Stand starting Friday at 1:30 O'Clock at

MILLER'S DEPT. STORE  
and  
PATTON'S BOOK STORE

Make reservations for one day or for all week just as you like but there is a certain satisfaction in having your same seats all week.

At one visit to the above stores you may secure  
RESERVED GRANDSTAND SEATS OR  
BOXES FOR THE RACES

AND  
RESERVED STADIUM SEATS OR  
BOXES FOR THE HORSE SHOW

## Oregon State Fair

Ella Schultz Wilson, Sec.

Salem, Ore.

September 23 to 28