

# Clean Bill of Health Given Penitentiary Administration

## BRUTALITY NOT FOUND, REPORT

Extensive Statement Issued By Control Board Vindicates Meyers

The state board of control failed to find evidence in its recent hearing to substantiate charges made by Ervin Goodman, Portland attorney, that brutalities were practiced on inmates of the Oregon state penitentiary under the present management.

"It is the sense of this board," read the statement, "that no evidence of brutality was submitted. In no instance were the charges of brutality against prisoners anything new to the board members, except that two cases of tying inmates to the door of the bull pen dungeon had not been reported either to prison officials or to the board members."

Members of the board of control said that the person responsible for this punishment was subsequently discharged. At the recent hearing these two prisoners testified that their physical condition was better than when they entered the prison.

**No Men Hung By Hands**  
"In no case was any prisoner tied up by the hands or strung up during the present administration," continued the statement. "The two cases mentioned were not instances of that kind, but on the contrary the men were simply handcuffed to the doors of the dungeon with both feet flat on the floor."

In prefacing his statement, members of the board of control, which has jurisdiction of the penitentiary, said it had granted to Goodman the privilege of appearing and producing testimony of what he termed brutal practices at the institution.

"Several days were consumed by the board in conducting the hearing," read the statement. "Every witness was either a convict or ex-convict. Two ex-convicts now under indictment were brought from the county jail in Multnomah county. The hearing was held in the presence of all the board members, newspaper correspondents and others. The hearing was confined to evidence of brutality, as alleged by Goodman."

"Mr. Goodman had not visited the prison since 1925, and had never interviewed Henry Meyers, superintendent, and he had never lodged a complaint with a member of the board of control. His entire evidence was gathered from ex-inmates and others now incarcerated in the penitentiary."

"It was apparent to members of the board of control that in a number of instances the persons testifying were untruthful in their statements made in their testimony. A prisoner testified that he had lied so much about various things that he did not know whether he could tell the truth. At the conclusion of the testimony several of the dangerous instruments, such as knives, were exhibited to the members of the board. These had all been surreptitiously made by the prisoners and were taken from them within the last few months. These instruments, in themselves, were mute evidence of the fact that strict discipline is necessary in the institution."

"Statements showing that brutality was not practiced in the prison, as charged by Goodman, were made by the Rev. D. J. Howe, and Father Thomas V. Keenan, chaplains of the prison. These men, by the very nature of their work with the inmates, are in a position to know the real facts of the situation, and their testimony directly controverted many of the allegations made by Goodman."

**Present Policy Commended**  
"The state board of control believes in operating the state prison without brutality, in conformity to the state laws and in the interests of humanitarian custody of its wards, but we also believe in the necessity of strict discipline. We approve and endorse the methods now employed by the present administration of the prison as shown by the testimony submitted. We approve and endorse the quality and quantity of food served, the testimony in every single instance showing that Goodman was wrong in his assertions in that respect."

"One of the prisoners whose case has been prominently cited in newspaper articles written by Goodman for a Portland newspaper, asserted that the articles grossly exaggerated the conditions of his case."

"Under the law the state penitentiary is examined by every grand jury in Marion county. Recently the University of Oregon made a survey of prison conditions, as has also the Oregon prison association. Neither the grand jury, the University of Oregon authorities nor the Oregon prison association has made any complaint or charge against the conditions at the prison."

**Future Hearings Barred**  
"The board finds that such an investigation or hearing has no value whatever, but is, instead, detrimental and that under like conditions no consideration will be hereafter given to like requests, referring any such applicants for investigation to the Marion county grand jury."

**SETTLEMEIER, HAL PATTON DISCUSSED**  
Inquiry at the office of the attorney general brought the information that no ruling would be made on the method of filling the existing senatorial vacancy from Marion county until the last of this week. Governor Norblad submitted the question to Attorney General Van Winkle for his opinion.

While there has been considerable talk as to possible successors to the late Senator Reynolds there was no crystallizing of public sentiment because of the uncertainty as to whether the vacancy would be filled by appointment or election.

## START ATTACK ON JUNIOR RECORD



Gerald F. ("Jerry") Nettleton, 20-year-old transport pilot of Toledo, Ohio, in his monocoque plane when he took off from Newark Airport, Newark, N. J., on the first leg of his flight to California. Nettleton hopes to create another junior transcontinental record. The present mark is held by Stanley Boynton.

## Franklin's Account of Thanksgiving, Found in School Reader, is Novel

**By The Associated Press**  
The following account of the origin of Thanksgiving day was written by Benjamin Franklin and published in Richardson's American school reader in 1810. It was culled today from a library shelf by the Benjamin Franklin, a nation-wide association of namesakes of the great American.

**By BENJAMIN FRANKLIN**  
There is a tradition that in the planting of New England, the first settlers met with many difficulties and hardships; as is generally the case when a civilized people attempt to establish themselves in a wilderness country.

Being piously disposed they sought relief from heaven by laying their wants and distresses before the Lord, in frequent days of fasting and prayer. Constant meditation and discourse of these subjects kept their minds gloomy and discontented; and like the children of Israel there were many disposed to return to that Egyptian which persecution had induced them to abandon.

legislator, was named as one who might receive the nomination at the hands of the county central committee. The county committee will make no move until the opinion of the attorney general is rendered, said J. C. Perry county chairman.

**Christmas Sale Sponsored for Aid of Veterans**  
A sale of Christmas trees, holly, mistletoe and evergreens is being sponsored by Marion post No. 661, Veterans of Foreign Wars. The proceeds of the sale will be used for the relief and charity work of the post.

**J. S. Baker, who is chairman of the committee in charge of the sale, reports that business men have responded readily to the plan and sales are so far gratifying. It is the plan of the committee to canvass the residential district in behalf of their sale.**

Members of Marion Post point out that they are not asking for donations but expect to give full value received for all who buy of them. First class stock will be offered for sale at reasonable prices but all of the funds derived from the sales will be used for relief work.

**SAMMONS BACK TO PRISON**  
CHICAGO, Ill., Nov. 26.—(AP)—James "Fur" Sammons, ex-convict and "public enemy" was taken back to Joliet penitentiary today to serve out 30 years of an unexpired sentence for murder.

**IF AN APPOINTMENT IS TO BE MADE BY THE PRESENT GOVERNOR, HAL PATTON OF SALEM WAS CONSIDERED AS THE LIKELY RECIPIENT OF THE HONOR. IF THE APPOINTMENT SHOULD AWAIT THE PLEASURE OF THE NEW GOVERNOR, NO NAMES OF MEN IN SPECIAL FAVOR WITH MR. MEIER WERE MENTIONED. IF AN ELECTION SHOULD BE HELD FRANK SETTLEMEIER OF WOODBURN, RUNNER-UP IN THE SENATORIAL PRIMARIES AND FORMER**

## REBUTTALS AT END OF COURT

Agent Matter now Rests in Hands of Levying Body For Final Action

(Continued from page 1)  
merce and one bankers' association, had endorsed the move and sent representatives to the court asking that an agent be hired.

**Demas Court Attacked**  
Ramage took issue with the statements of Sidney Miller of Woodburn, made Monday, when Miller alleged that the Ramage group has declared the court unfavorable to an agent and party to the organization of opposition in the county.

William Teutsch, assistant county agent worker, representing the Oregon State college and the federal bureau of agriculture, bore the brunt of the rebuttal testimony. Teutsch dwelt particularly on Miller's remarks of Monday, taking them point by point and giving a lucid, calm and effective answer or denial of the majority of points Miller raised.

"I believe in the county agent work with all my heart," said Teutsch, "but I want it known I did not come to Marion county to give information at the college demand but because I was invited by O. P. Larson, master of the Woodburn grange. Not a single man except myself has been here from Oregon State college to present the agent proposition and I have done so solely because men in the county, who desire an agent, felt more information on one's work was needed."

**Testing Work Recounted**  
Turning to the question of cow testing associations which Miller discussed extensively Monday, Teutsch said no county in Oregon had long continued cow testing associations without the help of an agent. He pointed out that 24 herds in Yamhill county were included in testing associations against seven in Marion county. He said that Miller, himself an opponent of a county agent, was a member of a Yamhill county group organized by a county agent.

Teutsch answered the argument advanced repeatedly Monday that an agent increased production which was now an evil, by saying that an agent increased the efficiency of output rather than the total of a crop. Complimenting Marion county breeders on their abortion-free shows, he said that continuous control of contagious abortion was impossible without the leadership of a county agent who could form control areas and supervise them.

**Boys' and girls' club work, reaching 12,000 young people cannot be properly supervised, the agent leader averred, with two men at the college to do the sole work.**

"Pomp and Power" Denied  
Teutsch said the alleged "pomp and power" of a county agent was a baseless assertion. Any agent selected for this county would be qualified by training on a farm, followed by a scientific school training, together with a personal record of success in a farm and a record of successful service as a county agent.

Teutsch, with this material to back him, drove hard to the oft-quoted idea Monday that an agent would be a white-collared smart aleck haling from Corvallis.

Argument that the county agent would receive \$10,300 or more than is paid the governor of the state was met with an explanation of the money to be expended in the agent work along a statement of the purpose of each item.

Of the \$10,300 asked in 1931, only \$4600 is to come from Marion county, said Teutsch. To say that it all goes to the agent, he explained, is as unfair as to say the county clerk received \$9600 a year because his office appropriation is that much.

**Budget Outlay Detailed**  
Teutsch told the court that any county agent plan to be effective in this county would call for the services of two men be-

## The Call Board

By OLIVE M. DOAK

- THE CALL BOARD GRAND
- Today—Winnie Lightner in "The Cowbird's Song."
- Frida—Richard "Dick" in "Shooting Straight."
- THE ELSINORE
- Today—Milton Sills in "The Sea Wolf."
- BELGUM'S CAPITOL
- Today—Jeanette MacDonald in "Monte Carlo."
- THE HOLLYWOOD
- Today—William Haines in "Way Out West."
- Frida—Armita in "Border Town."

tween whom a salary appropriation of \$7600 for two years would be divided. Additional items in the \$10,300 budget would be \$1080 for a stenographer, \$250 for stationery and printing, \$170 for postage, telephone and telegraph, \$1300 for car maintenance, \$1200 traveling about the county, \$600 for the establishment of an office and the purchase of office furniture and fixtures.

Teutsch admitted that an experimental farm established years ago near Independence had failed but said the experiment was under the control of Whitney L. Boise of Portland, operating from the land settlement department. He declared any operation of a farm under absentee ownership was highly precarious.

He met the statement that experiments had been deleterious to farmers' welfare by explaining that experiments could not be classed as a demonstration and that the element of chance had entered into every experiment, whether made in the industrial, scientific or agricultural field.

**Effective Letter Used**  
"A powerful factor in the development of Multnomah county," is the way B. C. Altman characterizes the work of an agent. Teutsch introduced in rebuttal evidence a letter from Altman which was in sharp contrast with Altman's alleged view expressed in Monday's meeting. D. E. Tole of Gresham, also reported Monday as unfavorable to an agent, was shown by letter testimony to be heartily in favor of county agent work, claiming it greatly improved agricultural conditions in his county and led to lower production costs.

**County Course Commended**  
Concluding his rebuttal statement, Teutsch who heretofore has taken only an indirect part in the presentation of the case, said above all he hoped that no bad feelings would develop. He commended the honesty and vigor of the opposition and the fair-mindedness of the county court.

"If this county is to tap effectively the great reservoir of valuable information made possible by the college and the federal department, it needs an agent," said Teutsch.

**Many Men Held Favorable**  
L. A. Eason of Lake Labish brought up the question of the 1931 negative petitions handed the court Monday. He said petitions could be secured with equal ease for an agent and cited the instance of a Jefferson resident who found 14 out of 15 people he approached favorable to an agent.

Eason declared there were 25,000 acres of winter grain still planted in this county. He said improvement in the quality of seed, for one thing, would do much to make higher unit yield.

**Trunk's Statement Tells**  
Charles Trunk, prominent and prosperous Yamhill county walnut orchardist, brought a forceful testimony to the meeting of the benefits of agent work in his

district. Trunk said Yamhill county used to pride itself on being the best agricultural district in the state. Later it found itself declining in output, Trunk attributing the gain of other counties to their more progressive methods. He said when an agent was first proposed in Yamhill county much the same objection was raised there as in Marion county.

"You can't find any farmer in the county—with a very few exceptions," Trunk declared, "who is not behind the work of the agent." He praised S. T. White, Yamhill's farm worker, and told how effective his work had been. Trunk said he himself made it a point to keep abreast with the times in farming but how one thing White had done in pooling the purchase of sulphur had saved as much for him as ten years of cost.

**Agent Clears Information**  
Trunk showed how the agent acted as a clearing house not only for information about crop raising methods but as a source of data on the place to obtain seeds, methods to control disease and other vital farm information.

Changing conditions, bringing keener competition and demanding wiser farming, made necessary the widest diffusion of farm information, A. B. Wiesner of North Howell told the court. "I spent as much time phoning to Corvallis for valuable information last year and paying for the calls as I would pay in taxes for an agent in ten years," Wiesner said. He declared that the county agent proponents were serious in their efforts and were going to stay with the job until their objective was accomplished.

**Answer Personal Argument**  
Oscar Lowe of Silverton countered the argument that former agents may have been unsatisfactory by saying one would not condemn all banks if one failed or say there was no money to be made in business if one merchant did not succeed. He declared statements Monday that Marion county had a sufficient acreage of alfalfa were hardly borne out by the fact that in Silverton this fall 22 carloads of corn and 18 carloads of alfalfa were shipped into the community.

L. A. Bear of Turner pointed out that other men than farmers, at least 50 per cent being business interests, would pay toward the \$4600 to be spent by the county court in putting on the agent program.

"In all the oratory against the agent presented Monday I heard only one argument," declared W. R. Dougherty, Labish Center farmer. "That was the one that an agent would cost money for the court."

Dougherty proceeded to show the court that the returns from the agent program far outweighed the costs. He said the opposition to the farm agent program came largely from men who were on the evening slope of life, men who had labored faithfully and well for the county but men who did not reflect the aggressive leadership needed to meet new conditions.

Dougherty said that in days of keen competition and scientific methods for agriculture, he

was pioneering on his farm and wanted the assistance of a clearing-thinking competent agent.

Sidney Miller, attentive throughout the rebuttal hearing, at its conclusion besought the court for the right to question William Teutsch whom Miller persisted in calling, patronizingly, "Professor" or "Bill". Miller started on extensive interrogations, in lawyer like fashion, attempting to bring from pamphlets he held, isolated facts damaging to county agent work.

Teutsch countered with a refusal to start into a round of legal bickering and the meeting broke up.

Miller asserted to the court that "Teutsch will never be as good a farmer or dairyman as I am." Miller said he had lived on a farm and operated one for more years than Teutsch had been alive.

One point on which the two clashed was over the word "factotum" Miller insisting that was a proper designation for Teutsch and the work he did for the college.

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## School Kiddies To Swap Goods To Buy Machine

Pupils at the Highland school will hold a school exchange December 3, 4 and 5 to sell clothing, toys, books and food to raise funds to purchase a mimeoscope for the building. The students have already raised \$45 toward the instrument.

The students will be glad to accept donations of any and all kinds for the exchange to be conducted next week at the school building. The special toxin-antitoxin clinic scheduled for Highland school will be held December 8, when it is hoped mothers in the district will bring their preschool children for the immunization treatment.

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