

"Oregon Events" as Told by Mrs. Geo. W. Bryant (Continued from first page)

try. This Oregon country then contained 286,541 square miles, while Oregon as the state now established contains 95,607, a thousand of which is water surface.

The first postoffice to be established west of the Rockies was located at Astoria in 1847, the first newspaper printed west of the Missouri river was the Oregon Spectator, printed at Oregon City in 1846.

In 1852 the capital was moved to Salem, by authority of Congress.

In 1855 the capital of the state was again moved, this time to Corvallis. In 1864 Salem became the permanent capital of the state.

On February 14th, 1859, Oregon was admitted to the Union as a state, the population at the time being 53,000, while according to the census of 1930 the population of Oregon was given at 953,786. The state ranks 9th in size in area in the Union and 34th in population. The estimated wealth of Oregon in 1928 was placed at \$3,828,000,000.00 or \$4,244 per capita. This per capita basis placed Oregon sixth, according to federal statistics. In illiteracy, Oregon ranks with Washington, in second place, with but one per cent illiterate, according to recent reports.

Portland is the largest city, with Salem, Eugene and Klamath Falls respectively following.

The industries and resources of Oregon are many and varied.

Lumber is our most important product. This is readily understood when it is known that one-fifth of all standing timber left in the United States is in Oregon, this being approximately 360,000,000,000 board feet. California ranks second to Oregon and Washington third. The principal species are: Douglas fir, western yellow pine, hemlock, white and sugar pine and spruce; another, the Port Orford white cedar, is native to southwestern Oregon only and is found in merchantable quantities, though it is a small percentage of the standing timber of the country. This very fine tree and the myrtle are most widely known rare woods of this section. We rank second in the United States in amount of lumber cut annually, this amounting to \$100,000,000.00, and representing a cut of about four billion feet.

As previously stated our area is 95,607 square miles or 61,188,480 acres. In 1920 there were 13,542,318 acres in farms, in 1930 there were 16,849,711. The increase the past five years has been 18 per cent, and one of the largest increases in the nation, showing the trend toward development of agriculture and its resources. Eighty-two per cent of the farms of Oregon are operated by owners. The principal crops of 1930 were: winter wheat valued at \$10,752,000, a million acres of hay valued at \$21,907,000, this included alfalfa and clover.

Fruit raising is a very important industry, prunes, pears, apples, cherries and small fruits being the principal source of revenue. In 1930 the prune crop was valued at \$1,375,000.00 and in that year shipments of dried prunes were made at 29 foreign countries, the apple crop was valued at \$4,950,000.00 and about 40,000 barrels of frozen strawberries or one-half the Nation's pack were shipped from this state. About 80 per cent of the Bosc pears raised in the United States are grown in Oregon. This is the highest priced pear on the market. Walnuts and filberts are the principal nuts grown. We are the largest producers of the commercial filbert in the Nation.

In 1930 the canneries' pack was valued at \$22,000,000.00 and 30,000 people were given employment.

Dairying and livestock raising are important industries also. Many world records have been established here. The first hen to lay over 300 eggs in a year and a thousand in a lifetime, was produced here. In Jersey breed cattle, six of the 16 records are held by Oregon animals.

Fishing is another of our important industries. One of the largest salmon canning industries of the world is centered about the Columbia. In 1930 the value of the salmon products was \$5,800,000.00.

Oregon was the first gold-producing state of the West. In 1849 the first large migration to California was made up of miners from Oregon. In Jacksonville, alone, \$150,000,000.00 in gold has been mined. Successful gold mining operations are being carried on now in Josephine county at the Robertson mine, in vicinity of Grants Pass at the George Esterly Mines near Waldo, the latter being a hydraulic operation. Waldo was one of the early mining centers also, as the post office now stands in an old building erected in 1863.

This state is well served by transportation facilities, nearly 70 steamship companies connect Oregon with the markets of the world. Five trans-

continental railroads serve us, as well as two transcontinental stage companies. With many electric lines and stage operations all portions of the state are easily reached and with the rapid strides made in air transportation we receive immediate communication with all parts of the Nation.

There are 46 named highways in the state, though many are of minor importance and of short mileage. The longest state highway is the Oregon Coast Highway, its length being 395.2 miles, the Pacific Highway is second and the Columbia third. In all there are 4444.3 miles of state highways, with 2604.6 miles of them being hard surfaced in some form. In 1913 a state highway department was created. Since that time to September, 1931, there has been expended for construction and maintenance of the state highways the sum of \$131,124,588.94, and this does not include the amount paid for interest and retirement of bonds. The principal sources of revenue for this department are: motor vehicle license fee, fuel tax, sale of bonds and matched funds of the United States government and the counties.

The highways of Oregon are a continual source of scenic wonder as one travels mile after mile along them. The Oregon Coast Highway, when completed will be surpassed by none and equalled by few in the United States, if not in the world. Where is there a more beautiful coast line than that of Oregon and this wonderful highway practically follows the coast its entire distance, though not to a monotonous extent, for there are many changes of scenery when the road leaves the coast to follow a small stream of crystal clear water for several miles, or winds in and out through the Coast Range mountains, with the densely timbered areas stretching to the very edge of the highway. There are variations of such magnitude as to please the fancy of the most exacting person, along this magnificent road. There are many delightful week-end loop trips to be made in Oregon, two very close to us, by the south to Crescent City thence over the beautiful Redwood highway to Grants Pass, along the Pacific to Coos Junction and home; then north over the Coos Bay-Drain route—and where is there a more beautiful river drive than that along the Umpqua?

It is evident we are to benefit and reap a rich harvest from our investment in highways. In the year, 1930, there were 58,434 autos registered from California. This tends to show that California has become "travel-minded," and this was, of course, learned from the experience of traveling over their fine roads. Washington, too, has fine roads but only 15,866 cars registered from there.

Our fine roads enable us to reach all the wonder places of Oregon, such as Crater Lake, the most wonderful of the crater lakes in the world. Its color of vivid blue has become so well known, it is called Crater Lake Blue, and few of the artists are able to get it on canvas. This beautiful body of water lies in the crater of an extinct volcano, according to some authorities, the walls rising 1000 feet from the water's edge to the rim. It has been classed with such "world wonders as the Grand Canyon of the Colorado and Victoria Falls, in Africa.

The Oregon Caves, often called the "Marble Halls of Oregon," are situated on the slope of Grayback Mountain. They were discovered by Elijah Davidson in 1874, while he was hunting bear. Mr. Davidson still lives near the Caves. These Caves are a national monument, being located in the Siskiyou national forest. In 1931 the United States government expended more money to make them attractive to the tourist. A new exit has been built and the Caves lighted with electricity. A fine lodge and many cabins, under jurisdiction of Mr. Geo. Sabin of Grants Pass, assure one of a pleasant stay at the Caves.

In central Oregon, near Bend, and along the California-Dalles highway, as well as the McKenzie, we see the Lava Beds, the remains of violent eruptions of volcanoes, which poured forth this red hot rock. The Three Sisters, really young mountain peaks of Oregon, are in this vicinity, while mentioning mountain peaks, I must not ignore Mount Hood, one of the most famous mountain peaks of the Pacific coast, she majestically reigns over northwestern Oregon, like the queen she is.

The fossil beds of the John Day Country have been the source of much study and are interesting, indeed.

The beautiful Wallowa Lake, in eastern Oregon, must be mentioned, Wallowa county often being referred to as the "Switzerland of Oregon." All of this magnificent country can be reached readily over our highways. It seems to me we should stop and ask ourselves if we have seen these beautiful places before we start on a trip to Yosemite Valley or the Yellowstone. Why not see Oregon first, if we are true Oregonians and inter-



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ested in our state?

I have heretofore mentioned the Coast Highway. As it is my particular pet of all the highways, may I refer to it again? This road skirts the ocean for practically 400 miles. Where is there a more magnificent coast line than along "Our Oregon?" Our beaches, which stretch for miles along the coast are surpassed by none along the Pacific coast. This highway runs for miles right at the ocean's edge. Some of the most fertile land of Oregon lies along this highway and we also ride for miles through some of the most densely forested areas of the state. Have you not seen the sunset from the coast highway? Is there a more wonderful picture than a sunset at sea? Is there anything more soul-stirring than to watch the wind-tossed billows of the Pacific during a storm?

When speaking of scenic attractions I must mention recreation. Part of the wildest country in the United States is in Oregon and Curry county, to the south of us, is no doubt the wildest county of Oregon. Fishing is one of the main pastimes of the sportsman of Oregon and with such streams as the Rogue, the McKenzie and the Umpqua, there is nothing left

to be desired. Perhaps the Rogue is the best known of our fishing streams. Zane Grey, author, has a summer lodge at Twinkle Bar on the Rogue, and has helped to make this stream nationally known through his writings. One of his latest stories, "The Rustlers of Silver River," is a story of the salmon industry on the Rogue. It should not meet with our approval, though, to have the Rogue change its name even in a story, for naturally many will read this book who will never connect the Rogue with it at all, unless more or less familiar with other names mentioned and descriptions given.

Educationally Oregon is represented by two fine colleges and three normal schools under the state board of education. The Oregon State College, located at Corvallis, is recognized as a standard college, being perhaps the best known, with the University at Eugene, as the institutions of higher learning of Oregon. There are other colleges in the state, also, but they do not come under the jurisdiction of the state. The normal schools are located at Monmouth, Ashland and La Grande. The state board of education is composed of nine members, appointed by the governor with approval

of the senate. They serve for a term of nine years. The total enrollment in the above mentioned five schools in 1930 was 7395.

The chief executive of the state is the governor, elected by the people for a term of four years. Other elected officers are: secretary of state, treasurer, superintendent of schools, attorney general and others. There are several commissions in our government whose duties lie in taking care of all matters under them. The state highway commission, game commission, state industrial accident commission, each attends to matters of state interest, implied by their titles.

The judicial power of the state is vested in the state supreme court, composed of a chief justice and six associates, with other officers.

The law-making body of the state is the legislature, members of the House and Senate being elected by the people. The legislature meets at Salem, in alternate years.

Under the state we also have institutions maintained for those afflicted and unfortunate, namely: The Home for the Blind, Home for the Deaf, Training School for Boys and Industrial Home for Girls, Penitentiary and State Insane Asylum. There is

also at Roseburg, Oregon, a home for Old Soldiers. Naturally the upkeep of these institutions as well as the running of the government, the maintenance and building of highways, call for great expenditures of revenue. This money must come from the people and the income tax, as well as the property tax, are two of the means of raising this money. Other taxes have been previously mentioned.

A few closing features I would like to mention. One of the greatest resources of Oregon is the climate. The rainfall varies from 60 inches on the coast to 15 and 20 in the valley. In eastern Oregon irrigation is required for successful farming. We do not have extreme heat nor cold. Tornadoes, cyclones and great floods are unknown to Oregon. Most of our rain comes in the fall and winter and thus we are assured of long growing seasons and two or three months of summer for harvesting.

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