

and one early county schools

Tule River--David Campbell, Deming Gibbons,
William Martin.

Woodville--William Mills.

Schools of the early days were supported partly by the state, partly by the county and, to some extent, by public subscription. There was much freedom allowed the county superintendent of schools, who also was county treasurer, in the handling of funds. If one district needed money and another district needed it, it seemed a simple transaction to transfer the fund from one district to another.

An accurate account was kept, however and the transactions were carried out with a high degree of honesty and integrity.

No restrictions were placed upon entrance to public schools of the period. Pupils five and six years old as well as those of 25 were admitted. The subjects taught were those that the ~~child~~ pupil or parent most desired. Penmanship was given much attention and singing schools were conducted in practically every district in the county. These latter, however, generally were private institutions, short courses being given by some instructor for a nominal fee.

A great development was noted in the early 1880's in the organization of new school districts, adoption of regularly organized courses of study and the extension of the school term to seven and sometimes even eight months. Then came the introduction of the high school.

Another account on the growth of the school system appears elsewhere in the ⁴¹A_n niversaries Edition.

edition early county library

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In 1909 a law became effective in California under which rural areas and unincorporated towns might receive library service and on June 10, 1910, by means of a contract between the Tulare county board of supervisors and the trustees of the Visalia Free Library, a county library department was established in the city library, then on Main street. Miss Jennie Herrman was named county librarian and books were ordered purchased.

A careful survey was made of the county and first consideration was given those towns in which the liveliest interest was displayed. The librarian studied her field carefully before establishing branches.

In ~~Aug~~ September, 1910, a petition backed by the Woman's Club of Dinuba, was filed and Dinuba became the first branch. A deposit of 50 volumes, situated in the corner of a furniture store, became the nucleus of the collection that in 1911 required the larger accomodation of a reading room. The history of the Dinuba branch soon was repeated in other sections of the county.

Cities supporting city libraries under the act of 1909 were not required by this law to become a part of the county library system, but Visalia, Porterville and Tulare in turn saw advantages in affiliating with the larger system and contracts signed at this time gave county residents free use of the city libraries. The county library in return supplied the city libraries with books.

Miss Herrman was succeeded in February, 1913, by her sister, Miss Bessie Herrman and her work was carried on in the same energetic manner as that of her predecessor.

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An important step in library development was to provide the largest two branches with publicly own d library buildings. Through the co-operation of the county library and the city authorities of Dinuba and Ex eter, the Carnegie Corporation of New York was persuaded to contribute the funds with which to construct modern library buildings in both cities..

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An article on the present county library and its resources appears elsewhere in the Anniversary Edition.

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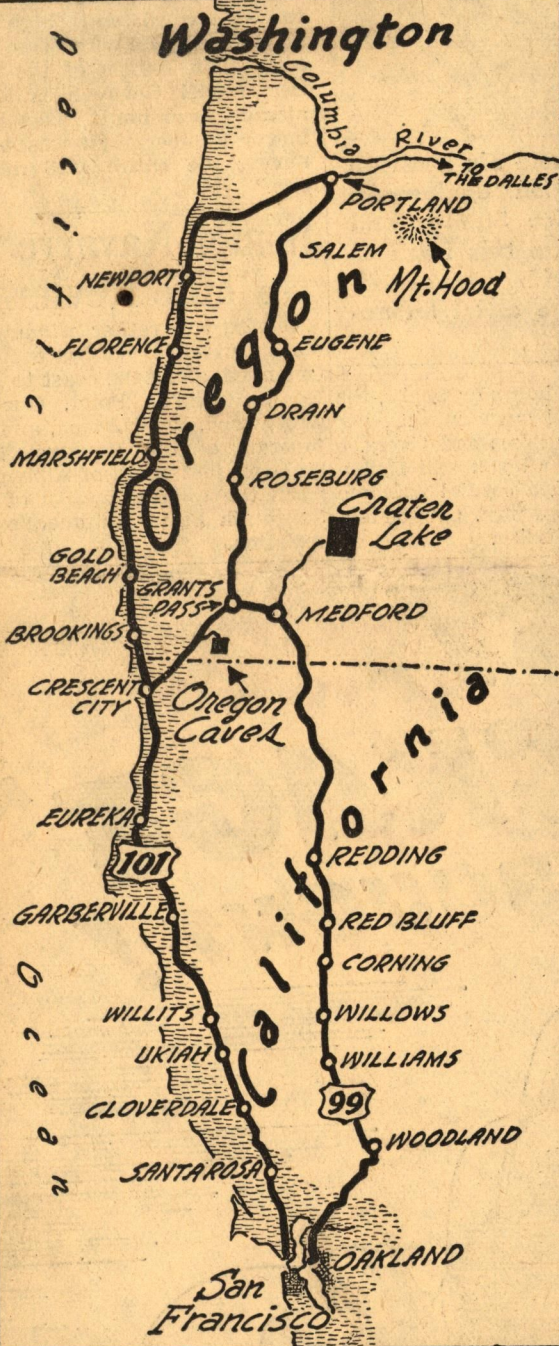
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TWO great highways tap some of Oregon's wonders. Map by Staff Artist Mork.

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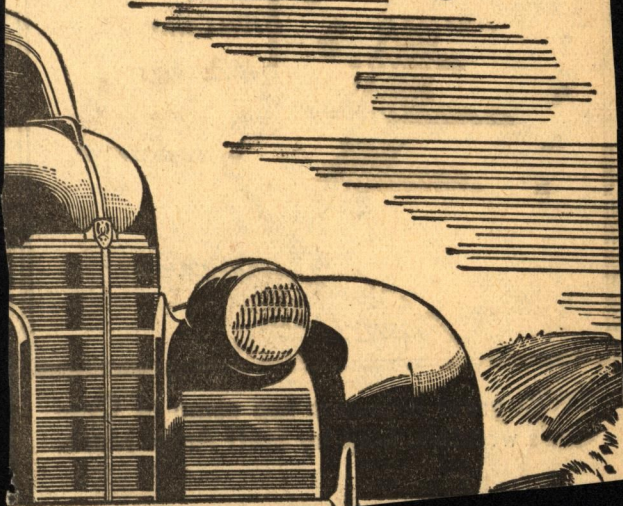
f hours or weeks, the
her mountains, her
r lakes and rivers.
e all you will find a
d, a cordial welcome
you turn. Oregon is a
pitality.

"Oldsmobile production has
run at a consistently high fig-
ure to keep pace with sales, and
more than 100,000 of the cur-
rent model Oldsmobiles have
already been built. This is
larger number than was built
during the entire 1938 model
run."

Jenner-Navarro Route Review

Oiled road, rather winding
places, extends via State Route
One north along the coast to Fort
Ross, Stewart's Point, Gualala,
Greenwood, Point Arena, and the
junction of the Navarro River
highway just south of Albion, re-
ports the touring bureau of the
California State Automobile As-
sociation.

**ST.
PACKAGE
BOUGHT!**



An accurate survey of Visalia as it existed in 1859 and prophetic of the future is the following article which appeared in the Delta of July 9, 1859:

"Young Visalia--Few people beyond the borders of our country, and indeed some within its boundaries who have never visited our thriving young town, can form any adequate idea of its resources, its rapid advancement in wealth and population and its prospects of future greatness. Its name is often mentioned abroad and the inquirer anxious for information frequently asks, 'Where is Visalia?'

"The day is not far distant, however, when the whole world ~~will~~ shall know where Visalia is and when its name shall be no more an enigma to the most unsophisticated. Indeed, its importance as being the nucleus of one of the richest agricultural portions of the state is beginning already to attract attention to California and the influx of populations this season has been enormous.

"Though it is now but four years since the settlement of this place commenced, it has been rapidly increasing in wealth and importance, not with the feverish excitement which characterizes the growth of many of our western towns which spring up in a year or two and then remain stationary for double that length of time, but with a steady and continually increasing growth which augurs for its future growth, until it occupies no inferior place in the catalogue of country towns.

more

ad one 1859 editorial

"Our population at present numbers one thousand souls and from its rapid increase for the few months past we may reasonably expect that the same will be doubled during the next year

"Local improvements--The improvements of all kind speak highly for the enterprise of its citizens and show that while they possess a reasonable and laudable desire to advance their individual interests, no narrow or sordid motives exist to prevent their devotion to public improvements. Indeed, we may say without egotism that no town can be found in the state whose citizens manifest a more lively interest in public improvements and where enterprise appealing to their sympathy meet a more hearty response.

"Every street is supplied with good running water which is brought a distance of over one mil by Mr. Matthew's race, which besides supplying the town with water furnishes water sufficient to run a grist mill. As a specimen of public improvements we may mention the court house and jail, consisting of a brick edifice built in the Roman style of architecture, forty by 60 feet and two stories in height.

"One half the basement is finished and contains six cells with a wall between and around the whole. The cells are lined with boiler iron with doors of the same material. The front part is intended when finished for the offices of the county clerk and sheriff. The upper story is the court room and is sufficiently capacious to contain 1000 persons, and when finished will be one of the finest rooms of the kind in the state.

"Messrs Palmer, Redd and company are the architects who built this admirable structure, and it is not too much to say that such a court house would be an ornament to any village in the state.

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ad two 1859 editorial

"We also have a respectable church, which when completed will be a comfortable place of worship. There is also a frame school house, which with some few needed improvements, will become a comfortable place for the instruction of the young. It is believed, however, that we shall soon be able to build a larger and more commodious house for young America.

"The artesian well now being dug on the corner of Main and Court streets (should its ineptors succeed in getting water, as there can be little doubt they will) will be an estimable blessing to our town by supplying its citizens with good, pure and more than all, cold water, which is such a luxury in warm weather."

The artesian well, as related elsewhere in the ⁿAnniversaries Edition, did not materialize as a source of drinking water but proved an excellent pump well and was used by the fire department for years.

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place (120)
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Porterville, situated in the southeastern part of Tulare county and now a citrus fruit center, has an interesting history which, as far as the thie men are concerned, dates from 1849.

Porter ville was on the old immigrant road and on the overland stage line by reason of the fact that in those early days it was necessary to keep to the high ground to avoid the marshes of the lowland. Along the base of the spur of hills which here projects into the valley lay the natural route. In those days, as ~~knxtnxaxxyzxzx~~ today, passersby found the place attractive and many immigrant trains found along the banks of the Tule river pleasant camping and resting places, the first encountered for early day travelers in days.

In 1849, J.B. Hockett and party camped at the sie of what is now Porterville. A Mr. Clapp settled here in 1856 or 1857. ~~Th~~ In the late 1850's, a number of settlers had made locations and when the Overland Mail from San Francisco to St. Louis was established in 1859, a stage station was located in the settlement.

Royal Porter Putnam was in charge of the station, became opular with the settlers who called him by his middle name and soon the settlement became known as Porter's station. When the stage route was abandoned in 1861, Putnam established a hotel and store and theh it came to be known as Porterville.

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ad one porterville and ~~tulare~~ ^{plano}

The chief occupation of those living in and around Porterville in the days before the Civil War was cattle raising. The grain ~~az~~ era started in 1874 but floods followed drought disheartened some of the settlers. Not until the coming of the railroad in 1888 did Porterville welcome prosperity.

The first orange grove of 60 trees was planed by Deming Gibbons onf his land where Plano now is situated in 1870. These trees were seedlings and for 12 years oranges of quality or quantity failed to appear.

The citrus industry was given added impetus ~~in~~ by A.R. Henry of Pasadena and by 1892, 300 scattered acres were in citrus fruit. During this year a bill proposing the segregation of the Porterville district from the remainder of Tulare county was intoroduced in the s tate legislature but was defeated in 1893. Residents of the area, to demonstrate the future possibilities of Porterville, had installed an exhibit of vitrus fruit and apples at Sacramento. Experts and men prominent in the fruit industry pronounced the fruit equal to any grown south of the Tehachapi.

Porterville was made a city of the sixth class in 1902 after a number of leading citizens appeared before the law makers at Sacramento. The charter was granted, after the slashing of much red tape and the area entered upon a period of real development.

One of The turning pointsin the history of Porterville probably occurred in January 1862, when the Tule river changed its course. Up to that time the course of the river was from a southeast to northwest direction through the present boundary of the city, the channel being in between what is now Second and Third streets, turningm toward the northwest around Bartl ett hill and flowing west.

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The winter of 1861-1862 was a wet one and after a hard rain in the mountains east of the settlement which washed out whole trees and sent them whirling down its crooked course, the channel of the river became clogged at a point southeast of Porterville and the flood waters cut a new channel more directly toward the west, a course it has followed to the present time. Great damage was caused by the flood waters but ~~it~~ it may be that if the river had not changed its course, there might never have been the modern porterville ~~which is~~ a large part of which is built in the old river bed.

The year 1864 stands out as another one important in the history of Porterville, the great drought occurring in that year. Settlers lost many of their cattle, their main source of livelihood at that time. Flour soared to a dollar a pound and hay needed for feeding the starving stock, brought as much as \$50 a ton.

In 1864, the Pioneer ditch was constructed, water being taken from the Tule river in the foothills east of Porterville and brought through a winding course that carries it through the city toward the west, supplying water to hundreds of acres of fertile land.

The ditch was built by a man named Clark and his partner, Flake, built a grist mill on the hillside of what later became Murray park, deriving power for the mill from the waterfalls in the ditch. These waterfalls also produced the first electric power used in lighting the streets of Porterville. Porterville's first water system was formed when water from the ditch was pumped into two huge wooden tanks situated on the highest point of this small hill, and piped into the city.

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ad two porterville and ~~others~~ *Flare*

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ad three porterville and plano

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Had it not been for an epidemic of ague fever which swept the area, causing many of its settlers to move to the Porterville side of the river, Plano, instead of Porterville, might have become the leading city on the ~~Tule~~ Tule river. By 1872, Porterville had a hotel, two stores, one saloon, a blacksmith shop but no school or church building. Porter Putnam gave the property for the first school in 1874.

In 1873, the first bridge was built across the Tule river, this being a step in the development of the settlement but the coming of the first train in 1888 was a more important event in the history of the area.

Porterville is not dependent upon any one crop for prosperity. The seven major industries of the district may be listed as follows, according to their relative importance: citrus fruit, beef cattle, deciduous orchards (including grapes), cotton magnesite mining, poultry raising and dairying.

The early settlers of Porterville were not without their Indian problem. Living in the Tule river vicinity when the first white men arrived, there were hundreds of red men. In about 1857, an Indian agency was established east of Porterville and at one time more than 3000 Indians were registered there. They were peaceful except when filled with "fire water." more

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