



Proclamation by Governor Walter Pierce: Department of Corrections Records

Transcript of 1925 Document

OREGON STATE PENITENTIARY \$1,000 REWARD
SALEM, OREGON
PROCLAMATION

On Wednesday evening, August 12 at about 6 o'clock P. M., four prisoners, namely: Bert Jones, James Willos, Tom Murray and Ellsworth Kelley, escaped from the State Penitentiary at Salem, Oregon, murdering J. M. Holman and John Sweeney, guards, and seriously wounding Lute Savage, guard. Bert Jones, one of the escaping convicts, was killed by John Davidson, a guard.

The murder of these two faithful guards was an atrocious crime, and I feel that every official in the state of Oregon should make every possible effort to effect the capture of these escaped convicts and return them to the Oregon State Penitentiary for punishment as provided by law.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Walter M. Pierce, Governor of the State of Oregon, by virtue of the authority in me vested, do hereby proclaim that I shall recommend to the next succeeding legislature of the State of Oregon that a reward of \$1,000.00 be paid by the State of Oregon to the person or persons instrumental in the apprehension and return of each of said convicts, James Willos, Tom Murray and Ellsworth Kelley, dead or alive.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the State of Oregon to be hereunto affixed this 13th day of August, 1925.

WALTER M. PIERCE,
Governor of Oregon.

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