

Official web site of

Oregon Secretary of State

Exhibit Home

**OREGON. MIDNIGHT. JANUARY 16, 1920.
...NATIONAL PROHIBITION IS NOW IN EFFECT.**

If you lived in Oregon and were involved in the alcohol business, you were gambling with your freedom. If caught, the penalties came with hefty consequences. No more short county jail stints, simple fines or a proverbial slap on the wrist. You were going to the big house. Almost 400 men and women ranging from teenagers to senior citizens, were incarcerated at the Oregon State Penitentiary between 1920 and 1933 for alcohol violations. Here are a few of their stories.

Introduction

[Prohibition in Oregon](#)

[Prohibition Violations by County Map](#)

[Prohibition Arrests by County Map](#)

Faces of Prohibition

[The Remaley Gang](#)

[Ernest Patrick](#)

[Carroll \(Jack\) Atkinson](#)

[Five Women from Arizona](#)

[Chris Hertig](#)

[Howard Coffman](#)

[John Lowe, Nels Andreson and Fay Wise](#)

[Fador Kables](#)

[William Short](#)

[P.T. Kirby, Clyde Alley and William Ober](#)

[Harold Wilson](#)

[Jack "Ingersoll" Wheaton](#)

[Guy Buffington and Joe Sellers](#)

[Russell Hecker](#)

Clara Nichols

A Wall of Faces

Appendix

Prohibition Memorabilia

After Prohibition: Still Raid Photos

Credits and Acknowledgements



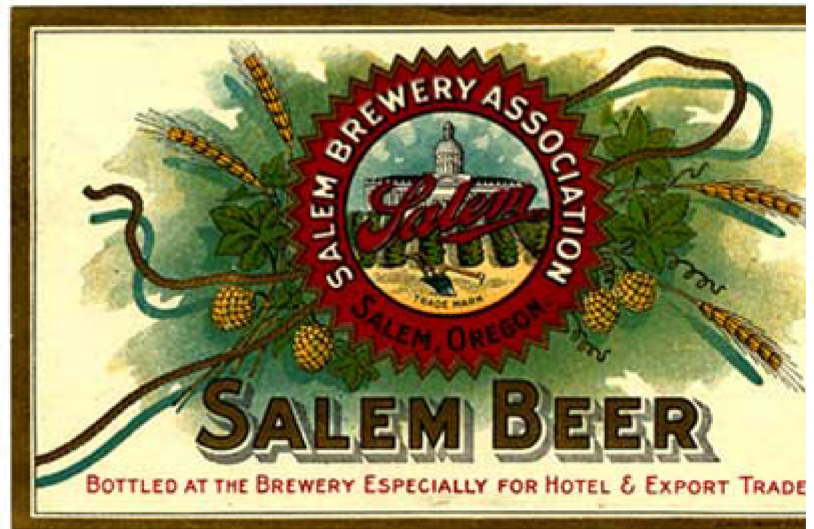
Hundreds of people spent time in the Oregon State Penitentiary on convictions related to Prohibition.

Prohibition in Oregon

Overview

In 1844, while the Oregon Country was still separate from the United States, its citizens attempted to control the manufacture and sale of liquor. Despite this effort, a thriving commerce developed to import, brew, distill and dispense a variety of products. But resulting social problems by the late 1800s led to the temperance movement, which forced the question of a ban on liquor to the forefront of the national debate.

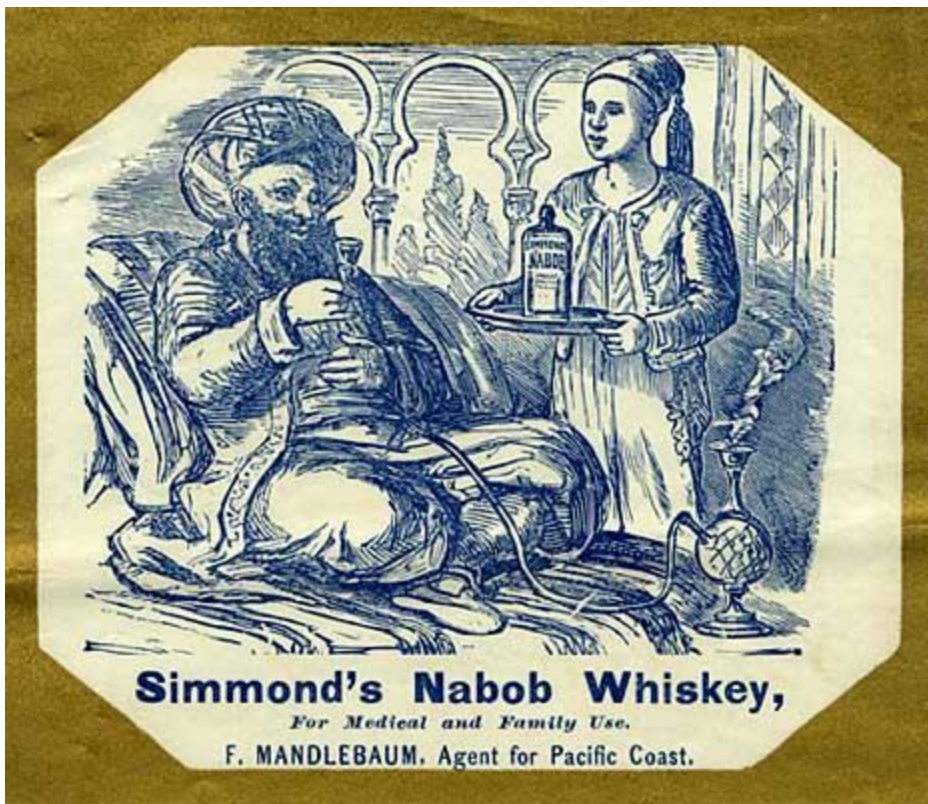
By 1916 Oregonians began to live with prohibition when a state law took effect three years before the ratification of the 18th amendment to the U.S. Constitution that banned liquor nationally. But soon enterprising individuals—and organized crime—filled the void with illegal stills, bootlegging, rum-running and speakeasies. Oregon law enforcement geared up to respond but couldn't match the challenge. Eventually, Oregon and the rest of the nation tired of the exercise and voters conceded that the "noble experiment" was a failure. In 1933 they repealed both the state law and the national constitutional amendment related to Prohibition.



This trademark label is one of many that date to a period before liquor prohibition in Oregon. Salem Beer - #860, Salem Brewery Association, Oregon, 1904. (Oregon State Archives Trademark Labels)

A Growth Industry

Oregonians liberally slaked their collective thirst with local brews and spirits in the decades before prohibition. Local breweries and drinking establishments abounded. Drinkers could also choose from a variety of concoctions imported from other states and countries. The freewheeling capitalism of this period created a need for liquor manufacturers to differentiate their products from those of competitors. To do this they turned to artists who designed colorful bottle labels meant to evoke the beauty of the location or the romance of an imagined time or place. The tired and thirsty were thus enticed to leave troubles of the day behind.



Oregonians could choose from a variety of imported alcoholic beverages before Prohibition. This one evokes a vision of an exotic setting. Simmond's Nabob Whiskey - #54 George Simmonds, California, 1879 (Oregon State Archives Trademark Labels)

Regulation

Most early laws relating to liquor control were intended to prevent Native Americans from possessing liquor. In June 1844, Oregon's provisional government passed a prohibition law designed to "prevent the introduction, sale and distillation of ardent spirits in Oregon." While later repealed, the law has been described as the first prohibition in the United States.

Instead of total prohibition, Oregon later passed laws to regulate liquor sales. These tended to specify licensing criteria for the selling of liquor, and in some cases banned the sale of alcohol in areas near construction projects and churches, or to minors and the intoxicated. However, public drunkenness and sensational stories of brawls and domestic abuse fueled by alcohol outraged many reformers.

Temperance Movement

As a result, the temperance movement gained attention in the United States in the late 1800s. Led by the Women's Christian Temperance Union (WCTU) and the Anti-Saloon League, public protests against saloons became commonplace. The fame of such figures as the hatchet-wielding Carrie Nation, who entered saloons and smashed liquor containers and other paraphernalia, brought the temperance movement to the attention of the nation, including the citizens of Oregon.

The temperance movement was joined by the women's suffrage movement in an attempt to enact both as needed social reforms. But the two movements were unable to work together effectively. In Oregon, prominent women's suffrage advocate Abigail Scott Duniway blamed the prohibitionists for many of

suffrage's defeats at the polls. By 1912, when voters finally approved women's suffrage in Oregon, the movements had split.

Supporters of prohibition envisioned a society with less crime, domestic abuse, neglect and accidents. They believed people whose lives had revolved around saloons and drinking would be transformed into better spouses, parents and workers. Freed from the debilitating effects of alcohol, these people would rise to a higher moral plane and become more productive citizens. As a result, the nation would grow stronger.

Local Options

Oregon voters approved the local option act in 1904. This law established that a successful county-wide vote for prohibition would make each precinct in the county subject to the ban on alcohol. In 1905 the Legislative Assembly enacted statutes enabling the implementation of the local option law. That same year the city of Hood River enacted prohibition by local option election. Subsequent challenges to the local option law during 1905-1907 resulted in local option being upheld by the Oregon Supreme Court. During the following years, various counties and cities enacted prohibition via use of the local option.



Temperance leader Carrie Nation stands with her hatchet and bible.

<i>Morals and Business</i>		
Suffer in Every Prohibition Town		
Do You Want to Follow the Examples of Eugene and Albany; Double Both Taxes and Increase Violations of Law		
EUGENE	ARRESTS 1 to 24	TAX RATE 15 Mills
ALBANY	ARRESTS 1 to 27	TAX RATE 13.3 Mills
SALEM	ARRESTS 1 to 37	TAX RATE 8.2 Mills

STUB To be torn off by the Chairman		STUB To be torn off by the first Clerk	
OFFICIAL BALLOT			
FOR			
Salem No. 1 Precinct			
Marion County, Oregon, November 4, 1913			
Vote for or against prohibition of the sale of intoxicating liquors for beverage purposes, for the entire City of Salem, consisting of Precincts Salem No. 1, Salem No. 2, Salem No. 3, Salem No. 4, Salem No. 5, Salem No. 6, Salem No. 7, Salem No. 8, Salem No. 9, Salem No. 10, in Marion County, Oregon.			
Mark X between Number and Answer Voted For:			
12.	For Prohibition.		
13.	X Against Prohibition.		
SALEM WELFARE LEAGUE			

Beginning in 1904, a local option law gave communities the right to choose whether or not to ban alcohol. This set off fierce debates over the issue. This mock ballot argued against prohibition in 1913. (Oregon State Library subject vertical files on prohibition, 1913) [View a transcript of the mock ballot](#)

(<https://records.sos.state.or.us/ORSOSWebDrawer/RecordHtml/7255090>)

Statewide Prohibition

Owners and employees of breweries, distilleries, saloons and related businesses warned of the negative unintended consequences of expanding to statewide prohibition, including the prediction that a criminal element would fill the void left by the loss of legitimate businesses related to liquor.

But despite the warnings, on Nov. 3, 1914, five years prior to national prohibition, the voters of Oregon passed an amendment to the state constitution prohibiting the manufacture, sale or advertisement of

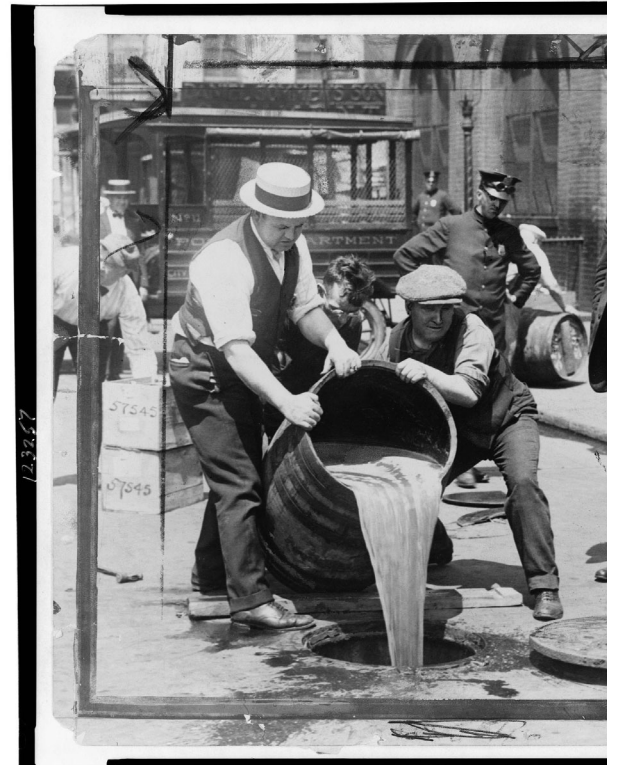
intoxicating liquor. In 1915 the Legislative Assembly, via the Anderson Act, enacted legislation implementing statewide prohibition. The law became effective Jan. 1, 1916. Less than a year later, in November 1916, voters defeated a proposed state constitutional amendment to permit the sale of beer. In 1917 the Oregon Supreme Court upheld prohibition in a challenge to the new law's constitutionality.

National Prohibition

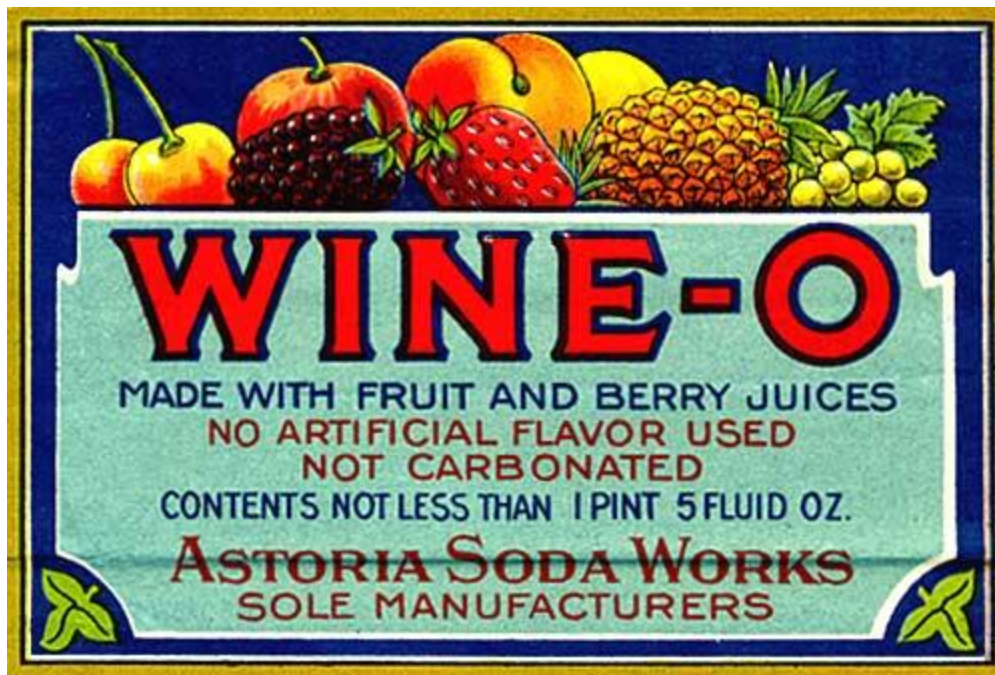
In 1919, following the passage of the federal Volstead Act, the Oregon Legislative Assembly ratified the 18th amendment to the U.S. Constitution; this helped pave the way for national prohibition. Local officials, along with federal revenue agents, sought out and prosecuted violators. Among other provisions, the act declared that "no person shall manufacture, sell, barter, transport, import, export, deliver, or furnish any intoxicating liquor except as authorized by this act."

Inevitable Loopholes

However, the new law did not specifically prohibit the consumption of intoxicating liquors, which were defined as more than 0.5% alcohol by volume. In a perfect display of human nature, people across the country stocked up on their favorite alcoholic beverages in the period leading up to enforcement of the act. Others took advantage of a provision allowing up to 200 gallons of "non-intoxicating cider and fruit juice" to be made each year at home. Soon people could buy large blocks of grape concentrate known as "wine bricks." Instructions admonished people to avoid dissolving the concentrate in water and putting the mix in jugs for 20 days because the resulting fermentation would create wine. Other creative examples of skirting the law circulated around Oregon and the nation.



New York City Deputy Police Commissioner John A. Leach, right, oversees agents pouring liquor into sewer following a raid after the passage of the federal Volstead Act prohibiting alcohol. (**Image from Library of Congress** (<https://www.loc.gov/pictures/resource/cph.3c23257/>))



This colorful Astoria Soda Works label for a fruit beverage was designed to evoke fond memories of life before Prohibition. (Oregon State Archives Trademark Labels)

Mock Beverages

Prohibition also created other new entirely legal possibilities for those with good imaginations. For the enterprising, determined to stay within the bounds of the law, there were commercial opportunities. Many attempted to evoke fond memories of the period before prohibition. They formulated non-alcoholic drinks that included words associated with liquor.

Businesses that had been active in the liquor industry scrambled to find new ways to stay afloat. Henry Weinhard's, a Portland brewery, bought out Puritan Manufacturing Company and thereby gained the rights to manufacture such non-alcoholic beverages as Ras-Porter, Graport, Loganport, and Cherriport. Others simply let their frustration show in the period just after prohibition took effect. Jesse Day of Prineville was apparently so disgusted that he registered a trademark with the title "Nothing." In what must have been a biting commentary on the times, the trademark was to apply to a "temperance beverage."

Laws and Lawbreakers

In 1923 the Legislative Assembly established the Prohibition Commission to enforce the state's liquor laws. In later years it passed laws to assist public officials in the prosecution of crimes stemming from the prohibition of liquor, particularly the granting of greater powers to the police with regard to search and seizure. In 1931 the Legislative Assembly abolished the Prohibition Commission, transferring all enforcement to the State Police.

However, opportunities continued to exist for those willing to break the law. Some of these people were caught by law enforcement. While not able to locate every illegal still, officials carefully tracked those used for legal purposes. Police reports documented extensive surveillance by state prohibition officers, sheriff's deputies and others. These often led to arrests and fines.



Officials were assisted in their efforts to "stamp out bootlegging" by informants who provided details about illegal organizations in Oregon. For example, an informant's tip landed Richard Sargent in the county jail, \$500 poorer. His partner, who later escaped, told deputies they couldn't go upstairs because there was a sick person there. Instead, they found Sargent with an elaborate still. However, his partner may not have been lying—Sargent was released early from the county jail because he was suffering from tuberculosis.

View the related report

<https://records.sos.state.or.us/ORSOSWebDrawer/Recordhtml/7255106>

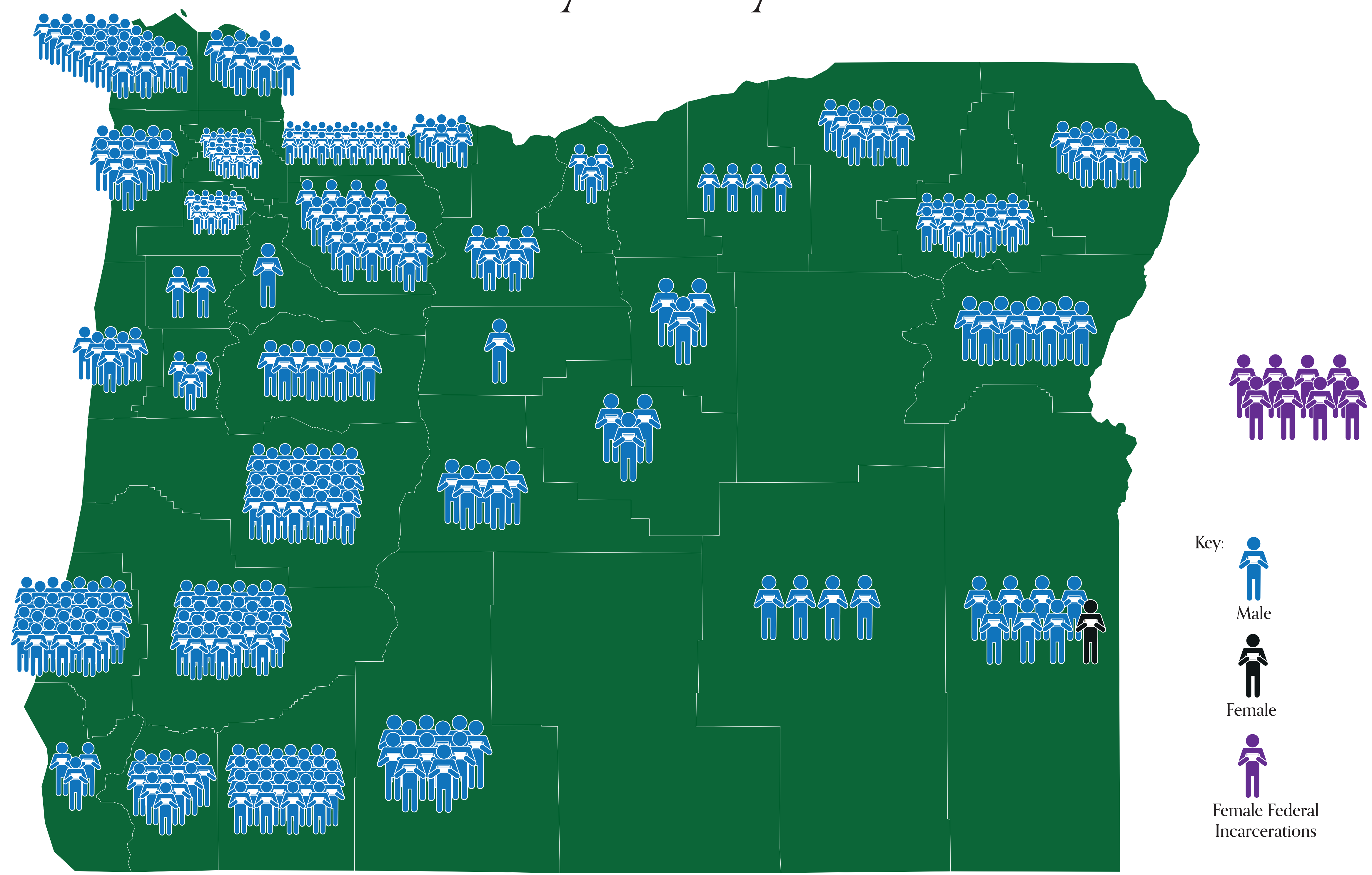
While diminished greatly, moonshining didn't end in Oregon with the repeal of Prohibition. This still was put out of business during a 1969 raid. The Oregon Liquor Control Commission (OLCC) continues to regulate alcohol in the state. (Oregon Liquor Control Commission photo)

The Repeal of Prohibition

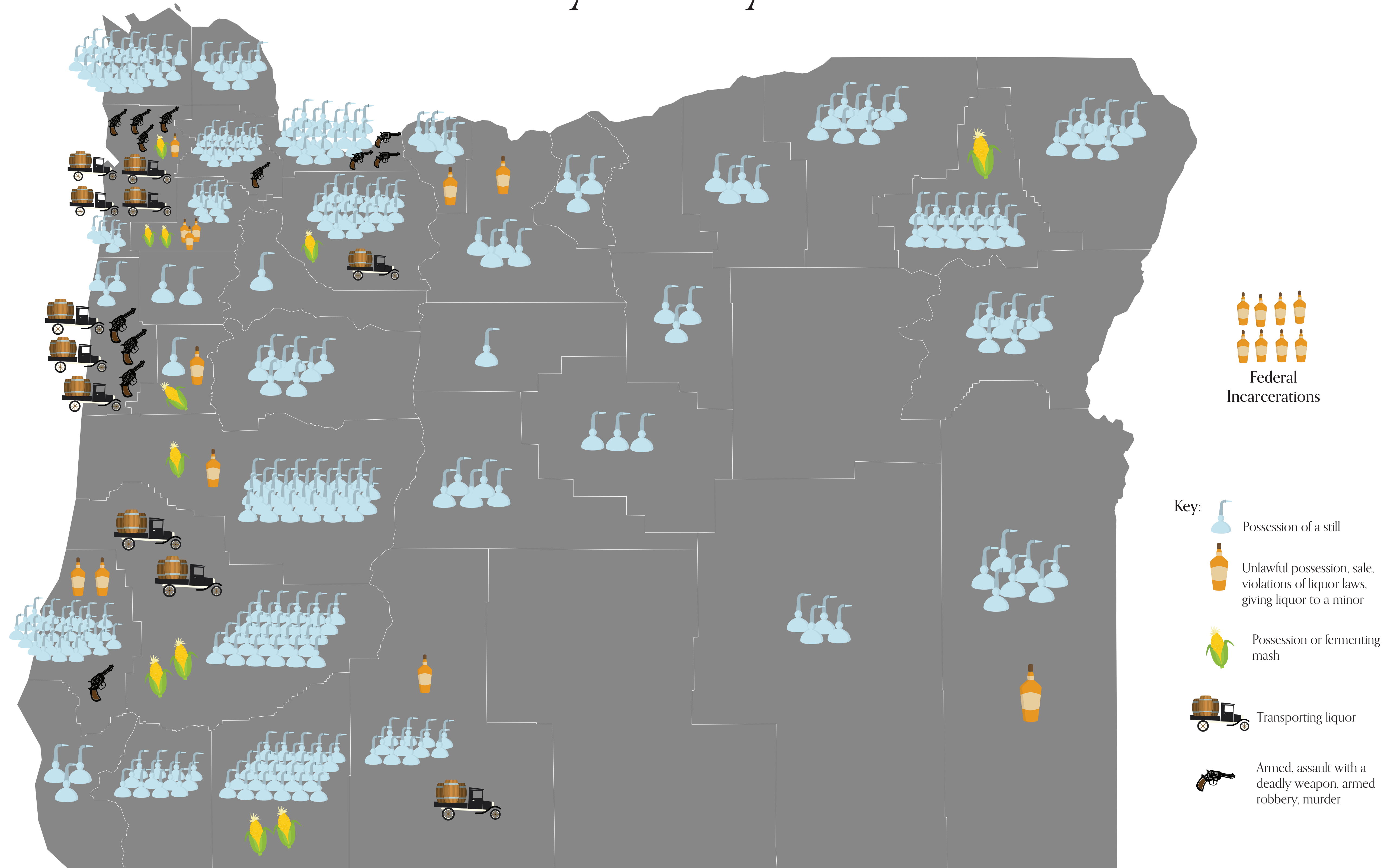
In 1925 and 1931 the Oregon Legislative Assembly refused to pass bills that would have sent to the voters a call to reconsider statewide prohibition. "Wet" interests finally used the initiative petition to put the question before voters in November 1932. Voters passed this initiative, effectively eliminating the state's machinery for penalizing infringements of the prohibition laws. In the summer of 1933, voters repealed Oregon's constitutional prohibition amendment, and shortly after Oregon ratified the 21st amendment to the U.S. Constitution, repealing national prohibition.

This did not mark the end of liquor control in the State of Oregon. Almost immediately following the repeal of national prohibition, Governor Julius Meier began efforts resulting in the formation of the Oregon Liquor Control Commission, or OLCC, which continues selective regulation of liquor manufacture and sales in the state.

Arrests by County



Violations by County



The Remaley Gang

The Canadian rumrunners were in a bit of a pickle. Not only did they lose their powerboat while attempting to slip into Whale Cove on a moonless night in early February 1932, but their cache of liquor was apprehended by local police and their escape plan was thwarted. Now the three were enjoying luxury accommodations at the Lincoln County Jail awaiting trial on bootlegging charges.

“Tonight there’s gonna be a jailbreak...somewhere in this town” - Thin Lizzy

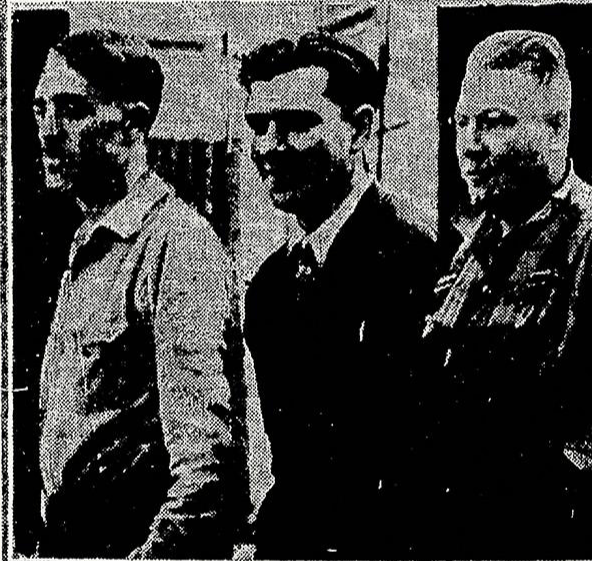
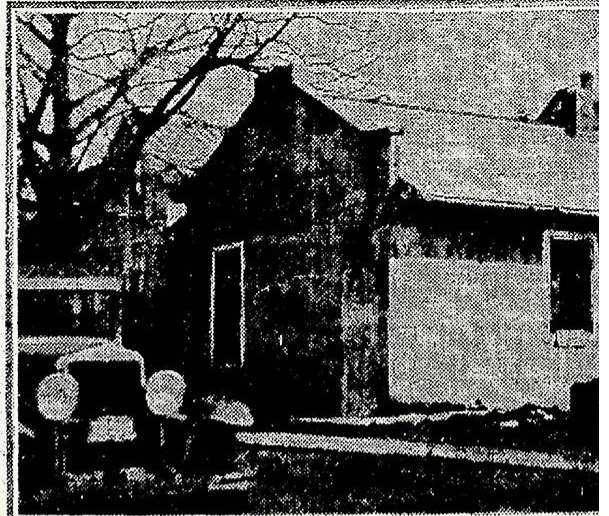
On the night of March 19, 1932, four vehicles entered the town of Toledo. A large sedan led the convoy, followed by two sizeable trucks, and a Buick coupe. The coupe contained two men armed with machine guns. The nine men, known to be part of the “Remaley Gang” were also believed to be part of a coast-wide rum running syndicate. They had come to break out the three Canadians and their substantial cache of liquor. Roughly 400 cases of Canadian whiskey, rum, and brandy, along with several dozen 15 gallon cans of 190 proof alcohol were locked in the jail’s evidence room.

One of the trucks pulled up near the jailhouse. Sidney Carrick, equipped with a bucket of welding equipment including a cutting torch, got to work. Fifteen minutes later he had the locks cut off and the prisoners were free. Carrick next cut his way into the evidence locker and soon the rest of the crew were hauling boxes of booze out to the trucks. The men with the machine guns sat in the Buick keeping watch. A few minutes later the liquor laden trucks and the Canadians were heading toward Portland. The two lookouts left the convoy and disappeared into the night.

Unbeknownst to the crew, Portland authorities received an anonymous phone call warning them that something was going to happen in Toledo that night. This tip was relayed to the Oregon State Police to investigate and state troopers were about 20 minutes from Toledo when they passed the convoy heading north. After they saw the damage done to the Lincoln County Jail, they turned around in hot pursuit.

The trucks stopped to refuel at the Salmon River cut-off, while the sedan continued north. It was there the state troopers caught up to them, apprehended the men, and repossessed the liquor--but they still needed to capture the sedan! A few plain clothes troopers jumped into the trucks to pursue the vehicle, with the hope of catching the occupants unaware and avoiding a high-speed chase or shootout.

The troopers caught up with the sedan, which had pulled over to wait for the trucks to finish refueling. By the time the criminals realized what was going on, they were looking down the barrels of .38s. The bootleggers were taken into custody and housed in the Benton and Tillamook County jails. Everyone involved was convicted on various liquor and prison-break charges, both federal and state offenses.



PRINCIPALS IN TOLEDO JAIL DELIVERY

Top—Lincoln county jail at Toledo, where delivery took place. Center right—Three of party which liberated prisoners from Lincoln county jail Sunday morning alleged to be connected with burning motor car on Sea Island February 7 near De Poe bay and held on charges of violation of prohibition law. Left—Burt Chapin. Center—Paul Remaley, said to be brains of gang. Right—S. U. Carrick. These held in Benton county jail at Corvallis until Toledo jail is repaired. Center, left—Some of seized liquor. Bottom—Three alleged rum runners, who were released from Toledo jail; from left, W. L. Kerr, C. T. Ryall and A. S. Babcock.

Photos from the March 22, 1932 *Morning Oregonian* newspaper show men involved in the jailbreak at the Lincoln County Jail in Toledo. [Transcript with enlarged image of article](#)



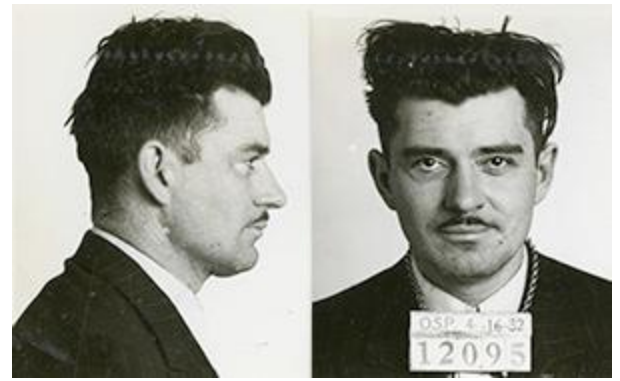
HIJACKED LIQUOR LODGED IN CUSTOM HOUSE FOR SAFETY

Above—The liquor-laden truck as it backed up to the custom house door to be unloaded. Standing at the rear of the truck is J. C. Holden, sheriff of Tillamook county (left), and C. W. Barrick, district attorney (right). Seated are Ira Warren, Tillamook, and R. A. Grenfell, McMinnville, state police corporal, who were among the police to escort the 301 cases here from Tillamook. Below—W. K. Newell, deputy federal prohibition administrator (left), and Sheriff Holden standing in the vault where the liquor was stored.

Photos from the March 27, 1932 *Morning Oregonian* newspaper show officials with the liquor hijacked from the Lincoln County Jail in Toledo.

About the Inmates

Paul Remaley, a record holding international motorcycle racer, was considered a “big shot” in the bootlegging racket in Oregon. He had quite a few liquor charges dating back to 1922 before receiving a five year sentence for his part in breaking out the three Canadian rumrunners. Remaley knew things that he felt might help his case. He decided to contact Parole Officer Dan Kellaher and provide states’ evidence on corrupt officials and known criminals with the hope of getting an early release. He served about 20 months of a five year sentence before being paroled.



Paul Remaley's Oregon State Penitentiary mug shot.

Remaley was out of prison a short time before being incarcerated at McNeil Island Federal Prison for six years for his part in operating an illegal still in December of 1934 along with Cecil Tartarini and Walter Thompson aka Albert Johnson who received four years. He continued illegal liquor activities after his release from Federal Prison.

#12095

Name: Paul Remaley

Received: April 16, 1932

Paroled: December 20, 1933

Crime: Burglary in a Dwelling

County: Lincoln

Age: 32

Height: 5'10 1/4"

Weight: 169lbs

Build: Medium

Hair: Black

Eyes: Dark Brown

Complexion: Dark

Born: Pennsylvania

Occupation: Auto Mechanic

Bert Chapin had quite a few liquor charges dating back to 1924 before receiving a five year sentence for his part in breaking out the three Canadian rumrunners. Chapin served about 20 months of a five year sentence before being paroled.

#12096

Name: Bert Chapin

Received: April 16, 1932

Paroled: December 19, 1933



Crime: Burglary in a Dwelling
County: Lincoln
Age: 37
Height: 5'11 3/4"
Weight: 142lbs
Build: Slender
Hair: Dark Brown
Eyes: Light Blue
Complexion: Medium
Born: Iowa
Occupation: Truck Driver

Bert Chapin's Oregon State Penitentiary mug shot.

Sidney Carrick was a familiar face to the Multnomah County Police with multiple liquor charges and fines beginning in 1924. As a juvenile he was in the Oregon State Training School in 1907 for about a year for "larceny and incorrigibility."

During the court proceedings Carrick offered to fix the Lincoln County Jail free of charge. (Since he wasn't going anywhere for a while anyway, he might as well make himself useful). He also offered to make the jail break-proof if they wished. Carrick served about 20 months of a five year sentence before being paroled.



Sidney Carrick's Oregon State Penitentiary mug shot.

#12097
Name: Sydney Carrick
Received: April 16, 1932
Paroled: December 19, 1933
Crime: Burglary in a Dwelling
County: Lincoln
Age: 39
Height: 5'9"
Weight: 196lbs
Build: Chunky
Hair: Gray
Eyes: Gray
Complexion: Sallow
Born: Oregon
Occupation: Cook-Decorator, Boiler-maker

With one prior federal offense of embezzlement and sentenced to two years in McNeil Island Federal Prison in Washington State, **Albert Johnson** served one year and nine months of his three year sentence in the Oregon State Penitentiary before being pardoned.

He was out of prison a short time before being incarcerated at McNeil Island as Walter Thompson for four years for his part in operating an illegal still in December of 1934 along with Cecil Tartarini, who received four years and Paul Remaley, who received six years.

#12083

Name: Albert Johnson aka Walter Thompson

Received: April 6, 1932

Pardoned: December 20, 1933

Crime: Transportation of liquor while armed

County: Tillamook

Age: 34

Height: 5'5 1/2"

Weight: 172lbs

Build: Chunky

Hair: Light Brown

Eyes: Blue

Complexion: Fair

Born: Nebraska

Occupation: Bookkeeper



Albert Johnson's Oregon State Penitentiary mug shot.

Cecil Tartarini had run-ins with the law since he was a juvenile and continued a life of illicit activity as an adult. He had quite a few prior liquor charges dating back to 1924 before receiving a five year sentence for his part in breaking out the three Canadian rumrunners. He served one year of his three year sentence before being paroled.

Tartarini was out of prison a short time before being incarcerated at McNeil Island for four years for his part in operating an illegal still in December of 1934 along with Walter Thompson aka Albert Johnson who received four years, and Paul Remaley who received six years. He found himself back in the Oregon State Penitentiary in May of 1939 for violating the terms of his parole. He was paroled again on December 23, 1939.



Cecil Tartarini's Oregon State Penitentiary mug shot.

#12084

Name: Cecil Tartarini

Received: April 6, 1932

Paroled: April 6, 1933

Crime: Transportation of liquor while armed

County: Tillamook

Age: 28

Height: 5'7"

Weight: 158lbs

Build: Stocky

Hair: Brown

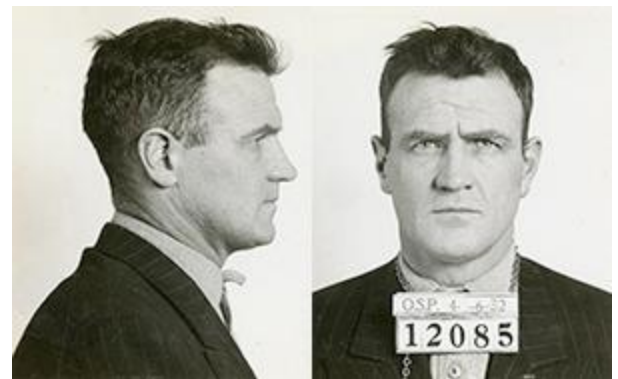
Eyes: Light Brown

Complexion: Light

Born: Oregon

Occupation: Painter

With one prior liquor offense in Washington State for operating a still, **Arthur Adams** served one year of his three year sentence before being paroled. His parole officer, Dan Kellaher, wrote to Oregon Governor Julius Meier on December 7, 1932, outlining the crimes of the group and wrote "All six of these prisoners have an idea owing to the fact that the 18th Amendment will be repealed and the Volstead Act amended, they should be permitted to be at large. It goes without saying that the stunt these prisoners pulled in order to take possession of the 300 cases of bonded whiskey in the Lincoln County Jail is considered by most people to be a pretty high-handed trick."



Arthur Adams' Oregon State Penitentiary mug shot.

Adams continued his criminal career after his release with another liquor charge in 1935. His file contains an inquiry from July 18, 1936, about his head measurements. A body had washed up out of the Willamette in Portland that friends of Adams believed may be him. He had been missing for a few months.

#12085

Name: Arthur Adams aka Charley Adams, Lester Dowling, Fred Harley/Harley

Received: April 6, 1932

Paroled: April 6, 1933

Crime: Transportation of liquor while armed

County: Tillamook

Age: 33

Height: 5'7 3/4"

Weight: 160lbs
Build: Medium
Hair: Dark Brown
Eyes: Blue
Complexion: Light
Born: Michigan
Occupation: Truck Driver

With one prior liquor offense in Washington State for operating a still, **Joseph Nordstrom** served one year of his three year sentence before being paroled.

#12086

Name: Joseph E. Nordstrom aka Nels Kruger

Received: April 6, 1932

Paroled: April 6, 1933

Crime: Transportation of liquor while armed

County: Tillamook

Age: 26

Height: 5'9 1/4"

Weight: 140lbs

Build: Slender

Hair: Light Brown

Eyes: Dark Blue

Complexion: Sandy

Born: Washington

Occupation: Carpenter



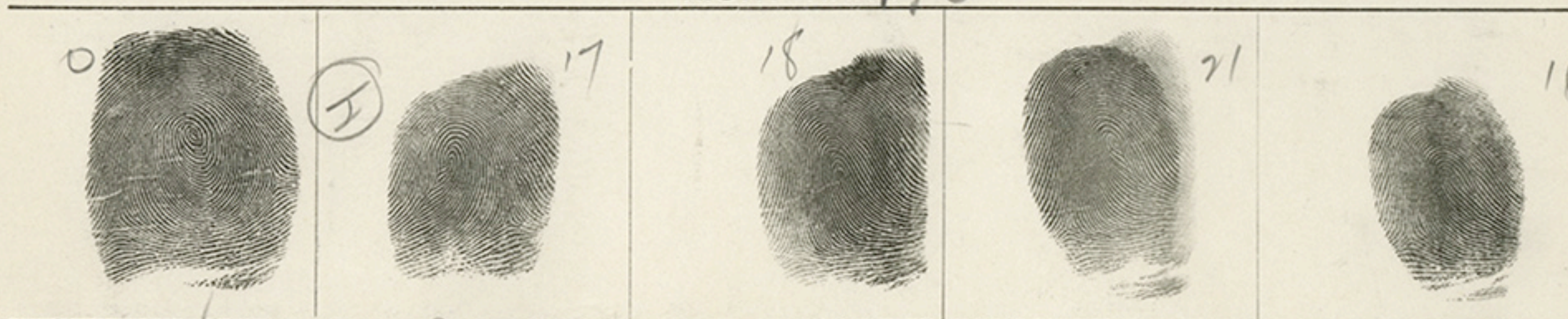
Joseph Nordstrom's Oregon State Penitentiary mug shot.

OREGON STATE PENITENTIARY, SALEM, OREGON

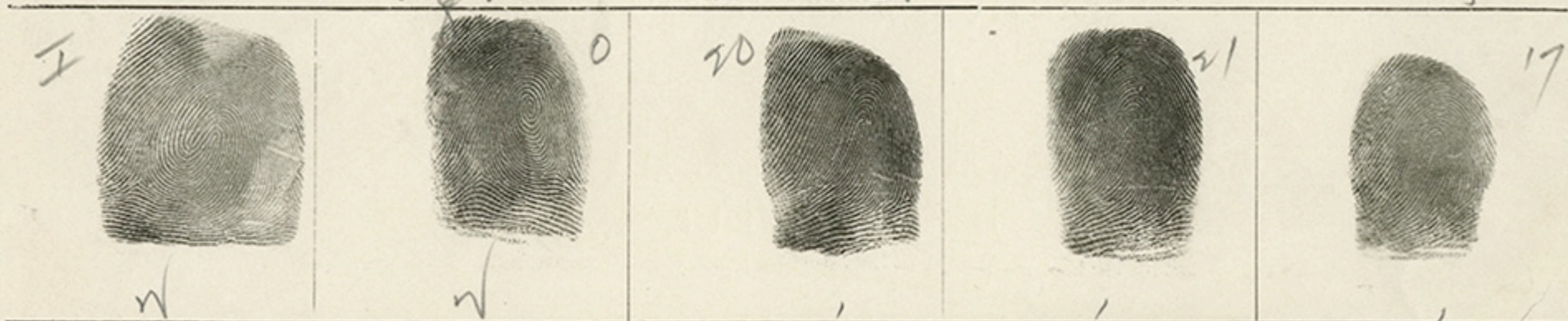
Name REMALEY, Paul No 12095 Class 5 P00 16

Alias _____ Ref 21 I 19-0 '7

RIGHT HAND 190



LEFT HAND 1



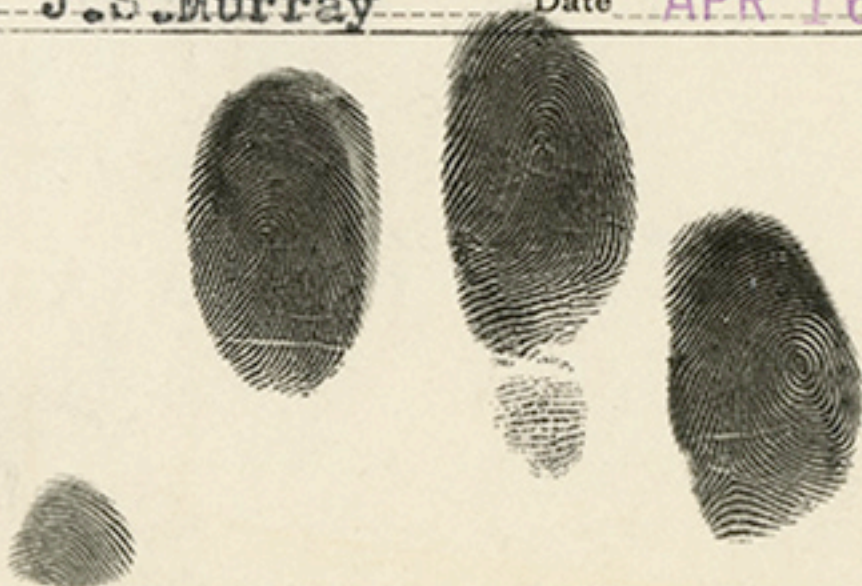
Crime Burg. in dwelling County Lincoln Sentence 5 yrs Age 32

Complexion Dark Eye Dark Brown Hair Black Weight 169

Height 5-10 1/2 Build Med. Received APR 16 1932

Previous Record: over

Taken by J.S. Murray Date APR 16 1932 Signature Paul Remaley



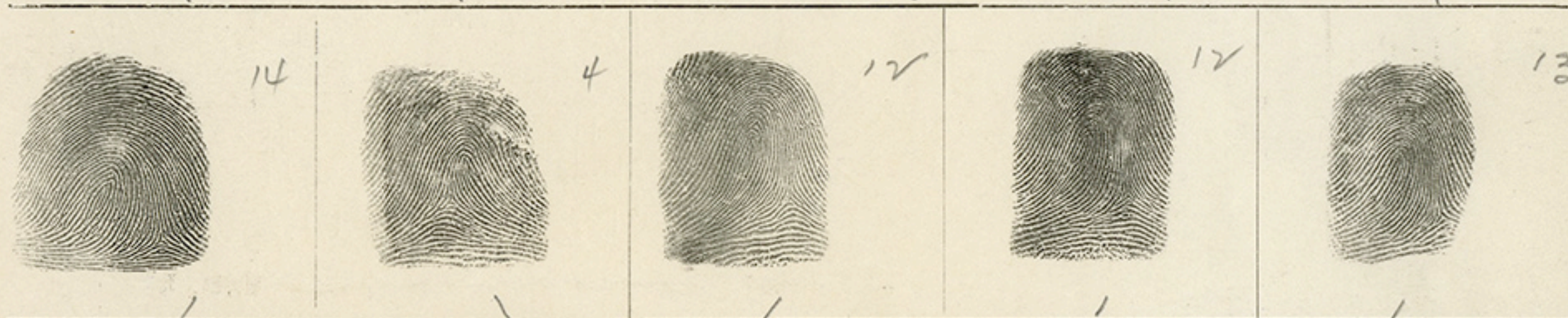
OREGON STATE PENITENTIARY, SALEM, OREGON

Name CHAPIN, Bert No 12096 Class 18/1 Tt 17
 Alias _____ Ref 1 R 13

RIGHT HAND



LEFT HAND



Crime BURGLARY IN A DWELLING County Lincoln Sentence 5 yrs Age 37
 Complexion med. Eye lt blue Hair dk. brown Weight 142
 Height 5-11 3/4 Build slender Received APR 16 1932
 Previous Record: over
 Taken by J.S. MURRAY Date APR 16 1932 Signature Bert Chapin



OREGON STATE PENITENTIARY, SALEM, OREGON

Name CARRICK, Sidney U.

No 12097

Class

15-5-U 000 14
17 U 000 12

Alias

Ref

RIGHT HAND



LEFT HAND



Crime BURGLARY IN A DWELLING

County Lincoln

Sentence 5 years

Age 39

Complexion Sallow Eye Grey

Hair Grey

Weight 196

Height 5-9

Build Chunky

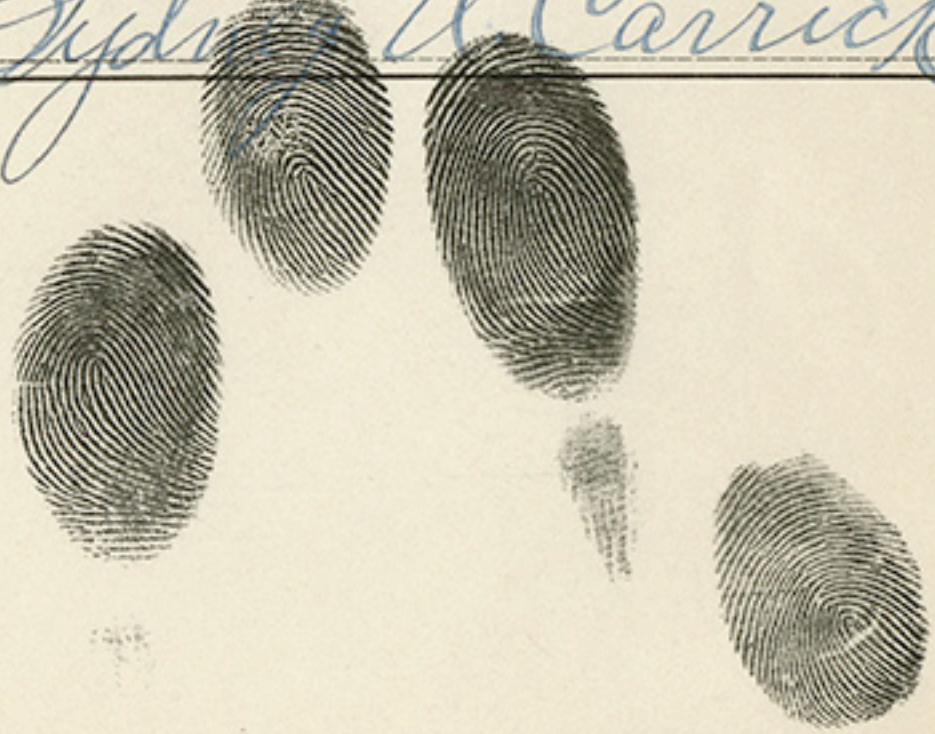
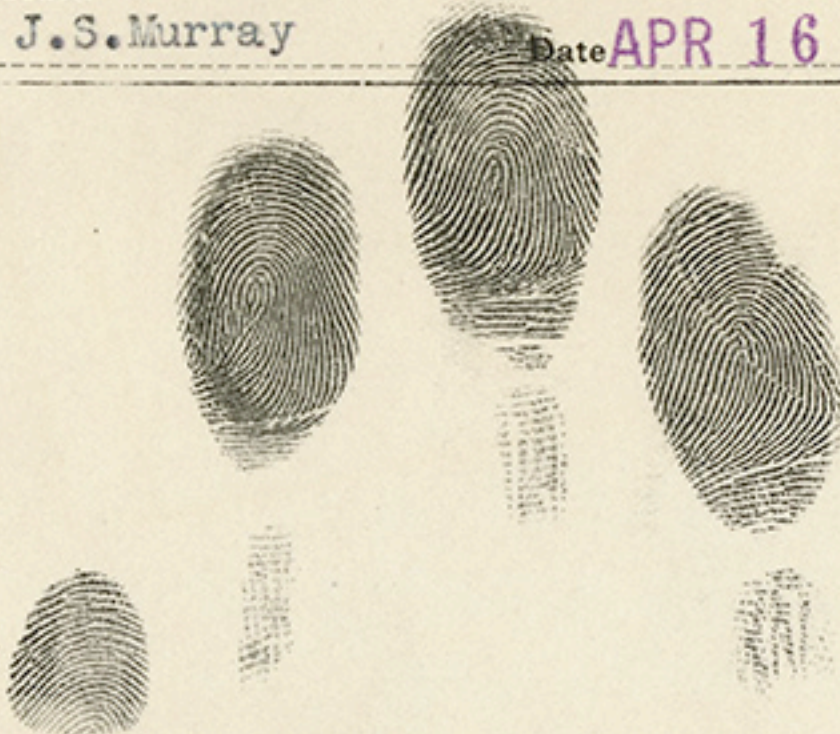
Received APR 16 1932

Previous Record:

Taken by J.S. Murray

Date APR 16 1932

Signature Sidney U. Carrick



OREGON STATE PENITENTIARY, SALEM, OREGON

Name **JOHNSON, Albert**

No **12083**

Class

31 - 100 18

Alias

Ref

28 - 001 18x

RIGHT HAND



LEFT HAND



Crime **TRANSP. LAQ. while armed**

County **Tillamook**

Sentence **3 years**

Age **34**

Complexion **fair**

Eye **blue**

Hair **lt bro**

Weight **172**

Height **5-5½**

Build **chunky**

Received

APR 6 1932

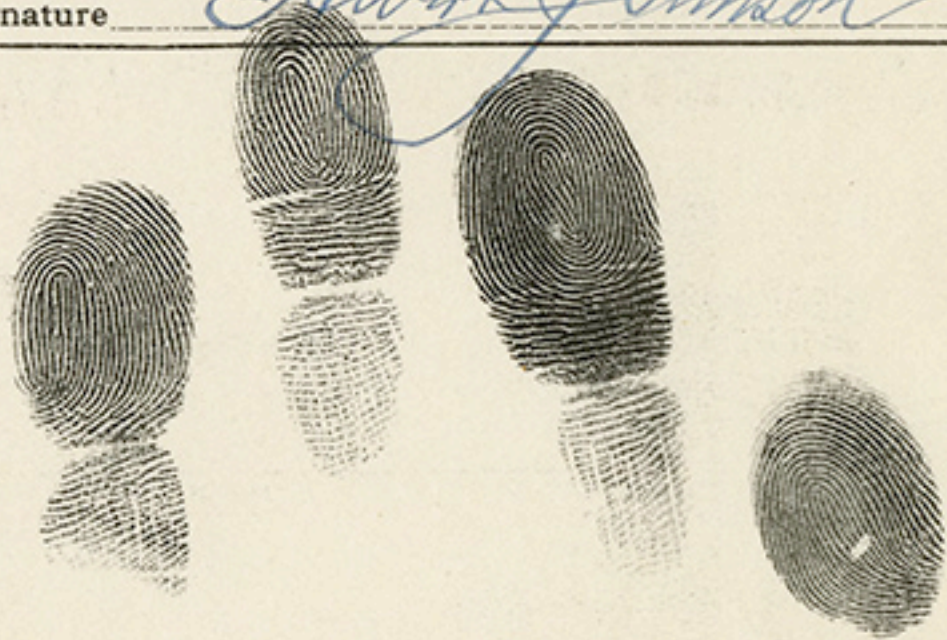
Previous Record: **3-20-32, Tillamook Co. #438, present charge**

Taken by **J.S. Murray**

Date **APR 6 1932**

Signature

Albert Johnson



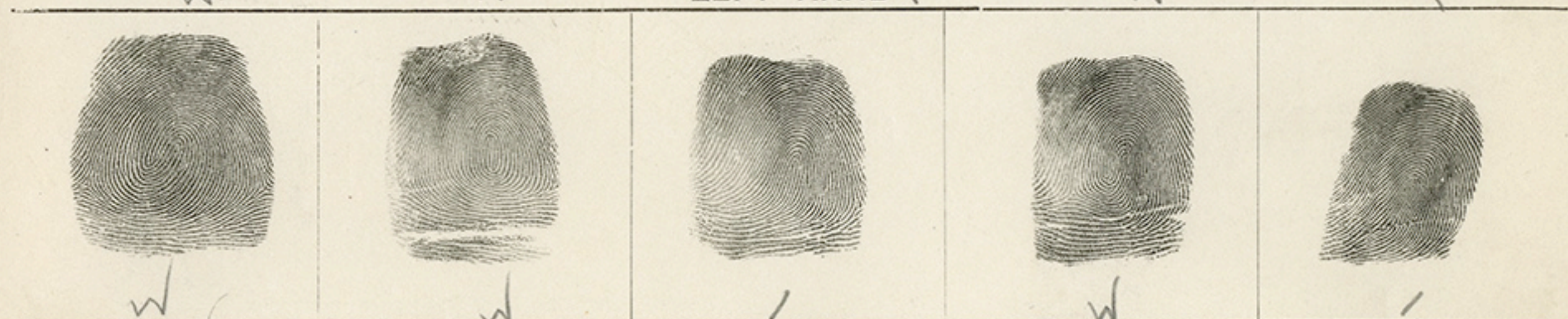
OREGON STATE PENITENTIARY, SALEM, OREGON

Name TARTARINI, Cecil No 12084 Class 29 - I 18
 Alias FISHER, George Ref 20 - 0 20

RIGHT HAND

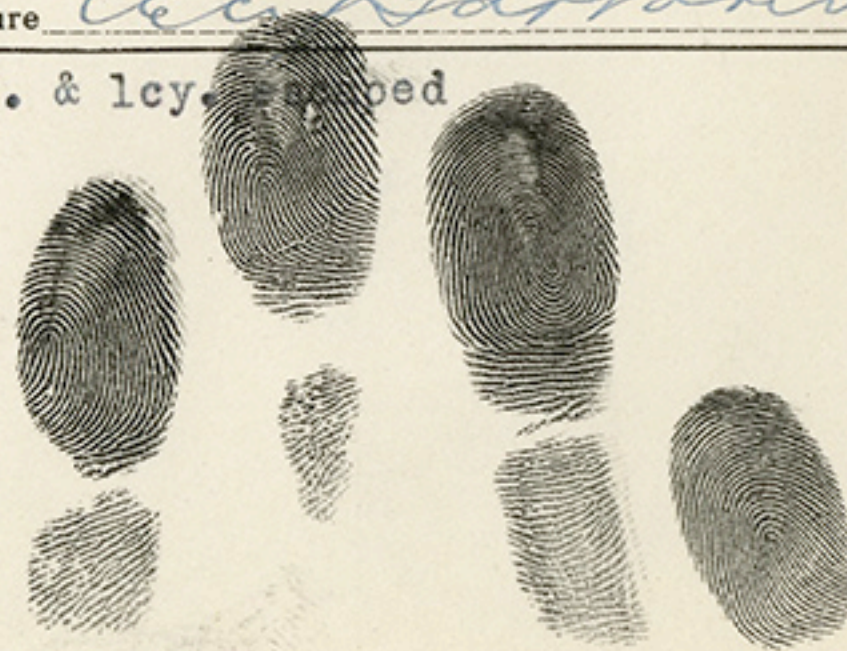


LEFT HAND



Crime Transp. Liq. while armed County Tillamook Sentence 3 years Age 28
 Complexion lt Eye lt bro Hair bro Weight 158
 Height 5-7 Build stocky Received APR 6 1932
 Previous Record: 8-25-22, Portland #5368, 30 days, Vag. 3-20-32, Tillamook SO 436, present chg.
 Taken by J.S. Murray Date APR 6 1932 Signature Cecil Tartarini

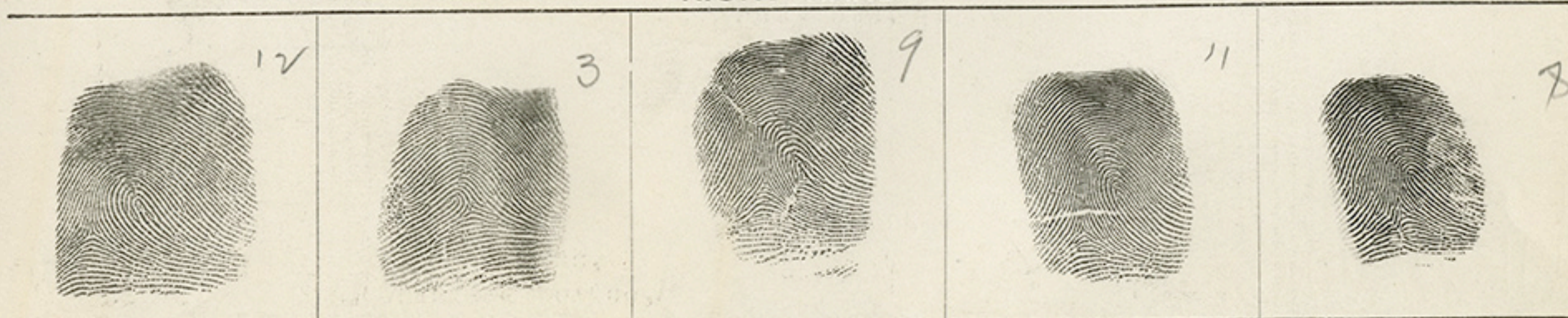
2 terms Ore. State Tr. school, 1918 to 20, Burg. & lcy. school



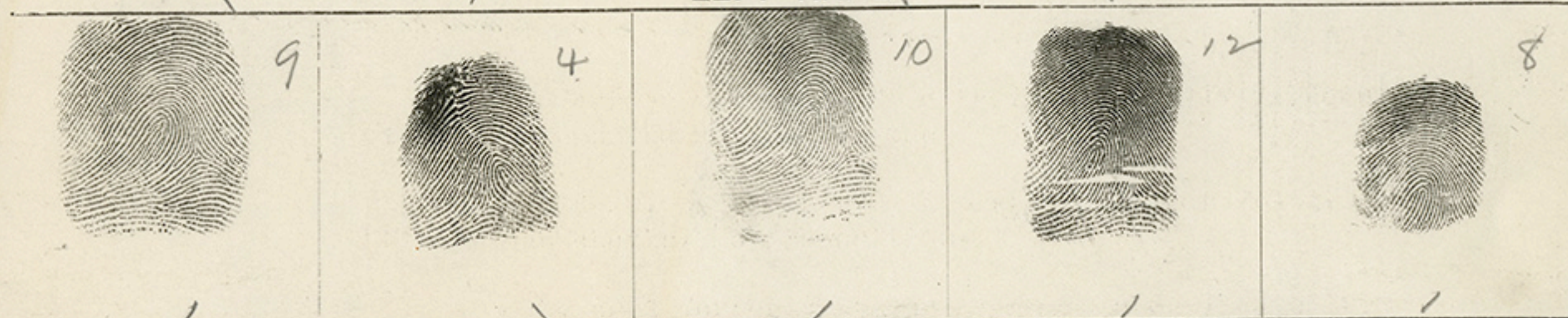
OREGON STATE PENITENTIARY, SALEM, OREGON

Name ADAMS, Harley No 12085 Class 12/1 R III 8
1 R III 9
 Alias _____ Ref _____

RIGHT HAND



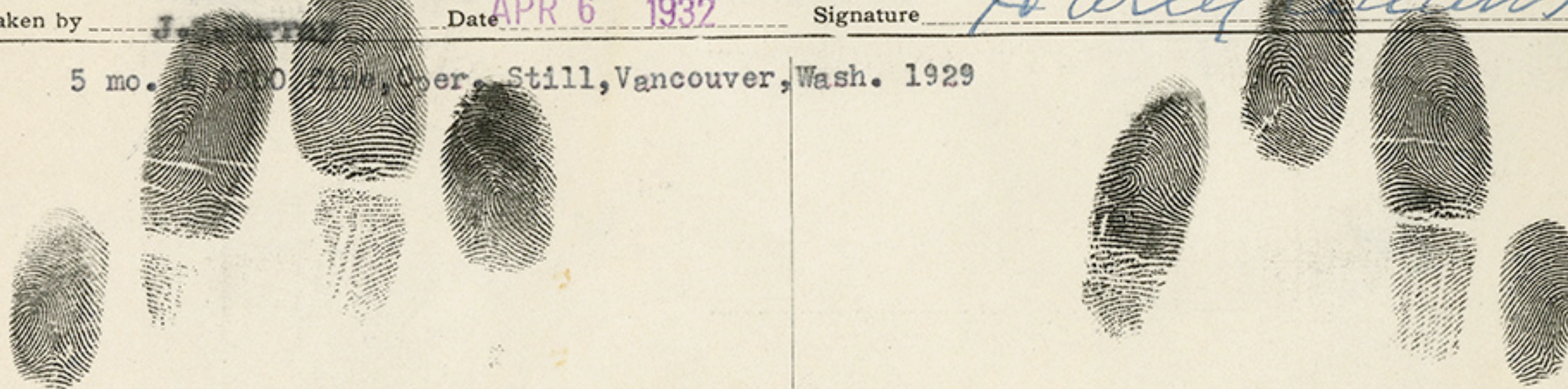
LEFT HAND



Crime TRANSP. 14q. while armed County Tillamook Sentence 3 years Age 33
 Complexion lt Eye blue Hair dk bro Weight 160
 Height 5-7 $\frac{3}{4}$ Build med Received APR 6 1932

Previous Record: 3-20-32, Tillamook Co. #438, Present charge
 Taken by J. [illegible] Date APR 6 1932 Signature Harley Adams

5 mo. 1930, [illegible], Coer, Still, Vancouver, Wash. 1929



OREGON STATE PENITENTIARY, SALEM, OREGON

Name NORDSTRON, Joe

No 12086

Class

21/1 R I 00 13

Alias KREUGER, Nels

Ref

Ry 1 R I 00
19 R I 00

1 R I 00 17

RIGHT HAND



LEFT HAND



Crime Transp. Liq. while armed

County Tillamook

Sentence 3 years

Age 26

Complexion sandy

Eye dk blue

Hair lt bro

Weight 140

Height 5-9 1/4

Build slender

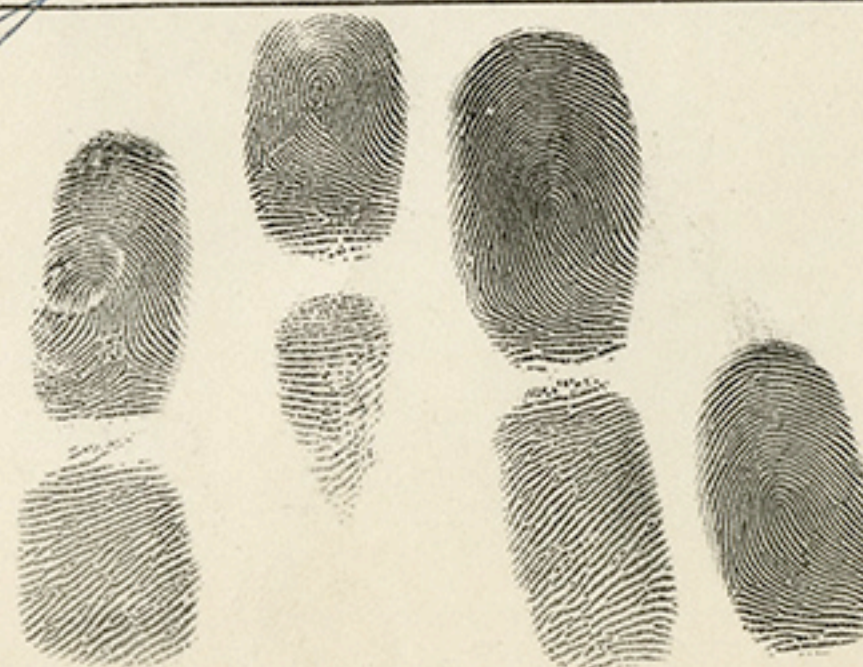
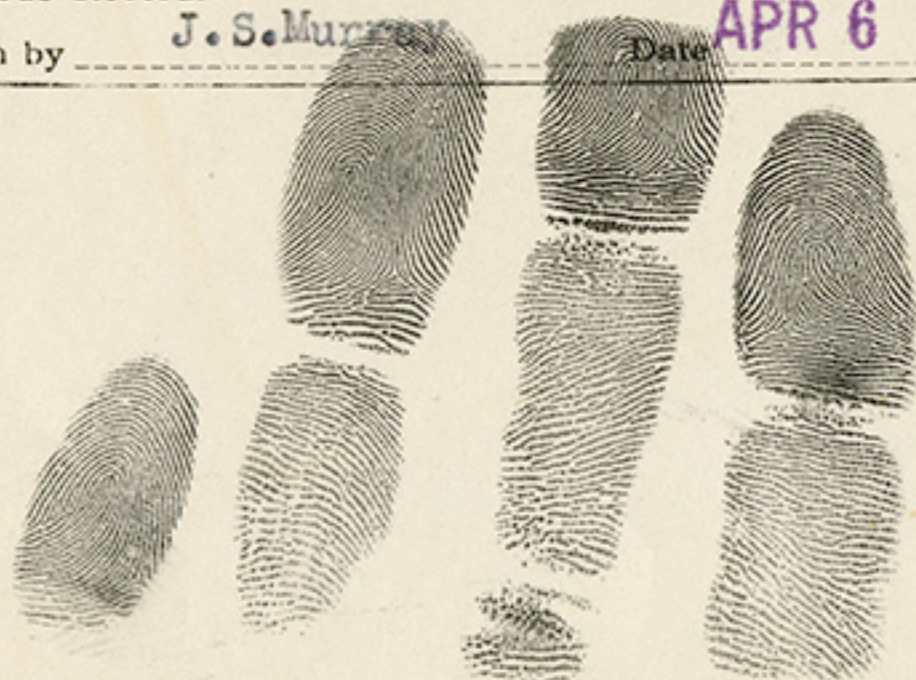
Received APR 6 1932

Previous Record: 2-13-32, Multnomah Co. 3177, N.P.A. 3-20-32, Tillamook #435 present chg.

Taken by J. S. Murray

Date APR 6 1932

Signature Joe Nordstrom



Official web site of
Oregon Secretary of State

Ernest Patrick

About the Inmate

#10988

Name: Ernest Patrick

Received: January 8, 1930

Paroled: August 11, 1930

Crime: Possession of Unregulated Still & Still Worm

County: Wasco

Age: 29

Height: 5'4 1/4"

Weight: 137lbs

Build: Muscular

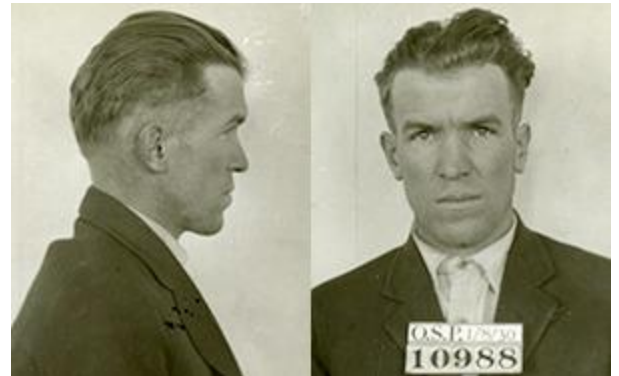
Hair: Light Brown

Eyes: Deep Blue

Complexion: Light

Born: Missouri

Occupation: Electrician & Rancher



Ernest Patrick's Oregon State Penitentiary mug shot.

Fifteen minutes was all it took for a Wasco County jury to find Ernest Patrick guilty of possession of an unregistered still and worm. District Attorney Galloway made that point quite clear in his statement to the Board of Parole in February, 1929. He added that Patrick “has, for many months, been the principal booze operator around Maupin and the moral effect of his conviction is very good.”

Patrick, whose occupation was listed as “electrician and rancher,” was renting and living on a ranch owned by N.D. Caven for just less than a year beginning in December, 1927. It was on that property that the illegal still was found. He appealed his conviction to the Oregon Supreme Court, steadfastly contending that the equipment belonged to Caven who had a prior history of distilling illegal liquor.

A twenty year old named George Skinner was on site when the raid took place, and testified at trial against Patrick in exchange for a postponement of his sentence. In the Supreme Court respondent’s brief, Patrick is characterized as “the owner and manager of the still operations ... He was the ‘higher up,’ employing the ... kid to run the still for him. Patrick skirted around the edges.”

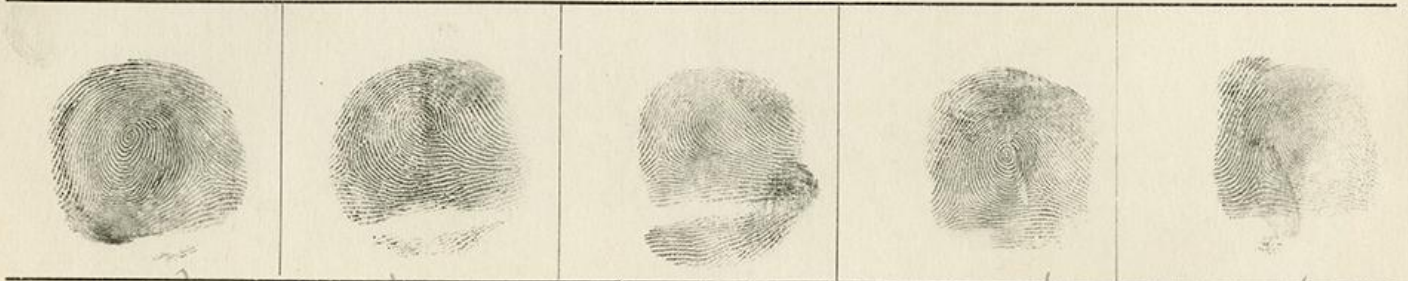
It was clear the local authorities could see no reason for leniency or parole for Patrick. Judge Wilson concluded in his statement to the Parole Board, “he should serve out every day of his sentence.” In addition to the statements above, Galloway helpfully noted that “Patrick also claims to be a pretty good cook and perhaps he can be used at the penitentiary in this capacity.”

The Supreme Court affirmed the circuit court’s judgment and in his parole board statement, Patrick admitted his guilt despite his earlier plea and appeal. In the end he was paroled in August of 1930 after serving approximately seven months of a one year sentence.

OREGON STATE PENITENTIARY, SALEM, OREGON

Name Patrick, Ernest No 10988 Class 30 0
 Alias _____ Ref 14 R 23 I
23 - I

RIGHT HAND



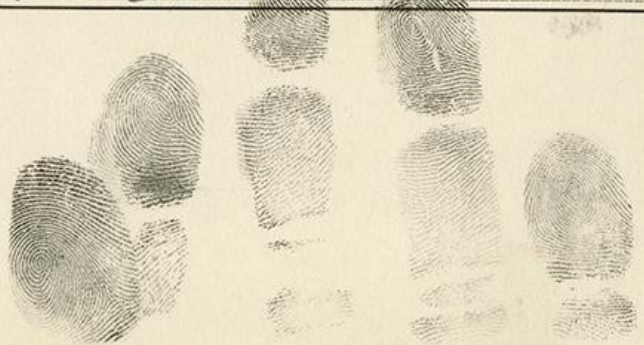
LEFT HAND



Crime ross Unreg Still & Still worm County Wasco Sentence 1 year Age 29
 Complexion Light Eyes Deep blue Hair Light Brown Weight 137
 Height 5 4 1/2 Build Muscular Received Jan 8, 1930

Previous Record:

Taken by J S Murray Date 1-14-30 Signature Ernest Patrick



Official web site of
Oregon Secretary of State

Carroll (Jack) Atkinson

About the Inmate

#10747

Name: Carroll “Jack” Atkinson

Received: July 18, 1929

Discharged: July 14, 1930

Crime: Unlawful possession of intoxicating liquor

County: Wasco

Age: 25

Height: 5’6 1/4”

Weight: 146lbs

Build: Chunky

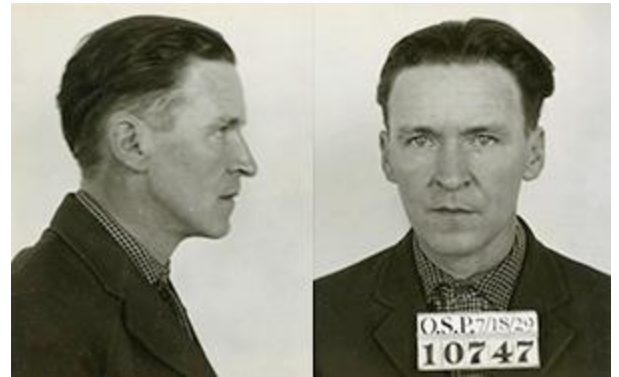
Hair: Light Brown

Eyes: Light Blue

Complexion: Light

Born: Minnesota

Occupation: Farmer, Waiter



Carroll Atkinson's Oregon State Penitentiary mug shot.

Can you trust the word of someone who from all appearances breaks the law? Wasco County District Attorney Francis Galloway certainly did not believe what he was told by Carroll (Jack) Atkinson. In a letter submitted to the Wasco County Circuit Court in July, 1929, Galloway describes how Atkinson “turned up in The Dalles sometime in 1928 and almost immediately was suspected ... of liquor operations” adding “All that we know about Atkinson is obtained from him, personally.”

He claimed to have been married four times, and in October, 1928 found himself arrested “for bootlegging at a dance at a Farmer’s Union Hall a few miles east from The Dalles.” In keeping with someone who had been married four times, Galloway noted that “he had a rather attractive wife who pretended to be very loyal to him and she was going to raise some money to pay his fine.” Unfortunately, she “apparently was true to him for a week or ten days ... and then deserted him and we heard nothing further of her raising any money.”

The local authorities speculated that “he probably has other convictions against him but know nothing about them.” Galloway concluded on a pessimistic note: “There is probably little chance of reforming the man or materially changing his habits ...”

Adding to his woes was a note from the penitentiary’s health officer – who again relied on the mysterious Atkinson’s own words – that “He claims to have been treated for syphilis 8 years ago. Took 32 shots.” Blood tests in 1923 and 1926 were reportedly negative.

He served approximately one year of a of one and a half year sentence. In the sheriff’s statement to the Parole Board, he summed up Atkinson by noting that he associates with “women of the underworld,” adding “I believe him to be incorrigible.”

OREGON STATE PENITENTIARY, SALEM, OREGON

Name Atkinson, Carrol No 10747 Class 1 R II 3
 Alias _____ Ref 1 R 3 - M 7

RIGHT HAND



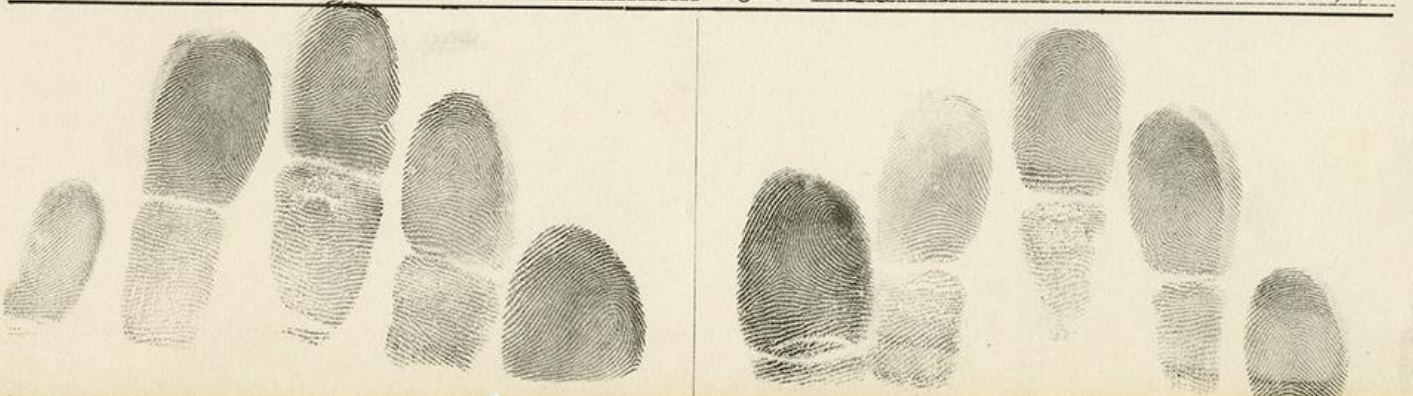
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Crime Unlawful possession of Intox-liquor County Wasco Sentence 1 1/2 Yrs Age 35
 Complexion Light Eyes Light blue Hair Light brown Weight 146
 Height 5' 6 1/4" Build Chunky Received 7-18-29

Previous Record:

Taken by J S Murray Date 8-6-29 Signature Carroll J Atkinson



Five Women from Arizona

How did five female inmates from Arizona, convicted in a federal court on liquor violation charges, end up serving time in the Oregon State Penitentiary? This was not unheard of during the prohibition era in Oregon, as some geographical areas had little or no facilities to house female inmates. In the cases of Katherine Hicks, Marilyn Carroll, Lillian Dyer, Mabel Smith, and Mary Smith, their convictions in Globe, Arizona, resulted in their prison sentences being served in Salem, beginning in May of 1930.

Four of the women were in their early-to-mid-twenties. Mabel Smith was the oldest at 32 years of age. The records don't indicate that any of the five women were criminal masterminds or part of a large scale operation, although what the U.S. Marshal attached to their cases suggested that they were involved in prostitution.

Some of the anecdotal evidence painted a vivid picture of their prior activities. Katherine Hicks had been fined for "speeding and street fighting," and Mary Smith was also fined \$25 because she also "had a street fight." She also indicated that she had once used an assumed name "to cross line as mans [sic] wife."

The most compelling case of the five involved Mabel Smith, who spent part of her sentence at the Oregon State Hospital. The notes from her asylum case file vividly describe her illness, which included "complaining of electrical influences over her body" that she believed were done by the Secret Service; that she had been married seven or eight times and had been a prostitute for eighteen years; and that she "hears voices at times" and that a light was thrown on her. A Wasserman blood test returned a positive result for syphilis. She was a patient at the asylum from August of 1930 to February of 1931.

In some cases, best illustrated by Marilyn Carroll, the convicts were the beneficiaries of numerous letters of testimony in which the writers characterized them as unfortunate "victims of circumstance" and that their crimes constituted a "slight indiscretion" due to "evil influences." Writers of these letters sometimes included local law enforcement officials; family friends; and even past teachers and school administrators.

Although they were each sentenced to serve one year plus one day, they were all discharged on March 2, 1931 after serving slightly less than ten months. Following release, Mary Smith wrote a letter from



The exterior of the Oregon State Penitentiary in 1871.

Arizona to the penitentiary superintendent in April of 1931 addressing an incident involving the stopping up of a prison lavatory, pinning it on specific inmates and adding “we all had a good laugh.”

About the Inmates

#11173

Name: Marilyn Carroll

Received: May 13, 1930

Discharged: March 2, 1931

Crime: Unlawful & Felonious Sale of Intoxicating Liquor

County: Federal

Age: 25

Height: 5'5 1/2"

Weight: 117lbs

Build: Slight

Hair: Light Brown

Eyes: Blue

Complexion: Light

Born: Minnesota

Occupation: Waitress



Marilyn Carroll's Oregon State Penitentiary mug shot.

#11174

Name: Lillian Dyer

Received: May 13, 1930

Discharged: March 2, 1931

Crime: Unlawful & Felonious Sale of Intoxicating Liquor

County: Federal

Age: 21

Height: 5'6 1/2"

Weight: 152lbs

Build: Fleshy

Hair: Dark Brown

Eyes: Gray

Complexion: Dark

Born: New Mexico

Occupation: Waitress



Lillian Dyer's Oregon State Penitentiary mug shot.

#11172

Name: Katherine Hicks

Received: May 13, 1930

Discharged: March 2, 1931

Crime: Unlawful & Felonious Sale of Intoxicating Liquor

County: Federal

Age: 24

Height: 5'9"
Weight: 149lbs
Build: Muscular
Hair: Dark Brown
Eyes: Medium Blue
Complexion: Light
Born: New Mexico
Occupation: Waitress



Katherine Hicks' Oregon State Penitentiary mug shot.

#11175
Name:
Mabel
Smith aka
Mabel
Larson
Received:
May 13,
1930
Discharged:
March 2,
1931



Mabel Smith's Oregon State Penitentiary mug shot.

Crime:
Unlawful & Felonious Sale of Intoxicating Liquor
County: Federal
Age: 32
Height: 5'7 1/4"
Weight: 144lbs
Build: Medium
Hair: Medium Brown
Eyes: Gray
Complexion: Light
Born: Arizona
Occupation: Hotel Landlady

#11176
Name: Mary Smith
Received: May 13, 1930
Discharged: March 2, 1931
Crime: Unlawful & Felonious Sale of Intoxicating Liquor
County: Federal
Age: 23
Height: 5'6"
Weight: 166lbs
Build: Chunky



Mary Smith's Oregon State Penitentiary mug shot.

Hair: Dark Brown

Eyes: Gray

Complexion: Dark

Born: Kansas

Occupation: Cook

OREGON STATE PENITENTIARY, SALEM, OREGON

Name Carroll, MarilynNo 11173Class 13 A18 U14
10

Alias _____

Ref _____

RIGHT HAND

WW

LEFT HAND

WWWWWWWUnlawful and Felonious Sale
of Intoxicating Liquor

Crime

County

Federal

Sentence 1 Year-1 Day Age 25Complexion Light

Eyes

BlueHair Light Brown

Weight

117

Height

5-5½

Build

Slight

Received

May 13th, 1930Previous Record: Globe, Ariz. 6 Mo. liquor 1928. Phoenix Ariz., fined \$10.00. Several times prostitution.

Taken by

J.S. Murray

Date

June 24, 1930.

Signature

Marilyn Carroll

OREGON STATE PENITENTIARY, SALEM, OREGON

Name Dyer, LillianNo 11174Class 9 A2921
16

Alias _____

Ref _____

RIGHT HAND

WR

LEFT HAND

WRUnlawful and Felonious Sale
of Intoxicating Liquor

Crime

County

Federal

Sentence 1 Year-1 Day Age 21Complexion Dark

Eyes

Gray

Hair Dark BrownWeight 152Height 5-6½

Build

Fleshy

Received May 13th, 1930

Previous Record:

Taken by J.S. MurrayDate June 24, 1930.

Signature

Mrs Lillian Dyer

OREGON STATE PENITENTIARY, SALEM, OREGON

Name Hicks, KatherineNo 11172Class 31 M20II12

Alias _____

Ref _____

15

RIGHT HAND

T.LW

LEFT HAND

W/WWWWUnlawful and Felonious Sale
of Intoxicating Liquor

Crime

County

Federal

Sentence 1 Year-1 day 24Complexion Light

Eyes

Medium Blue

Hair

Dark Brown

Weight

149Height 5-9

Build

Muscular

Received May 13th, 1930

Previous Record:

Taken by J.S. MurrayDate June 24, 1930.

Signature

Katherine Hicks

OREGON STATE PENITENTIARY, SALEM, OREGON

Name Smith, MabelNo 11175Class 14-1 U 00I

5

Alias Mabel LarsonRef 1 U III

8

RIGHT HAND



LEFT HAND



Crime Unlawful and Felonious Sale of Intoxicating Liquor County Federal Sentence 1 Year-1 Day Age 32
 Complexion Light Eyes Gray Hair Medium Brown Weight 144
 Height 5-7½ Build Medium Received May 13th, 1930

Previous Record:

Taken by J.S. MurrayDate June 24, 1930.Signature Mabel Smith

OREGON STATE PENITENTIARY, SALEM, OREGON

Name Smith, Mary No 11176 Class 1 U III 3
Alias _____ Ref _____ 1 U III 8

RIGHT HAND

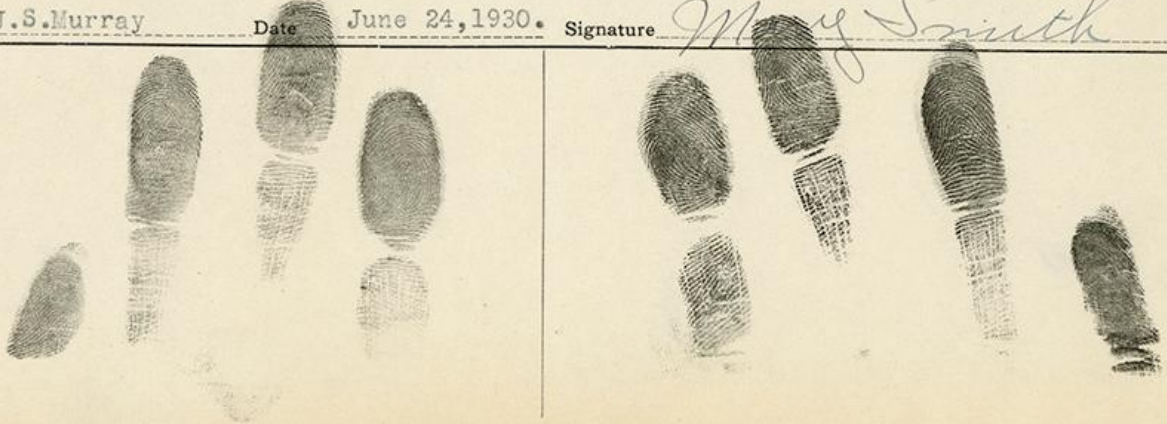


LEFT HAND



Crime Unlawful and Felonious Sale of Intoxicating Liquor County Federal Sentence 1 Year-1 Day Age 23
Complexion Dark Eyes Gray Hair Dark Brown Weight 166
Height 5-6 Build Chunky Received May 13th, 1930
Previous Record: Globe, Ariz., fined \$25.00 for fighting-1930.

Taken by J.S.Murray Date June 24, 1930. Signature Mary Smith



Official web site of
Oregon Secretary of State

Chris Hertig

About the Inmate

#11391

Name: Christian “Chris” Hertig

Received: November 20, 1930

Discharged: March 18, 1932

Crime: Possession of Mash

County: Tillamook

Age: 41

Height: 5’4 3/4”

Weight: 159lbs

Build: Chunky

Hair: Dark Brown

Eyes: Gray Blue

Complexion: Medium

Born: Switzerland

Occupation: Cheese Maker-Farmer



Chris Hertig's Oregon State Penitentiary mug shot.

Chris Hertig was sentenced to two years and fined \$3000 for possession of corn mash. It was a parole violation that landed him in the State Penitentiary.

Originally arrested on violation of the prohibition laws in November of 1928 and paroled in Tillamook County in April of 1929, one of the conditions of his parole was that he “remain entirely away and apart from his family” including having no contact or communication. According to an order from the Tillamook County Circuit Court revoking his parole in November of 1930, Hertig “went to the residence of his wife and children and annoyed, molested, communicated with, and harassed his family in violation of the above mentioned condition.”

The records indicate this was not surprising. In the District Attorney’s report to the Parole Board, he noted that “He has been convicted three times for assaulting and brutally beating his wife ... within the last six years.” In a letter from Martha Ann Prothero, the Executive Secretary of the Clatsop County Chapter of the American Red Cross, she states that she was “very much interested in the family of Mr. Chris Hertig” and wanted to know when he was due to be released as “In view of his past record, it is quite important that I have this information.” Hertig seemed to epitomize the temperance movement’s view that drinking liquor imperiled a man’s family by making him violent.

In a conduct report and disciplinary order, Hertig was punished for fighting in the cell block and was ordered to be placed in the “bull pen” for thirty days as punishment.






He was denied parole and discharged in March of 1932 after serving approximately 16 months. His death certificate, dated May 1, 1951, lists his cause of death as "fulminating tuberculosis pneumonia." In a letter from Warden Lewis dated September 14, 1931, he noted that Hertig "left the impression with the Board that he was inclined to be somewhat quarrelsome and blamed all of his troubles on others."

Form No. 16






OREGON STATE PENITENTIARY, SALEM, OREGON

Name Hertig, Chris No 11391 Class 13 U O 15
27 - I 11
Alias _____ Ref _____

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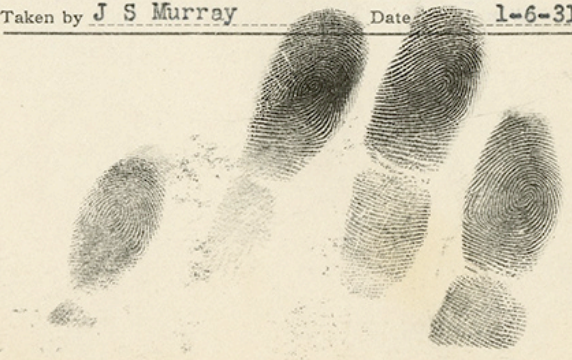

				
<u>W</u>	<u>W</u>	<u>W</u>	<u>W</u>	<u>W</u>

LEFT HAND

				
<u>W</u>	<u>W</u>	<u>W</u>	<u>W</u>	<u>W</u>

Crime Possession of mash County Tillamook Sentence 2 years Age 41
Complexion Medium Eyes Grey Blue Hair Dark Brown Weight 159
Height 5 4 1/2 Build Chunky Received November 20, 1930
Previous Record: Tillamook County, fined \$500 and paroled

Taken by J S Murray Date 1-6-31 Signature Christian Hertig

	
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Official web site of
Oregon Secretary of State

Howard Coffman

About the Inmate

#9944

Name: Howard Coffman

Received: July 29, 1927

Discharged: July 29, 1929

Crime: Setting up and operating a still

County: Multnomah

Age: 27

Height: 5'10 1/2"

Weight: 172lbs

Build: Chunky

Hair: Dark Brown

Eyes: Light Brown

Complexion: Sallow

Born: Colorado

Occupation: Mechanic



Howard Coffman's Oregon State Penitentiary mug shot.

It was a question of fairness. A three year sentence in the State Penitentiary is what Howard Coffman faced after being the lone member of three defendants found guilty in Multnomah County for operating an illegal still. Paddy Lynch and Jack Paisley, despite their guilt being equal or perhaps more compelling than Coffman's, were directed by Judge Robert Morrow to be found not guilty at trial.

In a letter to the Board of Parole in May, 1928, Judge Morrow described how Coffman pleaded guilty and how "The conduct of the case and the fall of the testimony was such that I was compelled, much against my will, to direct a verdict of not guilty" for Lynch and Paisley. He continued by stating "The three were clearly guilty; but now that Lynch and Paisley had escaped and Coffman has been at Salem for a year, I am inclined to the view that a conditional pardon would not be inappropriate." In March, 1928, District Attorney Stanley Myers echoed this sentiment in a letter to the warden.

Sheriff Beeman, writing directly to Coffman at the penitentiary, noted that he was "sure that you had less to do with this still than the two co-defendants that were found not guilty."

Coffman's sister, in a letter to the Parole Board in July, 1928, asked for him to be paroled to their mother in Alhambra, California, due to the "environment" in Portland. Because Coffman had been an inmate earlier on a larceny conviction, he was not eligible for parole. However, Governor Patterson issued Coffman a pardon on July 19, 1928 with the specific condition that he "go to the State of California, and ... not return to the State of Oregon" or else he would have to finish out the rest of his original sentence.

OREGON STATE PENITENTIARY, SALEM, OREGON

Name Coffman, Howard No 9944 Class 1 P 00 11
 Alias _____ Ref 1/3 R 00 11

RIGHT HAND

*Ref 1/3 R 00 former #7855
 Look, finger, Rince here*



LEFT HAND



*Former shows
 this as
 amp*

Age 27 Height 5' 10 1/2" Weight 172 Hair Dark B rown Eyes Lt Brown
 Occupation Mechanic Nativity Colorado Build Chunky
 Complexion Sallow Crime Setting up and operating a distillery
 County Multnomah Term Three years Received July 29, 1927
 Bertillon _____

Previous Record: Former OSP #7855

Taken by J. S. Murray Date Aug 16, 1927 Signature Howard Coffman



John Lowe, Nels Andreson and Fay Wise

About Inmate John Lowe

#10097

Name: John Lowe

Received: December 9, 1927

Deceased: May 27, 1931

Crime: Armed Robbery/Assault with a deadly weapon

County: Multnomah

Age: 52

Height: 5'11 3/4"

Weight: 190lbs

Build: Muscular

Hair: Black

Eyes: Black

Complexion: Chocolate

Born: Oklahoma

Occupation: Chauffeur



John Lowe's Oregon State Penitentiary mug shot.

John Lowe was out for revenge. After he was unceremoniously relieved of his leadership position in the Pullman Porter's Bootlegging Ring, he decided to recruit a gang of armed robbers to target other bootleggers, specifically those supplied by the ring.

The District Attorney labeled him as a "dangerous character" and "smooth enough to cover up his felonies." A judge characterized Lowe as a "persistent violator of liquor laws." Although he had been arrested on multiple liquor charges dating back to 1917, Lowe had managed to avoid a stint in the big house. Now he was facing 20 years for armed robbery and assault with a dangerous weapon.

Lowe plead not guilty. After all, he was a victim, forced to the ground and tied up during the armed robbery at his friend's James "Birdlegs" Reed's Chicken Dinner Resort late in the evening on December 12, 1926. The next day he appeared at the Multnomah County Sheriff's office to inform them that he knew who held up Birdleg's. Not only could he identify them, but he would also locate the perpetrators for the police and turn them in. The police assured Lowe that assistance in helping apprehend the men would greatly be appreciated. Little did Lowe know, that the police had him under suspicion as being connected with the hold-up.

Both Fay B. Wise and Nels Andreson aka John Smith had extensive police records for assault, robbery, and larceny and had served time in the Oregon and Washington state penitentiaries.

According to a letter written to the parole board from the Multnomah County Sheriff's office, John Lowe became acquainted with Wise and Andreson through the "underworld channels of Portland." Lowe also knew that they both had previous criminal records. Birdleg Reed's, located on Base Line Road between Portland and Gresham, was operated by blind man James Reed and his wife. Reed was considered a high-roller in Portland's bootlegging racket. Lowe frequented the place and knew Reed owned valuable diamonds and usually had a few hundred dollars in his possession. He decided to rob the roadhouse.

The plan was for Lowe to go there for dinner late on the night of December 12, 1926. He would leave the back door unlocked and signal to the duo when to rob the place. Wise and Andreson forced the occupants at gunpoint (including Lowe) to lie on the floor with their hands tied. They were threatened with a hot stove poker unless they revealed where the diamonds were hidden. After Wise and Andreson left, they proceeded down the road about a mile where Lowe came by in his car and picked them up and took them into Portland.

A few days later, a woman was held up in her home by the duo while Lowe waited in the car. They relieved her of diamonds and cash.

The next day Lowe again appeared at the Multnomah County Sheriff's office to inform them that he just saw one of the men involved in the Birdlegs robbery and if the police would come with him he would point the culprit out. The police did so and arrested Andreson as he was walking down the street. In his possession were the diamonds, the money he had stolen the day before, and a gun that belong to Lowe.

Andreson realized that he must had been double-crossed because when he was arrested, he had been on his way to meet Lowe to give him the diamonds and return the gun. He asked the police if Lowe turned him in and if so, he would tell them about the recent hold-ups he was involved in.

The police informed Andreson that Lowe was "a very dangerous man and was known here as a king in the underworld." If he could supply evidence that would connect Lowe with the hold-ups, the Multnomah County Sheriff would recommend leniency for Andreson and Wise and also recommend parole at the expiration of their sentence. Andreson testified for the prosecution and he and Wise were sentenced to four years in the Oregon State Penitentiary while Lowe was given a 20 year sentence.

About Inmates Nels Andreson and Fay Wise

#9850

Name: Neil/Nels Andreson aka John Smith

Received: April 7, 1927

Discharged: December 7, 1929

Crime: Armed Robbery/Assault with a deadly weapon

County: Multnomah

Age: 47

Height: 5'7 1/2"

Weight: 145lbs

Build: Medium

Hair: Dark Brown

Eyes: Brown



Nels Andreson's Oregon State Penitentiary mug shot.

Complexion: Medium

Born: Denmark

Occupation: Sailor

#9851

Name: Fay B. Wise

Received: April 7, 1927

Discharged: December 7, 1929

Crime: Armed Robbery/Assault with a deadly weapon

County: Multnomah

Age: 27

Height: 5'6 3/4"

Weight: 134lbs

Build: Medium Small

Hair: Dark Brown

Eyes: Brown

Complexion: Dark

Born: Iowa

Occupation: Machine Operator



Fay Wise's Oregon State Penitentiary mug shot.

OREGON STATE PENITENTIARY, SALEM, OREGON

Name Lowe, John No 10097 Class 29 - M 11
 Alias _____ Ref 18 U OI 15

RIGHT HAND



LEFT HAND



Age 52 Height 5' 11³/₄" Weight 190 Hair Black Eyes Black
 Occupation Chauffeur Nativity Texas Build Muscular
 Complexion Chocolate Crime A&R AWDW
 County Mult. Term 20 Years Received 12-9-27

Previous Record:

Taken by J. S. Murray Date 12-20-27 Signature John Lowe



OREGON STATE PENITENTIARY, SALEM, OREGON

Name Andresen, Niel No 9850 Class 9 R 14
 Alias Ref 17 Ra 16

RIGHT HAND



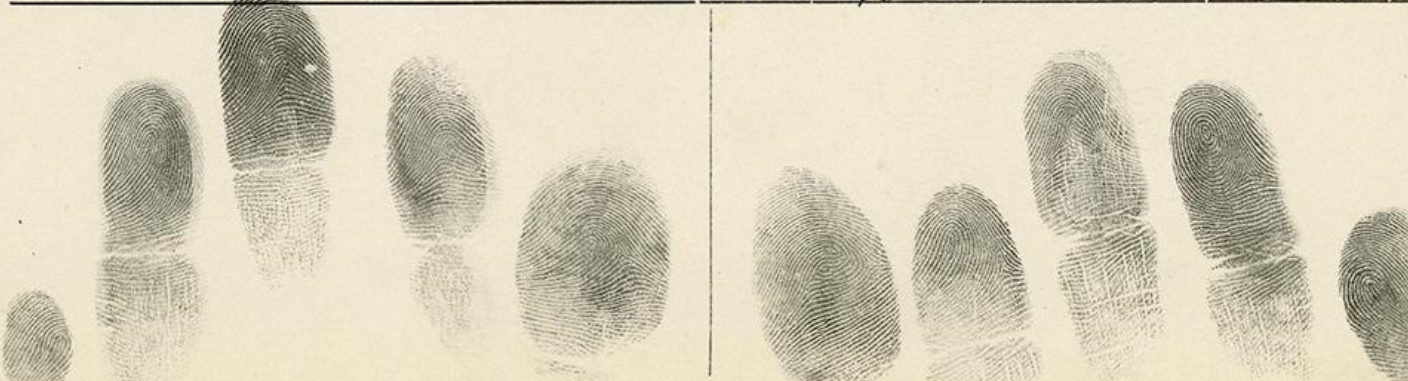
LEFT HAND



Age 47 Height 5'7 1/2" Weight 145 Hair Dark Brown Eyes Brown
 Occupation Sailor Nativity Denmark Build Medium
 Complexion Medium Crime Assault & Robbery AWDW
 County Multnomah Term Four Years Received April 7, 1927
 Bertillon

Previous Record: Walla Walla #10383 in 1926 as John Smith

Taken by J.S. Murray Date April 21, 1927 Signature Niel Andresen



9851

OREGON STATE PENITENTIARY, SALEM, OREGON

Name Wise, F. B No 9851 Class 16 U O 12
Alias _____ Ref 26 R I

RIGHT HAND



LEFT HAND



Age 27 Height 5ft. 6 3-4" Weight 134 Hair Dark Brown Eyes Brown
Occupation Machine Operator Nativity Iowa Build M small
Complexion Dark Crime Assault & Robbery AWDW
County Multnomah Term Four Years Received April 7, 1927
Bertillon _____

Previous Record:

Walla Walla # 9786

taken by J. R. Murray

Date April 19, 1927

Signature

F. B. Wise



Official web site of
Oregon Secretary of State

Fador Kables

About the Inmate

#10102

Name: Fador Kables

Received: December 16, 1927

Discharged: October 16, 1928

Crime: Possession of a still

County: Clatsop

Age: 55

Height: 5'6"

Weight: 162lbs

Build: Chunky

Hair: Dark Brown

Eyes: Light Blue

Complexion: Medium

Born: Germany

Occupation: Logging and Farming



Fador Kables' Oregon State Penitentiary mug shot.

Both sides agreed that on the night of November 8, 1927, Clatsop County Deputy Sheriff H.G. Wirtz arrested Fador Kables on the charge of possession of a still. The description of how that arrest took place read like two different incidents.

According to the circuit court transcript that appears in the Supreme Court's case file when Kables unsuccessfully appealed his conviction, Wirtz described a satisfying end to what had been a lengthy effort to catch Kables in a liquor-related crime. "I said, 'Well, Mr. Kables, I have been after you a long time, and I finally have the goods on you. You are under arrest.'" The prosecution characterized Kables as someone who was known for dealing with liquor but had never been convicted.

The German immigrant, whose occupation was listed as a farmer and logger, painted a much darker picture of his arrest: "Then this man said to me, after I had said that I had some corn in the car, 'That is what I thought you had in there.' Then he said to me ... 'We are going back to Seaside, and don't run away from me, or I'll shoot ... you.'"

The raid into the hills above Kables' farm south of Seaside revealed a still operation as well as a man named Hibner, who testified against Kables at trial. Ultimately he was sentenced to a year in the penitentiary and began serving his sentence in December of 1927. In his statement to the Parole Board, the judge noted "He was evidently an old offender though this was the first time he was caught," adding "He was an offender since this conviction and while considering an appeal." Kables consistently denied his guilt throughout, contending that Hibner provided false testimony against him.

10, 10-2 OREGON STATE PENITENTIARY, SALEM, OREGON

Name Kables, Fado No 10102 Class 5 P II 6
 Alias _____ Ref 17 P II 12

RIGHT HAND



LEFT HAND



Age 55 Height 5' 6" Weight 162 Hair D. Brown Eyes L. Blue
 Occupation Farmer Nativity German Build Chunky
 Complexion Medum Crime Poss-Still
 County Clatsop Term 1 Year Received 12-16-27

Previous Record:

Taken by J. S. Murray Date 12-20-27

Signature

Fador Kables



Official web site of
Oregon Secretary of State

William Short

About the Inmate

#9333

Name: William Short aka Bill Shannon

Received: October 16, 1925

Discharged: October 15, 1927

Crime: Operating a distillery

County: Jackson

Age: 35

Height: 5'8"

Weight: 138lbs

Build: Slender

Hair: Dark Brown

Eyes: Brown

Complexion: Dark

Born: Missouri

Occupation: Seaman



William Short's Oregon State Penitentiary mug shot.

Prison life was not a new experience for William Short when he began to serve his sentence at the Oregon State Penitentiary for setting up and operating a distillery, and assault with a dangerous weapon. He was previously convicted of Grand Larceny and served over four years in San Quentin from July 1917 to September 1921.

His inmate file includes a report from the FBI detailing his many run-ins with the law, which ranged from liquor violations; to armed robbery; to drunk driving, not only in Oregon but northern and southern California, Nevada, and Arizona as well. He also entered into a bigamous marriage in Nevada after his release from the Oregon State Penitentiary.

Short was sentenced in Jackson County to two, three-year sentences to run concurrently. At the time of his arrest, he assaulted the arresting officers with a loaded gun. The District Attorney noted that his wife had filed for divorce and that Short did “not furnish shelter, food or clothing for her at any time.” He also added that Short’s “prior reputation has been bad, he being of a vicious nature.”

In February of 1926 William Short was one of seven inmates wounded in a riot at the penitentiary. The prisoners began their protest in the dining hall, and guards were brought in to bring the situation under control. In a February 17 article in *The Oregonian* about the incident, it was stated that most of the wounded prisoners would be released within ten days. However, he was punished for his role by being “dressed in stripes and transferred to the prison ‘bull pen.’”






Short was discharged in October of 1927, and the FBI report indicates that he died in Berkeley, California in April of 1955, with a consistent pattern of law breaking throughout his adult life.

9333




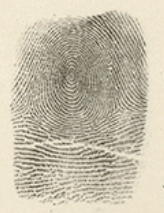

OREGON STATE PENITENTIARY, SALEM, OREGON

Name Short William J No 9333 Class 16 R D
Alias _____ Ref 32 - OM

RIGHT HAND

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LEFT HAND

 ✓	 W	 ✓	 ✓	 ✓
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Official web site of
Oregon Secretary of State

P.T. Kirby, Clyde Alley and William Ober



Oregon State
Penitentiary letterhead
from 1898.

During Prohibition, the State Penitentiary hosted many career criminals who ran afoul of liquor laws. However, not all inmates serving time for violating the Volstead Act were individuals that made a habit of living on the legal margins.

During the spring of 1927, three men from Clatsop County began serving one year sentences for possession of a still. P.T. Kirby, Clyde Alley and William Ober all served approximately six months in the Penitentiary prior to being paroled in the fall of that same year. In all three cases, their letters to the Parole Board cited their dire economic circumstances as the reason they were involved in distilling liquor.

P.T. Kirby, a woodsman, stated that he “was in bad circumstances and needed some money. Had small contract. No money until completed” though he also added in terms of future work, “prospects good, know the value of money now.”

Clyde Alley, a laborer, indicated “the reason I started to make moonshine was for the money there was in it that I needed bad” similarly adding “I can go home and go to work the day I get there.”

William Ober, the oldest of the three offenders at 40 years of age, painted a picture of a struggling farm in dire need of his return. “Have wife and three children ... I have a mortgage of \$4,000 on my place and tried to make some money to pay off the mortgage.” The most compelling statement he made painted a vivid image: “... I have lots of work at home, 26 head of cattle to take care of; my wife isn’t in shape to do it. Children going to school. River is washing badly on my place on high water.”

Although all three were paroled, in each case the judge recommended they serve their full sentence; the sheriff had no objection to parole; and the district attorney did not provide a recommendation to the Parole Board.

About the Inmates

#9870

Name: P.T. Kirby

Received: May 12, 1927

Paroled: November 3, 1927

Crime: Possession of a still

County: Clatsop

Age: 36

Height: 5'8"

Weight: 157lbs

Build: Medium

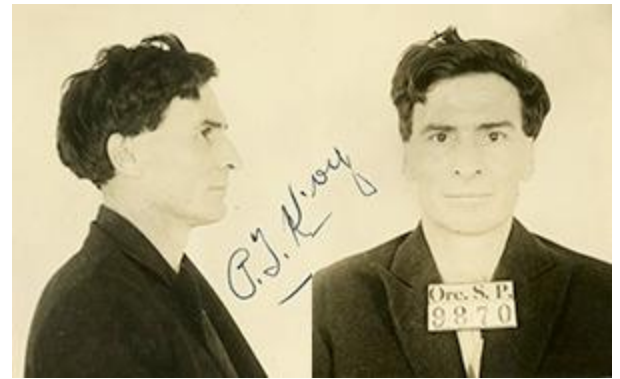
Hair: Auburn

Eyes: Reddish Brown

Complexion: Sandy

Born: Wisconsin

Occupation: Woodsman



P.T. Kirby's Oregon State Penitentiary mug shot.

#9871

Name: Clyde Alley

Received: May 12, 1927

Paroled: October 26, 1927

Crime: Possession of a still

County: Clatsop

Age: 22

Height: 5'7 1/4"

Weight: 154lbs

Build: Chunky

Hair: Black

Eyes: Blue

Complexion: Medium

Born: Oregon

Occupation: Laborer



Clyde Alley's Oregon State Penitentiary mug shot.

#9908

Name: William Ober

Received: June 29, 1927

Paroled: November 29, 1927

Crime: Possession of a still

County: Clatsop

Age: 40

Height: 5'8 1/2"

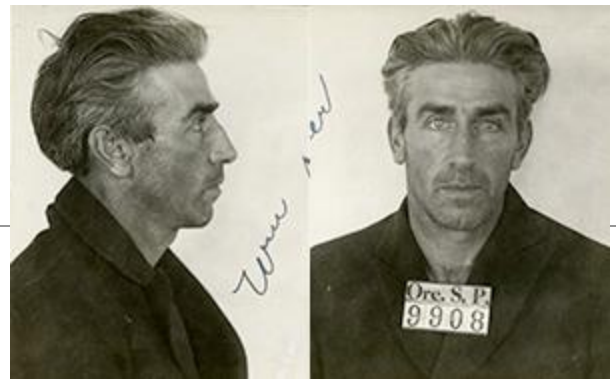
Weight: 145lbs

Build: Medium

Hair: Dark Brown

Eyes: Blue

Complexion: Medium
Born: Oregon
Occupation: Farmer



William Ober's Oregon State Penitentiary mug shot.

9968 OREGON STATE PENITENTIARY, SALEM, OREGON

Name Wm. Ober No 9908 Class 10 I I I I
Alias _____ Ref 2 U I I

RIGHT HAND

LEFT HAND

Age 40 Height 5' 8½" Weight 145 Hair Dark Brown Eyes Blue
Occupation Farmer Nativity Oregon Build Medium
Complexion Medium Crime Possession of a still
County Clatsop Term One year Received June 29, 1927
Bertillon _____
Previous Record: _____
Taken by J. S. Murray Date July 14, 1927 Signature Wm Ober

9871 OREGON STATE PENITENTIARY, SALEM, OREGON

Name Alley, Clyde No 9871 Class 9 R O I 19
 Alias _____ Ref 17 R O O 18

RIGHT HAND

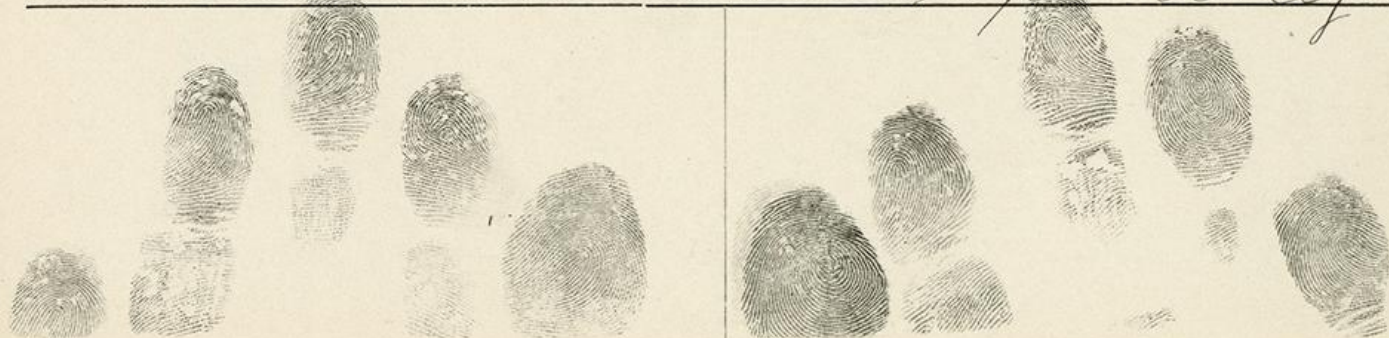


LEFT HAND



Age 22 Height 5'7 1/4" Weight 154 Hair Black Eyes Blue
 Occupation Laborer Nativity Oregon Build Chunky
 Complexion Medium Crime Having a still
 County Clatsop Term One year Received May 12, 1927
 Bertillon _____
 Previous Record: _____

Taken by J. S. Murray Date May 19, 1927 Signature Clyde Alley



9870 OREGON STATE PENITENTIARY, SALEM, OREGON

Name Kirby, P.T.

No 9870

Class

13 R IO 18
17 U IO 18

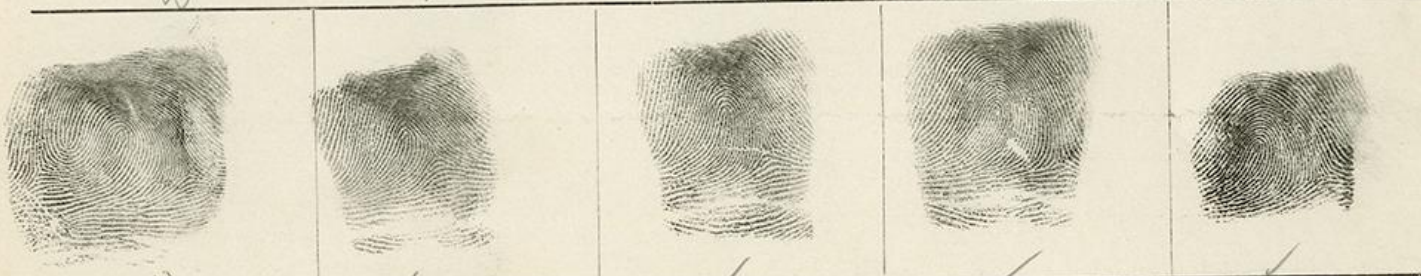
Alias

Ref

RIGHT HAND



LEFT HAND



Age 36 Height 55 8" Weight 157 Hair Auburn Eyes Reddish Brown

Occupation Woodsman Nativity Wisconsin Build Medium

Complexion Sandy Crime Having a still

County Clatsop Term One year Received May 12, 1927

Bertillon

Previous Record:

Taken by J. S. Murray Date May 19, 1927 Signature P. T. Kirby



Official web site of
Oregon Secretary of State

Harold Wilson

About the Inmate

#10536

Name: Harold Wilson

Received: January 9, 1929

Paroled: January 16, 1930

Crime: Operating a Still

County: Malheur

Age: 31

Height: 5'8"

Weight: 173lbs

Build: Chunky

Hair: Medium Brown

Eyes: Gray Brown

Complexion: Light

Born: Oregon

Occupation: Farmer



Harold Wilson's Oregon State Penitentiary mug shot.





















It is said that timing is everything. One person who would have agreed with that observation was Harold Wilson, who lived in the tiny town of Juntura, in Malheur County. A local farmer who did jobs for ranchers around the area, Wilson was convicted at trial of operating a still and was sentenced to one year in the State Penitentiary. He appealed his conviction to the Oregon Supreme Court, which reaffirmed the lower court's verdict.

Malheur County's Sheriff, Charles Glenn, along with two deputies, followed leads that led them to an operating still in a remote area near Trail Creek. There they found Jim Miller and Phoebe Rust, and put them under arrest. While the Sheriff led them to his car in order to take them to jail, the deputies waited at the still overnight for Glenn to return.

The next day they saw a figure approach the area on horseback, along with two pack horses. When Wilson spotted the two deputies, he quickly moved out of sight and unpacked the horses before continuing to the camp, where he was quickly arrested. The contents he had abandoned included corn, sugar, and two empty kegs, and were seized as evidence. Deputy Leavitt testified, "It was taken off in a hurry, it was scattered around like a fellow just jumped off and loosened it and it scattered."

Wilson lied about the existence of the supplies, and then contended that he had no interest in the still; although he admitted he knew of its existence. When evidence was submitted to show that Wilson himself purchased the supplies, he contended that Oscar Rust, the still's owner, was unable to obtain store credit and so he purchased the goods for Rust. Evidence was provided to show this was not the case.

At trial, Miller and Mrs. Rust (along with the deputy sheriffs) testified against Wilson. Deputy Leavitt described the following exchange: "I said, 'What did you do with those pack horses?' 'I didn't have no pack horses.' I says, 'You might tell that to somebody but you couldn't tell that to me.'" Ultimately Wilson served his entire one year sentence in the penitentiary, a victim of poor timing that was compounded by lies that were easily disproven.

OREGON STATE PENITENTIARY, SALEM, OREGON									
Name Wilson, Harold		No 10536		Class 1		Ref 4		6	
Alias _____									
RIGHT HAND									
									
LEFT HAND									
									
Crime Operating a Still	County Malheur	Sentence 2 Yrs	Age 31	Complexion Light	Eyes Grey-brown	Hair Brown	Weight 173	Height 5' 8"	Build Chunky
Received 1-9-29		Previous Record: _____							
Taken by _____		Date JAN 22 1929		Signature Harold Wilson					
									
									
									
									
									

Official web site of
Oregon Secretary of State

Jack Wheaton

About the Inmate

#10248

Name: Jack "Ingersoll" Wheaton

Received: March 22, 1928

Discharged: March 20, 1929

Crime: Possession of Mash & Wort, Possession of Still

County: Washington

Age: 23

Height: 5'9 1/4"

Weight: 145lbs

Build: Medium

Hair: Brown

Eyes: Blue

Complexion: Light (sallow)

Born: Oregon

Occupation: Farmer-Nurse



Jack Wheaton's Oregon State Penitentiary mug shot.

Sentenced to concurrent terms of one and one and a half years in the penitentiary for possession of mash and wort*, and possession of a still, did little to solve Jack "Ingersoll" Wheaton's problems. During his year of incarceration, his ex-wife Velma continued to write Warden Myers from Medford inquiring about the alimony payments of \$30.00 per month she was owed in support of their 15-month old child.

Wheaton refused to send her any further money, contending that she had deserted him and "left with another man," according to a letter from the Jackson County District Attorney. Residing with her brother, she addressed the situation in a letter to the warden dated March 5, 1929, in which she addressed the charge her ex-husband made, observing "I would certainly like to see him prove it."

His marital problems may have been the least of his worries. The Washington County Sheriff, in his report to the Parole Board, noted that in addition to neglecting his family, Wheaton was "spending most of his time with other females of the neighborhood and selling liquor for a living, operating his outfit under conditions indescribably (sic) for filth and unsanitary conditions," adding that "this man's family, reputation, moral and mental characteristics are all to his discredit."

The worst news for Wheaton may have been the prison physician's report on his physical condition on admission, which noted: "Breath foul; Teeth bad; Bowel movements: constipation" and indicated that he "suspected syphilis; blood test to be given." Clearly his problems did not end with his criminal record and incarceration!


Wheaton did not gain parole and served a one-year sentence before his release in March, 1929. He died on February 14, 1934 in Portland from bronchial pneumonia at the age of 29. The records don't reveal whether he resolved the many problems he faced before and during his incarceration.

* Mash is a mix of grains, often malted barley supplemented by corn, sorghum, rye or wheat, steeped in warm water to create wort. Wort is the sweet infusion of ground malt or other grain before fermentation, used to produce beer and distilled malt liquors.


10248 OREGON STATE PENITENTIARY, SALEM, OREGON

Name Wheaton, Ingersoll No 10248 Class 5 R IO 9
Alias (True name) (Wheaton, Jack) Ref 17 R IO 15

RIGHT HAND




LEFT HAND



Age 23 Height 5 9 1/2 Weight 145 Hair Brown Eyes Blue
Occupation Nurse Nativity Oregon Build Medium
Complexion Light (sallow) Crime Poss. Mash & wort; possessing a still
County Washington Term 1 year and 1 1/2 yrs, concurrent Received 3-22-28

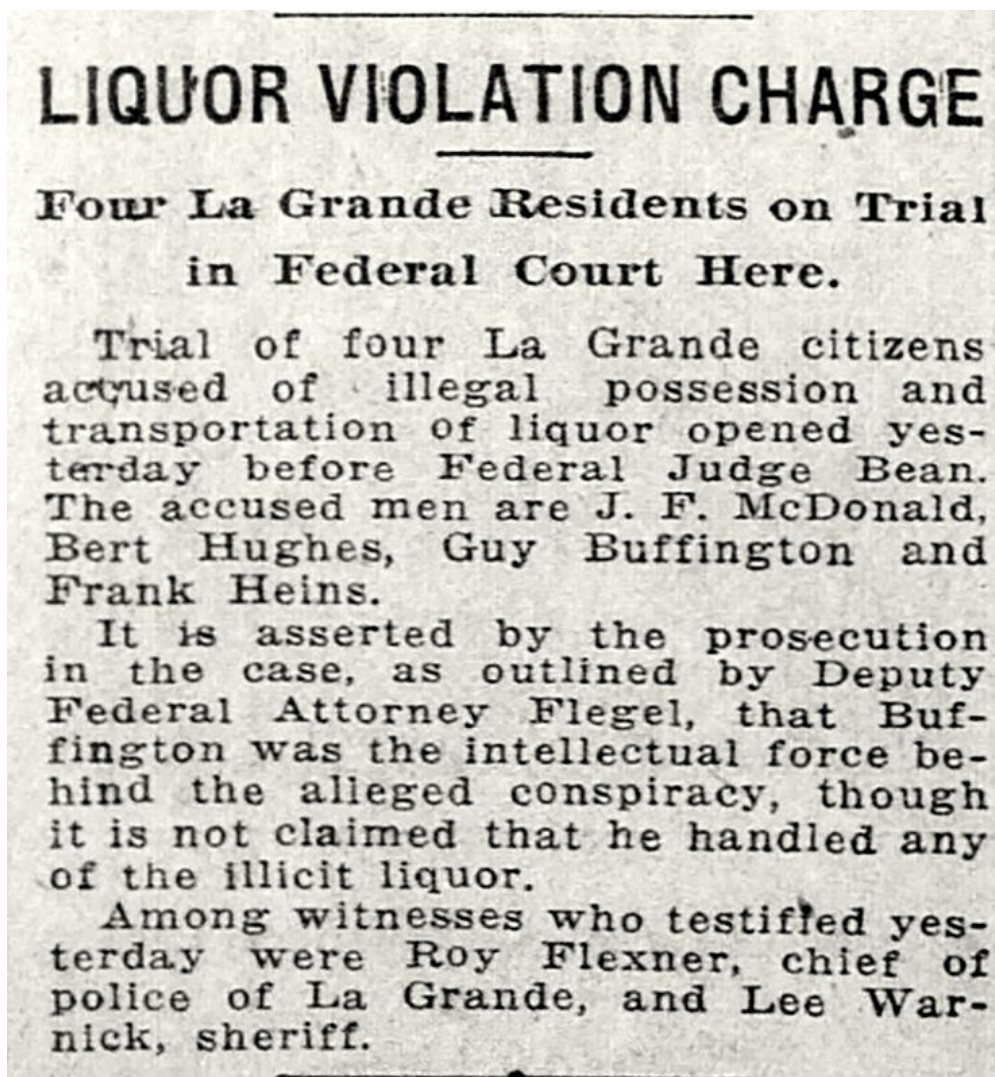
Previous Record:

Taken by J S Murray Date 3-22-28 Signature Ingersoll Wheaton



Guy Buffington and Joe Sellers

On December 9, 1920, *The Oregonian* newspaper printed a brief news item about the federal trial of a group of defendants accused of manufacturing whiskey in the Blue Mountains of Union County. One of the men on trial, Guy Buffington, was characterized by federal prosecutors as “the intellectual force behind the alleged conspiracy” even though he did not personally handle any of the liquor. The judge directed the jury to find Buffington not guilty, as the prosecution did not produce enough evidence to convict him.



This article in *The Oregonian* newspaper describes Guy Buffington as the "intellectual force" behind a liquor conspiracy.

Buffington's luck ran out in 1927, when he was sentenced to two years in the Penitentiary for operating a still. In a statement to the Governor seeking parole, he sought to pin the blame on Joe Sellers, his partner in the operation. Contending that “part of evidence was false and misconstrued,” he alleged that he was

simply in the wrong place at the wrong time. "I was asked by Joe Sellers ... to take him out in the country in my car, which I did. And the Sheriff was laying in wait and arrested me in my car."

He claimed that Sellers tried to tell the Sheriff that Buffington "had no interest in the still whatever." When asked if he was guilty of the crime, Buffington flatly stated "No of course not."

Sheriff Breshears, in his statement to the Parole Board, viewed things much differently. Buffington "was caught with possession of still, and laid it on Joe Sellers and gave him a trip for one year." "I had a hard time to catch him as he was a sly bird." The Sheriff concluded by stating "In my judgment he should serve his full time as we have plenty of violators left here."

Buffington was discharged in late 1928 after serving approximately one and a half years in the Penitentiary.

About the Inmates

#9929

Name: Guy Buffington

Received: July 21, 1927

Discharged: July 15, 1929

Crime: Possession of a still

County: Union

Age: 49

Height: 5'6 1/2"

Weight: 139lbs

Build: Chunky

Hair: Light Brown

Eyes: Blue

Complexion: Light

Born: Oregon

Occupation: Locomotive Engineer



Guy Buffington's Oregon State Penitentiary mug shot.

#9919

Name: Joseph Sellers

Received: July 8, 1927

Paroled: February 23, 1928

Crime: Possession of a still

County: Union

Age: 44

Height: 5'8"

Weight: 140lbs

Build: Muscular

Hair: Brown

Eyes: Light Gray

Complexion: Light



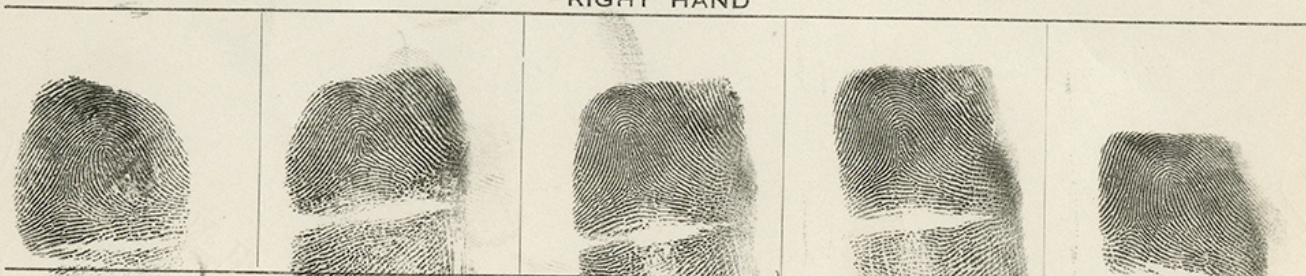
Joe Sellers' Oregon State Penitentiary mug shot.

Born: North Carolina
Occupation: Locomotive Fireman


9919 OREGON STATE PENITENTIARY, SALEM, OREGON

Name Sellers, Joe No 9919 Class 1 U 14
Alias _____ Ref 1 RW 4

RIGHT HAND



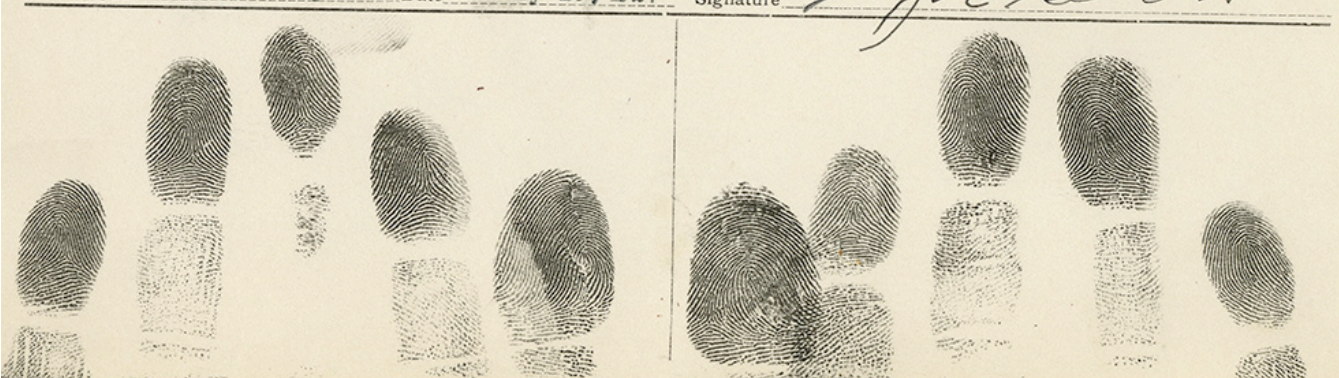
LEFT HAND



Age 44 Height 5' 8" Weight 140 Hair Brown Eyes Lt. Gray
Occupation Locomotive fireman Nativity North Carolina Build Muscular
Complexion Light Crime Possession of still
County Union Term One year Received July 8, 1927
Bertillon _____

Previous Record: _____

Taken by J. S. Murray Date July 19, 1927 Signature Joe Sellers



OREGON STATE PENITENTIARY, SALEM, OREGON

Name Buffington, Guy No 9929 Class 1 R/V
 Alias _____ Ref _____ 1 R/V

RIGHT HAND

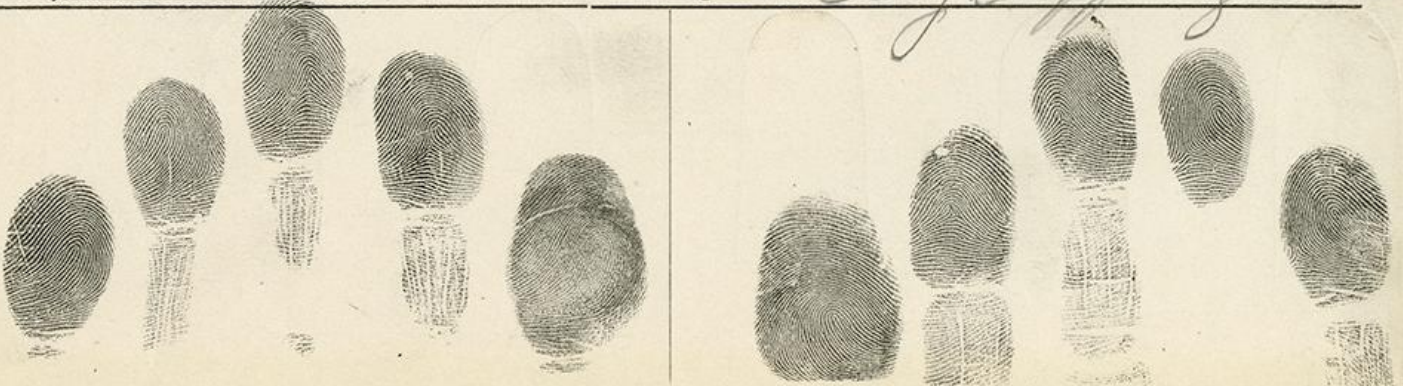


LEFT HAND



Age 49 Height 5'6 1/2" Weight 139 Hair Lt. Brown Eyes Blue
 Occupation Locomotive Engineer Nativity Oregon Build Chunky
 Complexion Light Crime Operating a still
 County Union Term Two years Received July 21, 1927
 Bertillon _____
 Previous Record: _____

Taken by J. S. Murray Date Sept 20, 1927 Signature Guy Buffington



Official web site of
Oregon Secretary of State

Russell Hecker

About the Inmate

#8970

Name: Russell Hecker

Received: May 20, 1924

Discharged: September 20, 1937

Crime: Murder in the 1st Degree

County: Clackamas

Age: 26

Height: 5'6"

Weight: 136lbs

Build: Slight

Hair: Red

Eyes: Dark Blue

Complexion: Florid

Born: Oregon

Occupation: Garage Man & Electrician



Russell Hecker's Oregon State Penitentiary mug shot.

It was the evening of April 16, 1922. Russell Hecker had an opportunity to get between 15 and 20 cases of Johnny Walker Black Label whiskey for \$85 per case. “Bob” was his liquor connection. Frank Bowker had the cash. The plan was to meet “Bob” and purchase the liquor on an isolated road between Gladstone and Oregon City.

According to his courtroom testimony, Hecker borrowed a car and a .45 automatic and met up with Bowker at the Oregon Hotel in Portland. Bowker had about \$1400 for the liquor and also came strapped with a .38. His brother Albert Bowker volunteered to come along, but Hecker made it clear that “Bob” was expecting only two. As soon as the transaction was complete, they all agreed to meet back up at 82nd and Division Street with the whiskey an hour later.

On the way to the meeting point, Bowker suggested that they stick up the bootlegger, take the liquor and keep the money. Hecker said no. An agreement was made and they were going to stick to it. When they arrived at the meeting spot, Hecker signaled “Bob” with the car’s spotlight. Bowker misinterpreted the gesture and accused Hecker of trying to double-cross him. Hecker said he was not and then Hecker claimed that Bowker cried: “Hecker, you are double-crossing me, you little son-of-a-bitch, I will shoot you.”


Things got very messy very quickly. Hecker testified Bowker shot at him, just missing him. He fired back and then there was blood everywhere. Hecker wasn’t sure what to do. He rifled through the dead man’s pockets, relieving him of identification, put Bowker’s lifeless body in a hop sack he acquired for transporting the liquor and after driving around most of the night, dumped Bowker’s body in the

Calapooia River near Albany. He tried to clean up himself and the car before returning to Portland. He was arrested and taken into police custody soon after.

It was a convincing story, but the evidence cast doubt in the minds of the jury: going through Bowker's pockets; a witness testifying that they only heard one shot, not two; the missing bullet from the first alleged shot; the convenience of the hop sack; the bullet entering through the back of Bowker's head; and what about "Bob?"

The jury deliberated for about one hour before delivering the verdict guilty of first degree murder. Whether it was premeditated or self-defense, the evidence against him was simply too compelling. Judge James Campbell sentenced 24 year old Russell Hecker to death by hanging.

Hecker appealed to the Oregon Supreme Court and after the conviction was affirmed, he was taken to the Oregon State Penitentiary. On May 24, 1924, his sentence was commuted to life in prison by Governor Pierce. His sentence was again commuted to imprisonment for 20 years and he was released on September 20, 1937.

Oregon State Penitentiary Identification Department									
Name Hecker, Russell B. 8970					Classification No. 2/1 U I 00 11 1				
Aliases					17 U 000 12 12				
Impressions taken by _____					Date _____				
Classified by _____					 Prisoner's Signature				

Official web site of
Oregon Secretary of State

Clara Nichols

About the Inmate

#11313

Name: Clara Nichols aka Eva Black

Received: September 14, 1930

Pardoned: March 20, 1931

Crime: Manufacture & Possession of Intoxicating Liquor

County: Federal

Age: 47

Height: 5'5 1/2"

Weight: 223lbs

Build: Chunky

Hair: Medium Brown

Eyes: Dark Brown

Complexion: Dark

Born: Kansas

Occupation: Candy Maker



Clara Nichols' Oregon State Penitentiary mug shot.

United States Attorney, Roy Fox, characterized the distilling operation federal agents raided in December, 1929 near Spokane, Washington as “being of the greatest capacity and most expensive ever captured in this district.” It included 1455 gallons of alcohol and moonshine whiskey which were produced from multiple stills as large as 500 gallons, as well as a re-distilling tank and the connection of a “water plant with the distillery for the purpose of facilitating its rapid operation.”

Nine men were listed in Fox’s parole report as participating in the operation, but the person identified as the owner and manager was Clara Nichols, aka Eva Black.

With a listed occupation of “candy maker,” Nichols was a federal prisoner sent to serve her sentence at the Oregon State Penitentiary. She served six months of a two year sentence prior to her parole. Only two days after arriving in Salem, her husband John Nichols died, and she was allowed to attend his funeral.

However, her encounters with the law did not begin in the fall of 1930. According to the United States Attorney’s parole report, she was convicted of conspiracy to counterfeit United States coins in northern California in October, 1917 for which she was fined \$500.



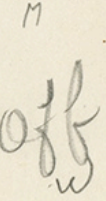




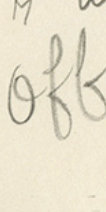


Nichols was the mother of two children. Her sister, Mrs. W.O. Booker, wrote the warden pleading for her release on parole. In a letter dated November 8, 1930, she characterized she and her husband as “... doing the best we can to school the children but we certainly need her help...[as]...we are not blessed with plenty,” adding that she was “hoping your advice will bring the children their mother for a Xmas present.”

As a side note, Nichols' fingerprint record notes that both of her middle fingers were amputated, but there is no indication of how that occurred. Perhaps she suffered an accident while making candy?







Form No. 16

OREGON STATE PENITENTIARY, SALEM, OREGON

Name Nichols, Clara No. 11313 Class 3 U I 5 amp
Alias _____ Ref I V II 7 R I 4
RIGHT HAND I R II 4

		 <i>M</i> <i>off</i> <i>w</i>		 <i>5</i>
LEFT HAND				
		 <i>M</i> <i>w</i> <i>off</i>		 <i>4</i>

Crime Mfg. and Poss. Liquor County Federal Sentence 1 Yr 1 D 1 Yr 1 D } cc Age 47
Complexion Dark Eyes Dark brown Hair Medium brown Weight 223 lbs.
Height 5' 5 1/2" Build Chunky Received Sept. 14th, 1930
Previous Record: _____
Taken by J. S. Murray Date 9-25-30 Signature Clara Nichols

					
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Prohibition Memorabilia

Any social change as deep and sweeping as Prohibition is bound to have a lot of memorabilia associated with it. Here are some items from the era of Prohibition in Oregon.

The Oregon Boot



The infamous shackle called the Oregon Boot was still in limited use at the Oregon State Penitentiary during Prohibition. Attached to one ankle, the device was designed to keep the prisoner off balance so he could not move quickly. Prisoners called it a "man-killer" because it caused extreme physical pain. (Oregon State Archives photo - Oregon Boot courtesy Oregon Historical Society)

NO ONE HAS EVER ESCAPED FROM AN OREGON BOOT.

FIG. 1: Lower portion that screws on heel of shoe and supports 15-pound weight.

FIG. 2: Two sections of the 15-pound weight, each half locking together around the leg, and resting upon support (1).

FIG. 3: Key.

LOWER FIGURE: Complete boot on convict's leg (one boot to the prisoner).

OREGON BOOT, the dread of the captured criminal with the "escape complex," the shackle of historical renown. In the '80s and '90s, and on into the 20th century, the OREGON BOOT was the wonder of the western police world. **No prisoner has ever escaped from an Oregon Boot,** a record without a parallel.



The inventor and original manufacturer has passed on, and of late years the OREGON BOOT has existed only in history. A few of the older penal institutions and law-enforcing departments in the western United States have this boot, procured from the inventor, and these possessors prize them highly for modern police duty. There has been much desire on the part of police officials to procure these shackles, so they are being manufactured again, in a highly perfected state.

THE OREGON BOOT as now manufactured by Art Burnside, manager of the world's premier police supply house, is a shackle beyond comparison. It is a most humane instrument, one which can comfortably remain on the prisoner in standing, sitting, walking and lying down positions. These are most necessary requirements for prisoners transportation. A foot-proof and **absolutely non-pickable lock** is incorporated in the boot. It cannot be cut off with a welding torch, nor can it be broken with a sledge hammer. If a lockjaw attempts to cut through the lock, the blade will strike a revolving washer and cease to cut.

The ONLY WAY TO GET AN OREGON BOOT OFF IS WITH A KEY

Every prison, industrial house, police and sheriff department needs this boot. If used for transporting prisoners, there will be no more jumping out of train windows or off the platform, as the 15-pound weight on the foot holds 'em and holds 'em for keeps. All police agencies have need for this boot, in a hundred and one different ways.

A shoe may be attached to the support and used on different persons, or it may be instantly screwed to a convict's own shoe. A heavy plate insures against rust or corrosion.

Price \$22.50, F.O.B. Spokane.

SOLE MANUFACTURER:

Art Burnside, SPORTING GOODS
DIVISION OF POLICE EQUIPMENT

North 2208 Dakota Street
SPOKANE, WASH.

"Everything in Police and Prison Equipment."

This advertisement extolls the Oregon Boot as a great tool to prevent escapes from jails and penitentiaries. It was widely used at the Oregon State Penitentiary for a period in the late 1800s before prison officials acknowledged that it prevented inmates from doing manual labor and caused injuries. (Oregon State Archives image) [Transcript with enlarged image \(https://records.sos.state.or.us/ORSOSWebDrawer/Record.html/9975581\)](https://records.sos.state.or.us/ORSOSWebDrawer/Record.html/9975581).

Repeal 18th Amendment License Plate Attachment



This original license plate attachment helped advertise the movement to repeal national Prohibition. (License plate attachment courtesy Craig Kuhns)



A woman smiles as she poses in front of a car in the early 1930s with a Repeal 18th Amendment license plate attachment. (Image courtesy Oregon Historical Society)

Prohibition Matchbooks



Many of the Prohibition Era matchbooks advocated for the repeal of national Prohibition. Some advertised non-alcoholic alternatives to liquor-based drinks. (Matchbooks courtesy Craig Kuhns)

Liquor Bottles



Left: A considerable amount of liquor was produced during Prohibition for "medicinal use." This rum bottle was filled in Portland by a drug company. Right: The reverse label on this Kentucky Bourbon bottle notes that the contents are "For Medical Purposes Only." (Oregon State Archives photos - Bottles courtesy Oregon Historical Society)

Forty-seven Years Prison Experience

Autobiography of J.S. Murray



J. S. MURRAY

CHIEF CLERK AND IDENTIFICATION OFFICER

OREGON STATE PENITENTIARY

SALEM, OREGON

7c

'The Oregon Boot'

The Oregon boot, formerly called the Gardiner Shackle, was invented by warden J. C. Gardner, he being granted a patent on it in July, 1866. Nearly all prisoners wore them at the time to prevent their escape. Evidently the shackles were made right in the penitentiary machine shop, and weighed anywhere from five to twenty-eight pounds each, and consisted of a heavy iron band which was locked around one ankle and rested on an iron ring or band which in turn was fastened to bottom of shoe in step to keep the shackle from injuring the ankle. With the weight of this on one foot and not on the other, make it impossible for the prisoner to walk or run very fast. In fact it was with great difficulty that he was able to move about at all. The early prison wardens seemed to be of the opinion that it would be impossible to hold the prisoners without them. When Mr. Berry took over the superintendency from Mr. W. H. Watkinds in 1872, he continued to use them, and Mr. Gardner obtained from the court a restraining order preventing their use without proper payment to Mr. Gardner. The Oregon legislature therefore, made an appropriation for that purpose, as Superintendent Berry stated he did not feel at liberty to compel his officers to hold the convicts and work them without the privilege of their use. During the next several years, these shackles were both cursed and discussed by both officers and prisoners. Superintendent Watkinds had this to say about them: "A great wrong we are compelled to put on the prisoners for want of sufficient ^{walls} is the Gardiner shackles. We are necessarily compelled to iron them, so they cannot scale the walls. There are prisoners who have worn this instrument of torture, known inside the prison as 'man killers', until they are broken down in health and constitution. Young and strong men, with this steady weight, which pulls all day on their loins, yield after a few years, leaving the prison broken down physically, not from over-work or underfeeding

273

but simply from lugging about a lot of iron to keep them from scaling the fences that are no protection without. Men lay in the hospital for weeks wearing these things, suffering great pains and begging to be relieved from the load. Your Excellency ordered a year ago, that but as few as possible be ironed. This has been complied with, but leaves many yet really and literally ironed down. Oregon State Prison is the only place in the United States where this mode of murdering men by inches is practiced. It is murder, and of the worst type. Another consideration is, that a convict with the irons off, can do a great deal more labor than with them on."

Dr. A. H. Belt, prison physician at the time, has this to say about the shackle: "A great tendency to disease of the kidney and weakness of the back with loss of muscular power in the lower limbs, seems to be due to the wearing of what is called the Gardiner shackle. This is not a conclusion on a single instance but is the result of examination of every case that has been under my care. The rule has been that a few months only, are necessary to destroy the health and consequent usefulness of every one that has been subjected to their use; and, in a few years, at such a rate of deterioration, would destroy life. My impression is that while there may be speedier ways of ending life, there are none that is surer. I would respectfully submit, that if other means could be devised that would be equally safe, they be left ^{off} as soon as practicable."

Superintendent B. F. Burch, in a report to Governor Chadwick, dated September 1, 1878, states in part: "Heretofore it has been the practice to keep a large number of men heavily shackled to prevent escape, which render them unfit for manual labor, injuring their constitution, and hold them, as it were, by brute force. This principal I believe to be wrong. Such punishment can never lead to reformation, hence I determined to dispense with them except as a punishment, believing, as has been

demonstrated, they could be kept without it. Placing the shackles before them as a punishment for violation of prison rules,, I have been successful in keeping all but three, which three were trusties."

Dr. James A. Richardson, prison physician, reporting in September 1876; "Kidney and spinal troubles have been quite common--induced in some cases, I think, by wearing the Gardiner shackles. The continued application of this great weight, from six to twenty-eight pounds, to the lower extremities destroy the muscular power of the lower limbs. But I think the most serious evil is this, with from six to twenty-eight pounds of cold iron around the ankles, the prisoner must of necessity, with the ordinary supply of bedding furnished the prisoner, suffer with cold feet and limbs during the night, which in this climate, is always cool, and the effect of continually cold extremities cannot result otherwise than disastrously to the health of the convicts. I would therefore, in the strongest terms, recommend that means be adopted at the earliest possible moment to dispense altogether with the Gardiner Shackle."

The penitentiary has one of the 'Oregon Boots' at the present time which is used only in extra ordinary cases in moving desperate prisoners from one place to another to prevent any possible escape. Many of the sheriffs' offices of the state also possess one of these boots. A Supply house in Spokane, Washington, makes them for sale.

In this connection, a lady called at the Superintendent's office at the penitentiary April 27, 1927, and stated that her father, W. H. Leininger, a former proprietor of the Commercial Hotel in McCormack Building, in Salem, was the inventor of the "Oregon Boot". She said this was about 1875. It is quite ^{possible} that Mr. Leininger placed some refinements on the boot such as lock, nickel plating, etc. at that time as apparently these shackles as first used were welded around the ankles of the inmates and kept there during their incarceration. Warden Gardner, as above stated secured his patent in 1866.

After Prohibition: Still Raid Photos

Continued Illegal Activity

Illegal production and distribution of alcohol did not suddenly end in 1933 with the repeal of national Prohibition. There was still money to be made and many people had built a living and a lifestyle around related activities during the nearly 14 years that the 18th Amendment was in effect. Moonshining and bootlegging certainly became much smaller players on the social landscape but they have carried on to today. Now, the Oregon Liquor Control Commission (OLCC) regulates the manufacture, sale and consumption of alcohol in Oregon. Nationally, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) fights illegal activity related to alcohol.

Legal wineries and microbreweries now play a significant part in the culture and economy of Oregon. Meanwhile, microdistilleries are growing quickly and introducing innovative liquor products in the state. And, the Oregon Liquor Control Commission has added regulation of the production, distribution and sale of marijuana-related products to its mission.

Here are some photos from the records of the Oregon Liquor Control Commission that document still raids in 1959 and 1962.



Officials look at barrels of moonshine liquor in 1962 in this Oregon Liquor Control Commission photo. (OLCC photo)



A cabin was home to an illegal still in this 1959 Oregon Liquor Control Commission photo. (OLCC photo)



A man stands amid an illegal still operation in 1959 in this Oregon Liquor Control Commission photo. (OLCC photo)



Officials inspect illegal still equipment in a 1959 Oregon Liquor Control Commission photo. (OLCC photo)



Chickens run by illegal still equipment in a farmyard in 1959 in this Oregon Liquor Control Commission photo. (OLCC photo)



A large moonshine kettle is shown in this 1959 Oregon Liquor Control Commission photo. (OLCC photo)

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897 EAST 11TH STREET, N.
PORTLAND, OREGON

OREGON BOARD OF PHARMACY

Marshfield, Ore., Nov. 31. 1919.

Filed mch 22, 1920

Hon. Geo. M. Brown,
Attorney General,
Salem, Ore.

Dear Sir:

There is a preparation in the form of a patent medicine called LYKO being sold throughout the state. I have examined a sample of the article and in my opinion it has absolutely no medicinal value, and is put up expressly for beverage purposes. The label states that it contains 23% of alcohol by volume- enough to make a very popular "booze".

I think the sale of this nostrum should be prohibited in this state.

There are also a few other preparations like Beef Iron and Wine, and Better Herb Tonic that, in my opinion, should be prohibited.

Assuring of mine and the Board of Pharmacy's co-operation in enforcing the law, I am,

Yours very truly,

J. Lee Brown
PRESIDENT OREGON BOARD OF PHARMACY.

This letter, filed in 1920, from the president of the Oregon Board of Pharmacy to the Oregon Attorney General describes a patent medicine with "no medicinal value." (Oregon State Archives, Attorney General Correspondence)