

Charities and Corrections. The correctional and charitable institutions are under the supervision of the State Board of Charities and Reform, which consists of three members. The institutions include the State Prison at Deer Lodge, the State Industrial School at Miles City, a home for orphans, foundlings, and destitute children at Twin Bridges, a soldiers' home at Columbia Falls, the State Hospital for the Insane at Warm Springs, and the State School for the Deaf, Blind, and Feeble-Minded at Boulder. At the State Orphans Home the State provides generously for the maintenance and education of the children confined there. The State Industrial School at Miles City is correctional and receives children, upon commitment by the district courts, between the ages of 8 and 18 years. It is very well equipped for industrial and manual training. On Jan. 1, 1914, there were 618 prisoners in the State Prison. The Legislature of 1911 passed a law giving the district courts jurisdiction as juvenile courts. In the same year was established a State tuberculosis sanitarium, especially for miners' consumption, and there was provided at the State Insane Asylum at Warm Springs an institution for the cure of persons who are suffering from mental affliction caused by the use of drugs or intoxicants.

Beligion. The majority of the Church population belong to the Roman Catholic church. Other denominations having a following are the Methodists, Presbyterians, and Episcopalians.

History. The Sieur de la Verendrye is said to have traversed the region now included in the State of Montana in 1742. In 1804 the Lewis and Clark expedition crossed Montana from the northeast to the extreme southwest, and the following year, on their return journey from the Pacific coast, descended the Missouri and the Yellowstone in two parties, meeting at the junction of the rivers near the present eastern boundary of Montana. Trading posts were erected on the Yellowstone River by Manuel Lisa in 1809, William H. Ashley in 1822, and the American Fur Company in 1829. In 1840 Father Peter John de Smet of the Society of Jesus began mission work among the Flathead Indians, and this was followed by the establishment of a permanent mission among the Indians of Bitter Root valley in September, 1841. Fort Benton was founded by the American Fur Company in 1846. Gold was discovered as early as 1852 by François Finlay, a half-breed, near the Hellgate River, but the discovery aroused little attention till 1857, when John Silverthorn appeared at Fort Benton with a large quantity of gold dust which he had obtained in the mountains. In the winter of 1860 James and Granville Stuart settled on Gold Creek in the Deer Lodge valley, attracted by the rumors of gold in that region, and in the following year they commenced mining on a small scale, having been joined in the meanwhile by three other pioneers. Rich placers were soon discovered at various points in the mountains and an active immigration set in, mining settlements springing up at Bannack City, on Grasshopper Creek, on the Bighole River, and on North Boulder Creek. In May, 1863, gold was discovered at Fairweather Gulch, near Alder Creek. The town of Virginia City sprang up near the spot, and within a year it had a population of 4000. In 1863 the Territory of Idaho, including the present Montana, was set off from Washington and Dakota, and

on May 22, 1864, the Territory of Montana was erected from land taken from Idaho. The early settlers were naturally of a reckless and lawless character and, as a result, for a considerable length of time life and property were in jeopardy. The existing state of affairs was, however, remedied by the stern administration introduced by the establishment of vigilance committees. The *Montana Post*, the first newspaper in the Territory, was published at Virginia City in 1865. In 1874 the seat of government was removed from Virginia City and established at Helena. On June 25, 1876, occurred the disastrous fight between General Custer and the Sioux Indians under Sitting Bull on the Little Big Horn River.

The prosperity of the Territory was increased by the completion of the Northern Pacific Railroad in 1883, surveys for the route having been made as early as 1853 by Isaac I. Stevens under authority of Congress. In January and February, 1884, a constitutional convention framed a constitution which was ratified by the people in November, and application was made to Congress for admission into the Union. No action was taken, however, until February, 1889, when an enabling Act was passed by Congress. On Nov. 8, 1889, Montana was admitted into the Union by proclamation of the President after a State constitution had been framed and State officers elected. In national elections Montana was Republican in 1892; fusion of Democrats and Populists in 1896 and 1900; Republican again in the campaigns of 1904, 1908, and 1912. From 1907 up to and including 1914 the State suffered from industrial troubles which centred about strikes in Butte and other cities. In the former year all industries in Butte were practically at a standstill as a result of the strike of nearly all classes of labor. In the presidential election of 1908 Taft received 32,333 votes, Bryan 29,326, and Debs 5855. The Democrats succeeded in electing their candidate for Governor, Edwin L. Morris, but all the other State officers elected were Republicans. On March 30, 1909, the last spike in a new transcontinental railway, the Chicago, Milwaukee, and Puget Sound, was driven at Missoula. In 1910 the Flathead Indian reservation was thrown open for settlement. In 1911 the Legislature was in deadlock from January 1 to March 2 over the election of a United States Senator to succeed Thomas H. Carter, Republican. Although the Legislature was Democratic by six votes, Senator Carter's influence was so strong that he was able to prevent the election of the Democratic Senator during this period. Henry L. Meyers, formerly a district judge, was finally elected. In the election of November 5 of that year Wilson received 27,941 votes, Roosevelt 22,456, Taft 18,512, and Debs 10,885. For Governor, Stewart, Democratic, carried the State. A Democratic Legislature was also elected. The Socialists have for many years been increasing in political power, and in 1911 succeeded in electing a mayor in Butte. On Jan. 4, 1913, the Legislature elected Thomas J. Walsh as United States Senator to succeed Joseph M. Dixon. The most important official elected on Nov. 3, 1914, was the representative at large. The Democrats were successful in electing their candidate. An amendment providing for woman suffrage was carried in this election. The Governors of the Territory and State of Montana have been as follows: