

with oil. There was little or no dust, nor sand, even crossing the deserts. Oil engines hauled us for many miles on the western end of our journey, obviating the possibility of cinders finding their way into our eyes and ears, while sitting out-of-doors on the observation car. Newspapers and magazines are distributed free among the passengers at every large centre where they are printed, while the stock quotations are daily bulletined together with any important news from the East.

Under these favorable conditions, we travelled over the continent, leaving the cold blasts of winter for the warm shades of summer and the bright sunshine of the California Peninsula. A day out of Chicago we shed our winter overcoats, and a day later our heavy clothing, and the windows of the cars were left open and the steam shut off. The weather was ideal, the temperature being about 70° in the shade, without humidity, and most delightful to move about in.

After leaving the State of Illinois we entered the temperance States of Missouri and Kansas, where the laws are so strict that drinking glasses have to be removed from the wash rooms, and no alcoholic drinks of any kind are allowed to be served or drunk on board the cars. Even if you carried them with you the law would not permit of their indulgence. This was a sad blow to a few of our passengers, but there was no possibility of breaking the law.