

# Coos Bay Times

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The policy of The Coos Bay Times will be Republican in politics, with the independence of which President Roosevelt is the leading exponent.

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## THE WAR WITH JAPAN.

THERE will be no war with Japan. It would be pleasing if the subject could be thus easily and briefly disposed of. But there are many things which indicate that a war is among the possibilities, and that a large part of the intelligent world think it will take place and that the nations engaged will be Japan and America. As for America, there is no feeling toward Japan but one of cordiality, and unless Japan declares war and puts herself on record as a very foolish little upstart, there will be no war. There is no cause. If Japan should take on herself the task of whipping this country for some fancied insult, she will do herself incalculable injury with the whole financial world. It would not only bankrupt her, but it would injure her credit for many years to come, and it is not at all likely that she could get civilized nations to have any faith in the soundness of her judgment for two or three generations. It is not probable that she will do it. More than this. She is well-nigh bankrupt now. In case of war the most she could hope to do would be to disturb American insular dominions in the Pacific. So far as the mainland is concerned she would be able to do some damage at first along this shore, because the United States has certainly left a large space unprotected.

The strip of coast line from the mouth of the Columbia to the mouth of San Francisco Bay has been very much neglected. It is not necessary for any person to become frightened on that account, but the fact remains that the first port which Japan would and could make on this coast, with a view to doing damage would be Coos Bay. Suppose her fleet should go to Puget Sound. Not only would she be met by the defensive resistance of the forts, but the fleet would be out of coal and would have no base. It has been stated on pretty good authority that Japan has already planned her course in case war should be declared, and that if she should consider any action on this coast necessary or practical she would first of all have to get coal after her long trip across the Pacific, or her ships would be entirely useless and her defeat would be self-inflicted. She could not do anything without coal. In order to proceed against San Francisco or against Seattle she would have to "coal up." Where would she do it? She knows that this harbor is entirely unprotected, and that she can sail into it without resistance. She knows all about its resources and its capacity. She knows that its coal resources are without limit and that in a very short time she could throw up fortifications and hold this port while she provided herself with coal with which to continue to strike. She could in this manner establish a base where she would inflict upon the American fleet injuries which could never be repaired and cause great loss of life and property.

It is a fact that this section has from time to time been visited by Japanese who have examined it with the thoroughness for which they are characteristic. They know what is here. The government at Tokio is better acquainted with Coos Bay and

its coal than is the government at Washington. That government knows that the most vulnerable point of the American coast is Coos Bay. They know they can get here the material to fight every other city on the coast. They know that without that material they are powerless after crossing the ocean. They know they can not get coal at what must remain the neutral ports of British Columbia, and that Coos Bay is the only place on the coast of North or South America which has it in quantity, except British Columbia. Yet the government of the United States does not know all this, and if she does not find it out until there is a war with Japan her information may cost many millions of dollars. We could feel a double assurance in the correctness of the first paragraph of this article if only we were able to say that this most remarkable port of the Pacific coast had not been neglected by the government of the nation. One thing can be said with confidence. If there should be a war, the most important place along the entire coast would be Coos Bay, because, while the Japanese would not attempt an invasion, they would seize certain desirable places and make temporary strongholds and coaling stations of them, if they could, and from them they would pursue the usual warlike policy of inflicting damage on the enemy's country. That is the reason that Coos Bay would loom up as the most important port on the Pacific.

## THE HOTEL PROPOSITION.

IT is just as well for Coos Bay people to understand that no better time will ever come in which to provide for itself a first-class hotel than the present. The Chamber of Commerce has done all that it can do as a body for the purpose of getting the hotel established, and it is up to the real estate owners to come forward, not to give anything away, but to aid by purchasing a small part of the bonds of the proposed hotel company. As these bonds carry a good rate of interest the purchase is good business and at the same time helpful to the whole community. It is to be hoped that no petty jealousies exist in Marshfield which will obstruct the progress which is so brightly promised for the near future. The time of the little village petulance and meanness which the best of men and women are apt to foster when they are isolated together in a little backwoods district, has passed away, we hope and believe forever. Littleness defeats itself. It does more. It defeats everybody else. Marshfield never saw brighter and better prospects than now, and men should all get in line and help, not hinder. Some might desire a location for the hotel in some other locality than the one selected, but no matter where it is located, it will be a great acquisition to all parts of the bay. If there is not a first-class hotel put in here soon it will be the people's own fault.

The men who own real estate are the men who should take these bonds, but the investment in the bonds will be good, anyway. Why should real estate men take them? Because it is the real estate which is to be aided more than anything else. The manufacturer can get his men to come in here and occupy ordinary rooms. He is not in any special need of hotels for his business. The retail dealer is in the same shape. He sells to the local

trade. But the jobber and real estate man must expect to house the customers well and to offer them comfortable accommodations if they desire to do business. The real estate owner must keep up the price of his real estate by doing something for the town. One reason why any man is entitled to receive a good price for lots is because he uses a considerable part of the price in public improvements. If he does not do it he sells his land at a fraudulent price. A town lot does not improve in value by just looking at it. A man is not justified in charging any more for his lot because he has just looked at it for twenty years than the man who has just looked at it for twenty minutes. A good hotel will improve the value of every lot in town and the duty of all who own lots is to get busy and see that the building of this hotel commences very soon. Let us be frank. Coos Bay has been the scene of collapsible hotel propositions for several years now. They have come up repeatedly and disappeared as soon. The collapsible hotel of Bangor; the collapsible hotel of North Bend; the collapsible hotel of Plat B, Sherman avenue; the collapsible hotel of Marshfield; the collapsible hotel of Plat B at water front. Don't let this be another collapsible hotel.

## PERSONAL NOTES

Mr. McKellips, of North Bend, was a Marshfield visitor yesterday.

Miss Jenny Curren was here yesterday, accompanied by Mrs. Burmester.

Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Flanagan left for Portland on the Breakwater.

Miss Molly Bellien, of Roseburg, is visiting for a short time in this city.

Bill Noble returned home after a six weeks' visit of Ten Mile.

Miss Rose Arrington was a city visitor yesterday.

Mrs. Joe Hodson, of Coos River, was here yesterday.

Mrs. Wm. Lawlor spent yesterday in Marshfield.

Mrs. Landreth, of Coos River, was in Marshfield yesterday.

Mr. E. A. Colgan and wife left here today for the valley where they will spend two months visiting with relatives.

Mrs. McFarland, of North Inlet, was in Marshfield on Thursday.

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Mrs. W. D. Smith returned home yesterday from a visit to North Inlet.

Mr. V. Pugh, of Empire, was a Marshfield visitor yesterday.

Miss Yoakum, of Coos River, was in this city yesterday.

Jack McDonald, of Coos River, left yesterday for the camp after a few days visit in this city.

M. S. Smith, superintendent of the Bandon woolen mill, is in Marshfield.

Mr. D. A. Utter, of Isthmus Inlet, is in Marshfield for medical aid.

Attorney Hammond, of Coquille, was in Marshfield yesterday to look after business matters.

Dr. Schoonmaker left yesterday for a two weeks' visit in Portland.

Mr. and Mrs. George Flanagan were passengers on the Breakwater. They will visit Portland friends.

Major Tower came down yesterday from his summer home on Coos river, on his way to Empire.

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**CONFERENCE AT THE HAGUE**  
The Hague, July 18.—The sitting of the peace conference today was one of the most important, both because of the interest in the questions discussed and for the powerful speeches delivered. Prominent among the speakers was Joseph Choate of the United States.

Geo. Beale, of Coos River, was in this city yesterday.

Mr. Luce, of North Bend, was here yesterday.

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