

# St. Helens Mist

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**COUNTY OFFICIAL PAPER**

## INDUSTRIES NEEDED.

One of the crying needs of the Pacific Northwest is industrial enterprise. The crying need of every locality is industrial activity, no matter how much already exists there. And more than that, when once located they must be encouraged. We do not have in mind the great half million dollar enterprises, subsidized with issues of stocks and bonds or large donations from communities, but little industries, such as fruit canneries, evaporators, planing mills, creameries, cheese factories, woodworking factories, woolen mills or any industry that stands a reasonable chance of success. By creating an industrial atmosphere favorable to such enterprises we can open the way for better conditions, invite capital to come here and enable capital already here to earn something on its investment.

To accomplish this result we must have lower taxes, and higher ideals and motives. We must do more buying at home and less patronizing of foreign institutions. In other words, we must be loyal to home and home institutions. There is room in the Pacific Northwest for more than five hundred such general commercial institutions as have been referred to in this article, and room in Columbia county and St. Helens for several of them. One way to get them is to go after them, and one of the best means of going after them is through concerted and unselfish effort on the part of the business men of the community.

## WORK WELL DONE.

To those who attended the closing exercises of the public schools of St. Helens last Friday evening there could have been but one universal thought. The exercises not only closed the school year but they marked the closing of the most successful school year in the history of the city. The splendid class which passed from the grammar grades to the high school work speaks in the most highly complimentary terms for the work of the local educational institution. The class graduating from the high school work, while not great numerically, affords an inward satisfaction to the faculty and board that the year's work was thorough. There can be no more satisfying outcome of a year's work than the knowledge that the work of the year was well done, and certainly that has been demonstrated beyond question in the local school. Cordial and earnest cooperation between officers, faculty and students was manifested throughout the year, and the results have been extremely gratifying.

## COMMEND THE COURT.

Subsequent events have fully demonstrated the wisdom of the members of the county court in dealing with the contracting firm which had done the construction work on Columbia highway. Success has attended their efforts so far, and in all probability all differences may be amicably adjusted and settlement had on reasonable and common sense grounds. It may be just possible that the contracting firm has more coming to it than was set forth in the final report of Mr. Bowlby, and in the event that this is the case, there is no doubt that the court is broad enough to give due consideration to reasonable demands and effect a settlement without resort to the courts. However, in this same connection, we have that faith in the court which prompts the belief that they will never yield to any unreasonable demand. Construction work on the highway has been resumed, and just as far as funds are available the work will be completed this year.

## SAVE THE TREES.

Yes, save the trees. They are valuable. Columbia county has many of them, but none to ruthlessly destroy. They mean too much commercially. Their protection from fire is of the most paramount importance. The season for forest fires is at hand. Be careful and caution others to exercise care. Eastern states have already suffered heavy losses so far this year from forest fires.

For the past five years the Northwest has carried on a live campaign of publicity, setting forth the results of forest fires and urging the help of the community in suppressing and

preventing them. Various kinds of notices have been freely posted, and circulars have been distributed among young and old everywhere. The campaign has been so effective that the public has awakened to its duty and interest in the matter, with the result that where the Forest Service once stood alone in fire prevention work, it now has the co-operation of the states, of private organizations, timber owners, and the public generally.

The good citizen will be just as careful regarding fire in the woods as he is with fire in his own home. He will not only do all these things himself, but he is so well convinced of the wisdom of fire prevention measures, that he will urge it upon his friends and neighbors and thus help the good work along.

## PACIFIC NORTHWEST.

The romance of the Pacific is giving place to world activities. Nations are more and more staging historical dramas on the theater of the Pacific. World business and world politics will develop mightily on the shores and on the waters of the greatest of oceans. China with her hundreds of millions, Japan with her Napoleonic ambitions, the growth in stature and power and civilization of the Slav, as well as the continental colonies of Australia, make a fitting complement to the coming developments on the western coast of the Americas.

When world activities center more and more on the Pacific what part shall the Pacific Northwest take in the course of empire? Shall the four states of Idaho, Montana, Oregon and Washington rise into power and influence as a unit, and with its greater opportunities reproduce, even in a larger way, the historic power and influence the older states of New England?

Historically, racially and with the broad parallels of climate and soil the Pacific Northwest, centering around the old Oregon country, is in reality an entity, and is only prevented from assuming the proportions of its inherent influence by giving too much attention to the artificial limitations of state lines, state laws and state organizations, all giving rise to differences and jealousies and youthful enthusiasms which now result in duplicating and overlapping and often in cross-purposing the great lines of common development.

With breadth of vision, with unity of purpose, with intelligent direction these four states in their entity will come to their own as the greater New England of the Pacific.

Here again it may be asked, where can better means be found for uniting the people of the four states along common lines in doing things worth while, than through systematic educational endeavor?

With a sort of "gentlemen's agreement," uniting the forces of the Pacific Northwest along educational, social, industrial, agricultural, commercial and financial development, there will come a measure of progress far outstripping that now made by the states individually; the cumulative power of concerted action being far greater than the sum of the activities of the states acting independently of one another.

## COMMUNITY WORK.

Community building as a business has developed to a specialized occupation, requiring peculiar qualifications to its successful pursuit. The proper work of the commercial organization must be thoroughly analyzed and carefully systematized in order that it may be effective. As the work of community building affects every individual in the community, it should have the attention and the service of all. Every one in the city should do his part; co-operate with the others in united endeavor for the common advantage of all.

In this day there must be one common agency for the solution of the varied problems confronting every community, or the community will suffer untold injury and loss from untoward conditions, and fall utterly to take advantage of its opportunities for wholesome growth and development. The efficiency of a commercial organization in St. Helens in bringing to the community that degree of prosperity and advancement which is the city's due, depends upon the number and character of the citizens who unite in furthering its work, and particularly in their activity in rendering personal service and moral and financial support.

## SENTIMENT NOT ALL.

Sentiment rules the world and yet there has to be something back of sentiment that is not sentiment itself. Love of man for woman and love of woman for man makes the family, and yet there must be something back of that love which is not love itself. There must be a soil for the growth of the choice plant; there must be a continual adding of fertility to that soil out of which the choice plant grows. Truth and honor and

rock-ribbed righteousness are some of the constituents of the soil which produces the choicest flowers of sentiment.

St. Helens is growing every day; new homes are going up and other substantial permanent improvements are being made, which tend to the general welfare of the place.

## TAXPAYERS WAKING UP.

(Lealle's Weekly).  
Wake up! The taxpayers of the country at last are waking up. They have been so busy with other things that they have neglected to take an interest in good government. They have let the politicians run riot with the people's money until at last the burden of taxes has become so unbearable that the situation is one of peril. In the language of Judge Elbert H. Gary of the Steel corporation:

"We all know that heavy taxation acts as a check upon business. It makes it difficult for business to compete with the same kind of business in other more favored localities. It causes unemployment and high rents and makes life more difficult and the cost of government greater."

Our greatest cities have been the principal sufferers from the looting and grafting of politicians allied and often partners with contractors on public works. The expenses of our city governments have grown to such prodigious proportions that at last the rent payer, upon whom the taxpayer must depend in large part for this revenue, has started a revolt. When the rent payer and the property owner combine, good government will be a possibility.

The organization of a citizens' committee in New York by some of its leading captains of industry and finance, including Judge Gary of the Steel corporation, ex-Comptroller A. B. Hepburn, ex-Secretary of the Treasury George B. Cortelyou, Vincent Astor, August Heckscher, President Nicholas Murray Butler of Columbia university, Darwin P. Kingsley, Frank A. Vanderlip and others of national reputation will have far reaching significance in the conduct of city affairs. Judge Gary, who is chairman of the executive committee, says that its purpose will be to fully investigate the financial condition of the city with a view to co-operating with the city officials in an effort to keep taxes down and still push forward needed public improvements. This will be done in a non-partisan way.

Let the leading men of every community watch the effort that is being made to put the affairs of our greatest American city on a business footing. In this connection we might add that the opposition of New York City officials to a direct state tax indicates an astonishing lack of knowledge regarding the condition of the state treasury. Senator Brown, the Republican leader of the upper branch of the legislature, makes a timely statement regarding the amazing increase in the cost of our state government and demands that a halt be called on all new enterprises until means have been provided for paying for those to which the state is already committed. Unless this is done speedily, he says, the burden of taxation will be heavily increased.

While taxpayers have been sleeping, politicians have been loading upon them the burden of an expensive "Social Service," so-called, comprising palatial asylums for the insane, and expensive commissions purporting to be for the benefit of labor, of the public health, of safety, and of sanitation. A law for widows' pensions, which will enormously increase the burden of taxes, has just been added to the "Social Service" list and we are already told that it is to be followed by a demand for a bill to pension the unemployed. Thus the thrifty, and industrious and economical are to take upon their shoulders the burden of supporting not only the vicious and criminal classes, but the shiftless, indolent, careless and thoughtless, too proud to beg, but not too proud to take advantage of the bread line and of "Bundle Day."

An exchange very pertinently remarks: If the editor isn't tearing his shirt off to boost your interests—take stock with yourself and find out whether he is under any obligation to you. Perhaps you have given him no occasion to entuse over your interests. Perhaps you are a dead one—a non-advertiser—just walking around to save funeral expenses.

## HITHER AND YON.

Seats on the New York stock exchange are now selling at \$60,000; so those who bought at \$40,000 three years ago and have been in trepidation ever since may cheerfully sell out.

In the spring comes the call of the wild, and it continues to become wilder until the latter part of July or early August, when many devote as much as two weeks to responding to it.

A genuine Rubens was sold for only \$13,000 in an art sale at New York. This may be accounted for from the fact that there were no genuine Rubens with more money than judgment among the bidders.

Kansas editors are so clever that the people now fill all the offices with them. The law is nowhere in the road to preferment. Perhaps the editors got tired of putting somebody else in and decided to knock down the plums themselves.

## TWENTY YEARS AGO

The Mist, May 17, 1895.  
The county court appointed G. W. Barnes deputy county assessor, and he will commence the work for which he has been appointed in the Nehalem valley shortly.

Deputy Sheriff Charles Blakesley went to Mayger Tuesday night to subpoena witnesses. From Mayger he went to Clatskanie Wednesday and on to Mist on the same mission.

Our people did the rapid change of clothing act last Sunday. In the forenoon it was warm almost to suffocating, and in two hours' time an overcoat was very much appreciated.

We have been requested to announce that a meeting will be held in the court house next Monday evening for the purpose of considering the question of appropriately celebrating the Fourth. It is desired that a good attendance be had.

The county court has extended the time for the return of the delinquent tax roll until June 15, after which time all unpaid taxes will be delinquent. This extension of time will be a great convenience to many taxpayers, and it is believed there will remain very little unpaid taxes at that date.

The proposition for supplying St. Helens with better water, to be brought from Perry creek has again met with defeat. After all other matters had been satisfactorily arranged the right of way across Mrs. Perry's land could not be secured. It seems really too bad that the right of way cannot be secured, but such is our fate.

Good roads are still being discussed throughout the county, and should continue the topic of discussion until the highways of the county are improved. There seems but one way to accomplish anything along the line of better highways, and that is to keep everlastingly at it. Other counties in the state have improved the roads in a creditable manner with little means, and we see no reason why the same cannot be done in Columbia county.

Ed. Potter, well known here, and a stepson of John Frantz, who has been running a shingle saw in a mill at Castle Rock, Wash., had his right hand sawed off last Friday morning about 3:30 o'clock. The mill has been running day and night for a long time and Mr. Potter was on the night shift. He has been sawing shingles for the company for several years, which probably accounts in part for the accident, because long service at that kind of work is so apt to cultivate a lack of caution. Mr. Potter has a wife and four children. His friends here where he is well known regret exceedingly to hear of his misfortune.

## INDUSTRIAL REVIEW

North Plains, in Washington county, wants a cheese factory.

A county hospital is to be built at Lake View, in Lake county.

John Roesch of La Grande, will build a \$20,000 hotel at Union.

Eugene is making an effort to get a new twelve-room grade school.

Two additional rooms are to be added to the Eugene high school.

Florence has voted \$5000 for the erection of a new school building.

St. Helens Hall in Portland, which was burned last Fall, will be rebuilt.

Condon Congregationalists have let a contract for the erection of a \$2750 edifice.

Silverton is contemplating the improvement of several streets with concrete.

Forest Grove will improve streets with macadam at a cost of \$1.00 to \$1.50 per yard.

It is said that \$20,000 fish ladder installed in the Willamette at Oregon City, is a failure.

Kendall Brothers are contemplating the installation of a large saw-mill at Roseburg.

A new fruit and vegetable cannery at The Dalles is to be ready for operation by June 10th.

D. L. Wiggins of Portland, is contemplating reopening the plant of the Glendale Box Co., at Glendale.

The Inman placer mine in Curry county, has made a clean-up of \$15,000 after the winter's work.

C. D. Larsen of Gold Beach, is going to build a 30-room hotel at Brookings, in Curry county.

Bonds to the amount of \$14,000 have been sold at Bandon for the installation of a new school house.

The Valley & Siletta railroad, operating westward out of Independence, will expend about \$300,000 on extensions and betterments this summer.

Enterprising citizens in Douglas county have embarked in the industry of raising deer for the Portland market.

Linn and Lane counties will jointly stand the expense of putting in a \$60,000 bridge across the Willamette at Harrisburg.

L. J. Simpson of the Simpson Lumber Company, at North Bend, will build an \$8000 barn at his country place, Shore Acres.

Twohy Bros., who have the contract for building the Grants Pass-Crescent City railroad, expect to complete forty miles of the line this year.

The Eugene city council has refused to enact a minimum wage law for \$2.25 per day for eight hours, but enacted a preference law for home labor.

There are fifty persons connected with the six boards and commissions on higher education in this state, the cost of maintenance of which has been during the past two years \$14,866.02.

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