

St. Helens Mist

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Ernest G. Coan Editor and Manager

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COUNTY OFFICIAL PAPER.

WILL RESTORE MADERO GOVERNMENT.

While but little is known as to what the American government proposes to do in the matter of restoring a stable government in Mexico but the policy to be pursued is to be wholly conciliatory and contemplates the complete restoration of the old Madero government.

When Judge Duval West of San Antonio, Texas, went to Mexico to gather information for President Wilson as the basis for a more vigorous Mexican policy, he interviewed General Villa, General Zapata, General Carranza and other leaders and each of them solemnly assured him they were fighting for the restoration of the Madero government, and taking assertions for its cue, the American government is now engaged in a peaceful effort to restore the Madero government to power as the constitutional and legal government in the republic of Mexico, by pointing out to the belligerents that they are all engaged, according to their own statements, in an effort to restore the Madero government, there is no necessity for further fighting to accomplish something that can be so easily reached through a general agreement.

Under the Mexican law the presidential succession descends through the vice-presidency to the membership of the federal cabinet, as in the United States. Upon the assassination of Madero and Suarez all the members of the Madero cabinet resigned, with the exception of Vasquez Tagle, minister of finance, who was ousted by Huerta, and the Washington contention is that under the constitution and laws of Mexico Tagle must now become provisional president of Mexico to serve until a general election can be held.

It is believed warring leaders of Mexico can be brought to agree upon this procedure, and if the plan works out there will be no necessity for further American interference in the affairs of Mexico. Tagle is represented to be a man of ability, and for the past two years has been quietly living in Mexico City, and has taken no active part in any political movements. He would simply hold office until an election could be held and an expression obtained from the Mexican people.

OREGON STONE INDUSTRY.

Hundreds of thousands of dollars of Oregon capital have been invested in the stone industry of Eastern and Western Oregon.

But the stone quarries have been lying idle while public buildings are erected from stone imported from Alaska and Indiana.

The Portland First National Bank to be built of stone by an Eastern architect, will probably find no stone good enough.

A Portland architect has been selected to erect the Monmouth State Normal school building, and he has not favored Oregon stone in the past.

In the old days, a fine building was erected at the Corvallis Agricultural college of Oregon stone from Lincoln county, but all recent buildings used imported stone.

The Yaquina bay sandstone has been used on some of the finest buildings in Portland and San Francisco, and is being considered for two Federal buildings in Oregon.

The average architect on a state or Federal building seems to imagine he has done his duty by the state that gives him employment when he turns down Oregon stone.

Most of them play into the hands of brokers and agents for imported building material, and our Federal and public officials are satisfied to let them.

With freak laws killing industries on one hand and indifferent officials letting them die on the other, Oregon is not developing anything but high taxes.—Pacific Coast Manufacturer.

OREGON SHOULD INVITE IMMIGRANTS.

The European war will set adrift thousands of young men, skilled mechanics and scientific farmers, and nothing could be of greater benefit to the state of Oregon than to increase her population with such desirable citizens. The state with all its vast area and undeveloped resources is capable of supporting a much larger population than it has.

There is one fact that should be borne in mind, perhaps, in connection with the probable immigration to this country from Europe upon the close of the present great war, and that it will be the highest class immigration, no doubt, that ever came to this country. It will consist of men who are capable in every line of business, and who come with the determination to make a success. They will be so capable that they will give the native population a mighty close run for their money in every pursuit.

In other words, just as the West has been settled up by the liveliest, thirliest and most progressive of the older states, so will the liveliest, most capable and enterprising of the Europeans seek new locations in the United States. They are not going to be a class that is content to odelve in our mines and work as laborers upon the railways, but they are going to be men capable of holding any positions open to them, and they are going to prove a new and interesting force in our national life and domestic economy.

The immigrants from Europe upon the close of the war, are going to be vastly different from those who have come in the past.

GENERAL BUSINESS SITUATION.

From authentic sources comes the good news that the demand for money in business is light throughout the West and that the bank clearings are about on par with this time last year. Gold is moving into the country at a rate that is without precedent under the same conditions. Business is better than even a few weeks ago, and the great west is very optimistic with the coming of the mammoth fruit and grain crops soon to be harvested. Cattle, sheep and hogs are still bringing good prices. The Iron Age tells us that

skilled machinists are very scarce in the automobile and war zone manufacturing districts, that the companies are using every available man.

Several of the largest contractors of Portland state they have more business ahead of them in the way of bids for bridge building, road building, large buildings, etc., than at any time for the past five years. That this work is not by any means confined to the city of Portland but that the majority is over the two states of Oregon and Washington on several jobs of \$50,000 and more caliber.

WANTED—A PUBLIC LIBRARY.

A prominent citizen of St. Helens dropped in at the Mist office one day this week to discuss the possibility of establishing a public library in the city.

It is a fact that very few county seats, if any, that can boast of St. Helens' population, but what has a good public library and building.

It is an old truism that the degree of accomplishment is attained only in proportion to the degree of intensity with which the thing is desired. That we usually get the thing that we go after, if we want it had enough. The question is "how are we to go about establishing such an institution."

This would be a good movement for the Woman's Club of St. Helens to take up and start a campaign of education and agitation for a public library.

It is needless to dwell upon the refining influence such an institution exerts in a community—the tendency in building up the moral atmosphere—nor the educational benefits it provides, these are self-evident.

BUSINESS "GOOT."

Looking around for some live news and incidentally calling on some of the business men for business, we find those whom we had time to converse with in the very best of spirits over the present trade conditions. H. Morgus is very much pleased and optimistic and stated that his books show as great a volume of business as accorded the company a year ago and has no fear whatever for the future. On entering the store of A. S. Harrison & Co., we had to loaf around for some time on account of customers before we had an opportunity to drum up business. After being successful in this endeavor, we asked Mr. Harrison how business conditions with them compared to one year ago. That was enough. It came like reports from a rapid fire gun. Straightaway he opened his books and showed us in black and white where their business had actually increased a considerable amount during the year's time, and that last month's cash sales were several hundred dollars over that of the former month. Every clerk was busy at the W. J. Muckle &

DON'T LET GO.

A community without co-operation is like a boatman who has lost his oar. You can't imagine a more helpless case. Unable to get anywhere, there is no course to pursue but to drift with the ebb and flow of circumstances. Once lost, it is hard, indeed, to recover the oar. But surely we don't have to get into this dangerous plight. It's our own fault if we do. Co-operation, like rowing a boat, must be studied and learned. And we can only learn it through practice. The practiced oarsman never lets go the oar. And if we would keep from drifting, we must practice co-operation. Let's get into practice and keep in practice. Let us pull together in everything that means progress for our country. It's a case of sink or swim together.—Exchange.

THE KNOCK OUT.

How many rounds before the knock out? That knock out when "Mr. Out-of-town Trade" gets his final "wallop" from home interests. Are we in training for it? Here is a fight in which the interests of the entire county are one. It is all of us—you and me and our children and our neighbors. Our town and our neighboring town against this evil. Our champion is ourselves, all of us welded together into one co-operative whole. Will our man win, and when it all depends on us. If we think as one man, act as one man, trade at home as one man, then we are in good training for that final knock out. In reality we are not at the ring side. We are in the fight. We can imagine ourselves arrayed as home interests. Let everybody fight for St. Helens and Columbia county.

MORE INDUSTRIES—LESS HOWLING.

"If we had a few more fruit canneries, a few more farmers interested in berry growing, more cheese and butter factories, and other means of encouraging the small rancher, we would be hearing less of hard times and the high cost of living. In Coos county the high cost of living would not appear as the mighty monster we have heard it painted, and would curl up in death at the first application of a mixture of Paris green and prosperity."—Coos Bay Harbor.

Right you are. What we need most in these stressful days is confidence.

A note to Great Britain on the subject of its interference with American commerce would be highly timely at this juncture. While the British government apparently is quite certain that its action toward the shipping of the United States is benevolent it has yet to prove the legality of its procedure. She is assuming too much on the friendship of the American government and should be held to just as strict accountability as other nations which may seek to interfere with American commerce.

The greatest of the great battleships slid down and into the water Saturday from one of Uncle Sam's docks, the superdreadnaught, Arizona. The cost of the warship complete, \$15,000,000. Dimensions, length 603 feet; beam 97 feet; draught 28 1/2 feet; displacement 31,400 tons. Complement 915 officers and men. Shells from her guns weigh 1450 pounds each; cost of one broadside \$12,000. Her sister ship, the California, is under way and will be launched in a short time.

Son corner, with customers waiting. After loafing a few minutes, we passed on and have had no time as yet to complete our rounds. But it tends to show that St. Helens is weathering the storm in fine shape; that she will pull through and land safely and be ready to take on a larger cargo when the clouds clear away.

General Victoriano Huerta is employing his time mowing grass on his lawn in Long Island. And that is much better than mowing down his fellow Mexicans with machine guns.

Another publisher has been called. F. M. Brown of the Brownsville Times, has been appointed deputy Fish and Game Warden. His son, L. A. Brown, will have charge of the Times.

TWENTY YEARS AGO

Thos. C. Watts of Reuben, spent the day in town.

Mrs. C. G. Caples of Columbia City, was in the city Tuesday visiting relatives.

Deputy Sheriff Blakesley paid Pittsburg and vicinity an official visit Tuesday.

Mrs. J. R. Beegle returned Monday from a trip to Hillsboro.

The tug of war at this place on the Fourth between the local team and the team from Ridgefield promises to be interesting.

James Muckle went down the Coweeman Friday, returning Monday.

The bulk of the old steamer S. G. Reed, was towed down to Coffin Rock Sunday and burned that night.

School closes here today and tomorrow. Gaddis, the teacher, has in contemplation a picnic for the children. She will take them to Portland, where they will spend the day in the city park.

Trinity and St. David's Sunday schools from Portland, have notified Mr. E. E. Quick they will be here tomorrow to hold a picnic at the St. Helens park.

OVER TWO MILLION REDUCTION IN TAXES

The grand total of taxes collected in Oregon in 1914 was \$18,313,468. In 1914 the total harvest of the tax collector was \$23,083,000—gain of \$4,769,532. For 1915 the total collections will be \$20,951,668—a decrease of \$2,131,332. Of this decrease in 1915, \$963,650 was state taxes and \$338,412 county taxes. Cities and towns show increase of \$14,657 for collections in 1915 over collections in 1914. All the other tax collecting bodies show total reductions for 1915 of \$829,270. The reduction of \$2,131,332 for 1915 as against collections for 1914, comes as a result of a vigilant newspaper campaign against high taxes. The total increase from 1913 to 1914 was nearly 27 per cent, and the reduction from 1914 to 1915 was nearly ten per cent. If the same ratio of increase had been kept up for 1916 that prevailed from 1913 to 1914, the taxes this year would have totaled \$29,315,410 in Oregon instead of \$20,951,668.

DRY TERRITORY.

According to present reports, the entire north end of this county will be dry by July 1st. On that date the saloon licenses in Nehalem and Wheeler will expire.

In Nehalem the license for six months would cost \$250.00, and the government license will cost about \$35.00 more.

In Wheeler the city license is \$275.00 for six months, and the government license is about \$35.00.

There are two saloons in Nehalem, and one in Wheeler. The proprietors of the three saloons declare they will not apply for renewal of licenses because the business is minus a profit.

The saloon doors will close on July 1, and the entire north end of the county will be really and truly dry on and after that date.—Nehalem Times.

It is with great pleasure that the force learns that Scoop Coan, who until a few months ago, was a member of the Herald staff, has again taken up the pen and continues to hew to the mark, letting the chips fall where they may. The Herald with his many friends here expect to see him make good in his new field of endeavor and will be disappointed at anything else other than a wide swath with the ability he has at his command. Mr. Coan has charge of a bright weekly newspaper in St. Helens, Oregon.—El Paso (Texas) Herald.

A paper bedecked with exchange marks of nearly all nationalities written on the wrapper appeared on our desk this week. Upon investigation we learn that none other than our old friend, Mr. Ernest G. Coan, is now the editor and manager of a live newspaper known as the Mist, away up yonder in Oregon, where the roses bloom the year 'round. It will be remembered that some two years ago Mr. Coan was the manager of the Daily and Weekly Argus, tendering his resignation to accept a position for special work with the El Paso Herald. Under his competent leadership the Mist will expand and fill its intended field. The Argus with his numerous friends here wish for him unlimited success in his new home and a reward which he so richly deserves.—Van Buren (Ark.) Argus.

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