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County Official Paper

All loyal Oregonians are proud of Portland as a city. It is, and will continue to be, the greatest city in the state. No other place can hope to rival it as the leading city of the state. It is located at the intersection of the Willamette and Columbia Rivers, the junction of the Willamette Valley and the great Eastern Oregon and Washington empire. It has a water level gateway to these great producing countries and will naturally take and keep the lead in shipping the products from them. It is growing very rapidly in population and wealth. It is destined to be one of the greatest cities on the Pacific Coast from every viewpoint. In order to take care of the great trade coming into Portland it is necessary to build bridges across the Willamette River, and that river is already spanned by so many bridges that ocean and river traffic is hampered considerably. Water front property in Portland is becoming so valuable that only certain kinds of industries can afford to buy it. As a result some of the great industries which are bound to come must seek a location where property is not so valuable and where there is more room. The city of Portland is bound to expand and the ocean commercial part of it is bound to expand oceanward, or down the river.

The first place on the Oregon side below Portland where deep water can be reached from the main land and which offers first class factory sites on the grand old Columbia River, is St. Helens. No other place on the Columbia offers such wonderful opportunities for manufacturing sites as this little city. The river is nearly two miles wide; the Willamette Slough runs into the Columbia at this point from a quarter to half mile in width and water sufficient to float the largest vessels that enter the Columbia River. The banks along the river are high enough that when buildings are erected they are above the usual high water mark. The fine level country back of it, stretching for miles toward the Coast Range mountains offers very inducement to the home-seeker. Every thing that is needed to make a choice location for a busy manufacturing city is found right here. With the already started we have toward a city, and with the growth and development bound to come to the state, St. Helens is destined to become one of the great cities of Oregon on the Columbia River.

With the opening of the Panama Canal this section of the country will develop as it has never before done and as no other section will. Commerce is bound to crowd down the river from Portland and when it does will strike St. Helens; no other place has the same natural advantages and inducements; it will and is coming without any question of doubt.

Today St. Helens is a small city, but a very busy and lively one, having about 1500 people and a pay roll for working men which will average \$75 per month to every man, woman and child within its boundaries. It is one of the largest and best equipped saw mills in the whole western country right inside the very heart of the city and another mill just being completed adjoining the big mill property that will compare favorably in size and equipment with any other mill on the river. It has the largest croqueting plant in Oregon and this wonderful industry is being enlarged as fast as money and men can make it. The only fresh water shipbuilding plant on the Pacific Coast is located

here turning out ocean going vessels at the rate of two each year and indications are that the plant will be increased before another year rolls around. We have some of the best stone quarries in Oregon and already large plants are operating in the stone business. We have deep water sites for almost any kind of an industry that wants to locate here. Just below us and adjoining St. Helens on the Columbia River is the beautiful site of Columbia City, which without any doubt, is the most beautiful spot between Portland and the sea for a city; not only is it a beautiful place, but has the natural location for large shipping and manufacturing enterprises. Back of us is Houlton and Yankton where is found some of the best orchard and farming land in the world.

Shipping facilities both by rail and water can not be excelled by any city in Oregon, the Columbia River and Willamette Slough on the one side, where the commerce of the world can enter, and the S. P. & S. Railroad on the other. With all these natural advantages there can be and is, no reason why St. Helens shall not become a city. It will be a city of thousands of inhabitants before many years, containing mills and factories, shipping its products to all parts of the world. Portland has the start of St. Helens in every way but one, the natural location, but we are bound to grow and we are going to grow at such a pace that before many years Portland and St. Helens will be the twin cities of the Columbia River and Oregon.

This statement may seem ludicrous and foolish but we will stake our reputation as a prophet on it: Cut this prophecy out of the Mist and paste it in your scrap book; in twenty years look it up and you will then see that this little dip into the future is not far wrong.

In order to get all the best arguments for the leading candidates for President, Wilson, Taft and Roosevelt, before the people the Mist has offered cash prizes amounting to \$10 for the best written articles why each candidate should be elected. The first prize will be \$5 in gold for the best article, regardless of whom the candidate is written about; a second and third prize of \$2.50 each for the best articles on each of the other two candidates. The articles will all be printed if there is room for them in the paper and if too many are sent in we reserve the right to print so many of them as we desire. The conditions imposed upon writers are that they must be residents of Columbia County and paid up subscribers to the Mist. The judges will be fair and impartial men selected from Columbia County and the Contest will close the last Wednesday in October. Each article must have not less than 500 nor more than 1000 words written on one side only of paper and should be addressed to the Contest Editor of the Mist, St. Helens, Oregon. Your name and address must be given. Contest starts now so get busy and send in your article.

In addition to the articles on the three leading candidates we will also print any article on the Socialist or Prohibition candidate, it being understood that these articles are not to compete for the prizes but only for the purpose of letting every one have a chance to give publicity to their views. Of course we cannot print all the articles but will select certain ones from each party.

Visitors to the State Fair at Salem report that the Columbia County exhibit is the equal of any other county exhibit there. The products of the county are arranged in a very attractive manner and exciting considerable interest. There is one thing lacking however, that should be there; Columbia County Literature. There is absolutely nothing to give to prospective home-seekers concerning this county and its wonderful resources so the only thing for our Commissioner Mr. Lake, who has charge of the exhibit, to do is to tell those enquiring what they want to know. This is a sad mistake to get up such an exhibit, go to

all the expense of gathering it and showing it off to the people and then have no literature to tell where it came from. It is a work only half done and the next time the county makes an exhibit at the State Fair or any other fair, the different commercial bodies and citizens should have plenty of good readable literature on hand to distribute to the public.

Voters, we are about to vote upon the candidates for President and Vice President of the United States. There are three candidates for President, W. H. Taft, Republican, Woodrow Wilson, Democrat and Theodore Roosevelt, progressive. Taft stands for continued prosperity to the people as always enjoyed under a Republican administration. Wilson stands for the Free Trade policy of the Democratic party which always brings hard times; Teddy stands for Roosevelt. Be careful of your ballot.

Elections in Vermont and California were held last Tuesday which were very largely a test of the strength of Roosevelt and Taft. In Vermont the Taft candidate defeated the Roosevelt man by a vote of over 10,000 which indicates that the Republicans are going to stick to the party in the East. In California, with Governor Johnson a candidate for Vice President with Roosevelt and a state that was conceded to Roosevelt by everybody, the result showed that Taft followers are wide awake and elected a goodly portion of the men for the various offices. These two elections show that the Roosevelt following is either losing ground or else it never was as strong as claimed. It also clearly proves that the only way to keep a democrat from being elected is to vote for Taft; every vote cast for Roosevelt is a vote for Wilson.

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COURSES IN RESIDENCE at the University prepare for the Professions of ENGINEERING, JOURNALISM, LAW, MEDICINE, and TEACHING. Fall semester opens Tuesday, Sept. 17. Address the Registrar for catalogue descriptive of the College of Engineering, the College of Liberal Arts, the Schools of Education, Commerce, Law, Medicine, and Music.

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