

the growth of the country. The lumber trade with California is rapidly increasing, and the foreign demand is large. The eastern trade is just being opened, and with promise of a rapid increase. To meet this demand, railroads are building into the timber, to haul logs to the sound, where they are put into rafts and towed to the mills. The Tacoma chamber of commerce is encouraging the business of deep sea fishing for cod and halibut, which abound in our northern seas. Every variety of fish is found in great abundance, and it is only a question of time when the fisheries of Puget sound must prove a very great source of wealth. During the past year, eleven vessels have been employed in the cod fishing business, and the success that has attended the enterprise must lead to its enlargement. In the vicinity of Port Townsend, considerable iron is manufactured, and the coal business is slowly increasing. There is no doubt that the Canadian Pacific railroad will soon bring a large new business to the sound, both foreign and domestic.

The agitation of the labor question during the past year, has resulted in much more good than harm. The hours of labor, in the great companies, have been reduced from twelve to ten. There is far less of that harsh disposition that makes men of independent feelings rebellious against the social order, and the chances for intelligent and aspiring labor are multiplying. As the different enterprises of the country advance, and

new ones are created, the contending forces of more varied interests will develop a freer and healthier life in the communities that have been more or less stifled by the control of single interests, and these new influences will make it, socially and politically, a better country.

I have no doubt that what I heard Carleton Coffin say, several years before his recent visit to this region, is true, based, as his predictions were, upon the study of physical geography, that "From that wonderful series of bays and inlets, known as Puget sound, will sail the future marine of the Northern Pacific," and that "To these harbors will flow the great commercial tides of the Pacific, from China, Japan, Australia and the South Pacific." And I have equal confidence that the ethnic forces underneath our government, the forces that have moulded the Germanic and Anglo-Saxon races, so liberty-loving that even Rome, in all the power of its imperialism, never could wholly bring the people beyond the Alps into subjection, and make them a component part of the empire, will determine the character of the civilization of this section. I believe it is the destiny of this magnificent region to be widely apportioned, with all its opportunities, among men who will observe the principle of order, as well as the principle of progress, in establishing a society in which mutual interests will be regarded and mutual obligations receive full recognition.

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