

West Shore

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The WEST SHORE offers the Best Medium for Advertisers of any publication on the Pacific Coast.

Saturday, December 21, 1889.

FOR some time WEST SHORE has recognized the advisability, and even necessity, of establishing an office of joint publication in one of the leading cities of Washington. After looking the entire field over, it has decided that it can best serve its thousands of readers by selecting the enterprising city of Spokane Falls for that purpose, and, therefore, beginning with this issue, WEST SHORE will be published simultaneously in Portland and Spokane Falls. In deciding to take this most important step, it is moved by the fact that Eastern Washington, Northern Idaho and Western Montana comprise an empire in extent, a region of the richest and most varied resources, which is filling up with an energetic class of people at a marvelously rapid rate, and that the one financial, commercial and manufacturing centre of this great country is the city of Spokane Falls, whose growth is phenomenal even in this land of rapidly building cities. The unrivaled position that city holds, its magnificent water power and its present and future prospects as a railroad centre, had attracted attention everywhere before the great fire which laid its business blocks in ashes a few months ago; but its resurrection from its ruins, its marvelous recuperative power, its wonderful development since that great catastrophe have made it the most remarkable city in the world to-day. It is to-day the meeting point of seven railroads and will always remain the one great railroad centre of that vast region. It is surrounded by, and is the most accessible to, the greatest number of rich mining districts tributary to any city in the west. Contiguous to it are thousands of square miles of arable land, whose products amount in value to millions of dollars annually. It possesses a water power of unrivaled magnitude in the west, which must of necessity make it a large manufacturing city,

and which is already utilized by extensive industries. It is a city in which brains, energy and capital will accomplish marvelous things during the next decade, and to portray this for the benefit of the millions of our common country is the happy task WEST SHORE has undertaken.

A year ago tourists entered Oregon through the door of California. They seemed to think that the first thing to do was to visit the land of orange groves, sand and town lot booms, after which some of them would spend what little time or money they had left in a hasty flight north. This season there is a marked change. Thousands are pouring into Oregon and Washington from the east, while the cars of southern lines are running empty. A few of them pass on down to California, but the great majority find that the northern states possess irresistible attractions, and spend their time looking up paying investments. Next spring and summer will witness such a swarming into Oregon and Washington as will completely swamp all routes of travel and houses of entertainment. There is not a city that will be able to furnish roofs under which the new arrivals can live, unless it build a hundred per cent. more dwellings than it erected the past year. Anything we have yet experienced in the line of immigration will appear dwarfed and insignificant in comparison with the tide that will begin to roll in upon us in the early spring. Houses, stores, factories, building lots and farms will be in greater demand than ever before.

Congress will be asked to make liberal appropriations for public buildings in Oregon and the new states of Washington, Montana and the Dakotas. In some of our cities such buildings are so badly needed that it seems impossible to longer conduct official business without them. In Portland, the postoffice, though employing more than twice as many clerks as it did four years ago and handling more than twice the business, still occupies a little nook that was too cramped for it five years ago. The same is true of nearly every growing city, and Uncle Sam should provide better facilities immediately.

The Northwestern Association of congressmen is growing like the product of the mustard seed, and gives promise of developing into a close union of all the states west of the Missouri, including Minnesota. With increase in membership comes an enlargement of scope and a demand for more commodious quarters. It is questionable if this association of members on sectional grounds does not contain the germ of a principle of sectionalism that may be carried to an extreme affecting injuriously the welfare of the nation.