

ception of the magnitude of the World's Fair knows that they can not possibly do the state justice. The whole subject is too large for them. It is beyond their mental grasp. It is entirely outside all their experience, knowledge or train of thought. Under their management Oregon's exhibit will be a nonentity, an indistinguishable atom in the great mass of the world's products assembled at Chicago.

Here is a significant incident. A few weeks ago the Chamber of Commerce appointed five of the live business men of Portland to represent it in this matter, and these gentlemen addressed a letter to Commissioner Wilkins asking for a conference. The reply, from the "Forks of the Willamette," duly forwarded by stage and train, was written in lead pencil on a piece of brown paper. They thought this was flying pretty high, but were totally unprepared for the magnificent ideas the commissioner developed when they met him. With much enthusiasm, but in a somewhat cautious tone, as though he feared the effect of the shock upon their systems, he said that in his opinion Oregon ought to spend \$20,000 on her exhibit. As the committee had been discussing the practicability of raising \$250,000, they managed to retain their breaths. Nothing at all creditable to Oregon can be expected through the medium of these officials. Live men, with modern ideas and a comprehension of what the fair will be and what must be done to attract attention, should have this matter in charge. There is no particular objection to these gentlemen trotting back and forth between Oregon and Chicago at the government's expense, although men that would command more prominence for the state in the management of the fair might have been selected; but there is a decided objection to entrusting to them the preparation and management of the state exhibit. It would be fatal to do so. We can not afford to make such a mistake. We are out of the old rut; let us stay out.

An Oregon state board of trade will be organized this week. Its first duty should be to take this matter seriously in hand. Plans should be made for raising the necessary funds. Proper steps should be taken for the appropriation of a large sum by the legislature next winter, to be expended by the agency to be selected by the people of the state, and not by these politically appointed incompetents. The newspapers in every county should take hold of the matter with a vim. Their power and influence will be more effective than anything else to arouse the people to action on this subject. Men with ideas should make designs for the exhibit and explain them through the press. This is not a time for diffidence and hanging back. Let every one come to the front who has anything to say. He will find the columns of the press open to him everywhere. WEST SHORE intends to keep this matter before the people. It will express its ideas freely and often, and will give designs for various displays. It hopes the other papers will equal, or even excel, it in the work they will do for a cause it deems the most important for the material interests of the state now calling for attention.

THERE seems to be a little misunderstanding as to the position WEST SHORE holds on the pension question, and some thoughtless persons have even accused it of "casting flings at old soldiers"—something it has never been guilty of doing. No one can exceed it in the quantity and quality of its respect for the men who withstood the shock of battle, with the divine fire of patriotism and devotion to duty shining in their eyes; nor can any one exceed it in its contempt for that class of men who are bringing shame and dishonor upon the soldiers by their intemperate language, blatant bombast and purely mercenary efforts to bleed the government in their name. The wonder is that so many brave and honorable veterans are deceived by these men, who are working upon them for their own private ends. The Grand Army of the Republic is a noble order, and has in its ranks men of sterling worth, who have rendered the nation such a service as can never be computed in dollars and cents. It has given the country a most beautiful custom, when, on Memorial Day, the hearts of a grateful people go out to those who have laid down their lives that their country might live as the chosen home of liberty on this despot-ridden earth; when we strew flowers upon the graves of the patriot dead as a visible expression of love and gratitude for what they have done, and a pledge that we and our children shall preserve the precious jewel of liberty untarnished, and, if need be, will lay down our lives also in the same noble cause. For this we honor the Grand Army, and for this we feel doubly ashamed and humiliated when they permit themselves to be used by mercenary schemers and conscienceless demagogues. WEST SHORE believes that every old soldier who is unable to support himself, or has no income, should be supported by the government; that his pension should be ample for this purpose—not the little dribble he now receives—and that to make it sufficiently large the pensions drawn by three men who do not actually need them for their personal support should be given to the fourth man who does need the money. It can not but question the quality of the patriotism, or, if the facts could be ascertained, the actual value of the services rendered, of the man who has so little sense of what is honorable, of what is manly, of what is patriotic or of what is

due to his own self respect, to demand more than this, or who, while claiming that he saved the country in 1861 is willing to ruin it in 1890. It believes in sterling manhood and in genuine American patriotism that is glad to serve its country because it is its country, and is proud enough and patriotic enough to feel that its services were above any possible reward other than the sense of duty well performed. Of such there are thousands. They outnumber by far those who have so much to say about their services and who are bringing undeserved odium upon them; but their modesty and self respect have kept them in the background. It is time, however, that they break their long silence, and indignantly repudiate those who are smirching the honored name they and their dead comrades so nobly won.

THERE is another subject upon which some people who speak first and do not think afterwards have criticised WEST SHORE. Anyone who has read these columns understandingly knows that they have stood up boldly for the rights of the people who gain their daily bread by toil, and have championed the cause of true American manhood, whether assailed by trusts of money or trusts of organizations. It can not see wherein a combination of capital that crowds out other capital is any worse than a combination of labor that crowds out other labor, or a trust of capital that can dictate ruinous terms to labor worse than a trust of labor that dictates ruinous terms to capital. All trusts and organizations that are selfish, dictatorial and despotic in their nature are essentially un-American in spirit, undemocratic in principle, barbarous in their practical workings and ruinous in their effects. The boycott, as adopted and practiced by labor organizations, is a boomerang that deals its severest blow upon the head of the workingman himself. At the behest of some one in authority the poor laborer abandons his employment, cripples his employer's business, paralyzes trade, sees his wife and children suffer for the necessities of life—something they never did before—and, even when the point at issue is gained, is in no sense better off than before, though a year's labor may not suffice to recoup his losses. Take such an instance as that of the strike on the Spokane Falls exposition building, when, because the necessity of completing the structure, which is a public enterprise, compelled the directors to purchase a small lot of boycotted lumber, the union carpenters left their work, regardless of the consequences. This was especially shortsighted, as the increased building activity that would undoubtedly follow a successful exposition would be of great benefit to the carpenters themselves. Blind obedience at a personally ruinous sacrifice to the orders of a superior who has a selfish motive for his action has just been exhibited in the strike of the Knights of Labor on the New York Central. Chief Powderly, who draws a princely salary and must constantly stir up strife in order to hold his position, sits on a throne built upon human blood and ruin as surely as did ambitious Bonaparte. WEST SHORE believes in trade organizations and in strikes, too, when some actual wrong is to be righted, and the strike is ordered by the men who are to suffer from its evil effects and not by those who fatten upon it; but it does not believe in trusts and combines formed for purposes of monopoly and dictation of prices and industrial conditions, either of capital or labor.

A VISION.

Adown his path of splendor sped the sun,
As round me came the darkness on a run,
It seemed to my poor, dizzy, wearied brain;
My wounded heart was sore and I would fain
Have felt it cease to carry life along—
Although the suicidal thought were wrong!
My youth was broken, and Ambition lay
Dead at my feet, and wherefore should I stay
Just on the border of my grave, when I
Had nothing else to do except to die?

And yet I was afraid; the feeble breath
I loathed to draw I would deny poor Death,
Though he stood pale and breathless to my face
And begged it of me: *one begs for grace.*

Before me came an angel as I stood
And thought upon my base ingratitude.
How beautiful it was! And it did speak
To me and said if I were very weak
Itself would give me strength; that I might rest
Anon my weary head upon its breast.
"And who are you?" I gasped, with faint, short breath;
And then it answered me: "They call me Death!"
I shook and woke from dreamy slumber deep,
And now I fear no more the dreamless sleep.

LEE FAIRCHILD.