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PORTLAND, FRIDAY, JUNE 9, 1905.

WHAT IS COMING.

No question but the whole subject of "public utility franchises" is to have an overhauling throughout our country—in Oregon as in all other of our states, and perhaps in Oregon at an earlier day and more thoroughly than in some or in most of the rest.

In the first place the Legislature and our municipalities are to stop giving these franchises away. The best of them doubtless have been given away already; but as our towns and cities grow there will be more opportunities. These in all cases should be reserved to the use or benefit of the people, whose property they are. In the days when the town is small and wants lights, water and car lines, the eagerness to get them has caused franchises to be granted for long periods—too long—without payment. Surely, with so many object-lessons before the country, this practice will not go further.

The next step must be taxation of these franchises that have become so very valuable. It is probable this method will precede attempts by the public to recover possession of the grants. Taxation of the franchises at a rate proportional to their actual value will meet some part of the abuse of which the public complains. The question of public ownership is one of another kind. But the discussion is clearly leading up to it; and the greed of those who capitalize the franchises at millions, and give the character of private property to these public utilities, of which they have possessed themselves without cost, is hastening it on.

The issue thus raised is to be potential, perhaps supreme, in our politics and legislation, for years to come. Holders of these franchises will fill our halls of legislation with their lobbyists, and it will require particular attention and care on the part of the people to select men for the Legislature not open to the "influence" sure to attempt them. Methods similar to those employed by our able and leading fellow-citizens in Portland, in these directions, as set forth by the recent grand jury, will be repeated at all stages of the proceeding; and the sacred bogy of "vested rights" will be dragged forth for terror or worship, again and again. A storm, the Legislature of Oregon will meet, next session.

RUSSIA'S HARD PROBLEMS.

It seems to be doubted whether Russia will venture again to "stand her soldiers up" in battle against those of Japan. In other words, whether Russia will risk another general engagement. Hitherto the Russian soldier has obeyed orders. Never was a more stubborn, stolid and obedient machine. But the Japanese war is not approved in Russia, and from accounts that come from Manchuria, through many channels, it is believed that the army is dissatisfied and half mutinous; and the question is whether the Russian government, knowing this, will risk another general battle. This is supposed to be one of the factors that incline Russia towards peace.

Japan cannot reach the vitals of Russia, and can inflict on her, therefore, no mortal wound. Russia has but to retire into her immense distances and leave the Pacific to Japan, and the war will be over. Should Russia take this course, Japan could collect no money indemnity for the war; and it would seem in any event that Russia's hold on the Pacific is hopelessly broken. From this point of view Russia may be in no haste to make peace; but her problem of risking another great battle she must meet pretty soon, either by taking the risk, by making peace or by beating a retreat.

"The great moral question" in this community, or in other community, does not relate to the selling or drinking of a glass of beer, or rest in belief or rejection of some creed of the dry nurses of theology. It relates to such matters as the absorption, through cunning, chicane and corruption, by individuals who "work" Legislatures and Common Councils, of millions and millions that belong to the people. This sort of work universally is done by persons wearing the cloak of morality. They steal the livery of the court of heaven to serve the devil in—the devil of their own avarice and greed. Here is the moral question before the people of Oregon. Beer will still be sold and pretzels eaten; but this infamy will be pursued, till its mask of hypocrisy is torn off and the people come into their own again.

PACIFIC MAIL PROFITS.

The Pacific Mail Steamship Company, under whose baneful influence the only direct route Portland enjoys to the Orient has fallen, has just issued a preliminary statement of its operations for the year ending April 30. It is a most favorable report, showing as it does an increase in receipts over the previous year of $2,174,017. Much of this increased business is due to the war in the Far East, but no small part of it is from the natural growth of trade with the Orient. The annual report of the Portland & Asiatic Steamship Company, an offshoot of the Pacific Mail, which is maintained on the route from Portland for the apparent purpose of keeping a good line off the run, has not been made public. When it does appear it will show no such increase in earnings as was shown by the Pacific Mail. Portland exporters, in spite of the transportation handicap which they have suffered, have continued to increase their business with the Far East, but it has not been taken care of by the Harriman system, and Portland, where the traffic originates, receives but little credit for it, except when some patriotic shipper refuses to send his freight to Puget Sound and instead brings a steamer in on his own account.

Mr. Harriman's Pacific Mail Steamship Company for the five months ending May 31, dispatched from San Francisco for China and Japan, twenty-four steamships, carrying approximately 200,000 tons of freight. During the same period Mr. Harriman's Portland & Asiatic line dispatched from Portland seven steamships, carrying approximately 40,000 tons of freight. San Francisco exporters, having an abundance of freight space provided for them by the Harriman line, were obliged to charter but one outside steamer, carrying about 5000 tons of freight. Portland exporters chartered six or practically the same amount of tonnage that was provided for them by the Harriman line. The overflow which they were unable to handle on the seven Harriman steamers and on the six which they chartered themselves was obliged to seek an outlet by way of Puget Sound.

There was a sufficient amount of this "diverted" business to enable the Hill lines from Puget Sound to get out five more steamers for the five months mentioned than were cleared from San Francisco. Aside from this overflow, the records show that the division of the business between Harriman at San Francisco and Hill on Puget Sound was almost even. The injustice shown Portland in this matter lies in failure of Mr. Harriman to bring into this port an amount of overland freight even approximately in keeping with the freight which originates in this city and adjacent territory. This prevents a frequency of service which is of the utmost importance in the Oriental trade. Six of the twenty-four steamers sailing from San Francisco would have been sufficient to handle all of the business which they secured from California, but the Harriman rail lines brought in so much overland freight that the San Francisco exporters were given an Oriental liner every six days, compared with one per month given the Portland exporters.

This grievance is not a new one. The discrimination has been practiced against Portland for so many years that it is in some quarters regarded as regular and proper. But it will not exist forever. If Mr. Harriman is determined to "queer" the Portland Oriental line in favor of the San Francisco line, it may be necessary for this port to join hands with the Puget Sound lines, or, better still, abandon all hope of any improvement in the Harriman service and depend on tramp steamers, which even now are about all that we get from Mr. Harriman, and which can be chartered about as cheaply by our exporters as they can by the California and New York railroad man.

IS PEACE IN SIGHT?

If the question of speedy peace or continued war were to be decided on grounds of common-sense reasoning from established facts, then peace would surely be close at hand, subject, of course, to the condition that Japan continued to show her willingness by standing somewhat near the terms she indicated at the commencement of the war. As it is, what is reported as to the state of mind of the Czar one day is contradicted the next. His attitude on the war or peace question probably runs parallel with his frame of mind on internal Russian affairs. When the Czar says "repression," that signifies "the war goes on." When the Czar takes a weight off the safety valve and lets so much of the imprisoned steam escape, and as an immediate consequence hears a shout for peace, then he is impressed with the idea that peace abroad will give him a freer hand at home to deal with all the issues which will at once come up.

Today the little map has come out of his hole, which means fair weather. But the wind and temperature may change tomorrow, and out will come the little old woman, which means a storm. Republics may be changeable, the people, the demos, may not know its own mind, but the Russian Czar can give points to any republic whose records for the last thousand years are written in the books.

No wonder the White House says the condition is "delicate." No wonder the embassies in St. Petersburg, and Berlin, and Paris, join in the chorus. Delicate—that exactly fits the case. Any one but the Czar can see that the loss of his fleet was as good as the addition of 150,000 men and indefinite supplies to Oyama's army. Every one else knows that Vladivostok, blockaded by sea and besieged by land, will be Port Arthur over again. The world admits that the function of Russia as an aggressive power on the Pacific is over. Each month adds to the price she will have sooner or later to pay to Japan for the commercial outlet from Eastern Siberia to the Pacific. The certainty that an indemnity will be demanded as one of the terms of peace seems to be the great stumbling-block. Why? Because it is against the national honor, they say. The price of refusal is to be continuance of the war. Better, says the Russian bureaucrat, pay out the money of the indemnity in pushing the war. Then human lives, human suffering, distress of nations, desolation of provinces, set back of at least two peoples in the path of peace and progress—is all this to weigh nothing in the scales? A hundred men imprisoned in a colliery, fifty shattered in a railroad disaster, a thousand drowned at sea, or burned in a theater, and the civilized world holds its breath in horror, and newspapers cannot issue editions fast enough to meet the demand for news of the sufferers. The world has read of Liao Yang, and Port Arthur, Mukden and the horrors of the Japan Sea, till the general heart is hardened by repetition of death and destruction as each week of war adds to the tale. Is the war to continue until the "honor" of Russia is appeased? Have not her soldiers, poor fellows, gone bravely enough to meet death with unshaken courage? Have they not been tried, and stood the test, on the awful road of retreat after an army's defeat? Have not her sailors fought the guns till ships sank under them, and decks were shambles and hulls coffins for the dead? What more can the Czar demand? Nothing but such extreme requirements by Japan as neither President nor Kaiser can sanction, can lighten the load on the Czar's shoulders for one day's needless perseverance in the road of war. Let us trust that moderation, even in the hour of victory, may reign in the councils of Tokio. History will judge her statesmen and her Emperor even more by the calmness and decision which recognizes the hour and the means for stopping this bloody war than for the foresight which planned for it, the skill that organized it, and the courage of the nation, its army and navy, which has so far met every emergency, and, in due time, come out victorious.

NEWSPAPERS AND THE FAIR.

If any one has heretofore imagined that Portland and Oregon are in a neglected and remote section of the continent, he has but to read the newspaper extracts on this page of The Oregonian, so that he may feel better. The Pacific Northwest is in the eye of the American people as it has never been before. The Lewis and Clark Exposition has done it. It is known everywhere, and it has made Oregon, Washington and Idaho, their history, resources, industries and people equally familiar to the whole Nation.

It is to be understood that these are mere excerpts from editorial articles, for in many instances and by many important journals long and appreciative discussion of the Fair and the occasion has appeared. On the day following the opening of the Fair, every newspaper in the United States gave the event adequate news mention. Many newspapers devoted great space to it, with pictures. All seemed to regard it as news of first value. It would be impossible to ascertain the volume of matter printed on that one day under a Portland date line, but it aggregated thousands of columns. Portland has good reason to be well satisfied with the notice and attention its Exposition has received from the newspapers of the United States.

AS TO "USELESS KNOWLEDGE."

As the college commencement period approaches the public is given to reflections upon modern educational methods as containing much that may come under the head of "useless knowledge"—i. e., knowledge which is not based upon the ways and means for making money or for "getting along in the world." Education that has what may be called a basis in trade is, in this day of sharp competition in commercial and professional life, accounted "essential," while the knowledge that is gained through familiarity with Greek or Roman history, and the thought, the literature and the life of the past has by general consent come to be classed as non-essential.

If education acquired by study of the classics is considered "useless knowledge," it is certain that less time is now given to its acquisition than it claimed in former years. In the college course of a century ago boys were taught Latin and Greek, not because they would thereby be made more competent as bankers or merchants, but because some familiarity with the events in the world's history set forth in song and story and oration in these languages awakened, even in dull minds, an interest in things outside of business.

As computed by the New York Independent, study of this character opened up sources of enjoyment, cultivated the sympathies and unconsciously created a feeling that the mind has a right to enjoy, no less than a duty to produce. Building on a classical foundation, the old college course opened to youth some of the treasure-houses of history, world literature and philosophy. The college graduate was able throughout life to turn from time to time to interests broader and finer than those of his money-earning vocation. Judged by practical standards, they were useless, but they afforded him refreshment, inspiration and enduring satisfaction.

This estimate is in consonance with the terse and comprehensive statement that man cannot live by bread alone. If we have come to begrudge the time spent in acquiring knowledge that opens up these springs of higher enjoyment, it is a matter of regret rather than of rejoicing. It means that we are getting highly trained men, but narrow men. Proceeding in its presentment of this theme, the journal above quoted says:

> Every day the educated man in the old-fashioned sense of the word is appalled, as he meets and talks with the younger fellows and discovers how amazingly little they know. They do not read, they have not read. They explain that they have no time to read, that they never have had time. Their life is made up of hurry and grind. They seize impressions from the headlines of newspapers and from the gossip of the railway smoking car and the club. Out of these superficial and often worthless impressions they construct their opinions of politics, world tendencies, science and religion, philosophy and art. They cannot back up their opinions by citations of fact, and they know nothing of the deep pleasure that comes through serious application, genuinely hard mental work upon other than practical matters.

This estimate is not a harsh one, except as facts plainly stated may have a harsh sound. And it may be added that it is of sufficient importance as bearing upon the real life of the Nation to be seriously considered by the learned men to whom the task of revising and strengthening the course of instruction in our colleges is from time to time delegated.

The State Board of Health of Vermont has notified the authorities of Burlington, Vergennes, St. Johnsbury, Enosburg Falls and Swanton that they will be prosecuted unless they improve their water supply before June 1, 1906. Both in Vermont and New Hampshire the purity of the water supply is of vital importance on account of the magnitude of the Summer immigration—the chief source of revenue for many of their more picturesque villages and towns. Land in these states, especially in the one first named, was wont in times past to produce three crops of stones a year to those who, by patient toil, succeeded in wringing a scanty subsistence from it. To the rock crop in recent years has been added the crop of Summer visitors, and a farseeing health board seeks protection and encouragement for this in a pure water supply for the mountain towns. Briefly the tourist crop will be ruined by depletion unless this only safeguard from fevers and malaria is established.

The Dalles and Wasco County descended on the Exposition yesterday, just to show the quality of their people, the variety and excellence of their products, the satisfactory character of their industries, and incidentally to see the sights. Some one said lately that The Dalles was an old-timer, which was true, and that same some one intimated that the city had not kept up with the procession, which was not true. If anybody thought it was, all he needed to correct any such notion was to go up the Columbia and look at The Dalles; if he would not do that, then he should have come to Portland and have seen the people of The Dalles. They are thrifty, prosperous, enterprising, proud of their town and its history, and determined that it shall keep its place near the head of things, which it is certainly doing. Wasco, too, is a great county. It has suffered much from having its area cut off for the formation of new counties, but it remains, just the same, one of the important sections of Eastern Oregon. It has a lot of people, within its borders—more than ever—but it has yet room for many more. The newcomer hunting a desirable place for a location makes a mistake if he overlooks Wasco County.

Mr. Clarence Young, the Montana man who abandoned the honest and highly respectable calling of a woodchopper to become a trainrobber, was not kept long in suspense as to the ultimate reward awaiting him. He held up the North Coast Limited May 27, and June 7 was sentenced to serve fifty years in the Penitentiary, where the emoluments are much smaller than those of a woodchopper. Woodchoppers are paid $1 per cord, and it is a poor man with an ax that cannot pile up at least one cord per day. If Mr. Young, in the retirement of his cell, indulges in mathematical calculations, it will dawn upon him that fifty years at woodchopping would yield much better returns than he will recieve for his brief sortie as a trainrobber. The way of the transgressor is hard, and it is also quite expensive.

Great movement, of interest to Portland and to the old Oregon Country, is now in progress. It looks to the construction of a railway along Snake River, to Lewiston and to the Clearwater country; to new railway construction in Middle Oregon; to new electric lines out of Portland; to a railway, at last, from Portland to Tillamook; to activities in all directions. In every direction the new movement is manifest. You can go nowhere in Oregon, or Washington, or in Idaho, but you see it. Newcomers are making their appearance in every county and town and neighborhood; new buildings and new undertakings are observed on every hand.

Government red tape got into a snarl when an attempt was made to send the schooner J. W. Clise to sea with an insufficient cargo to render her seaworthy. The theoretical executives of the Government proceed so often on rules akin to that which asserts that "a pint's a pound the world around" that it must be with a rude jar that they learn that three sad sea dogs, sitting as a board of inquiry, have decided that a vessel, safe with a full cargo, may be unsafe with half a cargo.

The City Council had some difficulty in getting together to pass the ordinance giving the people an opportunity to vote on the question of saloons at the Fair gates. But it had no trouble in devising a way to help out one of its members by passing Councilman Zimmerman's meat inspection ordinance. It all depends on what is wanted and who wants it whether the City Council takes an active interest in affairs.

Now it is said the Assessor of Multnomah County intends to increase the valuations of the property of the county three-fold. Very well. But let him put into the assessments these great public franchises, at the proper valuation. Real estate has borne the whole burden long enough. Bring in this highly valuable property included in public franchises.

It is said the taxable valuation of Portland and of Multnomah County is to be increased by the Assessor threefold. Why, certainly. But let the public franchises be included. Let the plutocrats get ready to pay three times their usual amount of taxes next year. The rest of us, who have little or nothing, needn't worry.

Mayor Dunne has notified the Chicago reformers that vice cannot be stopped in that city. Dear, dear. And Mayor Dunne is a Democrat, too, elected as a Democrat, and running a Democratic administration. Who ever before heard of vice flourishing in any city under a Democratic reform administration?

Naturally, inasmuch as the Russian warships have done heretofore whatever they pleased at neutral ports, as long as the neutral ports were French, the Russian Admiralty is surprised and grieved that "Mr." Roosevelt enforces the 24-hour rule at Manila.

Why not save time by referring the Equitable row, the Russian war, the Chicago strike and the Norway-Sweden splitting the blanket to the President?

Tom Lawson says he is $1,000,000 poorer than he was a year ago. But Lawson should cheer up. So are some others of his disesteemed enemies.

A jury of six Idaho women were surely competent to judge of the merits of a fist fight between two of their own sex.

OREGON OZONE.

Admiral Nebogatoff, true to his name, never got off.

The recent sea fight recalls to mind Eugene F. Ware's metrical account of a battle between two divisions of the Russian language, in which all the vowels were knocked out by the consonants.

Ex-Editor Whitelaw Reid, our new Ambassador to the Court of St. James, gets a salary of $17,500 a year and pays $30,000 a year house rent. We newspaper men are the only ones who can perform miracles like that.

A Kansas newspaper has discovered that the first Prohibition law passed in the United States was enacted by the legislative body of the Cherokee Indians, in 1819, the law taking effect as a New Year's gift in 1820. Is this what made the Cherokee one of the Five Civilized Tribes?

It is much to be desired that Philadelphia permit the Liberty Bell to come to the Lewis and Clark Exposition, so that we folk away out West may ascertain whether the old bell is really what it is cracked up to be.

The voluntary human sandwich has appeared in Portland. He is a pioneer farmer of Klickitat County, Washington, who wants to sell his farm, and he wears a large sign reading "Land for Sale." Real estate agents are hereby notified that space is for sale on this walking advertisement at reasonable rates. Top of collar is preferred space.

Ezra Meeker, pioneer, has arrived in Portland driving an ox team hitched to an old-time prairie schooner, his intention being to retrace the old wagon trail back to Iowa, along which he came Westward as a young man, back in '52. Everything about Mr. Meeker's outfit smacks of the pioneer period, even to the tar bucket hanging underneath the rear axle. But if the oxen themselves are the identical ones which he drove across the plains 53 years ago, he is not likely to get out of Portland with them. Some of the boarding-houses will demand that they be slaughtered and sawed into "roast beef."

It is understood that "Talks in a Library With Laurence Hutton" is to be followed by "Whispers in a Boudoir With Edward Bok."

The Rabbitville correspondent of the Irrigon Irrigator is mistaken in his statement that The Oregonian is using the poetry machine invented by Hardy Hardiron, the town blacksmith, formerly operated by a Rabbitville mule. The machine used here was invented in Missouri, patent No. 4-11-44, as duly recorded in the archives at Washington, D. C., and was first used as a road scraper, being drawn by a span of Missouri mules. It has one merit, viz., that it never turns out poetry with game feet, except when it goes in competition with a linotype machine—a meeting that is sometimes fatal to the metre.

Kansas is noted for its remarkable newspaper fakes. Now comes a story of a boy having been drowned in the Arkansas River. The correspondent fails to explain how the boy managed to dig his way down as far as the water. There used to be a story current in Kansas of a man who desired to commit suicide. He preferred death by drowning. Providing himself with a spade and a windlass, he began excavations in the bed of the Arkansas River. After digging three days the sand caved in and caught his legs, and, thus imprisoned, the poor fellow died of thirst.

Three more lives have been lost in the Hargis feud in Kentucky. We were given to understand that feud had been settled. Once upon a time the present writer was sent down into Kentucky to report the particulars of the final settlement of the famous White-Garrard-Howard-Philpot feud in Clay County. He arrived at the home of the leaders on one side of the ex-feud about dusk and was met at the front gate by six men, bristling with hand artillery, who surrounded him. "I understood that this feud was settled," said the visitor. "It is settled," replied the spokesman for the feudists, "but we heard tell today that a blankety-blank-blank who skedaddled from these parts six months ago had come back today, and we don't p'pose to take no chances."

Edification for Editors.

Following is the unofficial programme of exercises for next Sunday in honor of the delegates to the National Editorial Association Convention, at 101 ranch, Oklahoma:

7 A. M.—Guests awakened by fusillade of cowboys under the window, shooting up the ranch.

7:15—Ablutions in Cow Creek, hard by.

7:30—Breakfast, consisting of 101 rounds of jerked buffalo meat, fricasseed coyote and scrambled rattlesnake buttons.

8:00—Rehearsal of the Oklahoma war whoop.

8:20—All off for the grandstand, where Greaser Antonio, the celebrated Spanish toreador, will assassinate seven superannuated bulls amidst the plaudits of the admiring editors.

9:00—Ten minutes to recover breath.

9:10—Scalping of Oklahoma Kid, the curly-headed cowboy, by Geronimo, the Apache warrior and ward of Uncle Sam, loaned for the purpose on the guarantee that he refrain from scalping the editors unless some of them want to find out how it feels themselves, in which event he is to accommodate them.

10:00—War dance by seven regiments of Rough Riders, who claim to have fought with Roosevelt.

11:30—More ablutions in Cow Creek.

12:00—Dinner on toreadored bull, preceded by a blessing from a religious editor, ending with a benediction by a Sunday editor.

1 P. M.—All aboard for Portland, to visit the Lewis and Clark Exposition, after which the editors will return to their several homes and spread enlightenment, humanitarianism and culture.

ROBERTUS LOVE.

A Purist's Criticism.

New York Sun.

The Vice-President's great oration at Portland, Or., suffered some damage in course of telegraphic transmission. The wires represented him as saying:

> The tragic events which are transpiring in the Orient are deeply deplored by every lover of peace and humanity the world over.

Of course, what Mr. Fairbanks said was that tragic events were perspiring in the Orient. So cautious a candidate for the Presidency would never be guilty of the outrage on the English language attributed to him in the telegraphed version.

Paternal Pride.

Greenwood Corr. Oregon City Enterprise.

Mr. Clarke is very proud of his son Sammy, for he has such cute little ears.

EASTERN PAPERS ON OUR FAIR

General Editorial Commendation and Appreciation of the Splendid Enterprise—Full Recognition of Its Great Value and Varied Beauty.

It Is a Northwest Fair.

Hartford (Conn.) Times.

The Lewis and Clark Exposition is too long a name. Call it the Portland Fair.

It Was Ready to Open.

Kansas City Star.

A feature which will distinguish for all time the Lewis and Clark Centennial Exposition from other events of its kind is that it was ready to open when it was opened.

Blooms Till October 15.

New York Tribune.

Portland, Or., is called the Rose City because roses bloom there in the open air all the year. The Exposition rose, however, which opened its petals yesterday, will bloom only until October 15.

Deserving of Congratulations.

Montana Daily Recorder.

The people of Portland are deserving the congratulations of the entire Nation, especially should a good word be said for the energy and steadfastness of purpose with which the enterprise was undertaken and set on its Summer's journey. Portland's men and women and Portland's money made the Fair possible; there should be no lack of encouragement to make it a success in every respect.

Attendance Is Sure to Be Good.

Providence (R. I.) Journal.

There was an impressive opening of the Lewis and Clark Exposition at Portland yesterday, and although this latest Fair is somewhat distant from the center of population in the United States, it will doubtless be well attended. It commemorates an important phase in the National development, as the Vice-President pointed out in his speech. Civilization owes much to its hardy pioneers, and in the ranks of these the men who won Oregon for their country have an honored place.

Great Show in a Great Place.

Goodwin's (Salt Lake) Weekly.

The Lewis and Clark Exposition has been formally opened at Portland. It is a great show in a great place. The Willamett is a grand river, the Willamette Valley is a marvelous valley, and then the "Oregon rolls" near by and Hood and St. Helens and Ranief and Adams an the Three Sisters around all the other signal heights of that fair land are looking down approvingly. But there is a greater glory to this Exposition than can be found in all the merged splendors of river, valley and mountain. Much praise is due to the men who inspired and consummated the great purchase.

Should Attract Eastern Visitors.

Hartford (Conn.) Times.

Today occurred the opening of the Lewis and Clark Centennial Exposition at Portland, Or. This is one of the most interesting Expositions ever held in this country and should attract many Eastern visitors to the Pacific Coast during the Summer an Autumn. The management of the Exposition is in very capable hands and many of its features are novel and impressive. New York has erected a fine state building on the Exposition grounds and Massachusetts has done the same, being the only New England state to participate in the Exposition to that extent. The Massachusetts building will be the natural headquarters for New England visitors who may be able to see this most interesting Exposition of the greater interests and industries of the Pacific Coast.

Show Is Well Advertised.

Philadelphia Enquirer.

The Exposition in the far Northwest which opens today may not in some respects rank with those which have preceded it, but we can safely say that it is far beyond what could normally be expected of the latitude and general wealth of the section. It cannot compare in volume, for instance, with that of St. Louis, but candor compels us to say that our friends in the Northwest have been advertising themselves and their show much better than the people on the banks of the Mississippi. There is no good achievement that the Inquirer does not wish the West to enjoy. There is neither prosperity in purse and material nor development in mind and spirit, culture and refinement which we do not wish to be theirs. We can only hope that the present show will have the undoubted advantage of securing to those few people in the Oregon Country, who were born there, the blessings that arise in the East and constantly follow the setting suns.

Oregon's Mighty Advance.

Baltimore Sun.

There is scarcely a district of darkest Africa that is as little known to the people of Christendom today as was the Oregon country 100 years ago. And yet the centennial of the arrival of Lewis and Clark in the wilds of the Northwest is celebrated in a wealthy city of more than 100,000 people, situated in the midst of a fertile, beautiful and highly cultivated country, gridironed with railroads and dotted with towns and villages. The design of the Lewis and Clark Exposition is to illustrate to the world the marvelous progress of the Pacific Coast and to produce such an Exposition there has been an expenditure of $5,000,000 and a vast amount of well-directed energy. This great Fair was opened yesterday at a signal from Washington sent by the President of the United States and transmitted in an instant. When Lewis and Clark reached the mouth of the Columbia River, it required the best part of a year, or more than six months, to send a message from there to Washington. Now a person can travel in comfort from Washington to Oregon inside of a week and can send a message in a few minutes.

Attractions to Meet Varied Tastes.

Chicago Chronicle.

Mankind has an infinite fondness for spectacles. The imperial Roman who declared that the populace would be content with any government that supplied bread and circuses was a shrewd observer of human nature, and human nature is just about the same today as it was 2000 years ago in Rome. That is why the Portland Exposition is drawing great crowds, though the gates of the St. Louis show are scarcely closed and the memory of the Columbian Exposition is yet fresh. People are always ready for a big show, provided that they have the money to pay for seeing it. At Portland, according to all accounts, there are attractions to meet the most varied tastes. In mere size the Lewis and Clark Exposition does not, of course, pretend to compete with some of its predecessors, but in variety, taste and attractiveness it does not avoid comparison with the larger shows. It should be borne in mind, too, that the Oregon Exposition is only small by comparison—not in reality. An enterprise upon which $5,000,000 has been expended is by no means a sideshow. Fifty years ago it would have been deemed a prodigy of magnificence and lavish expenditure. A very excellent and impressive spectacle is this Portland Exposition—one which does credit to its promoters and which will attract thousands of visitors from regions far distant from the Pacific Coast.

Serves a Beneficent Purpose.

Troy (N. Y.) Times.

The Lewis and Clark Exposition, important as a memorial of remarkable American achievement, may also serve a most beneficent purpose by helping to promote international amity.

Have Done Themselves Proud.

Butte Miner.

The Fair was started on what is hoped to be a most successful journey. All who have visited the grounds, and exploited the exhibits, unite in the declaration that the Exposition is well worth seeing, from all points of view. Portland, and the State of Oregon, have done themselves proud in the appointments of the great show, and exhibitors have taken a profound interest in making the enterprise an unqualified success.

Most Profitable Advertisement.

Butte Evening News.

The Western States will find that the Portland Fair will be to them the most profitable advertisement they have ever had. While not as pretentious as either the Chicago or St. Louis expositions, it means infinitely more to the people west of the Mississippi. Hundreds of thousands of our Eastern friends will visit the Northwest during the Summer. Among them will be many in quest of profitable investment, and Montana, Oregon, Washington and Idaho will be their principal field.

Sample of Western Hustle.

Troy (N. Y.) Times.

Portland, Or., begins its Lewis and Clark Exposition on time and with everything in complete readiness. This is a sample of Western hustle and executive capacity that reflects the highest credit on all concerned. The Fair is big and beautiful and will be a magnificent "adv." for the Pacific Coast, already famous for its enterprise and progressiveness. One of the few lines of great American ocean steamers plies between that locality and Asia, and the Exposition is likely to give a great stimulus to the commerce of that quarter.

Cannot Fail to Be Profitable.

Philadelphia Press.

The Portland Exposition was opened with the ceremonies customary to such occasions, and from all reports it was more nearly in shape for the reception of visitors than has been usual with expositions on the day of opening. The Portland Fair, which is designed to commemorate the Lewis and Clark explorations, fittingly supplements the great exposition at St. Louis last year, and has the advantage of some important and attractive features that were there displayed. All of the Pacific Coast country is full of the spirit of self-exploitation, and the Exposition cannot fail to be profitable in many ways, but can hardly be expected to achieve a financial success.

Showing a Marvelous Country.

Baltimore (Md.) Herald.

In spite of telegraphs, telephones and railroads, this country is so large that a great World's Fair held in the interior does not take the wind out of the sails of one held on the Coast. The elaborate magnificence of St. Louis last year, drawing sightseers from all over the world, was just far enough from the Pacific to give the Lewis and Clark Exposition, thrown open to the public yesterday, a territory from which to draw thousands who have not yet been sated by the numberless attractions of a big fair. The great show in Missouri has not been repeated in all its glory in Oregon, but a very creditable Exposition has been arranged, and in going to see it people from the East can be sure of a good sight, for on the way they will see the greatest of all expositions — their own marvelous country.

Of Great Commercial Importance.

New Yok Globe.

Especially appropriate at this time when all eyes are turned toward the eastern ocean and the trade possibilities of the Orient, is the assembling in organized form of the products of our industries in the Northwest, which is already looking eagerly to Asia for markets for its rapidly growing output. Americans, ever quick to seize opportunities for trade conquests, have not been slow to discern the special advantages they possess in the Pacific. To this perception is due in no small measure the determination to make the present celebration an occasion of great commercial importance, a fact the significance of which our merchants will readily apprehend.

The exhibition at Oregon serves not alone to remind us of the pioneers of 1805, but may also mark the beginning of a new era in the industrial development of our country—the era of the Pacific Ocean.

Piece of Splendid Enterprise.

Kansas City Times.

The opening of the Lewis and Clark Exposition at Portland, Or., is an event of interest to the country as a whole as well as to the Coast states for whose benefit it was primarily arranged. The expedition which it commemorates was a piece of splendid enterprise, resulting, as it did, in the first crossing of the continent within the limits of the United States by white men.

The Exposition is not arranged as an imitation of the splendid affair at St. Louis last year. The purpose of the directors has been to express the sentiment, history and life of the Pacific Northwest. For this reason the Lewis and Clark Centennial will appeal to the East as well as to the states in the immediate vicinity. Men and women of the Atlantic seaboard and the Mississippi Valley will find it worth their while to cross the mountains to Portland this Summer if they would understand the possibilities of the country's growth.

What the Exposition Commemorates.

Omaha Daily Bee.

The expedition of Lewis and Clark, carried on under the most trying hardships, was pregnant in great results. It opened up to the knowledge of the world a great region until that time unknown and the possible resources of which had not even been thought of. The region traversed by the indomitable explorers was occupied by savage tribes and every mile of the ground covered was full of dangers. The details of the story of that expedition are of the most interesting and thrilling character, giving a most illuminative impression of the courage and fortitude of the men who made their way, under all sorts of conceivable hardships, from the Mississippi River to the Pacific Coast. It was a great march of discovery, the results of which have been of inestimable importance to the Nation in the century that has since elapsed. The Exposition in commemoration of that expedition will be highly interesting. While not pretending to rival in extent and magnificence the other centennial expositions of recent years, yet it will have features not less worthy of attention. The City of Portland is one of the most attractive on the Pacific Coast, and the climate there is peculiarly inviting in the Summer months. Americans who are planning a vacation could not do better for their pleasure and health than to visit the Lewis and Clark Exposition.