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C. W. FULTON AND THE UNITED STATES SENATE.

But few weeks at most will intervene before the meeting of the legislature which will choose a successor to Hon. Joseph Simon as United States senator from Oregon, and no one public event of the past two years is of more interest to the state at large and to its people.

Oregon is on the eve of a great industrial awakening, and it is due to her people, and her splendid resources, that the man selected to represent her in the senate of the United States be a man immeasurably big enough and broad enough to take his place among the statesmen of the senate, and at the same time be one equipped mentally to lay before his colleagues the needs and wants of the state in a manner that will meet their careful consideration.

At the present time there is but one man who stands pre-eminently before the people of this state the logical candidate of the entire state for United States senator, and that man is Hon. C. W. Fulton of Astoria; a man possessed of all the vigor of youth, accompanied with the judgment and deliberation of mature manhood—a man whose fealty to party, whose personality, judgment, standing as a finished public speaker, and whose knowledge of the needs and interests of every section of this great state of ours at once proclaim him as the one first entitled to recognition, and the one most deserving the honor at his hands of his party.

Oregon will have in the next congress, Senator Mitchell and Representatives Tongue and Williamson, a delegation that would prove a credit to any state, and the election of C. W. Fulton as junior senator will complete a congressional delegation that will prove the most harmonious and hard working delegation that the state has ever had.

Oregon needs much favorable legislation at the hands of congress. Our rapidly increasing commerce demands the deepening of our rivers and the speedy removal of the bar. With the Columbia basin and its enormously undeveloped and latent wealth at our backs, logic forces the conclusion that there is but one natural outlet and that by the gravity route along the Columbia river to the sea. A 30-foot channel to the sea, 40 feet of water where there is now a bar at the mouth of the river, and the removal of the obstructions to navigation in the upper Columbia, are matters of importance to every man, woman and child in the state, for nature has pre-ordained that the vast resources of the inland empire must of necessity find an outlet through the gorge of the Columbia.

The determined effort that is being made toward the reclamation of eastern Oregon will bear fruit at no greatly distant day, and the sage plains of today will contribute a wealth of fruits, wheat and other cereals in the near future. The development of the inland empire will necessitate the speedy opening of the Columbia.

These are live interests and they concern the entire state, and it is incumbent upon each and every repre-

sentative in congress from the state of Oregon to labor earnestly toward the attaining of these ends.

The day of the political trickster is passed, and the people of the state demand that their representatives be men of brains—men who will be accorded recognition in championing the cause of their constituents, as well as statesmen who will prove factors in molding the destiny of the nation. Such is Hon. C. W. Fulton of Astoria, and his ripe experience and knowledge of the needs of the state, his time and time again avocation of the deepening of the channel inland and of removing the obstructions in the upper river, and, in fact, the firm stand he has taken on all public questions, and last, but by no means least, his unselfish labors in the interests of his party during the past 20 years, deserve recognition, and he should be elected senator at the coming meeting of the legislature on the first ballot, and we believe he will.

Why should not Multnomah delegation accord him their earnest support? He has pledged himself repeatedly to the deepening of the channel from Portland to the sea, and his position on all public questions is thoroughly in accord with the principles and teachings of his party, and his personal friendship with each member of our next congressional delegation of such a nature that the best efforts of the entire delegation would be put forward toward the carrying out of any project of interest to the state.

Oregon's best interests center in the election of Hon. C. W. Fulton as United States senator.

CITY OFFICEHOLDING.

The refusal of some of the candidates to accept the nominations tendered them for city office recalls to mind the fact that officeholding in this community is not desirable. The members of the council and mayor receive a "salary" of \$100 yearly, which will not offset legitimate election expenses. The city cannot afford to pay more, for the reason that it is \$181,000 in debt. This burden is constantly in the way of the enterprising councilman, and his whole public course, once he is elected, is gauged by it. He is assigned to committee work, and it would be impossible to imagine a more onerous task. Every little matter of detail must receive his attention, and if he errs he is held accountable. When property owners desire a street improvement the question of grade invariably arises, and his attitude is bound to call forth unpleasant rebuke.

He is likewise trying to conduct the municipality on a system that is altogether wrong. Saloon and sundry licenses and police court receipts are depended upon for twice the revenue that is derived from taxes on city property, which is a condition of affairs that is perhaps without precedent in the entire country. Every department of the city government that nets revenue is "grafting" for funds with which to help wipe out that gigantic debt. The police department, requiring an expenditure of approximately \$5500 yearly, not only pays its own expense of maintenance, but last year turned over to the city treasurer a balance of something like \$1000. This form of revenue should be incidental, not regular, and is distasteful to the ordinary business man to identify himself with a plan of conduct that is so strikingly improper.

The councilman is required to devote no inconsiderable portion of his time to city affairs, and he receives nothing in return—not even the thanks of the people for whom he is gratuitously working. There is absolutely nothing in a seat in the council which would tend to make it attractive. The successful candidate feels pride in his election, but there the honor ends.

So it is with other municipal positions. The office of city attorney, for instance, is one that would receive the entire time of the incumbent. His work must be perfect, for if it is not he will have the city constantly engaged in lawsuits, which are only too readily instituted by the taxpayer who is actuated by a desire to avoid his share of the cost of improving streets or otherwise maintaining the municipality. Every matter that comes before the council must pass through his hands and receive his careful consideration, and he soon finds that he must acquire a practical knowledge of engineering, as well as of contracting and building. His public life is a burden from start to finish. The city attorney receives a salary of \$70 monthly out of which he must pay his deputy

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and stenographer. When these expenses are met, the salary is no longer a consideration. While the other officers are somewhat better off, they, too, are underpaid.

Considering the difficulties that attend city officeholding in Astoria, it is indeed remarkable that there has ever been a contest for position. The men who run for places in the council do so only because the nominations are forced upon them by political conventions, or from pure patriotism. Occasionally a man who can spare the time, seeks nomination, but cases of this sort are indeed rare. The man of affairs, whose time is occupied six days in the week, will not, as a rule, accept the office.

If Astoria were out of debt and could afford to pay its councilmen for their services, nominations would not be scorned; but under existing conditions the man who runs for office can be regarded only as a public benefactor, who is making a sacrifice for the community at large.

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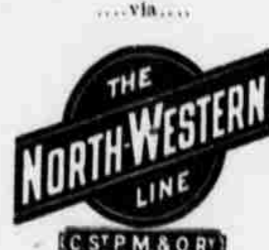
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