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HOW TO MAKE FRIENDS

In discussing the growing sentiment in favor of a \$500,000 appropriation for the Lewis and Clark fair, the Oregonian says:

Renewed interest and approval for the Lewis and Clark centennial is very largely due to the publicity given its misadventure. If well-meaning opponents, as is usual with all public enterprises of this sort, the formidable opposition is not that which can be smoked out into the open, but that which is nursed in secret. The overwhelming favor with which the centennial and its requisite state appropriation are certain to be viewed needs something antagonistic to furnish the occasion to bring it out. This has been supplied by the talk of a special session, and also by the free access afforded objects in the columns of the Oregonian. It is far better to have these objections aired and answered now, and to have the objections feel the weight of an enthusiastic and progressive public opinion, than to have them nursing in secret, with the conviction that they have been denied full opportunity of expression. It has certainly been astonishing as well as reassuring to see how prompt and hearty have been the responses in favor of the half-million appropriation by men of prominence and influence, like Senator Fulton of Clatsop and Representative-elect Williamson of Cook. The exact truth about their promises of support is that they were prompted by adverse opinions, freely printed in the Oregonian. We print some of these hostile utterances on this page today, in the belief that the true welfare of the exposition lies in full discussion rather than in any effort to apply the gag law.

This is what the Astorian has contended ever since the proposal for the appropriation was first submitted to the people of the state. For a time there was a disposition in some quarters to chide those who honestly disagreed with members of the fair board as to the amount that ought to be appropriated. This was calculated not to create sentiment in favor of the appropriation, but to injure the project. The Lewis and Clark fair is not a Portland undertaking, but one that interests every section of the state. Every person living in Oregon has the right to discuss the matter. It is not to be assumed that 500,000 people will instantly agree on any proposal that may be submitted to them, and there was nothing surprising in the attitude of those who did not immediately favor

the appropriation. Thorough discussion of the matter, however, has removed most of the hostility, and there is every reason to believe that the fair bill will go through very early in the session. If the fair is worth holding, it should be made a pronounced success, and a liberal appropriation is necessary in order to bring about this result.

The way to make friends for any undertaking of the kind is to accord respectful attention to those who make up the dissenters, and to appeal to their reason. Unkind things at the man who honestly differs in opinion with others will not bring about that feeling of harmony that is so essential to success.

To be able to drink or not to drink on the ferry boats of the Southern Pacific company has come to be an important issue in San Francisco. It will be remembered that during Mr. Hays' administration an order was issued closing the bars on these ferry boats. So strong was the protest of the liquor dealers and so urgent were their requests that shortly after the resignation of Mr. Hays the bars were reopened. A new plan was then adopted, that when the boats went to the yards for repairs the bars should be taken out entirely, so that there was no place at which liquor could be sold. The first boat thus changed has only recently been put back in service. The result has been an ultimatum of the Liquor Dealers' association, backed by the cigar manufacturers and dealers, that if this policy is to be continued they will boycott the Southern Pacific road. It is altogether probable that the Southern Pacific company has the best reasons for discontinuing the sale of liquor on its boats; at any rate it has the undoubted right to take such action, and we much mistake the temper of the officials if they submit to any such dictation as is proposed. Once let it be understood that the threat of "boycott" is potent to overturn any well-considered action, and there will be no end to similar demands. All the railroads that operate ferries on San Francisco bay would do well to join the Southern Pacific in its action, and close up their bars. The time occupied in crossing the bay by the longest ferry is less than one hour and there is no necessity for providing a place where stimulants may be purchased. An open bar is a menace to discipline anywhere, and a steamboat, of all places, should not be thus supplied.

Is it reasonable for Governor Geer to expect that the republican party ought to keep him perpetually in office just because he has been Oregon's chief executive for four years? Certainly, he has been treated with consideration by his party. The governor evidently forgets that Senator Fulton was his warm supporter in 1898, and that Clatsop county gave him the greatest majority ever accorded a gubernatorial candidate. If Governor Geer were properly appreciative, he would now be lending his assistance to Senator Fulton, instead of trying to place obstacles in his way.

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