

PUBLIC APATHETIC ON HARBOR ISSUE, DECLARES WRITER

Danger Confronting People Is
Pointed Out, Opposition to
Public Ownership Plan Is
Likened unto Conspiracy.

By J. B. Tiegler.

The opposition to the city taking possession of the banks of the harbor for public dock purposes is fast assuming the character of a conspiracy, a direct descendant of that by which the old Dalles Poffages were formerly held in monopoly Columbia river traffic, and by both of which the railroads now seek to prevent the river commerce, bottle Portland harbor and divert the inland trade to other ports less favored by nature.

Reading that conspiracy we find the railroads, and aligned with them every person who has succeeded in coralling a piece of riparian land. Railroads, 47 per cent; other private owners, 50 per cent; city, 3 per cent, was about the proportion in which the waterfront was owned one year ago. Aiding and abetting the conspiracy is every other private interest and politician that thrives under the patronage of such combinations.

Says Public Is Apathetic.
Back of the efforts of the dock commission in its efforts to recover the public possession of these public properties we find a too apathetic public. There are a number of reasons for this apathy, all poor.

First—The financial and political destinies are controlled by men who have attained their wealth by abnormal profits rather than by fair competition and activity. They are lineal descendants of the Indian chiefs who formerly pitched their tepees at the Dalles and levied tribute for the fishing privileges.

Second—The railroad domination, which professes with no inland waterways to develop.

Third—The discouragement of the public, which has seen the public levees, streets and properties about the harbor provided by the early plans slip away, under the weak action of the courts and public officials, until they appear to think it a matter of course.

Fourth—The claim of riparian owners of title down to harbor line. Their successful attempts to resist invasions of the public back of these lines seems to have made the impression that the claim has foundation.

Let me again assure them that the so-called harbor line in Portland is only a pierhead line, and subject to change at any time by city, state or federal government.

Claims Title Never Existed.
Fifth—The assertion of title under alleged legislative grants. The title or power of private title never existed, and the acts of 1874-6 have been held invalid by the courts and repealed in 1878.

Sixth—The assertion of large investments in the title and improvements on these lands, which the present dock bill would expropriate. Much of it is yet in the hands of the owners of 40 and even 50 years ago, and was obtained for a song. The public levee properties extending from Ankeny south to Columbia street on the West Side and to Front street were seized or squatted upon by opposite owners who claimed a riparian right against the public, and have since denied the wharf right of the public on the ends of streets. The very extensive tract of bottom land in South Portland now owned by the W. R. & N. was the estate of a widow, Elizabeth Caruthers, which should have been escheated to the state. But enterprising owners of the class who now complain so bitterly of the rule which the public threatens upon them by taking their waters between shore and pierhead lines organized an "investment company," imported a hobo heir from the east (who later denied his heirship), paid his probate court expenses and bought the land from him.

Public Is Excluded.
The holdings of the O. R. & N. and the S. P. in East Portland were obtained through a system of city ordinances of street vacations and assessments for a tract in which all public use was finally denied. The greater part of these holdings were so obtained by devious methods, at a time when the public were so little aware of their

Fraternity Men Ask Pardon for "Highwayman"

Petition States Man Not Responsible for Act

It is not often that victims of a hold-up ask the authorities to pardon the man who made them throw up their hands. This is what five fraternity boys have asked in the case of R. L. Baird, a youthful burglar, who entered the fraternity house at 454 Holladay avenue the night of January 1, and after forcing the inmates to hold up their hands, suddenly turned around and fled.

Baird was caught by the police and was sentenced to 100 days on the rockpile and a \$200 fine after he had pleaded guilty.

"We have learned since," reads the petition, "that Baird was intoxicated when he entered our house and pulled value, that under the well known public disposition of 'laissez faire' they set up no effective opposition.

I have cited instances enough to show the character of the enormous investments these people claim, which they state the dock bill would take away from them.

The fact is the dock bill only sets up the people's claim to possession of the public waters for improvement purposes, and specifically waives all claim in any legal equities which may have been established. It is also specifically defines the extent of the public harbor and asserts the policy of non-alienation.

This would prevent the clouded titles of which we hear so much from "innocent purchasers." As it is, they have bought only upland, with such riparian and wharf rights as they might be able to hold.

It is but a short step back in any of these abstracts to the public title of the beds of navigable waters for navigation and commerce. The deeds, where properly drawn, call only to meander or ordinary highwater line, the rest is all presumption on their part that they could convert a courtesy of the state into an exclusive title. Only by filling in and obliterating the natural water line can they gain title, and then only under the neglect of the public to mark that line, for only natural and gradual accretions accrue to the riparian owner.

Profiting Off Public.
Another overt act of these innocent riparians is the seizure and rental of street ends. The dock commission records show that they are collecting hundreds of dollars on these public properties for themselves. Mr. Joseph Supple occupies a block of Belmont street. He claims that it would ruin him to let go of the street and the water. Yet he would, under the bill, be paid for everything built under permit of the city or state. Why should not these people pay for their real estate the same as the rest of us.

However, far over and above all these questions of title and rights is the question of policy necessary to establish and maintain Portland as the most favored harbor on the Pacific coast. That the policy of private adventure has failed to do this is so evident that he who runs may read. That the rail route structures tend to perpetuate the humiliating denial of the right to use our natural properties is equally evident.

Public control and possession alone can or will solve the problem in our favor. That riparian owners expect in the long run to defeat this policy is, I think, evident from their unwillingness to construct the improvements themselves. They say they are ready to do so as fast as "trade warrants."

Would Create Wharf Privilege.
But they do not. Their purpose, probably, is to convert a wharf privilege into a title and sell it to the city.

The private dock owners instead of holding themselves responsible for the public commerce and its development (which they are not) are ready at all times to make arrangements with the railroads by which they themselves may gain, but the port suffer.

The public alone, by a wise and firm policy, at least at this critical juncture, can develop the port, its trade, its traffic connections, ocean, river and rail, and establish its name in the trade centers of the world as the mart of one of the leading export territories in the world.

Public title to these most important water areas, public docks with modern rapid facilities, river transportation and extension, favorable rail rates, a self respecting recognition of the port's rights and submission to a correct public policy and united support thereof is what is needed and must be. Then these childish whinnies for things not properly pertaining to private possession will cease, and the riparian properties will be found under such policy to be worth more than they were before under private possession of public waters.

Watters to Be Postmaster at Stayton
(Washington Bureau of The Journal.)
Washington, Jan. 29.—President Taft nominated as postmaster Wilson S. Watters of Stayton.

OUCH! SAYS NICK, JUST LIKE THAT

Congressman and Editor in
Clash Over Schedule "K"
Exchange Compliments.

(United Press Leased Wire.)
Washington, Jan. 29.—Frank Bennett, editor of the American Wool and Cotton Reporter, clashed with Representative Nicholas Longworth in the house ways and means committee hearing on schedule K, the wool feature of the Payne tariff law. Longworth, not satisfied with Bennett's answers, insisted on more definite responses.

"I can only answer you by giving you the business experience you lack," declared Bennett.

"You have no experience that I covet," commented Longworth.

"Neither have you," retorted Bennett, "since I do not lead cottons nor play the social lion."

Chairman Underwood interfered at this point.

Bennett declared he favored free wool.

Consideration of sundry schedules for tariff revision occupied the attention of the committee today. Scores of manufacturers appeared before the committee.

**TILLAMOOK LINE TO
BE REOPENED MONDAY**

Traffic will be resumed on the Tillamook line next Monday, so General Superintendent D. W. Campbell, of the Southern Pacific, announced yesterday. Mr. Campbell has just returned from an inspection of the line.

"The Pacific Railroad & Navigation company's line fared badly during the recent storms," said Mr. Campbell, "and the snow in the coast range was so deep that it took us till yesterday to clear the tracks. They had not deep that it took us till Monday to about 15 feet of snow at the summit, but rotary snow plows have cleared the tracks. The worst slide carried about 15 acres of ground away and obliterated the track, but a shoofly is being built around that place and by Monday the line will be open for traffic again."

**CHARGED WITH ROBBING
NEGRO'S HEN ROOST**

Reversal of the old and time worn story of the darkey's love for chicken and propensity to secure the birds by fair means or foul, is contained in a complaint drawn up by Deputy District Attorney Dempsey. Bert Weeks, better known as "Skinny White," is charged with the theft of five fine chickens from Nimrod Jackson, a negro. The value of the fowls is placed at \$10. Jackson resides in Kenton.

PIANOLAS FREE

In order to get rid of every Pianola in our establishment, we're giving them away in order selected. Simply agree to purchase of us each month at least four music rolls for a year. All are in A-1 condition, just as good as new. Can be attached to any piano. Or, if you haven't a piano, secure one now at the tremendous reduced January Clearance Sale Prices, and we'll throw in one of these fine Cabinet Pianolas. Act quickly. Over 35 were selected yesterday. Ellers Music House, the Nation's Largest, in the Ellers Building, Seventh and Alder streets.

and internal injuries.
Mr. Blake and his brother, George S. Blake, of 374 East Eleventh street, had been looking over farm property in Clatsop county, and were walking into Vancouver on the railroad track when the accident occurred. When the south-bound train came up from behind, both of the men stepped in opposite directions. Harvey Blake stepped directly in the path of the train. The pilot of the engine caught him and tossed him off the track. The train was stopped and Mr. Blake, who was still conscious, was placed in the baggage car and brought to Portland, then taken to the hospital.

Besides his widow, he leaves a son Rufe, and a daughter, Mrs. James Hart, of New Meadows, Idaho, and brother, George S. Blake.

Of This Great Sale, Three Days Remain

Much may be done in three days—of prime interest to you is the fact that in any one of them you may come and save one half the price of a well-fitting and serviceable Lady's Man-Tailored Suit or Raincoat.

This great sale closes Friday evening—until then these are the prices: \$10, \$12.50, \$15, \$17.50 and \$20 for Ladies' Suits that were \$20, \$25, \$30, \$35, \$40.
\$9, \$10, \$11.25, \$12.50, \$15 for English Raincoats that were \$18, \$20, \$22.50, \$25, \$30.

REMEMBER—

These are not the ordinary garments made principally for barter, but handsomely tailored suits and coats in a charming variety of stylish woolen fabrics.

Nor is your choice narrowed to a mere dozen or so; the immense trade enjoyed by our Ladies' Shop from an appreciative clientele requires us to keep at all times a large showing of the season's best models—these are the garments that are now going in scores at half price.

Come today—take ample time to make a satisfactory choice. Willing and courteous saleswomen will be glad to show you these beautiful garments.

LADIES' SHOP—Entire third floor.
Elevator and stairway.

BEN SELLING

MORRISON STREET AT FOURTH

THE BIG BUSY LIQUOR STORE

Don't Wait Till This
Great Sale Is Over

Put Good, Pure Liquors on Your
Table—Have Them in Your
Home Handy for Medicinal Use
—AND BUY THEM AT OUR

Fire Sale

That's a Sample
of the Bargains
Now—This Good
Whiskey at the
BOTTLE, ONLY 80c

Sunny
Brook

Spring Valley Swine Company

ENTIRE CORNER
SECOND AND YAMHILL

We Solicit
Mail
Orders



BEN. A. BELLAMY
GROCER

Thursday and Friday Sale!

Phone
Orders Taken
Wednesday Evening
Until 10:30 o'clock



Carnation Milk 7c Per Tin Only Six Tins to a Customer	Hams --- Hams 17 1/2c Per Pound Swift or St. Clair Brands—Every Ham Guaranteed to Please	Ranch Eggs 30c Per Dozen These are not storage eggs, but the very freshest eggs on the market.	Bellamy's Coffee The 40c Blend, Today, 3 Lbs. \$1 30 GREEN TRADING STAMPS With Each Dollar's Worth. We Want You to Try It.
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FREE THURSDAY AND FRIDAY

We Will Give Double J.A. Stamps on All Purchases THURSDAY AND FRIDAY

made by customers calling at one of our four stores between the hours of 11 a. m. and 3 p. m., Thursday or Friday. NO STAMPS ON SUGAR PURCHASES.

20 lbs. Sugar \$1.00 2 tins Sardines, 25c; 6 tins.....65c 2 tins Otter Clams, 25c; 6 tins.....65c 2 tins Cove Oysters, 25c; 6 tins.....65c 2 tins Best Shrimps, 25c; 6 tins.....65c 2 tins Sport Herring, 25c; 6 tins.....65c 2 tins Pimientos, 25c; 6 tins.....65c 2 tins Best Tomatoes, 25c; 6 tins.....65c 2 tins Apricots, 25c; 6 tins.....75c 2 tins Peaches, 25c; 6 tins.....75c 2 tins Pears, 25c; 6 tins.....75c 2 tins Pumpkin, 25c; 6 tins.....75c 3 tins Tomatoes, 25c; 6 tins.....50c 3 tins Corn, 25c; 6 tins.....50c 3 tins Pink Salmon, 25c; 6 tins.....50c 3 tins Campbell's Soup, any flavor 25c	Best Creamery Butter 70c 3 pounds Dry Pop Corn.....25c 3 pounds Black Walnuts.....25c 3 pounds Hickory Nuts.....25c 3 Fresh Cocoanuts.....25c Home Made Pies, 15c and.....20c Home Made Doughnuts, per doz. 15c Home Made Cakes, 15c to.....40c Ralston Bran, per package.....15c 4 lb. pkg. Golden Rod Wheat Nuts 25c 3 pkgs. Macaroni, Vermicelli or Spaghetti.....25c 3 bot. Blueing, Ammonia, Vinegar 25c 1 qt. jar Wild Blackberries.....45c 1 qt. jar Red Huckleberries.....45c 1 lb. tin Blanch Baking Powder.....55c 5 gallons Coal Oil.....65c	Bellamy's Rose Flour \$1.25 1 sack Sugar.....\$5.25 1 pound Bull-Black Pepper.....20c 1 pound Tillamook Cheese.....20c 5 pound pail Wild Rose Lard.....75c Large pkg. Gold Dust or Citrus Powder.....20c 3 bot. Tomato Catsup.....25c 1 25c bot. Snyder's Catsup.....18c 9 lb. sack Corn Meal.....25c 9 lb. sack Pastry Flour.....30c 1 lb. 80c Tea.....40c 3 lbs. Bellamy's 40c Coffee.....\$1.00 1 lb. Bellamy's 30c Coffee.....27c 1 pkg. Postum Cereal.....20c 1 lb. tin Blanch Baking Powder.....15c 1 10c package A. & H. Soda.....5c	Burbank Potatoes, Sack 65c 3 5c pkgs. Searchlight Matches.....10c 3 5c pkgs. Toothpicks.....10c 1 lb. pkg. Cluster Raisins.....15c 3 lbs. Best Italian Prunes.....25c 4 lbs. Best French Prunes.....25c 3 lbs. Loose Muscatel Raisins.....25c 3 lbs. Dry Apples.....25c 3 lbs. Cooking Figs.....25c 2 lbs. Dry Apricots.....35c 2 pkgs. Potato Chips.....15c 3 pkgs. Lypton Jello, try it.....25c 3 lbs. Best Head Rice.....25c 6 lbs. Rolled Oats.....25c Best Domestic Macaroni, per lb. 5c 3 pkgs. Fisher's Rolled Oats.....25c
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STORE NO. 1 401 Hawthorne Ave., Cor. Grand PHONES E. 887, B-1615. WATER RENT Can Be Paid Here Don't Fail to Report All Complaints to This Store. Ask for the Manager.	STORE NO. 2 595 Washington, Cor. 19th Street A-3211 MAIN 322 Reliable, Accommodating Clerks The Only Low-Price Store in the Neighborhood	STORE NO. 3 142 Second Street, Near Alder St. MAIN 4160 BUTTER IS OUR LEADER Save Your Cash by Buying This Article Look for the Store as You Leave the Car on Second and Alder.	STORE NO. 4 405 Hawthorne, Near Grand Ave. B-1615, Three Rings. RESTAURANT AND BAKERY 25c NOON LUNCH 25c Home Cooking—The Best Made on East Side.
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