

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE NEWS, PORTLAND, OREGON

STRONG EFFORT BEING PUT FORTH ON BEHALF OF PORT OF PORTLAND.

By W. D. B. Dooson.

The Trade and Commerce Bureau is now putting a large part of its time on the problem of the offices and wharves of the steamship companies for the port. It is clear to the management of the Bureau that in view of the improved navigation conditions at the mouth of the River and land as an opportunity at hand never encountered before and probably the best it will ever have to offer. Recognizing this, overtures are being made to every line that might be induced to enter this as a terminal call.

Overtures have been made to the railways as to the extent of through traffic support for a Pacific line, and these result in assurances that are absolutely satisfactory to the Managing Committee. Data being gathered as to the extent of the business of the port, and the means of control under any conditions growing out of the establishment of a regular line. This data is being before the people most interested, and is creating such a feeling that it seems certain that the port will be able to handle the business of the Pacific coast.

After a service is established here the problem of getting for it the share of freight that will be remunerative, and make the port competitive with other ports of the Pacific, immediately arises as a difficult one. It is very hard to except all of the business interests of the country, excepting the direct port interests, to voluntarily give up their share of freight in the competing problem as a condition to every share of freight that can be reached from here.

How to get all business establishments of the trade territory in line for such an effort has been considered many times. Just as soon as a service is promised a most far-reaching and aggressive campaign is set on foot. The business men of the territory are solicited and called upon to consider a multitude of different ways to do their utmost in support of the service to be established. If they do the same manner that the business establishments building other ports back those districts, no wonder is felt that there will be many steamship lines serving this port regularly and giving as good a service for freight as for passengers.

One of the conditions that will have to be worked out in this respect is a far more intense port for the port. It is recognized among business men who come in contact with other seaports of the Pacific that the local business men there are not doing enough to support their own ports. It is felt that it should be urged to them that they study the ways and means whereby their business can be made to depend on the port, and that they make the most of the facilities that are available in the most effective way to build up their transportation lines.

In the past it has been proverbial that Portland was the most cosmopolitan and easy-going community on the Pacific. Business houses here did not hesitate to buy from brokers that is through rival ports.

Business houses of the Puget Sound, however, will not patronize, as a rule, any establishment that does not use the transportation lines serving that port. The same may be said in large measure of Sacramento.

If this assumption is true it is apparent that the same policy for Portland will have to be created and in whatever way this may be attained the Trade and Commerce Bureau is going with all business of the vast territory back of this port to carry out the plan.

The Itinerant Merchant

Equally as injurious, if not more so, than the Eastern mail order house to the interests of local business men, is the itinerant merchant. He is nothing more than an up-to-date peddler. We write a real injury to the established business man, and there are not wanting instances where the patron of this fellow is badly victimized.

The city ordinances permit one to order by sample, but should the agent deliver the goods he is subject to a license fee. A decoy from the City Bureau of Licenses recently paid of these gypsy merchants \$20 for a piece of goods that was later able to duplicate in a local lot for \$7.

The itinerant merchant pays no taxes; pays no license; pays no rent; has no local pay; does not enrich, but rather drains the community. It has been suggested that there should be some sort of effort to break down these organizations and city authorities that will tolerate or entirely do away with these itinerant merchants.

The local tarpauling business man should be protected.

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favor to bidders. In order to facilitate bidding by local jobbers and manufacturers, the Bureau has secured these standards. It will keep these on file for reference for those interested.

not an 'opportune time to raise rates, in view of the fact that a fire prevention campaign was inaugurated April, that a school was organized for firemen, which they are instructed along the lines of fire protection and that there were no fire losses.

PUBLIC LIBRARY EFFICIENT HELP.

What the Public Library can do for the Business Men and Interests of the City of Portland, was presented to the Members' Council of the Chamber of Commerce last Monday noon by Miss Mary F. Isom, librarian, and Miss Vera M. Dixon, who is in charge of the Industrial and Engineering Department of the

2. Miss Mason stated briefly the cost of operating the Main Library and its various branches throughout the city of Portland and how the Library can be of special service to the business interests, was presented by Miss Green. She stated among other things that while it was very important to furnish books on the design of steel bridges it might be just as important to furnish books on the design of bridges of other materials.

[illegible]

And state reports on wood collection consists of a list of quantities of wood products and a statement to the Act to Regulate Commerce, regarding various fall of lading provisions thereby it has become necessary to hold further hearings.

Hearings will be held before Examiner Sam New York City, Jan. 24th, at Chicago, Feb. 1st, San Francisco, Feb. 14th, at New Orleans, Feb. 15th, and at Atlanta, Ga., Feb. 16th.

There will be taken up and considered a proposed by the Commerce Amendment affecting

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[illegible]

"THE INCOME TAX"
—AND—
"How to Fill in Your Tax Return"

Two full pages are devoted to an inside description of the new *Charles A. Hart* by the author, who is taken from *Nature's*, *The American*, *The Columbia*, *America's Greatest Highway*.

REGARDING INCREASE IN FIRE INSURANCE RATES.

Ray W. Stevens, Fire Marshal of the Portland Fire Department, has addressed a letter to the Chamber of Commerce relating to a number of matters of public interest. Regarding the increase of fire insurance rates in the city, Mr. Stevens states that the rates in the city are based on the

Will be explained and demonstrated to the Members of the Chamber by

Charles A. Hart

A recognized authority on the subject

E. L. THOMPSON, Chairman

Commerce News, the official publication of the Portland Chamber of
ty. This is done on The Journal's own initiative, and without char

FIRST OF TWO UNIQUE
DIPLOMATIC DINNERS

DIPLOMATIC DINNERS HELD AT WHITE HOUSE

Is First Time in History That
Only Part of Foreign Rep-

Washington, Jan. 22.—(U. S. S.)—

The president and Mrs. Wilson entertained last night at the first of the two diplomatic dinners at the White House. It was unique in that it was the first

time in the history of the White House that a dinner was given to only part of the diplomatic corps.

The representatives of the allied powers and the representatives of the neutral countries, with only a few ad-

ditional guests, made up the company of 89 which sat down to dinner at the horseshoe shaped table in the state dining room.

one being presented by the White House aide, Captain Richard P. Williams. At a given signal, the president escorted Mme. Jusserand, wife of the French ambassador, followed by

until relieved
Chocolate-Coated or Plain

An Austrian engineer has invented a pneumatic tire for motor vehicles

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