

### OREGON IN THE GOLD

NO GOOD COMMITTEE PLACES FOR CONGRESSMEN

For the first time in twenty-three years state has no representation on River and Harbor Bill—State Not Represented on Committee on Expositions—War With the Administration.

A Washington special, commenting on the relations between the Oregon delegation in congress and the administration, says:

"For the first time in twenty-three years Oregon finds itself without representation on at least one of the committees that handle the river and harbor bill, but to make matters worse, Oregon will have no representative on the house committee on industrial exposition, which is to handle the Lewis and Clark exposition bill.

Instead of securing rivers and harbors, which he sought, or insular affairs, which was offered him by Speaker Cannon only a few days ago, Congressman Hermann is given membership on the committees on Indian affairs and election of president, vice president and representative in congress, while Williamson is made a member of irrigation and mines and mining.

"There is an interesting story connected with Hermann's failure to go on insular affairs, after the offer made him by Speaker Cannon. When he learned that he was slated for insular affairs, and not the committee of his choice, Hermann consulted with his colleagues, with the result that the delegation resolved to make a last stand in the hope of forcing him on the river and harbor committee.

"It was said if the wishes of the state should be further ignored by the speaker of the house, and Hermann should be denied the one committee place most sought and of most advantage to Oregon, this adverse sentiment at home would be strengthened and the chances of carrying the state for the Republicans in the election next year might be materially lessened. In fact, it was stated that a continuance of the policy of ignoring the wishes of the people of Oregon would very likely prove disastrous in 1904.

"On the ground, the delegation appealed to the president to intercede with Speaker Cannon to secure for Hermann a place on the committee on rivers and harbors. The president, of course, took no hand in the matter, but a copy of the delegation's letter was sent to Speaker Cannon, with the result that Hermann, instead of getting a committee better than insular affairs, was given one of less import.

"For the first time in its history, state of Washington in the present congress far outranks Oregon in the committee places accorded its members. In the Fifty-eighth congress the Pacific Northwest has no representation on the public lands committee of the house, and will have little say in framing whatever legislation is attempted to correct the public land evils."

#### INDIANS CLOSE WAGON ROADS.

Lewiston People Agitated Over Closed Country Roads. Lewiston, Dec. 11.—The people here are much interested in the road question across the Indian allotments, and will lend all assistance to secure the right for the state to build such roads.

Several large allotments are located near Ho, and under the present laws the roads can be closed at the pleasure of the Indians. Some have availed themselves of their power and it is necessary to travel long distances to reach points that would be in close communication to the town if the roads were built on the section lines, as is the custom through the land owned by white people.

This portion of the prairie contains more Indian allotments than any other portion and many of the farmers living on the lands bordering the canyons are almost surrounded by Indian land.

When these Indian lands are all leased it will be very difficult for the settlers to reach the markets unless provisions are made for the building of roads through the Indian lands.

#### DESTROYING FRUIT PESTS.

Horticultural Commission of Washington After Infected Trees.

Spokane, Dec. 11.—Horticultural Commissioner Holderbeck left this morning for Republic, where he goes to take action against the railroads which refused to comply with his order to destroy some sprouts which were shipped into Republic. These sprouts, it is claimed, were diseased, and on that account were ordered destroyed.

On his return the commissioner will visit the fruit stands in this city and the policy is said to be to destroy all diseased fruit which is said to be sold in this city in great amounts.

It is hinted that a regular campaign will be commenced against all fruit stands where such fruit is being sold and extended from this to other cities.

#### Beet Sugar Culture.

Secretary Wilson, of the department of agriculture, reports satisfactory development of the beet sugar industry. In 1896, 29,220 tons of sugar were made, and a year ago 220,000 tons. Careful estimates put the present crop at about 260,000 tons. The growing of seed in the United States of a superior quality is assured. He concludes that the industry is now well established.

# COMMON

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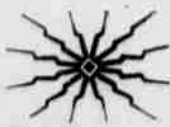
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