

FULTON IS HOME.

Junior Senator Tells How State Fared.

United States Senator Fulton reached Portland yesterday morning and remained in the city during the day. He was accompanied by Mrs. Fulton, and it was his intention to go to his home in Astoria today, says the Oregonian.

The senator is glad to return to Oregon for a short rest, and as much vacation as he can crowd in between the hours of his public work, which will pursue him even into his home. He is weary by the strenuous struggle made for the state's interest during the last session of Congress, and has not forgotten the battle over the Celilo Canal and Columbia River appropriations, nor the various other skirmishes through which he has gone; but in spite of it all he is in waiting for other struggles to come, and has mapped out a campaign for future sessions. Added appropriations for river and harbor work, new laws to assist in the irrigation and reclamation schemes of the reclamation department, and general legislation will take up a large part of the time, and efforts of the junior Senator from the state when he again goes back to his post at Washington.

The senator sat in his room at the Imperial yesterday afternoon and gazed thoughtfully at the people in the street below.

"I don't know," he began, "that I can say anything of interest, that is, anything the people do not already know. Everything I have been interested in at the last session has been of such importance to the people of the state that nearly all of the details have been printed time and again.

"It is known to all," continued the speaker, "that there was a hard fight over the Celilo Canal appropriation. At first it was the intention of Mr. Burton, chairman of the rivers and harbors committee, to leave the canal out of consideration. That was combatted by Mr. Williamson and myself, and then it was suggested that there would have to be a choice between the Columbia River jetty and the canal, but neither Mr. Williamson nor myself would agree to this. In the end the appropriation of \$300,000 was given, which, though small, is better than nothing, and pledges the Government to completion of the canal. It would have been better to have secured the appropriation on a continuing contract, but that was not possible under the circumstances and conditions. The situation now stands that the Government is pledged to give something to the canal every time the harbor appropriation bill is passed, but this bill is sometimes not passed. I wanted to get the appropriation under the sundry civil bill, which is passed at each session. If I am able to do that it will insure the earliest possible completion of the canal.

"I think that Oregon fared very well in regard to her appropriations," continued the senator, "for she received more recognition in proportion to her population than any of the other states

"There is one thing I want to say," added Mr. Fulton, "and that is that I wanted to get more recognition for other projects. The Willamette River between Portland and Salem, and Salem and Albany; the Coos Bay and other places needed money, but it was impossible to get it under the conditions. I hope and think it will be possible later, however, and will make an attempt at the next Congress."

Then Mr. Fulton told of the prospects of irrigation in the state. He takes a little more optimistic view of the situation than did Mr. Williamson when he returned from Washington, but this is perhaps due to the developments of the past few weeks.

"The Klamath project is in good shape," said the senator, "and will be completed by the Government. Some very encouraging legislation has been secured as affecting that project. Permission has been given to drain the lakes and also to use that portion of the beds left dry by recession of the water.

"The Malheur scheme is looking brighter than it did," continued the speaker. "Heretofore the attitude of the Willamette Valley and Cascade Mountain Wagon Road Company has stood in the way of the Government. This company has at least 30,000 acres of the land comprised in the proposed irrigation tract and has refused to agree to the terms proposed by the Government. I introduced a bill in the Senate providing for the condemnation of lands for irrigation, but it was defeated on constitutional grounds. However, I think that it was not constitutionally defective, as do many of the great lawyers of the Senate. Even Senator Spooner, one of the recognized authorities, modified his objections towards the last. The bill is needed not only in Oregon, but in other states as well, and I think I will be able to have it passed at some future session.

"I want to say here," further remarked the senator, "that C. E. S. Wood, attorney for the Wagon Road Company, has done all in his power, in loyalty to his employers, to assist the people in influencing the company to do what is best for all. I think his efforts and the threatened legislation together have had a beneficial effect, for it now appears that the company is willing to retreat and that some concession will be made.

The Harney county and the Umatilla county projects were also in better shape than for some time, according to the senator. Experts from the Reclamation Bureau were now in the field and it is thought that it will be possible to irrigate both sections.

"Have you," as the Oregon delegation, and the President, decided upon any of the appointments which were waiting to be made?" the senator was asked, but he smiled a negative smile.

"I don't think we have settled them yet," he said, "or continued them. There is a supposition," he continued, "that there will be a Register and Receiver to appoint for the Roseburg Land Office, but I do not know what foundation there is for the rumor. The office is now closed pending investigation,

while Booth and Bridges are suspended."

"If the officials were indicted by the Federal grand jury, would the suspension be turned to dismissal?" was the next question.

"I do not know," was the answer, "but I should suppose so. The office is now closed to business and should indictments be returned it would be closed for an indefinite time if the indicted officials were not removed. I should therefore think that the new officers would be appointed."

"Is the supposition so general that you have seen any people hunting for the jobs?"

The senator smiled an audible smile. "Well, I have heard," he said, "that there are a number of aspirants for the places." Speaking of land offices, Senator, have you heard anything of the story that the Oregon City Land Office is to be moved to Portland?"

"I have heard nothing directly, though I have heard it rumored that the President had ordered the change. A year ago the question was agitated on two grounds, the first that it would be cheaper to have the office in the Federal building in Portland, the second that it would be more convenient. At that time both Senator Mitchell and myself recommended against the change and the subject was dropped. Since that I have heard nothing of it until today, and then nothing definitely."

"Have you heard anything about the alleged investigation of the United States Marshal's office?" the senator was asked.

"I don't think there is anything in the story," was the reply. "It is the practice to have all the Federal offices inspected at certain times, and if there is an inspector in the district it is for routine work, I think. When I left Washington it was the understanding that Mr. Matthews should not be disturbed."

Then the Senator in conclusion, told of the wonderful interest taken in the Exposition throughout the East. He also announced that Secretary Shaw would be present at the opening of the Fair and would be the personal representative of the President, who could not be able to come. Other members of the Cabinet had also promised to visit the Exposition during its course.

Big Order For Flour.

Minneapolis, March 15.—Japanese flour orders continue to pour in upon Minneapolis millers at a rate exceeding all expectations. The past week has brought in calls for consignments ranging from 5,000 to 20,000 sacks.

One bit company states that it is 30 days behind on Japanese orders, with every mill running at its maximum capacity. Other companies report like conditions.

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Heppner Gazette—Weekly Oregonian.

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