

THE RAILROAD ELECTION.

The history of the Astoria and South Coast Railroad company's business for several months has been a succession of disappointing postponements. But yesterday the spell was broken by the election of a new board of directors, in which the name of William Reid does not appear.

Exactly what the board will do, would of course be unwise to predict, but it is believed that arrangements will be made to buy in the claim of J. H. Smith, to morrow, and so secure control of the bonds that are held as security for the same, as a preliminary to further action.

The railroad situation is at that point where inactivity and inaction like waiting for something to turn up can not be tolerated.

No doubt the old board of directors did the best thing they knew how under the circumstances by doing mostly nothing but wait, but that policy has run its course, and must be superseded by one more practical and aggressive in its nature.

It is to be hoped, and it is believed, that the gentlemen composing the new board may be able to harmonize their interests to such an extent as to co-operate in some plan that will insure active railroad construction at an early date.

Without a railroad, the people of this city are, figuratively speaking, in a hole, and the man who would not make an effort to lift himself out deserves to be hoisted out.

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