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How can the Oregonian expect to impress impartial readers with the merit of its side of the Astoria controversy when it persistently ignores in its own utterances the real point at issue, and deliberately seeks to cultivate a prejudice against Astoria by the continuous reprint of expressions from certain misinformed state papers and other sources, which it knows to be ignorant or malicious, tending to misrepresent the attitude of Astoria people on the question of river improvements? If the Astorian has ever published its line in opposition to upper river improvements, or if the Oregonian knows of an expression from any Astoria citizen, however irresponsible, fairly open to such construction, will the Oregonian please reproduce it? In all kindness, the Astorian can say to the Oregonian that its method of carrying on the present discussion does not comport well with its claimed reputation for candor and honesty in the treatment of important public questions.

A misunderstanding prevails as to the object of the conference held in Portland on Tuesday between the officers of the O. R. & N. Company and a committee of Astoria citizens. The appointment was not for the purpose of discussing the common point question in its entirety, as was generally assumed. Representatives of the lumber interests in Astoria simply met with the O. R. & N. officials for a consultation regarding the alleged discrimination against Astoria in eastern lumber shipments. The grain rate question was not under consideration and was not intended to be. No one will gain any representative capacity or qualification of the committee which met Mr. Mohler to present any issue involved either in the actual subject matter of the meeting, or pertaining generally to Astoria's interests. It is hoped shortly that the O. R. & N. Company may see it to its advantage to invite an expression of opinion from Astoria on the whole common point question, and in that event pains should and doubtless will be taken to see that a committee as fully capable is appointed to present Astoria's side of that controversy.

THE ASTORIA COMMON POINT. The Oregonian is not discussing the common point question fairly. In one issue it says that the subject is one for the railroads to settle. In another issue it says river transportation between Portland and Astoria is cheaper than rail. In still another, that a common point would benefit Astoria if extended here, because that would leave Portland an interior place, which would command a less rate still. Now suppose Portland did get a lower rate than the common point rate, would that be any harm to the state? The Astorian thinks not; but that is not the point at issue. The matter at issue just now is shall there be a fair field for competition between the port-or ports, if the Oregonian will have it that way—the Columbia river and the Sound.

Common point has nothing to do with the cost between Portland and Astoria. The ends of railroads on the seaboard are called common points and have the same rate, irrespective of distance. Tacoma, Seattle and Portland were given the same rate on freight from certain interior points, because each was at the end of a road and a deep water shipping point. Astoria was not included because the transportation companies said (they being rail) that they could not include water lines. At that time Astoria had no railroad. Now it has, and this road runs into the same depot with all roads entering Portland, so that it completes an all rail line from all interior rail points on Oregon and Washington to the seaboard on the Columbia river, and right on the Pacific ocean.

versa from the interior points, yet the distance between Seattle and Tacoma is about 41 miles. It is said that the Northern Pacific even hauled grain from these two ports to Portland last winter, a distance of 137 and 146 miles, respectively, for nothing.

The transcontinental roads are now hauling hops from Chicago to New York—2,600 miles—for nothing, or in consideration of the carriage they get from the Pacific coast states to Chicago. That is, the rate from the interior point to the common point on the Atlantic seaboard is the same irrespective of distance or grades. The question of cost to the road is not considered, the rate charged is what concerns the producer.

There is no good reason why the common point to the mouth of the Columbia river should not be given to the farmers of Oregon and Washington. They are entitled to it, if it is to the interest of Portland; and the Oregonian, having the welfare of the state at heart, should use all efforts to obtain that rate for Astoria. One million of dollars per year to the farmers on one item of produce is a large sum, and will greatly affect the general business of a large city situated at the edge of the great district, as Portland is.

The Oregonian admits that it costs something to get the ship to Portland. If, then, the common point was at the mouth of the river, the farmer would save that something at least. Then were Portland to get a lower rate so as to make it cheaper to land a vessel at Portland, would not the farmer be more the gainer?

The struggle for commerce as concerns the Columbia basin is not between Astoria and Portland, but between the Sound and the Columbia river. It costs the railroads no more to haul down the Columbia river to its mouth than across the mountains to the Sound. Why then should they have a local rate from Portland added to the common point rate?

The reason may be that the Sound roads control the O. R. & N. Company and will not allow it to carry on equal terms with the roads running to the Sound ports, thus giving the Columbia river the benefit of its natural advantages. If this be the true explanation, then the whole state of Oregon and the Columbia river basin should rise up and see to it that sufficient pressure is brought to bear to change that influence and obtain the advantages nature has offered to the producers of the Columbia river basin.

It is the early days of the settlement of the West, the newspapers frequently contained stories of the hardships and sufferings, and sometimes the death of the new settlers who were lost in the blizzards. The man or woman who is frozen to death in a winter's storm and whose bones are scattered in the snow, is a sad sight. It is now known to be distinctly curable. Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery cures 95 per cent of all cases of consumption, bronchitis, asthma, laryngitis and diseases of the air-passages. It has stood the test for thirty years. It acts directly on the blood, nourishing it with the life-giving qualities of the food. It tears down old, half-dead tissues and builds up new ones in all parts of the body. Through the blood it acts directly on the lungs, driving out all impurities and disease germs. It soothes the cough, but facilitates expectoration. It keeps the breathing apparatus free from mucus, and facilitates the flow of digestive juices, invigorates the liver and tones and builds up the system. It is the great blood-maker and flesh-builder. It does not make flabby flesh like cod liver oil, but firm, muscular, healthy tissues.

AN OPEN LETTER TO MOTHERS.

WE ARE ASSERTING IN THE COURTS OUR RIGHT TO THE EXCLUSIVE USE OF THE WORD "CASTORIA" AND "PITCHER'S CASTORIA," AS OUR TRADEMARK. I, DR. SAMUEL PITCHER, of Hyannis, Massachusetts, was the originator of "CASTORIA," the name that has borne and does now bear "CASTORIA" on every the fac-simile signature of the wrapper. This is the original "CASTORIA" which has been used in the homes of the Mothers of America for over thirty years. LOOK CAREFULLY at the wrapper and see that it is the kind you have always bought on the and has the signature of Dr. Samuel Pitcher on the wrapper. No one has authority from me to use my name except The Centaur Company, of which Chas. H. Fletcher is President. March 24, 1898.

Do not endanger the life of your child by accepting a cheap substitute which some druggist may offer you (because he makes a few more pennies on it), the ingredients of which even he does not know. "The Kind You Have Always Bought" BEARS THE SIGNATURE OF



Some one has exported a ton of Irish turf for an Irish fair at San Francisco. That the blood should perform its vital functions, it is absolutely necessary it should not only be pure but rich in life-giving elements. These results are best effected by the use of that well-known standard blood purifier, Ayer's Sarsaparilla. A line soldier in England costs \$275 a year, and even then, says a writer in Blackwood, he is often a mere boy or an invalid or weakly man.

THE BEST SALVE in the world for Cuts, Bruises, Sores, Ulcers, Salt Rheum, Fever sores, Tetter, Chapped Hands, Chilblains, Corns and all Skin Eruptions, and positively cures Piles, or no pay required. It is guaranteed to give perfect satisfaction or money refunded. Price 25 cents per box. For sale by Estes-Corn Drug Co.

THE PIONEER LIMITED. Is the name of the only perfect train in the world, now running every night between St. Paul and Chicago, via the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul railway—the center route of the west in adding all improved facilities for the safety and enjoyment of passengers. An illustrated pamphlet, showing views of beautiful scenery along the route of the Pioneer Limited, will be sent free to any person upon receipt of two-cent postage stamp. Address: George H. Heafford, General Passenger Agent, Chicago, Ill.

CASTORIA For Infants and Children. Bears the Signature of Charles H. Fletcher. The benches of the inner temple of London contemplates acquiring the old premises at the north side of Hare Court, Temple, so long known as Dick's coffee house, for the purpose of erecting new chambers thereon.

CASTORIA. The Kind You Have Always Bought. Bears the Signature of Charles H. Fletcher. A startling incident, of which Mr. John Oliver of Philadelphia was the subject, is narrated by him as follows: "I was in a most dreadful condition. My skin was almost yellow, eyes sunken, tongue coated, pain continually in back and sides, no appetite—gradually growing weaker day by day. Three physicians had given me up. Fortunately a friend advised trying 'Electric Bitters,' and to my great joy and surprise the first bottle made a decided improvement. I continued their use for three weeks, and am now a well man. I know they saved my life, and robbed the grave of another victim." No one should fail to try them.

CASTORIA. The Kind You Have Always Bought. Bears the Signature of Charles H. Fletcher. The Rev. W. B. Cheney, of Stockbridge, Ga., while attending to his pastoral duties at Decatur, Ga., was attacked by cholera morbus. He says: "My chance I happened to get hold of a bottle of Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy, and I think it was the means of saving my life. It relieved me in five minutes." For sale by Charles Rogers, Druggist.

OREGON STATE NORMAL SCHOOL. Monmouth, Oregon. A TRAINING SCHOOL FOR TEACHERS. Regular Normal Course of three years. Superior practical professional training. Training department of nine grades with 300 children. Instruction and training in German, Swedish, French, and Spanish. Music for public schools. The Normal diploma is recognized by law as a STATE LIFE LICENSE. Tuition, books, board and lodging (approximately) \$135.00 per year. Students boarding themselves, \$10.00 per year. Academic grades accepted from high schools. Catalogues cheerfully sent on application. Address: P. L. CAMPBELL, President, or W. A. WANN, Secretary of Board.

Kopp's "Best" A DELICIOUS DRINK... AND ABSOLUTELY PURE. The North Pacific Brewery, of which Mr. John Kopp is proprietor, makes beer for domestic and export trade. Bottled beer for family use or keg beer supplied at any time. Delivery is the city free. NORTH PACIFIC BREWERY. Columbia River and Puget Sound Navigation Company.

WHITE COLLAR LINE. Columbia River and Puget Sound Navigation Company. Leaves Astoria daily except Saturday at 10 a. m. Leaves Portland daily except Sunday at 7 a. m. White Collar Line tickets interchangeable on Bailey Gatzert, T. J. Porter and R. N. Thompson for Astoria and all way points, Flavel, Duwaco, Seaview, Long Beach, and Nshobuta. C. W. STONE, Astoria Agent. U. R. SCOTT, Portland Agent. Telephone No. 11.

Go East... via Billings and the Burlington route, and you reach Omaha, Kansas City, St. Louis, and all other southern and southeastern cities half a day sooner than travelers who take any other line. Go east via St. Paul and the Burlington route, and you ride on the finest train on earth—the Burlington's St. Paul—Chicago Limited. Go east via Ogden and Denver, and you see the wonderful scenery of the Rockies, famed the world over as the most magnificent on the continent. Tickets at offices of connecting lines. A. C. SHELDON.

Through Tickets TO THE EAST AND SOUTHEAST VIA UNION PACIFIC OVERLAND ROUTE. PULLMAN PALACE SLEEPERS, TOURIST SLEEPERS and FREE RECLINING CHAIR CARS. Salt Lake, Denver, Omaha, Chicago, Kansas City, and other Eastern cities. Baggage checked through to destination. Union Depots, fast time, lowest rates. Patch light in all cars. For rates and other information call on or address G. W. LOUNSBERRY, Agent, O. R. & N. Co., Astoria, Oregon. J. H. LOTHROP, Gen. Agent, 125 Third St., cor. Alder, Portland, Or.

CASTORIA. The Kind You Have Always Bought. Bears the Signature of Charles H. Fletcher. Notice of Intention of the Common Council of the City of Astoria to improve that portion of eighth street lying between seventh and eighth streets and extending from the plankings on the north side of the street to the plankings on the south side of the street, by grading said eighth street to its full width, to the established grade thereof, and by planking same to a width of sixteen feet on each side of the center thereof, and constructing gutters, curbing and sidewalks on each side thereof, said improvement to be constructed in accordance with Ordinance 1991 of said City, and the cost thereof to be defrayed by special assessment upon the lots and premises fronting and abutting upon, adjacent to and otherwise benefited by said improvement, which lots, lands and premises are, for the purposes of said district hereafter to be called "The Harrison Avenue Improvement District," and same shall embrace the following described property, to-wit: Lots 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100.

CASTORIA. The Kind You Have Always Bought. Bears the Signature of Charles H. Fletcher. Notice of Intention of the Common Council of the City of Astoria to improve that portion of eighth street lying between grand avenue and Harrison Avenue, from Grand Avenue to Harrison Avenue, and same shall embrace the following described property to-wit: Lots 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100.

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THE PROOF IS IN SAMPLING. There's an argument that's conclusive—a demonstration. Ours will stand the test. HUGHES & CO. GUBER'S GUARANTEED PURE GUINNESS. These tiny capsules are superior to Balsam of Capivi, Cubebs or injections and CURE IN 48 HOURS. Sold by Druggists.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS. WANTED. WANTED IMMEDIATELY. A GOOD girl, Apply Mrs. Bannett, corner 2nd and Third streets. WANTED. A COMPETENT SUTHER girl. Apply at Stevens boarding house. FOR RENT. A FURNISHED HOUSE centrally located. Address F. Astorian office. FOR RENT. FOR RENT—DELIABLE ROOMS. Apartments. Goodman Building. FOR RENT—GOOD HOUSE AND BARN had four acres of land, near Clatsop Ferry station, known as the Clatsop Place. Apply to A. Tug, 45 Commercial St., City.

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Mott's Nerve Pills. The remedy for nervous prostration, falling off, mental depression, Nightly Embrace to Consumption and Insanity, which are cured by Mott's Nerve Pills. \$1.00. MOTT'S MEDICAL CO., Prop., Cleveland, Ohio.