

# WHY SEATTLE IS INTERESTED IN BEND

Much of the capital invested in Bend is Seattle capital; and every day more and more Seattle people are investing here. Why is this? What do these men see here to attract them? How does Bend look to the eye of a Seattle business man? These questions were recently asked of a Seattle business man, and this was his reply:

"The question is propounded just at a time when an Eastern magazine is printing two pictures of Oklahoma City. One, taken recently, shows a modern city in every particular, with a population of 65,000 or more. The other, taken twenty years ago on the same spot, shows six wooden buildings and a water-tank, beside a line of rails and telegraph poles.

"Oklahoma City stands in the midst of a level prairie, without scenery, with one little river that goes dry in summer, no timber, no irrigation, no topography to control or direct the construction of railroads, no water-power, no climate to recommend it, no anything except wheat and corn land.

"Look at the picture!" And the Seattle man thrust it into the writer's hand. He continued: "I will not insult you by asking if you have ever been on top of your own particular hill, Pilot Butte, because I think I see signs of intelligence in your features; but I asked the same question of another Bend man recently and he said that it was a stiff climb, and he

had never been to the top. It makes me sick!

"I will take it for granted that you have been to the top of Pilot Butte. Well, what did you see there? If you climbed the butte one year ago, you saw a town surrounded by trees, a town that has since grown to probably 2000. Two railroads were there already. Beyond the town to the west were pine forests containing some twenty billion feet. Running through the town was the greatest power stream in the West, capable of producing 250,000 horsepower close at hand and 800,000 horsepower in its entire length. Your own state engineer furnishes the figures. Did you ever see them before?

"Beyond the town and the forests, did you notice a little range of snow-covered mountains known as the Cascades? Do you know that such scenery, in a country where they have 329 days with sunshine every year, is an asset? The tourist who goes to points on the other side of that range, who comes right here to Seattle, for instance, often stays several days without seeing a mountain. Tourists even go to the inn, away up on the side of Mount Rainier, stay two or three days and never see the mountain. Tourists will soon learn that they will not be disappointed when they visit your town. Even the mountains are accommodating.

"Are your summers hot? No? Are your winters cold? No? Do you

have dust storms and high winds? Yes, I know you had one dust storm once, which you will remember as long as you live. The dust came from 156 miles away. Quite a curiosity, wasn't it?

"Now turn around, and look in the other direction, away from the town. What are those shining, crooked lines that run here and there all over the level sage-land? Irrigation ditches? Well, how many acres do they supply with water? Two hundred and fifty thousand? Good gracious, is that all? Oh, there is probably as much more that will be irrigated? Well, what lies beyond those irrigated and irrigable lands? Dry farming land? How much? Ten million acres, do you say? Do you know that these figures, both acreage and production, are furnished by the greatest living authority on the subject? You do? Shake! Well, we up here in Seattle know these things too. We also know that the same man who furnished those figures is now at work in Central Oregon. We also know what he did in Montana. Two years ago Montana produced practically no wheat, and largely because of this man's work, Montana produced this year 25,000,000 bushels. That means in round figures \$25,000,000.

"Suppose he does no better in Central Oregon, where he has several times as much material to work with, a country of which he says: 'It will produce more than twice as much as is now being produced by the entire Pacific Northwest, and will become one of the famous wheat producing sections of the world.' Where will that immense volume of wheat be milled? Where it is grown, and must be ground by steam power? Never. It will go to cheap power, even if it has to go uphill; but it will not go uphill if it can go down. All of this producing area, east, south-

east, south, will roll its product down hill to the nearest and cheapest power and that is at Bend. You will have a flour milling center not equaled anywhere unless at Minneapolis.

"And the same thing holds good to your timber. Every foot of it can and likely will roll down hill to your cheap power. So also with all the products of your irrigated farms. All this is also true of your immense salt, soda and potash deposits, which we up here in Seattle expect will produce between 6000 and 12,000 carloads annually, beginning with the year 1913. Even those products which do not stop at Bend must feed to and through your town, and that means an immense city.

"When the eyes of Seattle investors first turned toward your region, they did not need to leave their desks to see that you would grow into one of the greatest cities in the West. In the center of the great state of Oregon, with the Cascades running north and south to the immediate west of you, and with the Blue mountains forming an impenetrable barrier to commerce to the northeast, and your town exactly in the mouth of this narrow valley, down which your products could roll without steam all the way from your cheap power to the sea, while all the products of your forests and your vast agricultural lands could and must roll to that same cheap power, in converging lines. All the Seattle investor had to do was to look at a map. It was a cinch!

"You say you want this interview for a Seattle edition of your paper, in which you expect to print some comparative pictures showing the growth of Seattle; and the subscriber to your paper who has never climbed Pilot Butte while living at the foot of it will ask you what your Seattle comparisons signify. Seattle, he will tell you, is a seaport, and the resources of a seaport are not to be estimated:

they are the resources of the whole world; and the proportion received at any given port will be governed by the safety and size of its harbor, the amount of hungry and productive population back of it, the hospitality of its people to foreign capital and commerce, and the energy and foresight of its citizens in soliciting foreign trade. All of which is very true; and he will say that the growth of Seattle is no criterion by which to estimate the growth of Bend.

"You can afford to ignore these chronic pessimists. They are the men who, in their old age, tell with tears in their eyes of the 'good old times' when they traded the site of Chicago for an old white horse.

"Name one city in the United States that, when it was as young as Bend, had the resources possessed by your town." The writer tried hard to do so, but could not. "No, sir, you cannot! Now, resources make a city just as certainly as grains of wheat, thrown one by one into a bushel basket, will fill the basket, just as surely as boards, piled one by one, will make a lumber pile; and you have one of the largest baskets and one of the biggest lumber piles in the world.

"You have the resources to make the largest inland city in the West, and while you can never catch up with Seattle, with her fine harbor the nearest in this country to the world's densest population, just awakening to modern civilization, the untold and unnumbered variety of products that will issue from the factories that will group themselves around your cheap power, and your natural resources, many of which will be changed into marketable form by that same power, will find their way to these same foreign countries; and combined with your own wonderful resources which Seattle lacks, the same forces that have built Seattle into a great city

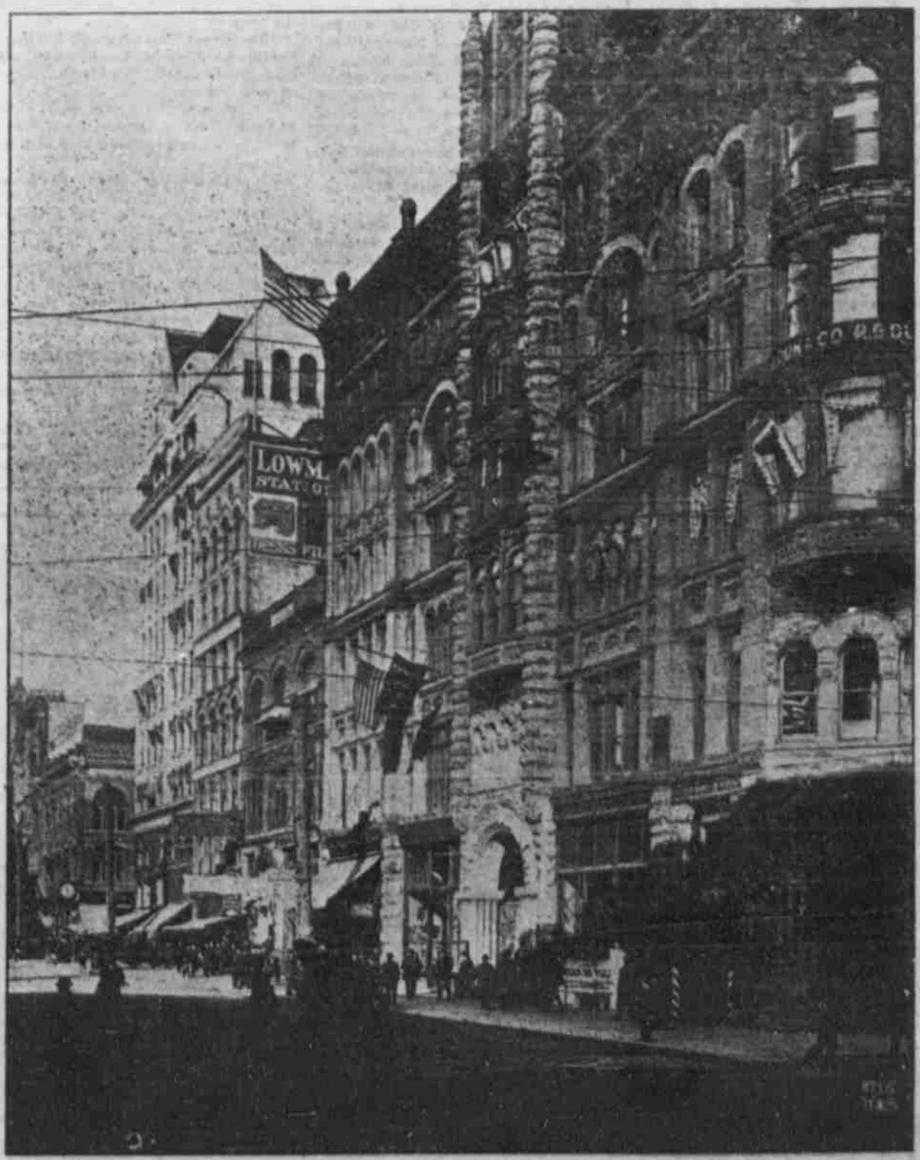
and will build Seattle into a city of a million people, will just as inevitably build Bend into the largest inland city of the West. Neither will you ever catch up with Portland; and it will be your own fault that you do not; because the same resources which, feeding into and through Bend, will make yours a great city, you will in turn feed into and through Portland. Portland will wake up to the fact some day that the town of Bend is her greatest external resource.

"Given such resources, and with a map before us showing that all of them must flow into one town, we people of Seattle, with the growth of our own city and the simultaneous growth of our experience, have no difficulty in seeing what a great city, and with your high altitude, scenery and sunshine, what a beautiful city, yours is certain to be in twenty years; and with pictures before your people to show what Seattle has done in the same length of time, they, too, should be able to see what is going to happen to them; and many of them will see and will take advantage of their great opportunity. No man living in Bend today, if he is still living there twenty or even ten years from now, has any excuse for not being in comfortable financial circumstances.

"And yet we people of Seattle know from long and exasperating experience that a surprisingly large number of people are constitutionally and willfully blind. It is only men of imagination and men who are interested in the great, big, healthy game of building this country and developing its resources, who can accomplish much in the modern business world. But many people, unfortunately, are not blessed with imagination. Given a collapsed balloon they cannot imagine what it will look

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## These Pictures Tell the Story of Seattle's Great Growth



SECOND AVENUE, LOOKING NORTH—AS IT WAS 24 YEARS AGO AND IT IS NOW.

VIEW AT FIRST AND YESLER—22 YEARS AGO AND AT PRESENT.