

# COAST MAIL.

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### "EGREGIOUS INGRATITUDE"

Under the above heading the Oregonian of the 22nd devotes half a column of its valuable editorial space to the Coast Mail and Coos Bay and the general casualness of both, in not being properly grateful for blessings received—and tendered.

Part of this is in defense of the Columbia river and of Congressman Tongue for his efforts in behalf of an appropriation therefor. Mr. Tongue needs no defense for his action in doing what he can for the Columbia river. There is no jealousy of the Columbia river among Coos Bay people. Even were the Columbia river merely an adjunct of Portland, as the Oregonian considers it, Coos

Bay would still be friendly to its improvement, of which it is badly in need. The Oregonian repeats the fiction that the last appropriation for Coos Bay was at the rate of \$1.50 a ton of the commerce of this port, although the figures given in its own New Years edition disprove the assertion. They show that our commerce in 1901 amounted to 134,634 tons. The figures for 1900 were somewhat larger, but even on this basis the rate would be \$1.10 instead of \$1.50. Even to make the fictitious showing, the Oregonian is obliged to compare the Columbia river appropriation of the present bill with the Coos Bay appropriation of the last one. Why doesn't it use the Coos Bay figures of the present bill as it left the River and Harbor committee—about 7 1/2 cents, or as raised in the Senate to about 55 cents?

Further along the Oregonian pathetically remarks:  
"It is unfortunate for Coos Bay that its public sentiment is out of harmony with the rest of the state, enough so to justify one of its newspapers in making this attack upon Portland and the Columbia River. Strenuous efforts have been made here to enlist the co-operation of the people of Coos Bay in binding that region more closely to the people and the commerce of the state to which it belongs. But without appreciable success. The affiliation of the Bay is mostly with San Francisco, and the apparent desire is to continue it. Portland is proud of the rich country drained by Coos Bay, and wishes that its overtures there were more kindly received."

"Doubtless the operation of a railroad connecting Marshfield with Portland is the only thing that will make Coos Bay actually as it is nominally a part of Oregon. The efforts which Oregon men have put forth and which have resulted in the jetty there and the present channel, have only served to facilitate trade between Coos Bay and San Francisco." It may be "unfortunate" for Portland that Coos Bay doesn't have to depend on that city except in the matters of taxes and politics. Had we been obliged to wait on Portland enterprise or Portland capital for the development of our resources, this region would still be a howling wilderness. The "strenuous efforts" to which the Oregonian so feelingly refers, have consisted of invitations to put up money, directly or indirectly for the privilege of trading with Portland, together with patronizing assurances that this privilege would be a priceless boon to Coos Bay.

Let the Oregonian point out one instance in which Portland has done any thing for Coos Bay. When has a dollar of Portland capital been expended in the development of the resources of this section? Even steamboat communication with Portland is supplied by San Francisco capital.

We are getting a specimen of Portland's "strenuous efforts" right now, in the spectacle of Portland parties trying to get Coos county people to put up money for a steamer to ply between the two ports—until such time as she would pass through the courts and Coos county ownership in her would be wiped out.

At the same time, a gentleman comes quietly up from San Francisco and secures a site for a ship yard, which he will establish as a permanent and valuable addition to the industry of the Bay—and he doesn't ask our people to guarantee anything nor to put up a cent. Yet the Oregonian is grieved and mystified, that "the affiliation of the Bay is mostly with San Francisco and the apparent desire is to continue it."

Talk is cheap. Interviews and communications in the Oregonian, painting

the Coos Bay country in glowing colors, and telling what a mighty fine thing it would be for this section could it establish closer relations with Portland, may be the Portland idea of strenuous efforts but her ideas will have to undergo a change before she will ever do much business with Coos Bay.

Portland's "overtures" will be "more kindly received" whenever they are of a nature to merit it. But Portland may as well understand that Coos Bay is not on the anxious seat, so far as trading with Portland is concerned. We are doing very well as it is, and it is for Portland, not Coos Bay, to offer inducements.

And the Oregonian is respectfully informed that it can tell the people here nothing they do not know about the attitude of Portland toward the Coos Bay jetty. We are likely to remain egregiously ungrateful on that score.

### THE CONFLICT IN DEMOCRATIC COUNCILS.

If the talk that is now going on in political centers is a good indication, it may be taken to disclose the fact that the Democratic party is a little farther away from harmony than it was when the Chicago convention of 1901 was in progress. The great question which occupies the minds of Democratic statesmen just now is how to elect a Democratic president in 1904. Not one of them but recognizes that in the discussions of Republicans over current political questions lie great opportunities, but no two leaders of the opposing Democratic factions agree as to the proper method of taking advantage of the situation, and every one of them appears most solicitous about thwarting the designs of all others. Cleveland, though not actively a leader, represents something of the old Democracy, and has been writing, Bryan has been visiting, Hill has been orating, and Gorman has been burrowing, and the outcome of it all is that there is an impassable gulf dividing these four Democratic stalwarts, which prevents their getting together on either candidates or platform for 1904.—Argonaut.

### HERMAN IS NOT BARRED

There is a disposition among some Republicans to bar Binger Herman, former congressman from this district, from the race for the senatorship.

The Journal has not always agreed with Mr. Hermann, but it believes that harmony in the party is not possible along the line of barring out any Republican.

If the state convention had seen fit to nominate a candidate for senator to submit to a popular vote, and had named Mr. Hermann, he would have received as large a popular vote as any man in the state.

As a choice of Republicans will again become an apple of discord, he has as much right to enter the scramble as any man, and the state might do worse than have Binger Hermann elected.—Capital Journal.

### GEER REPLIES TO HARVEY SCOTT

In a letter to the Oregonian Gov. Geer says:

It has been frequently charged that I am no politician, an accusation which I have never been disposed to deny. I may be pardoned for adding that I do not desire to acquire that accomplishment, as long as it implies an ability to fathom the mysteries of Multnomah county politics and to keep perfect pace

with its kaleidoscope panorama of shifting scenes. The man who is your friend this year may be your bitterest enemy next, although your first notification of the change is the onslaught.

What is nourishing food at one time is quite likely to be destructive poison at another, and that, too, without any change in condition, whatever, so far as an outside Republican in the hayseed ranks can discern.

Public questions of large import and the public welfare are lost sight of, the only one being who is best equipped to survive the premeditated onset of the campaign vilification. The factional fight in Multnomah county dominates Oregon politics so completely that a campaign is not a contest between Republicans. Principle is lost sight of in the struggle for personal supremacy. The situation is not inspiring to one who would be glad to be free from it all, and to work toward higher ideals.

The Portland Journal argues that if Oregon were not considered so solidly in the Republican column, this state might receive more attention from congress in the matter of appropriations. Isn't that as bad as "putting the dollar above the man?"

Edward M. Shepard, recently defeated for mayor of New York, says the Democratic party will win in 1904 "if true to its principles." When asked to define them Mr. Shepard said they will be given in the next Democratic platform. A party that has no principles between campaigns is in bad shape.—Globe Democrat.

### TIMBER LAND, ACT JUNE 3, 1878. NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION.

United States Land Office, Roseburg, Oregon, Apr. 26, 1902.

Notice is hereby given that in compliance with the provisions of the act of Congress of June 3, 1878, entitled "An act for the sale of timber lands in the States of California, Oregon, Nevada, and Washington Territory," as extended to all the Public Land States by act of August 4, 1892, HAROLD C. STEVENS, of Cleveland, county of Douglas, State of Oregon, has this day filed in this office his sworn statement No. 2291 for the purchase of the South half of the North half of Sec. No. 24, township 25, South, Range No. 10 West, and will offer proof to show that the land sought is more valuable for its timber or stone than for agricultural purposes, and to establish his claim to said land to

fore the Register and Receiver of this office at Roseburg, Oregon, on Saturday, the 9th day of August, 1902.

He names as witnesses: Charles Thom, John Thom, of Cleveland, Oregon; H. P. Thomas, A. V. Frost, of Roseburg, Oregon.

Any and all persons claiming adversely the above-described lands are requested to file their claims in this office on or before said 9th day of August, 1902.

J. T. BRIDGES, Register.

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