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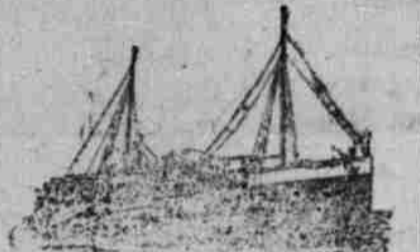
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EDITORIAL

A PORTLAND VIEW

There will be a railroad to Coos Bay before very long. It will come, apparently, from the south. What next?

It will cross the mountains into the Rogue river valley. And then? Why, then we can travel to Coos Bay in a Pullman coach, if we have the price. That will be about all the benefit we will get in Portland out of the development that will come to Coos Bay through the railroad.

Connection will be made with south and central Oregon; there will be a big belt line of railroads encompassing everything south of Eugene, Tygh valley and Ukiah out of Portland's commercial jurisdiction.

Not only so, but the whole coast trade up to Tillamook will be taken south, even as most of it is now, only that trade will increase tenfold in perhaps ten or fifteen years.

Such is the prospect, while we sit and dream of greatness, allow railroad corporations to run the general and state governments, submit to their dictation and domination, and pay most of our attention to the arduous work of "rolling up" a tremendous majority for this or that party or politician.

While we are busy hurrahing the moss keeps growing without a particle of noise.—Portland Journal.

While the above will probably be regarded in Portland as an alarmist view of the situation, there is a great deal more truth than poetry in the Journal's utterance.

It is the noiselessness of the growth of moss that has allowed it to get such a hold on the metropolis of this great and growing state of Oregon.

When things fall in to our open mouths without exertion on our part, it has a soporific tendency, and we are inclined to sleep away the happy hours and let the moss grow. It will be a good thing for Portland when she sees her supremacy beginning to actually slip away from her, as it is bound to do at some time more or less remote in the future. She will then find that she has to wake up and discard some of her old notions and adopt the methods

of modern commercial centers.

Portland may well keep her eye on the situation at Coos Bay. The time is fast passing when Portland is the whole thing of Oregon. On this peninsula enclosed by Coos Bay will be built a city which will not only rival Portland for a time, but will far outstrip her.

HERE is the seaport of Oregon. Portland is a good inland shipping point. She always will be, but she is, after all, only a small place, not yet out of her swaddling clothes, and having in no way attained the stature of greatness. She can not for long thwart the inevitable tendency which will cause the business center of Oregon to be established at Oregon's best and only great harbor and seaport. That harbor and seaport is HERE.

Portland now looks on railroad connection with Coos Bay, as she has looked on steamboat connection, as a mighty fine thing for Coos Bay, and, incidentally, for Portland wholesale merchants. Some of us now living will see the day when the shoe will be on the other foot. We will see the day when the question of whether San Francisco or Portland shall extend the stronger helping hand to Coos Bay will look like a huge joke; when San Francisco will look on Coos Bay as her sister metropolis of the north, and Portland will be proud to speak of Coos Bay as her seaport.

When that time comes we will try to forget the treatment we have been receiving from Portland for the last forty years, and will endeavor to remember the pleasant things which the Portland papers occasionally say about us now.

DESIGNEDLY DEFECTIVE AND UNFAIR

The dilemma in which County Clerk Roland, of Marion County, finds himself is one which will perplex the clerks of several counties. In preparing for the election next month Mr. Roland must place the prohibition question upon the official ballot. He finds, however, that if he follows the form prescribed by law, many people cannot vote their opinions, while if he puts the question on the ballot in such a form that the people may express their wishes, he must violate the law. It is not a very pleasant position in which to place a public official, but it is just such a situation as was predicted by those who studied the local option law and saw its unfairness. The difficulty in Marion County is plain. A vote upon the liquor question has been ordered for the whole county, and for a subdivision composed of three Salem precincts.

Under the provisions of the local option law a petition for the submission of the question in the entire county is in effect a petition for the submission of the question in each individual precinct of the county. In each of the Salem precincts referred to the voter finds himself confronted with three separate questions: "Do you want prohibition for your own precinct?" "Do you want it for the subdivision composed of three precincts?" "Do you want it for the entire county?" But in answering these three questions a man must make a single mark for the entire county and for the subdivision composed of three precincts.

If a man votes for prohibition for his own precinct he must also vote for prohibition for the entire county, and vice versa. If he votes against prohibition for the county, he cannot vote in favor of prohibition for his home precinct. This inconsistency in what is paraded as a "local option" law arises from the fact that the liquor question can be placed upon the ballot in only one form, though there may really be a number of questions involved. Mr. Roland intends to follow the forms prescribed by law, thus relieving himself of responsibility for unsatisfactory results.—Oregonian.

The above is a very good exposition of the sort of thing this so-called "local option" law really is. Its framers were smart enough in some ways. They were smart enough to put the

prohibition measure which they could present to the people as a local option law, and could induce the voters to adopt as a local option law; but they were so intent on perpetrating a fraud that they had no time to make a law that would work smoothly. In fact they evidently had no intention of formulating a law under which any one but a full-fledged prohibitionist would have a chance to express his preference with full effect. The local optionist has no place in the scheme of this law "local option." He may or may not want saloons in his own precinct, but he does not desire to dictate to the people of other precincts, one way or the other. A believer in local option desires to let each precinct decide this question for itself. When he votes for or against the saloons in his own precinct, he has no desire to force his preference upon the people of other precincts. He is not built that way. Does he have a chance on November 8th to vote for his own precinct alone? Not much! He must vote for or against prohibition—not local option—for the whole county.

This distinction should be hammered into the head of every voter in Coos County who does not already understand it; and every man who does understand it should constitute himself a committee of one to enlighten his neighbors.

Myrtle Point Items

To the people of Myrtle Point the era of a new revelation has come. No more flat, soapy tasting fluid, but a pure, clear silicate water from the mountains will relieve and strengthen the population, thus increasing the health conditions of the town, diminishing the frequent cases of typhoid fevers and lessening the danger of conflagration. The expense to carry out the building of the water works is money well spent.

On Sunday the new Methodist minister, Rev. W. R. Brown, delivered his first sermon. His text, "I am ready", was delivered with spiritual energy and a perfect pronunciation, making a deep and lasting impression on his hearers. This week Mr. Brown will organize the first Ladies' Aid Society.

On Sunday the Hermann family celebrated a reunion. The meeting was at the fine and commodious residence of T. M. Hermann, on the south fork of the Coquille river. The hospitable nature of our old friend Manuel knows how to make his visitors feel at home, and the full larder of the hostess did the rest to keep the big and little Hermanns in the best of humor. When the roll was called those answering as present were: Messrs. Hermann and Mesdames T. M. Hermann, C. M. Hermann, E. W. Hermann, Mr. Frank B. Hermann, Grandma Bender, in her 84th year; Messrs and Mesdames Edward Bender, Clay Dement, Edward Schroeder, E. E. Bender; Mesdames H. Ploeger, from Marshfield, Cary Hermann and Hetty Hermann; Misses Neta, Clara and Louisa Hermann, Zella and Nelly Hermann, Etta Hermann, Zana Dement, Myrtle Hermann, and Nova Hermann, Anna Hermann, Willis, Ellis, Homer and Herbert Hermann, Thom. Dement, Loyd Dement. There were two of the older members of the original children of Doctor Hermann, missing one, Hon. Binger Hermann whose preparations for the coming Congress and his study to benefit his beloved Oregon and his people in the many days his constituents desire him to seek for, debilitated him of this pleasure; the other one was, Maria the second daughter of the old Doctor, she being in Arizona could not very well be present. The gathering was a most pleasant affair.

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7:45 a.m.	8:00 p.m.	Marshfield for Empire	2 p.m.
10 a.m.	4:45 p.m.	Empire for Marshfield	10 a.m.
		Empire for Marshfield	4 p.m.
		Marshfield for North Bend	5:15 p.m.
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5:30 a.m.	1:00 p.m.		
10 a.m.	3:00 p.m.		
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