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BAR IMPROVEMENTS.

Major Langfitt sends a Favorable Report to Washington with Plans and Estimates for Tillamook Bar.

In answer to some inquiries we made of Senator J. H. Mitchell before he left Washington regarding the improvement of Tillamook bar, it will interest the people of this county to know that we have received a communication from the senator informing us that Major Langfitt's report on this contemplated improvement has been received at Washington, and it is interesting to know that the report is highly favorable to having this project carried out, provided, however, that the Board of Engineers for rivers and harbors report favorable also and the Oregon delegation can get congress to appropriate the money. Major Langfitt's report contains charts of the recent survey of the bay and bar, with plans and estimates, for securing depths of 15 feet and 20 feet on Tillamook bar, which is to be obtained by putting in jetties and dredging. The letter of Brig. Gen. G. L. Gillespie, chief of engineers (who held our letter until Major Langfitt's report was received), to Senator Mitchell on the subject of Tillamook improvements, has also been received by the editor, and reads as follows:

Office of the Chief of Engineers,
United States Army,
Washington, May 15, 1903.

Hon. John H. Mitchell,
United States Senate.

Sir:

1. Referring to a letter to you from this office, dated March 13, 1903, and in further reply to your letter of March 7, I have the honor to say that Major Langfitt's report on survey of Tillamook Bay, Oregon, has just been received. This report will be referred for consideration and recommendation by the Board of Engineers for Rivers and Harbors, as provided for by section 3 of the act of June 13, 1902, and will be submitted to Congress at the opening of the next regular session in December.

2. With reference to Mr. Baker's request I may say that Major Langfitt's report contains plans, with estimates, for securing depths of 15 and 20 feet at the entrance of Tillamook Bay, by means of jetties, with some general remarks in regard to the use of dredges in executing the improvement. As this report is required to be submitted to Congress, it is not deemed appropriate to furnish Mr. Baker the estimate and other details thereof in advance of its transmission to that body.

3. Mr. Baker's letter is returned herewith as requested by you.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
G. S. GILLESPIE,
Brig. Gen., Chief of Engineers,
U. S. Army.

It is gratifying to the HEADLIGHT, as it must be to every citizen in Tillamook county, to know that Major Langfitt's report is favorable to the improvement of Tillamook bar, and we have reason to congratulate ourselves that it is so, for had it been otherwise the outlook for this county's development would seem exceedingly gloomy. Still for all that, this is the time to put renewed energy, fresh effort into securing this long hoped for improvement. The next thing to accomplish is a satisfactory report from the board of engineers, and there should be no difficulty about this if the Port of Tillamook Commission or the City or County authorities will make it a point to reveal the wonderful resources of Tilla-

moor, and which are dependent upon bar improvements before they can be manufactured. For instance, how many cargoes of lumber can be shipped from Tillamook with thirty billion feet of standing timber? We hope there will be no breakers ahead, but we do not anticipate any, in getting an appropriation from congress, unless the people of this county are indifferent to their own interests and will not support the party in power whom they will ask the favor of granting a big appropriation for Tillamook. If the people of this county are wise, and will for once drop their political prejudices for something that will materially benefit Tillamook, every voter should turn out next Monday and cast their ballot for Binger Hermann. Democrats, prohibitionists and socialists should do this for local reasons. The HEADLIGHT is exceedingly anxious that Tillamook county roll up a big vote for Hermann next Monday, and we can assure the voters if they will do this river and harbor improvements for this county are assured. And as the HEADLIGHT has persistently advocated for a number of years the improvement of Tillamook bar and is in close touch with those who pledged their support to this project, in the judgment of the editor of this newspaper it is a duty every voter owes the county to vote for Hermann, for in obtaining an appropriation from the present administration, it will solve the long and difficult question of our bottled-up, tied-up, and exasperating condition, something which is the cause of a financial loss, directly or indirectly, to every settler in the county. This is how the HEADLIGHT has the situation sized up: If you want the county to remain tied-up, bottled-up, vote for either the democratic, prohibitionist or socialist candidates, for they could do nothing for Tillamook and it is only throwing a vote away. If you want the county developed, industries to increase, plenty of employment for labor and farm and city, property to enhance in value, vote for Hermann and the republican administration which can give Tillamook, if it votes right, an "open door" to the markets of the world for its lumber, butter, cheese, fish, cattle, etc.

Japan Ready to Fight.

The report from Tokio and London that Japan is ready to fight Russia on the Manchurian-Korean question probably has some truth in it. The retention of Manchuria by Russia would mean the ultimate absorption of Korea by the same power, and each of these things would be a blow to Japan's prestige and peace. So many contradictory stories as to Russia's acts and intentions have come to the outside world within the past few weeks that the world does not exactly know where it is "at" on this issue. Japan, however, which is the country having the most vital concern in the matter, is undoubtedly preparing for possible trouble.

In a war between Russia and Japan the odds would not be so strongly on Russia's side as the world may suppose. A war on the Manchurian issue would be conducted in and near that province, and that would give Japan an advantage, at least at the start. Japan could put more vessels in that quarter than Russia could furnish. Japan could throw more soldiers into Korea and Manchuria than Russia could bring with its present imperfect railroad facilities. That railroad across Asia to Manchuria would undoubtedly be quickly cut by Japan in case of a war. Russia would have an immeasurably longer line of communication to guard than England had in the Bore struggle, and would have a more powerful and alert enemy than that with which England had to deal.

Manifestly, if war is to come over the Manchurian question, it would be bitter for Japan to have it fought now than to have it delayed until, half a dozen or a dozen years hence, Russia's line of communication is enlarged and strengthened. At the present moment Japan could put more fighting men into the field in the disturbed district than Russia could, and as the Japanese have shown themselves, in the Chinese war of 1894 and in the Peking campaign of 1900, to be as good soldiers as any in the world, Russia would find its hands full in a conflict in 1903. Moreover, a war on the Manchurian issue would undoubtedly put England on Japan's side, and that would give the little Pacific nation a very good

chance to come out ahead. All this makes the stories of war preparations in Japan highly credible.

The Boom in Cotton.

According to a census bulletin recently issued, the cotton crop of 1903 foots up 10,630,945 bales of 500 pounds, with some additions yet to be made before the cotton year ends to August. The total crop of 1902 is larger than the crops of 1901, 1900 and 1899 by from 5 to 14 per cent. Yet the price is remarkably high and the market unusually excited. The value of the cotton crop of 1902 exceeded that of wheat by \$4,000,000 and was second only to the corn crop, valued at \$81,000,000. For the year ending June 30 last cotton held the first place in exports, representing a value of \$290,000,000, which was \$77,000,000 more than the exports of breadstuffs, and \$90,000,000 more than the exports of meats and dairy products. Adding the cotton goods and cotton seed oil to the item of raw cotton, the total value of cotton exported during the last fiscal year was \$349,000,000, or one fourth the aggregate of all exports. Cotton thus counts for considerably more than half the balance of trade in favor of the United States.

It is gratifying to see ahead such excellent prospects for one of the most important of American products. Substantial reasons, apart from all transient speculative combinations, must exist for present prices. The demand has grown with expanding commerce, and the uses of cotton also must be broadening. Last year the Texas crop, through bad weather and insect depredations, was short nearly 1,000,000 bales. But Oklahoma and Indian Territory raised 545,000 bales, an increase of 153 per cent in three years. Cotton is bringing more money than in former years because it is recognized in the world's utilities as worth more. Foreign attempts to raise it are making some headway, but nothing is in sight to threaten the decided supremacy of the United States in cotton production. This great crop is tilled almost entirely by the colored race. The South would greatly miss the black man with the hoe.

Free silver has lost an advocate in the person of Dr. E. Benjamin Andrews. The chancellor of the University of Nebraska, in an address before the class in ethics, practically announced that he no longer entertained the views he had held upon silver coinage, in company with many others a few years ago. Chancellor Andrews said he had been misled by the arguments of public men, and particularly by a celebrated geologist of Europe, who had, after much study and investigation, announced that the supply of gold was being exhausted and the world's mines would soon cease to yield sufficient quantity of that metal. This made it necessary that there be another standard of value. Time had proved the prophecy of the geologist to be false. Instead of lessening, said the chancellor, the output of gold has greatly increased and the supply now seems inexhaustible and, as a result, prices of commodities, instead of going to a lower level, have constantly appreciated.

Call for City Warrants.

All outstanding city warrants will be paid on presentation. Interest will cease after this date.
Tillamook City, Ore., May 21, 1903.
RALPH ACKLEY,
City Treasurer.

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