

Oliver H. Williamson

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Dear Mr. Mac Mullen :

I am very grateful to you for your having written of the Sue H. Elmore in the San Diego Union of April 1st. You have saved me from a grave error in a small volume I am having printed privately. Title "The Brave Little Ships of the Oregon Coast". It will no doubt be of small interest to the general reader, hence the private printing. Enclosed are excerpts from galley proofs and you can see it was quite a Boo Boo for me to use the name Palomar instead of Cuyamaca. I got off the track because Star & Crescent was operating both the Cuyamaca and the Palomar at the same time.

The Sue H. Elmore was built for the Elmore Packing Co. of Astoria, Oregon who had salmon packing plants both ~~of~~ Astoria and Nehalem, Oregon. Her run was from the Columbia River into Nehalem Bay. Nehalem Bay is in Tillamook county but 20 miles north of Tillamook Bay.

The cheese legend must have gotten its start from the fact that the city of Tillamook has the giant cheese factory. The Sue H. Elmore hauled lots of fish for her owners and almost all of the general cargo for the merchants of Nehalem. Passenger traffic was good but the small ship carried very little cheese. Portland was not a good market for Tillamook cheese, a high percentage of the factory output went to San Francisco stowed away in small coasters who went into Tillamook Bay (not Nehalem Bay) and worked cargo for San Francisco.

Until very recently the tour guides at the cheese factory included the information in their talks that 80 per cent of all of their cheese was sold in California.

With kindest regards, sincerely,

Oliver H. Williamson

