

PORTLAND'S GREAT EXPOSITION.

Mid the strains of music, the glare of electric lights and the enthusiastic plaudits of a large concourse of people, the second annual exposition of the North Pacific Industrial Association was opened in Portland, Thursday night, September 25, to remain open thirty days.

In many respects the fair is superior to that of last year, which was the greatest display of its kind ever given on the Pacific coast. The exposition building is one of the largest in the United States, and for the purpose it was built has no superior. Nothing on the Pacific coast approaches it in these essential features. The experiences of last year have been used as a guide for the many changes that have been made in the general arrangement, by which there has been a greater utilization of space and a more harmonious relation to each other of the various features. The result is that there is fully one-half greater number of exhibits than last year, with no crowding and less interference one with another.

The chief center of attraction is the conservatory and concert hall, both because of its beauty and the superb music of Liberati's celebrated band. The general effect of the hall is improved more than a hundred per cent. The wonderful electric tower, with its hundreds of glittering lights in varied colors, has a brilliant and dazzling effect. This master exhibition piece of the wizard, Edison, is seen here for the first time on the Pacific coast. Standing in the center of the hall and towering far above the surrounding foliage-embowered statues, it combines with its accessories to make a picture of wonderful beauty and brilliance. The fine white bronze statues and busts add wonderfully to the effect of the hall, which is also enhanced by making them the center pieces of the floral adornments. The arrangement of the foliage plants and flowers is far more artistic in its general effect than last year, besides leaving greater space for promenaders. The walls of the music hall are used for the display of photographs, oil paintings and other forms of art work, contrasting favorably with their barrenness last year. The cedar festoons and the heads of animals used for decoration also heighten the general effect. It is almost impossible to be too extravagant in praise of the music. Signor Liberati has brought a band of the finest musicians in America whom he has collected and drilled for months for the express purpose of giving the Portland exposition the finest music ever heard within the walls of an exposition building. Few people in the northwest have ever had an opportunity to hear a band in any way approaching in excellence this remarkable organization, and the music alone will amply repay one for a journey of 400 miles to the metropolis. The fame of this band and its leader, the greatest cornet soloist in the world, will undoubtedly attract thousands of people.

The art gallery, also, is a marked improvement upon that of last year. The finest collection of paintings ever brought to the Pacific coast has been hung upon the gallery walls, to be admired and studied. Great care has been taken with the hanging of the pictures, the arrangement of the incandescent electric lights and the decoration of the room. All is rich and harmonious in color and artistic in grouping and general effect. The art work of the Portland schools, on the exterior walls of the gallery, attracts great attention, and is a most creditable showing of that branch of education in our excellent schools. In a manner correlated with the art department is that of the fancy and decorative work, and here one can but admire and wonder at the marvelous ingenuity, delicacy of work, refinement of artistic taste and variety of design shown in the multitude of objects displayed. Hours could be spent in studying and admiring these products of the brain and hand of the fair sex.

It is doubtful if there could be gathered elsewhere in the world such a collection of fruits, grains, grasses, vegetables, etc., as are to be seen in the agricultural department. Certainly in their excellence they could not be equaled, and probably not in variety. To describe or even enumerate them would require columns of space. But the general effect of the display calls for as much praise and wonder as the excellence of the exhibit itself. With infinite patience and great artistic taste, the various products have been arranged in designs and groups in such a way as to have a most attractive effect to the eye without regard to the merits of the exhibit itself. Admiration of the display in general is turned to wonder when the individual objects are examined and their merits seen.

The exhibit of machinery, vehicles and the multitude of objects gathered in the gallery and on the main floor of the west wing of the building is a superb one. Every foot of floor space is utilized, and there is such an endless array of curious, interesting and attractive objects that the visitor feels a sense of confusion when he gazes upon the hall from some good point of observation. This is one of the most important portions of the exposition as an educator and promoter of the country's development. The opposite wing contains the mercantile exhibits and a large number of miscellaneous displays of a most interesting and valuable nature. Here the opportunity for artistic effects in color and grouping is very great, and has been improved to the fullest degree. The genius of the lamp seems to have been at work transforming the barren walls and wooden booths into a vision of beauty. Anything like a detailed description is impossible, for one

could spend hours there without noting everything that would pass under his eye, so great is the multitude of objects combined in the picture. Any one who comes to Portland with the idea that one visit to the exposition will be enough, will find he has sadly underrated the size and attractiveness of the fair. Visitors should give themselves ample time to enjoy and appreciate all its features and to make an intelligent inspection of every department.

Another great improvement is the annex exhibition of fat and fine blooded cattle, horses, sheep, swine and poultry. The grounds of the association in the rear of the building have been fitted up for this purpose at great expense, and there is gathered there such a collection of animals and fowls as are seldom assembled for the purpose of exhibition. This is a most valuable and interesting feature and is one of the greatest attractions. The grounds are reached through the rear door of the music hall, east of the band platform.

In its number of October 18th, WEST SHORE will give fine colored engravings of the leading features of the exposition, which will be the best possible representative of this great exhibition that can be sent away to those who have been denied the privilege of visiting it, or which can be kept as a souvenir by those who have enjoyed its beauties and attractions.

The fair which has been in progress at The Dalles this week was the most largely attended of any that has ever been held by the association. The especial feature of the exhibition was the display of fruits and vegetables. Mammoth squashes weighing ninety-five pounds, and watermelons of fifty pounds weight, raised on Wasco county's hills, were noticeable specimens of the country's products. Pears exceeding a pound in weight, and bunches of grapes and Italian prunes of enormous size also attested the fertility of the soil of that section. The races were all spirited and thoroughly enjoyed by the lovers of that sport. That the exhibition was an entire success is evidenced by the commendations of all who attended.

The Southern Oregon District Fair Association has just closed a very successful exhibition at Jacksonville. The interest taken in the fair by the residents of that section has resulted in a remarkable increase in the number of exhibits over former years, and the attendance has been proportionally larger. The display of thoroughbred stock was especially attractive, all the leading strains being represented. Fruit of every description, and of the quality for which that section is so famous, formed one of the chief features of the exhibition.

The machinery for the new mill of the Albany Mining and Milling Company was sent out to the company's mines in the Santiam district on Tuesday of last week. A double track tramway 1,000 feet in length will be constructed to connect the mine with the mill, and so arranged with a cable that a car loaded with ore going down one track will haul an empty car up to the mine. Those having charge of the improvements have confidence in the enterprise proving a success from a financial standpoint.

Trinity church association, of Tacoma, has decided to erect a new church and parish house, to cost \$80,000. The church is to be of brick and stone, and will be 120x80 feet in size. The parish house will be 60x40 feet, two and one-half stories high, with chapel and Sunday school room on the first floor. The latter building will be finished late this fall and the church early next spring. A parsonage will also be built after the church and parish house are completed.

A subsidy has been raised by the citizens of Vancouver, Washington, to secure the establishment there of a large pork packing establishment. The building will be 100x42 feet in size, and will be supplied with necessary appliances for packing 150 hogs a day. It is expected the business will be in operation soon after the first of October.

The Milwaukie Land Company has filed articles of incorporation in Multnomah county, with a capital stock of \$72,000. It is the intention of the company to build a motor line from St. John to Oregon City, and to operate a line of steamers between Portland and Oregon City.

A packing establishment for preserving meats is to be erected at The Dalles, Oregon, the Columbia Packing Company having been incorporated for that purpose with a capital stock of \$15,000.

The bank of Hoquiam, Washington, has been converted into a national bank, and capital has been subscribed for a second national bank.