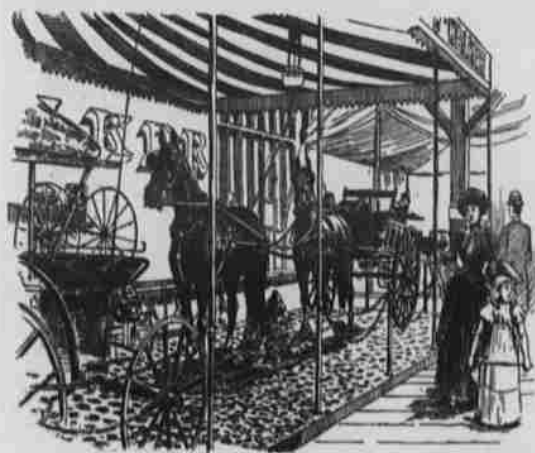


PORTLAND'S GREAT EXPOSITION.

The second annual exposition of the North Pacific Industrial Association has now been open more than three weeks and has been visited by thousands of people, not only from every section of the northwest, but from every state in the union. It is the finest, most attractive, largest, and best managed fair ever held on the Pacific coast, being far superior to the Mechanics' Fair now in progress in San Francisco, which was the kind in the ly to the front eclipses coast, else-

or that will probably be seen where for a long time to come. The metropolis of the most rapidly developing and richest in natural resources of any region in the United States, the commercial and financial center second only in importance to San Francisco, and making strides that will enable it to challenge even that great city ere many years, it is pre-eminently the place where the products and resources of the magnificent country surrounding it should be gathered for display. Realizing this, several of the most enterprising and public-spirited citizens three years ago organized this association, and with infinite labor, persistence and skill, brought the enterprise to a successful issue last year, by giving an exposition that fairly astonished every person who visited it. This year they have done even better. Profiting by the experience gained and having been able to make perfect their original plans, they have succeeded in accomplishing far more than was before possible. To the enthusiastic president, Mr. Frank Dekum, the indefatigable superintendent, Mr. E. W. Allen, and the able and energetic gentlemen composing the board of directors, are due the thanks of their fellow citizens. Such an enterprise can only properly be considered a public one, since its chief benefits are conferred upon the city and country it represents, to become an important factor in influencing the growth of all kinds of business and industry, and the development of the country. Every individual who depends upon the continued or increased prosperity of the northwest for his success, receives a direct and personal benefit from this great exposition, and should not only give it all the support in his power to render, but should appreciate the unrequited labors of the gentlemen who are so successfully conducting it.

There has been for many years a feeling of hostility toward Portland by the residents of other localities, growing out of the mistaken idea that the interests of the country and city were not identical, and that the business men of the latter were oppressing those of the former.



IN THE SOUTH GALLERY OF MACHINERY HALL.



EAST STAIRWAY IN MURIC HALL.



A PORTION OF BENTON COUNTY'S EXHIBIT.

This erroneous idea is rapidly passing away, and with it the very unfortunate conditions that have resulted from it. Long ago the business men of this city realized that its growth and welfare depended upon the prosperity of the country for hundreds of miles around it, and to promote this they have taken active steps. They have spent thousands of dollars annually in maintaining a board of immigration and disseminating information, the benefit of which has inured in a greater degree to outside towns and counties than to the city itself; they have taken an active part in providing transportation facilities for even the more distant sections; they have supplied capital for industries in hundreds of places; they have done all that could be done to secure the opening of the Columbia river to continuous navigation, though it is only recently that certain interested localities have recognized that fact; they have in many other ways shown a willingness to invest money for the development of the country, and to take a leading part in that work, often against the opposition of those to be the most directly benefited by it, and now they have established this magnificent exposition, where every section of the northwest can have an opportunity to display its products and resources and advertise its advantages to the thousands of visitors who are in search of knowledge on these subjects. The drawing closer of the bonds of fellowship and mutual interest and helpfulness is already having its effect everywhere. Sectionalism is disappearing. Railroads are binding all sections together with bands of steel, and the good of one is rapidly becoming the good of all. Portland is daily growing prouder of the magnificent region of which she is the commercial center, and the people of that region are cherishing a more kindly feeling toward her. They glory in their metropolis. They point with pride to her wonderful prosperity, her rapid growth, her financial solidity, and her great railroad facilities, the most com-

plete and extensive on the Pacific coast. In all this they begin to feel a proprietary interest, and that the splendor of their metropolis reflects credit upon themselves, as, indeed, it does, since it is founded upon them, and without them would speedily fade. This feeling of mutual regard and fraternal helpfulness is to be the key note of progress in the future. It was sounded in the recent organization of the Oregon Board of Commerce, and is again being struck in the movement by the press to secure an adequate representation of the state at the World's Columbian Exposition, and it should be sharp and clear another season when the time shall come for again opening the doors of Portland's great exposition.

One is impressed first upon entering the building and making a superficial examination with the general beauty and attractiveness of the whole, the result of the special adaptation of the structure to the purpose, and the great artistic taste, care and expense lavished upon the interior fittings and the various exhibits, both by the managers of the exposition and the individual exhibitors. This pleasing of the artistic sense in large effects, reaches its highest point in the music hall, where the eye rests upon a scene of beauty wherever it may turn, and where nothing unharmonious can be decried. The great electric tower, with its 2,500 dazzling lights, presents a spectacle both