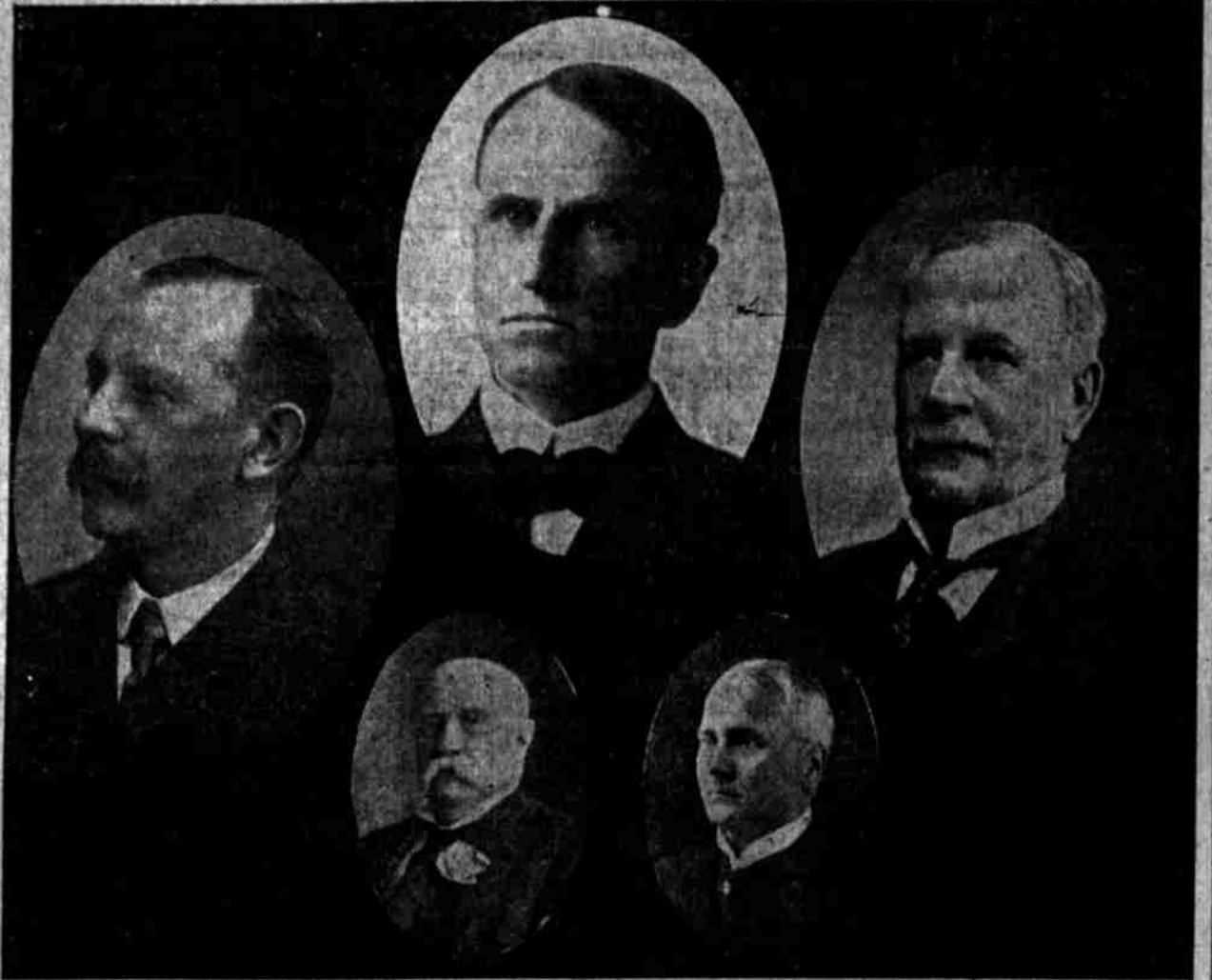


OFFICERS OF AMERICAN MINING CONGRESS IN SESSION HERE



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CONGRESS CONVENES

(Continued from Page One)
Primary to the rest work of the congress. After prayer by Rev. Father McDevitt addresses of welcome were delivered by Gov. George E. Chamberlain, in behalf of the state, and Mayor George H. Williams, for the city. Appropriate responses were made by representatives of Texas, California, Colorado and Utah, and the morning's program concluded with the presentation to President Richards of a gavel, made from wood which grew in the gulch where gold was first discovered in Oregon and banded with gold mined in the same locality. The presentation speech was made by B. B. Beckman.

pursued in the future. Other speakers this afternoon were President H. W. Goode of the Lewis and Clark fair and Harvey W. Scott.
Big Struggle Certain.
While the exercises today have been of more than usual interest, the topic that is chiefly absorbing the attention of the delegates is the struggle over the location of the permanent headquarters for the congress. Two cities, Salt Lake and Denver, are competitors for the honor and the rivalry is keen. Whatever the issue of this contest, it is thought probable that some other city will be selected for next year's congress, all subsequent sessions being held at the permanent headquarters. It is on this understanding that El Paso is seeking to capture the congress of 1905, and her delegates have thrown themselves into the fight with enthusiasm that promises to bring them success. Rumors of a coalition between Denver and El Paso are current, the purpose being to give the permanent headquar-

ters to the former and to make El Paso the meeting place next year.
Wish Mining Bureau.
Next in interest to these contests is the plan to secure legislation by congress which shall establish a mines and mining department of the government, its head to be a member of the president's cabinet. While opinions have been divided as to the advisability of urging this change, the majority of the delegates to the congress appear to be in favor of it.
A matter of especial interest to mining men of the Pacific northwest is the plan to secure the establishment of a branch of the government mint at Portland. Senator Mitchell is to make an address upon this subject and the project is expected to receive the endorsement of the congress.
Though the hour for the congress to open this morning was 10 o'clock, many of the delegates reached the army headquarters especially interested by members of the reception committee and by ladies of the Portland Rose association, who presented a rose to every delegate. The exhibits in the convention hall were especially interesting to the delegates from other states. Southern Oregon has a valuable display, and the ores from Douglas, Josephine and Lane counties are especially noteworthy. A unique collection of opals, agates, carnelians, bloodstones and other minerals found in Oregon is exhibited by A. W. Miller, of Portland. Many of the delegates gathered about the table upon which the opals were displayed. The early history of the Pacific northwest is vividly recalled by a number of interesting relics exhibited by the Oregon Historical society. Among them is the sea chest of the ship Columbia in which Captain Gray brought the first American flag ever unfurled in the Oregon territory.

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nor what flag floats over you when at home, the genial breezes of Oregon are balmy enough, the homes of our people hospitable enough and the citizens warm enough to insure each and every one of you a hearty reception and a pleasant stay amongst us.
Oregon feels that in honoring you she is honoring herself for it is seldom, indeed, that any state has an opportunity to welcome as her guests a body of men so distinguished, not only in the fields of commercial and industrial enterprise and activity, but well in governmental affairs of state and nation.
You have assembled here to consider problems affecting one of the greatest industries of our country, and to take steps looking to its advancement. It is well that to the settlement of these problems and the promotion of an industry so vital to the welfare of the world, you have invited none other than who have achieved distinction in the various activities to which each has bent the best energies of his life.
Permit me to assure you that it is peculiarly gratifying to our people that Oregon was selected as a place for holding this, the seventh annual session of the American Mining Congress. Without disparagement to the phenomenal strides which in the past few years many of our sister states have made in material prosperity, I think I may safely claim that Oregon occupies no second place. For many years, and until quite recently, she occupied an almost isolated place in the sisterhood of states, cut off by lack of railroad and other transportation facilities from the great world of business and commercial enterprise. Truly by no means "a land of no promise," was peculiarly appropriate. She had none of these adventitious aids which other states have been able to claim, to push her to the fore-front, with the result that while our neighbors have advanced more rapidly in material prosperity, Oregon now stands with outstretched hands, inviting those who will to come and exploit her practically undeveloped resources.
State's Progress.
Even if my time were not limited, it would hardly be proper for me to do more than to merely call your attention to strides which our people have made in the last few years in every way that goes to the upbuilding and enrichment of a magnificent commonwealth. Immense bodies of land, which until the past 18 months have never felt the impress of the footstep of man, and were considered fit only for the desolate habitations of the coyote, the prairie dog and the jackrabbit, have been reclaimed from the desert, and with the cunning hand of man snow-capped peak and mountain streams, are mantled with crops of cereals, hay and fruits, furnishing homes for thousands of sturdy men and women.
The resources of the state which in years gone by were deemed unfit for cultivation, have proven to be the most productive and of wonderful capability in the growing of cereals and other food crops. The hills and valleys, although many of the ranges have been converted into wheat, fruit and alfalfa fields, continue to grow in volume and value, as the facilities for breeding and feeding the vast herds of horses, cattle and sheep improve each year. Hills and valleys that were once deemed best adapted to the culture of wheat, have been reluctantly but profitably abandoned for sheep raising, and here may be seen magnificent orchards of apples, peaches, pears, prunes and cherries, which are coming to be known the world over for their excellence of form and flavor.
Railways Aid Growth.
Portland has grown up without a single line of transcontinental railway to bring to her merchants the wares of the east or the products of the interior, now finds practically centered here five transcontinental railways, and many steamers connecting them with the west. From a city of little importance she now occupies the fourth place in the United States, and promises you that she will occupy the first place in this regard but will stop rapidly to the front as a great exporting and importing point for the commerce between the new and the old world.
And how is it with the mineral resources of the state? They too are in the infancy of development. Notwithstanding this, she occupies the twelfth place as a gold producer, having credited to her more \$1,564,341, and the twelfth place as a silver producer, having credited to her more \$15,643,000. What a remarkable showing for a state that until a very recent date had practically made no effort to develop her mining interests. The coal and iron ranges that parallel each other from the northern to the southern boundaries of the state, bear in their bosoms not only untold millions of gold and silver, but also copper, lead, zinc and other minerals. All that is needed for development of these is such splendid enterprise and brain and brawn as characterizes the distinguished gentlemen whom you have gathered here to be our guests. As a result of your visit to us I venture to predict that within another decade Oregon will make rapid advances to a first position as a rich producer of mineral wealth.

Government Should Aid.
But how unfortunate it is that an industry of such vast importance to national and international commerce, and so magnificent in promise, has received so little attention at the hands of the lawmakers of state and nation. What has been attempted accomplished has been due to individual enterprise and effort. Our country little realizes what it owes to you gentlemen of this congress, and to other men who have braved the frost of winter as well as the prostrating and fever laden heat of summer; who have coveted death in all its forms and shrunk from neither; who have risked their lives in the pursuit of a civilization the great storehouses of nature. But you have yet new fields to enter upon and conquer, and you are here to devise the ways and means for success in the future.
And first you would make your voices heard in the halls of congress. An industry of such importance to the world as it is that which you have the honor to represent, should have a place in the cabinet of the president, and long before the rights of the great agricultural interests of the country were recognized by congress, but now all appreciate the value of the department of agriculture. It was long before the law-making power could be made to see and appreciate the value of a department of commerce and labor, yet who would now consent to its abolishment? These great interests were able to make themselves heard, and their voices were not drowned by the constant knocking at the doors of congress forced for them a reluctant recognition. Why cannot the mining interests of this great country of ours make their voices heard? Without the wealth that our mines afford, and add each year to the capital of the commercial world, all industries would shrink and stagnation in all the fields of activity and enterprise would be the inevitable result.
State Help Also.
And second, there should be state recognition of the mining industry. Here too is a field open for your combined effort and enterprise. A bureau of mines should be established, and restrictions so that it would be for the benefit of a class engaged in exploiting the rich resources of the state and not for an individual whose sole aim and

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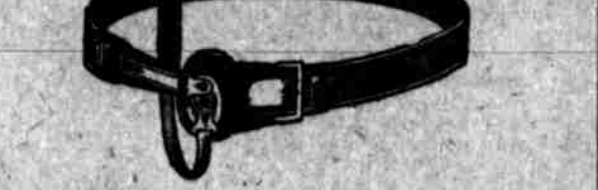
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ambition is to draw a munificent salary, would do much to elevate, promote and stimulate the mining industry.
I might suggest other matters for your earnest and united consideration but time and the proprieties of the occasion bid me leave such suggestions to men of wider and ripper experience.
In conclusion, gentlemen, I bid you my most cordial welcome. All we have to give is yours while Oregon is honored by your presence. We ask you to enjoy our wealth of fruits and flowers, our fertile hills and beautiful valleys decked in gorgeous raiment of undying green; our lofty peaks, snow-capped and sun-crowned, rearing their massive heads to heaven here and there and everywhere; to inspire the hearts and minds of all beholders and bringing them to a realization of the near presence of the Almighty; our magnificent mountain ranges clad from crest to base with verdure and towering forests and bearing within their generous breasts riches that rival the wealth of "Ormus or of Ind."
These and all the beauties of sky and landscape with which a beneficent Providence has blessed us we bid you enjoy, and rest assured that Oregon and her people will feel amply repaid if when you return to your distant homes you can bear place on their pleasant memories of your visit here.
Frequent applause interrupted the governor. When he stated with emphasis the business and commerce than all other industries.

MAYOR'S WELCOME.
Convention Applauds His Praise of Portland Heartily.

Mayor Williams followed quickly. His venerable figure was the incentive for the delegates and his laudation of Portland, which was a feature of the remarks to the city's visitors, had the most positive evidence of approbation. When the mayor said that Portland was the best place on earth for permanent headquarters for the congress, a roar of laughter went up, Salt Lake and Denver, the stern contestants for the honor, joining with good will. Again the mayor brought down the house by saying that if the monetary question had been settled, the miner had done it. His address followed:

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen:—When we speak of the congress of the United States we understand that it is a body of representatives from all parts of the American Union assembled to make laws, and when we speak of the American Mining Congress we understand it to be a body of representatives from all parts of the same union assembled to consider an industry in which all of the people of the United States are more or less interested. To constitute what may properly be called a congress a body assuming that name should have a national character.
Mining is the chief corner stone of the business world. It is as the foundation of our manufacturing industries as the earth is the foundation of the structures in which those industries are conducted. Mining products in the various forms and agencies into which they have been converted have done more for the advancement of trade and commerce than all other causes combined. Without iron, coal and copper as the basis of commercial enterprises our transportation by land would go back to the pioneer days of pack mules and our transportation by water to the pettiness of the Indian canoe. Without iron there could be no steel and without steel the machinery of our factories would be on a grade with the old-fashioned New England looms. Railroads,

telegraphs and telephones would be impossible if there were no iron, steel or copper to be employed in their construction and use.

Mining of Coal.
More than \$500,000,000 worth of coal was mined in this country within the last year and some opinion of its usefulness may be formed from the distressing results of the coal miners' strike in Pennsylvania in 1902. No estimate can be made of the value of mining products in the transmission of intelligence, the creation and transportation of commodities and in provisions for the comfort of the people.
All civilized nations refuse to recognize anything as real money that is not taken out of the bosom of the earth by the toil and sweat of the miner. Financial institutions everywhere depend upon gold and silver for their support. The business world without gold and silver for a circulating medium would be like the human system without blood in its veins. Lately there has been a great agitation in this country over the currency question and we are told that the members of the congress are giving their attention to a steady cool breeze from the north and south and for such enjoyment you can go 100 miles up the Columbia river whose magnificent scenery of towering cliffs, deep canyons, rapids, waterfalls in unsurpassed anywhere in grandeur and beauty; or you can go down the Columbia river 100 miles to the seaside and revel in the freshening breezes or bathe in the invigorating waters of the Pacific ocean; or you can go by electric car lines into the rural districts of the state. Prolific sources of enjoyment for the sportsman may be found in forests, fields, lakes and rivers, easily accessible from Portland.

Portland is a prosperous and healthful city and in scenic beauty and surroundings we believe it to be unequalled by any city. We see desirous of giving Portland that prominence to which it is entitled on account of its natural advantages and attractions and we hope that the impressions made upon the members of the congress at this meeting will be helpful to us in that direction. Portland feels flattered and honored by your meeting here. We are pleased to have with us so many representative men from all parts of our great country. We feel a deep interest in the subjects you will have to consider. Mining is one of the leading industries of Oregon. I am here to welcome you to this city. Whatever is good here we want you to have, and whatever is beautiful here we want you to see. Make yourselves at home and be happy. I trust that your meeting will not only be of advantage to Portland but of benefit to the whole country and a credit and honor to the American Mining Congress.

Responses by states were informal, most of them being chosen for this work without warning. Their varied arguments in behalf of home sites and districts, interwoven deftly into the thanks, produced a spirited situation.
Maine Is On Hand.
Hon. J. T. Small of Maine, the most distant state from Oregon represented, said his commonwealth "produces lots of iron" and "has a hoar of mining stock bought in the west," which lively rally was the leader for more serious

(Continued on Page Five.)

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