

NO FAIR NEXT YEAR.

Directors of this District Can't Agree on Place.

Again, next year, there will be no fair in District No. 1 of the Eastern Oregon Agricultural district. This course was decided upon by the directors at a meeting held here this week. Baker, Grant, Malheur, Union and Wallowa counties comprise this First district. There is an annual appropriation of \$1500 for the fair. As it was not used last year, and will not be again in 1901, it is generally believed by the five directors and business men generally that these expositions are at an end. This impression is strengthened by the rumor that at the coming session of the legislature the law which provides for this appropriation will be repealed.

The present board of directors is: L. J. Rouse, of Wallowa county; J. J. Cozart, of Grant county; George E. Bell, of Baker county; William Hunter, of Union county, and Columbus Wells, of Malheur county. At the meeting this week all were in attendance except Mr. Cozart, of Grant. The reason for the decision not to hold the fair next year is a disagreement as to the place. Mr. Cozart was reported to insist that the meeting be held in Grant county. All the other members were united in according the privilege to Wallowa or Malheur, if they asked, which Wallowa did. As the law provides that one dissenting member is sufficient to defeat the effort to hold the fair at any given place, and Mr. Cozart was reported as obdurate, the other members would not go against their wishes and decided to have no fair at all.

Grant county has had the fair three times, Baker four and Union four. As neither Wallowa nor Malheur had been so favored at all, it appeared to most of the directors that Wallowa's desire should be granted. In the past Wallowa, which was regarded as a stock country and not in touch with railroads, was not thought to take much interest in industrial fairs. But of recent years there has been a material tendency towards agriculture. In some of the little valleys along the Snake and the Imnaha rivers are found fruit lands, which are said to rival the orchard paradises of Eagle and Pine valleys in Union county. Some good fruit has been produced in that section of Wallowa and its people take much pride in the agricultural possibilities developed. They were especially anxious to secure the fair this year, partially because of this, and for the reason that Wallowa has never had it. Unless more of a spirit of compromise is shown by the board, or the regulation requiring unanimity is abolished, there seems little hope for fairs in future. After an arbitrary defeat of Grant county's representative this year, Wallowa will not be in a mood to accord that county any favors in the future. If the appropriation for these fairs is not cut off entirely, members of the board believe the only thing to be done is to fix by statute a certain time and place for holding the fairs, or delegate the power to a majority of members.—Baker City correspondent in Oregonian.

Business of the LaGrand Land Office.

E. W. Bartlett, register of the United States land office, has prepared a statistical statement for the year beginning December 1, 1899, and closing December 1, 1900. There were filed in that time, 801 homesteads, embracing an area of 123,440 acres. During the same period 210 final proofs, which covered an area of 31,575 acres, were submitted. There were also filed 163 timber and stone entries, 16 final minerals, 19 final timber cultures, and 24 desert land entries. The total amount of cash received during that period was \$80,-

363; from fees and commissions, \$16,576. The above period is not to be considered as the fiscal year, which ends June 30. The report shows that the business of the office is increasing. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 1899, there were only 564 homesteads, and the cash receipts amounted to \$37,934.—Union Republican.

OIL AND GAS IN WASHINGTON.

Much Excitement Over Recent Finds Near Rosalia.

The excitement over the gas and oil fields near Rosalia continues both at Spokane and in the neighborhood of the prospects, says the Spokesman-Review. It is reported that prominent moneyed men of this city have had men in the field, and that the prospects for immediate, extensive exploration of the presumed deposits wherever there are indications, is bright. Boring machinery is known to be on the way here from the east, and it is probable that custom boring plants will soon be on the ground to hunt for both gas and oil.

The testimony of many recent visitors has been added to that of the earlier examiners of the field to prove that the indications of the presence of oil are undoubted and very favorable.

The leasing of lands in the gas area is going on, and though the farmers refuse to part with their property at the figures at which the first men in secured ground, several tempting offers are reported to have been accepted, giving some of the best of the land either to Spokane people or people that will operate through this city.

The following dispatch from Rosalia gives interesting additional news of conditions there:

The excitement over the gas and oil in this district continues, and preparations are being made to develop the field to ascertain the extent of the gas, and if it is here in paying quantities. It is reported that Luke Rawls, who owns a tract of land in the "Hole in the Ground" at the head of Rock lake, has bonded his land to Spokane capitalists, who will sink a well, and that a cash payment on the bond has been made.

Wilson Moreland, who is one of the managers of the pool controlling 6000 acres of land, is in correspondence with A. Eversole of Garfield, who has a well drilling outfit and wishes to contract to drill wells in the district. Mr. Eversole is expected here tomorrow, and a contract for a well will probably be entered into.

Elton Fulmer, professor of chemistry, and Professor Shedd, geologist of the Washington Agricultural college, will be here tomorrow to make a scientific investigation of the gas fields, and their report is anxiously awaited.

Dr. Newman, L. Roy Slater, W. S. Yeager and Mr. Metcalf are among the Spokane visitors who are looking over the gas fields this week.

Should Bore for Oil in Oregon.

"C. A. M." in the Oregonian tells of the many industries which are now using crude petroleum as fuel, in California, and closes as follows: Oregon should awake to her opportunities, for it is not to be supposed that state lines define the boundaries of the oil fields. The writer has himself observed in Oregon the shales and sandstones which in California are considered as prime indications of oil. Oregon doubtless has within her borders vast beds, not only of coal, but of oilsands as well, and in the development of both will doubtless find the solution of the fuel question. The problem solved, manufactures will spring up where now they are impossible and commerce will expand and Portland will then rival or surpass Los Angeles, which, in spite of four successive years of drouth has increased her population within the last decade by a greater per centage than any other city in the United States. This increase can be justly attributed only to the development of the oil fields of southern California, which as yet is only fairly begun; and in which vast fortunes await the investment of capital and enterprise.

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1900 MODEL

Capacity..... 6 to 10 tons per day
Weight of Mill complete with 850-lb. stamps, 8500 lbs.
" " " " 1000-lb. " " " " 9000 lbs.
Power required to drive 850-lb. stamp mill..... 5 H. P.
" " " " 1000-lb. " " " " 7 H. P.
Discharge area..... 465 square inches.

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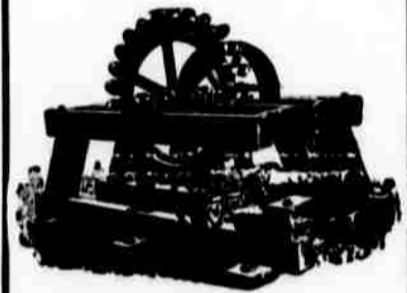
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