

EXPOSITION GRAFT.

Portland Hogs Shut Out Mineral Exhibit.

The Oregonian has never given editorial utterance to a single idea that THE MINER could unreservedly endorse. This statement is not made with the intention of crushing that paper; nor the hope that it will in future strive to win "our" approval, but merely as a preface to these remarks. It does, however occasionally say something worth repeating; this, for instance:

"It wants a few boxes of wormy apples and poorly dried prunes to represent our fruit industry. It doesn't want a gold medal for its mining exhibit, as we got at Omaha and Spokane, or the blue ribbon for wheat and apples as we got at Paris and Chicago. It wants a cheap exhibit, tended by cheap men, who will live on six bits a day and sleep on the floor. If there is a prize at Buffalo for a Jim Crow exhibit and a jay outfit of attendants, the joint ways and means committee of our late legislature will loudly demand it on behalf of Oregon. It is theirs, hands down."

The "it," the subject of these caustic sentences, refers to the recent session of the Oregon legislature. Though, of course, the real animus for this roast was the legislature's failure to elect the Oregonian's candidate to the United States senate, the apparent occasion is the alleged small appropriation made for the state's exhibit at the Pan-American exposition. No one has heard any complaint of lack of funds except for the mining exhibit, and the blame for this rests solely with the commissioners. The Portland and Willamette valley hogs have repeated their favorite performance of getting in the trough and crowding out the rest of the barnyard live stock, and the Oregonian attempts to shield them from censure, as is its wont.

In the apportionment of the \$20,000 appropriated, mining is given \$2095, of which sum only \$1000 is intended to be used for gathering the exhibit in eastern Oregon, \$500 for southern Oregon and \$595 to pay the salary of an attendant at Buffalo.

Now here is where the hoggishness comes in. Forestry is given \$2855, agriculture \$1655, horticulture \$2155; total \$6655. Of this amount \$3465 is appropriated to pay attendants. These loggers, hop and prune growers, these web foot jays will not have to live on six bits a day and sleep on the floor. Again, there is set aside for the press \$595 and for advertising \$800, and one of the commissioners is designated as the "press." What is going to be done with this \$1395?

To add insult to injury, the president of the board, when Messrs. Geiser and Thompson, the eastern Oregon members, protested against this division of the funds, insolently stated that individual mine owners would be benefitted by the exhibit and if they didn't like what had been given them, let them make up the deficiency by private subscription. He failed to state, however, how the individual mine owner will be benefitted any more than the individual owner of farm and timber lands.

And this impudent suggestion is, in reality, now being acted on in certain quarters. THE MINER'S advice is that the people of eastern Oregon not contribute one cent towards this state exhibit. If we must pay by private subscription for a mineral exhibit, let it be separate and distinct from the collection of prunes, wormy apples, hops and spruce boards. Nor will this be a case of cutting off the nose to spite the face. It will give more prominence to the mineral exhibit, attract

more attention and accomplish more good. It will also serve the most desirable purpose imaginable, that of informing the world that we are not of the mossback species, that we don't train with that outfit, a class of people who have made the name of Oregon a byword and reproach, a synonym of back number. If this and nothing else could be accomplished by a separate exhibit, it would be worth to the gold fields of eastern Oregon a thousand times more than it will cost.

Sheep Gulch Mines Resume Work.

The Sheep Gulch Mining company, composed of L. W. Woods, the popular saloon man of John Day, and others, sent a force of men out to their property last Tuesday, to resume work on their quartz mine, situated in Sheep gulch, about five miles south of town. Assays from ore, which was taken from this property late last fall, ran as high as \$80 and it is expected that some rich discoveries will be made in a short time. Two of the company's miners, Walter Hoeye and Albert Johnson, who have been mining in Stanish gulch the past winter, passed through the city Monday on their way to the mines. If the property turns out as every indication promises, it will be one of the leading producers of the section.—Canyon City News.

How to Travel—Information to the Public.

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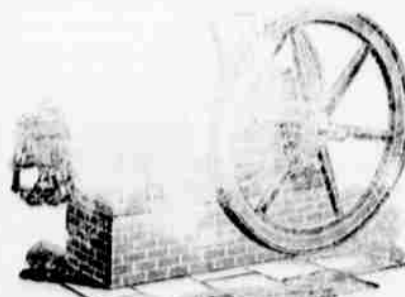
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