

MINING CONGRESS.

Railroads Will Transport Ores to Boise Free.

Upon request of Governor Geer, Colonel Frank V. Drake has taken the initiative in arranging for an exhibit of Oregon minerals at the International Mining congress, to be held in Boise, Idaho, July 22, 23 and 24. No appropriation of funds has been made by the state for the purpose, and individual effort must be relied upon to accomplish the desired results. The Governor has appointed 24 members to the congress. They were selected from various parts of the state, and it is necessary that some steps be taken immediately to ascertain who will attend the convention at Boise, and arrange for details in preparing the proposed display of ores from this state. As will be seen by the letters from the railroad managers, arrangements have been made for the transportation of ores to exhibit at Boise free of charge.

Colonel Drake desires all persons who intend to send ores to Boise to prepare their samples carefully for transportation, and be ready to ship them as soon as a meeting of the commissioners shall arrange details. No single exhibit ought to exceed 200 pounds. Each exhibit should be accompanied by a brief detail of the locality, the size, dip and strike of the vein, character of formation, extent of exploration, etc. The railroads generously agree to transport exhibits to the extent of two carloads. Arrangements must be made for placing the exhibits at Boise, where room has been provided.

In order that advantage may be taken of these proposals, Colonel Drake, after conference with others, proposes a meeting of all the commissioners now appointed and those who hereafter may be appointed by the mayors and boards of trade. A meeting, therefore, of all persons who have been commissioned to attend this congress is called for June 15, at 8 o'clock, p. m., at the Imperial hotel, Portland, where rooms will be provided for the meeting.

At this meeting a chairman and secretary may be selected and details arranged for a display of Oregon's mineral resources at Boise.

Baker City people are taking steps to bring delegates at that convention to the eastern Oregon section for inspection of that locality. Possibly arrangements can be made to bring some of those representatives of the great mineral industries to Portland and into southern Oregon. All these matters will come up for consideration at the meeting of Oregon's commissioners, June 15.

Following are the letters received by Colonel Drake from the railroad traffic managers:

O. R. & N.—Referring to our conversation of yesterday, we will be glad to grant a free rate on the ore specimens which it is intended to exhibit at the International Mining congress, at Boise, the aggregate shipments not to exceed one carload from Portland and one carload from eastern Oregon. Please advise me in advance of shipments in order that arrangements may be made to protect the rate.

Southern Pacific—Referring to our conversation this date; with the understanding that this action will be concurred in by the O. R. & N. Co., we will grant free rate on ore specimens from points on our lines in Oregon, to Portland, when intended for exhibition at the International Mining congress at Boise. Aggregate shipments not to exceed one carload.

Contract Let for Weiser Smelter

Wilkerson & Thompson, the contractors, have received instructions to begin

work on the smelter that Lewis Hall is to build at Weiser, and they expect to begin operations there Monday. This is one of the most important mining announcements that has been made for some time. The Weiser smelter project has been hanging in the balance for several weeks. The orders received by the contractors shows that Mr. Hall has advanced his plans faster than the public anticipated. While the contractors have not been advised as to all the details, they feel confident the plant will be of 100-ton capacity. They do not believe a smaller one will be put in. The smelter will be located about 10 miles above Weiser, near the mouth of the canyon and on the line of the Pacific & Idaho Northern. Additional importance attaches to the news here given because, it is believed, construction of the smelter carries with it extension of the railroad into the Seven Devils.—Boise Statesman.

CONCORD A PRODUCER.

Plans Now Under Way for Erection of a Mill at an Early Day.

The Concord mine, which lies very close to the Red Boy, is destined to soon add itself to the ranks of bullion producers of the Sumpter gold fields. This mine has done considerable tunnel work, but as yet has no upraise for the purpose of stopping ore. The matter of proper ventilation for the lower workings is another matter to be attended to before placing the property on a steady producing basis. There is no mill on the ground yet, nor will one be erected until the mine is in perfect working order.

Everything necessary will be consummated, so that when a mill is erected there will be nothing turn up to cause a shut down and give a wrong impression to the stockholders and others concerning the property. It is expected arrangements will be made whereby the May Queen mill will handle Concord ore until such a time as it will be deemed expedient to erect a mill. The Concord has a ledge already lined out 500 feet, long with a width of five feet. Assays have been secured from this ledge on the surface down to its present lowest depth, and have given in value from \$1 to over \$100 to the ton. The average value of the ore now being blocked out is about \$20 per ton.

The matter of ventilation of the mine will probably be settled by the running of a joint tunnel by the Red Boy and Concord people. The tunnel will pierce the hill on which these properties are situated and, when finished, will thoroughly ventilate both mines, as it will leave a clear circulation of air from one side of the hill to the other.

The Sumpter district is to be congratulated on the acquisition of this valuable property by Sumpter and other eastern Oregon people, for as it stands now this section will get more actual benefit from such a property than if it were owned by eastern capitalists.—Baker City Herald.

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