

A MINERAL EXHIBIT.

Suggestions for Those Having the Matter Under Consideration.

There can be no question but that a permanent organization of those interested in the mining industry will be effected.

The meeting held on Saturday night at the Hotel Sumpter which was well attended by representative business men of Sumpter and Baker City, attest this fact.

Just what shape the organization will take, at this writing has not been decided upon.

But from the enthusiasm displayed, there can be no doubt but that plans will be effected in thoroughly advertising the resources of, as so often expressed at the meeting, "the greatest gold mining camp in the world."

Many suggestions no doubt will be made to the committee having the matter in charge, and it is a foregone conclusion that the committee will consider them in time and adopt those which are the most feasible. It is the opinion of many that a mineral exhibit is a feature that aids wonderfully in calling attention to the mineral riches of a mining country. In fact it was an exhibition of this kind that was such an important factor in drawing the attention of the world to the mining resources which surround Spokane.

To properly advertise by means of an exhibit of this kind; a large room in a central location should be secured. It should be on the ground floor if possible so as to be easy of access. In this room should be placed tables and stands arranged for the reception of different samples and specimens from the various mines and prospects.

Huge pieces which may weigh hundreds of pounds, can be placed on the floor or on tables not so high as those intended for smaller samples. Concentrates are shown to better advantage if placed in glass bottles and sealed.

Rare and valuable specimens can be kept in locked cabinets or show cases.

The legs of the tables can be draped with some suitable material and the same kind of drapery should be thrown over the stands on which the large pieces are exhibited. By this means common goods boxes can be utilized as rests for the heavier ore.

If care is taken in arranging a room of this kind, it will have the appearance of being a vast mineral cabinet. It will be attractive and leave a lasting impression on the mind of any one who has visited it.

One of the most important adjuncts to a mineral exhibit as above described however, is to have a properly qualified person in charge of the same. He should be a man of pleasing address, fairly well posted on mining, concentration, reduction and the general manipulation of ores: so that he can explain to the inquirer everything connected with the industry from the time the prospector commences to search for the hidden treasure until the product of the mine or reduction work is in refined bullion.

The salary of an employee, who could also act as secretary of the association, should be sufficient so that he would not be tempted to boost sales or use his privilege for the purpose of furthering his own ends.

Should these suggestions be adopted it will be surprising to many how soon the effects will be seen. Those who have examined the exhibit will speak of

it to others.

It will be an object lesson: kindergarten, as it were.

It should be taken into consideration that any one visiting the Sumpter gold fields, whatever his object may be, can not, unless he has unlimited time, visit every district, or every mine or prospect in each district. Often climatic conditions would prevent this if time was no object to a visitor.

By spending a few hours in the mineral exhibit, and having everything explained to him, he has acquired all the information he may require.

Another important matter that should not be overlooked is that writing material and an extra desk in this room should be provided so that prospectors, miners, visitors and others could conduct their correspondence while in the city. Mining literature would be kept on file and in a measure, it could be a mining mans free reading room.

Should these suggestions be carried out, it would be an excellent means of bringing together the prospector and the purchaser of his claims.

Sumpter, the gateway to these fabulous gold fields, should be the first to consider the foregoing plan.

A MINISTER'S OPINION.

There Are Neither Blood Nor Tears on Mineral Wealth.

Robert McIntyre, a Methodist minister of Chicago, has stirred up some of his bretheren because he "grubstaked" a miner for the Klondike. He says:

"Conscientious scruples against such an undertaking? No scruples whatever entered my mind then, nor have they since. It was purely and simply a matter of principle. The sermon on the mount and the ten commandments don't come into the matter and theology needn't.

"The fact is, I admire a miner's wealth. It's clean. There are no tears or blood upon it. It is acquired away from the scheming and cut-throat competition that characterizes ordinary business ventures, where the success of one man so often means the disaster and downfall of some other man or perhaps a number of men. Nobody has been wronged. The miner who digs a fortune out of the ground has the satisfaction that he hasn't robbed a soul, even though he becomes a hundred times a millionaire.

"Then, too, there is another factor to take into consideration. A man who makes a fortune on the board of trade, or stock exchange, adds nothing to the world's stock of wealth. The world, in other words, is no richer, rather, because somebody else is poorer. The miner, on the other hand, whether he digs out \$100,000 or \$100,000,000, adds that much to the world's wealth, and with the added wealth he contributes just that much to the world's comforts and pleasures. As I look at the matter, there are few producers of wealth. The many live on the few. The only man comparable with the miner is the farmer. He gets what he has direct from nature, but he produces perishable wealth. While he meets a want, his contribution to the world's wealth therefore is not a permanent one like the miner's. The miner is today the king wealth producer of the country, and I honor him above the others. It is no dishonor, it needs no apology to emulate his example or assist him in his efforts. There's the whole question in a nutshell. As I just said: On the miner's wealth there is no blood no tears, no groans, suffering nor sorrow caused to others".—Exchange.

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