

PORTLAND PLAYS HOG

The Oregon Miners' association will not be an exclusive and select club for Portland stock brokers and southern Oregon mining promoters. The recently proposed plan to increase the membership fee from \$2, as at present, to \$25 per annum has been vetoed by the executive committee. It is the plan to reorganize the association at the next annual meeting, to be held, of course, in Portland, on November 14. The real purpose of the reorganization plan is told by the Portland Telegram in the following language:

"Another important matter that will be taken up for recommendation to the Oregon delegation at Washington will be the establishment of a government assay office at Portland, Montana, California, Idaho, Utah and other Pacific mining states have government assay offices where miners can get tests of ores made without expense, and it is contended that the mining interests of Oregon are of sufficient importance to justify the establishment of an assay office directly under federal control."

Another matter to be discussed, according to schedule, will be an amendment to or repeal of the Eddy law. The legislature may also be importuned to make appropriations for building wagon roads to isolated mining districts, to provide for mineral surveys, and for legislation regarding annual assessment work on mining claims.

The real purpose, however, of the meeting is to secure for Portland a governmental assay office. In an attempt to hoodwink the remainder of the state, the Portland Telegram doth protest too much. It says:

"Portland members of the executive committee wish to disabuse any impression that may prevail that Portland desires to control the organization of the Oregon Miners' association. The larger number of the members of this committee are residents of eastern and southern Oregon, and it is expected that the mining men outside of Portland will take the lead in the reorganization."

It is safe to assert that not more than one delegate from eastern Oregon, and not a single delegate from the Sumpter district association will be present at the Portland meeting. It is the desire of the mining men of this section to divorce themselves from the Portland body and form an absolutely independent association.

MINING NOTES.

A station is being cut at the 145 foot level in the Black Butte shaft. As soon as this work is completed the fifty-ton Merrill mill will begin dropping stamps.

Carlton, a New York mining expert, who recently examined the Columbia, South America, placer mines, owned by the Empire Dredging & Gold Mining company, is now at John Day, looking after the dredging ground of the same company at that place, upon which the old Pomeroy dredger is operating. It is rumored that big plans are being outlined for future development.



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