

Oregon's No. 1
Mining City

Record-Courier - July 1936

Cornucopia, where 300 men will be employed by late summer and where a 250-ton ore mill is being erected, is Oregon's No. 1 mining camp.

Record-Courier

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Thursday, July 16, 2015

MAP

(from 1936)

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12 Pioneer dredge at Bridgeport on Clark's Creek has a daily capacity of 5000 cubic yards. Pioneer Dredging Company also operates a 3000-yard boat near Prairie City.

13 Next to South Africa, Durkee district has the most rare minerals. You can see an sample of beautiful Oregon jade in some of the store windows.

14 Baker County lime goes into big public works projects of the west. It takes more lime to make a dollar than it does gold; but nevertheless, the cement works at Lime is a million dollar industry.

15 Record Mine has been producing for more than a year on the old White vein and a new one just developed. \$10 ore is being milled at 40 tons per day. Two shifts will be on by mid-July; three by Sept. 1; The mill is a 125-ton amalgamation and flotation plant. Record Mine is 6 miles south of the Unity-John Day Highway.

16 Maxwell Mountain and other hills of Elkhorn-Rock Creek district have produced more than \$1,000,000 in gold. The Baisley-Elkhorn up Pine Creek is credited with over a million itself from 1884 to 1907. The Highland Mine on Rock Creek from 1900 to 1914 produced a third of a million. Last year Clair Schlemmer bought the property and now has it back in the producing list. Baisley-Elkhorn is also this year back in the prospect list.

17 It's just a 15-minute drive to White Swan Mine of the old Virtue District. This mine has produced not less than \$200,000. White Swan, the management reports, is now running \$40 ore with a mill of between 26 and 50-ton capacity. You can see the old Virtue Mine on the hill as you come back.

18 Many Baker men are interested in the Balm Creek of the old Mother Lode and Poor Man District. After a million dollars went into developing the district, the depression closed it down. \$90,000 was the purchase price of the Balm Creek property paid by the present company in 1934. North of Balm Creek is old Sanger Mine where placer gold yielded a half million before 1892. Summit Lode had produced more than \$900,000 additional. Near Sparta is the Gem which dates back to 1873; small but numerous and rich veins have produced much yellow metal.

19 Nevada men were going home empty in 1862 when they struck gold in Mormon Basin. Stublely, Ingraham, and Getchell brought water in a ditch and worked the placers. Base ore at shallow depths have since been worked. Rainbow Mine, one-time heaviest producer in Oregon is credited with \$1,200,000; Humboldt with \$500,000. Condor Com-

pany last year operated in Mormon Basin.

20 Bonanza Mine of the Greenhorns is an early-day property. Worked from 1892 to 1904, it is now credited with total production of \$1,750,000.

21 Rye Valley placers discovered in 1863 by Joseph Benolt and Charles Van Clay produced \$1,000,000 before 1892.

22 Cable Cove was discovered in 1872. The camp was active in 1900. Imperial has been the principle mine of the district.

23 Grant County boasts several producing dredges and the Gem Mine, at Susanville. Buck Gulch yielded the famous 80-ounce Armstrong Nugget in 1913. Susanville placers have been worked every year since 1864, yielding more than \$500,000. Canyon Creek placers from 1862 to 1900 yielded \$15,000,000 it is claimed, some of which was gleaned by Chinamen.

24 Ben Harrison mine recently went back into the production column under the management of G.M. Henderson with a crew of about 40 men on the job, on a \$7000 monthly payroll. 70 tons a day are being treated in the new mill. The mine is reached via Granite as is the Red Boy, which has a past record of \$800,000, and Bi-Metallic Mine, southeast toward Greenhorn from the Ben Harrison.

25 Whenever the trigger is pulled there will be a boom at Bourne, biggest producing district so far in the Blue Mountain district. Up to 1915 about \$8,000,000 had already been mined from North Pole-Columbia lode through various workings--this even though recovery at that time was only 67 percent.

26 They built a railroad to this district, said to have mountains of low grade copper ore. Someday it will be mined. From 1915 to 1928 14,000,000 pounds of copper from Iron Dyke Mine returned \$2,400,000. The railroad was torn up from Robinette and is now a one-way highway to Homestead. The Baker-Homestead Road reaches Homestead by way of Halfway and down Pine Creek.

27 Ibex Mine reached 10 miles up McCully's fork from Granite bids for revival in conjunction with Bald Mountain Mine on the Baker County side. Ibex vein is parallel to North Pole-Columbia, E and E, etc. of the famous Bourne District. Record Gold Mining Company has been at the property for a year. They reached the Ibex vein from Bald Mountain side this month. West of Ibex and North of Granite are the Independence, Buffalo, Cougar and La Bellevue. Monumental Mine sent ore to San Francisco as early as 1874.

28 Not far from Balm Creek is the Sparta district where the Gem of Sparta Mine is again being developed after being under water since 1914. A new 50-ton flotation plant is being installed and will be running soon, William DeVine, manager, says. Eagle placers are in the same district.

29 Gold has been found along the Burnt River from Gold Hill to Huntington. An old two and one-half cubic foot dredge was operated on the river in the early days. Many contend that a large dredge would be profitable on this river. Gold Hill quartz mine is one of several prospects in the district.

1936 Mining Jubilee
Queen and Court

Photo from Baker County Library, Baker City

Will Welcome Governor

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A mighty welcome for the Governor is planned for his stay here. On his arrival either Thursday night or Friday morning, the fire siren and other whistles in town will blow. In the governor's party will be the treasurer and Frank C. McColloch, public utilities commissioner. All have been provided red silk shirts for the celebration.

Friday's afternoon events, the free sports and the ball game are at the ball park.

Theater Secures Camera

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A phone call to New York City by Mrs. Myrtle Buckmiller of Baker Theaters this week brought assurance that Universal News would have a sound truck in Baker to report highlights of the 1936 Jubilee over its international newsreel.

Seneca to Send 200 Boosters

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Seneca, Grant County lumber town, will send over 200 boosters to the Jubilee, a letter from there Monday states. They will root for their undefeated semi-pro baseball team which plays here July 3 and 5. Seneca mill will also enter five teams in the log-sawing contest July 4.

Mineral Wealth Untold

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Taking its cue, partly from a past production record of \$115,000,000, the Blue Mountain area of Oregon took advantage of both the depression and the boost in the price of gold to go re-prospecting. The prospects were as good as they were when Griffin struck gold here 1861 and the major industry of mining has revived to impressing portions since 1933.

Last year Baker County alone produced 21,000 fine ounces of gold and 7,000 ounces of silver, of a value of about \$800,000. Grant County also was in production. Nearly half the gold and 85 percent of the silver that made up Oregon's total production, however, came from Baker County.

List of Major Mines Includes Seventeen

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As near as can be obtained, the following is a list of major mineral producers of the district:

Cornucopia Gold Mines Company, R.J. Cole, manager; Balm Creek (old Oregon Copper), John Arthur, manager; White Swan, John Hancock, manager; Highland, Clair Schlemmer, manager; Ben Harrison, R.B. McGinnis, G.M. Henderson, manager; Record Gold Mines (also Ibex and Big Johnny), W.C. Fellows, manager; Argonaut, Bascom Parker, manager; Gem of Sparta, William DeVine, manager; Summit Mine, J.L. Fore, manager; Baisley-Elkhorn, G.P. Lilley, lease to Beverly Isgrig and Joe Fisher; Elliott placer, George Elliott; Timms dredge, at Galena, Charles Timms; John Day dredge Dave Folsom in charge; Sumpter dredge, W.H. Cullers, president; Pioneer Dredging company, W.A. Noon, manager;

In addition, Portland Cement company has a big plant at Lime under the management of James. M. McInenehen. Northwestern Granite company at Haines quarries Haines granite, another natural resource commodity of the district; George Burr is manager.

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July 17 - 23

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FRI-THURS (4:10) 7:10 9:45

TRAINWRECK R

Comedy. Commitment-phobic career woman may have to face her fears when she meets a good guy.

FRI-THURS (4:00) 7:00 9:40

MINIONS PG

Minions Stuart, Kevin and Bob are recruited by a super-villain who hatches a plot to take over the world.

FRI-THURS (4:20) 7:20 9:35

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COWBOY

continued from page 1

She received a Spur Award from the Western Writers of America for her song "Any Name Will Do." Her albums "The Dawn and the Dusk" and "No Wilder Place" have received excellent reviews and rose to the top of the Western Music Charts. Mary Kaye tours throughout the west. Her amazing three octave vocal abilities,

beautiful guitar playing, a sparkling stage presence and storytelling ability have won her growing audiences.

The National Historic Oregon Trail Interpretive Center is located at 22267 Oregon Hwy 86, just five miles east of Baker City. Learn more about Mary Kaye at MaryKayeKnaphus.com and more about Trail Tenders at trailtenders.org or call 541-523-1852. Phone number for the Oregon Trail Interpretive Center is 541-523-1843.

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