

STAYTON MAIL

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E. ROY, Treasurer.
HENRY SMITH, Marshal.

COUNCIL MEETS
First Thursday night each month.
COUNCILMEN
J. R. GARDNER, CHAS. STREFF,
G. H. BREWER, G. W. MURPHY

By FRED G. CONLEY.

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THIRTEENTH YEAR.

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Committee Make Favorable Report On Gold Creek M & M Co In Santiam District.

The committee chosen to investigate the Gold Creek Mining and Milling properties on The Little North Fork of the Santiam in the Santiam Mining District, returned Saturday and have made a glowing favorable report.

The party consisted of Messrs. J. T. Kearns, E. Forrette, Barney Minten, Frank Lesley, Stephen Polreis, Chris Williams and Otto Hansen who has charge of the properties and is also president of the Gold Creek Mining and Milling Company. They left Stayton at six o'clock in the morning and arrived at the mines at seven the same evening.

They took a conveyance from Stayton and drove within four miles of the properties and this part of the journey was made on foot over a splendid trail which is put in on an excellent grade, leading to the Smelter Site at the junction of Gold Creek and the Little North Fork of the Santiam. And by the way, there is a large stream at that point which has up to the present time been inoperative. It was given a name by E. Forrette of Stayton and after a fitting speech by its name, three cheers by the crowd and a draught to its continuance, the creek goes on the map as Theresa Creek. This in itself is a memorable event and will go down in history and the name of E. Forrette will be handed down through the ages in line with many others of the Oregon pioneers.

About eight o'clock on the morning after their arrival at the camp the committee started to examine the various properties, the first of which was the Wall Street claim upon which a cross cut tunnel of 400 feet with a depth of 300 feet which cuts five ledges that vary in width from over two feet to seventy feet.

Carry Same Ore.

All five ledges carry the same ore as is found above on the surface, but with the exception that the increased depth makes also an increase in values per ton of ore. The general character of ore is the Chalcopryite and Bornite

carrying sufficient iron, lime and silica to make it self fluxing. It is not necessary to have anything additional in this camp to treat the ore, other than what Nature has placed there before man had entered this mineral zone.

710 Feet Stopping Ground.

The 400 foot tunnel that is now being driven in the ore body of the Wall Street will tap the ore at a depth of 410 feet lower than where the present ore body is exposed, this giving a total of 710 feet, with a body of ore over 70 feet in one vein and there are five veins averaging from over two feet upwards, making a total of 710 feet of ore for stopping at this level. Much greater depth however is obtainable, and with the steady increase in values that have been shown, several times the required amount of daily tonnage can be supplied the smelter.

Over 100 Tons Per Day.

With the addition of machinery to that already installed in the Gold Creek Mining and Milling Company properties, this mine alone can furnish more than 100 tons of ore per day, that being the required amount contracted for by the mines in the district with the Smelter people.

This information was given out by Guy M. Vail Mining Engineer who has charge of the properties in the Santiam District. He knows whereof he speaks, and this fact alone means that this section will be better than Butte in the output of copper within a few years. The quantity of copper that has been exposed is sufficient to keep a 100 ton smelter in operation for an indefinite period, to say nothing of the ore which has only been gone through with a small tunnel.

Water Power For All Purposes.

The Gold Creek Mining & Milling Company have water power for all purposes and the new dam which is almost complete was carefully examined by the committee. From this dam the water is carried in a flume for a distance of 1000 feet and dropped 110 feet where sufficient power can be developed to maintain all machinery, air compressors, drills, saw mill and electric lights.

Saw-Mill and Lights There.

The saw mill and electric light plant

has been installed for some time and the mines are lighted by electric current. There is sufficient timber standing on the properties for all purposes, thereby saving much expense to the stockholders when new buildings are needed. The saw mill is fully equipped to turn out all stock needed in the mines for timbering or other purposes as well as to supply the local demand as the camp begins to take on metropolitan airs.

Not Adapted To Agriculture.

Of course there are a few objections to be met with even in this district but they are easily overcome. The only one of importance as noticed by E. Forrette was that the district was not adapted to agriculture. Well, brother, what is lacking in that line in the Santiam District we will be glad to supply from Stayton and vicinity, so there is nothing lacking now but to raise a little more money for the completion of the wagon road, for the adding of a few more machines and then the smelter will go in. With it installed there will not be a claim in the entire district that will not be shipping ore within one year.

Air Compressor In 30 Days.

The air compressor is to be installed within thirty days from this date.

The other needed machinery can be added in a very short time as soon as the capital necessary for same has been assured. With the completion of the wagon road to the Santiam District there will be a great rush to the district and Oregon will then take its place in the front rank as one of the greatest Copper producing states in the Union.

Great Possibilities.

There are great possibilities in this section and our people who take advantage of the opportunities offered them today will be the independent citizens in the very near future.

This territory has not been exploited by mining operators or smoothie promoters, but on the other hand it has been developed by men who are well known to most of our readers and who stand well in the communities in which they reside. We can safely say that in three years from date there will not be a claim for sale in the Santiam District and land values in this part of Marion county, will have more than trebled in value. That means a direct benefit to every taxpayer in the county, and what benefits the taxpayers brings a like treatment to the business men. Let us do all we can to see the development of the Santiam District speedily assured.

Salen has done much toward this end, but we can safely say that we can show to the world that we cannot be outdone by any section when it comes to the advancement of resources which mean so much to the entire state.

If Interested.

If interested in this section drop a letter of inquiry to the MAIL.

Klumb Echoes.

Messrs Jos Etzel Jr. and Jno Stadler have gone to Portland.

Mr and Mrs H. A. Siegmund spent Sunday in Sublimity.

The Misses Belle and Sylvia Carter of Whitaker spent a few days visiting friends on the ridge.

Mr and Mrs J. F. Richards spent the past few days with the father of the former who is ill, having been injured in a runaway accident.

Messrs Jos Becker and Frank Siegmund made a business trip to Fox Valley recently.

Echoes say that many of the farmers are wearing a broad smile since the rain came, also, that the Mehama dance was a success, judging from the report our crowd brings in.

Messrs John Apple Jr. and Nairne Siegmund attended the Stayton dance on Saturday evening.

Miss Appalona Lambrecht has gone to Portland to visit her brother Jacob and family.

Mr Jno Apple Jr., who has been working for P. C. Freres, leaves soon for Scio where he and his brother Chas have rented a large farm.

J. W. Kiphart, of Kingston, recently purchased a fine 3 1/2 Moline wagon.

The Mines Are Here.

Only Need is Road And Erection of Smelter.

For many years there have been rumors of rich mines on the head waters of the Santiam. That is they have been mere rumors to the general public, and few people, except those actually engaged in the development of the mineral wealth of that section, realized that a vast amount of work had been, or was being done there. That there are mines there, and good mines, too, is no longer a rumor, but a demonstrated fact.

Last week in company with Mr. Frank Leslie, of the Stayton Hotel, the writer visited the Gold Creek district, on the Little North Fork of the Santiam. The same day a party of six from Stayton went up by private conveyance, and with these gentlemen, piloted by Guy M. Vail superintendent of the Gold Creek mines and consulting engineer for the Freeland Consolidated and Electric mining companies, the writer examined the different showings going into every tunnel in the district and examining the ore shoots. The amount of work done is a matter of surprise, when one considers the difficulties under which it was accomplished. More than half a mile of tunnels and drifts has been made, and the ore showings are indeed remarkable. The ores are principally Chalcopryite and carry from seven to twenty per cent copper, besides gold and silver in commercial quantities, some assays showing as high as \$30 per ton.

The country rock is ideal from a miners viewpoint, porphyry and phonolite traversed by great diorite dykes, being the general formation, and porphyry has well been named "the mother of mines."

The amount of outside work is something to cause wonder. Here, at the Gold Creek mine is a dynamo, weighing not less than 1400 pounds, and this was hauled on a sled over a seemingly impossible trail, by J. H. Church of Gates, who has no feet, but has all the industry and energy of a wood rat and is not afraid to tackle anything in the transportation line.

Here also is a saw mill, and this and the electric light plant are run by water power. A telephone line connects the camps with the balance of the world at Gates, and is of great value and convenience.

What strikes one most forcibly however, is the values of the ledges, ore zones of 60 to 70 feet in width being the rule. Both in the Gold Creek and Freeland Consolidated these ore zones show fine bodies of ore, that in the Gold Creek being especially "showy", but the Freeland ores, while being more decomposed and as a general thing not so glittering, are at least as high grade, and carry big values, the average assays from the loan tunnel on the Freeland mining above \$38 per ton. These values are from a three foot vein of ore, lying along the north side of a vein at least 14 feet across. The balance of this vein carries highly mineralized "gouge" and decomposed pyrites, carrying good values.

These concentrating ores will all be worked in the near future, but the contract with the smelting people, made by the Gold Creek, Freeland and Electric Companies, calls for 100 tons per day of sorted ores. The Electric while having the least development work of any of the mines has a splendid showing of chalcopryite ores, and bids fair to be one of the big mines of the district.

The Freeland and Gold Creek each have big bodies of ore "cut under," (that is a tunnel run on the veins with the ore over them) and can on short notice begin shipping ore to the smelter, and in a short time either mine could supply more than enough ore to keep the smelter running or above 100 tons daily, and Electric will soon be in shape to add materially to the output of the district.

The mines are there, vast bodies of copper, that will make the district a second Butte or Jerome. That the district can, and will produce a thousand tons of ore a day, in the near future is certain, and he would be bold indeed, who would undertake to guess where the limit of production will close.

The mining companies named are

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Kerber Brothers.

under contract with the Smelter Company to complete the road into the mines. This year about three and a half miles of this road have been completed, and there remain about four and one half miles to be built.

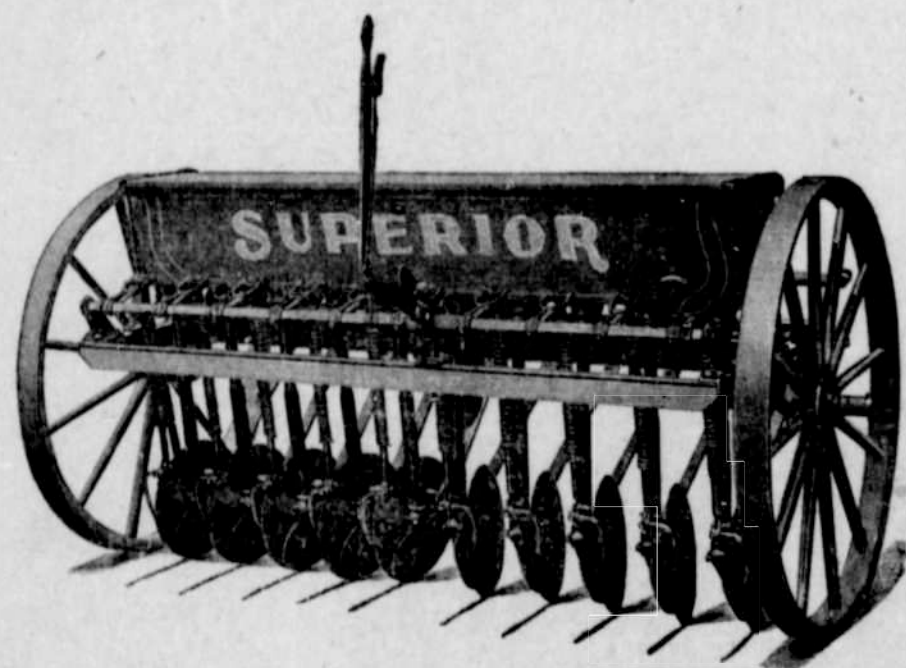
It is of the greatest importance that this road be completed by spring, as the smelter will be built as soon as the road is opened.

Besides the mines, there is a vast body of first class timber in the district, much of it pine, and it is only a question of time, and a very short time, at that, until an electric road will make the vast wealth of the district available. Stayton people will be greatly benefited by the opening of these mines and should assist in providing the means for constructing

the road and completing power plants, and while doing so, they can also put money in their purses. Ore stocks now selling at 10 and 15 cents will be worth, when the smelter gets to running, ten times their present value. As an investment these same stocks, with the amount of ore contracted to be worked by the smelter (100 tons a day) will pay a net profit of better than 50 per cent interest a year.

In conclusion, I would say, that with more than 30 years experience in the mines of the coast, I have never seen a copper mining district with so great a showing for the amount of work done, or ore where the character of the country rocks and the magnitude of the ore zones gave promise of such vast ore bodies.

J. H. CRADLEBAUGH.



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