

DEVELOPING ORE FOR THE SMELTER

Three Crosscuts Being Driven on Properties of the Waldo Mining Company.

LARGE ORE BODIES ARE OPENED NEAR SURFACE

Every Indication Points to Blowing Smelter in Again Early Next Season.

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)
Waldo, Or., Nov. 22.—Development on the properties of the Waldo Mining & Smelting company, at this place, progresses steadily, which is another assurance of the management's purpose to blow the smelter in again next spring. On the Queen of Breeze property, which has been the best producer of the copper group controlled by Waldo interests, the cross-cut tunnel has a length of slightly over 300 feet. Within another 200 feet it will open the ore body at a depth of about 300 feet, giving the management stopping ground above this tunnel of sufficient area to keep the smelter busy for some time. Drifts will be extended in both directions when the vein is intersected. The ore bodies have been proved for nearly the length of the claim here, and vary in width from 12 to 20 feet. With 300 feet depth, which will be increased in one drift, and the width of commercial ore shown in upper workings maintained, there seems no doubt that a heavy tonnage will be blocked out within a comparatively short time.

Another cross-cut is being driven on the Cowboy claim, which will give a vertical depth of more than 200 feet. This tunnel is already in 400 feet, and will soon cut the vein when the drifts will be run in both directions. The surface showing on this property is exceptionally good, assuring high-grade copper ore at depth. On the Mabel, Copper King and Lytle claims development has been prosecuted, which opens large and promising ore bodies. On the Lytle upper workings opened the vein to a depth of 100 feet, where the ore shoot widened to 20 feet. A cross-cut tunnel is being driven to open this ore body at about 250 feet depth, vertical measurement. 500 feet of the drive already having been completed. A strong development crew is maintained by Manager E. W. Walters, and no better evidence is wanted of the plans for permanent operation than a visit to the workings. By late spring, when it will be possible to haul economically between Waldo and Grants Pass, the management will be ready to resume smelting, and will have a reserve in sight that will permit of steady work. Ore bodies here are large, and drifting on them opens an immense tonnage. There is such uniformity in size in all surface work, and the deposits have such evidence of permanence, that all the expensive equipment before deep development seems fully warranted.

CHAMPLIN DREDGE IS DOING FINE WORK

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)
Woodville, Or., Nov. 22.—Dredge operations on Foothills creek this year by the Champlin company have been of the most satisfactory nature. The big plant has been in steady commission since started early in the fall, and will continue on through the winter. A favorable feature of climate here is the ability of a dredger to run through the winter months, as there is not enough ice or violent weather to hinder work. A large crew of men is kept in the timber cutting fuel. By commencing this work early, Manager Christian has fortified himself against emergencies, and has steady deliveries of fuel for the 210-horsepower steam plant. The wood is cut on the company's own land, by contract. Including the wood crews and men operating the dredger, a

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total of about 50 is employed at present.

The dredger is holding up to its test run of last spring, when it demonstrated its capacity to handle 2,400 cubic yards a day under adverse conditions, with a reverse capacity running as high as 4,000 cubic yards when digging at shallow depth and in loose gravel. Since the renovation and minor alterations made last summer there is not a flaw in the big machine. The especially designed sand pump of Manager Christian, which elevates from the pump below the trolley to the head of the sluices, is as such and constant as the marine engine running the digging apparatus.

GALICE SOON TO HAVE OUTLET TO LELAND

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)
Galice, Or., Nov. 22.—Winter and everything in this section in excellent condition. Both the Galice and the Old Channel plants are doing full duty, while Anderson and Williams and other concerns operating here have their equipment in commission. Next season will see a clean-up that has not been exceeded on lower Rogue placers for many years.

A force of men has been put at work by the Alameda company on the 11-mile road from this district to the Southern Pacific near Leland. When the survey was finished it was found that the grade did not exceed 6 per cent in the roughest parts, and the amount of rock work to be done is not large. The time for completing this new route to the railway cannot be fixed, but it is the purpose of the mineowners to press work so as to have the road open during the early winter.

CALIFORNIA MINE WILL BE REOPENED

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)
Spokane, Wash., Nov. 22.—A force of men is busy at the California mine near Republic, Wash., pumping water from the workings and repairing the shaft. The removal of the debris of the cave revealed less damage than was expected. The shaft has been cleaned and retimbered as far as water would permit. Work will be done on the level after another as each is drained. The amount of repairing and retimbering necessary on each level cannot be estimated yet. M. A. Lively and brother have taken a lease on the waste dump, which is known to contain considerable rich ore and much medium and low-grade material that will pay well to sort and ship. A jig has been set up, and they have begun jigging and sorting. The greater part of the ore which they expect to recover is the fine broken material which it was impossible to save at the time the mine was mined. It is stated by those in a position to know that the lessees have a good thing.

DEEP WORK ON VEINS OF GOOD MILLING ORE

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)
Cottage Grove, Or., Nov. 22.—Alfred Johnson, president of the Hiawatha Mining & Milling company, has returned from a visit to the company's holdings. Four tunnels are driven on two ledges, aggregating 425 feet, all in milling ore, says Mr. Johnson. A lower tunnel is being started. Down the mountain near the mill site another large ledge has been exposed. Mr. Johnson says this property can be mined at a greater depth than any of the claims in the center of the camp, as a long tunnel from the mill site driven under the apex of the ledge would give a vertical depth of over 2,000 feet. Mr. Johnson brought out samples from the upper adits, in which can be seen free gold. He says the Hiawatha group has improved a great deal the past season.

BIG CROSSCUT NEAR THE CHAMPION LEDGE

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)
Cottage Grove, Or., Nov. 22.—George Knowles came out from Bohemia district yesterday and says he has discovered a fine ledge on the Emergency group on the south side of Fairview mountain, owned by himself and Charles Gettys. Mr. Knowles says there was about three inches of snow on the ground when he left. The big tunnel of the Oregon Securities company is now within about 40 feet of the Champion ledge, and breaking into stringers and ledge matter. The tunnel is being extended about five feet daily, with double shifts. Mr. Knowles will return to camp the last of the week.

AGRICULTURISTS ARE ATTACKING DREDGERS

An argument advanced against dredging is the destruction of land by the boats. Estimating the total number of dredgers at work on the Pacific coast at 100, and placing their capacity at an acre of ground per month each, it is found that 1,200 acres of ground are being spoiled annually. All of this is assumed to be agricultural ground, and

utter ruin for agricultural purposes surely follows dredging.

Taking either Oregon or California for observation, dredge men hold that there is no need of alarm. Most of the ground dredged is not used for agriculture. As a rule the boats are placed in some narrow depression contiguous to rough hills, where there is not enough soil over the gravel to render it productive of crops. But if agricultural land is dredged, it is held by operators that a relatively short time will be required to bring it back to a state of fertility. Land valuable for dredging will have a light overburden of soil, and this will be replaced in time over the gravel dump left at the tail of a boat.

MEXICO'S POWDER TAX

Mexico has provided, in granting a monopoly to Mexican powder manufacturers, for a \$240 tariff on each ton of imported giant powder when the local concern is able to meet market requirements. This tariff is about \$5.55 a case, and if the local manufacturers take advantage of the increase in tariff rates, or if after launching upon manufacture of powder it is not able to continue to supply the demand, mining men will have to pay an enormous tribute to the government for their explosives. While the monopoly has commenced to manufacture explosives, it has not announced its capacity to supply the market, and the tariff has not yet been put into effect. This tariff is scarcely less oppressive than some of the monopolies of the Transvaal government, which British and other foreign operators advanced as justification for the Boer war.

MANUFACTURES INCREASE

Manufacture of steel, iron and copper increased more during the year closing than any other manufactures in this country. Mining men offer this as a further evidence of the need of a mining department in the cabinet. In the nine months so far recorded there was an increase of \$10,000,000 in the manufacture of iron and steel, \$23,000,000 in copper and \$10,000,000 in mineral oils, whereas very little increase was noted in other branches of manufacture. Handling minerals, manufacture and delivery in finished form to mankind, are grouped as features of the mineral industry that would be embraced within the scope of the new department, and all of which would be benefited by it.

WANT WATER TESTED

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)
Tacoma, Nov. 22.—The proposal to supply water to Tacoma through the well system has met a sudden check. Eminent physicians declare the water should first be tested by competent experts, and suggest that an experienced bacteriologist and pathologist be employed for that purpose. Dr. E. M. Brown of the board of health has taken a decided stand in the matter and has forwarded a resolution of the Pierce County Medical association to the mayor. In the resolution the medical men point out the dangers arising from the use of well water. This action has caused the promoters of the well scheme much alarm, as they had virtually carried their point and expected the city council to accept their plan.

NEW CONDENSING COMPANY

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)
Chehalis, Wash., Nov. 22.—The St. Helens Condensing company has been incorporated at Chehalis, with a paid-up capital of \$30,000. The company has been organized wholly by local capitalists, and will build a milk-condenser plant to replace the one that was destroyed by fire a few weeks ago. The directors are C. W. Maynard, D. W. Boone, E. G. Lowry, J. W. Crow and John W. Reynolds. Work has commenced on the site of the company, which will be the same as the old plant occupied.

"NIGER TRACT" LITIGATION

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)
Tacoma, Nov. 22.—Judge Chapman, in the superior court, has decided a famous case in favor of Pierce county and against Dell Stuart. Stuart sought to foreclose a vendor's lien for \$15,000 against a piece of four acres which the county holds by eminent in the locality formerly known as the "Niger tract." The court held that plaintiff could not recover on the strength of the county's defective title, but must recover, if at all, upon the strength of his own title.

LUMBER FOR AUSTRALIA

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)
Tacoma, Nov. 22.—The Russian ship Glenard will sail for Australia tomorrow morning. She carries 1,600,000 feet of lumber.

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WITHDRAWAL DUE TO CHANGE OF POLICY

British Government Considering Plan of Strategical Distribution of Forces.

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)
Victoria, B. C., Nov. 22.—A special cable from London to the Times says that the recent withdrawal of warships from Esquimaux is part of the radical change of policy on the part of the council of defense of the cabinet. It is announced that the government is considering a plan for strategical distribution of imperial forces so as to concentrate naval and military strength in a more effective way. One change will be the withdrawal of regular forces at small coaling stations and the substitution for them of local defense forces. It is officially announced that the government contemplates the withdrawal of imperial forces from Halifax. In connection with the decision to be reached as to Esquimaux is the fact that the center of the world's military and naval interest is now on the Pacific, and this may save that station from reduction. A speedy announcement of the government's intention in this regard is expected.

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