

Apex of Oreg. Mine Active

P. X. Johnson, is one of the few miners (or promoters, suit yourself) who have come into Southern Oregon, become convinced that all was not as represented by a few would-be wise mining engineers, and had courage enough back of his convictions to stay with his idea and is seeing the proof of his ideas demonstrated. Reports from supposed-to-be experts "that the rich free-gold ore was surface valuations, mostly worked out years past, is where P. X. Johnson's contrary ideas come into focus. He has undertaken to prove to the world that free-gold ore not only 'goes down to depth, but increases in quantity and value with depth.

Our readers are quite well acquainted with the fact that P. X. Johnson has been for years interested in the development of the Gold Ridge Mine, and is largely responsible for the reorganization of the holding company on the mine not incorporated under the laws of the State of Oregon as the Apex of Oregon. No use to go into the early history of the property as we have several times covered the good and bad fortune of the people who operated the mine, but we would like to acquaint our readers with the fact that P. X. Johnson has been and is still demonstrating to all interested that this is not a "Pocket Country", never was and never will be, and "further more, the free gold ore found in years past in pockets, was only bunched on a definite pay shoot or shoots and investigation by an intelligent engineer who does not suffer from too much egotism will prove that many mines abandoned on the say so of 'expert engineers' will open up again and prove far richer than previous results indicate".

This idea is a patent subject with Mr. Johnson who will raise in defense of his theory on a moment's notice. It is an interesting subject in as much as this particular district is world famous for its rich discoveries of 'pockets' or bunches of free gold ore; some of the bunches amounting to approximately three quarters of a million dollars in one location and bunches valued at several thousand dollars are very common to the old timer. The erosion of the country and the consequent movement of this free gold from mountain side to the sands of the stream beds is the cause of the very rich placer miner of the early days, but the placer free-gold is another story and we are reciting the arguments raised by Mr. Johnson to prove that free-gold 'pockets' will be found one on top of the other similar to nothing else than a string of saucages, if you please, running

Sweeney Enters Not Guilty Plea

Medford, Jan. 19.—Dr. C. T. Sweeney, local physician, formerly prominent in the political life of Josephine county and Great Falls, Mont., Monday morning entered a plea of not guilty to an indictment charging perjury, as a result of testimony given at the trial of Omer Murphy, under sentence to states prison on conviction of manslaughter, as a result of a beating administered to his wife a year ago.

Unable to be present in court on account of professional business, Dr. Sweeney, through his attorney, asked the court to make his plea.

—Grants Pass Courier.

An affidavit of prejudice was filed in the circuit court Monday morning by Dr. C. T. Sweeney, former Josephine county legislator and Great Falls, Mont., coroner, now a practicing physician at Medford, indicted for perjury. The affidavit is based upon the allegation that Judge C. M. Thomas is prejudiced. The trial was set for Monday, February 1. The indictment grew out of testimony given by Dr. Sweeney at the trial of Omer W. Murphy, under a 15 year sentence for manslaughter.

—Mail Tribune.

I.O.O.F. Dance Pleasant Affair

The social dance given by the Odd Fellows lodge in their hall here last Friday night, was considered a very enjoyable affair by all reports. The attendance could have been improved, but this dance was reported as one of the most enjoyable in the history of the order in Gold Hill.

The lack of noise and row and the sobriety of the dancers testified to the attention of the management.

The lodge realized a fair profit from this affair and was so well pleased over the success of the event another dance has been announced for the 29th of this month when an even better time is expected.

Some of the ladies of the order raffled off a beautiful quilt they have made. Practically all the tickets were sold. The drawing of the lucky number will be an event in the near future.

from the bowls of the earth skyward

After mining men had exhausted the rich bunches of free-gold ore at the Gold Ridge mine, they were advised that although there was vast quantities of 'base' ore in the property, the lack of a smelter close to the property and the prohibitive cost of transportation made the mine very difficult to operate at a profit because many circumstances were against cheap operation, one of the greatest of which was the necessity of carrying water from the bottom of the mountain to the top at great expense for milling purposes. All these facts taken into consideration, the property fell into disuse. However, P. X. Johnson, had different ideas on the subject. One, that the free-gold ore did not stop at a shallow depth, and also that if the sheer wall was ever penetrated water in great abundance would be found.

We are not acquainted with the details of the organization of the Apex of Oregon company and the transfer of the mining property, but we do happen to know from visiting the mine that when the miners under the direction of P. X. Johnson penetrated the sheer wall they were compelled to force the sticks of explosives down the holes because of the rush of water from the other side of the wall, and that today, after over a year the flow of water has not diminished but continues steadily and is sufficient for all the requirements of a pretty husky mill right on the property. That's that for cheap water supply and a reversal of one of the principle arguments against continuing milling on lower valued ore. Then, to prove his main assertion that free-gold is not a surface mining proposition, tests of the former location where rich bunches of ore was mined has yielded ore that would shame the former operators of the mine. The free-gold ore has been absolutely proven to continue with depth. He can show anyone interested enough to investigate and what better proof can anyone want than to see the gold in place and in the case of the doubting editor of this paper, to dig out chunks of the ore and test it for free gold and find mighty fine values at several hundred feet below the surface.

The mine has been proven to be a producer of not only great quantities of base ore of good value, but also very valuable as a producer of free gold and so convinced are the owners of the property in the theory of P. X. Johnson that they are spending a fortune in equipping the property for very active operation.

S. D. Harris, of Portland, one of the interested financiers of the mine has been visiting the property as a guest of Mr. Johnson and leaves for his home an enthusiast. Kenneth Urfer, a mining engineer of well known ability, registered and with much experience, is now engineer at the property where P. X. Johnson now ranks as Manager. L. Blum, a mine mill man of much experience has been employed and is now on the property in charge of the mill. This makes the mine one of the first in this district to get into operation and the operation of this property will be closely watched for the very fact that they are demonstrating that free-gold does actually continue with depth.

Largest Orange Grove in World Will Be Cut Down for Home Sites



TEMPLE TERRACE
ORANGE GROVE

GOLDEN
FRUIT

TAMPA, FLA.—The largest orange grove in the world is to be cut down and the land subdivided into building lots.

Real estate in Florida today so greatly overshadows oranges in value that the state is being dotted with numerous such citrus tragedies. The world's largest orange grove is at Temple Terrace, a suburb of Tampa, and contains 450,000 orange trees on 4,500 acres of land. The grove is owned now by many people in tracts of several acres and the purchasers bought their land originally with the idea of making profits on their annual crop of oranges.

But with the rapid development of Temple Terrace on the highest land in this part of the state, over-

looking the Hillsborough river, the owners of the orange groves are subdividing their properties into residence lots. The sale of these lots will mean vastly greater profits to them than they could hope to realize on the production of oranges.

"These orange trees represent an investment of more than \$5,000,000" said D. C. Gillet, president of the Temple Terrace Estates. "They are reaching production and are now heavy with golden fruit. But the demand for building lots is so great, all the grove land will be cut up into home sites within a year or two and the largest orange grove in the world will dwindle into a few trees shading the lawns and backyards of residences."

- - Local Happenings - -

Frank Fink, who for some time has been under surgical attention by the U. S. hospital department, was recently examined at Portland and was sent on to Tacoma, Washington where special apparatus is available for his particular case.

The local organization of Boy Scouts has been moved from the old John Hammersley stone building near the News' office to the Lance store room in the old Opera House building near the Laboratory.

FOR SALE—Harold Tompkins line bred Rhode Island Red hatching eggs and baby chicks, at our ranch, located one half mile west of Gold Hill, Oregon. R. 1, Bx 5. M. Disbro.

Fred Turner, who some time past suffered an operation at the Veteran Hospital and who came home last week, reports that he is feeling like a new man and that the treatment he received at the hospital was the very best possible in an institution of that kind. He also stated that a great many of the World War Veterans do not know that they are entitled to free hospitalization whether they have applied for disability or not and encourages any of the boys who are in need of medical or surgical attention to investigate. He will be glad to give all the information on the subject he can.

Let me figure on your trucking or teaming, grading J.J.Ritter pd ad—37

About one hundred feet of drill line was delivered at Gold Hill this week for the Apex mine. This is a very good reminder that mining activity is here to stay.

John B. Palmer was a visitor here today. While here he did some shopping with the local merchants as proof of the fact that prices are better here than in his home town of Medford.

J. M. Lively and S. E. Heberling with their attorney Geo. Roberts Met Mr. and Mrs. Chas Knight and Robert Lighthody at Jacksonville at the Courthouse today. The occasion was a request for further information regarding the settlement of affairs of the Millionaire Mining company.

Mrs. A. E. Kellogg returned Wednesday from a visit at the home of E. V. Kellogg, at the Illehee Orchard near Medford.

E. Derwent and wife with C. Giblin and Chas O'Neil were visitors at the Hatton farm on the Willow Springs road last Sunday.

Tonight, the Grants Pass degree team of the Encampment will conduct the degree with four Gold Hill young men as victims. Safe to say the victims will find out several things heretofore not imagined by them, by the time the degree team gets through with them. Geo. Haff will serve the refreshments for the encampment.

Noel Kellogg visited at the home of Chas Stacy, near Medford last week.

J. M. Mecker of the Mace Smelting Company, Denver, is visiting the many mining districts of Southwest Oregon in the interests of a proposed smelter.

The mining companies of Utah, paid annual dividends in 1925 amounting to nearly \$13,000,000 bringing the grand total to \$267,000,000.

The heavy rains over the week means much to the placer miner, and from now on while the water lasts he will attend strictly to the working of his property.

Licensed Truck and Driver. We haul anything. J.J.Ritter pd ad—37

Madam Gossip Tells of Another Newspaper

What is well rembered as the old drug store building, recently vacated by Bower's Pharmacy, owned by Mrs. J. W. Merritt, has been leased to a Vernonia, Oregon, person for a period of five years, so we are informed. The purpose for which the building was leased seems to be a secret as A. E. Kellogg, who drew up the lease for his Vernonia friends stated to the News that "he did not know what was to be the purpose of the people leasing the building. Madame Gossip has been busy in Gold Hill and informed many people that a Printing Plant would be installed in the building as soon as repairs now in progress are completed. That news is supposed to inspire the pen pusher of this paper to frenzied editorial efforts, but the insiration fell flat. The metropolis of Gold Hill could use more advertising even if the Gold Hill News, established almost thirty long years had to fight for its life against a competitor. We would even welcome another booster to Gold Hill if the town could be boosted any more than the News has been able to boost. The News would manage some how to survive the consequence split up of the town, but realizes that two papers here could not either one boost as much as one before a paper can be useful it must be profitable and the more profitable the more useful. It is deplorable to say the least that our mutual enemy, Madame Gossip should attempt to worry the community's boosters by threatening to weaken the local newspaper, but then she must have her fling. We might add in the way of answering the gossip that there is ample room in Gold Hill for a prosperous newspaper but far from enough business here for two and it would be very poor business practice.

Let us hope, if Madame Gossip is true in her surmise of disruption, that the competitor will not be of the promotion type to boom mining. That means hard times ahead for the town. Never was there a boom without a reaction and there never will be one. Conservative publicity and studied advertising such as the present management of the News has been following here for eight years always brings results. Mining booms, we find are generally backed up by promoters who are not versed in mining laws, economic solutions and do not give a rap for the future so long as they can unload on the 'dear public' while the unloading is good. If the promoters were mining engineers of standing, they would never attempt to boom anything.

ESTRAY NOTICE—Gernsey heifer about 18 months old, strayed from the Greenleaf farm on Willow Spgs road. Information will be rewarded by Mrs. W. L. Greenleaf, 26 Cottage St. Medford, Oregon.

Kel-Mar Pres. Now Local Res.

By A. E. Kellogg,

The local KEL-MAR-PET mine adjoining Gold Hill on the north has been closed the past month to all visitors and but little has leaked out regarding the recent uncovering of extensive bodies of ore and the richness of same. The local managers announce that but 550 ft. of the proposed 800 foot tunnel into the mountain has been driven and the known veins which they are driving for have not been cross cut, yet they have cut blind veins in driving the tunnel which show nearly a million tons of valuable ore in the black ready for reduction. The ore is principally gold bearing, yet some is also rich in nickel, copper and other associated metals. The local management announce that they expect to have a 100-ton unit reduction plant in operation at the mine within ninety days at an approximate cost of \$50,000.

Suicide Bared In Discovery Of Man's Skeleton

GRANTS PASS, Jan. 19 —Clad in a pleated khaki suit, the skeleton of an unknown man was found Sunday, a short distance west of the Louse creek road where it passes over the summit of the hill. All attempts at identification today were unavailing and the body was laid to rest in Potter's field, with only a brief funeral service. Suicide was clearly indicated, as a rope, still noosed, hung from a branch of a big oak tree, just over the place where the skeleton was discovered.

Although the clothing was still in good condition, Coroner L. B. Hall believes that the skeleton had been there since the summer of 1924. As the man had not been missed and papers were found on the corpse which indicated residence in California, Mr. Hall gave his opinion that the man was a transient of middle age. The only papers which gave any clue to the man's home or which might help in identification were some mining notices which printed by the Searchlight Publishing company at Redding. A wicker suitcase nearby contained a shaving outfit, toothbrush, a few other toilet articles, underwear and a bathing suit. The presence of the swimming suit in the suitcase led Mr. Hall to believe that it was summer when the suicide occurred.

The man had evidently been prospecting, judging by the suit he wore and the presence of the mining notices, which he had never opened. There was no camp equipment near and the authorities stated that he had probably left a camp further back in the hills, there being several shacks along the ridge to the west.

The skull was found first by A.F. Pederson, of the Crystal Springs farm. The man had left the trail and had hanged himself to a tree about 50 yards away. He had apparently jumped 12 or 15 feet from the lower limb of the tree, breaking his neck as he fell. The skull had later rolled to the bottom of a steep grade, the rest of the skeleton being found under the tree where it had first fallen.

Two other clues for identification are that the man had brown-gray hair, and a stickpin made of a flattened nugget.

The KKK Holds Get-to-gether

Tuesday night of last week the Klansmen of Medford, Grants Pass and Gold Hill got together in the Odd Fellows hall here about four hundred strong and enjoyed one of the most successful social events in the history of the order in this part of the west. The Gold Hill Klanswomen served a wonderful banquet for the assembled klansmen who heartily enjoyed the repast.

According to a clipping handed in by one of our subscribers, the evening was spent in entertainment features which were furnished by members from Medford, Grants Pass and Gold Hill. Eighty klansmen and klanswomen attended the social gathering from Grants Pass.

A writeup of the K.K.K. event in Gold Hill was omitted in last week's News for the simple reason that the editor of the News not belonging to the clan had depended on one of the klansmen who promised to see that this paper was supplied with a full account of the event and failed to keep his word. Excuse please.

A train wreck was undoubtedly averted in the heart of Gold Hill today when the section crew discovered a broken rail in the main line track and replaced same with a new piece of track. The break was at the street intersection at the end of the depot and a wreck there would have not only blocked the traffic but would have tied up connection between the two of Gold Hill.