



Devoted to the Mining, Lumbering and Farming Interests of this Community, to Good Government, and Hustling for a Grub Stake.

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COTTAGE GROVE, LANE COUNTY, OREGON, FRIDAY, JULY 29, 1904.

NO. 27

FATAL ACCIDENT.

Harry N. Wertz While Out Hunting and Fishing Shoots Himself and Dies in 10 Hours.

Harry N. Wertz, who with his family, consisting of wife and four little children lived at Rouse's mill up the Coast Fork, on last Sunday morning accidentally shot himself and died at nine o'clock in the evening.

The news of the accident first reached the city when medical assistance was called by telephone.

W. F. Shanafelt had gone up to that locality to take some views and Saturday a party was made up to go further up the stream to hunt and fish. Saturday afternoon Wertz, Jesse Bemis and Shanafelt left the party at Lane Shortridge and went on into the mountains for deer.

At night they found themselves high up on a mountain side where they decided to remain until morning.

Early on Sunday morning they started for the river and about seven o'clock Wertz tried to send his dog ahead into some bushes, hoping to start a deer, the dog was old and worthless and refused to go and Wertz shot him. Bemis had gone by himself toward camp.

When we reached the river, said Mr. Shanafelt, we decided to fish on the way back. I suggested we strap our guns on our backs, but Harry said he should carry his in his hand. He then went ahead and it was past 11 o'clock when I discovered him lying down.

I asked him if he was resting and he replied he was shot. When I fully realized what had happened, I asked him what I could do for him. "He said to go away from the river and fire three shots," which I did, getting no response. Upon returning I asked if he could walk with my assistance, but he said no and urged me to go for help. I disliked leaving him alone, but as something must be done, I decided to go. He explained he had been standing on a big rock fishing with his gun leaning against his leg, when it slipped off the rock and was discharged, the ball hitting him in the left leg. After making him as comfortable as possible and placing a cup of water within reach, I said, Harry something may happen before any one comes, have you a message to send. Yes, he replied, "Tell my wife I have made my peace with God; also ask the Old Fellows to bury me and look after my children." I then started for help. I climbed over fallen trees, waded the streams, fired my gun at intervals, hoping to find some one. After traveling about a mile I found Boone Shortridge who went to Harry, while I continued down the stream. The next one I found was Bemis, who also went back to help Harry. From here there was a trail and I was soon at camp. Hastily saddling a horse the McComas boy started for Werts, 4 miles below, to telephone for doctors.

At 9 o'clock Witt, Boone Short-

ridge, Tom Edwards and myself started back to help bring Harry out. A stretcher was made of some poles and the journey begun. We did not follow the river but attempted to cut across and had a terrible trip, climbing ridges, working our way through fallen timber and brush. Harry was given water as frequently as possible. He bore up well and about the last thing he said was that he had better carry one end of the stretcher. Near nine o'clock we noticed he was getting cold and at nine he was dead. Dr. Job met us and relieved us all he could. We arrived at camp at 2 o'clock Sunday night, very much exhausted. Drs. Job and Corpron upon examination found the ball had entered the left leg just above the knee and ranged upward into the body. Monday a coffin was taken from this city and on Tuesday the body was brought here for burial.

Mr. W. H. Shane, one of the directors of the Bohemia Mine Association and principal owner in the Pittsburg group of claims located on the west side of Monte Rico ridge at the head of Rock Creek, has spent the entire winter and spring at his properties. He reports that with his associates they have had a hard winter's work driving a cross-cut tunnel, and are now approaching ledge matter and confident that the vein they are after will soon be cut, which will add a greater depth to their ore bodies than they have had heretofore.

Mr. Shane has been more constant on his property and diligent in his continued operations than nearly any of the old timers in Bohemia. It is to be much hoped that on cutting the vein his anticipation of encountering as good and greater values than his already promising property will be realized.

WILL SHIP ORE TO TACOMA

Car of Ore From Red Bean for Milling Test.

A car load of ore from the Red Bean mine has been sacked and will be shipped to Tacoma smelter for a milling test. Assays from ore at different levels, show increase in values as they go down. They ran \$1.10 at 30 feet, \$1.20 at 50 feet and \$1.26 at 90 feet. The ore is 25 per cent free milling and the balance base. Besides the ore sacked for shipment, they have about 150 tons taken out and cribbed.

A cross-cut at a depth of 90 feet shows the ledge to have a width of 7 to 9 feet.

This mine is owned by B. W. Riggs, W. B. Flamm and Ben Evans. It is located on the head of Hogum creek, a branch of Starve ut, and is 41 miles from Grants Pass, the wagon road going to within a mile of the mine. The mine was bonded some time ago to Eastern parties, who did considerable tunneling, but instead of crossing the ledge, they went parallel to it and within 17 feet of the rich ledge.

Henry Pearson, who was one of the early pioneers of Bohemia, but has been in California for years past, returned to the city recently. He will go up to the mines next week and see the changes since he left.

IT LOOKS VERY GOOD.

Finds Work Progressing and Plenty of Ore in Bohemia Mines

W. W. Hooper, a mining and milling man of many years' experience in Colorado and other states, returned to the city on Monday after a week's trip through the Bohemia district. Upon being asked his opinion of the district after his second visit and examination, he stated: "I am well impressed with the district and am confident that money combined with mining energy and intelligence are all that are necessary to make Bohemia one of the noted mining camps. It is true there have been many obstacles to overcome, such as few mining camps have had to contend with, which have retarded the development work on the mining properties, but these have been to a great extent eliminated and from now on more rapid improvement and greater results should be obtained. It does not take long for one experienced in mining to learn that ore in practically unlimited quantities exist in the district. The question heretofore has been to a great extent one of proper transportation and milling facilities. With the railroad half way from Cottage Grove and wagon roads extended to the principal points of the district, with capital secured to erect mills it should be but a short time before good results are obtained.

Among the private enterprises I noticed, which will be of great value to a large portion of the district is the wagon road being built by F. J. Hard, manager of the Oregon-Colorado company. The road will connect the Oregon-Colorado mines with the county road at Bohemia post office and will be completed in about two weeks. At the mouth of the tunnel of this property I saw hundreds of tons of fine copper ore piled up ready for the mill. At the breast of the tunnel is four feet of the same character of ore. This is one of the best showing properties I saw in the district. The tunnel being driven on the Frankie another claim belonging to the company makes a fine showing. At the Oregon Securities the machine drills are working regularly making from 6 to 8 feet a day. When I left there they were about 100 feet from the Champion vein. The tram and mill are nearing completion and should be ready for business ere long.

I visited and examined the Vesuvius Mining Company's property on Fairview mountain. Here I found manager Hard looking after the affairs. The ten stamp mill is being installed and will when completed be a splendid mill. There is ore enough in sight with the present developments, to supply the mill for at least five years to come.

Work will soon be started on the Utopian group.

The Sunrise group under its present development is making a fine showing. Mr. E. H. Lovelace

of Ft Ransom, is visiting the property.

The Hancock group, three miles south of postoffice, has a ledge 35 feet in width which will run from \$4 to \$16 per ton, as it has no copper or lead bases. I judge it will prove to be a splendid cyanide proposition. Other properties of the camp are showing well under the development work.

THE MINER AT A DISADVANTAGE.

The miner is always at a disadvantage under the existing mining laws. Hundreds of acres of agricultural land have been taken up under the homestead and pre-emption laws, which contain valuable ledges or gravel deposits; but the prospector is barred from entering the land to prove that it is more valuable as mineral than agricultural land, because the settler has sworn to the reverse and obtained a patent. There is many instances of men selling valuable mineral land for fancy prices, who had sworn a few years or months before that the same land was more valuable for agricultural than for mining purposes. But the same mining laws of the United States put a premium on perjury and allow the perjurer to withdraw from the public domain many lode and placer claims and surround them with a barbed wire fence.

It has been asserted, and with truth, that fifty per cent of the best mineral lands in California have been stolen by the aid of the local land offices and given to aliens.

What a contrast are the mining laws of the United States to those of Mexico! That government, wiser than this, never parted with mineral land, never sold an acre to any individual or corporation. There the mineral lands are leased and a regular annual rental paid to the government. The rental lines and side lines of mining claims extend vertically downward and within these lines the miner who has taken them may work, but he may not go beyond these lines into his neighbor's ground. Those are bad laws for the legal fraternity, but they protect the miner and encourage mining.

It is a singular and non-comprehensible fact that both political parties in the United States, statesmen and legislators alike, ignore the importance of an industry which produced \$50,000,000 in gold in 1903, \$50,000,000 in silver in round numbers, and other metals and minerals which brought the total sum up to a value of \$510,000,000.

Not one word in the President's message to Congress; not one word in the platform of either great political party; no representative in the cabinet. The mining industry is left alone, to shift for itself and shuffle along through mazes of litigation, hampered by lame laws which retard its progress while it is producing the metals which enable the government to build navies and equip armies.

It should not be forgotten by spreadeagle orators, whether on an improvised Fourth of July platform, the platforms erected by political manipulators, on the floors of the Senate or in the halls of Congress, that it was the gold from the mines of California which saved the nation and preserved her integrity in the dark days of the civil war. Gold was then needed and gold goods had been supplied from the mines of the Golden State—Mining and Engineering Review.

SURPRISING STATISTICS.

Extracts From a Letter From Irwin Mahon, Secretary American Mining Congress.

Secretary Shaw, in his address, said this: "Without the product of the mine manufacture would dwindle into insignificance." He also said: "We have the advantage over the balance of the world in our mining industry. It can scarcely be said that we mine coal; we simply dig coal. We do not mine iron; we scoop it up. I visited what is called an iron mine not long ago. Where the train passed along the side of the mountain extending twenty feet above the tracks, and they told me that it was ore for twenty feet below the tracks; it was several miles wide and 100 miles long. All we had to do was to get a car on the track, fix the chute, loosen the ore and let it slide into the car. Right over across the way was a great bed of coal. A man standing at the blast furnace with a modern gun would have within his range the men at the iron mine, the men at the coal mine, and the men at the limestone quarry in the valley between. This is bringing the essential elements very close together. There is nothing in the world to compare with it."

If you will look up the Interstate Commerce report for the year 1903, you will find the following figures, showing that the largest proportion of business, with the greatest percentage of all other industries, furnished our transportation companies, was that of the mining industry. It reads as follows:

	Tons	Per cent.
Products of agriculture	26,103,825	20.8
Products of animals	15,145,277	2.81
Products of forests	60,344,923	11.47
Products of manufacture	11,681,178	13.25
Products of merchandize	71,687,500	14.16
Products of miscellaneous	36,492,228	7.08
Products of mines	269,372,506	61.91

In furnishing you this information I pass by making any mention of the hundreds of individual fortunes that have been made in mining, and which range from scores of millions, and will consider only the average result, in addition to comparison with other industries that will exceed reports.

The United States census for the year 1890 exposes some very complete information, as follows:

8,285,612 persons were engaged in agriculture during that year, and the total value of farm products per capita was 2.97

521,806 persons were engaged in the forest industry [logging, saw mills, etc.] Net value of the product per man engaged was 4.25

4,476,884 were engaged in the manufacturing industry. Deduct the cost of manufacture of material expended, and the net value of the products per man was 7.64

74,439 were employed in mining, milling, and smelting of gold, silver, copper, lead, and zinc [coal and iron not included]. The value of the output for each employed was 1,910.00

In the census year the mines of the metals named returned on an average to each of their workers 6 1/2 times as much as the farms; 4 1/2 times as much as the forests; 2 1/2 times as much as the manufactures. This was an average return, in spite of the enormous amount of unproductive labor that is thrown away in ill advised mining ventures, while the workers in other fields had all the advantages of labor-saving machinery of highly developed manufacturers' economies, which keyed up every man's production to the highest possible notch.

The dividends paid by gold and silver mines are greater than all the dividends paid by all the banks of this country; and the dividends paid by the copper mines are greater than all the dividends paid by all the railroad companies in the United States to say nothing of our coal and other mining interests.

The Agricultural men of the country have taught them a lesson, had the mining men been as much in earnest in caring for their interests as the agricultural men have been in protecting theirs, mining today would not be a bureau within a bureau of manufacture in a department known as Commerce and Labor.

Hoping that this letter will serve your purposes, and that it will arouse the mining men of your state to the importance of sending a big delegation to this coming session of the American Mining Congress, convening in Portland, Oregon, August 22, 1904, I remain

Very truly yours,
IRWIN MAHON,
Sec American Mining Congress.

TAKILMA SMELTER PLANT.

Three Carloads of Material Now Being Unloaded.

Boone River Courier. There now stands on the S. P. tracks at Grants Pass, three carloads of machinery, furnace, stacks, ore cars, etc., for the 100 ton smelter being installed at Takilma by the Takilma Smelter Co., and there are yet two car loads to arrive. These cars have been shipped some time and will probably arrive in a few days. Four of the carloads, comprising the smelting plant are from Harry Holthoff, Cudahy, Wis., and will cost, when completed in the neighborhood of \$50,000. It is a standard blast furnace, water jacketed and with a capacity of 100 tons daily. The plant is to be located on the old Darkis place below the Waldo and Queen of Bronze mines, 45 miles from Grants Pass, the nearest railroad point.

Charles L. Tutt, of Colorado Springs, one of the leading smelter and mining men of Colorado, is president of the company and associated with him and K. R. Babbitt, Spencer Penrose and C. M. MacNeil, who control smelters at Colorado Springs.

E. W. Walter, of Silverton, Colo., has just arrived and will superintend the work and also have the local management of the company. Ten teams were in Grants Pass Tuesday to transport the machinery to the mines.

BOHEMIA MINING DIST.

News From Bohemia and the Various Mining Camps of Oregon and Other States.

John Timmons is working on his claims of Horse Heaven Creek.

The Twin Rocks Mining Company are pushing development work.

The wagon road to the Oregon-Colorado is fast approaching completion.

C. S. McBeth, a Colorado mining man is visiting the Bohemia mining district.

Alex Lundberg has commenced work on his claims located on Elephant Mountain.

Al Ellidge and James Hart Jr are working on the Glenwood and Hubbard properties.

The Golden Rule Mining Company have also put a crew of men to work on their Elephant Mountain property.

President Andrew Brund, of the Bohemia Mine Owners Association, is expected to return with his bride from their trip East in a few days.

The North Fairview Gold Mining Company are doing a large amount of work and making a showing of ore that is gratifying to all.

The stamp-mill at the Vesuvius is well under way. The building will soon be enclosed. All the machinery will soon be on the ground.

F. B. Roberts, who has for some time past been in Portland but has had an extended mining experience in Colorado and California, went up to Bohemia on last Saturday.

Several contracts have just been let on the properties of the Great Eastern Mining Company. Lockwood, Curry and Lewis Hartley were the lowest bidders and were each awarded contracts. Work will commence at once on all the properties of the company and to be pushed vigorously.

George Bohiman, owner of the U. S. A. claims in Bohemia, reports receiving word from the Graber Bros, who are at work on the property, that they have opened a ledge of ore about three feet in width which pans well in gold and that they will send samples for assay as soon as an opportunity offers.

Mr. Lewis J. Hartley with Mrs. Hartley, Mrs. Hartley's sister, Miss Myers of Illinois, and Mr. Hartley's nephew came from Corvallis Tuesday, and Wednesday went up to the Twin Rock property in Bohemia. Mr. Hartley says contracts to the amount of 300 feet of tunnel work have already been let on the Great Eastern property. That the force on the Twin Rocks will be increased at once. Both of these properties have had considerable work done on them and a large amount of ore uncovered.

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EASTERN OREGON.

The Highland Mining Company reports five feet of high grade ore in the Glasco, and eight feet of milling ore in the Highland claims.

The Black Butte in Grant county is proving to be a very rich mine.

The finishing touches are being put on the 100 ton concentrator at the Blue Bird mine.

The Sumpter smelter will soon resume operations.

Col Topping has opened up three feet of ore in the Phil Sheridan property, one foot of which is a gray copper worth \$50.00 per ton.

Thirty men are employed in constructing a mill on the alpine group.

The Standard Mining Company has found at a depth of 300 feet by drifting on the vein, five and one half feet of ore, four of which is the heavy Cobalt-gold-copper ore carrying from 5 to 6 oz gold, seven to 20 per cent Cobalt and four to seven per cent copper.

The ore at the Riverside continues and considering the great depth will prove a bonanza for the fortunate owners, and a great benefit to the entire district by determining that values exist to such great depths. More deep tunnels and progressive mining is all Bohemia needs.

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