



Devoted to the Mining, Lumbering and Farming Interests of this Community.

VOL. VII

COTTAGE GROVE, LANE COUNTY, OREGON, WEDNESDAY MARCH 29, 1905.

NO. 10

GENERAL MINING NEWS

CRYSTAL CONSOLIDATED

LAST week the manager of the Crystal Consolidated decided he would like to know the size of the vein of ore on which the tunnel was being driven. The men were ordered to start a cross-cut to the hanging wall, which they did and before reaching it had exposed altogether 12 feet of ore. A cross cut will be driven to the other wall to determine its full width.

It is reported the ore remained about the same character as that heretofore reported. In a recent issue of the Nugget in a description of this property, an error occurred. It read "a few tons of ore are exposed" while it should have stated "a few thousand tons of ore are exposed" which makes some difference in the report.

It will be but a few short weeks until there will be three mill steadily at work in Bohemia turning out the precious metals to be added to the world's wealth.

The Vesuvius mill with its ten stamps and train to deliver the ore from the tunnel to the mill will as soon as the weather conditions permit resume operations.

The Oregon Securities with thirty stamps, also a tram to transport the ore if not already started, will begin very soon to run a portion of its stamps and add as fast as possible until all are dropping.

Just as soon as the Crystal Consolidated Company can get out a sufficient quantity of lumber for building and mining purposes, the boiler now used for power at the saw mill will be placed in the mill and the five stamps put at work upon the ores.

Several other companies that have opened up their properties until assured of an abundance of ore, are contemplating the installation of mills. All the indications point to a remarkably lively and prosperous season in Bohemia.

The telephone line has been down between Bohemia and Cottage Grove and it has been difficult to learn if the miners have anything new to report. The heavy fall of snow will retard work but little, as nearly all are working under ground.

Wm. Cox arrived in the city Monday from his property on Hote Ridge Bohemia. He states there has been a heavy fall of snow during the past week but much of it melted immediately.

A GREAT DRILLING CONTEST

Promptly at 1:30 Friday afternoon the great drilling contest announced several weeks ago, came off at the A. A. C. base ball grounds in southwest part of the city. Miners and sporting men have been coming in for several days to witness the event. The day was beautiful and brought out a large crowd filling the grand stand full, so that they could see no more seats.

The grounds around the circle were crowded 5 to 10 deep with people. All the business houses closed between the hours of one to four to permit as many as wanted to see the contest to be present.

The contest started with a juvenile drilling exhibition by two boys, Clarence Hyle and Nidge Roberts, aged 12 and 14, who in ten minutes drilled 9 1/4 inches in a granite rock.

Then came the double handed drilling contest in the following order:

John and Waters, Sumpter, Oregon.

Seligo and Harrington, Granite Hill.

Sandry Brothers, Gold Hill.

Lockridge and Savage, of Galice.

The first team in 15 minutes drilled 35 1/4 inches.

The second team, 33 inches.

The third team had to stop on account of sore hand. This team in 9 minutes and 40 seconds drilled 25 1/4 inches.

The fourth team, Galice creek boys drilled 36 inches. Thus winning the contest and the purse of \$225.

The Sumpter team came second and wins the entrance fees.

In the single handed drill contest which was next there were three entries but J. Johns, of Sumpter, and T. J. Brinkerhoff of Galice were the only two that contested.

J. Johns drilled in 15 minutes, 18 1/2 inches and T. J. Brinkerhoff in the same time drilled 20 1/2 inches.

The purse in this contest was \$75 going to Brinkerhoff and the entrance fee to J. Johns.

So Galice carries off both prizes, in the double handed drill contest last Christmas day Lockridge and Savage were the winners, so presume we call them now the champions of Oregon.

As an evidence of the interest manifested in the contest it is stated that \$3500 changed hands on the results.—Mining Journal.

A new, fine line of diamond rings just received at Madsen's.

LARGE DENOUNCEMENTS IN MEXICO.

TWO large denouncements of mining property were recently made in Mexico. At the Etzatlán mineral office, in the state of Jalisco, 4,390 pertenencias were recently entered by Ferdinand Sustercic, manager of the Amparo Mining Company. At Saltillo, state of Chihuahua, 6,760 pertenencias were recently denounced in the neighborhood of Ramos Arispe. A pertenencia is about two and one-half acres, so that these denouncements cover a large amount of territory. Of course, all of these pertenencias cannot have been entered for the purpose of finally taking up all the claims, but unquestionably they were made for the purpose of exploration. The pertenencia tax in Mexico is \$10 per annum; there fore, we cannot believe that the Amparo company will pay out \$44,000 a year for taxes on so many claims, many of which, no doubt, are worthless.

It sometimes happens in Mexico that a land owner will not give the privilege of "zoning," that is to say the privilege of declaring a certain district closed to denouncement, except by the owner of the exploration rights. The right of the zone gives exclusive right to denounce claims for a limited period within the area of the zone. We believe there is a case on record in one of the southern states, where 20,000 or 30,000 pertenencias were denounced owing to the owner of the land refusing the denouncer zone privileges. Denouncements were made by the engineer standing on a high peak and roughly triangulating. After the pertenencias were denounced, of course, he had the right of entry, and finally selected his claims and did not proceed with the denouncements on the territory he did not want.

Owners of land in Mexico, however, rarely refuse the zone privilege. A discovery of a few good mines on his land immediately raises the value of his timber and agricultural property. Moreover, he gets a very high price for the land taken up by the mining company, and not infrequently an important share in the mine. The Mexican is very much of a business man, and will usually do all he can to encourage the advent of foreign capital into his district. He then always has work for his mules and a good market for his farm produce. As a Mexican ranchero once said to the writer, he would sooner have a good mine on his land worked by foreign capital, than to own the mine himself. He could make more money by selling the mining company produce and by having freight con

tracts, than the company could, as a general rule, out of the mine itself.—Mining Reporter.

TO REDUCE COST.

EFFORTS are constantly being made to reduce the cost of mining. For years it was the practice to carry all the ore from the levels to the surface on cages, or to dump the ore directly into skips from cars, says the Mining and Scientific Press. These practices have been largely superseded by cutting loading pockets and chutes beneath the levels at shaft stations, and skips have in many places displaced cages. Trimming by men and animals have in many large mines been displaced by mechanical or motor haulage. In the operation of these methods, endless ropes or chains for mechanical haulage, and electric or compressed air motors are employed. More recently steam shovels, long in surface excavations, have been introduced into underground workings, it is said, with satisfactory economic results. Still later came the automatic continuous loader, which carries the muck from the floor of the drift up into a car which, when full is trammed to the station, its place being taken by another. The latest device in mining economy is a car provided with a steel shield which is run to the face to be blasted and the rock is thrown by the force of the blast directly into the waiting receptacle. At first thought the idea seems impracticable, but the defects, if any exist, will probably be remedied by the inventor who was bold enough to conceive such a scheme.

OPPORTUNITIES AT HOME.

THE average young American mining engineer usually has a desire to leave his native country, to go into distant lands where he may be a pioneer, and distinguish himself by overcoming great difficulties, earning fame and fortune. The idea is suggested, no doubt, by the success of a number of American engineers who went abroad and earned the much sought after fame and fortune, but the greater number of these men—all, in fact, who have made great success—had previously distinguished themselves at home, where there were difficulties, both mechanical and metallurgical, to overcome, and who had already learned their lessons in the hard school of experience after leaving the university. There are the same opportunities existing today—mines in situations remote from railroads and where conveniences are few, where special mining methods must be applied and metallurgical experiments made. Despite the advanced stage

of knowledge of mining and metallurgical science, mistakes appear to be of as frequent occurrence today as ever there were in the past. There is no need of a young American engineer going to Africa, to China, to the deserts of Australia, or to the towering mountains of South America, so long as so much remains to be done in the United States. There are important questions to be solved in the economy of mining and metallurgy in every western mining state—new districts to develop, new methods to discover and apply. The problem of smelter fumes is in itself a matter to engage careful attention. The fumes can be allayed in most instances by well known processes, but to accomplish this without increasing the expense of smelting, and to find a market for the several by-products of these ordinary operations, is something to ponder over. In some districts metallurgical methods which will cheaply extract sufficient values from complex ores to afford a profit are greatly desired. There remain and are constantly occurring unsolved problems everywhere, and to these the young engineers should give their attention.—Mining and Scientific Press.

Are Home Again.

The Richmond-Medley Illustrated Concert Company which was organized in Cottage Grove and started on a tour of the Willamette valley some ten weeks ago, returned home on Saturday after a very successful trip.

There are three in the company, Bert Richmond who sings, Clarence Morris, the pianist and Thomas Medley all around assistant. The boys will rest a while before starting on another tour. They had many newspaper compliments paid them, one we find in the South Bend paper which reads:

The Richmond-Medley Illustrated Concert Co. held forth at the opera house Monday and Tuesday evenings. Without doubt this is the best show of its kind that has ever been here. The proprietors are young men and they give a good show. The moving pictures are excellent and the illustrated songs good. The young men are gentlemen and will undoubtedly do well up the line at the several towns.

All kinds of engraving done at H. C. Madsen's.

Next Monday and to noon Tuesday April 3rd and 4th, Dr. Lowe, Eugene's well known oculo-optician will be in Cottage Grove at Hotel Graham.

BOTH MEN MURDERED

Shooks First Shot Cooper and Howse, Then Shoots Himself

Drain, Or., March 27.—The coroner's jury in the case of E. C. Cooper and Paul Howse and Herman Shooks, after being out for 24 hours, early yesterday morning returned a verdict stating that Cooper and Howse were murdered by Shooks, who then shot himself.

The jury assembled yesterday afternoon at 4 o'clock, and spent the afternoon and following morning in hearing testimony and examining the premises. No evidence was reported brought out to implicate other parties.

Mrs. Cooper is on the verge of nervous prostration. She was examined by the jury, but no evidence connecting her with the crime developed.

Cooper and Howse were buried yesterday at Elkton, the entire population attending their funerals.

Shooks' body arrived at Drain Saturday night and was taken to his home near Oakland for burial yesterday.

J. N. House of Portland, uncle of the dead man, went to the scene today to investigate, not being satisfied with the coroner's examination and inquest.

Howse had two bullet holes in his back. The theory is advanced that he was shot in the back, the and copper jack separating, making two holes in his breast.

Three empty cartridge shells were found. It is figured out that the first shot fired by Shook creased a furrow half the width of the bullet in Cooper's neck and passed on striking a picture on the wall. The next shot is thought to have struck both men, Cooper first then Howse.

Howse's body was shipped to Sweet Home for burial this morning. There is talk of having the bullet extracted.

It is supposed that Shook fired four shots, including the one that ended his own life, but only three empty cartridges have been found, and only one bullet can be traced in the house, the one that struck the picture.

A bottle of strychnine was found in Shook's valise by the coroner, which connects him with the poisoning case. Efforts are being made to find out where and by whom it was purchased. Developments are working out slowly, but there is intense excitement in the vicinity.



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