



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

VOL. VII

COTTAGE GROVE, LANE COUNTY, OREGON, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 28, 1905.

NO. 23

## BOHEMIA MINING NOTES

And General Mining News Gathered From Exchanges.

James Kerr came down from Bohemia Monday.

Dan Thomas made a brief business trip to Wildwood Tuesday and return.

Mr. Geo. W. Lloyd arrived Sunday and went to Bohemia Monday morning.

Mr. F. J. Harl and Mr. John A. Traylor returned from Bohemia Tuesday evening and report that everything is doing splendidly up there.

Mr. W. P. Wood is visiting his brother, Mr. A. B. Woods, manager of the Oregon Securities property. They both went to Bohemia on Monday.

J. H. Maynard, a graduate of the Minnesota School of mines, and lately of Portland is in town on his way to Bohemia to get a practical knowledge of mining.

The contract for the 500 foot tunnel at the Oregon-Columbia is completed. A fine body of ore is in shape to begin work upon. The percentage of copper is on the increase.

G. Kyser and wife of Grants Pass are in the city. Mr. Kyser is an expert chemist and assayer and expects to go to Bohemia soon, where he will probably locate. His wife will remain in the city at present.

A great many people going through on the train from the East to Portland inquire about the mining, want to know the kind of mining, the value of the ore, the productive mines, etc. It would not be a bad idea if we could give them some literature of the district as they go through, and bring them back to invest.

Mrs. S. E. Cochran is now visiting in Portland.

J. Crawford and E. Smith came to the city from Wildwood on Monday.

A very lively base ball game was played at Wildwood Sunday by the Wildwood and Star teams. The score was 10 to 8, in favor of Wildwood.

### MONEY SUBJECT TO DISEASE

**M**ONEY is a peculiar thing. It is subject to disease just as people are. And why not? Isn't it a creation of human nature? Money is active, sluggish, healthy, bilious, or anything else, just as people are.

Our success generally depends largely upon our knowledge of momentary affairs. A man does not have to be a college graduate to understand money. In fact the higher education seems to be contrary to piling up riches. Whether it is because the educated man realizes what scandalous thing it is, or not we cannot say. But that likely has something to do with it.

Business instinct does not come with education. It is related of Mr. Charles T. Yerkes, the owner of numerous street railway lines, and the London "bore," that when he was a boy he was passing by a grocery store in Philadelphia. The grocer had not succeeded in his undertaking, and there was a little social event in the form of an auction.

Charley listened with the usual interest of boyhood, until the auctioneer put up a box of well-known soap—the kind Charley's mother used in her laundry work. Charley knew something about soap and he bid—not on one box, but on several dozen boxes. He got the soap—but didn't have a nickel to his name.

Charley hustled away to the family grocer and asked what he would give for the soap. The bargain was sealed, and the grocer advanced the money, leaving the junior Yerkes "to the good" a number of dollars.

That was Charley's start, and in later years, he made more people hang on to straps than had ridden in the olden days.

It all goes to show what monetary genius is. It is apt to crop out anywhere. A child will suddenly give evidence of a desire to buy and sell, and if he comes in first place, he has that innate inkling of what money is and what it means.

But that is drifting away somewhat from my original premise, that money can be ill or well.

Well money is active. It is circulating—turning over and over. It is always doing something—and somebody!

Money in some people's hands has large liver spots. In others, it is imbued with life. That is why it is said of some people that everything they touch turns to gold.

When one begins to regard money as only a purchasing agent, he loses. If a dollar is good only for so many pounds of something to eat, its utility ends there. Perhaps there is a finer philosophy that shows how money invested in food

is turned into muscle and bone and gray matter, but we are not getting down that far.

The man, woman or child who is capable of making a dollar work, gives to that money exactly what exercise is to the human being. It makes it capable.

Just as forty different persons will operate a machine in as many different ways just as every "lightning slinger" has his individual touch of the telegraph instrument, so has every person that same individual touch when it comes to monetary matters.

Two people may act alike; one may be as intellectual as the other; both may be talented, and yet one will be a financier and the other a pauper.

Why is it?

We can train our thoughts and instincts along different lines. If we haven't that natural gift of handling money, it is much more difficult to acquire it than though it came naturally. But we can cultivate the money making power, not simply by thinking about it, but by exercising judgment and foresight in what we do.—Daily Mining Record.

### LONDON ITEMS.

The crops look fine and the farmers are busy in their hay fields.

John Overhaiser left London today to do some work on his ranch on Silk Creek.

Miss Summers, who has been teaching the Hebrew school spent Saturday and Sunday in London. Her home is in Eugene where she returned Monday.

The Grangers will hold their next meeting the first Saturday in July. The initiations will take place in the forenoon, and in the afternoon an opening meeting will be held to which everyone is invited. Several important questions will be brought up for discussion, among them the creamery, the railroad and others. A lively interest is being taken by the Coast Forkers in the railroad, as they would like to see a line run from Cottage Grove to Black Butte soon.

Many arrangements are being made for the celebration here the fourth of July. There has been a committee of five appointed on entertainment. They have not reported yet but are hard at work. Regular fourth of July program and entertainment will be given and amusements of all kinds will be rendered. We have a very fine grove for our celebration and everything will be made as convenient as possible. A ball game will be played in the afternoon which will be followed by races and athletic sports.

## BRANTON TRIED FOUND GUILTY

Heaviest Penalty—A Brief Statement of the Principal Facts Follow.

March 5, 1905. John Branton, shot his partner John Fletcher as they were returning to their farm.

March 10th. Arrested and taken to Eugene for trial, charge being assault to kill.

June 21. Trial commenced.

June 23. Jury renders verdict of guilty.

June 24. Motion for new trial argued, but over ruled.

Sentenced to 10 years in Penitentiary.

### THE TESTIMONY.

Immediately after the jury was completed the case was stated by the attorneys, Geo. M. Brown and J. M. Williams, for the state and L. Bilyeu and Medley & Johnson for the defendant. The taking of the testimony was then begun.

John Fletcher, the principal witness for the prosecution, was called. He told how on the night of March 9, 1905, he and Branton started from Cottage Grove after 11 o'clock for Branton's farm, nearly two miles from town. While on a trail Branton said he saw a dog or coyote and told Fletcher to shoot at it. Fletcher shot at something and soon afterwards Branton said he saw a cougar following them and asked for the revolver. Not seeing anything, Branton put the gun in his pocket. They then drank some beer out of a bottle. Branton claimed to grow sick and tried to vomit. They sat down, built a fire and remained there an hour, when Fletcher asked Branton if he was feeling better. Receiving a negative reply, Fletcher went to sleep and was awakened by being shot in the head. He half arose and exclaimed, "Oh, my God! I'm shot." He said a second shot was fired. Branton stated that he was shooting at a cougar, and said, "Oh, my God, John! Did that ball hit you?" Branton then went on to the house to get the boys, and Fletcher followed.

When he and Branton were alone Branton said: "If any one asks you how this happened, say you done it yourself. If you don't, they will jerk me up and raise thunder with me. When we sell I'll give you half of the money. If we don't sell I'll give you a half interest." Fletcher stated that his life was insured in the Woodmen of the World in favor of Branton for \$3000.

Roy Branton testified that Bran-

ton had said when he came home that Fletcher had shot himself, also gave details of Branton's home coming, Fletcher coming to the house and the care taken of him by witness. He told of people coming to the house and John Fletcher greeting them; of Fletcher's crying when he recounted the deeds; of Fletcher telling witness that John Branton had done the deed and would have to pay for it. He said that John Branton, when he returned to the house, hung the revolver on a nail. It was taken by Roy Branton to the granary. Later it was delivered to the city marshal of Cottage Grove.

Fred Myers testified that Branton had sent for him to talk over the good shots made by the men. He went to the house where Branton was and heard what he had to say, of what a d—n good shot he had made.

Lincoln Taylor, a civil engineer, testified as to making a diagram of the place and surroundings, of measurements made, which were 230 feet nearer McFarland's house to Branton's house, where the shooting occurred. Explained to the jury how the map was drawn and all the particulars concerned with it.

Harry Brown, deputy sheriff, produced a letter written by Branton to Louis Nessler, who is serving time in the county jail. Produced a letter written by the district attorney to A. T. Underwood, which was produced as a comparison. Identified letter written by Nessler.

A. T. Underwood, city marshal of Cottage Grove, produced the revolver delivered by Roy Branton. Stated that revolver had two loaded shells. Identified letter which district attorney produced as the one secured by him in Cottage Grove. Defense objected to letter, but it was sustained.

Louis A. Nessler told of acquaintance with Branton in the county jail. Examined letter delivered to him by Harry Brown, written by John Fletcher, whom he saw write it. Fletcher requested that it be sent from Astoria to J. M. Williams. Letter offered by the state as evidence. Defense objected as did not bear on case. Testimony, was however, admitted. The letter told that Fletcher said he was the guilty one could not face the charge; Branton wanted Nessler to go to Cottage Grove to see Fletcher and try to get him to leave the country. Stated that the matter of his release was not suggested by himself to Branton until Branton brought the matter up.

M. S. Wallis, Chas. H. Burkholder, Charles Scott, R. W. Veatch, Deputy Sheriff Harry Brown, D. A. Linebaugh and P. E. Snodgrass testified as to letters and

handwriting.

The case was given to the jury Friday afternoon and shortly after 5 o'clock they returned the following verdict.

STATE VS. JOHN BRANTON.

In the circuit court of the state of Oregon for the county of Lane. State of Oregon plaintiff vs. John Branton, defendant.

We, the jury in the above entitled cause find the defendant guilty of an assault with intent to kill as charged in the complaint.

Wm. STUCKE, Foreman.

Saturday morning at 10, the hour set for passing sentence, the attorneys for Branton made a motion for a new trial. The judge postponed sentence that motion might be argued, but after considerable fruitless discussion same was denied. At 2 o'clock the judge asked Branton to stand up, and when questioned declared his innocence of the crime. Judge Hamilton then passed sentence on him of 10 years. Branton passed out past out to his long imprisonment, a criminal of probably as bad a type as his brother also sentenced from the same place, a prisoner in the same jail, and executed for same later.

A man seemingly perfectly honest and just in his business dealings, a sober, industrious, energetic worker, caps the climax of a series of suspicious deaths, by attempting to kill his closest friend for his insurance, yet at heart a murderer of the most cowardly, despicable type. He does not seem to realize the enormity of offenses, but brazenly breaks forth at the sentence imposed upon him as though his deed was a just thing. It is well that a man of this kind be shut up for years to dwell upon his actions, and to be removed from the sight of human beings that so differ from him.

Ben Kerry went to Eugene Monday.

W. Johnson came up from Eugene Monday.

Mr. and Mrs. Gardid Morss came up from Eugene Sunday.

Wm. Higgins and R. W. Veatch came up from Eugene Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. Lawton of Creswell spent Sunday with their son, Percy.

Miss Dinah and Mary Hart and their mother arrived from Portland Monday.

Misses Neita Hazelton, who has been visiting friends at Creswell, returned home Monday.

Guy Mock of Drain was the guest of Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Kayser of this city the first of the week.



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