

BOHEMIA MINING NOTES

And General Mining News Gathered From Exchanges.

The Oregon Mining Journal says: For an exhibition of consummate nerve, Representative Kahn of California, takes the medal. He has presented Congress with a bill calling for an appropriation of \$5,000,000 for an exposition to commemorate the discovery of the Pacific Ocean by Balboa. The Pacific Ocean was discovered by our prehistoric ancestors several thousand years before Balboa, and has been in constant occupation ever since.

The great success of Colorado as a precious metal producer somewhat diverts attention from her many and diversified products. For instance, during the year 1905 Colorado's coal production amounted to 8,905,214 tons, made up as follows: lignite, 1,354,748 tons; semibituminous, 867,073; bituminous, 6,532,890; anthracite, 60,503, and unclassified 100,000 tons. The year shows an increase over that of 1904, in which year the total tonnage was 6,776,551. The coke production for 1905 was 1,165,337 tons.—Mining World.

The Sumpter smelter celebrated the new year by beginning it with operating full capacity day and night and unless the unforeseen happens the model plant will now be run continuously. During the past week the Idaho ores began moving and it is expected that deliveries will now be made at the rate of 50 tons daily. With the coming of these ores new shippers are swelling the ore receipts so that 1906 is ushered in most auspiciously at the plant. The Greenhorn and other mining districts are sending in large shipments of rich ore. The Idaho shipments is 3000 tons.—Oregon Mining Journal.

In 1867 John O'Reilly, a trader in South Africa, stopped for the night at the house of a farmer. He noticed that the farmer's children were playing with some pebbles they had found in the river. O'Reilly took one of the pebbles to Cape Town where an authority called it a diamond of 22½ carats and paid O'Reilly \$3,000 for the stone. The farmer at whose house O'Reilly stayed remembered that he had seen an enormous stone in the hands of a Kafir witch doctor and from the Kafir he traded his entire live stock for the stone and a few days after sold it at Cape Town for \$50,000. This diamond was afterward known as the famous "Star of South Africa." It weighed 84½ carats in the rough and a stone of unsurpassed brilliancy. This was the beginning of the South Africa diamond mining, for in less than a few months 15,000 persons were prospecting.

Senator W. A. Clark, of Butte, Mont., has introduced a bill of special importance to the mining interests of the west, in that it provides for right-of-way for tunnels or shafts through adjoining lands to reach veins or lodes of owners of mineral lands. The bill was referred to the committee on mines and mining, of which Senator Clark is a member, and he feels reasonably certain of having it reported favorably and passed by the senate at an early date. The bill is as follows: "Section 1. That whenever in the working and development of a mine or mining claim, vein or veins having their tops or apices therein shall so far depart from perpendicular as to come within the side line of an adjoining claim, and when the owner of said vein or veins under the existing laws shall have the right to follow any such vein or veins or dip thereof into or under the surface of any such adjoining claim, the owners of such vein or veins shall have the right to make all such tunnels, drifts, upraises or other underground workings as may be necessary for the successful and economical workings of such vein or veins through the sub-surface of any such adjoining claim or claims."—Mining World.

The preliminary estimate of the director of the mint upon the production of gold and silver in the United States in the calendar year 1905 shows a gain approximately \$6,000,000 in gold and 1,000,000 ounces of silver over the production of 1904. The gain in gold is almost entirely represented by the increased output of Alaska, the product of which is placed at \$14,650,100, against \$9,160,500 in 1904. The Alaska gain is nearly all in the Tabana or Fairbanks district, the returns for which are \$5,107,000. California shows a loss of about \$1,500,000 due, it is said, to severe drought which not only brought hydraulic operations to a standstill, but interfered with quartz mills to some extent. Nevada shows a gain of about \$1,000,000 and Utah as much. Colorado gains about \$1,000,000. South Dakota, Montana, Idaho, Oregon, and Arizona are estimated as about the same as in the previous year. The Klondike continues to fall and is about \$2,000,000 below 1904.

Merge of Several Companies
A Welsh, of Salem, the Oregon representative of the Rhodes, Sinkler and Butcher syndicate, which owns various electric light, gas and water plants in the Pacific Northwest, including those at Eugene, today informed the Guard that all the companies operating the plants at Eugene, Albany, Corvallis, Salem, Silverton, and other points in Western Oregon are now being merged into one big corporation, the Willamette Valley Co., which was incorporated several weeks ago. All these plants will be under one general management, with sub-managers for each city. The deeds transferring the local electric light plant to the new company were made out today and the water plant will be formally transferred later. The deeds to the Albany plant will be filed up this afternoon and those for the Corvallis light plant tomorrow.—Guard.

TUNNELS AS COMMON CARRIERS.

ANY company mining in Colorado has the right to run a tunnel through ground owned by others. Such a tunnel, however is not strictly private property, but may be used by those who so desire upon payment of a reasonable fee for the privilege. By so ruling, the supreme court of Colorado puts mining tunnels into the category of common carriers, giving them the privilege of exercising the right of eminent domain, but at the same time requiring that they be managed in the interests of the public.

Beyond question, the effect of the decision will be to encourage the further development of the state's resources. In many of the older districts of the state, a point has been reached where the opening of the new ground and profitable operation by means of shafts is no longer possible. The ore deposits lying near the surface have been exhausted, but exploration from the surface has been carried far enough to demonstrate the persistence of the veins and values to great depths. The era of the tunnel has been reached and entered, for in many cases, only by means of tunnels, can sufficiently cheap drainage and operating facilities be provided for the deep ore bodies. With tunnels a period of activity longer and more profitable than any that have gone before is assured.

Hence, the importance of rendering tunnel enterprises free from obstructive tactics. There can be no legitimate objection, on the grounds of injury to the property, to the exercise of the privilege granted. It may be questioned, however, whether under such circumstances the owners of the tunnel should be entitled, as they are under the federal laws, to the blind lodes discovered. There should be explicit federal legislation upon this point, and the matter should be taken up when Senator Clark's bill establishing generally the right just allowed by the Colorado court comes before the committee on mines and mining.—Mining Record.

Drowned Before His Wife's Eyes

Drain, Or., Jan. 15.—John E. Letsome was drowned in the Umpqua river twenty miles west of Drain Saturday night before the eyes of his wife. He fell from a ferry boat. His body has not been found.

G. A. R. INSTALL OFFICERS

Public Installation of Officers of the Post Last Saturday Afternoon.

The ladies of the Aid Society of the Presbyterian Church gave a grand dinner to the members of the G. A. R. Post of this town Saturday noon and a great time they had. The menu was very elaborate, chicken cooked in every known and unknown style, as well as beans and vegetables, cold beef, salads, potatoes, coffee, apples, oranges, pies, cakes, puddings of every kind, and as Dr. Woods says, "I am only a man, and can not begin to enumerate all the good things, but it was a dandy dinner." About 60 partook of the feast and plenty was left for all others who came, outside of the G. A. R. men and their wives. After dinner the officers elected for the ensuing year were duly installed and appropriate exercises, at which time the following officers took their places: Commander D. L. Woods, senior vice commander W. H. Harrison, junior vice commander L. Morse, Chaplain W. J. Gardner, quartermaster W. M. Dickey, officer of the day, E. D. Handy, officer of guard Geo. Thompson, surgeon, Dr. Job, adjutant G. W. McKeonolds, second sergeant B. F. Adams.

The Post was very thankful to the ladies for the jolly fine spread furnished by them and everybody gave a cheer for the boys.

Honor For Oregon's Governor.

Salem, Or., Jan. 13.—Governor Chamberlain has accepted an invitation to act as temporary chairman of the "Seeing America" conference, to be held at St. Lake, January 25. The invitation came today in a telegram from Governor John C. Outler, of Utah, and President Heber M. Wells, of the Salt Lake Commercial Club, who have charge of the arrangements. The purpose of the conference is to devise means of attracting attention to the natural wonders and scenic beauties of America, with a view to inducing tourists to spend their time and money in this country instead of going to Europe.

Gearin Gets Assurance That Hitchcock Will Recall Suspension.

Washington, Jan. 13.—On behalf of the miners and homesteaders of Oregon, Senator Gearin has requested the Interior Department to withdraw its order of last March suspending patents on mineral and homestead entries in that state. The senator is especially interested in having patents issued on mineral entries where proof is complete. Assurance is given that, when Secretary Hitchcock returns, he will direct that patents issue on perfected mineral claims, and it is quite probable that the restrictions on homesteads will be removed in cases where proof is satisfactory.

New League for Southern Oregon

At a meeting of Grants Pass last week a new Development League was formed to act in conjunction and harmony with the other Leagues of the state. The league at once got to work and has commenced a campaign for the betterment of their section of the state. The object of the League is to foster and protect the commercial and industrial interests of Southern Oregon as well as for the encouragement of local organization and is to be composed of members from each organization.

New Railroad for Grants Pass

On Jan. 9 the citizens of Grants Pass held a big meeting to promote the building of a railroad by local men to run south from the city to tap the rich agricultural and mining districts. A very enthusiastic meeting was held and a committee was appointed to secure subscriptions, which will be raised at once. It is planned to raise at least \$50,000 and to proceed at once to get the road started.

Oregon's Dairying Advantages

J. W. Bailey, State Dairy and Food Commissioner, in his report for the month of December, takes

up some annual statistics which show that there has been a substantial progress in the dairying industry in Oregon during the past year. Mr. Bailey estimates the amount of butter produced in Oregon during 1905 at 6,750,000 pounds, and the cheese produced at 2,750,000 pounds, an increase in both of from 20 to 25 per cent. The number of registered creameries has increased from 108 to 106, and the number of registered cheese factories from 64 to 79.

Oregon, with its mild climate, vast fields of alfalfa, vetch, kale, abundance of pure water and its excellent market for dairy products, combined with its dairy laws, which are being strictly enforced, offers advantages as a dairy state surpassed by none and equaled by few districts in the Union. The dairy products alone for the year 1904, amounting to \$4,200,000.

Among sections where dairying is most extensively carried on at the present time might be mentioned the Willamette valley, which extends almost entirely through the state from north to south; the Walla Walla and Umatilla valleys, in northeastern Oregon; Rogue River and Klamath valleys, in the southern part; Tillamook and Coos Counties, in the extreme west, are equally as good.

Portland is the principal market, and the average price of butter on this market in 1904 was 27½ cents per pound or 5.8 cents higher than the famous Elgin, Illinois market.

Oregon might be called a hand-separator state as most of the milk is separated on the farm and the cream shipped to large central factories. There are also several large condensed milk plants, which consume a large amount of milk, paying a very good price therefor.

Among some of the profitable dairy herds might be mentioned one in Columbia county—which is a somewhat mountainous country, with abundance of red clover, vetch and pure water. This herd consists of twenty-one cows, native breeds. In 1904 they brought their owner something over \$2000 for butter fat alone. His estimated cost of keeping each cow, per year was \$30. Another herd, of thirteen cows in the Willamette valley, brought their owner, during the same period of time, \$1196. Estimated cost of keeping each cow was practically the same as the other. The value of the skim milk will more than pay the cost of keeping each cow.

Thousand upon thousands of acres of just as good unimproved dairy land as that mentioned can be found in many parts of the state and can be purchased at very reasonable prices.—Orchard and Farm.

FRANKLIN ANNIVERSARY

Many Patriotic Societies Celebrate Today This Event.

Just two hundred years ago today, Jan. 17, 1806, Benjamin Franklin was born in Boston, being the fifteenth child in a family of seventeen. In 1718 he became a printer, being apprenticed to his brother James, a printer, at which time he said, "I was resolved I should not be bred to divinity, and my bookish inclinations determined my father to make me a printer." In 1729 began business for himself, buying the Philadelphia paper "Pennsylvania Gazette." In 1723 began "Poor Richard's Almanac." In 1748 retired from business. In 1752 discovered the identity of Lightning. After this period he began his great work as a servant of the country, being the most prominent figure of his day, known the world round for his learning and diplomacy. In 1790 April 17, he died, being 84 years and 3 months old.

Jennings Murder Trial.

Grant's Pass, Or., Jan. 13.—Julia, aged 12, and James 14, the younger Jennings children, were the principal witnesses in the trial of Jasper Jennings for the murder of their father this morning. They told a straight story, with testimony identical. They told of merriment in the house the night of the crime due to the visit of a violinist, and of retiring at ten o'clock. They heard no sound during the night. The boys found their father dead the next morning and both sisters asleep. They notified nearby miners, who testified they heard shots during the night and saw a light in the house.

Coroner Flanagan stated a bullet was found in the bed, indicating that it was fired by some one standing over the sleeping man. A cousin who slept in a nearby cabin was awakened by the shot, but thought nothing of it and went to sleep again.

A large crowd is attending the trial.

The Walker Point Mine

C. F. W. Browne, the painter, has returned from his trip of inspection to the point mine near Walker, in Lane county, says the Salem Statesman.

Mr. Browne made a thorough and investigation, having seven borings made at different points on the

ground, going to a depth ranging from sixteen to twenty-seven feet. He found different strata in each boring and took a sample of each stratum from each boring, labeling and numbering them in accordance with their location. Mr. Browne is much pleased with his investigation and says the property justifies much more than has been said of it. He recognizes the deposits as containing valuable materials and thinks there is a grand possibility of turning it into a mine of wealth.

Lake Titicaca as a Source of Electric Power.

The Paris edition of the London Daily Mail says that Lake Titicaca, the largest lake in Peru, and the highest navigable lake in the world is to be tapped for the purpose of securing electric power. It says further that the power will be utilized to supply motive force for the southern railways of Peru, and probably also to provide electricity for lighting and other purposes in the republic.

M. Emile Guarini, a well known electrical engineer, who has been commissioned by the Peruvian government to estimate the resources of the lake, has returned from his mission full of enthusiasm. At present the southern railways of Peru consume about 140 tons of coal a day. The cost of this by the time it has been transported to the place of use has amounted to at least \$9.73 a ton. This means an average expenditure of \$1,363 a day or \$4,73,357 a year for motive power on the railways. The interest on the capital necessary for the installation of electric power would, according to M. Guarini, fall far below this sum, and, in addition, the electrical supply could be used for other purposes during the night as the trains only run in the daytime. By utilizing a stream at Aret huipa, M. Guarini thinks that a force will be obtained exceeding by 6,000 h. p., the power necessary for supplying the railway. The surplus, M. Guarini says, could be used for lighting the towns, for agricultural and mining operations and perhaps for electrical navigation. Above all, M. Guarini urges the establishment of factories at the point on the coast nearest to the lake where small and valuable articles could be manufactured for exportation to Europe and the United States. The scheme, if realized, should enable Peru to take a prominent place among manufacturing countries.—Scientific American.

G. L. Tufts, superintendent of the Anti-Saloon League was present in Cottage Grove this last week in the interests of his work, and during his stay a local league was formed here for work.

CLEAN UP SALE

On December 26th we will commence to sell our entire stock of goods at reduced prices. We want to clean up all odds ends to have every thing new for Spring.

Nothing will be sold on credit at reduced prices cash over the counter and we will do you good.

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