

# Southwestern Oregon Mining News

Edited by Southwestern Oregon Mining Bureau

## SAMPLING AND ORE TESTING PLANT PLAN

Henry M. Lancaster, local mining engineer, has acquired option on the property at 204 West F street, which with the property immediately in the rear facing on E street, gives him practically a half city block for his sampling and ore testing plant.

The residence at 204 West F St. is being converted this week into office quarters, and the laboratory is being installed in the concrete basement. Mr. Lancaster states that the first unit of his sampling and testing plant will be started within a few days and be in readiness for operation in about thirty days.

The Wallace Miner, the recognized mining paper of the Couer d'Alene district in Idaho, published at Wallace and circulated largely in the east among mining men interested financially in that district, has the following to say about Mr. Lancaster, in its issue of May 8, 1924:

"Henry M. Lancaster, who for many years practiced his profession in the Couer d'Alene district left Tuesday afternoon for Grants Pass, Oregon, where he has for several years been engaged in investigating the mineral resources of that section of the state. Southwestern Oregon has long been an important producer of placer gold, and is famous for its numerous small but very rich quartz gold veins. These have for many years been productive in a small way, but the difficulty has been that the deposits were not large enough generally to justify the construction of a mill for the treatment of the ores. It is this situation that has prompted Mr. Lancaster to carry out a plan that is expected to give an impetus to gold mining in that section of the state and at the same time insure a substantial profit to the enterprise. He is building a custom mill and ore testing plant at Grants Pass which will provide a local market for the numerous small but high grade properties in that vicinity. The mill will have an initial capacity of 25 tons per day, and he says he will be able to make a good profit from treating the ore for what it now costs to ship to the smelter.

Mr. Lancaster states that there are scores of gold properties that can make frequent shipments of small lots of high grade gold ore and he expects that eventually there will be available as much as 250 tons

of ore a day. As an example, he stated that recently the owner of one of these small veins shipped one ton of ore to the Solby smelter. It was necessary to pack it 11 miles and then haul it 52 miles by motor truck to the railroad. The total cost of transportation and treatment was \$62.20 per ton, and after paying this heavy toll the shipper received net from the smelter \$75.11 per ton for his ore. It is to attract shipments of this kind and ore of lower grade that induced Mr. Lancaster to build the mill at Grants Pass. He will have also a testing plant for sampling shipments which will enable him to determine the character and value of ores before contracting to purchase. The ore will be crushed by a ball mill and the free gold recovered by a Russel Thayer centrifugal amalgamator. His plant also includes a five ton smelter and a five ton cyanide plant which will be used for treatment of refractory ore.

Mr. Lancaster's investigations in Southern Oregon have convinced him that it possesses great possibilities in the way of mineral development aside from its wealth in gold, and he had with him a variety of samples to bear out his conclusions. The most striking one was a big nugget of native copper, probably 10 inches long and 8 inches wide and weighing probably 6 or 8 pounds. Samples of gray copper and telluride, which he said carries 22 per cent copper and 10 ounces in gold. Another sample he said contained between 40 and 50 per cent arsenic, representing a large deposit upon which practically nothing had been done in the way of development. Another rare and interesting specimen was what he called paint pigment, being of a deep red color and used for the manufacture of a superior grade of paint. Local ranchers had used it for painting their buildings, but no attempt had been made to utilize it in a commercial way.

In spite of its great mineral possibilities, Southern Oregon has been very backward in development. Nevertheless Mr. Lancaster is convinced that it has a wonderful future and is doing what he can to bring its resources to public attention."

Since his return from Idaho Mr. Lancaster has received a very flattering offer to take up his chosen profession in the north again, but after weighing the matter carefully he reached the conclusion that the outlook for the full development of the vast mineral resources of Southwestern Oregon was too attractive to leave this section; hence his determination to proceed with the carrying out of his plans for the sampling and ore testing plant.

## MT. REUBEN DISTRICT HAS GOOD PROPERTIES

The Mount Reuben Mining District lies in the northwestern part of Josephine County, not far from the Douglas County line, and its principal railroad supply points are Leland, in Josephine County, and Glendale in Douglas County.

Among the more important properties are:

**Gold Bug Mine**  
This property is located in T33S, R5W, on Whiskey creek at an elevation of from 2400 to 2600 feet above sea level. About twenty years ago the property was owned and operated by Senator John P. Jones of Nevada and associates, and was classed with the three or four largest producers in Southern Oregon. The road from Glendale to the property was constructed on account of this mine, and production from the property is estimated at \$1,425,000.00. The workings consist of a shaft to a depth of approximately 750 feet with drifts on the vein in both directions. Property is now owned by John C. Neal of Portland, and E. E. Romig, of Grants Pass, and all claims have been patented.

**Benton Mine**  
The Benton property is located on Drain Creek, a branch of Whiskey Creek, in T33S, R5W, near Mount Reuben, and consists of eight patented claims. There is a good wagon road from Glendale.

The main adit is a drift following a vein 600 ft. to a fault which strikes N 70 degrees West and dips 85 degrees S; about 100 feet farther on the adit picks up a vein which it follows for 500 feet. The vein is also opened up by an upper adit for about 300 feet. The ore has not been removed.

The Texas adit of the Benton group crosses cuts 300 feet to the vein, which is opened by a drift each way; to the south about 150 feet and to the north about 50 feet. In place the vein is from one to three feet wide of solid quartz. The property is owned by the Lewis Investment Company of Portland and it is estimated that there is over one-half million tons of ore blocked out.

**California Mine**  
The property is owned by the Mount Reuben Mining Company and is under lease and bond to M. Bailey, who is carrying on extensive development work. The old workings consist of about 1600 feet of tunnels and drifts, while the new workings done under the lease, consist of a tunnel 3500 feet, cutting several veins ranging from 2 1/2 to 8 feet wide, and several hundred feet of drifting on the veins. The depth is approximately 1600 feet. The leasee has constructed a new road from Leland at a cost of about \$40,000.00.

**Ajax Mine**  
The Ajax Mine adjoins the California property and is owned by the Ajax Mining Company of Grants Pass. There is about 1200 feet of tunnel and drift work, and the vein averages 8 feet wide with average values in gold around \$20.

**Copper Stain Mine**  
The Copper Stain mine is not far from the Gold Bug and consists of seven patented claims owned by Mrs. S. L. Gerhmann, of Springfield, Ill. Ore is white quartz with free gold and development work consists of shaft 400 feet in depth and drifting on the vein. The vein is 5 feet wide, and it is claimed that values will average \$40.00 per ton. Considerable ore is blocked out.

**Elwidia or Kramer Mine**  
This property is located about 8 miles from the Alameda Mine on Rogue River, and consists of eleven claims extending from Rogue River up Whiskey Creek. Quartz vein about 3 feet wide. The property has produced upwards of \$40,000.00 in the past, and is now owned by M. C. Page, of Eugene, Oregon.

**Lawrence Mine**  
On Reuben Creek, owned by John Mitchell of Grants Pass, Oregon. Has produced around \$115,000.00 in gold. Development work consists of from 700 to 800 feet of tunnels and drifts; good sized vein of high grade ore. Equipped with Ball mill, but not at present in operation.

**Goff Mine**  
On Hungry Hill owned by the Goff Brothers and the Fetwell Brothers, of Leland, Oregon. This property is now being developed, the vein being very wide and carrying considerable copper, gold and silver.

**Novotay Mine**  
Owned by Frank Novotay, of Leland, Oregon, and located on Whiskey Creek. Development work con-

sists of 1300 feet of tunnels and drifts. The vein is wide and has a good showing in gold. Work is being carried on at the present time.

**J. C. L. Mine**  
On southwest slope of Mount Reuben, owned by the Lewis Investment Company of Portland. This property has produced upwards of \$75,000 in the past; claims patented. Workings consist of over 1900 feet of tunnels and drifts. Vein is about two feet wide and of very high grade ore.

**Sun Rise Mine**  
Owned by Montgomery Brothers, Sheridan, Oregon. Property has been developed by several hundred feet of tunnels and drifts, and has a vein about 18 feet wide carrying from \$6 to \$8 in gold. Assessment work now being done.

**Picks and Preme Mine**  
Owned by J. C. Neal of Portland, and E. E. Romig of Grants Pass. Good showing of high grade ore. Development work is now being carried on.

**Mars Mine**  
Owned by Mars Mining company, of Grants Pass, and located on top of Mount Reuben, adjoining the California Mine on the north. Approximately 500 feet of shafts, tunnels and drifts. Vein is about 5 feet wide and values run from \$5 to \$50 per ton in gold.

**Looney & Son Property**  
Located on northwest slope of Mount Reuben, and owned by Looney & Son of Glendale, Oregon. Vein is 4 1/2 feet wide and carries an average of \$14.00 per ton in gold. Several hundred feet of development work in the way of tunnels and drifts, and further development work is now being done.

**Peerless Claim**  
Owned by A. B. Cornell and associates of Grants Pass; about 60 feet of tunnel work; ledge about 8 feet and carries gold value of from \$10 to \$14.

**Brown Bear Claim**  
Owned by Mrs. Anna M. Berry, of Orengo, Oregon; about 100 feet of tunnel and drift work; 3 1/2 foot ledge of good values.

**Anderson Claim**  
A. Anderson of Glendale has a good prospect at the head of Reuben Creek.

**Gibson Mine**  
On upper Reuben Creek; has over 1200 feet of development work with a vein approximately 4 feet wide carrying good gold value. Owned by William Barnett, of California.

On the south side of Rogue River is found the Keystone Group of Claims owned by the Akron Gold Mining and Milling company, and the Legal Tender property.

## THE PRODUCTION OF PLATINUM METALS DECLINES

According to statistics compiled by the United States Geological survey the production of platinum and allied metals in the United States declined from 1098 ounces in 1922 to 609 ounces in 1923, of which approximately 99 per cent was produced from placer and dredging operations in Southwestern Oregon and Northern California.

The platinum and allied metals imported for consumption in the United States for 1922 and 1923 follows:

1922—Platinum or crude platinum, and unmanufactured products, ingots, sheets and wire, 94,939 ozs., value \$7,790,898.

1923—Platinum or crude platinum, and unmanufactured products, ingots, sheets and wire, 86,417 ozs., value \$8,923,037.

1922 — Platinum, manufactured products, vases and retorts, (a) 45 ozs., Value \$1,464. Iridium, 1,899; Value, \$298,567. Osmiridium, 2,165; Value, \$242,637. Osmium, 1,012; Value \$81,231. Palladium, 9,754; Value \$537,684. Rhodium, 111; Value \$16,227. Ruthenium, 100; Value 4,839. Total 110,025 ozs. Value, \$8,983,574.

1923 — Platinum, manufactured products, vases and retorts, 103 ozs; Value 4,769. Iridium, 1,611; Value \$276,539. Osmiridium, 1,174; Value \$150,074. Osmium, 1,462; Value \$147,144. Palladium, 14,578; Value \$857,071. Rhodium, 805; Value \$85,569. Ruthenium, 487; Value, \$21,492. Total, 106,637 ounces; Value, \$10,466,695.

Note—(a) includes 18 oz. in vases and retorts, valued at \$2,813, and 27 oz. in other products valued at \$1,916.00. (b) Includes articles to the value of \$6,735 imported under duty in 1923 prior to Sept. 22.

## METALS EXTRACTION COMPANY PROPERTY

The placer mine of the Metals Extraction Company consist of large holdings of placer ground on Grave Creek just above the point where it empties into the Rogue River. C. F. Sutter is president, O. J. Catherman, secretary and F. B. Sanford, manager. Work of equipping the property is being pushed forward so that the mine will be in readiness to operate with the coming of the rainy season.

## LOCAL MINING NEWS

Roy Hillis, formerly connected with the Forestry Service in the Coos County section, but now turning his attention to placer mining the Rogue near Gold Hill, visited here Sunday.

Frank Silver, who is installing a two stamp mill on the Julian and Swacker Mine near Rogue River, and who is also prospecting the bottom of Rogue River through the use of a power boat, was in town this week, having some analytical work done.

E. N. Crawford, a mining man of Boise, Idaho, who has traveled pretty well over the United States in having his ores tested, finally came to Southwestern Oregon for the same purpose. After the work was completed he acknowledged his complete satisfaction and stated that he had been unable in other places to receive a satisfactory test. His only criticism of Southern Oregon was the fact that certain street corners in Grants Pass appear to be devoted wholly to a knockers club, which knocks every person and every industry, no matter of what kind or nature. A knowledge of the personnel of the knocker club on the particular corners in question shows the organization composed almost wholly of the "can't do it boys", who do nothing themselves and criticize the efforts of everyone else no matter how well intentioned or successful. The knocker serves no useful purpose, either to the community or to himself, and the wasted energy should be directed toward assisting in the development of the community he has selected as his home instead of attempting to make the efforts of genuine men abortive.

J. P. Perry of Medford spent some time in Grants Pass this week in connection with mining matters.

At the regular monthly meeting of the Bureau last Saturday, F. Dale Wyatt of Cottage Grove was elected vice president for Lane county, C. C. Inman of Sixes, vice president for Curry county and Steve Gallier, of Bandon, vice president for Coos county.

The final passage of the Oddie Bill for the appropriation of \$2,500,000 additional funds for the War Relief Mineral adjustments, meets with great favor among the mining men of Southwestern Oregon, whose pending claims aggregate approximately \$100,000.00. Only claims with merit will be allowed finally, but such claims should bring a good many thousand dollars to this part of the State within the near future. The Oregon delegation in Congress are entitled to considerable credit for their work in behalf of this measure.

William N. Caven, mining engineer of Los Angeles, who has been spending several days with Messrs. Butler and Happer, in connection with their investigation of mining matters in Southwestern Oregon, returned home the fore part of the week.

H. C. Diers, engineer, who has spent a great deal of time in connection with the proposed smelter at Gold Hill, is in Portland completing the details of the smelter organization, and it is expected that this project will be under way within the very near future.

T. F. McNamara, of the Jump Off Joe district was in town Monday on matters relating to his property.

G. M. Esterly of the Esterly placer mine at Waldo visited Grants Pass this week.

William Freburn, mining engineer of Seattle, Washington, is spending several days in Southwestern Oregon gaining first hand knowledge of our mineral resources.

George Blumenauer of Ashland, is installing milling equipment on his property north of the old Dry Diggins near Grants Pass, the equipment consisting of a Whipple grinder, a 20 h. p. gas engine, plates, etc.

## CHROME ORE WANTED

The Bureau is in receipt of a letter from J. W. Flannery, 855 East 32nd Street North, Portland, Oregon, asking for two pound samples of high grade chrome ore.

## ARSENIC ORE IN DEMAND

J. F. Thorn, mining engineer, 647 Mills Building, San Francisco, left for home the fore part of the week, after scouting around Southwestern Oregon for arsenical ores, which are now in demand.

## MEMBERSHIP DUES

All members of the Bureau are requested to mail their check for annual dues; amount \$2.00, to the secretary at Grants Pass promptly. The year runs from June 1st, 1924, to June 1st, 1925. Membership is now 295, and steadily growing.

## PLACER MINES

The Whitacker placer property is located on Whiskey Creek and is equipped with ditches, pipe lines, giants, flume, etc., and operates every winter.

## METAL MINING IN OREGON IN 1923

The output of gold, silver, copper and lead in Oregon in 1923, according to the Department of the Interior, as determined from figures compiled by James M. Hill of the Geological survey, was valued at \$767,588, which is \$61,306 less than the value of the output in 1922. This decrease, however, is not a real index to the activity of mining in the State, for in eastern Oregon many properties were reopened and developed, and in southwestern Oregon there was at many places a campaign of development which did not immediately result in production of metals.

The gold produced in 1923 amounted to 24,091 ounces, a decrease of 1,623 ounces as compared with that produced in 1922. The decrease is believed to be due largely to scarcity of water for placer mining in both the southwestern and eastern parts of Oregon, for some of the deep mines, notably the Cornucopia and Iron Dyke, increased their output of gold.

The production for the several counties follows:

Baker — Gold fine ounces, 14,048.25; Silver, fine ounces, 84,262; Copper, pounds, 1,277,494; Lead, pounds, 26,666; Total Value \$549,157.

Coos—49.98; Silver, 5; value \$1,019.

Crook, Lane and Wheeler—Gold, 148.64; Silver, 639; Lead, 702; Total \$3,647.

Curry—Gold, 44.02; Silver, 6; Total \$915.

Douglas—Gold, 117.79; Silver, 7; Total \$2,441.

Grant—Gold, 7,632.15; Silver, 10,825; Copper, 5,967; Total \$167,532.

Jackson—Gold, 994.68; Silver, 396; Lead, 155; Total, \$20,898.

Josephine—Gold, 806.94; Silver, 107; Total, \$16,768.

Malheur—Gold, 249.57; Silver, 64; Total, \$5,211.

Totals—Gold 24,091.12; Silver, 96,321; Copper, 1,283,479; Lead, 27,523; Grand Total \$767,588.

During recent years probably the greatest portion of the gold production of Southwestern Oregon has come from the placer mines, and the severe shortage of water during the past two years accounts for the low production for 1923.

The production of gold, silver, copper and lead in Jackson and Josephine counties for the ten preceding years (1913 to 1922 inclusive) as reported by the Geological Survey, follows:

**Jackson County**

1913—Gold, \$36,934.74; Silver, \$698.83; Lead, \$19.00; Total Value \$37,652.67.

1914—Gold, \$39,502.44; Silver, \$149.88; Total \$39,652.30.

1915—Gold, \$30,198.23; Silver, \$38.87; Total, \$30,587.00.

1916—Gold, \$42,965.07; Silver, \$160.18; Total \$43,125.25.

1917—Gold, \$17,702.41; Silver, \$73.60; Total \$17,776.01.

1918—Gold, \$49,377.62; Silver, \$595.00; Total, \$49,972.62.

1919—Gold, \$27,560.55; Silver, \$450.24; Copper \$153.00; Total, \$28,163.79.

1920—Gold, \$8,478.22; Silver, \$74.12; Total \$8,552.34.

1921—Gold, \$32,305.97; Silver, \$186.00; Total \$32,491.97.

1922—Gold, \$25,548.40; Silver, \$177.00; Total, \$25,725.40.

Totals for ten-year period—Gold, \$310,573.65; Silver, \$2,953.70; Copper, \$163.00; Lead, \$19.00; Grand Total \$313,699.35.

**Josephine County**

1913—Gold, \$47,318.78; Silver, \$277.64; Copper, \$5,051.14; Lead, \$304.83; Total, \$52,952.39.

1914—Gold, \$108,157.59; Silver, \$7,232.13; Copper, \$5,073.95; Total, \$120,463.83.

1915—Gold, \$82,593.36; Silver, \$2052.34; Copper, \$9,386.01; Lead, \$2,473.00; Total, \$96,504.71.

1916—Gold, \$91,716.62; Silver, \$9,847.63; Copper, \$231,024.01; Lead, \$8,041.88; Total, \$340,630.14.

1917—Gold, \$71,816.48; Silver, \$226.80; Copper, \$296,809.97; Total, \$368,853.05.

1918—Gold, \$70,935.84; Silver, \$581.00; Copper, \$196,547.16; Total, \$268,064.00.

1919—Gold, \$41,889.48; Silver, \$510.72; Copper, \$22,041.19; Total \$64,441.39.

1920—Gold, \$42,332.14; Silver, \$239.80; Total \$42,571.94.

(Continued from Page Four)

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Preferred Stock BRAND EARLY CROSBY CORN ALLEN & LEWIS PORTLAND, ORE., U.S.A.

MARKET QUOTATIONS New York Market, June 7, 1924. E. & M. J. Press

Silver, oz.	.....\$ .66 1/2
Copper, lb.	.....\$ 1.250
Lead, lb.	.....\$ .07
Zinc, lb.	.....\$ .058
Tin, lb.	.....\$ .40
Nickel, lb.	.....\$ .27
Antimony, lb.	.....\$ 1 1/2 to 1.2
Bismuth, lb.	.....\$ 2.40 to 2.45
Chrome, ton	.....\$ 19.50 to 24.00
Cobalt, lb.	.....\$ 2.50 to 3.00
Manganese, per long ton unit	.....\$ 0.42 to 0.45
Tungsten, per unit	.....\$ 9 to 9.25
Iridium, oz.	.....\$ 260 to 270
Palladium, oz.	.....\$ 78 to 83
Platinum, oz.	.....\$ 116.00
Quicksilver, per 75 lb flask	.....\$ 75.00

WANT AND FOR SALE ADS. This space will be devoted to WANT AND FOR SALE ADS covering mining properties, mining and milling equipment, labor, etc. Rates are 10 cents per line for one insertion in each daily and weekly editions on Fridays. Copy must reach Courier by Thursday of each week for insertion that week.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING FOR SALE—A FIVE STAMP MILL not much used and in good condition; reasonable. E. B. Hawkins, Applegate, Ore. 4-25-10t

The government is operating an experimental fur farm in Saratoga county, New York.

## Medford Rock Crusher

Weight 1100 lbs. Size of jaws, 8-in.x12-in. Price \$250, f. o. b. Medford, Oregon. Manufactees Medford Quartz Mill

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(Not Incorporated)

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A limited amount of commercial chemical analysis and fire assaying will be done. Schedule of charges now being prepared, will be furnished upon request.

PERMANENT OFFICE 204 West F Street Grants Pass, Oregon Telephone 97

## Cut THICK or THIN

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