

Rogue River Courier

VOL. XXI GRANTS PASS, JOSEPHINE COUNTY, OREGON, FRIDAY, MARCH 16, 1906. No. 50.

ELECTRIC POWER NOW USED AT GRANITE HILL

Mill at This Big Mine Doubled in Capacity—Prospects for Future Bright.

After a month's suspension of mining and milling operations, to allow of the change from steam to electric power, work is again under way at Granite Hill mine, near this city. The change in power has been effected, together with the addition of several heavier pieces of machinery, and the mill and mine is now equipped and in condition to operate on a far bigger scale than before. As a matter of fact, there are but one or two mines with bigger equipment than the Granite Hill in Oregon, and none with better. But construction work is not over by any means, as Manager W. J. Morphy announces that the management will add 20 more stamps this summer, making a total of 40, and with this addition the Granite Hill will have as great milling capacity as any mine in Oregon. Auxiliary to the milling battery is an excellent concentrating plant, in which six Erue vanners are already in operation, and another series of six will be added when the additional 20 stamps are installed.

So excellent is the Granite Hill system of milling and concentration that not more than 40 or 50 cents to the ton remain in the slimes and tailings, being a very small per cent of the assay value. And while the values of the tailings are small, Superintendent Wickersham nevertheless desires to save them, and to this end has placed a set of slime tables over which the tailings water is run, and which catches a greater part of the values. With the system now in use, the ore of the Granite Hill can be mined, milled and concentrated for \$1.50 a ton. All above this is clean profit to the management. There are very few mines on the Pacific Coast that can make such a showing, as the cost of mining and milling in most western properties is from \$3 to \$5 a ton. The shippers are up against the proposition of \$4 and \$6 a ton for freight alone. To mine and mill the ore of a mine at the lowest possible cost, is the problem that demands conservative solution by every mine superintendent, and the low figures reached in this regard by the Granite Hill system speaks volumes for the management. With the vast body of ore uncovered, and the great system of veins yet to be developed, the property will certainly become one of the leading producers of the mineral west. Its worth is no longer a matter of conjecture;

its values have been amply proved, and the great Granite Hill is a gigantic certainty, by virtue of which it is entitled to a place among the giants. Granite Hill is one of the busiest mining camps in Oregon, and has a population of about 200, including the families of the miners. The camp has a postoffice and store, with daily mail and stage from Grants Pass. It has a commodious boarding house and a large lodging house has just been completed to give better accommodations to the men. The camp is also provided with a school house, and the school has a good attendance of scholars.

The Granite Hill holdings, which consist of both quartz and placer ground to the amount of 800 acres, covered by United States patent, are located on the two forks of Leuce Creek, eight miles from Grants Pass. The property is owned by the American Gold Fields Company, which was incorporated in 1902 under the laws of the state of Washington. Chicago is the headquarters of the company, with offices in the Marquette Building.

adequate development obtainable, cost being only a secondary consideration. While this policy means a great outlay at the beginning, it also means greater returns in the end and adds to the life of the mine. That the company has made good in this respect is evident by the value and capacity of its present equipment, and the extent of development done. The company has expended over \$185,000 for equipment and development, and its payroll is the biggest of any mine in Southern Oregon, with the exception of the Greenback, which is but little larger, and the Opp which is equal.

The introduction of electric power at Granite Hill will prove a big saving to the company, both in money, labor and timber. Energy is derived over the aluminum wires of the Conductor Water & Power Company from Gold Ray. One 75 H. P. motor operates a new seven-drill compressor. The battery and vanners are at present operated by water power, which is available through the winter, but will be replaced by electricity during

RAILROAD MINERAL LAND FIRST CASE

Tried Before Judge Hanna This Week—Its Outcome of Much Interest to Mining Men.

An adjourned term of circuit court was convened Monday by Judge H. K. Hanna and it will probably be in session until the middle or last of next week. One case that was tried this week has a most important bearing on the mining industry of Southern Oregon and the outcome of the suit is being watched with much interest by mining men. This case involves the question of ownership of minerals on railroad land. The grant to the O. & C. railroad reserved the minerals to the government but the railroad company claims the gold and other minerals by right of subsequent acts of congress. The tract of land involved adjoins the Greenback mine and was bought of the railroad com-

pany by Jasper Jennings, who had his trial at the January term preceding her trial, and who was found guilty by the jury and was sentenced to be hung, is now in the state penitentiary awaiting the outcome of the hearing of his case by the supreme court, as to whether he gets a new trial. His attorney H. D. Norton, got a stay of proceedings and he will not hang unless the supreme court sustains the lower court.

SMALL BOYS AND GUNS AND TROUBLE

Guy Colvin Shoots Off Brother's Foot—Reckless Shooting About Suburbs.

A distressing accident befel Louis Colvin, the 10-year-old son of Robert Colvin, last Saturday that came very near costing the boy his life and will make him a cripple. He, in company with his 12-year-old brother, Guy, and Carroll Cornell, who is 9 years old were on Jose X. Nelson's place, just east of town hunting and they had a double-barreled shotgun with them. The three boys were standing talking and the banter was made that Guy could not shoot both barrels at once. Without considering the direction the gun was pointed he pulled the triggers and Louis dropped to the ground screaming with pain and one foot shot away and the other one injured. The two boys ran to the home of E. E. Cargill and told him of the accident and Mr. Cargill hastened to the boy and carried him to his house. Dr. Douglas and Mr. and Mrs. Colvin were summoned.

Dr. Douglas checked the flow of blood and the boy removed to the Southern Oregon General Hospital, where he amputated the injured right foot, taking off the leg above the ankle. Two shots had passed through the heel of the left foot, but the injury will not cripple that foot. The boy, who is not rugged, came near dying from loss of blood and the shock, but he began to rally the next day and he is now doing well and the wound is healing rapidly. This is the second patient that Dr. Douglas has had in the recently established Grants Pass hospital and he is very well pleased with the convenience it offers and the excellent service of the nurses. Especial commendation is due Miss Webb, the superintendent and head nurse, for the perfect sanitary condition and the careful attention given patients.

The shooting of the Colvin boy is but the sequence of the hunting craze that exists among the boys of Grants Pass of late. It is a common thing for boys from 8 to 18 years old making for the fields and brush land about this city with a gun on their shoulder. As there is no game other than a stray rabbit, the birds become targets for their guns, notwithstanding there is a heavy penalty for shooting birds. Suburban residents complain of the dangerous manner in which bullets and shot from these boys' guns fly about their premises and the farmers fear for the safety of their stock and curse at having their fences molested and gates left open.

No sensational or questionable matter allowed in the Courier.

ANOTHER RAILROAD FOR GRANTS PASS

Runs to Takilma and Eventually to Crescent City—Citizens Back It With \$22,000 In Bonds.

This Thursday evening a meeting was held at the opera house to hear the final report of the committee having in hand the securing of a railroad from Grants Pass to Takilma. There were present about 75 of the business men and leading citizens of the city and the spirit manifested is that that has kept Grants Pass the leading town of Southern Oregon and which is to push its development to a city of 25,000 and one of the leading railroad centers of the Northwest.

R. G. Smith was made chairman and H. L. Gilkey secretary. Mr. Smith stated that the committee had accepted the offer of the California & Oregon Coast Railroad Company to build the railroad from Grants Pass to Takilma. This offer was that the citizens of Grants Pass were to subscribe for \$22,000 of the Company's bonds, which were to be secured by a first mortgage, as were the remainder of the issue for raising building funds. The money for these bonds issued to the Grants Pass citizens was to be paid to the company in four equal installments, the first when construction was begun and the other payments to be made as the work progressed, the last payment to be made when the first 15 miles of road bed was completed.

Subscriptions being called for Charles Welter put down \$2000 for Welter, Praet & Schmitt. Other men came forward and in a very short time the list stood at \$13,700. Owing to the absence, through unavoidable causes, of several of the contributors to the original list, the entire amount was not raised that evening, but the committee had the assurance that the full amount required would be signed for this Friday.

At the close of the meeting the subscriptions to the bonds was as follows:

Welter, Praet & Schmitt	\$2000
Kinney & Truax	1000
Cramer Bros	1000
Judge J. O. Booth	1000
L. B. Hall	1000
A. Conklin	1000
O. G. Ament	1000
Joseph Moss	1000
L. L. Jewell	1000
J. H. & T. W. Williams	1000
H. L. Gilkey	500
R. L. Coe & Co	500
A. U. Bannard	500
G. S. Calhoun & Co	250
R. W. Clark	250
R. L. Bartlett	200
A. B. Cornell	100
R. S. Wilson	100
R. H. Gillilan	100
W. H. Pattillo	100
Dr. R. C. Kelsey	100

Total \$13,700
President Gunn, of the California & Oregon Coast Railroad Company, has assured the committee that his Company has funds ready and will begin construction work on the railroad so soon as this financial matter is closed with Grants Pass and the remainder of the right-of-way secured, which will be by May 1st.

The subscriptions of \$13,000 raised by the committee on their original stock proposition will be returned to the signers. No action at the meeting was taken on the proposed railroad to Crater Lake and Eastern Oregon, that being deferred for a subsequent action in the near future.



MILL AT THE GRANITE HILL MINE

ing. W. J. Morphy, of Chicago, who has been interested in Southern Oregon mines for the past eight or nine years, is general manager of the company, and the rapid growth and development of the Granite Hill is largely due to the business enterprise and conservative management given the property by Mr. Morphy. The purpose of the American Gold Fields Company, from the beginning, was to give the Granite Hill mines the very best equipment and the most

part of the equipment operated by steam, as a 75 H. P. motor has been dropped to the 400-foot level to operate the new level pump. This pump is of the centrifugal type, and has a capacity of 18,000 gallons an hour. A 50,000 gallon sump and simple station has been cut on the 400-foot level for the new pump. The present steam pump, and also the surface boilers and steam engines will remain in place, for use in case of accident to the power line, and the shutting off of the electric current.

The old 40-foot headframe has been replaced by a larger and heavier one. The new frame has a height of 65 feet, and is built to withstand the heavy strain of hoisting two loaded cages in both compartments of the vertical shaft. The hoist equipment is of the twin-engine type, with one-inch steel cable. This hoist will operate to a depth of more than 2000 feet. The company also owns and operates its own sawmill, cutting all needed lumber and mine timbers from the heavy fir and pine forests of the Granite Hill holdings.

There are now 11,000 feet, more than two miles, of underground workings, tunnels, drifts, upraises and shafts in the Granite Hill mine. This, aside from the several thousand feet of development work done on the Red Jacket, Ida and Golden Terry claims, all of which are well developed mines, and a part of the Granite Hill holdings. The Red Jacket mine is located a quarter-mile from the Granite Hill mill. It is at present worked under lease, or on percentage, the lessee delivering the ore to the bins of the Granite Hill for sampling and sorting. A rich strike has been made in this mine, and at present the vein is giving returns of \$100 a ton. The main Granite Hill ledge, on which the principal work of the American Gold Fields Company has been done, has a width of from four to 15 feet. The vein is a true fissure, and occurs in granite. With the exception of the Jumbo and High Tariff, the other veins of the Granite Hill system, occur in diorite. The values of the Granite Hill ledge are not fabulous, as gold strikes so, but they maintain a very fair average, and are of constant and stable character, requisites that are necessary to permanence. The whole body of the ledge is milling, and reduces readily. Between the several levels of the mine there are many thousands of tons of ore blocked out, and this immense reserve insures constant operation to the mill. Superintendent Wickersham states that the showing fully warrants a battery of 40 stamps, and that the enlarged mill could be operated night and day to its full capacity without ever having a shortage of ore.

pany by R. N. Bishop, though previously a mining claim had been located on it, now held by the Hamlin heirs who are the defendants. Mr. Bishop and back of him the railroad company was represented by R. G. Smith and the Hamlin heirs had as their attorneys, C. D. Latourette of Oregon City and H. B. Hendricks of this city. Mr. Latourette is one of the ablest members of the Oregon bar and he brought out every point of law that might sustain his case. The law points involved are very intricate and Judge Hanna will take full time to carefully consider them before he gives his decision, no jury being had, as the case is almost certain to go to the United States supreme court, as whichever side loses will appeal.

Another case of local importance is the suit of August Fetsch against the Niagara Insurance Company to collect the insurance of \$6800 on his brewery that was burned last Summer. The Company refused to pay the insurance claiming that the buildings were burned to get the insurance. The trial of this case was begun this Friday before a jury. R. G. Smith represents Mr. Fetsch and W. M. Colvig and G. H. Durham the insurance company. Monday the hearing of another jury case will be heard that of T. K. Anderson vs. Galice Consolidated Mines Company for damages caused by a ditch W. M. Colvig and G. H. Durham represent Mr. Anderson and A. C. Hoggan and F. E. Sargent represent the mining company.

Judgment for \$3000, interest and costs was given the Grants Pass Banking & Trust Co., against the New York & Western Mines Co., and a judgment for \$1829.47, and for \$38.80 interest and \$100 attorneys fees was given the Grants Pass Hardware Co., against John and Dora Ranzau. O. S. Brown got a judgment for \$39.25 against C. W. Triplett and R. G. Smith got a judgment against L. A. Davis for \$113.60. A judgment for \$100 and \$25 attorneys fees was given D. P. Johnson and August Fetsch against R. M. Nugent. Divorces were granted to Gracie Baber from Orilla Baber and to M. E. Mauley from Ada Mauley.

The second trial of Dora Jennings for alleged complicity in the murder of her father at Granite Hill mine last Summer will come up at the regular term of court that convenes on April 16. In the meantime Miss Jennings is the lone inmate of the county jail.

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