

# Rogue River Courier.

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## DEVELOPMENT ON THE ORIOLE MINE

\$20,000 EXPENDED FOR LABOR AND MACHINERY THIS YEAR

## EXCEEDINGLY RICH ORE

A Company That Has Shipped Carloads of Ore Averaging \$250 per Ton.

The Oriole mine, one of the great mines of the Pacific Coast, if located in Nevada would be known the country over and its existence would be apt to stampede a mining community, but being located in the Galice district of Southern Oregon, is seldom heard of outside the state.

This property bids fair to become the greatest gold producer of Oregon, and, if this were the only rich quartz mine of Josephine county, it would be sufficient to stamp this section of the state as the richest in mineral bearing rock.

The mine is located about 27 1/2 miles from Grants Pass and is reached partly by railway and partly by stage. The last two and one-half miles of the distance being made over the company's wagon road, built at a cost of upwards of \$3000, leading from the mouth of Rocky Gulch, near Galice, to the mine. Active operations and development commenced on a large scale last March, and since that time the property has been opened up to such an extent that it can well be said that the company has millions of dollars of gold bearing rock blocked out and partly in sight. Tunnel No. 1 is 70 feet long; tunnel No. 2 is 425 feet long, and tunnel No. 3 is 315 feet long, and a winze has been sunk in tunnel No. 2 a distance of 40 feet on high-grade ore. There are three drifts in tunnel No. 2 and ore taken out of this tunnel has been shipped to the Tacoma smelter, and in carload lots this ore has yielded to the company about \$250.00 per ton. The vein is from forty to forty-five feet in width and is considered by geologists to be a true fissure vein, and average samples taken in many places across the whole width of the vein show an average value of \$25.00 per ton.

The management has spent approximately \$20,000.00 in the last few months for labor, material and supplies, all of which has its influence in the development and the up-building of Josephine county, and the company is at present spending from \$2000 to \$3000 per month for labor and material. Recently a Pelton water wheel system, which is to connect a three-drill compressor in the gulch below, has been installed and the mine will be lighted with electricity. This property is particularly fortunate in having above tunnel No. 4 about six hundred feet on the vein for stoping purposes. Tunnel No. 3 has just cut the ledge and the same character of rock is found in it as in those above.

The management is now considering the best method possible of treating the ore found in the ledge and it is possible that a cyanide plant will be installed.

The management of this property are a unit in agreeing that there shall never be any debts incurred unless the money is in the treasury for the purpose of paying them, and it looks as if the company would never be obliged to worry much concerning its debts when it can ship rock to the Tacoma smelter that averages \$250.00 per ton by carload lots.

Several citizens of this county are officers of the company. The president, R. W. Rowland, lives at Galice, Ore. J. C. Mathison is vice-president and general manager, and every one knows this man to be an exceptionally good miner. O. S. Blanchard is secretary and G. W. Doucet treasurer.

## ROGUE RIVER APPLES AT COUNCIL BLUFFS

A. N. Parsons Sends 25 Boxes of Choice Fruit for Exhibition Purposes.

The National Horticultural congress, which convened at Council Bluffs on November the 15th, and will close on the 20th, was one of the great events in the fruit growing world. There were \$35,000 in premiums and there was a daily arrival of large numbers of fruit growers from all parts of the country. The leading agricultural colleges of the country have been taking a deep interest in this congress and thousands of students gathered in Council Bluffs from the various state institutions. This was a thoroughly practical horticultural meeting, as it included the packing of apples and every part of handling of the commercial apple. Excursions were run from all lines into Council Bluffs and the gathering was one which will long be remembered by those who participated. Our townsman, A. N. Parsons, sent 25 boxes of the Yellow Newtown pippins and and Spitzenberg apples to the show and also forwarded a large number of the Grants Pass and Josephine county booklets for distribution among the fruit-growers of the Middle West. In addition to the booklet, Mr. Parsons forwarded a large amount of special information in regard to opportunities for investment in and around Grants Pass.

Because of Mr. Parson's having an extensive personal acquaintance in that district while representing the American Express company at Omaha, Kansas City and St. Joseph, Mo., we anticipate many newcomers next season from that section, after showing them the quality of fruit we raise here. Mr. Birchard, of Omaha, who invested in one of the large ranches on the Applegate, will be in personal charge of the exhibit, and after his thorough investigation here last summer, will be able to tell them many of the good things about this locality.

Mr. Parsons has already interest-

ed from 20 to 30 of his eastern friends in investing in Josephine county property; has been the cause of several families moving here, and has several other families contemplating coming to locate.

## GRANTS PASS NEEDS BITULITHIC PAVEMENT

So Says Councilman J. G. Riggs of the First Ward After Investigation.

Councilman J. G. Riggs, who returned Monday from a week's visit to Portland, is enthusiastic over the bitulithic pavement which he saw on the streets of that city. In discussing this subject with a representative of the Courier he said:

"While in Portland I took occasion to make careful examination of the various kinds of pavement now in use in that city. I had an opportunity to see bitulithic, Hassam, asphalt and wood block pavements. I made a careful and critical examination of all of these various pavements and am fully convinced in my own mind that the bitulithic is by far the most practical pavement for Grants Pass.

"The Hassam, which is used quite extensively there, is nothing more than a concrete pavement, and, like the concrete walks, the pavement will crack, giving water a chance to work down through it and to disintegrate the cement, sand and gravel, and then the passing over of vehicles, such as heavily loaded wagons, automobiles, etc., grinds up the pavement, causing holes, which become more worn with every passing team, and within a very short time it becomes necessary to apply a patch, which leaves a rough surface and is very apt to soon break up again.

So far as wood block pavement is concerned, it soon becomes rough and uneven and is very slippery, and personally I would not think it a good pavement at all for the streets of Grants Pass.

"The asphaltum, as is generally well known, is not suitable for streets where there is heavy traffic as in the summer it becomes very soft and cuts up badly.

"The bitulithic pavement, in my opinion, is far superior to any other in use. In the first place, the streets in Portland where the heaviest traffic is carried on are paved with this material. It does not cut up nor wear and is easy, so far as foothold is concerned, for teams. This style of pavement is the process of one parent company and they allow only certain companies in certain sections of the United States to construct this pavement and they are under bond to lay it according to their specifications. If Grants Pass were to use the bitulithic pavement, it would be done in exactly the same manner, the same material would be used, the same thickness and foundation as on the heaviest traveled streets in the large cities. The secret of the success of this pavement is that they use a bituminous product in their mixing which has a tendency to congeal and cement the rock and gravel, thus making a perfectly tight covering over their foundation, which is of concrete.

"I had an opportunity of seeing street workers attempting to take up some of the bitulithic pavement on Washington street in Portland. It was like attempting to take up the solid bed rock.

"In my opinion there is no pavement that will compare with this kind and I hope that it will be used in this city."

While Grants Pass is about to pave its streets I believe that inasmuch as the telephone poles and electric light poles will be removed from the streets, an effort should be made on the part of the citizens to prevail upon the electric light company to use the cluster light system of lighting the city. By this method the overhanging arc lights are done away with and iron standards with a cluster of five white lights on each standard take their place, there being one on each corner and one in the center of the block. There is nothing that will add more to the beauty of the city than this system of lighting. In many of the smaller cities of the east these standards are being used and why shouldn't Grants Pass be the first to adopt this system in the Rogue River valley.

## GREELY, COLORADO AND GRANTS PASS

GEORGE H. WEST TELLS INTERESTING STORY OF IRRIGATION

## WATER MORE THAN LAND

We Have Great Opportunities Says This Colorado Banker and Irrigationist.

The present year has been rich in that kind of corner stone laying which is to inaugurate remarkable prosperity in Josephine county. First came the irrigation enterprise which made all other things possible. It was the one great event of more than fifty years of civilization around Grants Pass. This brought that better class of homeseekers who have made farming an occupation whereby fortunes are made, and close in their wake came men of large capital; notably such as compose the Pennsylvania syndicate who purchased the Riggs ranch at the mouth of the Applegate, and that other syndicate of Kansas City, the purchasers of several thousand acres extending from a point three miles north of Grants Pass to Merila; also the purchase made by the Alaska syndicate, and many smaller ones by enterprising men of means who are developing alfalfa farms, apple and pear orchards and vineyards. All these things remind us of that prosperity which is dawning on Josephine county. The writer is reminded of these things by an interview had with George H. West, one of the pioneer bankers of Greeley, Colo., and a man of many years' experience in irrigation who has been visiting Grants Pass.

Mr. West is thoroughly familiar with the Rogue River valley, having been here a number of times and his extensive knowledge of farming and fruit growing in Colorado enables him to judge with great accuracy of conditions here. He saw Greeley grow from an arid waste to the best farming section in the United States and with its growth and prosperity he had much to do. Truly he was one of the men who helped to make the desert blossom as the rose. For many years Mr. West has been interested in irrigation in the Arkansas valley as well as around Greeley, and his opinions are worthy of the highest consideration. He has for the past year been a subscriber to the Courier and has kept himself posted regarding matters in this city and county. Below we give a careful report of an interview with Mr. West on Tuesday of this week by the editor of the Courier. His talk about Greeley is an object lesson as to what may be done at Grants Pass.

"Greeley has a population of 9000 enterprising people," said Mr. West, and he continued: "It has three national banks and a savings bank. The deposits of the four banks amount to more than \$6,000,000. The town of Greeley sends more produce of all kinds to market than is shipped by all the towns on the Southern Pacific between San Francisco and Portland. The people of that community send to market annually from \$600 to 12,000 carloads of potatoes and other produce in proportion. The best farmers market every year from \$5000 to \$12,000 worth of produce. I notice in a local paper that they have 210 automobiles in the town and in addition to these there are many runabouts on the farms of the surrounding country. I may as well mention here for the sake of showing how general the use of these machines are that the woman who supplies my family with butter brings it to the city in an automobile.

"All this prosperity was brought about by water and intelligent farming. The former was scarce and this necessitated cultivation to go hand in hand with it. This accounts for the success of the Greeley farmers, who have grown to be men of science as far as the use of water in crop growing is concerned. I have said this much for the encouragement of irrigation around Grants

Pass. You will have abundance of water and can raise many things in your climate which we cannot. Your water supply is really unlimited. Why, the Rogue river furnishes more water at its lowest stage than is supplied by all the streams in eastern Colorado combined at flood stage.

"You have great advantages here: abundance of water, longer growing season and many crops which we cannot raise and they are all profitable—that is, find a ready market at top prices. I have been in Oregon many times and never saw a good potato in this state until I saw it at Grants Pass. You have as fine potatoes as can be grown, even at Greeley. They are large, mealy and very choice. You only need to have some of our practical potato men to teach you the art of cultivating these tubers. If I was going to criticize your potatoes I would say that your best ones have too deep eyes and lack that smoothness so desirable. A few of our practical growers will come here and become producers of this crop which has made Greeley famous and you will then commence to supply the whole Pacific Northwest coast with this popular product of the farm.

"Your rainfall, which comes in the winter, when taken together with your mild winters, which keep everything green, gives crops a good start in the spring and if you have water to put on your land when the dry season commences will make ideal farming. Your people have not, I fear, a full appreciation of water. With us a permanent water right costs about \$60 to which is added a \$5 maintenance fee. Around Grand Junction, where they pump water, \$10 is the maintenance fee. That is nothing when people take from the land \$2000 an acre. Why, if it should happen that the maintenance fee should go up to \$100 an acre, our fruit growers and some farmers would give the price quickly rather than not have it. Potato growers if they had to could afford the price. They get from 200 to 240 two-bushel sacks per acre, with a general average of 150 sacks. That would make at present prices \$450 to \$500 per acre. With your apples, pears and other high-priced fruits, the cost of irrigation will out little figure.

"Let me say a word about Grants Pass and the lands around it. You have a great future if you will push irrigation. There is plenty of land here which can be bought at \$50 an acre which will in ten years sell readily at \$500 an acre. I have purchased some and will clean up some holdings in our state and invest the proceeds in these lands. They are the best thing I have seen. I am going home today, but will be back shortly after Thanksgiving. I am in love with your mild climate which gives me perfect rest and refreshing sleep. This should in the not distant future become a city of 25,000 inhabitants. Your one need, as I see it, is paving and as soon as you have it on your streets the town will begin to grow rapidly."

It should have been said that Mr. West has an 80-acre apple orchard near Greeley, which is in bearing and this year had a large crop. He sold \$9,000 worth and then had what seemed like a full crop still in heaps on the ground. In that country they pick apples there as our hop growers do hops, that is they employ a small army of pickers and rush the job through. One hundred pickers were employed to pick the apples in this orchard this season. It is Mr. West's purpose to sell this orchard at once and come with his family to Grants Pass to live. His residence in Greeley was sold last week.

## NEW EQUIPMENT FOR THE MOUNTAIN LION

T. J. Brinkerhoff, superintendent, and Adolph Maier, metallurgist and chemist, of the Mountain Lion mine, on Missouri Flat, seven miles due east from Murphy, were in Grants Pass the fore part of the week and left on Tuesday for the Kerby country to inspect the Gold King mine for Mr. Evans, who resides in Texas. The Mountain Lion is now owned by Holman, Foskett Mings Co., having secured the property from the Grants Pass Banking & Trust Co. in March. The mine is equipped with a five-stamp mill and has been a steady producer for the past 20 years or more. The present owners are add-

ing to the equipment by the installation of an electro-chemical amalgamating process, a portion of which is already in place at the mill and the balance, which includes the electrical apparatus, has been shipped from Pittsburg and is expected to arrive soon. This process is new to the coast, the Mountain Lion being the first to install a plant. There are four plants now in successful operation in Colorado, all having been installed by Mr. Maier. It is expected that this process will revolutionize quartz mining, as by its use every particle of free gold will be recovered and the cost of operation is practically nothing after the installation. The Mountain Lion will be equipped with apparatus capable of handling 100 tons per day, but with the present 5-stamps only 25 tons will be handled.

This process practically eliminates cyanidation in nine cases out of ten, and in many instances will recover values where the cyanide process fails.

Electro-chemical amalgamation is in vogue throughout Western Australia and South Africa and has been successful wherever tried. Mr. Maier has been an ardent student of Electro-Metallurgy for the past seven years, with a practical experience in Colorado and Idaho. He expresses himself as much pleased with the mining outlook for Southern Oregon, and after a thorough inspection of this district he is convinced that a great number of idle mines could be put on a paying basis by the installation of this process.

## THE BIG FOUR PLACER HAS CHANGED HANDS

C. D. Crane went to Portland two weeks ago to interest parties in the Big Four placer, a very promising property at the mouth of Pickett creek, near the Booth ferry. He returned last week with I. J. Merrill, president of the Modern Mining Machinery Co., who wished to look over the property. After a careful and thorough examination and prospecting of the ground Mr. Merrill, who is a practical miner with years' of experience, was so favorably impressed with the prospects that he has made arrangements to take over the property. This mine was formerly known as the Judson Placer and has had a series of ownerships with varying success as to productiveness. It is supplied with a small hydraulic equipment which will be replaced with larger pipes and giants, concentrating machinery and everything necessary for a first-class hydraulic proposition. The work of equipping and operating will be in charge of C. D. Crane, who has had many years' of experience in the Southern Oregon mines. Work commenced at the Big Four Monday with a crew and within 30 days the mine will be in operation with a complete equipment.

Mr. Merrill, who is constantly in touch with the mining men of various sections of the country, says that the Southern Oregon section has not received its proper share of attention simply because it has been considered a pocket country. This sentiment, he says, is rapidly giving place to the feeling of confidence in the section, and he predicts that Josephine county will experience a greater activity in mining during the next 12 months than ever before.

Before returning home Mr. Merrill visited the property of the Sykes Mining Co. on Sykes creek, above Wimer, in which he is interested. This is a quartz property and it will be equipped with machinery as soon as the development will warrant.

A delegation of Grants Pass business men will go to Portland Sunday night on matters of importance to this community. If you have business in that city arrange with the secretary of the Commercial Club to go at that time as your presence will be of value.

Ingersoll Watehes at Cramer Bros. State Superintendent J. H. Ackerman visited the city schools of Grants Pass Wednesday on his regular tour of inspection. He made short talks to the pupils of each of the schools, and spoke highly of the school work being done here. He came to this city through Provolt and Laurel Grove and he compliments these schools highly.

Garland Stoves at Cramer Bros.

## O'NEILL'S

## Thanksgiving Sale

Dining Tables Chairs  
Buffets China Closets

Are some of the special features at our store for the next week. Our line of CARPETS, RUGS, ART SQUARES, and CURTAINS are complete and worthy of inspection by the closest buyer. Now is the time to have them set aside before it is too late.

R. H. O'NEILL--Home Furnisher