

## MINING NEWS

### Reports and News of Activities and Conditions of the Mining District of West Coast

#### SYNDICATE BUYS WAR EAGLE To Form Company, Incorporated at Two Millions and Resumes Work.

The sale of the War Eagle mining property, twenty miles northeast of Medford in the Beagle and Sams Valley district, to a group of Chicago syndicates, headed by W. Earl Phinney, president of the Draper and Steeves company, leading financial house in Chicago, has just been completed. While the purchase price is not known, the sale is regarded as the most important in Pacific Coast mining circles and the biggest deal in Jackson county in many years, the purchasing interests having formed a corporation known as the Medford Reducing and Refining company, incorporated at two million dollars.

The sale marks the reopening of one of the wealthiest quicksilver mines on the coast, having been shut down during the repression that followed the World War.

With quicksilver now selling at \$102 per flask, there is said to be no question that the mine will now be a potential money maker, awaiting only the development made possible by the capital now made available.

A crew of 20 men has been at work at the mine property for two weeks past making preliminary preparations for the actual opening. Large quantities of supplies and considerable equipment have already been purchased and it is expected as operations gradually get underway that between 75 and 100 men will be employed when they are in full swing.

Equipment on the property at present includes several furnaces, a number of bunk houses and other necessary buildings, air compressors, re-torts and all apparatus needed to make a quicksilver producing plant complete. The men has been under the charge of State Mining Engineer Parks during the time it has been in receivership.

Negotiations had been underway for a year through Attorney Porter J. Neff. The mine was opened during the World War for approximately 18 months was operated at a profit with quicksilver selling at \$75 per flask. However, with the end of the war, the price dropped to \$40, making it an impossibility to operate the mine at a profit. The mining organization made up of local business men, was plunged into financial straits and the mine as a result ceased to operate.—Mail-Tribune.

#### YOU HAVE AN INTEREST IN MINING

National prosperity is reflected in the mining industry.

The mines of the country have more than a million employes. The payroll of the mines is a big part in industrial prosperity, and their huge supply bill is the backbone of hundreds of thriving communities.

A large percentage of American prosperity rests with its mineral producing industries. Those who think they have no interest in the welfare of mining, simply because they own no mining stock, are sadly mistaken.

#### MEDFORD

By Bliss Heinie

1927 was welcomed in Medford with much noise and merriment, all places having capacity crowds which included Walker's carnival dance, Hunt's Craterian with a midnight frolic, the Copco forum party, hotel dinner dances, the DeMolay dance and on New Year's night the Elks dance. Eagle Point greeted the new year with grand masquerade. At all the above places confetti, serpentine, fancy and comic hats, horns and noise makers were given to the gay crowd at midnight. The Craterian had a beautiful stage setting for their frolic. This is the first such a frolic has been given in Medford and it was well received.

Last week, Willis Phelan, employed at the Medford Concrete Construction company plant on N. Riverside, in some un-known manner got his arm entangled in the gravel bin

hoist tearing his arm off at the shoulder. The accident was seen by nobody. Phelan was found, still conscious, about five minutes after he had lost his arm and was rushed to a hospital where an operation was performed. He had been employed by this company for five years.

Station KMED of Medford, not yet a month old, is broadcasting some excellent programs.

The New Years edition of the Mail Tribune had a real metropolitan appearance, being 64 pages putting forth the beauties and resources of the Rogue river valley in a splendid manner.

Jackson county will receive as its share in the Oregon-California grant lands \$1,151,962.

Last Thursday night the Boy Scouts of Medford and Ashland received promotions in rank and several were awarded merit badges at a court of honor held in the Medford city hall. Ronald King, having won 21 merit badges in scouting, was advanced to the rank of Eagle scout. Merit badges were awarded to Bob Mason, Lee VanAusdale, Dick Sleeter, Edwin Boles and Allon Carley. First class badges were presented to Russell Newcomb and Elden Johnson and second class badges to Earl Carkin, Lucius Rogers, Martin Webb and Fred Schmidt. All the above of Medford. The following from Ashland: Clarence Woods and Hugh Carter advanced to rank of Star scout, Wesley Hoxie to Life scout and merit badges to Duane Malone, Lloyd High Jack Balding and Emerson Pratt.

This week is observed in the Medford churches as a week of prayer, strating Monday evening and ending Friday evening.

Medford was drenched in a regular deluge of rain New Years night.

A number of good high powered cars recently confiscated with booze will be auctioned off this month by Sheriff Jennings.

John H. Carkin, city attorney, and the next speaker of the lower house of the legislature, will leave in a few days for Salem, where he will be until the legislative session ends. Harry Skyrman, assistant city attorney will take Mr. Carkin's place while he is away. Miss Gladys Richmond, head stenographer in the city attorney's office, will go to Salem as Mr. Carkin's private secretary and stenographer. Miss Richmond will also be stenographer for the rules and legislative committee of the house. Mrs. Carkin will spend the early part of the session at Salem with her husband.

At their meeting last week, Talisman lodge No. 31, Knights of Pythias initiated four candidates into the Page rank, which was followed by the best social evening of the year. A beautifully decorated Christmas tree was in one corner of the hall laden with presents for all present which created much merriment. This was followed by a radio program during which delicious refreshments were served. If this is a forerunner of 1927 entertainments, 1927 will see some very enjoyable social nights.

#### News Notes From State Market Agent

By C. E. Spence

#### Heavy Potato Blight Toll.

Late blight has taken toll of potatoes in the Portland district to the extent of approximately 10,000 sacks according to the estimate of Robert L. Ringer, local representative to the department of agriculture. Long rains and no frosts during the early part of November are the causes of the blight, he states.

#### Farm Population Drops.

The U. S. census bureau states that the population of Oregon farms decreased from 214,021 to 210,288 from 1920 to 1925. The number of mortgaged farms in the state in-

creased from 50,206 in 1920 to 55,211 in 1925, the value of such farms from \$166,663,433 to \$174,196,410; the amount of their mortgage debt from \$51,999,178 to \$65,592,417 and the percentage of mortgaged debt to value of farms from 31 to 37 per cent. The value of farm implements decreased from \$31,367,125 in 1920 to \$35,639,515 in 1915, while the number of tractors increased to 5,768.

#### Certified Seed Potatoes.

Henry Koch, Sherwood, and W. W. Zivney, Oswego, both have about 400 sacks of certified seed potatoes for sale. These are Burbanks and have had two field and one bin inspection by the O. A. C. Reports from county agents are that there is a scarcity of certified seed in the potato growing sections of the state.

#### Wheat Crop Looks Good.

Under date of February 22, F. L. Kent, agricultural statistician, says abundant rains and snowfall have developed the best soil conditions for winter wheat for several seasons past; that much of the acreage has made a good growth and prospects for the next harvest are very encouraging. The condition in Oregon is estimated at 97 per cent of normal. There is about the same acreage of wheat in the state as was planted a year ago and the condition of the crop is much higher than the ten year average. There will be around 890,000 acres for 1927. The government crop report makes an estimate of 82,855,000 bushels of wheat as a total of Oregon, Washington and Idaho, compared with 57,132,000 for 1925 and a five year average of 84,362,000 bushels.

#### Washington's Licensing Law.

In the state of Washington the licensing law provides that all commission merchants must pay \$25 for a license and must keep accurate and complete records of all transactions. When a commission merchant receives products to sell he must immediately send the shipper a statement of the receipt of the products and their condition. Returns must be made within thirty days for products sold. A maximum commission of fifteen per cent is allowed. All commission merchants are bonded for \$5000. There is considerable agitation for a law that will better protect the farmers in Oregon and no doubt a bill will be introduced in the coming session of the legislature.

#### Sheep and Onions.

The onion crop of the United States is estimated at 29,630 carloads, yet only 25,240 or 1100 cars less than in 1925, will be shipped out of the communities where grown.

The number of sheep and lambs on feed December 1 was estimated at 200,000 greater than on the same date of 1925.

#### ABOUT WOMEN

Mrs. Carrie Miller, of Miami, Fla., who, with her husband, gave nearly their entire fortune of \$1,500,000 to a Methodist church, was imbedded and buried in a solid block of concrete, instead of a coffin, as requested before her death.

Miss Gertrude Martin, of London, has finished four beautiful mosaic panels in the palace of Westminster, on which she worked for four years.

Miss Lizzie Bryant, of Elk City, Kan., won a hog calling contest over male contestants in a Wichita livestock show.

Miss Salome Monkers, an unusually attractive girl, won the 1926 medal, with a teacher's certificate, at the Winnipeg Dressmaking and Millinery school.

Miss Carrie Woolf, of Melford, Mass, is an exceptionally accomplished embroiderer and penwoman, although she lost her right arm in an accident when a child.

#### INTERESTING NOTES

Timetables to be issued shortly by Swedish railroads will number hours from 1 to 24, eliminating a. m. and p. m.

Chopin's monument in Warsaw, Poland, began 22 years ago, was recently unveiled in the presence of a notable gathering of musicians from all countries.

The Greeks and Turks used the seed of the horse chestnut for curing glanders and other ailments of horses; hence the name.

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- mud gun
- S. P. boat
- aerial cascade
- American Legion
- girl scout
- cyper
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