

LOOKS LIKE A FAKE.

Iowa Paper Still Boosting the White Swan.

Some weeks since THE MINER mentioned the arrival in this camp of Leston Balliet, representing the Mining News, of Des Moines, Iowa, and an all around mining engineer and promoter. He didn't remain long in Sumpter. One thing dead sure, the Mining News is endeavoring to aid him in his scheme of promotion. In its issue for March that publication has a two column leading editorial on the wonderful Mr. Balliet and his gigantic scheme—no less than the rehabilitation of the old White Swan mine, over east of Baker City. Whatever may be the unknown merits of that abandoned property, all this stuff in the News is transparent rot, a rank fake, carries internal evidence of its entire lack of good faith. Read these extracts and decide for yourself—in the light of local information regarding the White Swan:

"Mr. Leston Balliet, the mining engineer, left for the mines about two weeks ago. On arrival at Denver he was met by a delegation of the directors of one of the biggest mines in Colorado, and was tendered the position as general manager of the entire mines and reduction works of the company, at a salary of \$15,000 a year, and all expenses. Mr. Balliet explained to them his White Swan plans including the big reduction works, electric power works, and railroad, and they were startled by the magnitude of the plan. Mr. Ross, the president of the Colorado company, said: "My God! Balliet, that's a big enterprise, but you are the only man in the United States that could do it. I want to get in on that deal myself and I believe I'll go to Baker City with you, and I and my friends here will raise \$100,000 in money for it, and more if you need it."

"Then he organized his company to be prepared to take it up the minute it was cleared, and you know the rest. How jealously Baker City people 'knocked,' how they tried to defeat his purpose—but the more they antagonized him the stronger his plans became, for 'if an enterprise has no opposition it isn't worth much—for nobody else cares for it.' We have written to our special correspondent at Baker City for a story of Mr. Balliet's fight for this million dollar gold mine; a history of his first coming to Baker City up to his present position as Bonanza King of the state. Knowing Mr. Balliet's disposition so well, and that he would rather go into a fight than eat, we predict that this fight for a million dollar mine, and the history of his other ventures, will be a story of greatest interest."

"His holdings must be worth over \$1,000,000 today—but this will be nothing when it becomes known just what he owns in Baker City, with the smelter, reduction works, electric power house, Montana, Oregon and Pacific railroad and the White Swan mine, too. Indeed, the men who associated themselves with the young engineer in the White Swan, where he will not be handicapped by officers and directors, have done well. Their future is made. When our correspondent has his story ready you can be expecting something as interesting as a novel. The banks report that Mr. Balliet is one of their heaviest depositors, and we would not be surprised to learn that he had half a million on deposit."

And this alleged millionaire is acting as correspondent for a mining paper published in an agricultural community in the ridiculously jay state of Iowa, the subscription price of which is two bits per annum."

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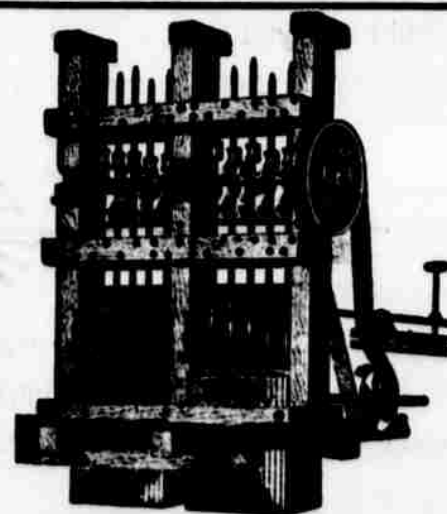
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