

UTTER ABSENCE OF BLANKS.

No Other District On Earth Has Such a Record as This.

E. P. Cowan, is registered at the Imperial. He is one of the original owners of the Eureka and Excelsior mine, in Baker county, and flatters himself on being one of the very first to interest eastern capital in the rich ledges of eastern Oregon. Twelve years ago his company took hold of the E. & E., and instead of spending money on the development of the ledge, put up a \$160,000 mill. This, he now acknowledges, was a mistake, as the mill was a series of amalgamating pans, suitable only for a silver mine. The E. & E. was rich enough, however, to pay dividends in spite of such mistakes, and is now one of the most valuable gold mines on the Pacific Coast.

Mr. Cowan has always had faith in the mines of what is now known as the Sumpter district, and he points to the locality as being of unequalled richness, both as regards the number of its ledges and the utter absence of blanks in the long list of prospects now in the various stages of development. "Every prospect hole sunk on a ledge thus far," he says, "has rewarded its discoverers with rich ore, a thing that can be said of no other mining region of the known world."

He would like very much to see a smelter started in Portland, as it would prove of great convenience to the mineowners of eastern Oregon, a source of great profit to its projectors, and of untold benefit to the people of the entire city. He has paid as high as \$10 a ton railroad freight on concentrates from the E. & E. mine to Denver, in addition to \$5 wagon freight from dump to railroad station, and he can thus see the advantage of a smelter where the freight on ore would not be over \$1.50 or \$2 per ton. He has heard much of the proposed smelter in Portland and sincerely hopes it will soon materialize. Mr. Cowan will spend several weeks in the vicinity of Sumpter before returning to St. Louis.—Oregonian.

Conditions at Shaniko.

J. T. Stewart returned the first of the week from a trip to Shaniko, Wasco county, and is armed with some information that may be of interest to the public. Mr. Stewart says it is a mistake that the bottom has dropped out of the Shaniko boom. A large force of working men are now on the ground grading the streets, building a reservoir, and erecting buildings. Well situated town lots are being held at from \$300 to \$800 each, but they are not going rapidly at these rates. A number of The Dalles and Antelope business men have established branches there, and hold forth in tents. They, and especially the saloons, are doing a slashing good business. The railroad is now within seven miles of Shaniko, and will be completed to that point about May 12. A newspaper under the title of the Shaniko Leader has been established there, and the place is beginning to assume some importance. Everybody over there seems to be in doubt as to whether or not the terminus of the Columbia Southern will remain there long enough to make of it a good-sized town.—Heppner Times.

Rich Ore Specimens From John Day.

E. E. Lytle, president of the Columbia Southern, has received a number of specimens of ore that are extremely rich in mineral. One piece assays \$227 per ton in copper and \$40 per ton in gold. Another specimen of gold ore assays \$111 per ton. The most valuable specimen in the lot, however, is one of chrome iron. The commercial value of this product is \$400 per pound. Mr. Lytle's sample runs about one pound to the ton. Chrome iron is used in the tempering of steel. One of the most interesting specimens in his assortment is a bit of bituminous coal, of a peculiar structure, not unlike to that of

honey-comb. Chief Engineer Anderson, of the Columbia Southern, procured all of these samples of ores in the John Day country. Each one is from surface outcroppings. Very few people have an adequate idea of the mineral richness of the John Day district. When Portland erects a smelter, actual tests will soon verify Oregon's claim as a state rich in mineral resources and one with a great variety.—Oregonian.

Bridge Across Powder River.

The bridge across Powder river, on Granite street, is nearly completed. The planking of Granite at that end is finished. Only about fifty or sixty feet of roadway between the bridge approach and the street paving remain to be planked, when there will be a continuous planked street to Vinson's addition. This will be an outlet, a safety valve, as it were, to the congested business district, preventing prices of property and rents from reaching the sky line, as they did for a while last winter, resulting in a possible injury to the camp. This bridge makes really good business property of lots along its side, and even at its western end, an accessible, convenient extension of the principle business street and immediately contiguous to one of the best corners in town.

Surveying Alamo Townsite.

Civil Engineer Worthington left Monday with a corps of assistants to survey the townsite of Alamo. The new owners will push the matter of securing a patent to the land and other preliminaries preparatory to springing a full fledged townsite boom on the waiting public. The townsite is said to be advantageously located, surrounded by good mines and a rich mining country, with unlimited future railroad possibilities. The proposition will be intelligently and energetically handled and Alamo's friends declare it will give its nearby neighbor rivals a fast run for supremacy.

Gold Ledge One Mile in Length.

Thos. Smyer, John Rapp and John Haskell have located a gold bearing quartz ledge in the Summerville camp, that can be traced from Quartz gulch to Deep creek, distance over a mile. On the two claims on the south end of the ledge, the ledge matteg crops out throughout the entire length of the claims. The assays of ore taken from the property show up well, and it is the general opinion that the locators have valuable property.—Blue Mountain Eagle.

Died After Her Long Sleep.

Mrs. D. M. Nichols, of Bridgeport, Baker county, who fell asleep April 1, and who only awakened twice in three weeks, died in Portland last week. An autopsy held at the sanitarium in that city showed that she was suffering from diabetes for the past two years, causing the walls of the blood vessels to become weakened and finally to burst.

Farewell Reception and Dance.

A farewell party and dance was tendered Miss Lulu Jett and parents on Thursday evening of last week by some seventy-five of their Sumpter friends, at Ellis opera house. Mr. and Mrs. Jett and family will move to their new home in Baker City during this week, if Mr. Jett's work as deputy assessor is finished in this district.

Potatoes for Sale.

Lew Bros., of Baker City, have a carload of fine Early Rose and White Star potatoes for sale. Enquire at Sumpter Forwarding company.

Quartz and placer location blanks of the most approved form for sale at THE MINER office.

The City Green house, at Baker City, furnishes choice cut flowers.

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