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W. S. BOWERS ABSTRACTS

Real Estate, Loans and Insurance. Mining Patents Obtained

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PORTLAND "HANDED A HOT ONE"

Home Paper Says it Doesn't Know a Good Thing When It Sees It.

To establish a Stock Exchange and enlist the interest of Portland is such an undertaking is no easy task. In the first place people do not know anything about such things. Dealing in stocks of any kind is an almost unknown quantity with them, and to get in the way of it, or "in the swim," as some would term it, is as hard as to make water run up hill. And yet we suppose it is so in all businesses. You must be educated to it and learn how, just as the drygoods man must learn the quality of his fabrics, just as the lawyer must understand the technicalities of the law, just as the carpenter must be able to mark out with a line and a rule.

In this place I do not know that it is any worse than any others, but they do say Portland people are the slowest people to "catch on" to anything. They are something like the rat that smells the cheese, but is wary of the entrance to the trap. Perhaps the simile is an unfortunate one, but the application seems to fit. However, it will serve our purpose in this case, and we will let it stand. What we want to get at is that the Portland people don't know a good thing when they see it. Everybody acknowledges there is an abundance of minerals, gold, silver, copper, coal and such like located in the hills near by.

Everybody believes, including the Chamber of Commerce and Board of Trade, that we need a smelter plant and a machinery plant to bring this product to a successful development, and that it will greatly benefit our state and city. They are willing to resolve and cry aloud on paper of the importance of this to our community. But if you ask them to lend a hand financially or practically they turn it over to the other fellow, or give it the cold shoulder, the marble heart, the glass eye.

Portland has grown amidst the greatest discouragements. How much more it would have grown if stout hearts and willing hands had come to the front. Our oldest inhabitants came here some years ago and squatted. They have let the town grow up all around them through the energy of outsiders and in spite of them, until now you cannot move them with dynamite. If you were to blow them up they would drop back again in the same old rut, and pull the moss over them again.

We suppose we must wait until we have a few more first-class funerals. It is said that a certain corner was covered with a row of one story moss covered buildings, but the owner died and his descendants are erecting a fine building on the spot. Other cases could be cited but one is enough. Enterprise is left to a few B. P. O. E.'s, and after the procession has gone by the town lapses into its former state of somnolency.—Portland Mining Review.

Sanger Mine Bonded for \$100,000.

The report was circulated in this city yesterday from a source deemed reliable that a sale of the Sanger mine, at Sanger, Union county, had taken place to Walla Walla and eastern capitalists for a price named at \$100,000. Ex-Sheriff Frank Phy, of Union, is said to have been the promoter of the deal and a son of ex-Governor Miles C. Moore, of Washington, one of the purchasers. The Sanger mine was the property of the Bradley estate of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and was operated until the death of Mr. C. T. Bradley, by the Bradley Mining company. The property has been idle for a number of years and pending a settlement of the estate was off the market. A 20-stamp mill is on the property. With the mine cleared of water it will require but little expenditure of money to put it on a working basis.—Democrat.

Eastern Oregon Better Than Alaska.

Will Shaw, formerly of Butte, Montana, now a prominent attorney of Wallace, Idaho, was in the city yesterday accompanied by his sister, Mrs. Minnie G. Stevens. They departed last evening for a visit with their parents at Cove. Mr. Shaw, who recently returned from Nome, believes the Arctic camp is a good place to stay away from. "The gold fields of eastern Oregon and Idaho," said Mr. Shaw to a Republican reporter, "hold out more alluring inducements by far than any part of Alaska. Baker county, now assuming a recognized place in the list of big mining camps, and the Couer d'Alene country, with its monthly payroll of a round million dollars, are greater camps, from every standpoint, than any section of the ice bound Arctic territory so far discovered. This is my first visit to Baker county since my boyhood days, when I held a chain on a government survey up near the Sumpter camp. The changes since that time, the increase in resident population, and the mining development have been actually marvelous.—Republican.

Bond on the Monumental.

Rountree & Diamond, of this city, have secured a bond on the Monumental mine, near Granite, Oregon, and Mr. Diamond is now at the property. This is the oldest producing mine in the district; has shipped over a quarter of a million dollars of gold and silver, and has a complete equipment of machinery, including a 10-stamp mill, costing some \$80,000. The Monumental has not been operated for some years on account of the low price of silver, together with the great cost of hauling concentrates to and supplies from Baker City, but the improvements in processes of reduction and the decreased cost of handling their output and freight will make this a desirable property.—Portland Mining Review.

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