

IRRIGATING SCHEMES.

Working on Powder and Des Chutes Rivers.

Work was commenced yesterday on the big dam across Powder river for the Baker City Mutual Irrigation company. It will be located just below the railroad track in the south end of town, on a site owned by the company and near the point where the old dam, which was carried away last year, was located.

The company owns the old Mowbray ditches and water rights—viz of the oldest water rights in the city or county. During the high water of last year the old dam was washed out and the company was compelled to receive the water through the Garren headgate.

The new dam will be a substantial affair, to be built of stone from bedrock up supporting the brush, earth and gravel. This plan was decided on at a meeting of the directors of the company held a few evenings ago. While it might have been cheaper for the company to have purchased an interest in another dam, which we understand was offered at a reasonable figure, yet the company did not feel like jeopardizing its water right by making the change.

Since the company was organized and the system perfected, shares have trebled in value, and it is now looked upon as one of the most important adjuncts of the city—in the way of beautifying the lawns, orchards and gardens.

The work will be finished this fall while the water is low, thus insuring plenty of water for next year's irrigation season.—Baker City Democrat.

Des Chutes Irrigation Company.

Eastern Oregon, Wisconsin and Minnesota capitalists are inspecting the country in the interests of the Des Chutes Consolidated Irrigation company. As stated before, the company has for its objects the irrigation of 80,000 acres of semi-arid land. In case the experiment proves successful, and the promoters have no doubt regarding the result, there are 1,000,000 acres of the same kind of land that can be made to blossom as the garden by the aid of water, which will be easily enough obtained by digging canals and utilizing a part of the large water flow of the Des Chutes river. H. A. Moore, treasurer of the company, is in charge of the expedition. With him is L. H. Moore, the proprietor of the Pipestone quarries in Minnesota. The place was so named because the Indians used to make pipes out of the red clay. Mr. Moore's health has improved so rapidly since coming to Oregon that he seriously contemplates closing out his business there and making his permanent residence in Portland. Mr. Moore is a personal friend of President Mohler, of the O. R. & N. Just as soon as the expedition returns from central Oregon, plans will be outlined for beginning active operations upon the ditch or canal which is to furnish water to irrigate the section mentioned.—Telegram.

Irrigating Canal 90 Miles Long.

W. E. Culver has gone to eastern Oregon, where he will superintend the construction of a large irrigating canal. The canal will take its water from the Des Chutes river, about 60 miles south of Prineville. The canal will run 90 miles in an easterly direction, across a barren tract of country. The ditch has been surveyed and a large force of men are on the ground ready to begin work upon Mr. Culver's arrival. The bottom of the ditch is to be 24 feet wide, and will require an immense amount of labor to build it.—Salem Statesman.

Government Survey of Snake River.

A press dispatch from Portland says

that Captain Hart, of the United States engineering corps, has just sent to the war department a complete report of the government survey along the course of the Snake river. The survey was completed several weeks ago, and the officials here have been at work for some time past on the report. The survey extended from Lewiston to Riparia, along the course of the river a distance of 73 miles. At the latter named point a connection was made with the survey made by Capt. Taylor and party in '97, and with the completion of the recent report with its maps, there is on file in Washington, D. C., matter descriptive of the river for 138 miles of its course. The department also has definite information relative to the shoals in this stretch. The engineers will soon be ready to estimate as to the cost of improvement of the waterway. The recent expedition was in charge of Frank Gilham and a party of fifteen men. The party was absent on the survey about three months.

NEW FIND IN THE GREENHORNS.

Two Parallel Veins Each Sixty Feet in Width.

Duncan Menzies arrived from the new Eldorado mining camp last Saturday and states having received very favorable reports from a number of samples of ore sent out for assay. He left here about the 17th of August in 1899 for the Greenhorn mountain country and has remained in that vicinity ever since. His untiring efforts in search of the precious metals were rewarded by the discovery, early in May, of what bids fair to become one of the great mines of the northwest.

Up to the present but two claims have been located on the discovery and they lie parallel with each other, only a thin wall dividing the veins, which are 60 feet in width, on each claim from that on the other, thus making approximately one vast body of ore 120 feet in width, which traverses the claims their entire length.

Joe Gassman and Colin Chisholm are co-owners with Mr. Menzies in this mammoth body of mineral.

The ore in these claims very closely resembles that of the famous mines of Cripple Creek, Colorado, a large per cent of it being phonolite.

These gentlemen have also located a water right that gives them an unlimited amount of water the year round, and by constructing a ditch a mile in length they can secure a pressure of from 200 to 300 feet at their claims, where they have ample room for millsite. There is also a fine townsite adjoining their property.

At no distant day we may confidently expect to see one of the busiest little mining towns in the west located at this new Eldorado.

This discovery is only one more proof that systematic and persistent prospecting is all that is needed to bring to light the vast mineral resources of this part of Oregon. Millions of dollars in gold have been taken from the rock-ribbed hills and gravel-laden gulches of Grant county and as many millions still lie buried in them, only awaiting the advent of the tireless prospector, whose faith in his ultimate success is boundless and who cares nothing for "formation," but tries everything in sight, bringing the search light of science to his aid at every opportunity.

The time is not far distant when Grant county will be producing more gold from quartz mines than any similar area of territory in the Northwest.—Grant County News.

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