

WHAT'S DOING IN ONE DISTRICT.

Another Case of Novices Discovering a Bonanza.

A trip through the Cable Cove and adjoining sections shows much activity, and the same condition has prevailed since the snow commenced to disappear. The mines are receiving more attention this year than in any half-dozen previous years; more money is going into development. The thorough prospecting which the country is receiving discloses many blind ledges, and the well known ledges are opening into large bodies of high grade ore.

The bonding and sale of the California and Baby McKee mines, about one year ago, started the ball rolling, and numerous sales and finds have kept things moving.

In going up Silver creek, large numbers of men are seen employed in improving the county road. The right of way has been cleared of timber for a width of forty feet, new bridges built and in the mirey places corduroyed, insuring a good road during the entire year. Telephone poles are strung along and will be in place in a few more days. The wire will be extended to the Baby McKee mine.

Work has been started on a new building at the California by Thomas Costello, to be used as a dwelling and store-room, also postoffice and telephone headquarters, as soon as the Cable Cove post-office is established.

The California mine has forty men at work in and about the mine, pushing the tunnel, erecting buildings, chopping timber and getting ready for the winter season. The big tunnel is to be completed as soon as possible.

At the Baby McKee, just over the mountain, they are in 980 feet with their crosscut tunnel, and are making about five feet per day. In a little over 200 feet they will cut their main ledge, so Superintendent Sprague informs THE MINER man. A few days ago a blind ledge, of good width and values, was encountered.

The Crown Point people are driving ahead in their crosscut tunnel.

In the Big Limber basin work is progressing on the Constellation group, Gypsy King and Queen. There are several claims here that have been held for years, and yet the ground has not in all these years received the required \$100 worth of improvements. Surely, here is a chance for the hog killer, so progressive prospectors can have a chance to develop the property.

On the north side of Lake creek Hoffman & Son and others are engaged in penetrating the hill with tunnels, opening up several promising claims. On the south side of the hill, and near the head of Crane creek, F. W. Northrup and Charles Konkl are sinking a shaft on the Underwriter, being down 35 feet. When a depth of 50 feet is attained a crosscut to the ledge will be run, so the extent and value of the ore body can be determined. Thousands of dollars have been expended on this property, but the work so far is all off the ledge. The same gentlemen are also running a crosscut tunnel on the Slippery Jim, and expect to cut the ledge almost any day. The surface indicates a large ledge, the ore being highly oxidized and carrying good values in fine gold. The same energetic prospectors also have several claims on Granite creek and on the divide between Onion and Crane creeks, all showing up well under development. All properties located by these men are proven before being offered to the public.

Granite Creek, at the head of which

is the old Monumental mine, is a fertile field for the prospector. There is no end of ledges crossing that section, all of which yield colors when panned, but like all sections there is at least one drawback. In this instance it is the claim hog. The whole country is being held by one man and a Chinaman, the man doing no work at all and the Chinaman doing only what is absolutely necessary to hold down the job. Imagine such an outfit doing assessment work for some twenty quartz locations. Of course, the work wouldn't stand a legal test, but where is the prospector that is looking for a lawsuit.

On the southwest slope of Bald Mountain the Start Brothers and W. R. Hawley are opening up some excellent claims. One ledge recently sold to the Uncle Sam Mining company has been exposed by open cuts for a distance of five hundred feet, showing a continuous ore shoot with an average width of over four feet. Others are parallel and of equally good showing. Buildings are being erected and preparations made for winter work.

On the southwestern slope of the mountain some new comers are opening up a ledge over 30 feet wide with good average values. This ground is near the Ibex and has been run over by hundreds of prospectors, but the Bonanza was found by novices in the district. A little float was found and followed up; the others had passed it by. A shaft is being sunk and later a tunnel will be started, the owners being determined to thoroughly develop the ledge.

The above notes cover but a small section of the great mineral belt surrounding Sumpter; the other sections show equal activity and an equal number of new locations.

B & M Produced Last Year \$13,242,576.

In the Inter Mountain's mining department today appears the annual statement of the Boston & Montana company, submitted by General Manager Frank Klepetko. It is truly a wondrous showing, reflecting great credit on the gentlemen in charge and illustrating the prodigality of Dame Nature in a most gratifying way. Most marvelous of all are the plans for future work, as specified by Mr. Klepetko, and rendered necessary by the growing demands of the mines. On the Mountain View there will be placed an engine capable of hoisting from a depth of 3,500 feet. The concentrating and smelter capacity has of late been doubled, it being the intention to work 2,000 tons a day in the future. Last year the total receipts of the company were \$13,242,576.64 and the total expenses \$5,049,724.46. The net income was \$8,192,852.18, which went to pay dividends and interest on outstanding bonds. The actual amount applicable to dividends was \$7,019,781.27. The dividends paid during the year amounted to \$6,450,000, or \$43 per share, which was \$7 per share greater than during the previous year. The bonded indebtedness is now \$600,000. Altogether the Boston & Montana is one of the best managed and most profitable mining enterprises in the world.—Butte Inter-Mountain.

Houser Buys Mines from Guker.

Zoeth Houser, one of the owners of the Standard group of mines at Quartzburg, completed the purchase of the property in that camp owned by Messrs. Isaac Guker and R. B. Clayton, while in Canyon City last Saturday. This property consists of the Daylight, Fairview and Chipmunk quartz claims and Bird placer claim and a water right, the consideration being \$7000. Each of these claims have considerable development, which shows up a large body of high grade ore, and situated as they are, the property is of great value to Mr. Houser and his people.—Blue Mountain Eagle.

A PRODUCER

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There has been placed in my hands for sale what I consider the best \$10,000 mining proposition in Eastern Oregon, on these terms: \$2,500 in sixty days, \$2,500 in six months and \$5,000 in one year.

There is on the property a tunnel 125 feet in length, the last 40 feet of which is in ore that assays from \$60 to \$70. At another place there is a shaft 25 feet deep, in ore all the way, that carries values from \$90 to \$100.

These veins are about 18 inches wide at the present depth, but have gradually and surely widened out from the surface. There are now 50 tons of ore on the dump that will average \$65, of which 50 per cent is being saved on the plates and the remainder can be retained in the concentrates. This ore doesn't go with the mine.

A better buy cannot be found on the face of the globe.

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