

TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH CO.

Franchise for County Secured and Asked for in Towns.

H. S. McCallum was in town Monday, having recently returned from Arizona, where he organized a million and a half dollar company, on a mining property which he says is a good thing.

The object of his visit to Sumpter was to file with the city recorder an application for a franchise to operate a telephone system here. Friday the county commissioners granted him the privilege of stringing wires on all public thoroughfares outside of incorporated towns. The matter was to have been presented to the Baker City council at its next meeting, and he thought there would be no trouble in securing the franchise asked for, as he had had encouraging assurance from members of that body. To a MINER representative Mr. McCallum said:

"There are associated with me in this enterprise prominent citizens of Sumpter and Baker City, whose names will be given to the public when the company is organized. It will be a telephone and telegraph company. We will first construct a line between Baker City and Sumpter. Here there will be installed telegraph instruments and an expert operator employed. We have made arrangements with the Western Union to work in connection with that company and its own operators will work that end of the line. The first work to be done will be to connect these two towns and the lines will be in operation this fall. Immediately thereafter the telephone system will be extended over the two towns as fast as subscribers are obtained and wires can be strung. Next spring our wires will be extended to every camp in the district where they are wanted. The enterprise has already been successfully financed, local capitalists having subscribed for a majority of the stock. I have met with encouragement on every hand and haven't the slightest doubt but what the company will be a money maker from the start."

This local company will surely be cordially welcomed in eastern Oregon. The service given by the company now operating here is so unsatisfactory and entirely inadequate, and requests for improvements have been turned down or ignored so persistently that patrons have about ceased to kick, and made up their minds that it is one of the ills of life that must be endured.

No blame is attached to the employes of the company here. They do the best they can. Its headquarters is in San Francisco, and it cares nothing for the country, further than to receive its regular rich returns. It has never been known to donate one dollar to any public enterprise, to show the least interest in any local improvement, but on the other hand, has ever displayed the selfish spirit of "the public be damned."

Of course, it will be different when strong opposition appears.

JAY GOULD LOOKS GOOD.

Another Rich Ledge Exposed in the Long Crosscut.

On Saturday last L. Limbeck visited the Jay Gould mine, on Gimlet creek, about four miles from this city, and which is probably one of the best developed prospects in this section. Speaking of his visit to a News representative, he said:

"The long crosscut, which is now in about 270 feet from the main tunnel, has

just cut a third blind lead, which is about eight feet across. The crosscut is being run to open up the veins of the Gimlet and Oregon claims at considerable depth, and will be about 600 feet long when completed.

"There is at least 2000 feet of development work completed on the group, between 500 and 550 feet of which is in good ledge matter, and there is enough good quartz on the dump and blocked out to justify the installation of a good 20-stamp mill.

"The Jay Gould ledge averages about six feet in width and is exposed for about 350 feet by drifting and upraising.

"The ledge in the Oregon is exposed for 250 feet in the tunnel and 103 feet in an upraise and averages over four feet in width, the ore being free milling and running \$7.50 to the ton on an average. The Gimlet vein is exposed about fourteen feet by a shaft and runs about \$50 to the ton and is also free milling.

"Altogether, it is one of the most promising properties in this section, and the formation and ledge matter is almost identical with the upper workings of the big Bonanza mine, which it will some day equal, if not surpass."

Mr. Limbeck was foreman of the famous Bonanza mine at the time of the big strike, made when Al Geiser was superintendent and owner, and is a mining man of many years experience in this section.—Whitney News.

Fossil Flora of John Day Basin.

In Bulletin No. 204 of the United States Geological Survey, now in press, Mr. Frank Hall Knowlton discusses the fossil flora of the John Day basin, situated in the north central part of Oregon,

chiefly in Grant county, and covering an area of about 10,000 square miles. The history of exploration in the John Day basin and of the geologic investigation in the region is given, and then follows the discussion of the flora. The fossil riches of the John Day basin were first brought to scientific attention between 1860 and 1870. The known fossil floras of the basin are all of the tertiary age. The bulletin is illustrated by seventeen plates, containing many figures.

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There is a bright future in store for the man who invests a small sum of money in Advance Mining company stock at the present time. We are already in control of one of the most promising groups of mines in eastern Oregon. These mines are conceded by experts to contain large bodies of high grade ore, which can easily be blocked out with a nominal outlay of capital. We are also negotiating for the purchase of another group of mines, most favorably situated for economical working.

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References: Bank of Sumpter or any business house in Sumpter. Write for prospectus.

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