

## HARD ROCK IN THE GLADSTONE

### Spokane Company Crowding Work on the Inter-State Company Holdings.

W. H. Mead, of the Gladstone group, was in the city on last Friday and Saturday. Like several other mining operators, lately he reports the striking of very hard rock in the tunnel. Mr. Mead says he has encountered a band of the regular Roseland diorite, which is rather difficult to make headway in with hand drills.

Two shifts are now at work, but in a few days another shift will be put on, making three, working eight hours each. The tunnel is now in 150 feet, with from 150 to 200 feet more to run before the big vein is cut. Additional men have been hired and sent out to the mine, so that the other shift can be put to work on Mr. Mead's return.

The Inter-State Mining company, owners of this group, have plenty of funds in the treasury and they intend to push right ahead and find out what they have. The property is bought and paid for, and is being worked on strict business principals. As Mr. Mead says, if there is nothing there, after they get through with their prospecting, no one will be the loser except those who have taken the chance. But from appearances, there is not much likelihood of any one coming out loser on the Gladstone. Mr. Mead leaves for Spokane about the first of the month.

### CONSOLIDATE ALL SILVER-LEAD MINES.

Deal on in Coeur d'Alenes Involving  
\$20,000,000.

A press dispatch dated at Wallace, Idaho, February 19, says: There is an exceptionally strong rumor afloat here to the effect that there is a gigantic movement to consolidate all the silver-lead mines of the Coeur d'Alenes under one company, requiring a capitalization of \$20,000,000. It is understood the American Smelting and Refining company has agreed to take sufficient stock to have a controlling interest.

As far as can be learned from local mining men, the only properties not in the deal are the Hercules and the properties of the Empire State-Idaho company.

This move was started last September when the trouble arose between the mine owners and the trust. It is understood that at that time an option was taken on all the properties. As near as can be learned the option will expire in April of this year.

Although no apparent and definite action is being taken at present, it is believed that everything is being arranged so that the deal can be quickly executed during the latter part of next month.

The rumor that experts of the lead trust are in the field quietly examining the properties is not true, but Frederick Burbidge, of Spokane, who is connected with Bunker Hill and Sullivan, has looked up statistics and value of each of the producing properties of the district.

The owners who have been seen say they are willing to enter into such

a deal, but beyond that they refuse to discuss the matter.

### We Have It Also, Here in Oregon.

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### Help Build Up The West.

The low rates from the east to the west and the northwest, February 15 to April 30, will undoubtedly bring out thousands of settlers. Where they will go is largely a question of inducement. If you are interested in securing any eastern people for your section of the west, send their names and addresses to the undersigned. All the facts and figures about the trip will be promptly sent them. H. S. Rowe, General Agent, Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway, 134 Third Street, Portland, Ore.

### Timber and Homestead Filings.

Timber and homestead filings, as well as final proofs, can be made before Charles H. Chance, United States commissioner, office in First Bank of Sumpter building, Sumpter, thus saving applicants expense of a trip to La Grande.

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