

COVERS
THOROUGHLY
THE
GOLD FIELDS
of the
INLAND EMPIRE



EASTERN
INVESTORS
IN
OREGON MINES
Pay for
AND READ IT

BRIGHT OUTLOOK FOR GRANITE DISTRICT.

It is customary at the close of the year to look back and note the progress that has been made, also to look forward into the coming year as to the prospects. In a mining country, as we are here all questions of progress naturally hinge on mining. The year 1903 has past and the progress made during that time has been quite satisfactory. While in future prospects there has never been a time in the history of Granite when they were brighter.

On the head of Beaver creek about four miles from Granite a new and rich mining district is being opened by the company now operating the Golden Fleece Consolidated group, and a number of prospectors who are developing their properties as rapidly as possible as their limited capital will permit. There are other good properties on Beaver creek. Capital is learning the fact and is beginning to seek them.

On the other side of Granite from Beaver creek is the Granite creek district, in which there are such well-known properties as the Independence, Magnolia, Cougar and Buffalo. For over two years work in this locality was practically at a standstill, and it has only been in the last seven or eight months that new life has been noticeable. The lack of activity here was not because the people had lost faith in the properties. But owing to the actions of promoters and middle men who obtained long time options on the best properties and played a waiting game, in hopes of making a sale at fabulous prices. In several instances they even failed to perform the assessment work, and the owners were compelled to do the work or lose their property.

Last spring Hon. Geo. J. Barrett, of this place, sold the Independence to Messrs. Burbridge & Burch, of Spokane, who have spent thousands of dollars in developing the property. These gentlemen have purchased the Johnson placer mines on Crane Flat and next spring will erect a large dredger with which to work the gravel. A few days ago Mr. Barrett was successful in securing the Magnolia for Burbridge & Burch, so that now extensive operation of this magnificent property is assured for the coming year. The working of three large crews where a few months ago not a man was employed is sure to mean much to Granite.

In the Red Boy district things, of course, at present are quiet, owing to the financial straits through which that company is passing. The affairs of the Red Boy are being rapidly readjusted, and by mid-summer the usual force of fifty or sixty men will have the machinery going again. Work at the other properties in this locality is continuing as it has been for several months and by spring all the properties now working are sure to materially increase the forces now employed.

In the Alamo district the mining industry is making strides toward permanence. The Alamo mill has been completed and in a few days will be producing bullion in good

sized bricks each month. There are many other properties near Alamo that are showing up better and better after each shot.

We rejoice in bidding welcome to what is sure to prove a happy and prosperous year.—Granite Gem.

HIGH-MINIMUM WAGE, AND INFERIOR WORKMAN

If all the workmen in any trade remained in steady employment after the establishment of the high-minimum wages, the inference might be justly drawn that the inferior workman was protected and benefited by such wage regulation. But it invariably happens in practice that, when this rule is imposed, employers soon begin to weed out those workmen who do not produce enough to be entitled to the wages stipulated. What becomes of the unfortunate ones thus thrown out of employment?

They cannot always, says the January Caster, adapt themselves to new conditions in other trades where the minimum wage rule may not be operative; and even if they could so adapt themselves, they would not easily find suitable positions. The usual result is idleness, discouragement, poverty and loss of self-respect.

From an economic standpoint it is to the employer's advantage to give space in his shop to the quickest and best workmen. His unit of expense is reduced when he increases his per capita output. If he allows slow and old men in whom he has become interested to occupy positions that pay them the same proportion of wages for their labor as is received by superior workmen, and suffer the loss which comes from their reduced output, where, then, is the injustice or injury of the workmen, by a rule of their own contrivance which aims to force the payment of partly unearned wages to these under-average men, cause such embarrassment as the discharge of the latter would bring about? Is this benefiting the weak?

"Yes," says the hearty supporter of the high minimum scale: we admit this hardship, but we must look to the greatest good for the greatest number. In the march of progress the weak must drop out."

This sounds very well, but in the matter of wages cannot the greatest good to the greatest number be brought about without the sacrifice of those who need protection most? Artificial barriers in the way of the easy workings of economic laws are very apt to bring injury in the long run. Were the cases of inability to earn the so-called minimum wages rare, namely, to make exception in favor of the slow and the old, might answer; but the earning capacity of men has a wide range, and the high-minimum wage crowds out not a few individuals, but usually a minority class of workman. If the demand for help happens to be very great, and there is work for all, the employer is often forced to pay the low workman more than they earn, and

to counterbalance this increased outlay, he is apt to average up at the expense of the better workmen by limiting the pay of the latter to the stipulated minimum.

OFFICIAL RECORDS.

The following instruments were filed at the Baker county court house during the week ending Jan. 3, 1904.

REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS.

DEEDS.

Sept. 26—U. S. A. to A. L. Weiss, 160 acres in Secs. 14 and 15, T. 10 N. 37 E.

Dec. 11—Sumpter Townsite Co. to H. A. Graves, lot 4, B. A., syndicate's third adn; \$270.

Sept. 9—Mary E. Myers and husband to Mary O. Coulter, lot 7, B. 10, Parker's adn; \$850.

Oct. 30—L. Knapp and wife to W. A. Knapp lot 4, B. 7, Sumpter Heights adn; \$350.

Dec. 23—Frank A. Myers to L. J. Chute, lots 13 and 14, B. 2, Pacific adn; \$1,150.

Nov. 5—E. P. and Chas. B. Castor to Jno. Toney and F. S. Heard, lot 11, B. 2, Rock Creek; \$50.

Sept. 26—M. J. Goodheart to Mae C. Mueller, lots 7 and 8, B. 7, lot 10 and west 60 feet lot 9, B. 4, Sumpter Heights; \$3,500.

MINING MATTERS.

DEEDS.

Jan. 2—M. R. Hurley to J. B. Morris, $\frac{1}{4}$ interest in N. W. $\frac{1}{4}$ N. E. $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 34, T. 7 R. 39, and Homestake quartz claim and 1-3 interest North Star and Northern Light quartz claims; \$1.

Dec. 23—Jas. Conley to Edward Hamilton 1-2 interest in "Triumph" quartz claim; \$200.

Sept. 15—Jno. Leggett to Henry J. Baker, 1-3 interest in "Silver Star" mining claim; \$1.

NEW FREIGHT ROOM

AT THE S. V. STATION

Joseph Barton, general freight and passenger agent of the Sumpter Valley, spent the time today between trains in the city. He was here to authorize a change at the station. An express room is to be provided. A partition will be run in the freight room and another window cut, thus giving better facilities for handling express matter.

Mr. Barton stated that the Sump-

ter Valley, at its shops in Baker City, is building a first-class refrigerator car for Phillips, Brown & Geddes, to be used in shipping meats to the Sumpter branch of the company, known as the Sumpter Meat market, formerly the Austin market. No local slaughter house is to be used by the new concern.

Mr. Barton also stated that when the refrigerator car is completed, the company will construct a mail and express car to replace the one now being used on the road.

TIMBER LAND, ACT JUNE 3, 1878.— NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION.

United States Land Office,
La Grande, Oregon, October 26, 1903.
Notice is hereby given that in compliance with the provisions of the act of congress of June 3, 1878, entitled "An act for the sale of timber lands in the states of California, Oregon, Nevada and Washington Territory, as extended to all the Public Land States by act of August 4, 1892.

ROBERT C. BAKER,
of Sumpter, county of Baker, state of Oregon, has this day filed in this office his sworn statement No. 2962 for the purchase of the SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of section No. 21, in township No. 11 south, range No. 17 E.W.M. and will offer proof to show that the land sought is more valuable for its timber or stone than for agricultural purposes, and to establish his claim to said land before Chas. H. Chance, U. S. Commissioner, at Sumpter, Oregon, on Saturday, the 9th day of January, 1904.
He names as witnesses: Peter J. Soards, of Sumpter, Oregon; William Salmon, of West Superior, Wisconsin; William Kelly of Sumpter, Oregon; Robert Patterson, of Sumpter, Oregon.
Any and all persons claiming adversely the above-described lands are requested to file their claims in this office on or before said 9th day of Jan., 1904.
E. W. DAVIS, Register

APPLICATION FOR LIQUOR LICENSE.

In the County Court of the State of Oregon for the County of Baker.
In the matter of the application of John Bartlett for a County Liquor License.
To the Honorable County Court of the County of Baker, State of Oregon:
I, John Bartlett, do hereby make application for a license to sell spirituous, malt and vinous liquors for the period of three months, from January 1st to March 1st, 1904, both dates inclusive, at what is known as the Half-Way House, in Bourne precinct, Baker county, Oregon; said Half-Way House being situated on the county wagon road between the City of Sumpter and the Town of Bourne, in the County of Baker, State of Oregon, and being situated about half way between Sumpter and Bourne.
That there is no mine within one mile of said Half-Way House. That the signers of this petition constitute a majority of the legal voters of Bourne precinct.
JOHN BARTLETT.
Sumpter Oregon, November 27th, 1903.

We the undersigned, constituting a majority of the legal voters of Bourne precinct in Baker County, Oregon, do hereby respectfully ask that a Liquor License be granted to John Bartlett, of the Half-Way House, in Bourne Precinct, Baker County, Oregon, for the period beginning January first, 1904, and ending March 1st, 1904.
J. M. Doyle, Thos. Connolly, J. C. Burton, W. Hanrahan, M. S. McLee, O. E. Burnett, Al Young, Asa Robertson, Robert M. Simms, Thomas Doyle, Thomas Tobin, Ed. Haley, B. O. Kempfu, Ed. Turk, A. L. McBrayer, G. H. Tabor, Tom Moore, J. F. Titus, J. T. Stevenson, Charles Smith, Walter Self, Arthur Rees, Fred C. Barrett, J. T. Mahoney, Jake Green, Ed. McKinley, Harry Allen, J. J. Grabb, Tom Jones, R. S. Jenkins, Tom Hale, Cliff Hackett, Guy Harris, Thos. Taylor, T. Durkee, J. B. Ball, F. A. Anderson, Wm. H. Ems, J. D. McDonald, George Maurin, Chas. Williams, A. H. Weatherford, J. F. Rusk, Jas. McGhee, W. Kellogg, J. W. Smith, Pest Macey, S. A. Abel, Clyde Titus, D. Jones, Elmer Taylor, J. R. More, B. Burton, John White, Ben Woods.

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