

## OTHER SIDE OF THE KEYSTONE LAW SUIT

### Rev. Hughes, Manager of The Equity Com- pany, Gives His Version of The Trouble.

Rev. J. W. Hughes, of Baker City, president, general manager and principal owner of the Equity Copper and Gold Mining company, operating in the Quartzburg district, passed through the city this morning on his way to Canyon City, to be present at the hearing of the contempt proceedings instituted against his company by the Keystone Mining company. The case comes up for trial this week.

Rev. Hughes denies any violation whatever on behalf of his company of the restraining order granted in favor of the Keystone people, the ground on which the action for contempt was instituted. Further, he states that the claim which the Keystone is trying to get possession of has been owned by Mr. Lawrence and the Equity company for the past fifteen years. To a Miner representative this morning, he said:

"There is no question as to the ownership of this property. We ac-

quired it on a clear title dating back for fifteen years or more. It is a clear case of the Keystone trying to get what it is not justly entitled to. Last August this company sent engineers over to make a survey of its location, known as the Keystone claim. Then 200 feet of our Oregon claim was included in this survey. But this did not end the matter. In December another survey was made which took in 100 more feet of the Oregon. Now it is contended that we have 1,100 feet of Keystone property, when as a matter of fact, our location stakes have been in sight for the last fifteen years, and no question has been asked.

"Relative to the charge of our taking over from the disputed ground since the issuance of the restraining order pending a hearing for permanent injunction, there is nothing to it. We have obeyed the order and have taken no over from the ground in question."

### NO STRIKE AT MOUNTAIN VIEW

There was really no strike at the Mountain View, as reported in the Mining Reporter. J. N. Esselstyne, manager of the property, was here today en route to Baker City, and states that the six men did not strike but merely applied to be transferred from shaft work at \$3.50 a day to drift work at \$3.00 per day, with the difference of two hours service in behalf of the later employment. Shaft work pays \$3.50 a day and drift work \$3.00, the latter ten hours regulation service, and the former eight hours.

Really there was no strike. No walk out. The men did not want to do shaft work, they were getting rich too rapidly, and they wanted to try their hands at shaft work at a lower wage, at longer hours, that was all.

The necessary complement has been supplied, and work is proceeding as usual. The Miners' Union refused to countenance a strike, according to the statements of Mr. Esselstyne, manager of the property. Matters have been adjusted, and there is no further difficulty.

#### Food for Thought in Oregon.

The Carson papers are advocating the appointment of a state mineralogist for Nevada, to have his Mining Bureau at Carson. We think that

experience shows that the headquarters of a state mineralogist ought not to be in any commercial center, but rather right in among the mines. There is not one case in a hundred where the common miner thinks it worth his while to visit a mining bureau when he is away from home. As such institutions are for his benefit they ought to be in harmony with his environments, and to this end should be established near the home of the miner, where he would not have to put on his Sunday clothes before visiting them for business or pleasure. There is a great deal in this idea which we hope the state of Nevada will recognize if it ever indulges in the luxury of a state mineralogist.—Pacific Coast Miner.

### THINGS LOOKING GOOD AT THE STORM KING

T. J. Costello, general manager of the Storm King, is back from a stay at the property of several days, and reports material progress. He is making arrangements to add five men to his force by the end of the month.

On the Honest Dollar drift, Mr. Costello says, the horse is getting out of the way, and the ledge is lying up and taking its true direction. The drift is now in 125 feet, with a depth of about seventy feet. The ledge shows seven feet between walls carrying from sixteen to eighteen inches of high grade milling ore. The entire face, he says, is pretty well shot with good stuff. The

crosscut on the Storm King is now within thirty feet of the vein.

Mr. Costello was over at the Valley Queen a day or so before he came in. This property, he says, is making the best showing in its history. The No. 4 drift has full four feet of ore in the face, and is constantly improving. More water is being encountered, which is an indication of still better ore.

### PROSPERITY AT BOURNE.

H. S. Morrison, a prominent merchant of Bourne, is here today. Mr. Morrison says that Bourne is enjoying a season of unexampled prosperity. Here is the way he puts it:

"Bourne was never more prosperous, and I believe it is one of the liveliest mining camps in the country. Every house in town is occupied, and there is a large demand for more residences. They could be rented without any difficulty. This offers an attractive field for investment. If some enterprising individual would put up some houses he would realize a good return on his money. With the big producing mines around Bourne working steadily there is every reason to believe that times there will continue good."

### DISPUTE SETTLED OUT OF COURT

The Baby McKee company and the Imperial people have adjusted their differences relative to disputed ground, and the litigation now pending in the Federal court will be dismissed. Captain A. M. Paul, superintendent of the Imperial, operated by the Eagle company, L. G. Lilly, general manager of the Baby McKee, met with Charles H. Chance, attorney for the latter, last night and an amicable settlement of the matters in controversy was reached.

Captain Paul has also fixed up matters with L. R. Bellman, of the California, in regard to ground claimed by both. In each instance a division was agreed upon.

### MUDDY AND DUTCH CREEK IRRIGATION COMPANY.

The Muddy Creek reservoir and Dutch Creek Irrigation company, has been incorporated, the object of the company being to furnish water for irrigating several thousand acres of land belonging to the stockholders. The capital stock consists of 5,000 shares at \$1 per share, all of which, with the exception of about 400 shares have been subscribed.

Following are the names of the stockholders: John Haud, James Hearing, A. J. Hartung, John Ainsworth, E. H. and G. W. Pratt, D. L. Speelman, Seth Hart, C. W. York, Ben Fisher, Lottie Clark, W. R. Hutchinson, J. L. Savage, Francis Weeks, W. J. Welch, Jacob Emswiger, J. F. Henner, S. P. Hearing.

Officers have been elected as follows: President, A. J. Hartung; vice president, S. P. Hearing; secretary, W. J. Welch; treasurer, J. L. Savage.—Haines Record.

## EXPLOSION AT PLATTS

Blacksmith Shop Blown to Pieces

This Afternoon, But no One Hurt.

Telephone Message to Harry Hendryx, But Details of Accident Not Stated.

An indefinite account of an explosion at the Platts' group, in the Rock Creek district, reached here this afternoon. A telephone message from Bert Rusk, who has charge of the development work for the Geiser-Hendryx company, to Harry Hendryx stated that an explosion occurred in the blacksmith shop, this afternoon, blowing the shop to pieces and scattering equipment and tools in every direction. No one was injured, but considerable damage was done.

No details, if known, as to the cause of the accident were given, and it was not learned here to what it was attributable. If any of the men employed at the mine had been near at the time it occurred, serious injury would probably have resulted, but as it was, no one happened to be near enough to get hurt.

### OGDEN-LUCIEN CUTOFF

#### TRESTLE COLLAPSED.

A press despatch from Salt Lake, of recent date, says:

Advices from the Ogden Lucien cutoff across the Great Salt Lake, state that 1,200 feet of the trestle has collapsed. The damage is near camp 10 at midlake. By reason of this sinking of the track all supplies must be sent around the lake by way of Hogup and Tecoma, instead of being sent direct from Ogden, as heretofore. The engineers now state that it will be late in the spring before passenger trains can be run over the cutoff. A local railroad official today stated that the present trouble was nothing unusual and that the trestle had been sinking right along. He said the present sink was about six inches, and added that the damage would soon be repaired and that nothing could prevent the ultimate success of the enterprise. The situation was further complicated by the wreck which occurred a few days ago and which prevented the running of rock trains. A heavy windstorm tested the trestle about the same time and this probably had something to do with the collapse.

The Ogden Lucien cutoff, the most costly piece of railroad ever attempted in the west, was first estimated to cost \$4,000,000. Engineers now say privately that the cost will foot up from \$10,000,000 to \$14,000,000.

#### Shareholders Meeting.

Notice is hereby given that there will be a meeting of the shareholders of the First National Bank, of Sumpter, Tuesday, February 16, 1904, at their banking house at 11 a. m.

R. H. MILLER, Cashier.  
Dated Jan. 11, 1904.