

IRON DYKE IN TROUBLE

Foreclosure Proceedings Instituted to Satisfy Indebtedness of \$230,000.

Thought The Erie, Pennsylvania Creditors Wish to Get Possession of The Mine.

General Manager Frank E. Pearce, of the Iron Dyke mine, returned to Baker City last night from a trip to Erie, Pennsylvania, the home of the principal owners of the mine. He attended a conference of the directors at which plans for future development of the property were outlined.

This morning Manager Pearce was served with papers in a suit instituted yesterday to foreclose a mortgage on the Iron Dyke, amounting to \$208,000, and another suit to recover a \$21,000 judgment in favor of A. L. Curtze. The plaintiff in the first named action is the same as in the second and is brought on a mortgage executed by the Iron Dyke Copper Mining company to him for the sum named. The mortgage covers the thirty claims in the Iron Dyke group, all the machinery, tools, buildings, materials and miscellaneous equipment.

The suit, it is understood by the Herald, is merely the carrying out of the plans of the Iron Dyke company to clear title to the property and refund old debts.

It is the general belief, however, that the suit is a bona fide one, and that the control of the property will pass from the present hands into a strong company headed by the judgment creditor, who is a wealthy man of Erie, Pennsylvania. If the latter belief is true, there is expected to be some changes in the policy of the company.

Recently a number of miners' liens were filed against the mine during the absence of Manager Pearce.

When the Iron Dyke Copper company assumed charge of the mine, it was announced that the men back of the company had set aside a fund of \$110,000 for development. That was a long time ago, and it is believed that the fund has been exhausted. Manager Pearce went east to raise more money. In view of the fact that the suit has been instituted since his eastern visit, the conclusion is warranted that he failed in his mission. At the same time, the Herald is reliably informed that the suit is simply a part of the plans of the company to settle its affairs and continue the work of making the Iron Dyke one of the greatest copper mines in the north-west.—Herald.

ALPINE VEIN IS GAINING STRENGTH

Dick Addoms, superintendent of the Alpine, is in town today. Mr. Addoms is a modest man and has an aversion to seeing his name in print. "Come out and look at the prop-

erty," he said, "but just leave me out of it. I know we have some thing good, but I don't care to figure as the one who furnishes the information to the public."

However, the conversation with Mr. Addoms elicited that the Alpine drift is now in over 400 feet with seven feet of good ore in the face. Some time ago the drift went square against a solid granite wall. In other words, there was a horse in the way. This, however, was driven through and the vein was found to hold its true direction. It is increasing in strength with distance.

KEYSTONE-EQUITY CASE UP AGAIN.

Attorney N. C. Richards was unexpectedly called to Canyon City this afternoon in the Keystone-Equity litigation. Mr. Richards was preparing to accompany his wife to Portland, when he was notified that there was a new phase to the situation, and that it was necessary for him to be present at a hearing of a motion to dissolve the temporary restraining order now in force. The case comes up before Judge Clifford at Canyon City Saturday morning at 10 o'clock.

To briefly reiterate the history of the present litigation, which involves much capital and interests of several Sumpter people, in the first place, a temporary injunction was issued, restraining the Equity company from removing ore from ground claimed by the Keystone, pending a hearing, some time in April, for a permanent injunction and damages claimed. It was urged by the Keystone people that the Equity refused to obey the order, and contempt proceedings were instituted. This case was heard a few days ago, and while no fine was imposed, the latter company was warned to keep off the ground.

It was thought this would be the last of the matter until the hearing of the permanent injunction. It is understood now that the Equity urges that it has not sufficient ore to keep its mill running, and therefore, has entered a motion for the dissolution of the temporary injunction. This is an important equity case, and involves some very rich mineral ground.

WILL INSTALL A PUMPING PLANT

E. J. Wallace has finished his placer work at Gold Center and will leave tomorrow to work on a placer claim he has at Stices gulch. At Gold Center he has a large amount of gravel on the dump awaiting high water in the spring.

He proposes putting in a large pumping plant at the Stices placers next season, and is going there now to do some preparatory work.

Mill Giving Satisfaction.

J. R. Cassin, of Spokane, secretary and treasurer of the Alamo company, arrived here this morning and will remain several days on business in connection with his company. He will spend some time at the property during his visit. Mr. Cassin says the reports from the new mill are to the effect that it is giving entire satisfaction.

SLAUGHTER OF CATTLE

Big Land Company in Morrow County Pays Two Dollars a Head.

Trying to Drive The Cattlemen From The Last Public Range Left.

Details of the slaughter of cattle extending over a period from last June until late in the fall, on the range in Morrow county, were given to the Spokesman-Review representative at Pendleton Tuesday, by Ben Swaggart, who arrived from his range last evening. He is the heaviest loser, having had 100 head of his cattle killed or driven out of the country. Some he never expects to find.

In telling about the slaughter, he said: "There was probably more killing of cattle there, for the territory involved, than in any other place in the United States. It is the settler who did the work, but they were hired to do it by a big land company which bought up a portion of the range. This company is selling the land out to settlers. The company, paid men \$2 and \$2.50 to stay out at night and kill cattle. Some of the cattle were riddled with bullets, others were wounded with shotguns, and died a few days after, and many were killed by being run for miles over the country. Others were driven out of the country, probably across the Columbia river."

"One day I caught four boys dogging my cattle. Two would run them, while the other two rested and then the latter two would take up the chase. They ran them several miles. A number of cattle died out of that bunch. I did not want to prosecute those boys, as one was the son of a widow, and then they were hired to do it. Settlers coming in will not put up good fences. They generally string one wire, which is easily broken down. Then when the cattle get in they blame the range men. They did not kill any great number of cattle at one time, but continued to kill them for nearly six months. They were trying to get us to take the cattle from the range. That is the only range available now. It is forty miles long by thirty miles wide, and there is plenty of room for all."

"It is public range and I intend to see if justice can be had. I expect they will drive us out next year completely if something is not done to stop them, for they got half the cattle I turned out last summer and I expect to turn the rest out next season. I was the last one off the range last fall, and that is the reason my loss was the heaviest. They practically drove the Butter creek ranchers away, and that was what encouraged the settlers to kill more cattle. It was minors and foreigners who were hired to do the work. Horses were killed also. Settlers would shut them in the fields and a large number died from thirst."

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