

LAST PAYMENT ON THE MIDWAY MINE

Original Owners Received \$5,000 Through
The First National Bank on
Time.

The last payment of \$5,000 on the Midway was made yesterday through the First National bank, to the original owners. The payment was made to Al Jones on his own behalf and as administrator on the estate of his brother, the late Samuel Jones, Ed Hauser, John Jones of Shoshone, Idaho, and Charley Starr.

This completes the payments on the original Midway group, which was taken over by Sioux Falls people through the Geiser-Hendryx company. Later some side claims were acquired by the same company, from the original owners of the Midway group proper, and there are some

payments still due on these.

The payments on the Midway have been met promptly and everything regarding the transfer of the property has been conducted in a business like manner. The new people have carried on development work continuously since their acquisition of the mine, erecting one of the largest hoists in the state. It is a Cracker Creek mother lode property, and gives the promise of becoming one of the big mines of this district. The vein recently cut on the crosscut from the shaft shows great strength, carrying the characteristic Cracker Creek ores.

SNOW SLIDE AT THE PLATTS GROUP

Bert Rusk, who has charge of the development work at the Platts group in the Rock Creek district, is in to attend the K. of P. convention. Mr. Rusk tells about a couple of snow slides at the property Sunday and Monday, but fortunately they did no damage, beyond blocking the buildings up with snow.

The snow at the rear of the buildings was banked up and the sides went over without doing any injury. Mr. Rusk says development at the Platts group is proceeding satisfactorily.

LAWYERS CLOUDED TITLE TO •LARGE TRACT OF OREGON LAND.

The discovery by a Marshfield law firm of a defect in the title to a large tract of land known as the Coos Bay wagon road lands, held by a corporation known as the southern Oregon company, has caused the filing of 200 applications for quarter sections on the tract, which is one of the most valuable pieces of timber land in the northwest.

It is claimed that this immensely valuable tract of timber is held in trust by the Southern Oregon company for the people, the clause in the original grant to the state of Oregon from the federal government being operative, in which it recites the land shall not be sold to individuals other than citizens of the United States and in tracts not larger than 160 acres and at a price not to exceed \$2.50 or less than \$1.25.

This land has always been held as a whole by the corporation and upon this point hinges the fate of the 200 applicants to purchase the land. Intense excitement prevails as the result of the disclosures regarding the title.

This company has persistently re-

fused to sell a foot of land to settlers at any price. The applicants have subscribed \$3,000 for the purpose of fighting the suit which is to be instituted by the Southern Oregon company.

LARGEST PLACER PUMP IN EASTERN OREGON.

The biggest placer mining pump in the West has arrived in Baker City for shipment to the property of the Merchants Gold Mining company, eighteen miles west of Baker City, owned by a strong syndicate of eastern men. The ground is rich in coarse gold and was formerly controlled by local business and professional men, at the head of whom were Dr. E. B. McDaniel and William J. Patterson, of the Queen City Furniture company. A controlling interest in the company was recently sold to eastern men, the local parties retaining a heavy interest. The big pump which is now at the O. R. & N. depot, being transferred to the Sumpter Valley for shipment to Lockhart station, was made by the American Spiral Works of Chicago, and is of the Knowles make, weighing 7,500 pounds, capable of lifting 1,200 gallons of water per minute. The boiler accompanying weighs 15,000 pounds, and the total shipment tips the scales at 39,390 pounds.

President E. F. Zinn, of Houghton, Michigan, accompanies the shipment and will personally superintend the inauguration of work in the early spring.

The ground to be worked by the Merchant company lies along the bed of Pine creek, 22,500 feet in length. The big pump will be installed on Burnt river and the water will be pumped to the head of the ground for sluicing. The undertaking is a gigantic one, and its operation will be watched with interest by the miners of the entire west. The Pine creek placers have long been noted for their extreme richness, but have

been handicapped by lack of water, which lack will be remedied by the installation of the pump above described. — Herald.

CAMP NO 2 GOING AS USUAL

Grant Geddes, of the Oregon Lumber company, is here today. He says that camp No. 2, at Deau's siding, where the greater portion of the men quit on account of a reduction of wages, is going now full blast.

With the exception of two or three instances the places of the quitting loggers have been supplied, and everything is going as usual. On account of the dullness of the lumber market the company had to retrench, and a reduction of wages was thought advisable.

STICK TO OLD TERMS EVEN IF INCORRECT.

There is a growing inclination among some of the high-toned writers for eastern scientific journals to ~~cancel, abolish and wipe out~~ the cherished old mining terms with which we have been familiar since the pioneer days began. For example, they don't like the word "chute" to designate a defined ore body; therefore, have substituted "shoot." Next they find fault with our good old term "upraise," saying it is "an unfortunate colloquialism which has crept into mining parlance." A raise must be "up;" it would be quite as proper to say a "down winze" as it is to say an upraise." That may be all right in a technical sense, but why attempt, to "jar us loose" from a lot of things we are well used to and don't like to let go of?

Next there is an objection, almost violent, to the term "country rock." It ought to be written like this—"the country is granite," or the "lode permeates a schist country," or "the vein exhibits limestone on both walls." That will do for Boston or London readers, but we will stick to the old vernacular, however crude it may seem. Most of our mining terms have been imported from Cornishmen and, having learned their style, it has become ingrained, sort of grafted on to every memory of old times when drill pounding was a delight.—Gen. Hall in Denver Post.

Summer School of Mines.

A novel experiment in mining education is to be tried this summer under the joint direction of the School of Mines of the Columbia university, the mining department of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and the Lawrence and Sheffield Scientific Schools of Harvard and Yale Universities. It is proposed that the senior mining students of the four institutions named, and possibly of the Colorado School of Mines, shall hold a joint session for the study of practical mining and mine engineering this summer in one of the mining districts of Colorado. The students will go into camp at a mine to be located for the purpose, a small force of skilled miners will be employed as instructors, and the students will engage in actual gold mining operations. Professor Henry S. Munroe, of Columbia, has been appointed director of the school for the first year, and he will have under him a corps of competent instructors, drawn from the several institutions. George Crocker has offered to pay the costs of the school this summer, and has donated \$12,000 for this purpose.—Exchange.

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