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GEISER GIVES GLOWING ACCOUNT OF DISTRICT

Josephine and Jackson Counties Present Excellent Field for Gold Mining.

Albert Geiser, of the Geiser-Hendryx company, returned yesterday from a mining trip to southern Oregon. Roy H. Miller, cashier of the First National bank, was with him on the trip, but has not yet returned. He will be back in a few days.

Mr. Geiser was at Ashland, Jacksonville, Medford and various other points in Jackson and Josephine counties. He says:

"We were just on a prospecting trip, and were taking a general view of the country. In my opinion it presents great possibilities, second only to eastern Oregon in a mining way. In the matter of quartz mining the ledges have hardly been touched, but that they exist and that it will pay to work them is evidenced by the amount of placer gold which has been yielded in the past. These placers have been worked for the last fifty years and while many of them have been exhausted, there are some which it still pays to work. One acre in the Jackson creek vicinity has yielded \$45,000 in times past, and the general region in this quarter is accredited with \$17,000,

000 during operations extending over the period mentioned.

"But as I stated, the ledges have been practically untouched. And the surface showing indicates that there are rich deposits beneath, as also is to be inferred from the placer gold. I saw only one mill which impressed me as being operated on systematic lines. This was the Greenbank, thirty-stamp plant. This mine is well conducted. One can go through it in full dress without danger of getting his clothing soiled. There are a number of other mills in the country, but for the most part they are patent arrangements, with about the same efficiency that these show in other localities.

"But the country is all right, in my opinion, showing vast possibilities. In addition to its mining resources, it has vast agricultural and fruit interests. We visited Joe Hurt at Ashland, and picked peaches in his orchard. Joe is doing well, he has a good furniture store and to all appearances is prospering."

As far as any mining deal in southern Oregon is concerned, Mr. Geiser has nothing to make public.

WILL PUT IN A MILL ON THE ST. ANTHONY

Dr. F. A. Wheeler, treasurer of the St. Anthony company, operating in the Alamo district, with a party of several interested people went through Sumpter this morning en route to the property. Dr. Wheeler is also interested at Tonopah, and is just back from there. Last summer the Miner noted the sale of this property by F. M. Bryan to a company composed of Erie, Pennsylvania, and Chicago capitalists.

Dr. Wheeler is on the ground in advance of the other interested parties, who are expected in a few days. George and Frank Hills, of Erie, Pennsylvania, are now en route, and W. H. Maxwell and his son Harry, of Erie, will be here shortly. Harry Maxwell, who was here last summer, and who has just graduated from the mining department of Ann Arbor, will be connected with the operation of the property. G. P. Folk, of Chicago, and George H. Bowers, of Hartford, Connecticut, were with Dr. Wheeler, and will

probably have something to do with the working of the mine.

Dr. Wheeler stated to a Miner representative this morning that the present plan is to install a mill at the mine in the near future. His mission now is to decide on plans, but nothing definite at this time has been concluded.

The property is located in the Alamo district, between the Red Boy and the Alamo. The present showing is regarded as exceptionally good and the company feels justified in making more extensive improvements.

PHIL SHERRIDEN IS SHOWING UP WELL

Colonel E. S. Topping returned yesterday afternoon from the Phil Sherriden group in the Granite district, which he recently bonded from Captain C. S. Miller.

Colonel Topping has been doing some general prospect work and is greatly pleased with the showing. While ground sluicing along the creek bed in tailings from former operations, he exposed the vein

700 feet away from the old shaft. It measures three feet and carries good values.

Colonel Topping also prospected a parallel ledge some distance from the old ledge, and to which little attention has been paid in the past. This shows gray copper, with gold and silver values in addition to the copper amounting to about \$50. There still remains from \$8,000 to \$10,000 worth of ore in the shaft and old drifts, and it is the intention of Colonel Topping to thoroughly open up the property.

SUMPTER VALLEY WILL BUILD TO JOHN DAY

Hon. G. W. McHaley, of Prairie City, was on the train this afternoon en route to Baker on business. Mr. McHaley says that a citizens meeting was held yesterday at Prairie City at the instance of Joseph Barton, general freight and passenger agent of the Sumpter Valley, to feel the pulse of the people in regard to the proposed extension of the road into the John Day country.

The meeting, Mr. McHaley says, was harmonious, and the general sentiment of it was to offer any possible encouragement to the railroad people to build the proposed branch just as soon as possible. Mr. Barton, he says, asked no bonus, but only the good will and moral support of the citizens of Grant county, and assured them that the extension will certainly be built. Just when work will be started is a little indefinite, as was brought out in an interview with Mr. Eccles by The Miner yesterday. But it is certainly the purpose of the company to build, if not this year, early next.

BOUGHT INTO WHITNEY FORWARDING COMPANY

Frank P. Johnson, a well known Baker City business man, associated with the prominent firm of Johnson Brothers, has purchased the stock of T. H. Boynton in the Whitney Forwarding company, and will assume active management of the concern. Mr. Johnson was on the train this afternoon returning to Baker. He will probably spend most of his time in Whitney looking after the company's interests. The Whitney Forwarding company and the M. & S., of Baker City, are associated institutions.

In a three-quarter column story published in the East Oregonian Monday, agent the Golconda and the Golconda Extension companies, it is safe to say, as many blunders are made as in the same space in any other paper on earth. In fact, the whole article is a "typographical error."

IN HONOR OF W. L. VINSON

The Sumpter push right royally entertained W. L. Vinson, father of the water company, at a banquet given last night at Hotel Sumpter. As told in yesterday's issue, Mr. Vinson was forcibly detained on his return from the Greenhorns to Baker City. When he learned what the boys had in store for him he capitulated without resistance and agreed to stay over.

Thirty plates were laid, and there was a generous spread with champagne and all manner of drinkables on the side. Seymour H. Bell acted as toastmaster with characteristic felicity, and nearly every one present had something to say at different times during the evening.

Following are some of the responses: Colonel Callahan, "Our Country," John Goss, "The Law," Frank Shelton, "Oregonian," Tony Mohr, "Bill Vinson," a poem. Among the rest who spoke more or less were Sam R. Stott, C. H. Chance, Fred Fontaine, Frank Baillie, F. A. E. Starr, Al Geiser, Joe Reed, Bael Kadish, Cato Johns, Otto Herlocker, Bill Hewitt and W. J. Patterson.

Mr. Vinson expressed his himself very feelingly over the surprise and hearty reception tendered him. He and Mr. Patterson left in President Eccles' private car shortly after 12 o'clock.

SHIPPING ORE TO THE SMELTER

Rev. W. J. Hughes, managing owner of the Equity, was on the train this morning going out to the property. A consignment of ore from the Equity was recently shipped to the smelter, and Mr. Hughes says he is preparing to send in more.

Rev. Hughes is also president of the Oregon Free Gold company, operating near Durkee. He says a trial shipment to the Sumpter smelter is also being prepared at this property.

NEW TELEPHONE LINE TO BE BUILT TO TIPTON

The Pacific States Telephone company is making arrangement to extend its lines from Whitney to the new town of Tipton, a distance of eight miles.

The company is now waiting for bids on the poles and as soon as these are in, work on the new line will be started.

Judge Newbury left today on a mining trip to Morning Basin, to look after the Morning Star group, in which he is interested.