

HORSE HEAVEN ON JOHN DAY

The discovery by the driver of Kitchen's California mine stage yesterday of a cayuse with saddle turned and bridle with broken reins, has called attention to the fact that horse heaven is not over 100 miles from Sumpter. The last cayuse in question, which from the nature of its equipment belonged apparently to a range rider, bears evidence of having been out in the woods for perhaps a month. No range riders are nearer Sumpter than the Grande Ronde valley, so that the presumption is strong that the lost equine is far from home.

On a time Sam Stott told the writer a weird and wonderful tale of a horse heaven on the middle fork of the John Day river. Stamped horses from all parts of Oregon, said Stott, head invariably for that part of the country. Lost cayuses are found there without fail, and the attractions of the place to homeless horses is almost canny. Stott said this was because horse heaven is located on the Middle Fork. He pointed out that paleontologists from dozens of big eastern universities have visited the place and made startling discoveries, bearing out the horse heaven theory. Fossilized remains of three- and two-toed horses were found. This means that prehistoric horses inhabited the spot many millions of years ago. Horses, it will be remembered, began life some few million before history began to be written, with three toes, instead of hoofs. A million or so years later they evolved into two toed brutes. The hoof age is comparatively recent. In the light of Stott's hypothesis, the cayuse found yesterday was undoubtedly headed for the middle fork, perhaps to visit the graves of his two-toed ancestors of the Pliocene age. Being hampered with a saddle on his belly instead of back, he failed to make good.

The animal is emaciated, docile, friendless and forlorn. His color is light bay. He has been turned out to pasture to recuperate and await the advent of an owner.

SCRIPPERS ARE TAKING RECENTLY OPENED LAND

Says a recent dispatch from Salem: According to information received here from LaGrande, scrippers and timber land claimants are taking the land in fling on the land recently thrown out of the proposed Blue Mountain forest reserve. The remarkable feature of the flings is that, although the land was thrown open to entry because it is suited to agriculture and not to forestry, yet no homestead flings have been made at the LaGrande land office, while many flings have been made by men who declare that the land is chiefly valuable for timber.

Scrip has been used in the past as a means of securing timber land, and it is presumed, though not known, the scrip was used for this purpose in the flings mentioned. Out of 8,680 acres already flided upon, 5,000 acres was taken with scrip and 3,680 acres under the timber and stone act.

A considerable portion of the land excluded from the proposed reserve

was already in private ownership. When the public land was restored to entry it was taken rapidly, as high as fifteen entries being made in a single day.

In his recent letter to President Roosevelt Governor Chamberlain urged that the government take immediate action in restoring to entry the lands which were not desired for a permanent reserve. The reason given was that the lands should not be withheld from settlement. The department of the interior had been withholding the land from entry because it was believed the scrippers and speculators would take most of it and actual settlers take very little.

The fact that no homestead entries have been made seems to indicate that scrippers and timber-land buyers are at least getting the first choice of lands thrown open to entry.

OPEN BELCHER MILL BEFORE SNOW FLIES

George W. Daines, president of the Daines Mining and Milling company, of Greenhorn, likewise a big stockholder in the Fortune company of the same place, arrived yesterday in Baker City, from an eight months visit to Seattle, Spokane and Chicago. He says he is again in Baker county to give personal attention to his Greenhorn properties, which include the Belcher, Golden Gate and Humboldt mines, and that he hopes to have the Belcher mill running before snow flies.

While up north, Mr. Daines engineered a deal for the acquirement by the Sure Thing Gold-Copper Mining & Smelting company of 174 claims near the British Columbia border. They are now putting up a 300-ton concentrator, part of a 1000-ton plant.

Hard to Get Miners.

Manager C. J. Allen is securing the development crew desired at the Monumental mine, in eastern Oregon, more slowly than he expected. He wrote F. W. Steffner, his partner in this city, that good miners were not so plentiful about Sumpter as he thought, but that he will be able to secure enough men soon and get every thing at the Monumental in full swing early in the fall. Not so many miners have drifted to eastern Oregon mineral zone as it was thought probable in view of the strikes in the middle west. Some of those who were there have gone to other sections, which leaves the camp with relatively few idle miners.—Portland Journal.

Electricity for Elkhorn.

Next Monday, according to official announcement from Baker City, the work of stringing transmission wires from the Rock Creek electric power plant to the United Elkhorn mines will begin. The transmission lines over the ridge into Cracker Creek and Cable Cove will follow.

The Elkhorn will use electricity for power drills and for operating its mill.

Strike of the Cyclone.

Advices from Baker state that a two-foot body of \$119 ore has been opened on the 400-foot level of the Cyclone mine, near the Virtue.

KILLEN GOES EAST TO REMAIN PERMANENTLY

D. L. Killen left this afternoon for the east. He will join Mrs. Killen at Lincoln, Nebraska, and as he expresses it, they "will try to lose themselves" from business associates and affairs, and get a little much needed rest.

After this, they will proceed to Chicago, where they will reside in future, Mr. Killen taking charge of the office there of the Killen, Warner Stewart company, which will in future be its headquarters. In the departure of Mr. Killen this town loses a valuable citizen, one that it can ill afford to lose, even though he retains his extensive interests in eastern Oregon. He has ever been enterprising and public spirited, and his efforts for the general good would have been even a richer harvest had the town cooperated cordially with him.

Professor Nicholson will have charge of the company's business here, both the office and mining matters, he being consulting engineer of the company and largely interested in it; and a valuable permanent acquisition he is, too, to the citizenship of eastern Oregon as he has been schooled for years in the big-ideal, broad-minded mining circles of Colorado, where he won an enviable reputation as a successful mining man of ability. He is a cultured gentleman, withal, and a scientist of national repute.

RED BOY PEOPLE ARE PREPARING

Telephonic advices to The Miner from Granite state that work has been resumed at the Red Boy. At present only a small force of men is employed, the object being to overhaul the equipment and get things in shape for active work of operation. John Thomsen, the temporary manager, has not yet outlined his plans, but the fact that he has overhauled the hoist and compressor and repacked all the pumps leads to the belief that the first work will be to sink the shaft to a deep level.

As related in Monday's Miner, a hydraulic engineer from the coast passed out to the property on that day. It is learned that he made an elaborate study of the fissure veins and porphyry dyke faults on the group, apparently with the idea of determining the possibility of an abundance of water at depth in the shaft. William Lummis, of Baker City, who is a mining engineer of no small repute, visited the property on a similar mission at the time of the presence here of J. G. English and Alexander Prussing, the active reorganizers of the company. Mr. Lummis' investigations were directed toward determining what size and character of pumps were needed to handle the water in the shaft. His report was made direct to Messrs. Prussing, English and Godfrey.

Crane Flat Placers.

Burch & Burbridge, of Spokane, the new owners of the Crane Flat placer diggings, sent out a force of men from Granite Monday, to erect buildings and provide winter quarters for a big force of men who

will be employed in the operation of the dredger now in use and the larger one to be installed later. While the machines are popularly called "dredgers," they are in reality hydraulic elevators, with a chain-bucket boulder conveyor, operated by steam and water power. The elevator is of the usual style, but the boulder conveyor is something unique in Oregon mining practice. The test machine installed this spring at Crane Flat has demonstrated its efficacy and the new and larger one to be installed this fall will undoubtedly prove a big money maker.

WILL DISSOLVE IRON DYKE INJUNCTION

The information has been received that the United States Circuit Court will meet in Pennsylvania tomorrow and that early in the session the injunction issued there in the side suit of Mrs. Shatto against the carrying out of the Oregon decrees in the Iron Dyke mining case will be dissolved.

Immediately this injunction is dissolved the execution in the Baker County Circuit Court will issue and the sale of the Iron Dyke property in satisfaction of the decree rendered at the last term of court by Judge Eakin for about \$166,000 and transfer of the property, the Iron Dyke will be put in operation again with a force of men, the Seven Devils railroad will be built to connect with the O. R. & N. either at Huntington or Baker City, or both places, the Homestead smelter will be blown in by the Ladd Metals company and the wheels of commerce put in motion in the extreme eastern section of Baker county.

Not only will the mining interests be served to a degree that will develop untold riches long dreamed of, by the agricultural resources of that section will be developed more and on a larger scale than the most sanguine have thought possible. Farmers and miners alike will have increased profits to their accounts, thousands of acres of timber will be brought into the market, water power will be utilized, electric power furnished to the mines and electric suburban railroads built. All eastern Oregon is only waiting for the button to be pushed.—Democrat.

Rich Strike at Auburn.

A report comes from a mining man just down from the gulch that the Auburn Deep Sinking company has struck a bed of rich gravel right in the heart of the old placer diggings so successfully worked forty years ago, when Auburn was a town of 10,000 people and millions of dollars were taken out in nuggets. Eastern capital is behind the enterprise and the work is proceeding under unique plan. A well or shaft was sunk down through the bedrock, tunnels run, and from these upraises are being made and the gravel worked from the lower levels. Splendid results promise and the rich gravel already struck seems to indicate that the engineer in charge knows his business.—Democrat.

Big Gasoline Tank.

The Baker City Engineering works has just completed a 6000-gallon gasoline storage tank for the Mountain View Mining company, in the Cable Cove district. This is the second tank of the same size built for this company by the same concern.—Democrat.