

RED BOY EXPECTED TO OPEN ALMOST ANY DAY

Receiver's Final Report Approved by Judge Eakin Yesterday.--Waiting for Orders From Chicago.

The final transfer of the Red Boy mine to the Prussing syndicate was effected yesterday at Baker City when Circuit Judge Robert Eakin officially approved the final report of Receiver John Thomson. It was contingent upon the court's approval of the receiver's final report that the Prussing syndicate purchased the mine at public auction for about \$80,000, and promised to reopen the mine on a large scale. The property is now in the full and complete possession of the reorganization committee, at the head of which is Alexander Prussing, of Chicago, and it only remains to complete a few details connected with the incorporation of a new holding company before the famous gold bullion producer is again on the active list.

Receiver Thomson, who since the sale of the mine to the reorganizers, has been acting manager, will undoubtedly be continued in that position. During his incumbency as receiver and later as acting manager, he has overhauled the Red Boy equipment, made a number of needed surveys, cleaned up the surface, and placed everything in readiness for immediate resumption. An electric plant is in process of installation, mining timbers sufficient for six months work have been cut by the May Queen sawmill, and the manager only awaits the command from Chicago to start the \$150,000 hoisting plant and take out ore.

IDLENESS OF THE FREE COINAGE

In traveling the road to the star-gazing summit of the Bald mountain divide, which separates Lake Creek from Cable Cove—beneath the shoulder of which clings the California mine like a barnacle to a green ship's hull—one passes mine after mine, prospect after prospect, location after location. Discovery shafts mark the route from Sumpter up Powder river to Hanover, from Hanover up Silver creek to the aforesaid star-gazing summit. Tunnels line the road, and the ring of hammer on steel answers the hollow reverberating roar of blasts. The chugging noise of machine drills oozes out over good sized dumps, and from over the California mountain comes the thunder of dropping stamps at the Imperial and Alpine. All of which spells production, activity and life.

Just this side of the Cable Cove contact, where the slate of the

No definite announcement of the development plans of the management has been made. At the time of the suspension of the mine under the old Red Boy Consolidated management, the rumor became current that the ore bodies were exhausted in the tunnel levels, and that before production could be resumed it would be necessary to sink below the lowest adit-level and open up new ore bodies. While this may have been true in a measure of the Red Boy and Monarch ledges, it is a well known fact that a large quantity of milling ore is available in Concord group. Despite all that has been said by pseudo-knockers ament the Red Boy, the fact remains that the mine was shut down on account of financial difficulties into which the old Consolidated company was plunged by warring shareholders.

It is believed that Manager Thomson, when orders come from Chicago to reopen the mine, will begin taking out and milling ore from the Concord, simultaneously sinking the Red Boy shaft to get under that famous 1000-foot payshoot on the Red Boy vein and the 1200-foot payshoot on the Monarch vein, from which it is estimated \$750,000 net was taken under the Godfrey-Tabor management.

It is learned from high authority that all the stock in the proposed holding company to be incorporated by Mr. Prussing has been subscribed.

mother lode system meets the granite of the higher hills, is the Free Coinage mine, which, since 1900 has been as idle as a school boy knee deep in June. Its hoisting plant is gradually going to wreck and ruin, its boarding house windows are slowly succumbing to the irresistible temptation of traveler to see how close they can come with a rock to the few remaining panes. The spirits of desolation and abandonment hover over the mine. Why?

It was in '99 that W. H. Huriburt, then general passenger agent of the O. R. & N. railroad, now general manager of the O. W. & P. company, at Portland; Victor Schilling, ex-city O. R. & N. ticket agent in Portland; E. C. Little, United States fish commissioner for the state of Washington, with headquarters in Tacoma; Whitney Boise, a Portland attorney; Ed Cannon, of Portland, and a few railroaders from the west coast, acquired the Free Coinage. In the dead of winter a hoist and steam plant were shipped to the mine, carpenters working with half-frozen fingers to erect the plant with all possible speed. A shaft was sunk on the vein, which showed a fair grade of free gold ore, and the railroaders began figuring on dividends. Just as the spring of 1900

was opening, the news came down from Silver creek that a magnificent shoot of fabulously rich ore had been opened in the Free Coinage. On top of the report came orders from Portland to shut down.

Schilling and Cannon came with much haste to look at the mine. A small crew of men were employed to put in a bulkhead. Since that day the Free Coinage has been in most innocuous desuetude. Why?

Just after the reported rich strike another sensational chapter in Free Coinage history was written. Vic Schilling mysteriously disappeared from his Portland home. The police of the whole nation were notified, but the mystery remained unsolved. Schilling never came back, his wife sued for divorce, and the incident passed into history. It is known that Schilling is not dead, but is alive and prospering somewhere in the southwest. Why he left home is the mystery.

While Vic Schilling was not the controlling owner of the Free Coinage, yet the fate of the mine is in his hands. Perhaps, when he comes back to Oregon, when the sea gives up its dead, when the lost Charley Ross is found and when the identity of the gentleman who soaked Billy Patterson is divulged, the Free Coinage may be reopened, that bulkhead removed and a fine piece of property made to show what it's made of.

FOUND "THE CREEK," IS DYING IN POVERTY

Bob Womack, the man who discovered gold at Cripple Creek, and thereby added \$160,000,000 to the world's wealth, is lying helpless and paralyzed in a sanitarium at Colorado Springs.

He used to be known as "Lucky Bob," but to judge from his history "Unlucky Bob" would be a more appropriate name. He was always what people call an "easy mark;" his habits have always been correct; he has had plenty of money at times and once he owned \$30,000 worth of cattle, but he has been a "high roller," and never could keep his money.

He has been a spendthrift and has gambled it away and has been in the habit of "blowing it in," like other cowboys. Once when he had sold a thousand head of stock in Colorado Springs, he took his pay in \$10 bills, and, sitting one a curbstone on Tejon street, handed one of them to everybody that passed, as a token of his regard.

The news that "Bob" Womack was giving away ten dollar bills naturally spread like a prairie fire and a long procession was promptly formed. "Bob" sat on the curb and exchanged repartee, cowboy fashion, with the people as they passed him and handed each a bill.

Some of his friends tried to interfere, which made him furious. He informed them with great dignity that he was able to take care of himself and also of disposing of his money in any way he liked. That he had not entirely drowned his reason in his cups was evident by the manner in which he detected "repeaters" in the line.

Nobody was able to fool him. Whenever a man or a woman would come up a second time, Womack would rebuke them sternly in good, strong ranch language, and he told them what he thought of their

manners as he ordered them out of the line.

In the early days the ore had to yield \$100 a ton or more profit, but now, through the introduction of the cyanide and chlorination processes, it will pay to reduce \$8 and \$10 ores.

ANOTHER CHAPTER IN CORNUCOPIA HISTORY

Another chapter has been written in Cornucopia mine history. Last Monday, at Baker City, Colonel W. F. Butcher, as attorney for a large number of judgment creditors, bid in the real property of the mine at sheriff's sale for \$38,166. A week prior he purchased the personal property at forced sale for a trifle less than \$4,000. The owners of the mine have, according to the Oregon mining law, sixty days in which to redeem the property. There can be no redemption of personal property. A conflict of legal opinion exists as to the constitutionality of the sixty-day redemption provision in the Oregon mining law, which is considered by some lawyers as in direct contravention of the statute providing a twelve-month redemption period for real estate sold by the sheriff. This question has never been passed upon by the supreme court of Oregon, but will undoubtedly be in the Cornucopia case, as so far as known, no move has yet been made by the old owners of the mine to redeem the million-dollar mine, which sold under the hammer for less than \$40,000.

It is believed that it is due time a syndicate, recruited from among the old owners of the Cornucopia, who include such men as "Sugar Baron" Searles, Ex-Secretary of the Navy Tracy, United States Senator John H. Mitchell, of Oregon, United States Senator Allison, of Iowa, and other national figures, will be formed to take over the mine and resume production.

Mining Excitement at Paisley.

Paisley is enduring the throes of a mining excitement which has had several weeks duration. Some four miles south of the city a large number of claims have been staked off and active prospecting is being carried on in an attempt to locate lead deposits. The excitement was caused by the location of several claims by San Francisco parties who have stated that the district is rich in lead, and their assertion is backed up by quite heavy expenditures for development work. It is said that should these prospects come up to expectations the country would experience a boom such as made Tonopah and Goldfield famous. The district in question is known to contain heavy mineral deposits.—Crocket County Journal.

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