

COVERS
THOROUGHLY
THE
GOLD FIELDS
of the
INLAND EMPIRE



EASTERN
INVESTORS
IN
OREGON MINES
Pay for
AND READ IT

AN ELECTRIC HOIST

The first electric hoist in eastern Oregon has just been installed at the United Elkhorn mine, eight miles northwest of Sumpter. Commenting on the event, the Baker City Democrat says:

"Manager F. N. Averill, of the Rock Creek Power & Transmission company, and Baker City Gas & Electric company, who is putting in the new electric power plant for the United Elkhorn mines, reports that the plant will be in running order as soon as some of the parts of the machinery omitted from the shipment arrive from the east, which will be in a few days. The sub station has been installed, connections made, and when the missing parts are supplied, the electric hoist at the Elkhorn will begin to run.

"This is the only electric hoist ever used in eastern Oregon, and it is believed by Manager Edward I. Field, of the mine, that it is the only electric hoist in the state of Oregon. A number of mines are using electric drills and other electric machinery, but no one has yet dared to attempt an electric hoist. The experiment is being watched with interest by mining men all over the state."

AGAIN THE COUGAR IS REPORTED TO BE SOLD

A press dispatch from Spokane, dated December 3 says: W. H. Plummer left for the east the first part of the present week to close the deal for the famous Cougar mine, in eastern Oregon. The syndicate represented by Mr. Plummer has had its experts examine the mine, and it is now learned that the report was satisfactory.

The deal has been hanging fire, however, owing to the serious illness of one of the principal men in the deal, and now, it is reported, Mr. Plummer is sure of consummating the sale of the big property. It is stated the deal will be one of the largest mining transactions that has affected eastern Oregon property.

It is also stated on good authority that extensive improvements are to be started by the new company. Although the mine is equipped with machinery, more extensive operations may be expected, which will mean more machinery. It is also stated that a large treatment plant will be installed on the property.

Hatchet 100 Years Old.

Hon. Charles Parrish, of Burns, Oregon, has a collection of relics, that he has gathered in southeastern Oregon, that form a very valuable cabinet not alone because many

of the curiosities are unusual but because they have a bearing on early Oregon history. Judge Parrish takes great delight in everything that tends to throw light upon pioneer life and early settlement of this part of the country and through his efforts much that might have remained lost has been preserved. He has in his collection a hatchet that it is believed belonged to John Day, the man, after whose name this valley is known. It was found on the Middle Fork of the John Day and is in a perfect state of preservation, although it is nearly 100 years old. On the blade, stamped, are initials J. D. From all the circumstances of its finding and its style and pattern, it seems to point to the one conclusion, that it belonged to that early forerunner of civilization who came down through the John Day valley nearly 100 years ago.—Prairie City Miner.

STRIKE OIL AND COAL IN CROOK

Oil has been struck on the Dave Barnett ranch at Culver. The first reports brought to the city last week were confirmed Tuesday by F. M. Loveland, who has been sinking a well on the Barnett property and who brought the full details of the strike to the city.

Mr. Loveland began sinking a well on the ranch about two weeks ago and the shaft had attained a depth of 175 feet when he first noticed indications of petroleum in the sand which was brought to the surface.

No water has yet been found, and it was necessary to pour water into the shaft to facilitate the drilling. At different times when the sand and slush were brought to the surface, Mr. Loveland noticed a greasy substance mixed in with it and finally when a greater quantity was brought up a portion of it was placed in a bucket and a fire test made. The mass ignited readily and burned until nothing but the dirt and sand remained.

After this test had been made operations were continued until the shaft had been sunk to a depth of 215 feet. Indications continued to get better and as the crude petroleum increased in quantity it was decided to abandon the work at this depth until casing could be procured in Portland, and necessary arrangements made to handle the product, should a greater flow of it be struck.

The attention of those who were engaged in drilling the well was first attracted by the strong odors which rose to the surface. These increased in volume and later coal gas began to escape from the shaft, coming from under the ground with a noise which resembled the escape of steam from a boiler.

Mr. Loveland, who came to this county from the oil fields at Florence, Colorado, is thoroughly familiar with petroleum indications and their peculiarities, although he has never been engaged in the oil dis-

tricts and it was upon his advice that drilling was discontinued until better facilities could be had with which to pursue the work. He stated while in the city Tuesday that at a depth of 215 feet, where the drilling ceased, no water had been encountered, except a slight flow found in a gravel bed at a depth of about 100 feet. The sand, he said, which characterized the strata at a greater depth and down to the bottom of the shaft was the best kind of oil sand and he is firm in his belief that at a greater depth large quantities of petroleum will be found. The basin in which the Barnett ranch is situated is a typical petroleum basin and has before received attention from geological writers who have made a study of the district in question.—Crook County Journal.

OIL CONCENTRATION PROCESS INVENTION

James L. Orr, a mining man from eastern Oregon, is in the city today negotiating for the manufacture of a patented device for oil concentration for the saving of values from slimes, and one which will perform better work than other devices of the same character and do it at a much smaller expense.

The machine is continuous, taking the tailings from the belt or table concentrating machine and mixing them with a mixture of oil and water. The waste passes away while the oil, with the minerals adhering, goes into a charcoal filter, where the minerals are retained, while the oil passes on to be used again. This is practically the feature of the device, inasmuch as other oil and water value-savers make it impossible to use the oil more than once. The mineral-charged charcoal is put through a smelter.

Mr. Orr made a test in the office of the Montana Metallurgical Works, on Stark street, this morning, and Mr. Morse, before whom the test was made, was pleased with the showing. It is understood that arrangements have been made to install a machine at one of the larger mines in eastern Oregon so that it may be given a thorough test, for while theoretically the device may work to everybody's satisfaction, it may be less efficient when it comes to an actual test. The device is comparatively cheap of construction, and should it prove up to the expectations of the inventor, arrangements for its manufacture in this city will likely be closed at once.—Telegram.

It's all in knowing how.

Two crosscut tunnels were "lost" by the old operators of the Morning mine, in the Greenhorns, but it will not happen again, because Professor H. H. Nicholson, consulting engineer for the Killen, Warner, Stewart company, knows how.

The Morning crosscut passes through a treacherous piece of mining ground, a talc dyke, very wet, which develops such a tremendous swelling pressure when opened up

that 12x12 timbers are as toothpicks. Twice during the old Simmons and Ames management of the Morning, the swelling ground got the best of the miners and the crosscut caved.

Professor Nicholson returned last night from the mine. To a Miner reporter he said:

"We are progressing slowly but surely with the Morning crosscut. We are draining the bad ground, thus releasing the biggest part of the pressure, and are timbering very heavily. The crosscut will be only 250 feet long, but when completed, it will represent one of the most difficult pieces of mining work in the Greenhorns."

Three shifts are employed at the Morning, the work being by contract.

THE INDEPENDENCE NOW UNDER BOND

W. W. Reese, the well known mining promoter of this place, associated with W. E. Davidson & Company, of Pendleton, have secured a bond and lease on an immense body of low grade ore in the Quartzburg district, known as the Independence group. It is an extension of the Dixie Meadows mine and the character of the ore, its values and quantity are identical with the product of the Dixie Meadows and those who are informed on the situation believe that Mr. Reese has secured one of the richest groups of properties in the district.

The property adjoins the Dixie Meadows on the north and are generally understood to be a direct continuation of its vein system. There has been about 400 feet of tunnel work done, so that much of the value is exposed. A crosscut tunnel 140 feet intercepts the vein at a depth of approximately 100 feet, at which a drift was extended 110 feet. At this point the vein was crosscut and found to be forty-five feet between the walls, and the ore carries fair values.

Monday Mr. Reese completed arrangements for considerable work, having let a contract to Jake Dottou and Chris Jensen for 250 feet of tunnel work, which insures continuous work during the winter. A drift will be made under an immense cropping, and if values follows what the surface indicates, then the Independence will be second to no mine in the camp.—Prairie City Miner.

Rich Ore in Greenhorns.

The Grant County News says that Gilkey & Kershaw, operating a mine in the Greenhorns, have extracted five feet of ore from a twelve-foot vein in a twenty-foot shaft, which yielded \$800 in a three-weeks run of a three stamp mill. Another property which shows sensational values is that of Morris Sullivan, near by, who has crosscut a twelve-foot ledge and by ground-slicing is realizing \$10 per day per man.

There was born to Mr. and Mrs. N. J. Sorenson yesterday afternoon a son.