BINGHAM'S BILL TO BECOME LAW

A special dispatch from Salem to the Times reads as follows:

"Any work mining corporation (organized under the laws of the state of Oregon) whose annual output of products shall not exceed in value the amount of tax assessed by the county on the property or by the county from the payment of the annual license fee for corporation tax as provided by law."

The bill provides that mining corporations whose annual output of products does not exceed $5,000 shall be exempted from the payment of the annual license fee for corporation tax as provided by law. The bill also provides that mining corporations whose annual output of products exceeds $5,000 shall be required to pay a tax of $250 per annum for the privilege of mining in the state of Oregon.

The senate bill to require each mining corporation to be in front failed in the house.

The senate sent a message to the legislature saying that it would vote the general appropriation bill unless it was amended. The emergency clause was struck out and the governor signed the bill.

The house bill to compel a trunk railroad to connect with and handle the business of branch lines passed the senate.

Rules were suspended and time for adjournment was set at 5 o'clock to allow the senate to meet on a large number of bills.

LEDGE TAPPED AT NINE STRIKE EXT.

The ledge has been cut in a 115-foot crosscut tunnel on the Nine Strike Extension, on Little Clover Creek, owned by the Wisconsin (Gold Mining) company, of Tony Mohr, general manager. According to Jack Stonehouse, the local office of the company, the ledge has been opened. Manager Mohr has directed the working area to immediately commence drilling. Where the vein is opened across the creek it displays a width of 2 feet of gold and silver ore. A thorough examination has been made of the vein at this point.

The Nine Strike Extension was driven from the bottom of Little Clover Creek through a soft and alternating weather—swampy—so great a part of this year that mining operations have been suspended. Extra heavy timbers and long poles necessary. Manager Mohr feels highly elated over the successful conclusion of a somewhat difficult and trying piece of mining work.

Drilling on the vein will attain a depth of 1000 feet when a point under the apex of the ledge is reached. The work is now being paid off and all the shipments to the Sumpter smelter will be made.

MINE MINER IN STICE'S GULCH, RICH AS MINT

Paul Butler, the German prospector and sole partner of J. W. Buckley, of Baker City, came into town yesterday from the Minter mine at the head of Mint's Gulch, from which it is supposed the gold taken out in the Auburn placer workings for forty years ago, and brought with him some specimens of ore which he had just struck in their main tunnel. Much excitement was caused immediately in all local mining circles, as the ore is extremely rich, being a silver-galanium, which will pay thousands to the ton.

The finding of this mine reads like romance. The year ago Mr. Buckley staked the 20-acre claim. They went in as partners half and half. Buckley furnished the air, tools and powder, the German did the work. Against discouragement his partner and others he has been leading all the time, driving the tunnel foot by foot into the mountains where no one could find any surface indications.

Mr. Buckley yesterday struck the big ledge, rich in the richest kind of ore. He says the ledge is about two miles wide, and as they have four claims located, it would seem as if following the letter grunter and the prospector are about to be realized, and rewarded amply. Butler will realize the property for the property and drive the tunnel, which is now in 270 feet, another foot or two and bring in complete sample of the ore across the face of the vein, when they will have the ore thoroughly tested. Mr. Buckley himself is the coolest man in town and many of his friends and mining men are working up the proposition and predict all kinds of good things in that camp to the immediate future. In fact, there is no stampede yet there is beyond a possibility.

DEAD.

JOAQUIN MILLER TELLS OF OLD PIONEER DAYS

Some weeks since, The Miner published an editorial written by Joaquin Miller in the City paper by Joaquin Miller in January, 1889. Regarding the old city of Theier, Mr. Miller has the editorial of The Oregonian the following letter:

"An old house storekeeper got me to write a letter for the first time in my life to a friend in England. I felt like a postman."

I suppose his office of The Oregonian and the advertisement included in it.

I now remember my hurry at finding it fell mistakes, it seemed they couldn't read it, and found many folks little letter since then. But please send me a copy, as I have lost all trace of it.

In fact, Cayuse City never was a typical town of the border. We had much men at the bar as W. L. Hilt and Joseph Woods and Senator George H. Williams, who devoted themselves as the professors do at the present time.

"Wrong. I cannot furnish you a "wild and woolly" story, but we were a sober and genteel lot. The name of the man that founded the little paper often credited to myself is Captain Fearr, who was keeping store at Albany, Oregon, the last I heard of him. Love to you and yours.

A representative of The Oregonian turned Thurber received a telegram last evening, announcing the death in Portland of G. R. Benson, the death in Portland of Oscar Benson on Thursday, December 18, at the age of 57 years. His death was unexpected and sudden. His return was operated on after his death in Portland.

The death of Oscar Benson was a pioneer miner in the eastern Oregon, operating in different places in Baker and Grant counties. In 1877 he arrived in Grant county and engaged in mining, both placer and quartz, and during his residence in the camp, together with Mr. L. A. L. Godfrey he became associated in the property and leaving Messrs. Godfrey and Tubbs to become the owners of the Red Fox mine, and now the Ewing mine, Mr. Benson came to Sumpter and engaged in the mercantile business, in which he remained until the death of Mr. Ewing, about eight years ago, when he sold out and went to Portland with his family, consisting of a wife and six children. At the time of his death, Mr. Benson was about 55 years of age. He was a man universally respected and had many warm friends in Portland."

HONOLULU, Dec. 18.

Honolulu, Dec. 18th, the Honolulu Star Bulletin receives the Hawaiian office, Mr. G. E. Parmelee, the Honolulu Star Bulletin.
