

THE JACKSONVILLE MINER

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CITY OPPOSES RELIEF SCHEME

The EDITOR SPEAKING

Color in the pan puts color in the cheeks.

And this winter it has been putting meat on the table too.

In fact, about \$30,000 from gold has been put into circulation here the past year that would have shown up missing.

And it now develops we've been having typically southern California winters here in the valley, with snow and everything.

One of the town stove miners, while watching the flakes fall the other day, wondered if everyone made sausage on ground hog day.

No, they don't, but this is the year when the politicians make hay in the pork barrel. And we'll get the squeal to use when taxes are raised again, which will be about all we ever fight back with anyway.

It might even be said that taxes are like policemen—we always want more of them, but for someone else to pay or dodge. Well, people are just like that, which doesn't help matters any to remind you of.

And now we know why the United States is called the great melting pot—accumulate a few dollars if you can, then watch 'em melt away. About the only thing that won't thaw on us now seems to be these frozen assets bankers are yipping about.

In fact, money is so scarce it would be hard to remember which side of the dollar is called "heads." Although financiers have been insisting there is just as much of the stuff in the country as ever, we'll be danged if we don't think these Missourians should be getting just a little bit skeptical.

Ah, 'tis truly a dismal world. But it's a funny thing. Every time the sun goes down that orb arises again; weather always turns warm after the severest winter. And all you readers might come dashing in with your subscriptions. Well, anyway, you might. Remittances will be as welcome as scandal over a rural telephone line.

TO SURVEY FOR NEW MIDDLE FORK ROAD

Paul B. Rynning, county surveyor, with two men from the Applegate district, are scheduled to meet at Copper postoffice Friday, January 29, to view and lay out a road on Middle Fork, which the county court has declared to be a county road.

Necessity for such action arose when R. R. Burrelson and Baldy Young, miners, requested damages from the forest service for a bridge which the government built on that road a few years ago, and which the miners say is located on valuable mining ground. Further controversy will be ended following decision of the court.

MINING ON WILBUR CREEK

C. S. Eicher and George Penland have been mining on Wilbur creek with some measure of success, for they brought in dust to the Jacksonville buyer Tuesday. Gold was rough and very clean. The two stated they are working tailings and keeping an eye open for a nice virgin spot which might yield enough of the precious stuff to weigh up without having to move the entire creek bed.

Plans are underway to reopen the Pacific States Mercury mine by employees residing in Central Point. The holdings are located on Steamboat.

REPORTER SLEUTHING

After being started from slumber late mornings, caused to drop pans of water and bite his tongue, your news hound decided to run down origin of terrific blasts at unexpected moments of late. Said explosions were proven to originate from mine workings of W. C. Kasshafer, who is prospecting in a tunnel along Rich gulch. The hole has been disturbingly torn from Mother Earth inwardly about 15 feet and as soon as the town is dozing peacefully further encroaches will be made, we fear.

Kasshafer hopes to strike a back channel which might yield metal enough to do away with mortgages and such. Some of the stuff has been washed out in the sluice box built in the creek channel but in too small amounts to cause the wood merchant to devote full time to mining. Well, we hope him a blasting success anyway, and until his purse or curiosity is satisfied we'll have to be more careful about going to sleep daytimes.

WOULD SPLIT UP CITY POLICE JOB

Editor's Note—The following, to us, seems reasonable and to bear good logic. However, there are always two sides to any controversy and arguments against the subject will be welcomed for publication.

There has been much discussion for some time of the proposal to divide marshal and water master jobs and employ two full time men in this city. Last fall, before the budget had been made up, the proposition was presented to the council but no definite action was taken.

At both the November and January meetings the plan was discussed and a vote taken by the body at the January session to continue as before. One of the members had made a motion that the city split the combination job so as to allow one man to devote full time to marshal's duties while the other could attend to the water system and fill in on roads and bridges. Salary allowed in the budget, \$1200, was to be divided equally, with the water master to labor on the streets and bridges to the extent of \$25 a month, raising his salary to \$75. It was brought out that, although this was the only possible procedure allowed by the budget as now in force, this arrangement could be made without violation of any statute.

It seems the present situation is unsatisfactory and in the long run more costly to the city. Any advance Jacksonville might make toward better protection and greater efficiency would be of direct benefit to the town, and as C. B. Dunnington points out, the proposed move would be in this direction.

Dunnington, council member and businessman, has been behind the change and has prepared the following argument in its behalf:

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TO REPAIR RUCH LINES

Shareholders of the Consolidated Telephone lines, extending from Ruch to Jacksonville, expect to spend a few days repairing the lines as soon as the weather permits. The wires undergo general repairs about once a year. At present, however, several lines are impaired and farmers are not getting switching service, which, one close observer says, is to be expected annually, at the time when switching fees are to be paid.

CIRCULATE PETITIONS

Petitions for position on the primary ballot for county clerk of Jackson county are being circulated in behalf of G. R. Carter, republican candidate. Although Mr. Carter is a resident of Medford, he is well known in this city.

Feasibility and Results of Plan as Being Developed Doubted by Jacksonville Residents and Mining Experts

Recent proposal that the county court and city of Medford grant permission to unemployed residents of the district to mine lots owned by the two bodies in this city has aroused much unfavorable comment and caused Jacksonville officials and businessmen no little trouble and concern.

Although the venture, as given wide publicity over the entire coast suggests a lofty purpose, practical application is very much in doubt. Chief reasons for this are that, if enough gold lay under these lots to relieve four or five hundred men, or even a small portion of that number, it is odd that experienced miners, droves of them, who are themselves unemployed and already on the spot, have made no effort to recover the treasure. Also it was pointed out that, where residents are engaged in mining operations here on similar locations, they find this merely a fascinating way to pass time that has been hanging heavy this season.

In few cases has one of the go-pher holes inside the city done more than offer up enough metal to add interest to the chase. In rare instances have sluice boxes, over a period of time, contained more than enough to buy chewing tobacco to spit in the gaping scars left when the shafts are mined out. To sum it all up, although rock yard mining has been one of the highlights of the city, men who have worked at the mining industry for lifetimes find the local gravels barely more than a hobby and a lot of exercise. If they hadn't already homes and meals waiting for them their shrivel-

led bones might be viewed in most any open shaft in the city. They do find it an effective way to give their wives a change of scenery during the long hours of the day, with a little color panned to pay off interest on the equipment they must have to operate.

It is felt in local circles that it is unfair both to the unemployed who are induced to come here and to the city itself to publish stories that hundreds of men might just as well be earning from one to seven or eight dollars a day mining in Jacksonville. There is not, according to the most experienced of miners who have washed and reworked dirt here, one chance in 100 for a group of men, green and uninitiated, to as much as pan out enough to buy meals and beds. They unanimously state that it is just possible for a few, say two or three, with several hundred dollars worth of equipment, to earn wages on the property in question.

The city officials have been much worried of late about gaping holes and great piles of unsightly gravel strewn about the neighborhood. As a rule these prospects are left just as when the lure of gold died in the shafts. Many are unmarked, unprotected and filled with water. Children at play would have little chance to crawl out once they had fallen in—with the officials probably held as responsible. More of these blemishes in what is regarded as a residential community will be added by the relief plan as being developed by interested parties.

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'GRANDMA' CANTRALL FETED ON 86TH BIRTHDAY

Dinner was served Wednesday, January 20, at Amy C. Dow's place in honor of her mother, Mrs. Sarah Cantrall, who was celebrating her 86th birthday anniversary. Mrs. Cantrall is a pioneer who came to Oregon from Missouri in 1853 at the age of seven years. The family crossed the plains in a covered wagon drawn by ox team.

A friend, Mrs. Matilda Cole of Grants Pass, also shared in the celebration, the day being Mrs. Cole's 74th birthday. The table was decorated with red carnations, a large birthday cake with "Grandma" Cantrall's name and age frosted on occupying the center. A delicious chicken dinner, with all accessories that make up a birthday feast, was served.

Those of Mrs. Cantrall's relatives who were present were Mr. and Mrs. Miles Cantrall, Mrs. Harlan Cantrall, Mrs. Alice Cantrall and son John and Mrs. Alice Bachelder. A number of elderly ladies, friends of the aged woman, were Mrs. Helen Johnson, 80, who came to Oregon in 1865; Mrs. Annie Dorn, 78, who came in 1876; Mrs. Matilda Cole, 74, resident since 1877; Mrs. D. E. Hulbert, 70, who first came to Oregon in 1892, and Mrs. Martha Littell, 76. Mrs. M. B. Merriman accompanied her mother, Mrs. Cole, from Gold Hill for the occasion, and Miss Helen Walton was with her grandmother, Mrs. Johnson. Many more friends and relatives called on the pioneer later in the evening.

BUILDING SLUICE BOX IN JACKSON CREEK BED

Jim Winningham, assisted by his nephew, David Winningham, have constructed dam and sluice box in Jackson creek above Oregon street to wash out top dirt from Neathamer and Campbell's hole. Soil above bedrock is too poor to be rocked out by the miners and the creek arrangement will facilitate handling of larger amounts of earth.

Neathamer and Campbell, however, are rocking out some pretty good dust and have been making a few dollars a day on bedrock. They have piled top gravel for the creek operators.

PIONEER BURIED HERE

Burial services were held Monday at Jacksonville cemetery for Mrs. Anna Broad, 69, pioneer. Mrs. Broad had lived in this community for more than 30 years and was well known and respected by residents of southern Oregon. She is survived by eight children, Robert Broad and Mrs. Anna Sullivan, New York; Mrs. Kate Dungey and Mike Broad, Coquille; William Broad of Weed, Calif.; John Broad of Yreka, Calif.; Joe Broad and Mrs. Agnes Nicholas, Jacksonville. All but the two residing in New York were here for the ceremonies, over which Father Black, Medford, presided.

William Broad sr., husband of the deceased woman, was killed in an explosion at the Opp mine 27 years ago. Mrs. Broad was a member of local Rebekah and Royal Neighbor lodges.

HOMELY FIDDLE YIELDS HOT TUNE

A fiddle made of cast off articles to be found near a mining camp is being exhibited by Frank Zell, constructor and local antique dealer. The instrument was put together about six years ago while Frank was up Jackson creek on a mining venture.

As Mr. Zell relates the story, he and several other prospectors were music-hungry and, not having so much as a mouth organ, cast about for ways and means to create symphony. Frank, being resourceful and handy with a knife, sent one of the boys to Jacksonville for a set of violin strings. In the meantime he gathered together a bunch of rubbish and eyed it with the appraisal of an old maestro, whatever that is. The heap contained an old syrup can, beef rib, piece of two-by-four lumber from the old Opp cyanide plant, a few coils of wire and several chips of wood.

By the time the catgut strings arrived from town Mr. Zell had fashioned the block taken from the gold recovery plant into a more or less erratically designed neck, with pegs and the customary scroll at the tip. The syrup can had been punctured with a miner's pick to give outlet to the sweet, resonant tones destined to emit therefrom and the beef rib had been transformed into a tail piece. The contraption was fastened together, strings tightened and a horse's tail raided for strands of hair to be strung on the bow, which also was homespun.

Faces, clouded with doubt and interspersed with flashes of humor, watched the entire construction. Ah, but when Frank sat down to play! Booted feet began to move to the rhythm of a homely, tin fiddle. The men danced and sang to the accompaniment of the genius' music. Lungs burst out with song as the sweet notes got under their skin and into their very souls. And, as we would surmise after hearing the fiddle for ourselves, the men of the great open spaces carried melodies with them to their work. The hills reverberated with laughter and singing. It was a success!

And, if you doubt the veracity of these statements, drop into the antique shop on California street and have Frank play the child of his brain for you. We promise you'll be surprised and pleased.

GROWING PAINS

Yup, it's true. Growing up into a healthy, ambitious newspaper, is The Jacksonville Miner. And as we expand bit by bit we would like to remind you, readers, that criticisms as well as compliments will be appreciated. The Miner needs your help—if you have any suggestion you feel is of value, shoot it in. We're in this business to learn and promise to be open minded.

TOWN BOYS TAKE WIN FROM TALENT PLAYERS

The Jacksonville Athletic association, as the boys and girls town teams term themselves, split honors at Talent Tuesday evening of this week. The boys won their tilt, Talent getting the smaller end of a 29-11 score. The weaker sex got off to a slow start, however, and were unable to shoot a basket necessary to tie the game. Talent girls won, score 7-9.

Players on the boys team were Don Kinney, center; George Witter and Alfred Babb, forwards; Ray Hunsaker and Nate Smith, guards, and Donald Dorothy, substitute. The girls were Vivian De Haas, center; Mrs. Mildred Kinney, side center; Gladys Guinn and Carolyn Stevens, forwards; Mrs. Florence Hunsaker and Mrs. Ernest McIntyre, guards, and Louise Lawhead, substitute.

WILL BEGIN MINING ON STERLING PROPERTY

Repair work and cleaning of the old Sterling ditch in the Little Applegate section is now underway, preparatory to the opening of the Sterling mine, operated by Paul Pierce, who has the mine leased. Preparations for mining were made last year, although lack of water halted further work. It is believed that this year's water supply is sufficient. This mine created considerable interest a few years ago under the ownership of F. J. Blakeley of Portland, and in Applegate's early days was widely known.

HOFFMAN RENAMES 'OLD MAID OF THE MIST' MINE

It is said that J. R. Hoffman, Thompson creek rancher, can be found at his quartz mine whenever it rains or snows. The mine, which is known as The Old Maid of the Mist and which Mr. Hoffman has re-named The Faker, is located in the vicinity of the Hoffman ranch and covers some valuable ground. However, a report got about that Mr. Hoffman "had never found anything, but was just hunting for it."