

# The Mines of Jackson County Have Produced \$35,000,000 in Gold

This is the pioneer mining district of Oregon. Gold was first discovered on Jackson creek in 1851, bringing thousands of fortune-hunters over the Siskiyou mountains from California. For years Jacksonville, the first Oregon mining camp, located five miles from the present city of Medford, was one of the liveliest gold districts in the west. It still remains a substantial mining district.

The vast acreage of old channels, gravel bars and auriferous placer deposits, together with the abundant winter rains and numerous streams, combine to make this section one of the leading hydraulic placer districts in America. Placer mining has always been largely followed here. Fully \$35,000,000 in virgin gold has been produced from the several diggings since the original discovery. Jackson creek diggings alone have produced nearly \$6,000,000. The hydraulic mines, a half hundred in number, are among the best equipped in America, with their miles of ditches and flumes, thousands of feet of iron and steel pipe, their batteries of giants and all necessary machinery for hydraulizing. The season of mining being long, the water supply and diggings abundant, the output from Jackson county's surface mines total a half million each year.

**No Restrictions on Dumps.**  
The rivers and streams of the district are unobstructed, and there are no restrictions in the matter of dumping tailings into them. This gives the placer miner every possible opportunity for unobstructed operation. There yet remains considerable unclaimed placer ground here, but the greatest opportunity along this line is in the investment of small and great capital by the purchase of undeveloped properties, giving them development, adequate equipment and intelligent management.

**Sterling Placer Mine.**  
The Sterling hydraulic placer mine, located on Sterling creek, a

stream flowing into the north fork of the Applegate near Jacksonville, has produced from \$25,000 to \$60,000 regularly for the past quarter century. The diggings comprise several hundred acres of deep red clay gravel deposit. The equipment consists of a 25-mile ditch carrying 2500 miners' inches, and supplying water for two and three giants nine months in the year.

The Sturgis is another well-equipped and productive placer mine. It has nearly 1000 acres of workable ground that gives returns of from \$8000 to \$10,000 per acre.

**Opportunity for Wealth.**  
The rich old channels along the many streams offer excellent opportunity for money-making by dredging. Operations of this character so far are confined to Fooths creek, northern Jackson county, where the big gold dredge of Champlin & Co. has been at work for the past six years with excellent results. The flood basin on this stream has a length of six miles and a width of two miles, carrying gold at the rate of 50 cents a yard. The success of the Fooths creek dredges should lead others to enter the gold dredging field here, as there is unlimited ground similar in character, with equally favorable conditions in the matter of water and timber.

Though this district has a number of producing quartz mines, this feature of the gold mining industry is in its infancy. Quartz mining had been followed here for almost as long a period as placer mining. Many notable discoveries have been made.

**Many Quartz Mines.**  
There are 52 quartz mines in the districts tributary to Medford, and more than three times that number of claims. The free-milling character of the quartz makes it easy of reduction.

The mining districts tributary to Medford with quartz mines under development or in active operation are:

Upper Applegate, 35 miles distant; Thompson Creek, 20 miles distant; Forrest Creek, 12 miles distant;

Jackson Creek, 6 miles distant; Blackwell Hill, 10 miles distant; Kanes Creek, 14 miles distant; Galls Creek, 16 miles distant; Fooths Creek, 17 miles distant; Evans Creek, 20 miles distant.

**Copper Mining District.**  
The copper mines of the Blue Ledge district, though located in Siskiyou, Cal., 5 miles south of the state line, are tributary to Medford, the only means of reaching them being by wagon road from this city, a distance of 35 miles. The deposits of copper in the district have been exploited and developed sufficiently to prove them beyond any possible question the greatest bodies of copper in the west.

The Blue Ledge district, as a whole, comprises an area of 2000 square miles, occupying the upper range of the Siskiyou, with an altitude of from 3500 to 6100 feet. Fully 1000 claims have been located in the district. There are 10 parallel

ledges, occupying a strip 10 miles wide, and with claims located continuously upon them for a distance of 25 miles.

**Blue Ledge Mine.**  
The principal lode of the district—that which first attracted the attention of mining men, and from which the camp derives its name, is the Blue Ledge. This lode was first located in 1898, and is now owned and under development by the Blue Ledge Mining company of New York, of

which R. R. Towne is president. This company is sparing no expense or effort to fully develop the property, and intends to ultimately equip it with a smelter and reduction works with a capacity of at least 500 tons daily, and which, with the mine workings, will give employment for several thousand men. Medford, being the supply point and the gateway to this district, is in a most enviable position, as this city will, in a large measure, derive the full benefit

of the immense payroll, not only of the Blue Ledge itself, but of the many other properties that are under development, there and which will, in due course, install smelting and reduction plants.

The placing of a smelter on the Blue Ledge will necessitate the building of a railroad connecting the camp with the main line of transportation at Medford. The present method of reaching the camp is by wagon road by way of Jacksonville, whence the route follows a water grade up the Applegate for 28 miles to Watkins, on to the main camp four miles farther. The veins of the Blue Ledge district nearly all have a north and south course, standing nearly vertical, with a slight dip to the west. The Blue Ledge vein has a width of from 100 to 300 feet, and the formation of this, like that of most of the veins of the district, consists of chalcopyrite, azurite, iron pyrites and free gold. The quartz is a splendid smelting product, carrying not only a high percentage of copper, but good values in gold, with a fair showing of silver. Assays made prove values of from 18 to 37 per cent copper, and from \$2.50 to \$5 a ton in gold.

The properties of the district are located on Joe creek and Elliott creek, tributaries of the Applegate, both of which head on the summit of the Siskiyou mountains. Joe creek carries 25 miners' inches of water at low stage, and Elliott creek 200 miners' inches, the two creeks, together with Big and Little Applegate river, affording an abundance of water for power and mining purposes.

**Coal Mines.**  
An immense body of coal has been discovered and is under development within five miles of Medford. The coal is being removed in quantity, and is proving an excellent fuel product. While this coal will prove of great commercial value for general distribution, its greatest local value will be that of meeting the demands of the Blue Ledge copper mines for smelter fuel.



STERLING MINE.

## MANY OPPORTUNITIES.

The Portland Oregonian says: "At the national apple show in Spokane, Tronson & Guthrie's Rogue River Spitzenbergs carried off the world's prize. The judges were unanimous in their decision, which is perhaps more significant of the merit of the apples than the prize itself is. At just about the same time a peach orchard of four acres, not far from Ashland, sold for \$8000—that is, at the rate of \$2000 an acre. In connection with these facts, one involuntarily thinks of the Rogue River shipment of Comice pears, 1907, which sold at auction in New York for \$8.10 a box. A fruit-growing region of this sort will naturally attract attention. Men desiring to plant small commercial orchards will inquire for five and ten-acre tracts suitable for fruit growing and not too far from town."

## COME INTO BEARING.

Thirty orchardists of the Rogue River valley utilize the space between the rows of trees in young orchards to grow crops of hay, grain, corn, melons and other staples, thereby securing revenue sufficient to maintain the groves until they come into bearing.

A space from three to six feet in width, according to the age of the tree, is left for constant cultivation and the remaining space is utilized for crops. Sometimes grain is the crop, cut either for hay or grain, sometimes potatoes, frequently melons, often alfalfa, which in such instances is usually cut for hay, but the most common crop is corn, which is usually grown without irrigation.

These by-products of the orchard are a great aid to the fruitgrower, furnishing means to sustain his family during the growing period of the orchard. The various crops do not injure the young trees in the slightest. Corn does well in the Rogue River valley, either with or without irrigation, and is grown extensively. It brings best returns by the "hog route." The fodder is made into ensilage and is packed in silos for wintering stock.

## OPPORTUNITY FOR INVESTMENT

(Continued from Page 3.)

erty in the course of a few years' time, and on an easy-payment

plan that the man of modest means can well afford to accept. Hundreds are doing this at the present time in the complete satisfaction of all concerned. Understand that we want you first of all, but if you can't come at present, we know you will eventually if you adopt this method of providing a home in the valley.

To the man of somewhat larger means the orchards, already producing, offer an investment that can hardly be duplicated. The lovely climate and very large incomes on capital invested in such property make life decidedly worth living for the orchard owner. You are assured of your income, if the orchard is properly handled, as the merchant, banker or other business man, and your profit is much greater. The selling price of such properties is not so high in the Rogue River valley as in some of the other first-class fruit-growing districts of the northwest, but high enough to bar the poor man. Yet it is only a question of a few years' time and the necessary labor before the cheap land of today becomes the bearing orchard that will command the high prices

chalked up against the present producing properties, and therein lies the opportunity for the poor man. The increase in value is as certain as the growth of the trees. Actual figures reported year after year by fruitgrowers show profits of from \$200 to an occasional \$2000 per acre per year. These figures may stagger you, but they are true. There need be no failures, as success depends on your own efforts only.

You are interested in the production of precious metals? If the hills surrounding Medford were in some out-of-the-way locality, Alaska, Mexico or Africa, where other glorious opportunities did not abound, you would soon hear of them as a miners' paradise. Gold has been successfully mined here for the last 60 years and is being so produced today in greater quantities than ever. The platinum and copper mines will sometime in the near future startle the mining world, and yet this industry has been sadly neglected; the ground has not even been well prospected—it has hardly been scratched. Many competent mining engineers claim that the next really great discoveries of gold will be in this vicinity. Here is a big opportunity for the profitable investment of capital.

It takes money—lots of it—to build a city. The demand for this precious commodity is always great in a new and rapidly growing community, and Medford is no exception to the rule. We need money, but can afford to pay for it. Interest rates are higher than in the older sections of the country. Medford needs, perhaps as much as anything else, an institution with ample capital to loan money conservatively on real estate security. Money can be safely loaned in this way to net the lender 8 per cent per annum. It can be loaned as safely at 8 per cent as at 5 or 6 per cent in the east. We do not like to pay such rates, but can and will. An up-to-date trust company to handle this class of business would prove an exceptionally profitable and satisfactory form of investment.

Improvement bonds issued by the city of Medford and Jackson county warrants bear 6 per cent interest—mighty attractive income for conservative investors. You, who have money to invest, might go far and do no better than to add some of these securities to the accumulation in your safe deposit box.

And so the list might be continued indefinitely—your investment in

Medford will grow in value and you will have no cause to lie awake nights suffering from business cares and worries.

## FUTURE OF OREGON PEARS.

(Continued from Page 5.)

But one of the greatest problems of all, the problem of marketing and distributing our crop is as yet unsolved by the average grower. This problem will become greater and greater with each succeeding year. How to meet it is the crying demand of the hour. Many methods have been tried but with only varying success. We must find out in what way we can be assured of fair prices on our fruit which means a fair return on our investment. These can be brought about only by a wide distribution of our product, avoiding an over supply at any one point and a closer relation with the ultimate consumer. The medium for accomplishing this is through a wise, efficient and honest single-selling agency, where through the control of a majority at least of the output of the entire northwest, competition can be almost entirely done away with and we can enter the markets of our own

country and abroad on an even basis, organized as all other great industries are organized from the ground up, with the result that we will do the greatest good to the greatest number, grower and consumer alike. The stage of pioneering, wonderfully founded with great knowledge and foresight by Stewart, to whom we all, as fruit growers, owe a great debt of gratitude, is passed. The present production of our fruit is ably nourished and protected by one of the most renowned pathologists of the country, Prof. P. J. O'Gara, whose constant help in time of need is so opportune and whose warfare against the enemies of destruction is so pregnant with results.

The future disposing of our growing supply of fruit with the possibilities of its reaching every community in our own land and gradually becoming known and used in all countries in the temperate zone is the problem which confronts us now. It behooves each and every one of us to lend all sincere and honest endeavor possible through collective and individual effort to aid in perfecting a method to meet these demands, obtaining as we must the best results with the least possible cost and waste.

## Brick Factory Adds Payroll to the Valley

The Brick and Tile Factory of the Gold Ray Granite company, is located on the main line of the Southern Pacific railroad, at Tolo, Ore. It is a modern, up-to-date plant, for the manufacture of both common and pressed brick. The machinery is made by the American Clay Machinery company, of Bucyrus, Ohio. The capacity of the plant is 10,000 brick, and 50,000 tile per day. There is an

electric railway, one mile in length used in connection with the plant for conveying the clay. The product is equal to the best brick and tile made anywhere, and is being shipped all over the state.

From 30 to 50 men are employed. The brick and tile, as they are made, are received on a transmission belt, which conveys the manufactured product to the cars, which, when

loaded, are run into a dryer, from whence they are moved on the same car and placed in a kiln for burning. In this way very little handling is required, nearly all the operations being performed by machinery, thus insuring an economical and first class product. All the machinery is operated by electric power, supplied by the Rogue River Electric company. The cost of the plant to date is over \$50,000.00.

Billions of feet of merchantable timber lie tributary to Medford. Heretofore much of it has been unavailable on account of a lack of transportation. This condition no longer exists and Medford is assured of the successful manufacture of any and all products dependent on an adequate supply of timber. Sash and door, box and furniture factories will prove a bonanza to the man qualified to conduct such enterprises. With the completion of the railroads planned and under construction by the Hill interests Medford will have unequaled shipping facilities.

Medford has been unable to keep pace with the demand for dwellings and business buildings. With two new large and modern hotels in course of erection, we will be well supplied with accommodations for transients, but for the permanent resident this is not the condition of affairs. He finds a suitable house with difficulty. An attractive investment may be had by building houses to let or for sale on an easy-payment plan. Literally hundreds of houses could be rented or sold under such a plan as fast as they could be constructed. A "for rent" sign in Medford is about as scarce an article as the proverbial hen's teeth.

Many new business buildings have been erected during the last year, and yet many are disappointed because they cannot get business quarters. Several modern business and office buildings could be leased on good terms before they were ready to occupy. Our people are prosperous and pay well for a strictly first-class article, no matter whether it be an office room or what not.

## Southern Oregon Granite Is Splendid Stone

Southern Oregon boasts of the fact that it has huge quarries of granite and marble, producing as fine stone as is to be found in the west. Marble has as yet been worked but little, owing to a lack of transportation, but thousands of dollars' worth of a beautiful gray granite are quarried annually.

The granite quarry of the Gold Ray Granite company is located near Tolo, Ore., on the main line of the Southern Pacific. Work was commenced here about one year ago. The quarry is equipped with four modern gyratory rockcrushers, one of which is the largest size manufactured. It has a capacity of one carload of crushed rock per hour. The total capacity of all the crushers, when fully operated, is 50 carloads per day of crushed rock. The product has been sold as fast as produced, for paving purposes, principally in the towns of the Rogue River valley, Medford using the largest quantity so far.

In addition to the rockcrusher the plant is fully equipped with compressors, air drills, grinding and polishing machinery for turning out a first-class dimension granite for building purposes, and polished granite for monumental work and other purposes, all being operated by electric power, furnished by the Rogue River Electric company. This granite has the reputation of being the best quality of granite for monumental and building purposes on the coast, and, in fact, is pronounced by experts to be fully equal to the cele-

brated Barre granite produced in Barre, Vt.

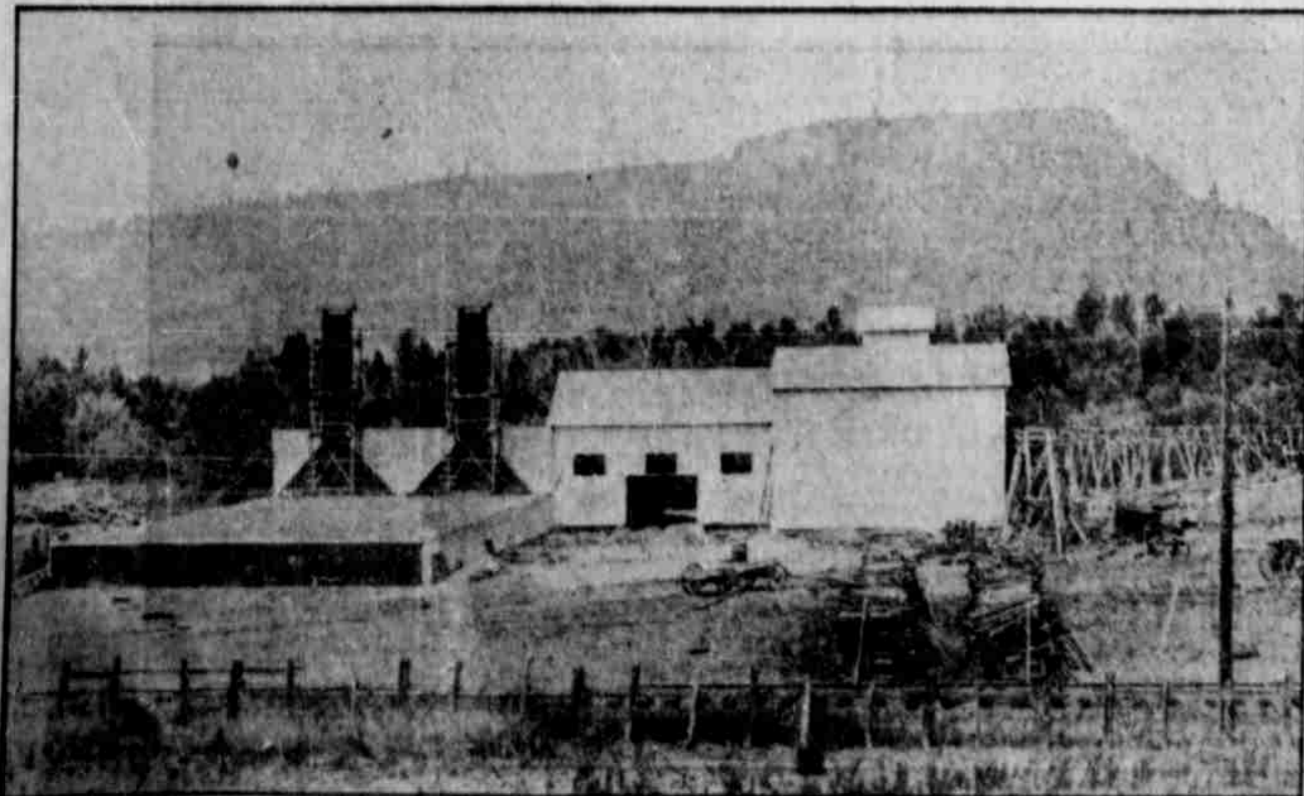
The quarry has a big future before it, and so far has been unable to supply the demands for monumental and building purposes.

The quarry is admirably located just above the sidetrack of the Southern Pacific railroad near Tolo. The crushed granite is conveyed from the crushers on a conveyor belt from whence it is conveyed to the bins, and then from the bins unloaded into cars on the sidetrack, all being done by gravity.

The monumental and building stone is transported on an incline track direct to cars on sidetrack. This plant has cost over \$50,000.

up to date, and from 30 to 50 men are employed when in full operation. The Oregon Granite company of Medford is also doing an extensive business in granite. The product of its quarries, which are located in the foothills west of Medford, is said to be as fine as any stone west of the Mississippi river, comparing favorably with Barre.

There may be better opportunities for the enterprising and progressive than those offered in the Rogue River valley, but if there are, they have never been pointed out. Given industry and perseverance and only the incompetent can spell the word failure.



BRICK AND TILE FACTORY AT TOLO.



A CORNER IN A SOUTHERN OREGON GRANITE QUARRY.