

MEDFORD SHOULD ADVERTISE THIS MINING DISTRICT MORE EXTENSIVELY

WRITER POINTS OUT FACT THAT GREAT RESOURCE NEGLECTED

Capital for Development is Sole Need of Southern Oregon if She Would Become a Great Center of Mining Activities.

There is a new spirit alive among the mining men of southern Oregon which breathes an inspiration to greater achievements than this region has ever known. The awakening on all sides is much in evidence.

The equipment for the quartz mines of the Middle Fork of the Applegate; the installation of several miles of hydraulic pipe at the Steamboat placers; the proposed highline ditch of the Sterling company; the numerous and steadily increasing number of ears of high grade ores from the quartz mines, notably that of the Sterling quartz mine, the returns from which were very gratifying to the owners; the opening of the new assay office, with its increased facilities, at the corner of Sixth and Fir street, together with many additions to present equipment of other mines all bespeak an active and energetic campaign of development along the mines of southern Oregon during the year.

Mining is no longer a gamble. It is an honorable and legitimate business venture, and from it have grown some of the largest dividend paying enterprises of the present day. True, there have been frauds and failures in mining, but the same may be truthfully said of real estate, railroads, insurance, banks and other branches of business.

The mineral resources in the territory tributary to the city of Medford are exceptionally meritorious, in fact they almost challenge the belief of the uninformed, but when they receive the publicity to which they are justly entitled, they will be the means of attracting hundreds of thousands of dollars, now lying idle waiting an opportunity for profitable investment promising quick returns, then a great

and important industry will be developed in the mountains surrounding this Garden of Eden.

The product of the silver mines of the state of Nevada saved the credit of the nation in '73.

Without the metals from the mines we could not have the powerful machinery that marks the progress of the world today; the surgeon could not perform lifesaving operations; the housewife would mend her socks—if you had any—with a needle made from the quill of a porcupine.

Were it not for the mine to produce the material for making the cookstove we would have had to cook our New Year's meal over an open fire and instead of using beautiful silver and steel cutlery at the table the fingers would have to suffice.

There would not have been any excursion to sunny California last week if the mines had not furnished the materials for supplying the motive power, track and equipment.

The very money that has made it possible for man to bring the beautiful orchards of the Rogue River valley to the present high state of perfection—and made the real estate men rich—came from the mines. This would be a mighty poor orchard country if the mines did not supply the material for the making of necessary implements for their cultivation; instead of riding in automobiles, we would now be knocking the "sticky" from our heels. It is needless to cite more examples. The products of the mines are to be seen on every hand, on land, on sea, even used to navigate the air.

For years past the Medford people, most of them at least, have overlooked one of their greatest assets, the mineral resources. The settlers have been too busy in successfully growing fruits and agricultural products that have attained a world-wide fame.

At the present time the industry's most crying need is capital for development purposes. Don't entice prospectors from afar to this district; there are at present enough here; they are good ones too, but, as a rule, the prospector is not a man with a bank account. In fact, the majority are men of small means who are struggling alone trying to make a living from their claims by the sweat of their brow. They know that the mineral wealth is here. The writer has often met them far out on the desert sands and listened to their

interesting tales of the hidden wealth of southern Oregon. Many of these men had found promising prospects, but for the lack of funds with which to prosecute the work of development they were compelled to abandon them and seek newer fields in the intermountain region where it was more probable they could interest capital in new fields, thus getting quicker action than they could in Oregon, where farming and fruit-growing was the chief industry.

Here in the adjacent territory is undeveloped but rich placer ground; one of the best and most inviting fields for the successful operation of gold dredgers, upon a large scale, the like of which is nowhere else to be found in the states. Here is a vast deposit of coal, which is known to extend to the Pacific ocean on the west and to Hornbrook, on the Klamath river in California, on the south. There are magnificent fields for the operation of powerful hydraulic giants, on ground that is yet virgin. The same may be said for the successful prosecution of quartz mining, as little or no deep mining has been done on the ledges in the immediate vicinity, and it is a known fact that the values invariably increase as depth is attained. In the neighboring mountains are large deposits of copper that could be profitably shipped to the smelter, if the money were forthcoming with which to build necessary wagon roads to the railroad for its transportation. Not alone copper, but here is iron galore, undeveloped, but much in evidence. Again one finds marble, the quality of which is equal to the product of that of the Green Mountain state. Besides these there are numerous other minerals, and yet others, now unknown, will, undoubtedly be discovered. All of the materials for the manufacture of Portland cement are to be found, almost within the city limits, in unlimited quantities, while but 20 miles or so away are some very promising indications of oil, not to mention the excellent quality of various kinds of building stone and large beds of clay.

This is not news to many of the residents of Medford. For years they have known that these resources existed in this vicinity, but their time has been too much taken up with the growing of the big red and yellow apples; the Bose and Comice pears, as well as the luscious peach, to think of the mineral as an asset.

The citizens of Medford are honest, conservative and progressive—all well-to-do. Most of them own their own homes and have an income sufficiently large to insure them from want, therefore they are not inclined to "take chances" with an industry with which the most of them are un-

familiar. This is commendable in a way, yet there is another class of citizens to be found the world over; they, too, are nice; they are honest and royal good fellows, generous and enterprising as well and make splendid neighbors. It is to this class of men in whose veins flow the blood of speculation, that the mining industry throughout the world owes its present magnitude. These men have money that they are anxious to invest in mining ventures and if the conditions are properly brought to their notice, and they are convinced that they are to have an even break for their money they are satisfied to take the chances.

If you wanted to purchase some high class poultry it is but natural that you would peruse the columns of some reliable journal devoted to that industry. If you desire information on fruit growing in Oregon you read "Better Fruit," don't you? Now, if you want to interest the mining investor, why not keep your wares—activities, mineral resources, their development, shipments of ores, etc., in the mining journals and the local paper, so that those who read may know. Don't hide your light under a bushel.

I have before me several of the leading mining publications of the United States and under the caption "Oregon" one finds that Baker City and Sumpter are active mining camps. In one of these journals six lines of a single column summed up the mining situation in the neighborhood of Grants Pass, while in none of them could I find any mention of the balance of southern Oregon, although the mining sections of the northern portion of our sister state received considerable mention. The lack of this character of publicity is deplorable and has a strong tendency to create the impression abroad that in this section of the state there is "nothing doing" in a mining way.

Medford is altogether too modest when it comes to giving publicity to its vast and varied mineral resources.

Foster this industry which as yet is in its infancy; give it your moral support, if not your financial support. Talk about it.

Don't think that your salubrious climate, your very productive soil, immense water power and modern city are the only assets that you have. Far greater than all combined is the untold mineral wealth in your mountains and gulches, in the low-lying foothills; yes, some of these rich channels of gold bearing gravel and ledges of quartz even now lie under some of the finest orchards in the world. C. W. PATTERSON.

Haskins for health.

BIG SUCCESS WITH POULTRY

Mrs. Wilcox of Table Rock Points Out Fact That No Trap Nest Is Needed in Oregon to Secure Winter Eggs.

It is along about this season of the year when hen eggs are worth 50 cents a dozen that pretty nearly everybody who has not their attention riveted on city election, bond issues or presidential candidates, are figuring on how they can plant a half dozen or more hens in their small back yards and make those same hens supply the family larder, not only with eggs, but otherwise provide means of sustenance.

Under date of January 4, 1912, Mrs. Wilcox of Arrow Head ranch, Table Rock, Ore., writes a little egg story which will make Mail Tribune readers more anxious than ever to plant a few chickens at their back doors. Under the caption, "No Trap Nest Needed here," Mrs. Wilcox says:

"Last April or May we started with a few eggs to get the pure White Wyandotte chicks; succeeded in getting seven pullets out of the hatch. They began laying in September. One is now setting and will bring off a brood January 7. From the remaining six on January 2 I brought in six eggs. We have no other hens on the place. Now, who says Oregon is not an ideal place for winter hen eggs?"

Errand boy, office boy, store helper—whatever work you have for a boy means preliminary work for a want ad in finding the right boy.

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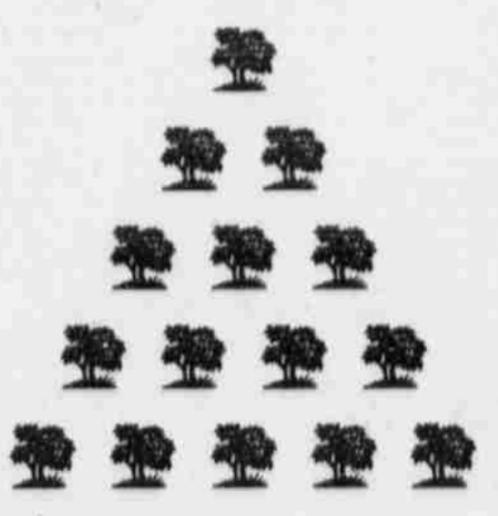
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