

COPPER MINES IN GRAVES CREEK SECTION DEVELOPED

By W. W. WATSON.

In the list of copper developments making substantial progress in the district tributary to Medford is that of the United Copper company in the Graves Creek district, 32 miles from this city. This is one of the most promising copper properties in the west, both in extent and richness of ores. Little has been heard of it for some time, due largely to the change in ownership and to the quiet method of development employed by the new company, whose members are Seattle people.

The Copper King, on which the chief development work is now in progress, was formerly operated by the Blalock brothers as a gold mine; but when the investigator for the United Copper company had completed his work, that organization took it over as copper property, notwithstanding the fact that the ore showed a good average in gold—a very large average at times. The percentage of copper, however, was so attractive that the name was changed and vigorous work begun to develop it as a copper property.

Business From the Start.

The United Copper company is composed largely of young men who began work on this property to make a mine. They were not mere prospectors, whose ambition was to uncover something to sell. The big money to be made in a good mine is found in its scientific operation. On this practical theory they began business.

An equipment was at once purchased and has recently been installed. It consists of an excellent air compressor, several machine drills, a concentrating plant, in which a Blake crusher, a Faust bumping screen, a set of Sturtevant rolls with a capacity of two tons per hour (arrangements have been made to replace these with roughing rolls), one Faust jig with a daily capacity of 50 tons, an Atlas engine, together with elevators, beltways, abundant water supply, conveying, shafting and other accessories necessary. A 25-horse power boiler will be delivered to the plant this week with a 10812 steam engine, bringing the capacity up to 55-horse power. The ultimate capacity of the plant will be 50 tons of raw ore per day.

Sawmill on the Road.

A sawmill plant has been installed and is now busy turning out the necessary lumber.

Right off the reel the company proposed to get its product out to the world. Its first endeavor of concentrates is now en route to the Tacoma smelter. The only road leading to a connection with the Southern Pacific is from the mine to Leland in Josephine county—the mine being situated in Jackson county. It is 16 miles up Evans creek valley from Rogue River to the property. Nine miles of road must be built to make the connection that way. The United Copper company, the timber men and the farmers of Evans creek valley have already completed the plan to construct that stretch of mountain road to enable them to deliver their output to the Southern Pacific at Rogue River. That is a typical enterprise suggestive of that stretch of road will make Medford the headquarters for all of the camps of the Graves creek district.

An Offer Turned Down.

Since the United Copper company began to develop its properties it has received and refused an offer of \$150,000 cash for its "prospect."

The ledge in the Copper King has been uncovered 880 feet. The shaft is 50 feet in depth. The ledge averages better than seven feet all the way down, on a 10-degree dip. Geologically the formation shows that the ledge has been forced up from a great depth. The assays of the concentrates is taken from eight tons of ore. Everything brought in the shaft is read in the concentrates. Not an ounce of ore has been picked for assay or other purposes.

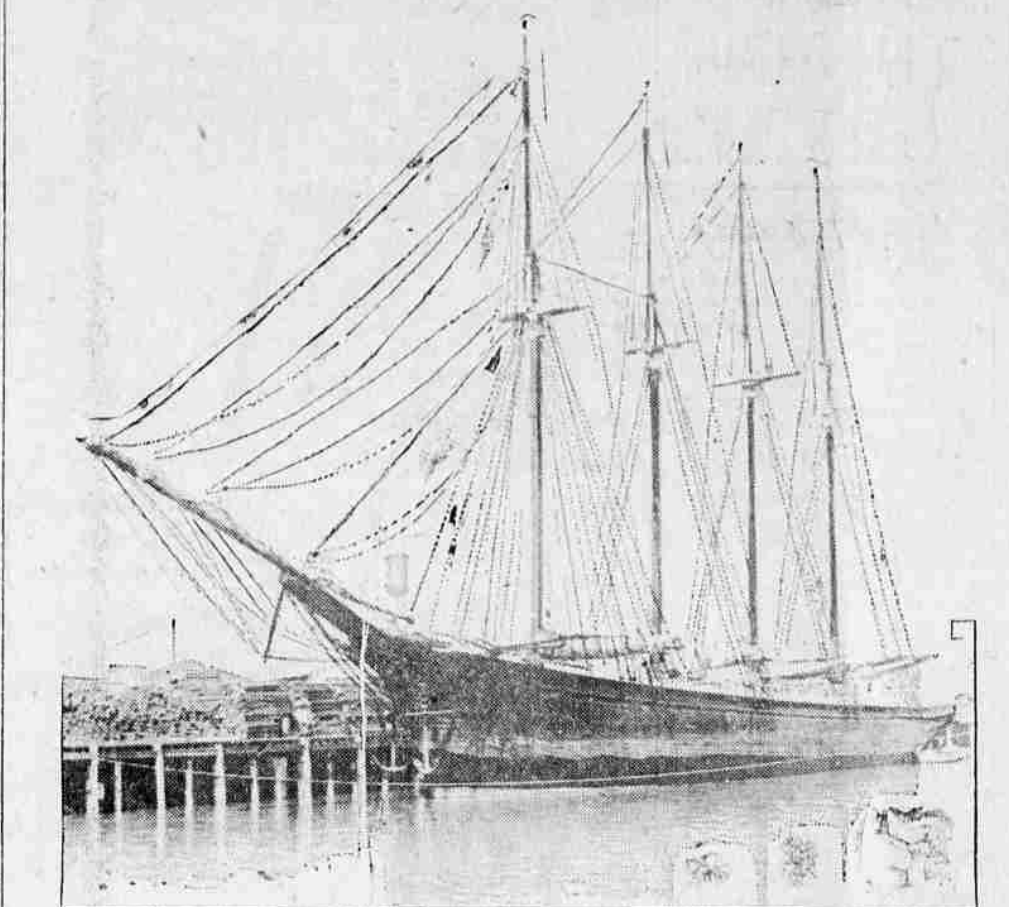
The United Copper company is the third mining organization to be permitted, under the "blue sky law," to roll stock in this state. This fact is cited to show that official inspection corroborates the claim made for its property.

The Gold Note. An old property, five miles distant from the Copper King, will start its work this week. It is a very rich property and is in sight. It is owned by the Blalock brothers of Portland.

Entire District Active.

The Greenback, one of the oldest and best known mines in Oregon is seven miles distant from the United Copper company. It, too, is shipping concentrates. The plan is closed down temporarily, while installing electric power. It is owned by investment capitalists, who have just received recently a large area of prop-

STARS AND STRIPES WERE FLYING WHEN THIS SHIP WENT DOWN



This is the American schooner Lyman P. Law, which was sunk by an Austrian submarine off the Italian coast. The Law's captain, McDonough, reports the American flag was flying at the masthead when the schooner sank beneath the waves. The Austrians saved all the crew.

AMERICAN LINERS REMAIN IN PORT

NEW YORK, Feb. 21.—Shippers who had hoped to send goods to Europe by the big steamships of the American line sailing from this port, received definite assurance today that the company had no immediate intention of sending out its vessels. This information was derived from a notice that the owners had begun to discharge cargoes in the hold of the steamship St. Louis, which has been lying here loaded since the beginning of the new submarine warfare.

MISSOURI PACIFIC IS SOLD AT AUCTION

ST. LOUIS, Mo., Feb. 21.—The Missouri Pacific railroad was sold at auction today to R. H. Neilson and J. W. Holmes of New York for \$61,151,000. Both men represent the reorganization committee.

REIMER TO LECTURE ON SOILS, FERTILIZERS

Prof. F. C. Reimer, of the Experiment station, will give a lecture on the soils of the Rogue river valley at the Medford public library at 2:30 next Saturday. All the leading soil types of the valley have been analyzed for their food plant content, and these results will be presented and discussed. This will show just what plant foods are abundant, and which are lacking; and also how these soils should be treated.

STRIKE IN PROGRESS AT KRUPP FACTORY

AMSTERDAM, Feb. 21.—The frontier correspondent of the Telegraph says that a strike in the Krupp works at Essen, involving 17,000 workmen has been in progress for a fortnight.

INCH OF DRESS COSTS SHOE COS. 10 MILLIONS

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 21.—Every inch added to the length of women's dresses means a loss of \$10,000,000 a year to the shoe business, according to A. D. Anderson of Boston, who last night told the delegates to the convention of the Pennsylvania Retail Shoe Dealers' association they should co-operate with the designers and keep the short skirts in fashion.

EIGHT INCHES OF SNOW FALLS OVER MEDFORD VALLEY

Home owners and store owners hunted out shovels, autoists dug out their chains and small boys brought forth their sleds for the white mantle again greeted Medford eyes Wednesday morning. In the wee small hours the flakes began to drift down and by ten o'clock the snow covering was eight inches deep. The three days' storm now totals .63 inches of rain.

The snow fall brought in its wake troubles with power lines over the country. For a time Medford was altogether without electricity due to the breaking of a power line near the Gold Ray plant. Until twelve thirty the supply of juice was feeble, coming from the Fall creek plant over the Siskiyou.

The snow was wet and heavy and owners of flat roofed buildings were kept busy sweeping away the accumulation. Several awnings left down over night were brought to the ground.

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