

RICH STRIKE IN GOLD HILL MINE AROUSES MINERS

GOLD HILL, Nov. 12.—(Special.)—That the driving of the 800-foot tunnel on the Kelmar-Vanpet mine at Gold Hill is one of the large coming assets of Jackson county, is evidenced by the recent striking of an 8-foot vein, which Dr. Herschel C. Parker, geologist and mine expert now in the district, and mining men locally, announce that it is of far more importance than the rich strike made in the Greenback mine in the Grants Pass district. This importance is due to the size of the vein and the richness of the ore in "granite," the new metal recently discovered by Dr. Parker in the local mines, which carry gold values.

Dr. Parker has been in the Gold Hill and Grants Pass district the past several weeks, and has said: "I have made most careful examination of the geology of this district and many of the mines and have found great bodies of copper ore which may be directly smelted, associated with great values of gold and platinum, but especially rich ore which is usually known as arseno pyrite." He further said, "This ore I believe to be a pyrite carrying the telluride gold, and it is usually associated with chlorite rather than quartz. An enormously rich deposit of this ore has recently been found in the Greenback mine, which has shown actual smelting values of \$1400 to \$3700 a ton in gold. While this ore has been reported as a telluride, it actually appears to be ferric ore carried by the white sulphide of iron known as arseno pyrite. Ores of this nature, in which the Gold Hill and Grants Pass district seem to abound, I have named "granite," after the town of Grants Pass."

Dr. Parker further said: "When the deposits of this ore have been developed, it is almost a certainty that it will mean a yield of many millions in gold, with a proper smelting or chlorination process. This ore is well distributed in extensive veins, which will go to great depths, with occasional rich ore shoots running thousands of dollars in gold to the ton."

The Kelmar-Vanpet mine property consists of an 80-acre tract of patented land, adjoining the city limits of Gold Hill on the north and extends from near the water's edge of Rogue river to the summit of the high mountain back of Gold Hill. The Kelmar-Vanpet company also hold an additional three mining claims adjoining the patented land on the north which is cut by the vein system extending through the main property north-south.

The original plans of the project commenced last May on the property was for a tunnel 820 feet to crosscut an iron and nickel vein at 625 feet on the tunnel; a copper vein 60 feet beyond; and a telluride gold vein at 830 feet on the tunnel.

The tunnel was fortunately started in to the mountain on an east-west fault vein, probably an extension of a vein extending from the Gold Hill pocket strike on the opposite side of Rogue river, which at 300 feet in on the tunnel developed into a five foot vein with good values. The portal of the tunnel is near the water's edge of Rogue river and adjoining the Gold Hill-Sams Valley highway.

The tunnel is now driven 425 feet and at a depth of 325 feet from the surface. The first strike on the tunnel several hundred feet from the portal crosscut an eight foot vein, and following that three 24 inch veins have been crosscut. In 290 feet on the tunnel a five foot vein was crosscut. All the ores of these several veins are of the same nature and classed in the telluride rank and run in values from \$9 to \$26 per ton in gold.

The recent strike of an eight foot vein in at 420 feet on the tunnel is the most important strike yet made at the mine. It is a calcite vein and gives a gold value of \$51 per ton, average eight feet across the face of the vein. The values all come from the "granite" contents of the vein filling in the form of cubes and flakes of the metal. The hanging wall is of a dioritic formation, while the foot wall is limestone. It is apparent that the last 225 feet of the tunnel has been crosscutting at

extensive dikes of very hard dike of altered diorite, but up of blocky masses, cut with small seams, made up of telluride, quartz, quartzite, limestone, talc and other vein filler, which gives evidence of a value of at least from \$3 to \$5 in gold, computing the entire mass. All the veins cross-cut range nearly north-south and dip east, except the last strike, in which this vein stands nearly upright.

The Kelmar-Vanpet mine is situated in that large area of southwestern Oregon and northwestern California, which has been by the U. S. geological department designated as an island in the ocean during the Cretaceous times, long before the Cascade mountains rose above the surface of the water. And by Winchell termed the "great Siskiyou batholith." It is, perhaps one of the oldest pieces of terra firma on the western continent, and compares favorably in age with the Alps mountains in Europe. The major part of this mass is granite, or granite in character, accompanied with other intrusive igneous rocks, such as diorite, porphyry and other intrusions of ancient origin; such intrusions having lifted from the depth of the ocean the sediments that had settled there. These elevations have in places reached an altitude, in some places of seven to eight thousand feet. The sediments thus lifted were changed from their original character, to various angles of inclination, accommodating easy erosion. Hence we find now only fragments of these early sediments at the tops of the higher elevations, such as limestone, often metamorphosed into marble. These sediments were originally very deep and erosion carried them away; some back to the ocean, while others were deposited in the valleys as they have been formed.

No plans have been yet announced for equipment to mill or smelt the ore on the property, but a meeting of the local and non-resident owners of the mine property was held in Gold Hill during the first of the week and a proposition was made to the Kelmar-Vanpet company by the Sunset Smelting company, who proposes to erect the smelter at Gold Hill, to assist in financing the smelter project and handle the whole output of the Kelmar-Vanpet mine which has a present outlook of a possible capacity of 100 tons of ore per day, with present development. But little of the Kelmar-Vanpet ore will require sorting, yet with its limestone contents, it is an ideal fluxing ore and will be required in smelting the refractory ore in the Gold Hill district.

The Kelmar-Vanpet mine is owned by the Kelmar-Vanpet Mining company, a closed corporation, is managed by A. E. Kellogg and W. W. Martineau, local members of the company, while the balance of the interests are held by a small body of Vernonia, Oregon, business men.

Mr. and Mrs. John S. Bohannon of Independence, Oregon, were here during the week visiting relatives in Gold Hill. The visitors are making their annual trip to the south for the winter, and will extend their winter outing from Los Angeles to Florida. In early summer they will continue their motor trip to the Atlantic coast and return through the northern states. While at Los Angeles they will visit a daughter, and their nephew, Merle Bohannon Kellogg, formerly of Gold Hill now residing at Wilmington out from Los Angeles. Mr. Bohannon, his father and two brothers were old time residents of the Gold Hill district residing at the old town of Dardanelles opposite the present site of Gold Hill, the father being a lessee and operator of the Braden mine at Gold Hill in the early '60's. The Bohannons while in the valley visited Mr. and Mrs. John Barneburg of Medford.

Rev. and Mrs. L. F. Belknap, of Medford, were here last Sunday visiting the Kelloggs and attending the local M. E. church in Gold Hill. Rev. Belknap, former pastor of the M. E. church at Medford, Gold Hill, and presiding elder of the M. E. church conference has retired from the conference due to long service and age, and are now living at their home place on Bear creek near the Fair grounds at Medford. They have a 40 acre tract of bearing pear orchard and report a very satisfactory crop this season. The reverend announced while here that he would preach the morning service at the local M. E. church on Sunday, the 22nd day of November.

Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Riggs of Ashland were here during the week seeking for a new home site in the Gold Hill district. These people came from southern California last year and settled in Ashland, but on account of poor health he is looking for a small mountain home in the close by hills or mountain streams. They were long time residents of southern California and are very much taken up with the Rogue River valley for health, climate and the natural advantages in this region.

RIVERSIDE RIPPLES

Mr. and Mrs. F. E. Wahl of Medford and Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Matthews and Miss Daphne Matthews of Footh Creek drove to Canyonville Sunday and visited Miss Muriel Matthews, who is teaching school near Canyonville.

Mr. and Mrs. L. F. Moss, Mrs. Hammer and Mrs. Georgie Kettle of Footh Creek attended church services in Grants Pass Sunday.

J. H. Butler, George Alden, L. F. Pickett and Mr. Cornwall were down to the clubhouse Sunday looking over the work that had been done on the clubhouse.

Miss Muriel Matthews, who is teaching near Canyonville, spent the week-end with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Matthews.

Mr. and Mrs. R. Shaffer and Miss Florence Shaffer of Bandon called Saturday evening at the Matthews home.

Mr. and Mrs. C. M. Thomas of Medford called at the home of Mrs. Abbie Champlin Sunday afternoon.

The regular business meeting of the Riverside Community club will be on Sunday afternoon, November 15. All members urged to be present.

Mrs. Beatrice Jones, Mrs. Georgia Kettle, Mrs. Maude Champlin and Emmett Cust were Medford visitors Tuesday.

Mrs. Richard Hunsley and Mrs. Emmett Cust of the El Oro ranch were shopping in Medford Saturday.

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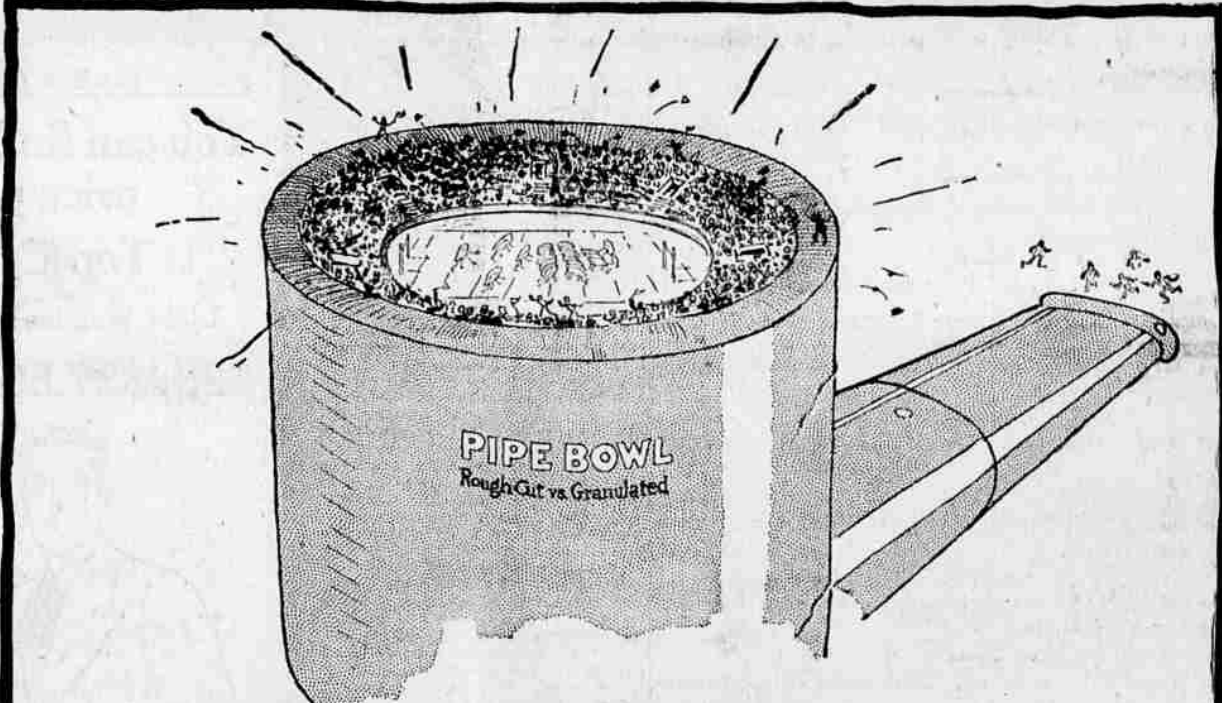
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