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**AN ILLUSTRATED MAGAZINE
FOR ALL THE FAMILY**

Mines and Miners,

Of Southern Oregon.

(Dennis H. Stovall, in Mineral Wealth.)

An important change has been made in the management of the Greenback mine; important because it will mean the broadening of the fields of operations covered by that enterprising company. Instead of the one mine, and one company, there will be both the Greenback and the Martha Mining Companies in the future. Both will be operated under one management. This practically means the addition of the St. Peters, Yellow Horn, Vulcan and Scenic claims to the Greenback, all of which are in the immediate vicinity and within a radius of one mile. Superintendent Thompson, who has been with the Greenback since it was but an unpromising hole in the ground, has resigned, and sold his interests to other members of the company. R. N. Bishop, a Colorado mining man of means and experience, takes Mr. Thompson's place. All of the claims added to the Greenback are quite well developed, and some of them have produced. The Vulcan has a four-stamp mill, which has been operated during the period of development of the mine. The Scenic is being extensively developed under the superintendence of Mr. Bishop, and a ten-stamp mill will be erected in the early spring. The St. Peters group or "Martha" mine as it will be known, will be operated in conjunction with the Greenback, as ore can be brought by gravity tram directly to the Greenback mill. Extra crews are being collected to be put on at each of these properties, and the Greenback pay roll will be greatly increased. Instead of one greenback, there will be three. In the meantime the old mine with its forty stamps is hammering away continually.

The first mining district in Southern Oregon to be favored with a rural mail route, is Jump Off Joe. The district has been inspected and approved by the postal department, and as soon as the necessary requirements are complied with in the matter of building better bridges and improving the roads generally, the route will be established. And in line with this improvement for this district will be the installation of telephone lines.

So fast is the growth of the Galice district, with the development of the many mining properties of that section, that the one country store which has catered to the wants of the region for fifty years has become inadequate, and two new structures are now being built.

Both the Rand and Alameda mines of Galice, are making rapid progress under the development of their respective companies. Each employs two shifts of miners, and the tunnels and drifts are being driven into the ledges with the most possible speed. The Alameda expects to have its new road built from the mine to Leland in a few months, and a separate crew is being employed at this work. The Rand company has its new sawmill in operation, cutting lumber both for its own use and that of other mines and enterprises of the district.

The Cook and Howland placers, of Forest Creek, are taken over for one year by Henry Miller. The mine contains more than 200 acres of mineral ground, nearly all of which is good diggings. The water supply is ample for a good season's work. The ground is especially productive of coarse gold, and in past seasons many nuggets of from \$40 to \$50 value were found. One season a \$1500 chunk was picked up on the exposed bedrock of these diggings.

The Spaulding placer mine, of Forest Creek, has been leased to James Davies,

formerly foreman of the Cook and Howland mine, and it will be operated under Mr. Davies' management this winter. The property is equipped with two giants and the water supply is derived through two ditches from Forest creek. By the aid of a reservoir the water supply is adequate for a night and day run of six to eight months. The bank is from 15 to 40 feet deep and carries good values in coarse gold. There are not many heavy boulders, and the gravel yields readily.

Quartz mines in the midst of a blooming and verdant valley is the situation of things in Williams district, south of Grants Pass. The Golden Eagle, Rising Star, Horsehead, Oregon Bonanza and Bone of Contention are located amidst the hopfields, orchards and farms of Williams Valley, and all are making good showings. The best developed and equipped is the Rising Star and Bone of Contention, the first having a five, and the latter an eight-stamp mill. The Bone of Contention is being opened up by the Williamsburg Mining company, under the management of T. F. Catterlin.

Another chapter is added to the interesting history of the Gold King mine of Josephine creek, formerly known as the "Frenchman's Lost Ledge." This last chapter is the filing of a suit in the circuit court to foreclose a miner's lien. The "Frenchman's Lost Ledge" was originally discovered and lost over 50 years ago by Louis Belfils, who lately spent 25 or 30 years in an attempt to relocate it, but he died without even striking a trace of the treasure that he had at one time been given a fleeting glimpse of but from which he was driven by hostile Indians. The ledge was discovered a few years ago by Bauer Brothers who took out some \$12,000 from the surface or oxidized ores of the vein. They later sold it to the Gold King Mining Company, and under the management of M. Marks of Seattle, the Company launched out on what gave promise of being a very brilliant career. Through lack of funds the development the proposition needed could not be given it, and as a result the company failed. Mining men believe the ledge to be a good one, but it will require a large expenditure to do deep development. The fortune taken from it was but the surface values of the outcroppings.

Briggs Claims Mortgaged.

One day last week there was filed in Josephine county a mortgage on two mining claims for \$140,000. The mortgage is given by E. F. Staples, of Ashland who is now in Chicago to David Briggs, and is upon the famous "Wounded Buck" and "Pay Streak" claims where is located the famous Briggs pocket from which was taken about \$35,000 of almost pure gold last summer. No work is being done on these claims at this time owing to the deep snow which covers the ground in that vicinity at this season of the year the location being high up in the Siskiyou mountains.

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