

Marble, Cinder Operation Growing Fast

By BETTY DOW

YREKA — A new industry has been established in Siskiyou County—an industry that has been 14 years in the process of becoming a reality—the realization of a dream and the aspirations of Ree Bowen, his wife, Marjorie, and several of their friends.

This new industry entails the production and sale of marble, both polished and uncut; together with increased tonnages of volcanic cinders, screened and graded; and other building stone and related products.

Officers of the new corporation are Orel Lewis, president; Carl Franson, vice president; Lendolyn Davenport, secretary-treasurer. The board of directors includes Ree Bowen, Carroll Birdwell, and Lemuel C. Sheppard.

Prior to the formation of this organization, an extensive exploration and survey has been made over the past 15 year period to ascertain the resources of available metallic and precious metals

for posterity."

After establishing beyond a shadow of a doubt, that there is a tremendous supply of marble, rhyolites, andesites, fossiliferous marble, feldspar, and many other materials available, and that there was little or no competitive production on the west coast of this material, Bowen then conducted a survey for marketing this building and facade stone.

He discovered first that the use of marble is being revived, particularly as a building material, that architects are stressing its use because new applications and preparations make marble less costly than it once seemed. Bowen also found that a large portion of the marble being used on the west coast was being shipped from Italy, Portugal, and a few of our eastern states. Metamorphosed rhyolite, such as found in Siskiyou County is very rare, because it is susceptible to a high polish, and the same holds true for the andesites and marbles.

Bowen wishes at this time, to make it understood, that if it were not for friends who helped him out, he never would have been able to make this survey, nor have brought this corporation into being. Friends such as the Bank of America, Houston's Home Supply, Millbourne's Electric Supply, Norm Kinney's Shell Service, and many others like these, who extended credit and a helping hand, even beyond what Bowen would have extended his own brothers.

Among those who further aided him were Orel Lewis, Walt Peters, Carl Franson, Sam Avery, Carroll Birdwell, and many others who gave Bowen financial aid when his family was in distress, such as the time their home was destroyed by fire, or there was sickness in the family, or just perhaps a word of encouragement and hope.

Special mention should be made that when Bowen was almost killed in a car accident last fall, Carroll Birdwell of Scott Valley,

in Korea for the government; and Max Forbes, resident engineer for Consolidated Copper, all of whom aided him in the confirmations and analyses of his vast store of these materials.

The group now has an investment of close to \$300,000 in materials and equipment, is now in production, and this new industry will be producing all types of aggregate building materials, facade stone, polished stone for floors, mantels, hearths, walls, patios, tombstones and novelties; roofing and patio granules, of many varieties of colors; plus materials for pre-cast and pre-slab blocks and slabs for all types for interior and exterior uses.

"Many potentials in the past have failed," Bowen said, "because of lack of interest."

"For instance, eastern firms are looking for feldspar of the right type, and we have it here in abundance. Why hasn't it been developed?" Bowen questioned.

Bowen continued to describe an-



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of both Southern Oregon and Northern California. Results of this extensive study disclosed that the potential in the field of non-metallics (building materials) was far greater than first anticipated, and greater in quantity and marketable material than was ever hoped for.

Bowen states that "there are tremendous sources of precious metals, but that outside interests, or firms located all over the country, in Seattle, Chicago, New York, England and other countries, have impounded our best prospects and are holding them

The value of these ornate stones is not determined by the present state—that is, in the hills where it is found—but with some ingenuity and the necessary investment, its true value can be established.

The "cinders" if they are the right kind, formed out of a pegmatite has many uses. Bowen, who has been in the business of producing cinders for the past five years, has found that production has developed to such a point that expansion is necessary, and it will be a major part of the new corporation.

stepped in and literally saved Bowen's contract with the state of Oregon, his investment and materials, besides giving him moral support when he was ready to give up and sell to outside interests.

Then, as engineers in their own respective fields, there are Orel Lewis, who held the post of Siskiyou County road commissioner for eight years, and now is a local engineer; Carl Yates, Yreka mining engineer; and J. W. Pressler of Grants Pass, a geologist and metallurgist, formerly an employee of the federal government; now

other material, which is silica, used for ferro-silicon, silicone, glass and many other uses; as well as many others, such as garnets, (pyrope, almandine, spessartite and andradite garnets) all found in the igneous and metamorphic formations, which are in Siskiyou County in large bodies or dykes.

One factor that is predominant in the formation of this corporation is that Bowen could foresee the future of this vast wealth of material at hand and by exercising his ingenuity proceeded to do something about it, and that his

many friends displayed their confidence in his ability, and helped him to bring about the formation of the corporation.

Anyone interested in seeing samples of this beautiful material may call at the firm's temporary office, 324 West Miner Street in Yreka.

WHAT'S UP FRONT

NEW YORK (UPI) Filter tips and mentholated brands now account for about 50 per cent of the U. S. cigarette market, according to trade sources.