

TAXPAYERS OF MARION COUNTY AND BUSINESS MEN'S LEAGUE

ASK THAT THE ROAD INTO THE SANTIAM MINES BE COMPLETED

BUSINESS MEN'S LEAGUE

BACKING ROAD PETITION

FOR OPENING THE GOLD CREEK MINING DISTRICT TO CONCENTRATOR PLANTS AND ESTABLISHING A SMELTER

At the request of many citizens, the Capital Journal presents the petition that was placed before the Marion county court at the regular session for this month and which said court took under advisement for further information. Since then the Salem Business Men's League has, through a committee, considered the matter and presents a set of resolutions going over the whole situation and strongly urging the completion of

the road into the Santiam mining district. The Business Men's League includes practically all the business men of this city and their endorsement of the proposition to complete the 2 1/2 miles of road yet lacking to open this district to the outside world for transportation by freight teams and automobiles ought to have considerable weight with the court. The petitioners are from all parts of the county and this improvement is in no sense a local project.

To the Honorable County Court of Marion County:

Your petitioners, whose names are signed hereto, being citizens and for the most part taxpayers of Marion county, respectfully request your honors to appropriate from the moneys at your disposal funds sufficient to complete the road now being built from the Elkhorn postoffice to the junction of Gold creek and the Little North Fork of the Santiam.

Your petitioners believe that no one public highway will contribute more to the industrial prosperity of Marion county than this road.

"For many years the great mineral wealth lying in this Gold Creek-Santiam district has been a matter of common knowledge. Hundreds of our citizens and taxpayers of this county are interested in the score of mines which will be made accessible by the completion of this road. "Contracts have been entered into by responsible parties for the erection of a large custom smelter at Gold creek so soon as the mines of the district are in condition to deliver the one hundred tons of ore per day.

"The opening up of this district for mining enterprises; the taking out of patents on the mining claims; the erection of the smelter, and the many proposed reduction works of various kinds will add more than \$1,000,000 to the taxable values of Marion county. As the properties lie in the government reserve they cannot now be taxed to the benefit of the county.

"During the past two years it is estimated that private parties interested in the district have spent some \$15,000 in building this road. The perversion of the funds from the purposes of developing the mines of the district to the building of the road, which is a great benefit to the county as a whole, and properly a public enterprise, has delayed and will continue to delay the great mineral development of the district.

"Your petitioners respectfully urge the county court to undertake the completion of this road, some 2 1/2 miles more only, and to take such steps and make such orders as your honorable court deems best for the economical administration of the funds appropriated by you.

"It is estimated that some \$5,000 or \$6,000 will complete the road to Gold creek, but the amount necessary your honors can better determine upon investigation.

"Respectfully submitted,"
W. H. Eldridge C. van Patten
F. J. Rice H. P. Chase
E. B. Millard G. Griffith Brown
J. R. Linn S. A. Manning
N. D. Elliott Henry B. Thiesen
Daniel J. Fry G. W. Eyre
J. M. Lawrence W. S. Low
John Carmichael H. S. Gile & Co.
J. C. Siegmund F. W. Spencer
Wm. Brown C. O. Constable
O. D. Bower W. E. Wilson
Frank Meredith A. O. Condit
Patton Bros. D. H. James
J. G. Barr Co. H. W. Meyers
Z. J. Riggs John W. Roland
Morse & Robertson W. Carlton Smith
Watt Shipp Ray L. Farmer
Otto J. Wilson Lot L. Pearce
N. Bler E. T. Barnes
D. B. Steeves J. G. Reigelman
Paul B. Wallace A. A. Lee
E. Eckenlin Hauser Bros
Edward Weller Geo. J. Pearce
J. A. Bernardi W. H. Steustloff
W. M. Siegmund Fred B. Waters
Frank M. Brown C. J. Carlton
J. W. Young E. G. Wallace

K. E. Burtess B. T. George
G. W. Hunter Wm. Thomas
Chas. Brooks R. B. Morehouse
Chet. Down M. W. Chamberlin
B. S. McGinnis E. L. Payne
L. Whitlock H. Winkley
A. L. Davis Peter Nystrom
W. H. Williams John Goodwin
Fred Schwab R. H. Dakin
Fred O. Hudson Ignaz Wetzel
Joe J. Buchheit Jos. Wilke
Frank Stupfel Otto Hassing
W. M. Cline Walter Johnson
Frank Enz Joseph Jenny
John Scott Paul S. Fuchs
John Bierward J. W. Ebner
Gregory Reiling C. Boedinghelmer

Resolutions from Salem Business Men's League.

Whereas, A petition has been presented to the county court of Marion county, signed by some five hundred of the leading citizens and taxpayers living in different parts of this county, requesting the county court to appropriate funds sufficient to complete the wagon road from Elkhorn into the Gold Creek-Santiam mining district; and

Whereas, We believe that no one public project now before our citizens is of more vital importance to the business interests of our whole county than the opening up for transportation of that great mineral district. Be it

Resolved, That this committee of the Business Men's League of Salem does earnestly urge the county court to make ample appropriation for the successful carrying through of this project in such form and manner as their honors, the county court, deem best for the economical completion of the same.

Resolved further, That a copy of these resolutions be presented to the aforesaid county court, to be filed with the petition in this matter; and that these resolutions be published in full in both of the daily papers of the City of Salem.

We present to the citizens of Marion county and respectfully call attention of the county court to the reasons given below for this action on our part in requesting the appropriation.

First. This wagon road will make accessible a mining district which for twenty years, by common report, as well as in the opinion of experts, contains great mineral wealth in gold, silver, copper and lead. Unless this district can be made accessible for transportation of machinery, supplies and reduction plants, its great wealth must remain buried and unavailable for the county for taxation and useless to any of its taxpayers.

Second. There are already organized and operating to a greater or less extent some score of mining companies, of which the following are perhaps the best known:

The Gold Creek Mining & Milling company.
The Freeland Consolidated Mining company.
The Electric Mining company.
The Black Eagle Mining company.
The Lewis & Clark Mining company.
The Sunnyside Mining company.
The Ogle Mountain.
The Silver King.
The Mineral Harbor.
The Royal Arch.
The Smith's Superior.
The Buche Bros., and
The North Santiam.

Besides many mining claims have been staked out by private parties, with assessment work done, but companies not yet organized. The property of these mining companies will total in extent several thousand acres. This lies now in the government reserve and cannot be taxed. It is our belief that the opening up of this district will be followed by the immediate "taking out of patents" on these mining claims and thus bringing these thousands of acres within the county for taxation.

Third. The opening up and development of the district will be followed by the erection of a smelter, which has already been contracted for by the three mining companies first named above, conditioned on the building of this road and the raising of funds sufficient to put these mines in shape to deliver the ores. In our judgment, in addition to the smelter, many if not all of the companies of the district must and will sooner or later erect other reduction plants, such as concentrators, crushers, roasting furnaces, and particularly power plants. Many of these companies above given have already announced their intention to build such plants. All these reduction works which would follow the opening up of the district mean greater assets for the county assessments and taxation, and their operation will provide labor and wages for hundreds of employees. The estimate made by the county assessor some time ago places the probable increase in the assessable values of Marion county ultimately by opening up this district at \$1,000,000.

Fourth. The completing of this road will help the improvement and development of properties in which thousands of our citizens, stockholders in these various companies, are interested, and, in our judgment, will in this way be of direct benefit to more citizens of Marion county than the completion of any other public road now contemplated.

Fifth. This county, by an order entered by the previous county court, has already taken upon itself the building of the bridges for this road. The present county court, in carrying out that decree, on the petition of many of the taxpayers of the county, has already spent \$2,500 on these bridges. It would, therefore, seem that when a few thousand dollars more would render this district immediately accessible for improvement and development that it is good "public policy" to carry this project through at once to a successful conclusion.

Sixth. The Gold Creek Mining & Milling Co., the Black Eagle, the Free land Consolidated, and the Electric company have spent during the past year and one-half, we are reliably informed, some \$15,000 or more on this road, thus showing their good faith and assuring everyone of their immediate intention to improve their properties on a large scale. Very few of the other companies (except the Lewis & Clark) have contributed to the road.

Upon the rapid development and readiness to deliver their ores of the very companies which have spent all these thousands depends the immediate erection of a large custom smelter by outside capital. Therefore, the using of the money of these four companies, which should be spent in the mines to get them ready for the smelter, and the diversion of this fund to the building of a public road (which will be turned over to the county on completion and which will benefit perhaps a score of other mining companies just as much, besides the county as a whole) this diversion of funds is manifestly unjust and results only in delaying the development and productivity of this district.

Believing, therefore, that the opening up of this district will result in largely reducing the taxes of the citizens of this county and in the ultimate employment of hundreds of our citizens in the mining work; that it will mean the bringing to our county of large outside capital for the development and operation of these mines, in addition to the smelter already contracted for, and will insure to all lines of business within our county an ultimate great increase of commerce and prosperity, we, as citizens and taxpayers, earnestly request the county court to take such steps as it deems necessary for the immediate completion of this road out of the public funds.

Signed by Committee of Salem Business Men's League:

CHAS. S. WELLER,
HERMAN W. BARR,
THEODORE ROTH,
H. C. EPLEY,
E. C. PRICE,
AUG. HUCKESTEIN,
C. M. EPPLEY,
Pres. Business Men's League.

W. H. Jarvis Geo. Koberstein Karl Zoller Henry Pipp
H. C. Whitlock Henry Joost Wm. Giebler Mike Treson
Jared Karstetter Ed Cherrington Jas. P. Giebler Jos. J. Zuber
L. H. Fischer Late Yates Guy M. Vail Engelbert Grimm
J. Wolford Bert Yates F. H. Colpitts Christ Swenke
Chas. Zimmerman C. E. Olmstead L. T. Dike Alex Scharbach
H. R. Smith H. Winkley Hubert Davis John Butsch
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A. F. Blackerby John Nelan Harry H. Smith Frank X. Ruide
G. D. Bowen C. D. Matheny T. L. Lawson Jos. Esch
G. A. Bock Milton Miller W. R. Nevitt N. Michel
T. Markland E. Slaters S. C. Sorensen Joseph Bochsler
O. L. Hattberg J. H. McConnell C. J. Perrine N. G. Michel
Louis I. Rauch Carl C. Hess H. D. Koontz John Kirch
W. E. Loughmiller C. T. Williams J. M. Sears Alfred Klinger
A. G. Anderson W. L. Shier G. W. Nevitt W. M. Yarrow
Louis Loos R. E. Peery J. Goeders Thomas Fuchs
J. P. Hunter R. M. Peery John Mielke Max Matti
G. A. Webb L. C. Craft J. Hammon Anton Poeppling
W. M. Titus H. H. King Jos. Korinek Chris Limbach
T. B. Riggs J. T. King Gus B. Trask Frank Blume
J. M. Dinsmoore G. L. Savage A. Fischer Martin Limbach
Dick Craft L. M. Shoemaker J. T. Kearns M. J. VanValkenburg
Alba Rockwell A. D. Gardner W. Richardson Joseph Fisher A. W. Holmes
M. Reine G. L. Brown C. F. Loose Em. Olivetti
Wm. Greer A. L. Shreve W. L. Freres Jack Hassel
J. H. Murphy S. Polries Frank Lesley W. C. Mills
E. E. Heatt Joe Sestak J. H. Pennebaker Isidor Schner
L. N. Stewart J. A. Gehlen H. F. Pennebaker Peter Baum
G. E. Acker H. J. Marking Fred Rock Thos. Relling
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