

Elk City Mining News.

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ELK CITY, IDAHO COUNTY, IDAHO, SATURDAY DECEMBER 10, 1904.

\$2.00 The Year.

SOUTH FORK ROAD

Elk City Board of Trade Pledges \$500 Cash and \$500 in Work.

That the people of Elk City believe in no "pent up Utica" foolishness was demonstrated at the regular meeting of the Board of Trade on Sunday, December 4th, when a resolution was carried unanimously to the effect that so soon as the construction of the South Fork wagon road had been decided upon beyond a doubt, the Board of Trade would pay into that fund \$500 in money and \$500 in work.

The subject was discussed thoroughly in all its bearings, and while it was the consensus of opinion that Elk City could get along very well without the proposed road, there were other less favored sections contiguous to her which would be greatly handicapped unless the road was built, and with the true spirit which is the basis of all sound public policy, they are willing to waive the advantages accruing to them under temporarily existing conditions to the end that their less fortunate neighbors be placed to better advantage. It was also touched upon and thoroughly understood by all, that the greatly extended field of industry which would be opened by this highway would present, indirectly, opportunities which would far exceed those of the present, which, direct though they may be, are limited.

M. J. Sweeney was appointed a committee of one to confer with the N. P. officials and secure data based upon that company's survey as to possible cost of construction per mile of wagon road as compared with a railroad over the same course; also the distance from Harpster to the Elk City-Hump road where it crosses Relief creek.

President Andrew Prader was instructed to appoint a committee of three upon whom devolves the duty of communicating with the various mine owners, commercial bodies, or any who are interested in the success of this enterprise, with the view of securing permanent organization. This committee consists of G. L. L. Baskett, H. D. Poyneer and J. L. C. McCaffrey.

The Board, while offering this donation, purposely refrained from outlining any scheme of organization or procedure further than that already mentioned above, believing that the camps more directly interested should be heard first along this line; it, in the meantime, holding itself prepared to co-operate in any feasible scheme which may be agreed upon.

After settling some points concerning its own organization the Board adjourned till the first Sunday in January, 1905.

of from \$2 to \$17 in silver and lead, which is as good, if not better, than my first assays on the Poorman, and better than any of the croppings on the Tiger, except where the ore comes to the surface.

"The value of these claims that I have bonded is based, first, upon their location, and, second, on the fact that there is not a mine in that section that had anything like its good showing to start on, and which has been developed to any great extent that has not proven to be a dividend payer in the course of time.

"On the four patented claims in the Cooney group, on all of which more or less work has been done, the showing is better, if anything, than on the Marsh group, but as they are higher up the mountain, they can be worked to better advantage through the Marsh tunnel which is being worked."

Mr. Burke's former prominence as a successful mining operator in this district lends a special interest in his reappearance here. When asked to give some facts in regard to his former operations here, he replied:

"I bonded the Tiger on July 10, 1884, for \$35,000, which I developed and sold portions of it at odd times. After paying for the property I received \$70,000 for the last one-fifth that I sold.

"I bonded the Poorman in the fall of the same year for \$30,000, and sold seven-eighths of it to a Butte company headed by Marcus Daily, Patsey Clark and Major B. C. Kingsbury, at the rate of \$137,000 for the property, on which after bonding I had done only about 60 feet of work up to the time the negotiations commenced. I received for the one-eighth which I kept, after getting several dividends, \$62,500.

"Since that time I have done no mining in this vicinity until the bonding of these properties. I have been here ninety days after an absence of several years, during which time I have been mining in British Columbia, the state of Washington, Alaska, California, Nevada, Arizona and old Mexico, and I return to my first love because I think it the greatest silver-lead mining section in the United States. During my thirty-six years of mining I have come to the conclusion that silver-lead prospects, as a rule, are more apt to make mines than any others. Another reason for my return to this district is that I find as the old producers are gradually being worked out, as all mines are in the course of time, there are new ones springing up from the prospects as they are developed to take their places such, for instance as the Hercules, Hecla, Alice and numerous others that were not known in my early days in the Coeur d'Alenes.

Makes a Deal.

The Thunder Mountain News says S. S. Whitaker and F. A. Roesch made a deal on the Little Jumbo mining claim this week. The property was taken over by an eastern syndicate and the cash paid down, S. F. Hunt acting as agent for the purchasers. It is understood that extensive development work will be begun on the property next season by a new Thunder Mountain mining company.

BUYS CYANIDE PLANT

Wm Hogan Secures Republic Cyanide Plant For His Company.

The 400-ton cyanide plant of the Republic Power and Cyaniding company, which was recently sold to the Bradley Engineering Co., was sold last week by them to William Hogan, president of the Crooked River Mining and Milling company, of Orogrande, Elk City district, who secured the plant for his company. A new No. 5 Gates crusher was also

purchased. The plant is as good as new, having seen less than a year's service. The vats are of steel. It is said here by those who are familiar with the plant that its acquisition by Mr. Hogan is in the nature of a windfall. It is understood that Clark & Schofield will move the freight, which will aggregate 100 tons, from the N. P. terminus at Stites to Orogrande.

Orogrande Items.

[From our special correspondent.]

The C. R. M. & M. company's sawmill was started Tuesday. Natwick & Bullock are running the mill. They expect to cut from 6,000 to 10,000 feet per day.

The company has a crew of carpenters of work on the new building. Walter Cook is scratch boss.

Contracts have been let to E. H. Hansen and Bud Kirkaid for sawing and hauling logs.

R. A. Rogers arrived in camp Sunday. He will resume work on the Tamalipas group, which lays a mile and a half north-west of Orogrande. It is owned by the Tamalipas Mining company of Oakesdale, Wn.

J. W. Duffield came to Orogrande Monday on business and returned the next day to Elk.

M. J. Sweeney and Andrew Prader arrived in Orogrande last Tuesday night on business.

There is eight men at work on the Oregon mine, on Summit Flat. They will be ready to hoist in a few days. It is rumored that they will have their 4-stamp mill hauled in before January 1.

Out From Dixie.

George Brodock is out from Dixie this week. He stopped over a few days on his way to Clearwater for the winter. He reports the Comstock shut down for the winter.

In Fashion.

M. J. Sweeney returned to camp Sunday after an extended absence. Mr. Sweeney came in via Grangeville and the Hump. When seen by the Newsmen he said he knew nothing new which would prove of interest. Asked if he had anything up his sleeve in the line of new operations he said: "Well, dykes are fashionable, it seems, and I try to keep within reasonable distance of the fashions."

On the Winifred.

F. H. Harper made a flying trip to Elk this week from the Coeur d'Alenes to look after his mining interests here. Mr. Harper, with whom is associated James Keith of Spokane, owns the Winifred group, a very promising property situated on the east end of the well known Blue Ribbon. He left on Tuesday's stage for the outside where he will proceed at once to Burke, Idaho, and thence to his promising new find, the Champion, which is believed to be an extension to the celebrated Hercules mine, of which Mr. Harper was the original locator.

Luray Group.

This group is situated on Kirks fork of American river, about three and one half miles east of town. It is the east extension of the well known Providence group. There has been extensive surface work done along the course of the ledge which is opened up to good advantage at several points. This property is owned by V. G. Keller, Miles Rice and George Dove. Winter quarters were recently built and a 150-foot tunnel started which, when completed, will cut the ledge at a vertical depth of 100 feet. It is the intention of the owners to prosecute this work to completion as soon as possible.

Located a Dyke.

E. J. Comley, who has been prospecting near the mouth of Crooked river in the interest of himself and Mrs. M. A. Parr, reports finding a dyke of great promise and has located several claims thereon.

More Dyke Discoveries.

B. B. Swarts came in Thursday from Crooked river and reports several new discoveries in dykes in that section, some of the rock showing native gold. He located five claims on one ore body which, as is claimed by every other dyke owner in that section, is an extension of the Hogan property. One enthusiastic claim owner says he has a dyke compared with which Hogan's is a mere stringer. However, there is no reasonable doubt that the new finds are in course of the strike of that particular mineral zone, and there appears no good reason why some if not all these, should not develop into important producers.

Effects of the Drouth.

The unprecedented drouth this fall, followed as it was by severe frosts before snowfall, has had a bad effect on the output of this district in common with Dixie and the Hump. In this district the shortage of water put a period to the placer operations unusually early in the season, and later has forced a shutdown of the South Fork mill, operated by Espey & House, and renders impossible the resumption of the Boyer mill as planned by Andrew Prader, which unfortunate backset was followed in turn by the forced closing down of the Comstock at Dixie this week from the same cause. Development work, however, it is understood, will be prosecuted diligently the coming winter in anticipation of an unusually prosperous season next year in this and all contiguous districts.

W. A. CLARK, Jr.

Inspecting the McKinley Gold Mine at Lucile.

The Grangeville Standard says W. A. Clark, Jr., and D. W. Stickney, a well known mining expert, made a hurried trip up the Salmon river this week. The purpose of their trip was to look at the McKinley mining property in which Mr. Clark has been interested for some time. Reports on the Salmon river have it that a large deal is pending, and that if Clark takes hold of the property there can be no doubt that it will make a mine.

George Losie is the present manager of the company. He is a mining man of recognized ability and his work has brought the property out in good shape. He claims to have \$800,000 in sight at the present time. He has tapped his lead at a depth of 400 feet, and the showing is excellent at this depth. The trouble at the present time is that they have no water near the property and it will require a large expenditure to put the mine in working order. The company, if it retains possession of the property, is in doubt as to what the next move will be. Some are in favor of putting up a mill with the showing they have, while Mr. Losie and some of his partners are in favor of making a still larger showing, so that they can put up a larger mill when they build. They feel that the small mill would be a waste of money, especially since it will cost them considerable to get water.

BURKE GETS A BOND

On the Marsh and Cooney Groups in the Coeur d'Alenes.

John M. Burke this week secured a bond on the Marsh and Cooney groups of claims, adjoining and lying alongside the Tiger-Poorman, says the Idaho Press. The marsh group consists of five claims and is owned by Mark Cooney, Frank Murphy, John Kelly and Peter Lambert. The Cooney group consists of seven claims, the various owners of which transferred their interests to Mark Cooney for the purpose of making the deal with Mr. Burke.

Mr. Burke represents a syndicate of eastern capitalists, and the two groups, although bonded separately, will be handled as one. He declines to state the figure for which the claims had been bonded, but his conversation leads to the conclusion that it was a large one. Speaking of the property he said:

"Development work under my direction is now in progress. When the bond was made there was a tunnel on the Marsh claim about 100 feet in length, which for a distance of about 55 or 60 feet shows as fine a vein of quartz as I first had on the Poorman when I worked it in 1884 before reaching the great bodies of lead ore. The work now under way is a continuation of this tunnel. I think the vein we are following is the Poorman, which in my opinion comes through the side line of the O'Neil claim and enters this ground. In the face of the tunnel there is three feet of quartz which gives assay returns