

Elk City Mining News.

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ELK CITY, IDAHO COUNTY, IDAHO, SATURDAY DECEMBER 31, 1904.

\$2.00 The Year.

WILL BE THINGS A DOIN'

On the Hillside Group in the Spring, Says
Manager E. F. Gordon.

Mr. E. F. Gordon, superintendent of the Hillside group on Big creek, returned from a trip to Portland where he went in the interest of his company a short time ago. Mr. Gordon reports meeting with the most flattering success and is, if possible, more enthusiastic than ever. To the request that he give the MINING NEWS an outline of the company's operations in the near future, his experience on the trip out to the claims etc., Mr. Gordon said:

"We have had a very successful trip. Going in a week ago was the hardest ten miles of snowshoeing in soft snow. Mr. Hawthorn stood up to it like an old timer, however, and everything has come out according to schedule. R. Puelz arrived from Cripple Creek the evening before we started back, to perform his annual work on the Helen Gould group of claims, which gave us a broken trail to come out on.

"It is an inspiring sight to see the vast preparations that the great Hogan mine is making for their new 500-ton cyanide plant. With the definite results that they have obtained by their most exhaustive series of tests which extend over a period of four years of careful experimenting, we can all look forward with the certainty of a bright future for this portion of Central Idaho.

"The Hillside Mining & Milling company's properties which we went to inspect, are situated nine miles southwesterly from the Hogan mine, at Orogrand. They consist of seven quartz and one placer claim. The main dyke of this proposition is over 100 feet wide, all carrying values. The two walls, hanging and foot, have concentrated pay streaks from four to eight feet wide with average values of \$12 per ton in gold. This great reef is opened along its strike at intervals for 2000 feet, every opening showing strong bodies of pay ore, which can all be reduced on the ground and the values practically all extracted. Our company is in fine shape financially and otherwise. We propose to get in hand all the resources necessary to make a thoroughly developed mine before we start work, so that when we do start, success will be assured. The present development proves beyond a doubt that there is a rich mine to be had by competent and systematic development. Next spring as soon as the roads are dry and good, we expect to start our work, when we will have favorable weather conditions. 2000 feet of tunneling and crosscutting and we will be ready for our reduction plant. This proposition will be paying dividends within twelve months from the time work is started."

to build smelters in place of mills where it would be impossible to successfully operate a smelter on the material available. A smelter requires not only an abundance of ore, but also usually a large amount of iron oxide and lime for flux and unfortunately the flux is generally devoid of other values than those of a chemical nature which is suitable for flux. It is a serious mistake to equip a mine with a reduction plant before the mine is prepared to supply a sufficient amount of ore to keep the plant in steady operation, but it is a much more serious—an inexcusable—mistake, in this day, to build a smelter when a mill is required, or vice versa, and worse still to put in a reduction plant of any kind where none at all is needed. Still these things are being done constantly; each year sees chronicled the usual number of failures where a competent management may have made a success. There is an old saying to the effect that 'a little knowledge is dangerous,' and it is fully exemplified in the man who builds a smelter on a mine which should have a mill.

Gold Dove Group.

This property is situated at the head of French gulch, close to the top of the divide between Red river and Red Horse creek. It consists of three claims and was located in 1902 by John Masson, J. B. Henniger, J. R. Vent, Pat Brenner and Hugh McCool. Since its discovery there has been a tunnel run on the ledge a distance of 230 feet, besides numerous crosscuts, showing the ledge to average over five feet in width with a pay streak of very rich ore accompanying it the entire length of the tunnel, which varies in width from six inches to three feet, till the main ore shoot is encountered when it widens to 13 feet. This body gives values exceeding \$10 per ton, generally free. The development contemplated for this winter consists of a 60-foot winze and an upraise to the surface, a distance of 70 feet, which will be opened about mid-way of the tunnel between portal and breast, and will be carried through three feet of high grade decomposed ore which will be screened as taken out, and that of sufficient fineness will be cyanided. Construction of vats for that purpose will be begun immediately. A large timber shed and blacksmith shop has been built recently in place of the one destroyed last summer by fire. The extreme depth attained thus far, which is on the main ore shoot, escapes the writer's memory, but it is greatly in excess of 100 feet. It is safe to say that with the future developments carried out as planned, the Gold Dove will be classed among the producing mines of the camp and Idaho county.

GOOD WORK

On the Buffalo Chief Group in Buffalo Hump District.

The MINING NEWS takes pleasure in publishing the following report sent in to it by the Buffalo Hump Mining company through O. C. Jansen, the secretary. The report was made at the request of the paper recently sent out:

"We began operations July 12, by starting a tunnel on the 350 foot level on the Buffalo Chief

SALE POSTPONED.

American Eagle Company to Pay off Indebtedness and Redeem Property.

A letter to the MINING NEWS from P. E. Stookey, receiver for the American Eagle Consolidated Gold Mining company, says the court has made an order extending the time for the sale of that property from December 30th to January 31, 1905. This was done to give the company a chance to meet the indebtedness itself, which, it is understood, they are prepared to do.

A. W. Boyd, formerly superintendent of the American Eagle, came in on Monday's stage to look after that company's interests. To the Newsman Mr. Boyd said: "The company will pay off all indebtedness and will probably resume operations in the near future. At present I will have the annual work performed on the Fishhawk group which joins the American Eagle.

S. C. Hawthorn.

S. C. Hawthorn, who came in with E. F. Gordon to inspect the Hillside group, on Big creek, last week, made the NEWS office a pleasant call on his way outside. During his conversation Mr. Hawthorn said referring to his impressions of the property visited: "It is certainly a great proposition. I have never seen such an amount of rock all of which carries good free values. But that, I am told, is the case with this entire section. It is certainly a most remarkable country. I have recently visited four of the leading mining sections in the western states, merely on a tour of observation, and I am free to say they can produce nothing to equal what I have seen in this country so far as surface showings are concerned. And another thing, you are laboring under a misapprehension if you understand that your district has a bad name in Portland or on the coast. Such is not the case. The trouble has been, that this country is not at all widely known. Happily, this condition is being rapidly overcome through the efforts of the MINING NEWS, which is rapidly acquiring a standing of the highest order among the rank and file of mining investors.

"This country," continued Mr. Hawthorn, "will be my future field of operations. It is good enough for me."

Mr. Hawthorn left for Portland on Sunday's stage.

Work on the Cannon Ball.

Ed Roach, who sold the Cannon Ball group to Matt Lundin, has been doing assessment for this year. He reports good results thus far. This group is situated on Galena creek, about one-half mile south of the American Eagle. The group comprises three claims, the Cannon Ball, Queen Esther and Kittie McCrossin.

Still they Come.

The Inter-State Mining & Milling company, organized at Asotin Wash., under the laws of that state, is the latest addition to Elk City's steadily growing list of mining companies. This company was organized to operate the Liberty group, comprising six claims situated near the confluence of the Crooked and Clearwater rivers, and owned by George Esh and Billie Allen. The capital stock is 1,000,000 shares, about half of which will be placed in the treasury. The outstanding stock will be pooled for two years. In fact, every detail is being arranged with an eye single to making the enterprise a thoroughly legitimate proposition. The mineral deposit is a dyke, said to be similar in all respects to the Hogan property.

Changes Hands.

W. A. Russell sold the Alma group of three claims recently to S. W. Smith. The consideration stated is \$1,250. The property sold adjoins the famous Buster on the east. The principal claim of the group was quite well known several years ago under the name of Redstone, and at one time was equipped with a mill.

Leases the South Fork.

R. W. Brownell has taken a one year lease on Abe House's interest in the South Fork group and is laying in his supplies this week preparatory to beginning active operations.

French Group Sold.

J. D. Maxwell returned to camp Wednesday from Spokane where he went with his partner, Peter Proulx, to close the deal on the French group, which, as announced by the MINING NEWS several weeks ago, was bonded to Prof. J. C. Garvin, acting for eastern capital. Mr. Maxwell says the purchase price approximates \$100,000. Work will begin shortly on the property under the management of Mr. Garvin.

DID NOT APPEAL.

Local Land Office Decision in Land Case Stand.

Saturday was the last day the Northern Pacific had to file an appeal from the local land office in the case of some valuable mining claims in Shoshone county, hearing upon which was heard October 14th and a decision rendered in favor of the land remaining under the mineral classification. On account of the number of mining groups on the land in question the decision was an important one and it was thought the railroad company would appeal to the general land office in its effort to have the tract declared non-mineral.

However, the decision does not effect the whole territory in the region over which there is controversy, the attorneys for the miners and railroads agreeing that the outcome of the present case should be confined to those lands upon which rights had been taken under the mineral act. The whole region which the railroad company desires declared non-mineral embraces some 29 townships. The land upon which mining claims have been established embraces a stretch of 20 miles long and three miles wide in the east side of Shoshone county and running to the state line.

Among those now in possession of their properties without further land office litigation through appeal of the railroad companies are the Wampum group, Mount group, LeRoy, Bald Mountain, Alpena, Kimmel, Rochester, Log

Cabin and Tenderfoot groups. Several of the groups, notably the Wampum, embraces several claims.

The case was hotly contested by the miners and came up this time on a rehearing on their showing that at the previous hearing, when a finding was found for the company, sufficient notice had not been given them, inasmuch as the notice of publication was printed in the St. Maries Courier. The Courier was claimed to have been the paper nearest to the land, but as the miners lived in another county they did not see the paper and the publication notice. The notice of publication for a rehearing was printed at Wallace. — Coeur d'Alene Journal.

Look Before You Leap.

The well known tendency of new mining companies to install reduction plants on their properties before demonstrating the kind actually needed is commented on by the Idaho Press in the following interesting manner:

"In the early days in mining in the west almost every mining state and district saw smelters built on all sorts of mines. In the majority of cases mills, not smelters, were what were required. The mountains of Montana, Colorado, Idaho and Utah were filled with these monuments of mistaken enterprise and ignorance of metallurgical requirements. This was thirty years ago, but today there is still disposition on the part of those ignorant of the conditions essential to success in smelting operations