

Elk City Mining News.

VOL. X No. 4.

ELK CITY, IDAHO COUNTY, IDAHO THURSDAY, JANUARY 9, 1913.

\$2.00 The Year

STATE GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

Effort to Be Made at the Present Legislature.

A united effort will be made at the present legislature to get an appropriation for a state geological survey. Idaho is the last state to take up the discussion of a state survey. All the states in the union have a survey, and all find the data very useful, whether it is for agriculture or mining, and it is the only way that help can be obtained from the United States geological survey. The following are some interesting facts about the benefits derived from such survey:

Idaho is in a great mineral belt. Neighboring states are great mining commonwealths, and the geological conditions that have made them so are found in Idaho, yet according to the report of the State Mine Inspector there were in 1911 barely a dozen profitable mines in this state, and these were nearly all in one district. A geological survey can do great service in correcting this condition, and this alone should be sufficient reason for forming such an organization.

The work of prospecting is the basis of the mining industry, yet few prospectors have sufficient knowledge of mineralogy and geology to get the maximum good out of their efforts. A geological survey should point out the regions in which favorable formations are found, thus enabling prospectors to concentrate their efforts in promising localities, and to abandon useless work in others.

After an ore-deposit is located the profitable mining of it is dependent upon the understanding of the geology of the district. The importance of this is shown by the fact that all large mining companies employ, in addition to the regular force of mining engineers, expert geologists whose duty is to study geological structures. These men command large salaries, and would not be employed by these corporations if there was not tangible value to their work.

One of the great needs of Idaho's mining industry is publicity. Capital has apparently circled around this state in seeking mining investments, and to this fact much of the apathy in the mineral industry must be attributed. One of the functions of a state geological survey would be to issue a report calling attention to the mineral resources of the state; and from time to time to publish reports on the important mining districts.

DISASTROUS FIRE

SWEEPS KOOSKIA

Business Section Wiped Out Thursday Night.

Kooskia, the prosperous town of the Clearwater section, at the confluence of the South and Middle Fork, was fireswept Thursday night and as a result nothing remains but the residence section and here and there a business house. The fire was discovered at about 11:30 and before the midnight hour practically the entire business portion of the town had been destroyed

and loss of close on to \$100,000 sustained.

While the loss is a heavy one and the town temporarily in a bad plight, the people are optimistic and are already planning for the rebuilding of a larger and better trade center.

It is not known just how or where the fire started, as it had gained considerable headway when discovered.

While the fire has wiped out most of the business section, with the exception of three, the residence portion of the town was saved and the people are not left without homes to shelter them. Among the buildings saved was the school house which, while on fire three times, was saved. The mill, the bank, the Mountaineer office, two hardware stores, the Pring block and the Forest Reserve office also escaped.

The Financial Report of the Christmas Committee

The finance committee of the Christmas entertainment have made their report, and it shows a good balance in the treasury.

There was \$22.45 left over from 1911; cash received in 1912 was \$61; expenses \$54.10, leaving a balance of \$29.35. B. C. Austin is treasurer.

Kills Cougar on Road

Near Callender.

Art Meyers, who has just come out from the Jumbo mine, in the Hump, brought with him a fine pelt from a cougar that he killed on the road out.

As he was coming up the grade from Callender, two cougar started to cross the road ahead of him, he fired a shot at them, and the smaller one took to a tree, the large one going down the hill to the gulch. Art shot the one in the tree and skinned it, bringing the pelt with him, which while not very large is a fine specimen.

Mr. Meyers reports the snow at the Jumbo about four feet, but states that it is snowing very fast, and that there may be a heavy fall before spring.

Filling stopes with old sand or slime from dumps has been done at a cost of only 5c per ton in some mines in Western Australia.

R. McGregor, Herman Brown and Jim Murphy have gone to the Center Star mine. McGregor will make a survey of the underground workings.

We are headquarters for everything good to eat. O. C. Lapp Co.

The Rev. Irl R. Hicks 1913 Almanac.

The Rev. Irl R. Hicks Almanac for 1913 is now ready. It is the most splendid number of this popular Year Book ever printed. Its value has been more than ever proven by remarkable fulfillments of its storm, weather and earthquake forecasts this year. Professor Hicks justly merits the confidence and support of all the people. Don't fail to send 35c for his 1913 Almanac, or only one dollar for his splendid Magazine and Almanac one year. The best one dollar investment possible in any home or business. Send to Word and Works Publishing Company, 3401 Franklin Ave., St. Louis, Mo.

SHOULD ASK FEDERAL HELP

Elk City and Grangeville Ought to Get Busy Now.

The mining industry of this county has been retarded by the lack of transportation more than any one thing and if the camps were more accessible by good roads there would be today three fold the prosperity that now exists. Take the Elk camp, for example; if there was a good wagon road up the South Fork from Grangeville, many an investor who has visited the camp would come back enthusiastic over the prospects, and considerable capital would have been interested. But the way it is now those who make the trip are quite often worn out and disgusted, due to the hardships of the trip. The people of the mountain section should take the initiative and make a move for a road up the South Fork from Grangeville.

If a movement was started by the Elk people, Grangeville could be counted upon to join in with them and do everything in her power to further the object. There is no good reason why such an appropriation could not be secured, the camp is within the forest reserve and the government has always maintained that it is desirous of assisting the development of the reserves. A united effort asking for an appropriation of \$75,000 from the national government for road construction is worth the effort which is very apt to be crowned with success.—Free Press.

Deputy Sheriff C. S. Thompson has gone to the Hump to serve legal papers.

How Frostbite Comes.

The first effect of cold on the skin is to contract the tiny vessels that connect arteries and veins. Arteries are vessels that take blood from the heart. Veins are those that bring blood back to the heart, and the connecting vessels are called capillaries. While these little vessels are contracting the skin itself becomes tenser. In a few moments or minutes the effects change. The tiny nerves whose stimulation caused contraction of the capillaries are more or less paralyzed, and the vessels dilate so the skin gets red. Soon the veins are dilated, and the skin becomes bluish. Then the nutrient fluid in the skin (the lymph) is coagulated, and the stretched skin ruptures or "chaps." If the cold is more severe its action is deeper, and the blood itself may be coagulated. This is frostbite.

Oppressive Politeness.

M. Ernest Lavisso has turned aside from his historical labors to relate a bonnet by his friend Massenet. It was at a time when the musician was changing apartments and the historian inquired the motive of the change. "I was too well known there," Massenet replied. "Everybody was too oppressively polite. Only the other day I happened to buy a penny stamp in a tobacconist's shop. 'Pray do not trouble to carry it,' said the tobacconist. 'It will give us the greatest pleasure to send it round to you.'—Westminster Gazette.

Evolution of a Play.

"They tell me that plays are built up. Is that so?" "It is," answered the playwright. "Here is the method. I cop a joke. I tell it around, and it goes. Next I make a dialogue of it. Then I add a character, and it becomes a vaudeville sketch. If it still goes good we make three acts of it, and then it's a play."—Kansas City Journal.

While He Waited.

Little Girl—Mr. Lingerlong, is a quietus something you wear? The Young Man—No, Miss Kitty. Why do you ask that? Little Girl—'Cause I heard sister tell mamma the other day she was going to put a quietus on you the next time you came.—Chicago Tribune.

A FEW ENCOURAGING RAILROAD RUMORS

Reports Indicates Much Activity This Year.

In summing up the railroad construction for 1913, the Boise Statesman gives some very interesting conclusions, of course with Boise the hub around which all of the projected lines evolve. The Statesman closes its pipe dreams by saying: "Boise and southern Idaho are to have quicker, cheaper and more direct outlets to the Pacific coast for their surplus products; north and south Idaho are to be brought into direct communication, one with the other, as the immediate result of railway development now under consideration by the men who control the traffic destiny of the nation."

The part of the article which is of interest to Lemhi readers in reference to possible activities or suggested activities of the Gilmore & Pittsburg, is as follows:

Continue the line west to Weiser, then on north over the Pacific & Idaho Northern, to New Meadows; then down the Little Salmon to Riggins, where it will tap the present survey of the Gilmore & Pittsburg on the Salmon river. From this point keep right on with an easy grade into Lewiston, where connections are made with all points in the north.

But at Lewiston there is another element that enters. From this point there is to be water transportation to the coast, and it is unnecessary to dwell on the importance of this factor in the transportation of lumber, live stock, farm products of all kinds, and in fact all products in which the cost of living figures heavily.

This is the first step. For years the Short Line has figured on extending its main line through this city, leaving what is known as the main line at a point near Owinza. The movement by the opposition to construct a line from Wells through the Twin Falls tract on to Boise and Lewiston has greatly stimulated the Harriman interests, and this time the talk of building the Owinza cutoff into Boise has much that is tangible back of it.

But this is not all. The taking over of the Idaho Northern (Dewey road) by the Oregon Short Line will, while tapping a rich section of country, give the Harriman interests a long lap in the race for the north. The Idaho Northern is to be completed with all haste to Payette Lakes. From there it is no serious matter to push on to Riggins to a connection with the Gilmore & Pittsburg, and from Riggins it would be an even race between the Harrimans and the opposition to Lewiston and connection with all the roads of the north.

If, as has been conjectured by the wise ones, the Gilmore & Pittsburg is backed by the Hill interests, central Idaho will receive her share of railroad construction next year. It is generally understood that Hill is building great expectations of reaching the coast at Coos Bay. It is known that McArthur Bros., who built the G. & P. have a hundred mile contract from Coos

Bay eastward and have been building the line since last fall.

In the press dispatches it is stated that the Hill interests have placed an order for equipment to the extent of ten million dollars, the new equipment being entirely new cars and engines. From the fact that the Hill lines have invested such a sum for equipment just at this time, many conclude that the purpose is to connect up the links between the regular system and the various smaller lines, which are claimed to be Hill projects, so as to enter San Francisco in time to handle the immense traffic for the exposition.

The Recorder has built so many railroads on paper in the past half dozen years, which have failed to materialize, that it does not place much credence upon the above conclusions, but give them for what they are worth, and let the reader analyze them to suit his or her own convenience.—Salmon City Recorder.

CONCENTRATES.

From the Mining and Scientific Press

Amalgamation is not practised in any way in the treatment of Tonopah ores, nor is acid treatment necessary in clean-up operations.

Slime in treatment mills generally gives better results if as much valuable solution as possible is decanted or got rid of before filtering.

Ore fed to stamps, in many cases, is not directly sampled, but the value is calculated from tailing assays, concentrate content, and bullion actually recovered.

Bullion produced in the Tonopah mills averages about 950 fine in silver and 12 in gold. The bars are sampled by drilling a hole about 1-2 in. deep at opposite corners of the top and bottom.

Pipes connected with pumps and tanks in mills situated in cold climates should be so arranged that they can be drained after use, especially where used in intermittent work, such as in vacuum filtration of slime.

Tube-mills half filled with pebbles generally give best efficiency in grinding and power consumption. It was found at the West End mill, at Tonopah, that when filled 6 in. above the centre line, motor readings were abnormally high, but on further filling the power did not rise to any extent.

Various devices have been tried in order to get better amalgamation on copper plates, the latest being a screen fixed a few inches above the plates which breaks the flow of pulp from stamps and lets it shower upon, instead of flowing over, the plates, thereby arresting the flow momentarily and giving better contact.

Gold varies in color according to the amount of silver alloyed with it, and may range from pale yellow to full gold color. Gold alloys are made more reddish by the presence of copper, and by varying the relative amount of silver and copper in the gold, any desired shade may be obtained from 'Roman gold' to pale yellow. The presence of impurities may cause gold to show a variety of colors on a tarnished surface.