THE EMPIRE OF THE WEST

A Wyoming Strike Said to Be the Greatest Since California Days.

WARRING SHEEP AND CATTLE HERDERS

Wonderful Wealth in the Okangan—Idaho Opals—Wyoming's Cinch on Asbestos—Swarms of Crickets at Shoshone—Jottings from the West.

Reports from all points of the west indicate conditions favorable to a fair wheat crop, which, in view of the fact that the eastern states run slightly behind and those of Europe will be extremely short, is a very favorable promise of an immense crop of cash when the final measure is applied. Corn, oats and other cereals and fruits are all looking more favorable as the warm weather and intermittent rains continue. Mining reports from all sections have never looked more glowing, and from two sections the discoveries reported promise to yield a wealth to be compared with nothing else since the early discoveries of gold in California.

Great Okanogan Find Confirmed.

According to the story told by C. I. Helm at the Hotel Perkins, a fabulously rich mine has been discovered in the Okanogan district, in Washington. Mr. Helm says that about two weeks ago Knute Campbell and two other poor miners were prospecting on Palmer mountain, near Loomis, when Campbell found some free-milling gold ore lying on the ground. On investigation they discovered an eleven-inch ledge of the precious metal.

"An examination of the quartz," continued Mr. Helm, "convinced them that it was very valuable, and they immediately went to work with pick and shovel. They broke off a quantity of the quartz and took it to Loomis, where an assayer examined it and said that one piece assayed $87,000 to the ton. This piece, he thought, was an exceptional one, and very few fragments of equal or higher value would be taken from the mine. He said that the ore would probably average $80,000 per ton. The prospectors then sunk a shaft and found that the ledge gradually widened until it attained a width of two feet. Finding that the quartz was richer below than above, they constructed a six-foot tunnel from the side of the mountain into the ledge, and are now taking out ore in large quantities. The strike is considered the richest ever made in the United States, and it will enrich the men, who have heretofore been poor, industrious prospectors. I visited the mine a few days after the discovery and examined a piece of the quartz. There was no base metal in it, and it was the finest specimen that I have ever seen in my experience in the mining regions of this country.

"Nearly all the mines in the Okanogan district are rich, but I have never seen a more neglected mineral region. Most of these mines are owned by poor prospectors who have not sufficient money to develop them and are waiting for the railroad to come through. Mr. Campbell's discovery will doubtless bring an influx of capital, and then all the mines will be developed. Mr. Fred K. Oliver of Helena, Mont., just returned from the district and reports one piece weighing 125 pounds is literally impregnated all through with gold. Work will be continued in the shaft, although it is temporarily retarded by the surface water. Mr. Oliver deems this the best showing ever made in any mine in the northwest. The only danger is that the vein is not continuous, although so far there is no indication of its exhaustion, while all the conditions are favorable for continued improvement.

"While in the Okanogan country Mr. Oliver learned that James Robinson, J. G. McDonald and Mr. Rickabaugh had struck a two-foot vein of black sulphide of silver and ruby silver on their claim in the Lime belt. The outlook throughout all the Okanogan country is exceedingly encouraging, Mr. Oliver says, and the people anticipate a decided change for the better as a result of this year's development."

Desperate Herding War.

The cattle and sheep war on the Colorado and Utah border is assuming a serious phase, and it is feared that the strained condition of affairs on the Mesa will result in bloodshed before long unless a halt is called. The sheep men are being reinforced by new recruits, principally from Utah, who are armed with rifles and side arms. The sheep men are defiant. The settlers are determined, and it looks now as though bloodshed is unavoidable. The section is a farming and stock raising country. If the sheep men should succeed in establishing themselves it would completely ruin the industry. All available arms and ammunition in this section have gone to the scene of the disturbance.

Charles Kirk, a sheep man, was shot at a few days ago. He fell from his horse, which came into camp but has not been seen since. June 5 fifteen masked men held up and tied a sheep herder named Orson and killed about 300 sheep on the range and scattered the rest. The wholesale poisoning and slaughtering of sheep has aroused feeling to the very highest pitch. Cattle men who own ranch property have placed men to watch the buildings for fear of incendiary actions, such as occurred last week. Every one seems to be on his guard for fear of another outbreak. The arrival of more sheep from Utah has created an intense feeling among cattle men. They say the Mormons pay no taxes and that the feeding of 30,000 or 40,000 sheep on the cattle ranges will make the ranges entirely valueless to others.

The cattle men have all built good homes and they will not allow their stock to suffer for want of feed, but will take the law into their own hands if it becomes necessary. There is a law upon the statute books of Colorado which requires non-resident stock owners to pay 20 cents per head grazing tax on all stock running on the range in this state, and which also provides that in case stock owners fail so to do the county commissioners are authorized to bring suit to collect, and to collect at the rate of 50 cents per head and costs. Under this law the county commissioners, have ordered the county attorney to bring suit against Grant & McCleery and Lombard & Grant, sheep owners who have waited to comply with the law. Judgment is asked in the one case for $2,000 and costs and in the other for the sum of $6,000 and costs. The sheep men have been in the habit of shifting their stock from over the Utah state line into this county and back, thus evading the payment of taxes. Besides this, they have for years harrassed the resident stock owners by driving their sheep on their ranges, and from this the present trouble arose.

Nevada to the Front.

Vast lodges of gold bearing rock are being opened in various parts of Nevada. The bullion from these quartz mines and the dust and the nuggets from the newly discovered placers and old time diggings that goes to the credit of 1893, will amount to a handsome sum.

To work the gold bearing ores of all the inter-mountain country there is pressing need for silver lead ores. Nevada can furnish that class. The big demand for it has stimulated activity down in the extreme southern part of the state, close to the California line.

In the Yellow Pine, Good Springs or the Keystone district—as it is variously called—there are mountains of galena and high grade lead. Without the use of this or like ores for fluxing, the product of a majority of gold mines can't be worked.

One of the most significant indications that the Nevada Southern railroad, now constructing from the line of the Atlantic & Pacific railroad, is to be extended on into Yellow Pine was the purchase of an interest in the Keystone mine by President Isaac E. Blake of the Nevada Southern.

The Keystone is a gold mine, and was the first discovery of that metal made in the section, and after it the district is frequently named. Jones Taylor, an old miner who prospected for years over those mountains, made the original find. He retained a third interest in it. Sam Godbe, well known in Salt Lake City and all over Nevada, acquired another third by purchase, and C. C. Perry, a Colorado mining man, got the balance.

President Blake recently bought the Perry interest, the actual cash consideration being about $10,000. Blake visited the Keystone last month and spent some time in the district. He has had nothing but good words to say for the locality since. Predictions he has indulged in were very hopeful as to the outlook.

While he was there he contracted for building a wagon road on the west slope of the range in which the Keystone is located, to facilitate hauling ore toward the railway which is believed to be heading that way. About two-thirds of the ore uncovered, or what will be available for shipment in the near future, comes from that slope.

Keystone district was organized last fall and George W. Rose is the recorder. The laws of the district require that five feet of assessment work shall be done on a claim yearly and sixty days time is given in which to record it.

Most of those who have gone in from the east overland are not likely to repeat the experience. The journey is a long one from Utah, the distance to Good Springs from Milford, the nearest railway point, being about 300 miles, but the road is rough and sandy, and at this season it is frightfully hot.

The best route is from the Atlantic & Pacific railroad, either by the Nevada Southern railroad and around by Vanderbilt, else over the old freight road from Fenner. The latter is a station on the Atlantic & Pacific, ten miles west of Goff's—or Blake, as it is now called—and all the freight and mail goes that way now.

The Largest Opal in the World.

Among the guests at the Grand Central hotel at Helena, is Ed H. Fleming, who registers from Opalville, Idaho, and brought with him a number of specimens of the Idaho gems. Talking last night of the Idaho opal fields, he said they are located in Owyhee county, sixteen miles west of Nampa, on the Union Pacific, in the Snake river valley, and are in extent five miles long and two wide. The discovery of the game was due to a cowboy, named Anchor. The man was riding over the ground where the fields are located, when his horse kicked up a stone. The rider noticed a peculiar light in the stone as it rolled over, and he picked it up. On returning to Nampa he showed it to a drummer and asked him what it was. The traveling man told him that it was an opal, and advised him to go and take up the claim where he found it. This Anchor did. Mr. Fleming also heard of it, and he went out and located some ground, and since the fields have been covered with locations. The opals are found in decomposed lava and in the seams. The stones have been tested by New York lapidaries and pronounced equal to the best. Mr. Fleming has with him some beautiful opals, cut and in the rough. He has one which he says is the largest in the world, a beautiful peacock, weighing 700 carats. He has specimens also of the fire and water varieties.

The town of Opalville has been established at the fields and altogether things are very lively in that section. Most of the claims are taken up as placers.

Ten Thousand Texas Steers.

A syndicate from North Dakota and Minnesota is now making arrangements to put 10,000 Texas steers on the range near the mouth of the Little Missouri river, in the choice section southeast of Fort Buford, says the River Press. This recalls a mistake made by some of the outfits who drove cattle to Montana last fall. Their objective point was the section between Malta and Glasgow, which was already full of cattle. The newcomers were advised by Kohrs and others to stop their Texas drive on the Little Missouri, but notwithstanding their cattle were thin from the long drive, and the season late, the animals were kept going, over 200 miles further northwest, and placed on the Milk river range. Late in the season, gaunted and not acclimated, the animals were caught by an early and hard winter, and over 65 per cent of them lost, simply because the owners did not take the advice of experienced Montana cattlemen, and occupy a good range earlier in the season. Last year the persons who drove from Texas refused to think of taking the Little Missouri range; this year it is eagerly sought for as one of the best ranges in the northwest.

Listen to the Crickets' Chirp.

The cricket pest is on big about Shoshone, Idaho. A great army of crickets not yet half grown is moving southward after having cleaned out much vegetation up Wood river and along the Malad. At Shoshone there is a wonderful sight in the river of a great mass of crickets floating down stream. For many miles these pests hop into the stream and are carried down at a speed of three or four miles per hour. There are so many of them as to make a string four to six feet wide, without hardly a break at any point. It would be safe to estimate one bushel of crickets to every 100 feet of the stream as it flows through town. The millions thus carried by the water is almost beyond computation. They do not drown in a long time, and hence a small proportion of them find their way to dry land whenever washed and lodged against the shore. Around Shoshone the hopping pests will average one to every square foot, and they find their way to all parts of residences, making a great source of annoyance as well as loss to citizens. No one appears to know from whence they came, and fifty miles north there seems to be no diminution in their numbers.

Fabulous Gold Find.

Information has been received at Cheyenne confirming the wonderful gold discoveries at Miners Delight, near South Pass, in Fremont county. The principal discoveries are in a mountain containing an immense deposit of conglomerate or Potsdam cement, which miners say once formed the bed of a mountain torrent. Tests have been made by the first locators which show the whole body to be rich in gold. Mill runs show uniform results varying from $10 to $20 per ton. There are also rich placer fields in the range which parties are preparing to work when the snow disappears. The camp is reached by a stage from Rawlins on the Union Pacific railroad, a distance of 140 miles. A new road is being opened from Point of Rocks station which reduces the distance to seventy miles. The snow is still deep in the mountains and active operations cannot be begun for two or three weeks. It is asserted by competent authority to be the greatest gold region found since the early days of California.

Wyoming Asbestos.

A consolidation has been formed of the McConnell Asbestos company, limited, the McConnell Asbestos Mining company, limited, and the manufacturing department of the asbestos business of John A. McConnell & Co. of Pittsburg.

The asbestos mines of the company are located in Wyoming, Natrona county, and are the only mines in the United States producing long, pure whites asbestos fibre, and it is stated that while these mines produce white asbestos they also furnish it in abundance. Italy formerly produced about all of the asbestos that was used, but the mines of the province of Quebec, Canada, furnished a better supply, having for the past dozen years practically furnished the worlds' supply of asbestos. It is confidently stated the McConnell company mines are more prolific and more easily worked than the Canadian mines, and it seems probable that the McConnell company will soon furnish most of the asbestos used in the United States, and then the United States will no longer be dependent on foreign countries for this staple.

Another Treasure Vault.

Mining men are all excited today over the rich strike in the Pike's Peak lode of the Union Mining company at Cripple Creek. Several days ago the company leased 500 feet off one end of two or three of its claims under a work lease to E. B. Thayer and three other prospectors. They commenced work on an old shaft, and at a depth of forty feet have struck a vein which assays from 182 to 500 ounces gold.

This is the richest strike ever made in the camp and everyone is much excited over it. These properties are located on Gold mountain, just beyond the Pharmacist.

Nebraska and Nebraskans.

The sixth annual reunion of the Central Nebraska Veterans' association will be held August 22 to 25, and bids are now being asked

from the towns in the district to secure the location of the reunion.

Contracts were let last week for building three new bridges by Dixon county.

The Clay county Sunday schools held an interesting convention at Clay Center last week.

Walter A. Noel, late of the Dallas County (Iowa) News, has become one of the editors and proprietors of the Beatrice Times.

After having successfully given birth to twins, Mrs. A. M. Thomas of York died a week later of rheumatism of the heart.

The Seward People's Rights has been succeeded by the Independent. D. M. Meehan steps down to give place to M. D. Carey as editor.

While George Lane of Table Rock was carrying a load of lumber on his shoulder he stepped on a nail and drove it clear through his shoe and foot.

The town of Allen, Dixon county, has been incorporated and now the citizens have begun an agitation for the removal of the county seat to their village.

J. L. Makelvor of Osceola is on the program to read an original poem before the annual meeting of the Western Association of Writers at Warsaw, Ind., June 26.

Mrs. Webster, a Lexington lady 94 years of age, fell over an obstruction going from one room to another, and fractured the thigh bone. It is feared she cannot recover.

While M. G. Seigler of Wallace was driving his horses to water one of the animals fell on him, crushing his breast and injuring him internally. He may recover.

J. V. Dimon, formerly pastor of the Congregational church at Wymore, dropped dead in a street car at Bellingham Bay, Wash., June 2. His death came from a stroke of apoplexy.

All the Ancient Order of United Workmen lodges in Seward county will unite in a picnic to be held June 23 in a grove just west of Seward. There are six lodges in the county with a membership of 500.

While Sheriff Moran of Grant county was rounding up cattle his horse stepped into a hole in the ground and threw his rider. The sheriff was severely injured and the horse turned a somersault and was instantly killed.

Frank Monha, an inmate of the State Soldiers Home at Grand Island, died there last week. He served as sergeant in Company A, Fifteenth New York heavy artillery for a period of four years. His widow is an inmate of the home.

While Robert Nicholas and Miss Minnie Grant were driving across the Turkey creek bridge near Plymouth the other night, the central span fell into the water, carrying down horse, buggy and occupants. Luckily the fallen span floated, and carried its load safely until aid reached the unfortunate couple.

Tramps entered three or four business houses at Scribner the other night, but secured little plunder. At W. B. Gardanier's hardware store they entered the shop by prying open the window, and being unable to open the door between the shop and store they broke the lock on the front door. The cash drawer was broken into, but their reward was only 17 cents. They were frightened away before they cou'd get anything else.

Frank M. Williams, one of the unfortunates killed in the catastrophe at Ford's theater in Washington, formerly resided in Washington county, this state. He taught the spring term of 1888 at Herman, and then taught a year at Kennard, returning to his home at Middleton, Wis., in the fall of 1889, and in November of that year was appointed to a clerkship in the War department at Washington, which place he occupied until he died.

It is quite evident that the cowboys now racing to Chicago are the genuine article. The Chadron Signal says of them: The cowboys who have been attracted to Chadron by the forthcoming cowboy race had a little circus of their own circus day. When twelve cars of excursionists rolled into Chadron half of them were crazy to see the much talked of cowboy racers. So Doc Middleton and five or six others were mounted on their ponies and galloped around in front of the Hotel Blaine, while Dr. Leas and John Maher, as the two most expert local paralyzers of truth, introduced them to the visitors with little anecdotes of their prowess and achievements that would make Eli Perkins blush. The tourists, and especially the ladies, were loud in their expressions of astonishment, a hundred kodaks were sprung to take pictures of the group, and when it was announced that Doc Middleton's horse, which came from Dr. Waller's pasture, was the one that rode from Crow Butte to Omaha pursued at every jump by howling Sioux Indians, several ladies insisted on hugging the horse forthwith while Doc looked on rather sheepish. After the excursion left the circus parade started. So did two of the cowboys. They had been drinking poison-weed Sagwa all the morning and with a yell and a whoop they mounted their horses and spurred down the procession. They circled around among the performers, now sailing up close to the elephants and giving them a smart jab in the side, now twisting the scalp lock of the same clown until things began to look decidedly promising for a fracas. Officers went after the boys and after drawing their guns convinced them that the best thing to do was to surrender. Doc Middleton went on their bond and later Judge Mears assessed them $2 and costs—a total of $7.70 each for the fun they had enjoyed.

The Dakotas.

The report comes from Sioux Falls that the Great Northern railway has purchased the terminal grounds in that city.

There is only one drawback to rushing the work on the Sioux Falls & Yankton line, and that is the utter inability of contractors to secure more help.

Pierre's new artesian well gushes water at the rate of 500 gallons per minute and it shows a temperature of 93 degrees. It will soon be possible to pipe hot and cold water to even the humblest residence.

James Conzette of Galena, while prospecting in Horrible gulch, near the old twenty-stamp (Davey) mill, struck a fine body of copper ore of such grade that a piece of the ore put into an ordinary forge melts like lead.

The Rosebud lamb per cent, with few exceptions, is above the average for this year, being from 85 up to a reported 100 per cent, nearly all bands standing between 90 and 96 per cent, the greatest loss being from coyotes and wolves.

Parties who had located cattle on the Milk river ranges are now satisfied that the losses are even greater than was reported early in the spring. Several of the outfits wish to abandon the Milk river country as a cattle range.

Sergeant White Buffalo Man, an Indian soldier at Fort Meade, has been detailed to proceed to Fort Yates to see if he can induce some of the Indians at Standing Rock agency to enlist in the military service of the government.

The Lou Ray lode, situated in the town of Galena and formerly known as the Manganese lode, has developed into a gold proposition. An eight-inch vein was found on the surface upon which a shaft was sunk twelve feet. At this depth the vein had widened out to four feet. Assays made from the ore gave returns of $14 gold and four ounces silver per ton.

Wyoming.

As high as sixty colors were recently taken out of a single pan of dirt near the McGill ranch in Albany county.

T. A. Kent sold the Hord ranch, nine miles northwest of Cheyenne, to Lewis Ingalls, a Chicago capitalist. The ranch contains 14,304 acres and the consideration was $140,000.

The Aztec Mining company has filed articles of incorporation with the secretary of state. Laramie men are at the head of the enterprise and the capital stock is placed at $1,000,000.

Work has commenced and will be pushed on the road grade to Yule Creek marble quarries, ten miles from Crested Butte. It is the only marble suitable for statuary located in the state thus far.

The people of Evanston are earnestly endeavoring to secure the location of a woolen mill. A proposition has been made to locate a first-class mill there and it will doubtless be accepted. There is a large quantity of fine wool grown in Wyoming and a woolen mill would be a paying enterprise.

Forty-six oil claims, covering 10,500 acres, have been located in the Rattlesnake district in Natrona county by Colorado parties. At present the railroad rate is $387 a car on oil to Chicago, while the cattle rate is only $110. An effort is being made to secure a reduction, so that the district may be worked.

Herman Bonack, living near Lost Soldier postoffice, in the northern part of Carbon county, has discovered a vein of lignite coal sixteen feet in thickness in a canon near his place. The mine is twenty-five miles from the Union Pacific railroad and forty miles from Rawlins. It is near the proposed line of the Northwestern extension from Casper to Ogden and the attention of the officials of that road will at once be called to the find.

Colorado.

The Amethyst mine, Creede, has just paid a dividend of $60,000.

Leadville has produced over $179,000,000 in precious metals since 1879.

The May profit of the Victor mine, Cripple Creek, was $29,700, and the monthly dividend was $10,000.

The tunnel on the James A. Gilmore group, Rollinsville district, is in 2,040 feet, which constitutes one of the longest tunnels in the state.

Colorado's gold product, which has heretofore halted at $4,000,000 or less per year, stands an excellent chance of passing $6,000,000 in 1893.

Considerable excitement has been created in Gunnison over the reported finding of gold in good paying quantities in the gold basin south of town.

The Montgomery lode in the Black Hawk district has been sold by William Kelly, one of the old-time miners, for $70,000. It adjoins the famous Running lode.

Another rich strike of free-milling, gold-bearing rock has been found about six miles south of Creede. The rock in the lode has been assayed to run $168 to the ton.

A strike is reported from the Hefner Queen mine at Dry canon. In running an upraise in the mine a body of ore about a foot wide was encountered, which assays 108 ounces in silver and some lead.

The first wool of the season was offered on the market at Antonio, but found no buyers. The wool is light and in splendid condition, but the uncertainties of tariff legislation make buyers very cautious.

The strike reported yesterday in the Golden Treasure, Gilpin county, means that the management has struck high grade ore in the 600-foot level, exactly where they expected to find it. Gilpin is all right.

Red Cliff district, Eagle county, has a number of heavy producers, among them the Belden mine, which the Red Cliff Times credits with a possible output of 100 tons per day when the second grade ore is broken.

A deal has been nearly completed for the sale of the Perigo and Gold Dirt groups and other properties of the Rollins Gold & Silver Mining Co. at Rollinsville, in Gilpin county, by a syndicate of eastern capitalists for $400,000.

The strike in the Pike's Peak lode on Bull mountain is causing a great sensation in the camp. The ore is so rich that for the present it has been found necessary to place an armed guard over the prospect. Some of the rock is valued at $4 to the pound.

A very lucky mining strike was made this week in the Rio Grande canon, twelve miles southeast of Antonio. A number of assays show thirty-six ounces of silver to the ton. At twelve feet deep a good lead was exposed which grows better further down.

Colonel Henry C. Lowe, the well known mining operator, reports the discovery of rich copper and merchantable mica deposits on Bear creek, Dead Man's cannon, in El Paso county. The copper veins assay from 16 to 42 per cent and appear in a hornblendic form.

One of the greatest gold strikes in the history of Colorado was made near Mancos when the Brittain brothers found a five-inch streak which assays 180 ounces of gold and fifteen ounces of silver. Captain Johnson gets a return of 2,300 ounces of gold from his lead.

Timber fires are playing havoc with mine improvements on Bachelor hill. Every mine on the hill is in danger and the damage already done will aggregate about $5,000. The destruction of timber, however, is of the greatest importance, and on this the damage cannot be estimated.

Miners' wages in the Virginius camp have been reduced to $2 per day and board. No doubt this example will be followed throughout the San Juan. It will affect thousands and may result in the closing down of all the mines in both the gold and silver districts. It is a reduction of 50 cents a day or more.

The State Horticultural board has returned from a visit to Mesa, Delta Montrose, La Plata, Fremont, Pueblo and Otero counties, where it inspected the fruit prospects. Large crops are reported from all points excepting Otero county, where all the fruits were killed by late frosts. On the western slope the crop is unusually heavy.

James McBride of Hot Sulphur Springs a few days ago found where a bear was feeding on a dead cow and set his trap there. He came into town with four hides as trophies. The skins are beautiful specimens of their kind. An old female grizzly and three cubs were feeding on the bait, and the old one, being caught in the trap, the little ones stayed there until all were killed. McBride has had a part in the killing of eleven bears this spring.

Oregon.

A mining company with a capital stock of $150,000 will soon be organized at Dallas.

A ledge of gold-bearing quartz was found on the hill land east of the depot in Cottage Grove. Expert miners say the quartz shows indications of being rich.

James G. Birdsey of Willow Springs precinct, says that $10,000 have been taken out of pockets of quartz, within a radius of a few miles of where he lives.

Articles of incorporation of the Washington Consolidated Mining and Improvement company have been filed at Spokane. The amount of capital stock is placed at $5,000,000.

A. B. Conley, the Grand Ronde wheat king, has just finished seeding and has sown 7,000 acres of grain. Under favorable conditions the yield will not be less than 175,000 bushels.

A notice on a door in Albany reads: "I have gone to the mines. Where are you going?" Some one wrote underneath the significant sentence: "To the poor house. I have been to the mines."

Twenty-five leading fruit growers of the Mud creek neighborhood, in the eastern end of Umatilla county, have organized a company for the better disposal of their products, to be known as the Fruitvale Fruit company.

Not since the memorable disaster of 1885 has there been such a loss of life as during the present year along the Columbia river fisheries. Fifteen fishermen have been drowned since April 10 and fifty-seven boats have capsized.

A ledge of free gold-bearing quartz has been discovered on Palmer mountain, Okanogan county. There are about 2,000 tons of the free gold quartz in sight in the development tunnel, and it is hard to correctly estimate the value of the mine.

Five Portland capitalists have incorporated, at a capitalization of $20,000,000, the Golden Gate Railway company. The projected line is to run from San Pablo bay, Sonoma county, California, northward through Lake, Harney and Malheur counties, Oregon, and on to Boise City.

The permanent survey for the long flume at the Canyonville mines in southern Oregon is now being established. Fifteen men are at work and saw mills will soon be put in to commence the work of making lumber for the flume, which is several miles in length, and will require 6,000,000 feet.

Deadmond Bros. have a drive of 10,000,000 feet of logs in the McKenzie river which they are running to the mills at Coburg, Harrisburg and Corvallis. They are putting them in twenty-four miles up the river, and some of them have already reached the Willamette river, and by the time the whole drive is in the water some of the logs will be at Corvallis.

Charles Roper and Fred Smith, while at the Gee mining camp above Ashland, entertained a big black bear, which had been eating their giant powder for some time past and called to return it while the boys were yet asleep. He caused a sensation, but found out what lead tasted like before getting up the mountain side, after scaring the boys half to death.

Washington.

Tacoma's whistling well has commenced operations again after a silence of two years.

Melons weighing sixty pounds have been produced along the Columbia river, and 200 fine specimens will be sent to Chicago.

The new forty-stamp mill being put in at the Blewitt mine in the Peschastin district will commence operations in a few days, employing 125 men about the works at the start.

Nelson Bennett of Tacoma received a telegram from the superintendent in charge of his gold quartz mines in Montana, stating that a vein five feet in width had been struck at a depth of 2,000 feet. At the cropping at

the top of the mountain the ore yields $42 a ton, and it costs $2.50 a ton to work it. It is free milling ore.

The triplograph is the name of a combine typewriter, cash register and calculater invented by a young man at Ellensburg.

The Skagit Railway and Lumber company owns $300,000 worth of timber lands and real estate in the state, but is unable to realize upon them.

Last assays from the Silver Queen mine, near Davenport show $31 29; copper, $64.12; lead, $19.44; total, $114.85. The mine has three feet of solid ore.

A petrified fish has been found imbedded in solid bedrock twenty-two feet beneath the surface of the ground on William Fudge's ranch, near Pampa.

The Tacoma Smelting and Refining company turned out during the month of May 3,400 bars of bullion, weighing 366,242 pounds, and valued at $64,993.35.

An artesian well at Roslyn has developed a flow of 34,000 gallons every twenty-four hours, with a depth of 175 feet. This solves the question of city water works.

Funds for the new road from Tacoma to Mount Rainier have not yet been raised. In case of failure the road will be built by private parties and toll charged for its use.

Ballard did a good business in shingle shipments during the month of May, sending out nearly 300 carloads, or a total shipment for the month of about 37,500,000.

D. S. Paisley has completed his practical test of the graphite recently found near the upper Cowlitz. The test was made at the Olympia foundry, and it is stated the material is equal to India lead for foundry purposes.

William Miller, an old time resident of Crow valley, on Orcas island, Washington, has among his curios an antique threshing machine. It is of the old swoop class, and was imported from England to Victoria by the Hudson's Bay company in 1848.

The Lummi Indians have a young klootchman whom they are willing to back as a sprinter to the extent of $100 for a 100-yard dash. Age, sex or previous condition of any paleface will not be barred. In the nomenclature of the tribe she is called Kle-a-ta-ba, which means swift.

Considerable excitement has been created over the reported discovery of rich placer mines on Nigger creek, about twenty-five miles from Wenatchee. The party bringing the report exhibited $13 worth of gold flakes that he had panned out in a half day's work, and said there was plenty more of it there.

Miscellaneous.

The Senator Mining and Milling company, located in Arizona, has placed $500,000 worth of stock in the east this spring.

The Nevada is proving herself to be one of the largest producers of valuable ore that the San Juan country has turned out.

Hermosa camp, New Mexico, reports good progress this season. The concentrator is in full blast, running day and night shifts.

In Chloride district, New Mexico, the Omega mine is credited with a pay streak fourteen inches in width that runs 1,300 ounces in silver to the ton.

Down at Carson Sink, Nevada, there is located quite a colony of Adventists, who strictly observe Saturday as a day of rest. The community is said to totally discard both liquor and tobacco.

Wendell Benson has organized a company to put two large steamers on the Great Salt lake to cost $60,000. The steamers will be built on the shore of the lake. They will be fitted up in a palatial way and provided with large cabins. The deck will be finished for dancing.

Mike Mahoney arrived a day or so ago from the Henry mountains and went on up to Salt Lake. He declares that he wouldn't spend a summer in the Henrys for love or money. The climate is simply torrid, and when he left the foothills a small thermometer, which he always carries, registered 130° in the shade of his hat.

One of the most curious rock formations in the world is to be seen in Arizona. It is a short distance east of the stage road between Tucson and Oracle and stands on a knoll several feet above the surrounding sand hills. It is a most perfect representation of a camel and is formed of one piece of granite. It is about sixty feet high and is very white and smooth.

Charles Hegg came up from Marysvale, Utah, and seems to think that there is going to be a big revival in that camp within a few weeks. Only a few days ago the Dalton company struck a vein of ore which was encountered and lost last winter, and it looks as if they have got it this time for keeps. It is the richest body of mineral that has ever been struck in the camp, and old miners have gone wild over the find.

◆

A Pressure of a Million Pounds.

Some interesting experiments have been made at Washington university, St. Louis, with the largest hydraulic testing machine in the world. It can exert a pressure of 1,000,000 pounds. Timbers such as are used for pillars in large commercial buildings were crushed, not broken, lengthwise. A piece of timber capable of sustaining 8,000 persons was crushed like an egg shell when placed in the machine. The best brick piers two feet square, columns of granite a foot square and sandstone three feet square are ground to powder with the greatest ease. The machine was designed by Prof. J. B. Johnson, who occupies the chair of consulting engineer in the university, for the purpose of pursuing investigations being made by the government of the strength of commercial woods grown in the United States. The specimens crushed will form part of an exhibit now at the World's fair.

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