

PULSE OF WESTERN PROGRESS

Boring for Coal and Oil in Juab County, Utah.

CURIOS PETRIED FISH ENCOUNTERED

Indian Problem in Eastern Oregon—Bignamy the Common Practice—A Traveling Mountain—General Western Matters and Happenings.

"The property of the Juab Oil and Coal company lately incorporated under the laws of Utah, is situated about twelve miles in an easterly direction from a station on the Union Pacific railway in Juab county, Utah, 160 miles south of Salt Lake City, and consists of 320 acres of land containing vast quantities of bituminous shale whose outcrops on the surface are plainly seen. While all the shale on this property contains some hydro carbons, says the Salt Lake Herald, those which are commercially valuable are of black or dark brown color, and of these are several beds, one or underlain by lighter colored shales. These light colored shales can be mixed and used on the property as fuel, but would not pay to ship or distill.

The property has thus far been partially developed by a tunnel twenty-one feet long, and a shaft 436 feet, eighty feet deep, from the bottom of this shaft a boring six inches in diameter and five feet deep had been made. The shaft exposes a series of beds of shales, sandstone and limestone and in it are four or five layers of black bituminous shale, the smallest eight inches and the largest six feet thick. The bore hole passed through light shales and clays and then penetrates twenty feet in a bed of black shale without going through it. At a depth of thirty feet in the shaft and about "gasoline" i. e., petrified fish four or five inches wide by several inches long were taken out, and several pieces were recovered from the drillings in the bore hole. These, I identify as pieces of "ganoids"—a fish which was plentiful in the waters of the carboniferous period. The rocks of this period are those in which the large coal and oil bearing areas in Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana and Canada occur. The indications for oil are extremely favorable, not only in the property located upon rocks of an age which has furnished both oil and coal in large quantities, but the presence of oil is shown by the fact that the bituminous shales being continuously caked with a film of oil.

Irrespective of what future developments will unquestionably show, there is positive proof that the property at present has a large value, samples from a surface outcrop of black shale which have been subjected for centuries to atmospheric influences, and was visibly much altered, gave by analysis 26.5 per cent of volatile matter and forty-five gallons of lubricating oil per ton of shale. The shaft has been opened several years, and a sample from the six-foot layer of black shale in it gave 30 per cent of volatile matter and fifty-five gallons of oil per ton. When the shaft was first opened the yield of oil from the layer was eighty gallons per ton. The drillings from the bore hole indicated that the thick bed of shale was of still better quality than either of the other two mentioned, but that the oil which could be procured from the fine drillings extracted.

In October last machinery represented to be capable of boring to a depth of 1,000 feet was taken out and the shaft was enlarged to a hole six inches in diameter started from the bottom of the shaft. It proved, however, wholly unsuitable for the work, and after a succession of failures the shaft was abandoned, when a depth of only 100 feet was attained; if this hole could have been pushed down a few hundred feet farther there can be no question that oil or coal would have been struck.

The suspension of operations is only temporary, and just as soon as suitable machinery can be obtained for the work, and the matter now pending, the work of boring will be resumed and pressed vigorously.

LOS IDEAS OF MARRIAGE.

It has always been supposed in the east that the Oregon Indians had the most advanced of any in the country, or at least it was supposed that they had long ago yielded to the habits of civilized life, and that, having been so long associated with white people, they were far in advance of their more wild brethren. The reports of the different agents indicate that they, like many other tribes, care little for habits of civilization and that it will take a strong pull to get them out of their primitive state. A civilized life. Here is what Alphabet (J. P. T. B.) Brentano, agent at Grand Ronde, says of the Indians of that reservation:

"Bignamy is very common here. Yet the parties claim that they are innocent. The facts are as follows: Acting under the instructions of the United States government, in past years and before the allotment were married on this reservation without obtaining the license and under the laws of the state of Oregon. For some reason some one of these parties became dissatisfied with his wife and sought to break up the marriage. He had more consideration for his pocket than for the sanctity of the family, and who advised the Indian that the marriage was void and that he need not have any further to do with the woman. The Indian was but too willing to follow the advice, and he went to the United States well. He took out a license to wed another woman and left his wife and children. Had the first case been handled in the same manner, he would have become so common. Now, after years of abuse, it becomes a hard matter to break up this vicious custom. The Indian claims that he is not guilty, and that the woman who he was living with, and of whose children he is the father, is not his wife. He says that she is the wife of another man, and that he is the father of a second family. He turns his first wife out of the house and humbles her, and she is allowed to him only and does not turn her back to support his wife and children that he has discredited.

Mr. Brentano says that there will be a rich harvest for lawyers in the future, as the Indians have one name and then another, and already there is great confusion as to whom laws are allotted. He does not have an entirely pessimistic view of the Indians, but says the school is a credit to the country and will be a benefit to the future.

A WONDERFUL MOUNTAIN.

A traveling mountain is found at the Cascades of the Columbia. It is described in the following terms by a geologist: "A triple-peaked mass of dark brown basalt, six or eight miles in length where it fronts the river, and rises to a height of almost 2,000 feet above the water. That it is in motion is the last thought that would be likely to suggest itself to the mind of any one passing by the mountain. It moves slowly but steadily down the river, as if it had a deliberate purpose some time in the future to dam the Columbia with a great lake on the Cascades to the Dalles.

In its forward and downward movement the forest along the base of the ridge has become submerged in the river. Large tree stumps can be seen standing dead in the water on this shore. The railway engineers and brakemen find that the line of railway that skirts the foot of the mountain is being continually forced out of place. At certain points the permanent way and rails have been pushed eight or ten feet out of line in a few years.

Geologists attribute this strange phenomenon to the fact that the basalt, which constitutes the bulk and the mountain, rests on a substratum of conglomerate or soft sandstone, which the deep, swift current of the mighty river is constantly wearing away, so that this softer substrate is itself dis-

ing at great depths to the enormous weight of the harder mineral above.

MARVELOUS CAVES AND CANYONS.

The "Grand Teton" peak is 15,446 feet high, being 1,229 feet higher than Pike's peak, and 1,822 feet higher than the loftiest mountain peak in Colorado, and it has remained for an exploring party under the leadership of W. T. Sawyer to make the discovery. New York News. The valley, as described by Mr. Sawyer, is sixty miles long and has an average width of twenty miles. Jackson's lake, a body of water eighty by ninety miles in extent, is in the upper end of the valley, and the Snake river, emptying out of the lake, which is fed by a hundred mountain streams, winds its way through the valley. Mountains on three sides shut the valley from the cold winter winds, so that the Snake river is never frozen over, even in the coldest days of the year.

"This region," said Mr. Sawyer, "is one of the most interesting I have ever seen, and I have visited all the principal countries of the world. The mountains, which have been christened Mount Sawyer, has a waterfall with a perpendicular descent of 4,500 feet. Snowfields and glaciers may be seen looking toward the valley from the peaks, whose summits are all the year 'round sending the waters toward the lakes that are scattered through the region of the streams. Where the river breaks through the Teton range there is a canyon with a sheer perpendicular descent of 4,000 feet. The range is forty miles long, and so far as is known no man has ever passed through its gloomy portals and came out alive. There are many other canyons leading to the Snake river canyon surpasses them all in grandeur and impressiveness. It is deeper and darker and more dangerous to the life of any person attempting to make the passage than the Grand canyon of the Colorado."

Mr. Sawyer described a great cave whose dark opening was at the base of one of the mighty mountain peaks upon the borders of Jackson's lake. The explorers entered the cave to the distance of 800 to 1,000 feet. "In our progress," said the leader of the party, "we heard strange growlings and hissing noises that have frightened a most persistent person out of their wits. Lights flashed upon us like the colored lights of a theater, and in an instant we were surrounded by the darkness of midnight. We found the broken and decayed bones of two skeletons, and just before we turned back we came to the conclusion that the noises were caused by the explosion of the steam as it rushed from the recesses of the rocks."

THE DAKOTAS.

The Yankton Indians have refused to accept government claims to a large tract of land, and have demanded that they be paid in gold or silver coin.

The Methodist Epworth league of the Huron district adjourned its convention here today. Rev. Stokoe was in charge.

Howard Eaton, a wealthy ranchman of Dickinson, N. D., has a carload of silk to relatives in Pittsburgh. The animals were raised in the Bad Lands and are quite tame.

Superintendent Rowe of the Sioux Falls city schools has a report for the month of November. It shows that the total enrollment December 1 was 1,717, against 1,594 for the same time last year, and 1,410 for 1892.

Parties living fifteen miles north of Miller report the falling of a meteor in their neighborhood a day or two ago. It caused considerable alarm to a few, as it made a noise similar to distant thunder, and flashed a peculiar blue light as it fell.

The first annual exhibition of the North Dakota and Northern Minnesota Poultry association, now in progress at Grand Forks, N. D., has been very successful. Over 400 fowls are on exhibition and the attendance is large. The next show will be held in Grand Forks in December.

Twenty-five cigarmakers employed by Wuest Brothers at Sioux Falls struck. The cause of the strike was the hiring of a second apprentice boy, which the union men considered a violation of their contract. There are still twenty hands remaining in the manufacturing department.

Probably the most important gathering of educators ever held in South Dakota will occur December 26-28, at the North Dakota Educational association holds its annual meeting at Huron. There will be present prominent educators from every county in the state, together with principals of schools and county superintendents.

At a meeting of the Old Settlers' association at Fargo, embarked on the Grand River valley prior to 1875, N. K. Hubbard was elected president; W. H. Lounsbury, George B. Winslow, R. N. Probstfield, S. G. Edwards, David M. Johnson, and J. H. Miller were appointed a historical committee to prepare for the society a history of the valley.

Three feet of fresh snow has fallen on the State Normal school at Madison is one of the state's educational institutions that it is proposed to turn over to the control of the city or county in which it is located. This is the first time for the Hon. W. H. Beadle, a president. He says the institution is strictly a state school which returns its cost to the state in the form of trained teachers.

Salem's Building and Loan association has \$125,000 worth of hogs this fall.

There is some talk at Dallas of the reopening of the woolen mill now idle.

Thirty-seven carloads of potatoes have been shipped from the Lakeview Examiner since the first of the year.

Prineville Review uses a piece of rope on Elk river to meet the needs of Rogue river and Port Orford.

Lake county is almost on the verge of a mining boom, says the Lakeview Examiner. There are being located in almost every locality.

There are 250 miners in the vicinity of Sparta, Union county, who are prospecting for gold. A new quartz mill is being put up.

The Tygh ridge cattle have an epidemic of the typhoid fever. The disease is being broken up by the Oregon Cattle Co., and many are dying of it.

Some 2,000 sheep have arrived at the Dalles from Crook and the interior of Wasco county. About 100 are for immediate shipment to the Sound, and the rest will be pastured in the Sound.

The Bandon woolen mill has captured a contract for several thousand yards of cloth for the winter. The mill is being put up.

The Black Gold Channel Mining company, which operates the Black Gold mine in Foothills creek district, are still actively engaged in prospecting. They have already run a channel 1,300 feet in length and are prospecting for gold.

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The Argonaut-Junita at Aspen is among the shippers again and ore is now being taken out in two or three days. The present Wyoming & Missouri is phenomenal one, even for Aspen.

W. S. Stratton of Cripple Creek has started to sack some of his independence ore. Herebefore he has been sent to the smelters loose. The silvanite ore, which is found in the second level, is turning out very rich. Several hundred tons of ore have been shipped at \$400 per ton. Only the very richest ore is being sacked, and when a carload of it is shipped it will, without doubt, be the richest ever shipped from Cripple Creek. It will not run less than \$50,000, and may bring \$100,000.

WYOMING. The coal mines at Rock Springs are being actively worked. A number of head of cattle have died in the Saratoga valley recently from eating the loco weed.

The new depot at Wheatland is about completed. It will be the finest structure of the road between Cheyenne and Orrin Junction.

Bishop Preston of Salt Lake and a number of other dignitaries of the Mormon church are expected to visit the state for the promotion of the Star valley, in Uinta county, which they intend to improve and put under ditch next year.

The constitution of Fremont county have brought suit in the supreme court of the state to test the constitutionality of the bill creating the county of Big Horn, which is traversed long by the Fremont county and a portion of Johnson.

The business men of Sheridan have forwarded a petition to Washington requesting the department to improve the mail service between Sheridan and Billings, by running the mail car through to the end of the line instead of cutting it off at Sheridan.

The Douglas Power and Electric Light company has submitted a proposition to the town of Douglas to build a 250-horse-power plant for manufacturing purposes. The company proposes to furnish the power for the city water works and the electric light.

The Yellowstone Park Irrigation and Land company of Omaha placed a large ditching machine in the Big Horn basin, near the mouth of the Yellowstone river, and propose to have 8,000 acres of fine land ready for settlement and cultivation by March 1 next.

The Boomerang says that Fish Commissioner Schreiber has received a letter from the government hatchery at Neosho, Mo., that they will ship 50,000 rainbow trout eggs in about sixty days. He had asked for that a \$20,000 or \$25,000 appropriation would buy 50,000 brown trout eggs from the Michigan hatchery.

It is the general impression that there is going to be a boom in the northeastern part of Wyoming next summer. The valuable coal croppings on Hay creek, north of Sundance, are attracting the attention of eastern capitalists. Within the next few days shippings have been made on over 12,000 acres of these coal lands.

The Laramie Republican says the Union Pacific surveyors are locating a spur line to the north of the main line. The line has turned out to be better than was expected and Denver smelters say they will take 20,000 tons of it if the company will make a reasonable rate to Denver.

An attempt was made to burn the shearing pens at Baggs, in the southern part of Park county, but was defeated by G. W. Edwards of Rawlins. The fire was kindled, but the parties left it before it got a good start and it died out. Mr. Edwards has a \$200 reward for the conviction of the guilty parties.

While trying to extricate a drill from a well on the Medicine flat ranch of A. M. de Clerq the other day, a well bore discovered in the Sundance Gazette. When the men stopped drilling over a year ago there was no indication of oil. The well was abandoned, but the parties discovered to have over seventy feet of water and oil in it. The well is a little over 100 feet deep, and the presence of oil in this vicinity was never before thought of.

WASHINGTON. The Cheney flouring mill is running day and night.

Habitats are working havoc in orchards around Natchez. The fruit has been turned out to be better than was expected and Denver smelters say they will take 20,000 tons of it if the company will make a reasonable rate to Denver.

Large numbers of deer are being slaughtered in the Birch bay country.

The new Yakima hatchery has already begun to market its product.

Waterville rejoices in the near prospect of a survey for an extension of the Great Northern, and the Northern Pacific's extension from Couleer City westward.

For the purpose of ascertaining the extent of the recent disturbances on Mount Rainier the Post-Intelligencer of Seattle has decided to send an exploring party to climb the mountain.

In eastern Washington the prospects for a surprisingly large increase in flax culture the coming year are excellent. Growers have become thoroughly interested and will experiment largely.

It is stated that the Great Northern is making arrangements to cut 300,000 cedar ties this winter in Washington, the Oregon Railway & Navigation company 250,000, and the Northern Pacific about 300,000.

Some Itawa druggists have about twenty pounds of ambergris picked up on the beach there last spring. They have been offered \$32 per ounce for it on the strength of a sample recently sent to London.

The annual session of the Chehalis county teachers' institute will be held in the public school building in Aberdeen, December 19, 20 and 21. This is the first time for the institute to be held on the harbor.

The Wannacot Lake Milling and Mining company has obtained a patent for ten quartz mills covering the townsite of Golden, in Okanogan county, and adjacent lands on the northwest and south sides of the same, also the land on which the saw mill and other company buildings are located.

The famous Onyx mining case, involving a valuable deposit of onyx near Valley station, which was recently sold by G. W. Anselmy and other owners for \$10,000, was decided in the superior court at Colville by a jury, who gave a verdict to Anselmy, the plaintiff in the case, involving title to the ground.

The herring catches of Waldron Island, including Thomas Bros., packed 12,000 boxes of herring this season, and those who have visited the island testify that the quality is good. The San Juan salmon cannery is said to have placed 10,000 cases, although it was the first season of the cannery and the run was light.

One hundred and twenty Commonwealers, who have been harassing the citizens of Ellensburg for some time, have begun a new campaign. They are expected to arrive when the legislature convenes in January. They propose to demand appropriations for public highway improvements that will give them work to do.

Dr. N. G. Blalock, chairman of the Washington Irrigation commission, estimates that there are 2,400,000 acres of land susceptible to irrigation in eastern Oregon. Of this amount about 1,250,000 acres are in the Yakima valley. On the basis of twenty-acre farms, Yakima could, therefore, support 62,500 people on irrigated land.

The Prosser American believes that the oil seeds of commerce can be successfully cultivated in the Yakima country, and thinks that experiments in the culture of olives and castor plants may lead to a promising industry. Southern California has made a successful experiment in the culture of olives, and the climate there is much milder than that of the Horse Heaven country, the experiment may be fruitful with success.

MISCELLANEOUS. Agent Day has been ordered by the Interior department to bring the wandering Utes back to their reservation at Utah.

The Bland tunnel at Cochiti, New Mexico, has pierced Gold hill 900 feet and the quartz veins are being exposed. The tunnel was completed on January 1, 1895, there will be a general reduction of salaries on all revenue boats, light-house tenders and light-house steamers stationed on the Pacific coast. All employees of the revenue and light-house service except

captains, lieutenants, engineers and commissioned officers will be affected by the new order of things.

A letter from White Oaks, N. M., tells of the pleasant anticipation of having a railroad to that camp before the end of 1895.

American capitalists have bought the Coloma mine for \$200,000, and the Canavan mine for \$80,000. The consolidated California and Virginia on the Comstock lode, produced 350 carloads of ore in one week recently worth over \$60 per ton.

The Northern Pacific has filed a list of over 100,000 acres of land selected by it under the new regulations of the Interior department.

The Apex controversy is up for settlement in the Merced district, Utah. The Marston company has followed the ore vein outside its side lines.

It is said work on the Fresno & Monterey road will be begun in January or February, if the rights of way are given as previously promised.

George McGarvey arrived at San Bernardino, coming from Rock mining district, bringing with him \$800 in gold nuggets, two of which are worth \$250 each. On a few locations in the district miners are doing well.

A Neuchâtel, who has a borax plant thirty miles south of Kennedy, Nev., is producing about thirty tons of refined borax a month. Borax is worth 7 cents a pound, making the monthly product of his plant \$3,000.

Movements are reported to be afoot in Park City, Utah, looking to the development of the Silver Lake mine and the extension north of the Ontario drain tunnel. The Great Eastern company, which was recently incorporated, is leading the movement.

A tract of grazing land forty miles wide, between Fresno and the Great Northern in southern Arizona, is about to be abandoned by stockmen. Papago Indians steal some \$1,000 worth of prime beef monthly and that is a higher tariff than "the traffic will bear."

A band of Indians arrived from the north to wait on General Booth. They are from the Silver Lake mine and are in uniform. They left the Methodist church because their pastor, Rev. Mr. Crosby, objected to their religious marches and drum accompaniment.

The situation in Ellensburg in reference to the work on the ditch, says the Localizer, is unfortunate for the men and a burden to the city. There are numerous speculators resident to be cared for who have claims upon the city. It is unfortunate for the men, because they do not receive full pay for their work. It would have been much better for the men and the city, too, had the work not been commenced.

Captain Sweeney, U. S. A., San Diego, Cal., says: "Shiloh's Catarrh Remedy is the first medicine I have ever found that would do me any good." Price 50c.

She Had Her Doubts. Indianapolis Journal: She held herself so still to catch what he was muttering in his dreams that she hardly breathed.

"That's me," she thought to herself, as there was no occasion for her to think of any one else.

"Mary must have had her new wrap, even though I do have to take it out of the book-keeper's salary. It is too bad, too, because the inventor fell to the floor in a swoon."

All was still again. She lay there and thought some more.

"He's just a dream as he can be," she murmured. "I don't believe he was asleep at all."

The Crucial Test. The Queensland Australian: "Your highness, said the man, the man with a bull's head, is it in waiting in the aisle room."

Meekly the inventor entered.

"Has this garment been subjected to every possible test?" inquired the potentate.

"It has, please your majesty."

"It has been to the steam laundry?"

"Poiled again," said he as he fell.

The Adoption at the recent meeting of the New York State Woman's clubs of Mrs. H. R. Shattuck's "Woman's Manual" as the authority of the newly formed state federation in all parliamentary matters was eminently proper. It was a compliment to all women, and a deserved compliment to one in particular.

Mrs. Shattuck understands official dress regulations and she has also the liberality of the friend of Harry Vane, the straightforward courage of the Scotch-Irish, the vivacity of the French, and always some of the iron fibers of the Puritan in her moral and mental and physical condition. She knows that New York considers her provincial. But what matter? She considers New York best and she is persuaded to drink.

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