

The Old Green Back Stirs, Rumbles Again

by Len Schaffer

The famous old Greenback Mine located on Upper Grave Creek, owned by Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Pieren since 1955, is once again to be going, full blast.

The Greenback was the largest producer of gold in Southern Oregon in the past, having a record of over \$3,500,000 in gold alone, when gold was priced around \$20 an ounce.

Due to the present and future outlook regarding mines and minerals, especially the world wide status of gold as it is today, the future of the Greenback looks bright.

Expectations there are even better than in its past as it is said the surface has only been scratched. This is literally the case with most of Oregon's mineral wealth.

Pieren is a long time member of Josephine County Sourdoughs and has been very active, in mining in the region for a number of years. The Greenback at one time supported a 40-stamp mill, a thriving community was busy, even to having their own school. Maybe Wes will be the "daddy" of a new town near the Greenback!

Good luck, Wes, from the Sourdoughs.

RCC Offered Panning Course

Reading an advertisement "There's Gold in Them Thar Hills," Rogue Community College June 13, 1973 offered a course in Basic Prospecting. It was to have been a three-week course but adequate enrollment seemed to be lacking according to rumor. Perhaps the timing was at fault for summer time is vacation time. Perhaps an early autumn offering will meet with more response.

Familiar Headlines

"Gold Rush Predicted Under Ownership" is one headline, and the following news item reports a gold rush could open up the gold mines of the west if private ownership of gold is allowed in the United States. There have been reports that Congress may get around to allowing private ownership of gold in the land of the free, but at the time of this writing there is no indication that such a thing has come to pass.

And it seems lately that at least once a week this headline shows up somewhere: "Price of Gold Surges in Face of Weak Dollar." What effect all this will have on gold miners and the economy is hard to discover, as the "experts" cannot seem to agree.

And some big city writers become a little poetic when they write about gold. For instance, from a San Francisco newspaper: "As the price of gold soars to record heights in the world bullion markets the yellow bug with the warm, warm glow is biting dreamers of the elusive EIdorado."

Here in Josephine County, the gold bug is biting more and more people, some who may be dreamers, and some who seem to be quite practical about searching for gold. More and more people are acquiring gold pans, inquiring about sluice box construction, trying a multitude of portable dredges, and having a good time doing it. Much of the weekend mining is a family affair with little mother clearing the sluice box and the kids spilling daddy's gold back into the river or creek.

Gold Fields In North Wales

North Wales is certainly a long distance from Josephine County, whether the crow flies or walks. But of some interest to those that think of Wales and Great Britain as primary coal and tin mining places, it is interesting to read in the Illustrated London News of February, 1973, that rich gold strikes were made in Wales.

The Gwynfynydd mine was still in operation in the early part of this century, employing a large crew of miners and mill operators. While no mining has taken place there for many years, interest has not completely abated and exploratory drilling is currently being done.



WES PIEREN, long time Josephine County miner and logger, is shown checking out a gold pan during his winter mining operation. Wes is also active in Josephine County Sourdoughs and is past president of the organization.

28-Ounce Nugget Found

It is always nice to hear of people having good luck, especially in the field of mining. "If it can happen to him, it can happen to us," appears to be the way to say it, without envy.

John Rose of the Grass Valley, California area, discovered one of the largest gold nuggets in the northern Mother Lode this century. According to a United Press

dispatch in March of this year, Rose found a nugget of 28 ounce weight, measuring three inches wide and six inches long, valued at \$2,800.

Rose found the nugget on a hillside 5,000 feet up in the rugged mountains near the community of Sierra City, northwest of Lake Tahoe.

Mining In Oregon Started In 1851

Mining in Oregon began with the discovery of gold at Jacksonville in 1851. That same year gold was also discovered in Griffin Gulch, not far from Baker. The next quarter of a century saw a full-fledged gold rush in Oregon.

Placer gold, found in the

streams and later in the adjacent banks, formed the basis for this tremendous activity, which brought thousands of people to the state, provided a wilderness society with an abundance of wealth, and established the first semblance of a legal structure.



AN HOUR'S WORK and an aching back, done in the right places, may give a \$10 payoff when it comes to mining gold in Josephine County. Wes Pieren demonstrates a nest of nuggets garnered from his mining operations.

Reader's Digest Says Gold King of Metals

The June, 1973 issue of Reader's Digest has an interesting article about gold written by Ernest O. Hauser. He describes gold as peculiar stuff, a happy marriage between matter and idea, and describes the travels of gold about the world.

"As the onetime base for our money, and still a pillar of today's monetary system, gold to most of us becomes an abstraction," Hauser says. "But gold is still something else—the king of metals and a friend of man. Without it, our civilization would not be the same . . . impervious to the ravages of time, not tarnished by air, water and most cor-

rosives, gold bears the imprint of eternity."

It is further stated that gold has been melted down and reshaped so much over the years that a ring bought today may contain gold that was once in a necklace of the Queen of Sheba!

Because of compactness, gold makes a handy store of wealth, continues the article. A cube of fine gold a foot long, a foot wide and a foot high would weigh over half a ton and at the latest (?) official rate would be worth about \$740,000.

Melt all the known gold into a single block and you would have a mass about the size of a large barn.

Help For Gold Hunters

According to a U. S. Geological Survey geologist, "a sort of old-fashioned gold fever seems to strike many people in the late spring and early summer; requests for maps and reports that describe the known deposits of gold in the country—particularly in the west—mount rapidly." To help answer the many inquiries, the Survey has prepared three companion-piece nontechnical leaflets entitled: 1) Gold, 2) Prospecting for Gold, and 3) Suggestions for Prospectors. Single copies of each of these three leaflets may be obtained upon request from the Information Office, U. S. Geological Survey, Washington, D. C. 20242.

The Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries has published information on gold in Oregon: history, mines, production figures, deposits, and prospecting and panning methods. Obtainable from its three offices in Portland, Baker, and Grants Pass are the following: "Gold and Silver in Oregon," a 337-page, illustrated, bulletin which sells for \$5.00; "Lode mines in the central part of the Granite mining district, Grant County" (\$1.00); "The Alameda mine, Josephine County" (\$2.00); "Oregon's gold placers" (25 cents); Oregon mineral deposits map and key (45 cents).

—from the Ore Bin—
February 1973

Some Early Families of Josephine County

by Pete Loughridge

Dr. Sherman Loughridge and wife moved to Southern Oregon in 1903 and purchased a ranch at Murphy, Oregon near the bridge across the Applegate River. He also established his office and practice in the city of Grants Pass.

He soon became well known for his ability, and good humor, and for never refusing a call from anyone needing his services, whether it be day or night or regardless of the distance required to travel by horse and buggy, or their ability to pay.

In 1906 Ernest Loughridge and family, the doctor's brother, moved from Albany, Oregon with a team and wagon to Murphy, Ore.

and purchased 40 acres near the Murphy Creek Road, and shortly after gave 2 acres or so of his land to the County School District for the site of the Murphy School, which was used as a school until 1945 when the school was moved to its present location. The old site was on a knoll south of the present Murphy Creek Lumber Co.

Ernest sold his ranch in 1910 and purchased 80 acres at Wilderville, through which flowed the Applegate River and Cheney Creek.

He raised a family of 5 children, all but one is still residing in Josephine County.

In farming the land at Wilderville, there were many Indian

artifacts uncovered at the confluence of Cheney Creek and Applegate River. This was a camp site for the Indians in the early days, during the runs of salmon in the fall, winter, and spring of the year. This river and creek has the best gravel bottoms of probably any stream in Southern Oregon for salmon to spawn their eggs.

Even as late as the 1920's and early '30's the large runs of silverside and chinook salmon and winter runs of steelhead was phenomenal in comparison to the fish runs of today.

They cut their winter's wood on their land across the river from the home site and brought it across the river with horse and wagon, and many times they would have near run-aways with the team of horses becoming hysterical from the salmon hitting their legs and splashing water with their tails, when the wagon would cross near the salmon spawning beds on the shallow riffles.

If a fisherman didn't have fresh eggs to fish with in the fall or winter—you could catch 15 to 20 8 to 10 inch trout in a hour, just by using the red laurel berries that grew along the creek. The trout were so plentiful that they would grab anything before checking what it really was.

The environmentalists tell us that gold mining and muddy water will destroy fish life — but there was a great deal of this in those days and the fish thrived in this muddy water.

The flood of December 1929 was higher and more devastating on the Applegate River than in 1964. Many fences and large holes were washed out of good loam soil all along the river. It was shortly after the flood of 1929 that bull-head catfish first showed up in our rivers.

There was a private fish pond on the Ft. Vannoy Slough that was fenced in for catfish, blue gills, and crappies which washed away in 1929 by the flooding of the Rogue River, this gave them their start.

THANKS, ORE BIN

Thanks, Ore Bin!

The usual manner of publishing the Josephine County Sourdough Gazette involves planning up to a year ahead, giving plenty of time to amass clippings, hunt up photographs, go take some pictures, sell advertising, and so forth.

This year of 1973 the decision was made later than usual, but advertising manager Len Schaffer and his aide, Ruth Polk, did an outstanding job of corralling the advertising.

From the news end of the picture, the Josephine County Sourdough Gazette is deeply indebted to the Ore Bin, a publication of the Oregon State Department of Geology and Mineral Industries. Combing through their latest publications, we have gleaned many interesting and informative articles of interest to gold miners. Sourdough Gazette readers who

In the Depression Years of the early thirties there was no food stamps, welfare, etc., but there were hundreds of people that clothed themselves and ate from the recovery of fine gold along the rivers of Southern Oregon with a gold pan, or racker, or a sluice box.

Our two local banks were still buying gold with their large but accurate gold scales in the late 40's. Each had a separate window just for weighing-in of gold dust.

With the present price of gold, this will undoubtedly reactivate a lot of inactive gold mines in Southern Oregon and create jobs for the professional miner as well as stir an interest to the hobbyist or retired person.

Sourdough Gazette — 1973 Issue

Sourdough Gazette

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might have the desire to keep up to date on mining and geology will find a \$2.00 subscription to the Ore Bin money well spent. The April, 1973, issue, a very informative round-up of gold news, covers international, national, and local aspects of the gold situation. In addition to the articles in the Ore Bin, a list of all kinds of books and bulletins of interest to miners, including maps, is published.

Head office is: Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries, 1069 State Office Building, Portland, Oregon 97201.

From the Sourdough to the Ore Bin: again, many thanks.
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Popular Gold Bulletin Re-issued

The Department's Bulletin 61, "Gold and Silver in Oregon," by Howard C. Brooks and Len Ramp, has been reprinted and is again available from the Department's offices in Portland, Baker, and Grants Pass. The price is the

same: \$5.00.

The bulletin was originally published in 1968 and went out of print in a very few months. Because of the great demand, it has been reprinted in its entirety. It contains a wealth of information about gold and silver in the state that was previously scattered through a great number of published and unpublished records.

The gold bulletin is organized in three parts: Part I contains a general discussion of the economics of gold and silver and a review of the production, history, and geologic occurrences of these metals in Oregon; Part II describes the principal gold-mining areas in eastern Oregon, particularly those in the "Gold Belt of the Blue Mountains;" and Part III describes the principal gold-mining areas in the Klamath Mountains and Western Cascades in western Oregon. In all, some 500 lode and placer mines and prospects are discussed.

The 337-page publication contains mine maps, index maps of mining areas, production statistics, historical information, and photographs. The volume serves as a guide to future exploration and development.

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Mined Land Reclamation Law

—from the Ore Bin—
June 1972

On July 1, 1972 the Mined Land

Reclamation Law goes into effect. All surface operations which remove more than 10,000 cubic yards of material or disturb more than two acres of land annually come under the law. The Department of Geology and Mineral In-

Sourdough Gazette — 1973 Issue

dustries will administer the law in cooperation with various other state agencies and local governments. All operators subject to the law must obtain a permit. Forms will be available from the Department shortly before the first of July. Requests for permit application blanks or information concerning the law should be addressed to the Department at 1069 State Office Building, Portland 97201.

"Sailors' Diggings"

by Ruth Acord

—from the Illinois Valley News—

"Sailors' Diggings," a booklet chock full of information about some of the old mines in our county, was copyrighted in May, 1973 by local authors Willard and Elsie Street, 4095 Cheney Creek, Wilderville.

The booklet is the first of a series intended to be used as guides when exploring old settlements, roads and trails in a radius of 20 or 25 miles known as "Sailors' Diggings" — the entire area as shown in the old county records and also in the first United States Government map of an 1856 survey.

Interesting accounts are given concerning those early-day mines from the south end of O'Brien to Takilma, including the Sailor Mine, Allen, Scott's (later called

Scotch), Frye, Waldo, Taylor, Shelly, Butcher, and Caro Gulches and French Flat.

The authors tell about the first trail from the coast—a trail that opened in the spring of 1951, starting from Trinidad, California, to Klamath, to what is now Happy Camp, then up Indian Creek and over the mountains to Illinois Valley. They also tell about the first gold discovered in Sailor Gulch in 1852 by sailors who were on their way from the coast to previously discovered gold mines in Southern Oregon—hence, the name of "Sailors' Diggings."

Street has put intensive research into the booklet, plus a vast amount of first hand knowledge of the country and his own experiences. Elsie, his wife, used the same printing press she used when she taught school years ago at the James School for Boys in Illinois Valley. Together, they did the complete manuscript — wrote, edited, set the type, and printed.

Mrs Street is the daughter of Mr and Mrs Edward Koenig of Grants Pass, formerly of Wilderville. The family moved from Loveland, Colo. to this area in 1923 and she attended the Wilderville School and graduated from Grants Pass High.

Willard came from San Fernando, Cal. in 1932 where he was Chief of Police. He is a graduate from the Los Angeles schools. "Sailors' Diggings" is the 1973 year book for the Josephine County Historical Society.

Wandering Sourdoughs

Henry Speaker, third generation miner from Josephine County, has been wandering up Alaska way now for several years. He is working a placer show of five miles of creek about 30 miles from Miller House, which is north of Fairbanks. His giant will throw a stream 600 feet, and can tear up bedrock—if you don't believe this, just get Henry to show his outstanding color movies of the operation there.

Henry, a long time active Sourdough member, generally leaves the mine in charge of the ptarmigans during the winter while he comes home to Josephine County and keeps his hand in practice by doing a little mining locally.

Speaker Road near Wolf Creek is named for the Speaker family, who have mined in that region for many years.

Another migratory Sourdough is Harry Steward who is presently in Alaska and will probably come back to Josephine County before the snow gets serious in Northern Texas.

One of our other old time Sourdough members, Herman Lee Wood, seems to have flown the coop permanently as he is now down in Old Mexico, about 65 miles west of Guadalajara in a little village of Tecolotlan. Herman has a new wife, and father-and mother-in-law, is raising some livestock and chickens. Herman celebrated his 84th birthday this spring and said he was not going to get excited about birthdays until he reaches the century mark.

While not wandering as far as Wood, Speaker, and Steward, the Sourdoughs have another wanderer. Chet Meyers, who gets around quite a bit on a motorcycle and is a dependable, active member in Sourdough affairs, besides being a past president of the group.

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Pages From The Past

from the 1963 Sourdough Gazette by
Dorothy Darneille & Jack Sutton
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Historical Society

A history of pioneer days in Josephine County for the most part is a story that tells of miners and mining, as that industry was the sole occupation of the majority of the population in this section of the Oregon Country.

Many of the early miners were the adventurous type of men who had crossed the plains at the time of the discovery of gold in California. With their old muzzle-loading rifles they had encountered hostile Indians and carved their way where no weakling could have existed. A number were men of good training and education who became hardened and reckless by the lives they followed amid the rude surround-

ings of the then, Wild West.

THE MINER

The generally accepted present day opinion is that the typical miner during the period of the Southern Oregon gold rush, was a lawless, uncouth individual whose days were spent in gun fights and his nights drinking and gambling. True, there were "bad actors" in the region—both male and female—and many of their escapades were notorious. There are always those in quest of the "easy pickings" which could be obtained from the more gullible. Their prominence in the historical roster of early Oregon is due primarily to the fact that their exploits were news. Since they were "good copy" they have been played up with the passing of years while the more quiet activities of the great majority, somewhat colorless by comparison, were neglected.

The average miner, however, was an honest law abiding individual concerned primarily with ways and means of obtaining gold. He brought with him a dream of realizing those hopes which had brought him to the gold fields and demanded so much effort and personal sacrifice. True, his outward manner was often harsh and rough and in the mines he usually presented a rugged appearance. Booted, bearded, with a thatch of un-

kempt hair crowned by the typical black slouch hat of the day, he often wore leather trousers and a calico flannel shirt—usually and unmistakably in need of washing and repair. But in those days the rough life he led and the heavy labor required precluded the possibility of anything but occasional washings. Beards? Well, it was the custom of the day for men to be bearded. And, —who had time to shave anyway, or wash clothes for that matter, as long as gold was to be reclaimed from the earth? Cleanliness was practically a luxury under such circumstances and the niceties of civilization could wait!

Yes, the average miner was rough and ready in manner and appearance and while he was anything but gentle his character was infused with the high regard for honesty and the laws of common decency. His opportunities, his difficulties and troubles, his victories and disappointments, his constant battle against the elements in a comparatively primitive land, and the dealings of his fellowmen were all direct and unbending in nature. Thus his reactions were equally direct. There were no legal procedures established here when the hordes of gold seekers arrived. If they dealt harshly with offenders such actions were usually the only solution under the conditions at the time. The miner merely adapted himself to the conditions as he found them, met them on their own terms, accepted them when necessary, and improved them when-and-if-possible.

Gold seekers came from all walks of life and from all grades of society. There were rich and poor, highly educated as well as those with little or no education, skilled and unskilled. But in the mines they were merged into a common mass of men grubbing for gold or serving those who so labored. Leaders soon emerged from the ranks to become Oregon's first citizens in nearly all walks of life.

Americans were not the only ones affected by the gold fever. People from practically every corner of the earth set out for the gold fields. From Europe came the English, French, German, Irish, Welsh, and Italian with many others. From across the great expanse of the Pacific came men from Hawaii and Australia as well as great numbers of Chinese.

Thus the "call of gold" appealed to all races and to all creeds throughout the world, resulting in a migration which in many respects was without parallel in the annals of history.

FIRST GOLD DISCOVERY IN OREGON

The first gold discovery in Oregon that was mined for any length of time sufficient to record was made on Josephine Creek a tributary of the Illinois River, in the spring of 1851. A California-bound mining party who had spent the winter in Oregon City, upon reaching the Rogue River were told by Indians of rich mines a few days travel "down the river." At this time the United States had just formed a treaty with Chief Jo of the

Rogue River Indians and it was considered perfectly safe by some, to travel among them. The party found good surface mining at Josephine Creek and remained at this location until August. In a minor skirmish with a local tribe three Indians were killed. Though none of the mining party was hurt, the attack convinced the miners that the Indians were again on the warpath. The group returned to Yreka with the mounted company of volunteers that had been summoned to their assistance.

Lloyd Rollins and his 18 year old daughter Josephine who had started from Illinois overland with ox teams for the gold fields in California the previous spring were members of this historic mining group. Josephine County, the only county in Oregon named in honor of a woman, was later named for Miss Rollins. She had been the first white woman to settle for any length of time in this part of the Oregon Territory.

NEXT CAME WALDO AND BROWNTOWN

In the fall of 1852 a group of British sailors deserted their ship at Crescent City and started for the newly discovered gold fields at Jacksonville but found rich gold deposits in the Illinois Valley a number of miles in an easterly direction from the earlier discovery of Josephine Creek. This discovery at "Sailor Diggins" immediately became an important mining center and soon claimed a population of several thousand. The community's name was later changed to Waldo in honor of William Waldo, brother of Daniel Waldo, a prominent figure in early Oregon history.

The history of Waldo is so interest-woven with that of Browntown on Althouse Creek where gold was also discovered in '52, as to make the story of each camp identical in many respects with the other. Miners and gamblers traveled back and forth from Waldo to Browntown and hundreds of thousands of dollars exchanged hands. Even with a mixture of rough happenings there were rounds of pleasure and enjoyment in those prosperous times

continued on the next page

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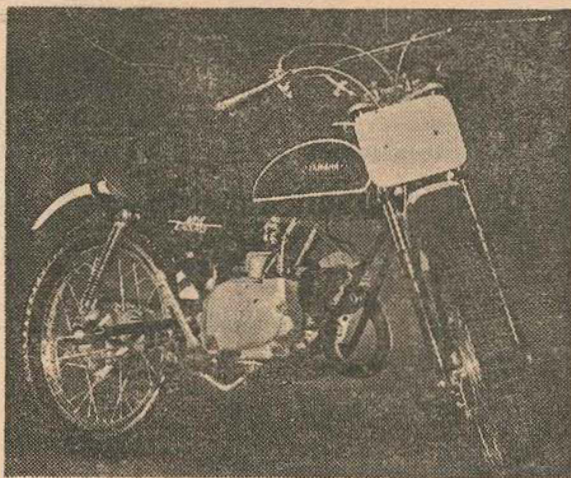
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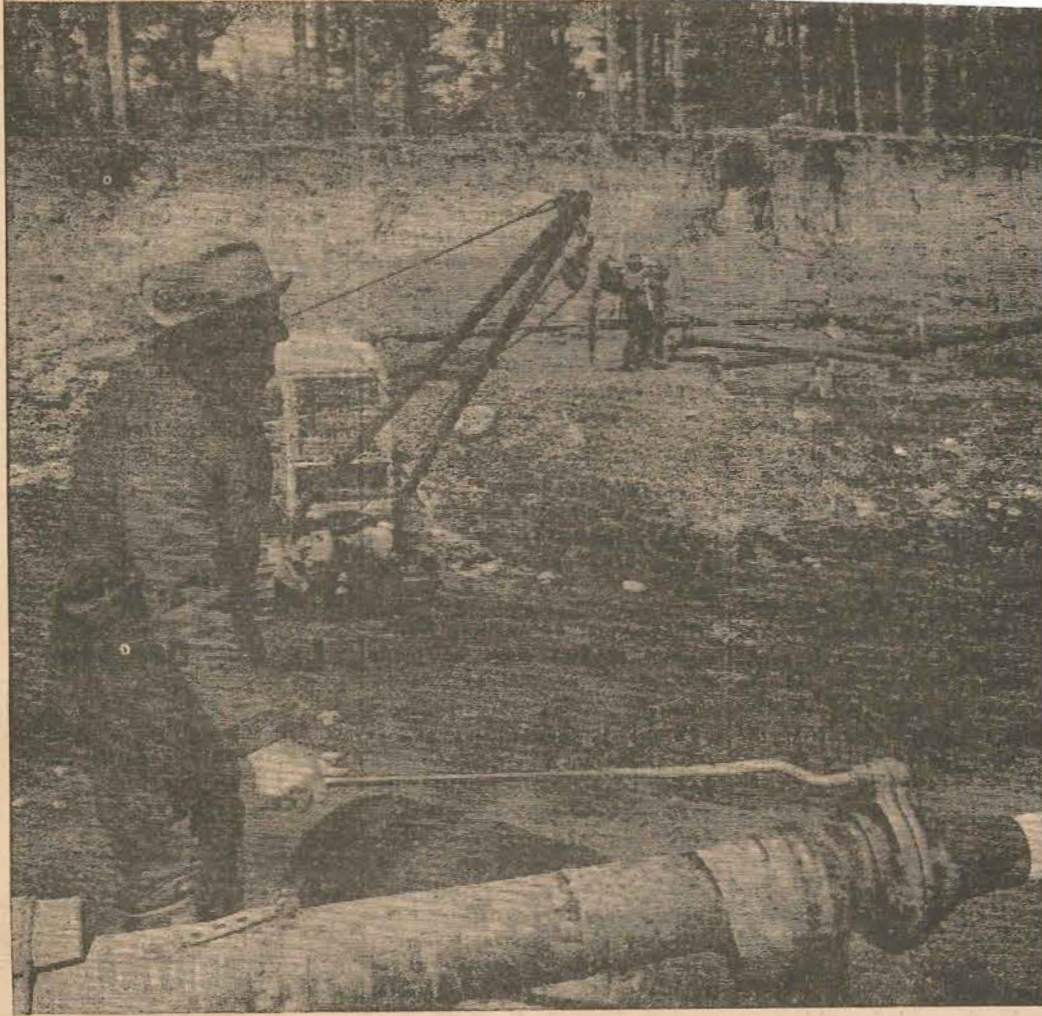
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A GIANT IN OPERATION: Close view of Harry Steward operating his giant, a delicately balanced "gun" that shoots a powerful stream of water to cut out the paydirt. Sometimes the jet is so strong that the ground shakes from the impact and there is a continuous roar of sound. In the background can be seen pipe and other equipment needed for placer mining.

PAGES FROM THE PAST . . . when money seemed within the reach of everyone who was willing to work for it.

A great deal of the original mining around Waldo was done as in the first California camps, by the primitive method of hand shoveling "pay dirt" into sluice boxes. More miners made small fortunes here than at any other

camp because the deposits were shallow and easily worked. In the early days of this camp it wasn't considered an unusual occurrence for an individual miner to make from ten to thirty thousand dollars in a few months. The large companies controlling the main ditches and water rights hired great numbers of men who earned for their owners tremendous fortunes.

FIRST MINING LAW

The first mining district in Oregon, for that part the entire Northwest, was organized by miners at Waldo. Althouse and other areas of the Illinois Valley. At a meeting held under a large fir tree some forty miners put on paper the following mining law: "Know all men by these present, that the miners in council assembled on this the 1st day of April A.D., 1852, do ordain and adopt the following rules and regulations to govern this

camp: "Resolved, first that 50 yards shall constitute a claim in the bed of the creek extending to high water on each side.

"Resolved, second that 40 feet shall constitute a bank or bar claim on the face extending back to the hill or mountain.

"Resolved, third, that all claims not worked when workable, after five days be forfeited or jumpable.

"Resolved, fourth, that all disputes arising from mining claims shall be settled by arbitration and the decision shall be final.

E. J. Northcutt, chairman, attest: Philip Althouse, clerk."

The miners not only regulated the mining industry by their rules, but in some districts before legislation was enacted, passed laws prescribing penalties for crimes. Stealing of gold dust, provisions, horses, and similar necessities of a miner's life and business was a serious offense, punishable in some cases by death.

EVERY PLACE A GOLD STRIKE

Within the next two years the Rogue and Applegate rivers and their tributaries were well traversed by prospectors seeking that "rich strike." Mining communities developed in every section of Josephine County, among them was Galice.

In the spring of 1852, Louis Galice, a French doctor and a small group of other miners proceeded down the Rogue River to the present site of Galice where they found the creek beds fabulously rich. Numerous large mines were established in this mineral belt in the following years. Among them the Old Channel Mine, comprising more than 700 acres of ancient river channel contained more yardage of gold bearing gravel than any other mine in the state of Oregon.

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WHO ARE THE SOURDOUGHS?

The Sourdoughs are a group of people, although they may not all own an interest in a mine, do have interest in mining activities and mining problems.

The group meets the first Wednesday of each month, at 8 p.m., in the Women's Club Auditorium, 6th and B Streets, Grants Pass. The business meeting is usually followed by a session of informal discussion and refreshments. Meetings of the Sourdoughs are open to the public and visitors are welcome.

Among Sourdough activities is operation of Sourdough Gulch during the Josephine County Fair. The Gulch consists of a restaurant, assay office, and newspaper office, gold panning concession, and gold and mineral specimen display. The Sourdoughs also offer gold panning instruction classes, and arrange annually a prospecting trip and picnic outing. Each year, the group gathers for a big turkey dinner, potluck style.

Dues are \$7 per year for one person or a family. Only one vote is allowed per membership card. Membership is open to anyone in-

terested in mining, whether actively serious or pastime status. Write inquiries to Josephine County Sourdoughs, PO Box 1495, Grants Pass, Oregon; or if speed is necessary, try telephoning one of the officers listed on page 2.

Sourdough Gazette — 1973 Issue

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The Ghost Of Our Mountains

by Wilmer Wheeler

—from the Illinois Valley News—

Many years ago a pioneer family were traveling the rough rocky mountain road south and west of O'Brien when one of the iron tires on a wheel struck a sharp rock that broke the iron tire. Any of you who remember how a wagon wheel is constructed know that the iron tire must be

intact to hold the wooden parts of the wheel in their proper place.

They had no way to make repairs on the heavily loaded wagon so they set up camp beside Whiskey Creek where others before had camped. A water course had undercut the old fireplace site and there in the water run were numerous chunks of grey-white metal. The wagon master used those pieces of white metal to weld the iron tire.

Other miners soon found that some of the rocks along Whiskey Creek and a vast area around it would yield this white metal when they were roasted in an open wood fire. The story goes that this metal will temper a rock pick so it may be used a long time until it needs to be sharpened. Ray Wilder says his dad Al Wilder and my dad Sherid Wheeler and some other fellows recovered some white metal from rocks from Cedar Creek west of Selma. They used the white metal to make difficult welds in unusual kinds of joining metals that normally could not be welded. They found that the metal would break somewhere else but not where it had been welded with white metal. Ray Wilder says he watched them put some white metal in a shovel then hold it over a fire until the shovel was red hot. The white metal disappeared but when they lifted the shovel they could see most of the melted white metal clinging to the bottom of the hot shovel. They found that a shovel can be tempered with white metal and it will make the shovel last a very long time. The melted white metal will absorb into the hot metal of the shovel and sink right through it.

Dick Noys says that in 1930 there were 300 white metal mining claims recorded in the Josephine County Courthouse. He said the miners at that time thought there was tin in the white metal. The State Geology people claimed there was no tin as they could not even recover any white metal. This is why I choose to call this white metal "ghost metal," as it only seems to reveal itself to certain people. For instance, I have never seen any white metal.

Several years ago a man and his wife came to my place asking my help to secure some white

Claim Staking Hints Offered Prospectors

Vacant public surveyed or unsurveyed lands are open to prospecting, and upon discovery of mineral, to location and purchase, as are also lands in national forests in the public-land States, lands entered or patented under the stock-raising homestead law (title to minerals only can be acquired), lands entered under other agricultural laws but not perfected, where prospecting can be done peaceably, and lands within the railroad grants for which patents have not issued.

Rights to mineral lands owned by the United States, are initiated by prospecting for minerals thereon, and upon the discovery of mineral, by locating the lands upon which such discovery has been made. A location is made by staking the corners of the claim, posting notice of location thereon and complying with the State laws, regarding the recording of the location in the county recorder's office, discovery work etc.

Any person who is a citizen of the United States, or who has declared his intention to become a citizen, may locate, record, and hold a mining claim of 1,500 linear feet along the course of any mineral vein or lode subject to location. The lateral extent of locations or veins or lodes shall in no case exceed 300 feet on each side of middle of the vein of the surface.

No lode claim shall be located until after the discovery of a vein or lode within the limits of the claim, the object of which provision is evidently to prevent the appropriation of presumed mineral ground for speculative purposes, to the exclusion of bona fide prospectors, before sufficient work has been done to determine whether a vein or lode really exists.

The location notice should give the course and distance as nearly as practicable from the discovery shaft on the claim to

metal. Mr Shalanberger never did tell me why he came to me but I did my best to produce some for him. He said he had done much contract engineering work for Kaiser Steel but was at that time shipping thousands of tons of iron ore per month to Japan. I asked Dick Noye to show us some white metal ore so he took us to an outcrop. I brought home a pickup load which I roasted in an open fire. I guess the Grey Ghost of our Mountains was not ready to reveal itself as I failed to produce any white metal.

Dick says many people fail to find this metal. He says usually they build too hot a fire, then the metal burns up. Dick said a group of men set up an elaborate furnace to recover white metal. They tested ore from many mining claims and failed to find any white metal. After they had gone Dick said he salvaged the brick from the furnace and there in the damp ground below the furnace was some 400 pounds of white metal.

It has been 42 years since the great white metal excitement and I think we should remind a few people that we do have this ghost metal all about us.

Tell you what I'll do. I am now offering a \$10 reward to the first person who will let me watch them render one pound of white metal for me. It would please me much to help lay to rest the "Ghost of our Mountains."

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some permanent, well known points or objects. It should also give the section, township, and range.

All placer-mining claims located after May 10, 1872, shall conform as nearly as practicable with the United States system of public land surveys and the rectangular subdivisions of such surveys, and such locations shall not include more than 20 acres for each individual claimant. A location by two persons can not exceed 40 acres, and one by three persons can not exceed 60 acres.

But one discovery of mineral is required to support a placer location, whether it be of 20 acres by an individual, or of 160 acres or less by an association of persons.

The annual expenditure to the amount of \$100 must be made upon placer as well as lode locations.

Failure to perform the annual assessment work will subject a claim to relocation unless the original locator, his heirs, assigns, or legal representatives have resumed work after such failure and before relocation.

In the case of a lode claim the discovery shaft or trench should consist of the excavation of at least 5 cubic yards of material must be excavated to constitute the location work on a placer claim.

Some, but not all, State land is open to mineral entry. Following discovery, a location is made in the same manner as for claims on federal forests. A lease agreement must be obtained from the

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Sourdough Gazette — 1973 Issue

State Land Board, State Capitol Building, Salem, before any mining can be done.

The best information on patenting procedures is contained in the pamphlet "Information Relative to the Procedure of Obtaining Patent to a Mining Claim" issued by the U. S. Bureau of Land Management and available from the Bureau's Land Office, 701 E. Holladay Street, Portland, 12, Oregon.

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Nickel-Bearing Stream Sediments From Southwestern Oregon

An anomalously high nickel content has recently been found in some of the stream-sediment samples collected by the Department in southwestern Oregon. The samples are from streams draining areas of known ultramafic rocks, the largest of which is the Josephine ultramafic sheet (figure 1), in southeast Curry and south-

west Josephine Counties. Since only a few of the many samples collected from streams draining the ultramafic rocks were high in nickel, it was reasoned that the anomalous samples were derived from areas of relatively high nickel content within the ultramafic mass. It was felt that if concentratable nickel-bearing minerals could be found in the samples, the area might warrant exploration for possible economic deposits.

The Josephine ultramafic sheet is composed chiefly of an olivine-rich harzburgite with lesser amounts of pyroxenite and dunite. Large areas of this ultramafic mass have been serpentinized to varying degrees. Serpentine is concentrated along the margins of the body in fault zones and around later intrusives, which include gabbro and diorite stocks and diabasic and dacitic dikes. The thickness of the ultramafic sheet is not known; Wells and others (1949, p. 10) state that it probably does not exceed 15,000 feet.

—from the Ore Bin—
December 1970

What To Do With A Hole in the Ground

To much of the public, a mine is nothing more than a "hole in the ground," and an unsightly one at that. Few people realize that practically everything we use in our everyday lives originally comes from just such "holes." Automobiles, airplanes, and TV sets are made almost entirely of metal and glass; buildings are made from gravel, rocks, limestone, and clay; and even the clothes we wear are woven from synthetic fibers made from petroleum products, which originally came out of a hole.

The sand and gravel industry in Oregon, being concentrated in the Willamette Valley near the population centers, is becoming hard pressed to provide the raw materials needed to build our highways, bridges, and airports. There is a potential shortage of these valuable products for the coming years, because many of the better deposits are being over-run by housing or other incompatible developments. What happens to a gravel pit after it is mined out? Can the land be reclaimed or put to other uses?

Martwing The Other Fellow

Although Arizona already has passed some of the most stringent air pollution laws in the nation, the majority of respondents to a recent research poll said that if business and industry do not meet the state's anti-pollution standards within one to two years, they should be shut down until they fulfill the requirements. But a more meaningful question, it seems to us, is how many Arizonans would themselves be willing to be unemployed to stop pollution.

It is painless to demonstrate one's environmental concern by threats to business and industry. We strongly oppose environmental irresponsibility by those who plunder resources with no thought of long-range detriment to the land and its people. But we also question the wisdom of "close it down" advocates.

However you look at it, compliance with the state's air quality requirements is going to be expensive, sometimes mighty expensive, for such Arizona businesses as the copper smelters, which have already spent \$700 million in this line in the last six years.

If businesses were forcibly shut, the economic dislocation they'd suffer could be so severe that they would declare bankruptcy rather than finance anti-pollution measures.

And, even if the companies were not closed for good, their temporarily unemployed workers would be thrown wholesale onto the rolls for unemployment compensation.

When companies are already beginning to clean up the environment, we see no sense in raising the specter of putting them out of business and throwing employees out of work. To do so would be to fly from a lessening evil into the arms of a greater one. (from the Arizona Republic)

—from the Ore Bin—
February 1972

Quicksilver Map Published

The Department of Geology & Mineral Industries has issued Miscellaneous Paper 15, "Quicksilver Deposits in Oregon," by Howard C. Brooks. The publication consists of a map showing distribution of all known mines and prospects in the State, with a numerical listing giving locations by county. On the reverse side is a summary of the economics of quicksilver, mineralogy of deposits, prospecting guides, and geology of the main districts where mercury mineralization occurs. Trends in Oregon production over the years are shown graphically, and the annual production from individual mines between 1882 and 1970 is tabulated.

The publication is designed to replace the out-of-print map by Francis Frederick (1945) and to update the information in the out-of-print Bulletin 55, "Quicksilver Deposits in Oregon," by Brooks (1963).

Miscellaneous Paper 15, on a sheet 22 by 36 inches, comes

We are printing the following editorial which recently appeared in the Missouri Industry News, published by the Missouri Geological Survey. Even though the Missourians are primarily concerned with coal mining in their state, we believe that their comments and ideas could apply to the problems of our sand and gravel industry.

—from the Ore Bin—
R. E. C.—April, 1970

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—from the Ore Bin—

January 1972

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from the 1963 Sourdough Gazette GOLD DISCOVERIES ELSEWHERE AND DIFFERENT MINING METHODS

Gold discoveries on the Frazer River of British Columbia in 1858, lured thousands of miners from Southern Oregon, many of whom never returned. This brought somewhat of a lull in the fast moving mining activities of the previous half decade.

By the early 1860's the easier surface mining was becoming less lucrative and it became necessary for the prospector to drive his pick and shovel deeper into the earth in search of gold deposits.

This situation brought about the hydraulic washing method of mining, first introduced in Calaveras County, California, and still in use in Josephine County a century later. Because this new method required large amounts of water under pressure to break down the earth to gravel and bedrock, it was often necessary to ditch or flume the water for some distance to the mining location. Fluming required lumber which brought into being a new demand for that commodity. This established a new source of revenue for Josephine County in the form of logging and sawmill operations.

Digging deeper for gold also meant hardrock tunneling and finding gold mixed with other materials. Gold bearing quartz mines are widely distributed in Southwestern Oregon.

In order to free the gold from quartz rock, an age old method was put into use, that of the arrastra. This primitive method of extracting gold by grinding the ore was a slow operation but quite efficient. Usually the arrastras in Southern Oregon were powered by an overshot water wheel rather than animal or man powered as those in California and Mexico. Arrastras were in use and could be found all over

the country until the depression days of the 1930's.

Time does not stand still, however, and progress required a faster way to extract the gold, thus, the installation of the steam driven stamping mills. One of the biggest and most profitable installations of this type of gold extraction was the steam driven 40 stamp mill in the Greenback Mine on Tom East Creek a tributary of Grave Creek. The machinery was installed in 1898 and successfully operated until 1908.

The turn of the century continued to see gold mining flourish until the advent of World War I, at which time most mining came to a complete standstill.

Following the war years mining made a comeback but the picture had changed considerably. The "promoters" who had put in an appearance to some extent before the war, were in full operation during the 1920's. This tainted the community with a bad name because of the many attempts to swindle the public. Unscrupulous promoters offered a "big deal" on various mines in the county which returned only a small percentage of the investor's funds. Most residents profited by these "wild cat operators" as it put money into the county, but it made the raising of money for a legitimate operation from local as well as outside sources, nearly impossible.

DEPRESSION BRINGS OREGON'S SECOND GOLD RUSH

1933 and the new incoming administration put the nation off the gold standard for the first time in United States history, raising the price of gold from \$20.67 to \$35, (the present price). This period was also the never to be forgotten "depression years" following the "Crash" of 1929.

Thousands of unemployed, many with their families, streamed out of the cities and towns and headed for the gold fields. The state employment service enthusiastically got behind the "rush" and by organizing classes in gold mining, put some of the county's jobless back to work. In one two month period Grants Pass hardware stores sold 750 gold pans.

Actually the depression years were less noticeable to those living in this section of Oregon because of the "gold in the hills" and the fact that nearly everyone could raise a garden. "Easy Valley," a term often used to describe the Rogue River Valley, bore out its name because a good many could at least pan enough gold to buy "beans," even though it only amounted to as little as ten to seventy-five cents a day. However, there were some who actually made considerable money gold mining during those years.



NUGGET'S EYE view of Harry Steward guiding a powerful jet of water toward paydirt. The thundering stream of water will blast loose gold-bearing gravel and wash it to the sluices, where the gold is separated from the dirt and gravel, becoming trapped in the riffles. Steward is one of Josephine County's long time miners, and active in the Sourdoughs.

Senate OK's Gold Bill

According to an Associated Press dispatch of July 15, Senators from the Northwest and Alaska were almost completely with the majority as the Senate approved 69-21 an amendment by Sen. Peter Dominick, R-Colo., authorizing private ownership of gold by Americans.

The bill must go through the House of Representatives yet before people in the land of the free may legally own gold, and such action may take place long after this issue of the Josephine

County Sourdough Gazette goes to press

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Price of Gold Spurs Gold Mining Activities in Southwest Oregon

The recent record high price of gold on the world markets

has sparked renewed interest in Southwest Oregon's mining districts. Weekend prospectors as well as seasoned veterans are searching the creeks and hillsides for the elusive yellow metal. Many beginners are realizing that the scarcity of gold is a fact and that patience and hard work are required for success in finding and recovering it.

Most of the creeks where placer gold was mined in the early days are being looked at again and activity such as panning and dredging is a familiar sight on the Rogue, Illinois, and Apolegate rivers, as well as Grave, Coyote, Jamboff, Joe, Louse, Galice, Priegs, Josephine, Althouse, and Sucker Creeks.

Lode mines are also sharing the renewed interest and many, including the Greenback, Warner, Oregon Bonanza, Lost Flat, M-C,

Sourdough Gazette — 1973 Issue

Bunker Hill, Braden, and a host of others are reportedly being considered for exploration and possible development.

There are some currently active gold mine operations—George Slade continues to operate the Humdinger mine and mill and at last report is mining and milling ore from a stope in the No. 1 tunnel.

E. J. Hollas at the Dixie Queen continues development work there and is cross cutting to intersect a vein worked in the early days from a winze in an upper tunnel.

Dave Vallandigham has reconditioned his ball mill on Powell Creek and will be mill testing materials from a prospect in the Illinois Valley.

As time permits, Wes Pieren is exploring at the Greenback mine and hopes to have the mill running soon.

Wells, Cross, and Siefert are working the Boswell mine in the Sucker Creek area. At last report they are continuing their development and testing work.

The consistent high price of copper has continued the interest to find mineable deposits in Southwest Oregon. In recent months mining companies have been active in evaluating the potential at the Rowley mine, Conner King (Mountain View), Turner-Albright, Queen of Bronze, and Rolivar Copper.

The Hanna Mining Company's nickel mine at Riddle in Douglas

Phantom Gold

by Wilmer Wheeler

—from the Illinois Valley News—

Many of you people have probably observed that I seem to have been bitten by the Gold Bug. I have not tried to keep it a secret and yes, I must admit that the lure of gold is most attractive to me. I am not alone in this feeling as there are millions of Americans that are now beginning to realize that our government has been wrong to deny Americans the right to buy and own gold. Now we should all get behind the movement that is underway to give us back our right to own gold.

I would like to take this opportunity to urge all of you to think "gold." Get out there and start panning for gold. You may be surprised how much pleasure you may find. You may even find gold and if it's enough that you should wish to sell it to help our national balance of exchange deficit there are several recognized gold dealers like Chase Manhattan Bank of America, etc. who will buy your gold at the daily London gold price. It is said it has to be sold to foreigners as we third class Americans must not own gold.

It has long been my pleasure to pan beautiful sparkling, velvety gold but this is not the only kind of gold we have in our area. Mining books tell us that many kinds of molten enriched rocks have been forced from deep in the earth to the surface or near the surface where they cooled. Usually the outer surface of these enriched masses of rock are less mineralized than the center of

County continues to be Oregon's foremost metal mining operation. Their mine and smelter constitute the only nickel production in the United States. The mining and milling operation at Riddle is described in Bulletin 75, Geology and Mineral Resources of Douglas County, Oregon (1972) by Len Ramp of the State Department of Geology and Mineral Industries.

Interest is still present in the nickel-bearing laterites of Josephine and Curry Counties with several companies conducting exploration projects. Inter American Nickel Co. is currently working on Eight Dollar Mountain. Hanna Nickel is evaluating the Woodcock Mountain Deposits, and Inspiration Copper Co. has staked a series of claims in the Rough and Ready drainage west of O'Brien.

the ledge or dike. They can be quartz, porphy, diorite, green stone, slate, and many others, even limestone. Recently I showed a sample of rock to our state geologist Len Ramp. The sample was supposed to contain lots of Phantom Gold but none to see until it is treated. Len took one look at the rock and said, "That is genuine leaverite. That is the kind of rock you would pick up to look at but you would drop her and leaverite there."

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The Pocket Hunter
by Wilmer Wheeler

—from the Illinois Valley News—
Along about the turn of the last century an ounce of gold would buy quite a few things. New mined gold that was cleaned up reasonably good would bring about \$16 an ounce sold to the U. S. Mint. Wages for a hard day's work might be \$1 to \$2 per day so the price of goods sold accordingly. This induced many men to try hunting pockets, some of them doing very good at it. They tell us there also were Lady Gold Diggers but that would be a different story. Josh Black spent 12 years working with his partner digging pockets in the Yreka, Cal. area. It

Gold May Be Found In Most Southern Oregon Streams

Raw gold may be panned in nearly any of the Southern Oregon all year streams, tributary to the Rogue and Applegate Rivers. The floods have opened many new fields of raw land to the delight of the avid panner. It is a great pleasure and surprise to the panner to see the results of his efforts show in the pan as real gold. The art of panning is not hard to learn. A few minutes of instruction was the early 20th century and Josh said they were lucky, as at no time during that 12 years did they have to work for someone, but just lived on the gold they mined.

Josh said they came in one time with a good grubstake and there was big excitement about a strike at Tonapah, Nevada. Josh said he and his partner caught the next train headed that way. They didn't try to stake a claim when they got there, but just went along to watch the fun. Josh said here would come an old grizzled prospector beating his poor burro on the tail with a stick, pots, pans, and canteens a-jangling. The first open ground the old boy would find he would stake a claim then get out his gun and get ready to defend his claim whether there was gold or not.

Another time they brought in a good stake and the talk was about a world champion fight to be held at Madison Square Garden. They boarded a train east, sat at ringside during the big fight, then went on to spend the winter in Florida.

Josh said they never did find a big pocket. The most they took out of a pocket was \$1,200. But they found lots of them. Their biggest pocket was one someone else had missed. They were moving and had their gear packed on their horses and burro. They came to a mountain glade with a spring and plenty of grass for the animals so they decided to make camp. Up on the hillside was an old diggings so Josh dug a sample of dirt from the mouth of the cut to see what kind of trace the former prospector had. His sample was full of gold as he had dug into the top of the pocket the former prospector had missed.

This is a typical story of prospecting, as it is so easy to bypass a pocket. Most of the time the former pocket hunter has found some sort of a pocket but there may be more of them in the area, so it pays to look over an old diggings and sample all likely looking seams or rock.

plus the willingness to make an effort is all that is needed. There are very few sports that offer so much satisfaction and just pure enjoyment of the out of doors as panning for gold.

The past days of having a full string of gold in your pan is not over. The richer ground that was prevalent then is not as profuse now.

Like anything else that is worth an effort the joys of panning cannot be had without a good application of muscle.

The dirt is still shoveled by hand into the pan. But if you enjoy cooling your feet in a clear mountain stream while you "pan," the joys of the outdoors are yours for the asking.

Gold has a specific gravity of 19.3—a pint of gold would weigh 19.3 times as much as a pint of water.

Vandals Strike Sourdough Camp

—from the Illinois Valley News—
A recent case of vandalism on the Siskiyou National Forest on the Wimer Road to Sourdough Campground will cost the taxpayers \$198.40. Beginning at the U. S. Forest Service boundary, signs were defaced, bridge and guard reflectors destroyed, directional and warning signs mutilated, picnic tables damaged, and property stolen.

In a possible reconstruction of events, a group of people, including "Beck," maybe "Jim" and "Vera," held a party at Sourdough Campground, probably during a recent weekend. It was during this time that the damages were done. The total cost to the "fun-makers" — one 99¢ can of fluorescent orange spray paint.

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Mining Claims On F. S. Land?

—from the Illinois Valley News—

During recent months considerable activity and considerable confusion about individual rights in staking, owning, occupying, buying and selling mining claims on U. S. Forest Service lands has become apparent.

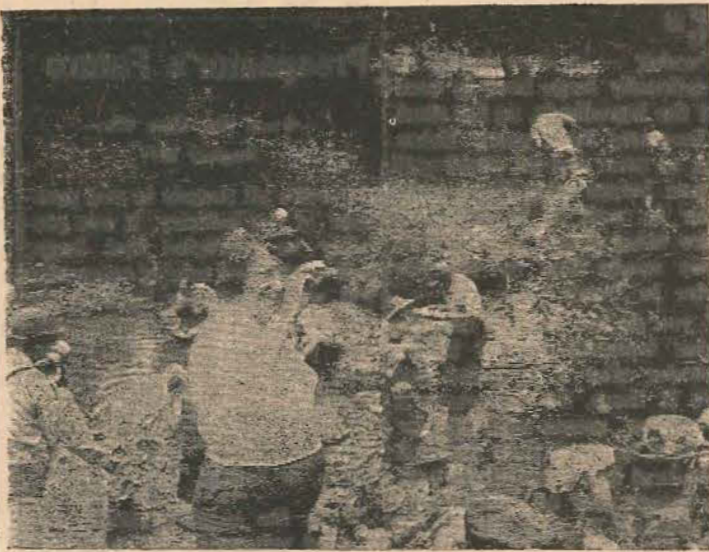
In 1872 Congress passed "An Act to Promote the Development of the Mining Resources of the United States." If you wish to file a mining claim on public land this is the law which gives you the right to do so. It, together with the regulations and court decisions which have interpreted it, sets the limits of your

rights and the rules of the game. You cannot make your own rules. The law itself can be found in the United States Code, Title 30, Sections 21-54.

You want to stake or buy a mining claim? Before you do, be sure that a mining claim is what you really want. A mining claim is for one purpose — to permit the development and extraction of certain valuable mineral deposits. If you want to build a house or summer cabin, a resort, a filling station, or any other kind of structure, or occupy any existing structure, then staking or buying a mining claim is not a way to do it.

A mining claim may be validly located and held by an adult citizen of the United States only after the discovery of a valuable mineral deposit. This includes, but is not limited to gold, silver, lead, copper, and other valuable metallic minerals as well as some non-metallic substances such as gypsum, asbestos, mica, and others. But the mere showing of a mineral, no matter how slight, or a hope or wish for future discovery does not constitute a valid claim.

Under the prudent man rule where minerals have been found and the evidence is of such a character that a person of ordinary prudence would be justified in further expenditure of his labor and means, with a reasonable prospect of developing a valuable mine, then, and only then, have the requirements of a discovery been met. A "valid" claim is one in which a U. S. Government mining engineer has examined the claim to determine that a "discovery" has been made according to the provisions of the



We don't know the name but the lady shown here is smiling happily as she looks at the gold in her little bottle. Scene is from Josephine County Sourdough gold panning field day, June 24, 1973, on Coyote Creek, about 27 miles north of Grants Pass. An estimated 150 people of all ages attended, some from as far away as Connecticut. The weather was beautiful and it appeared that every panner was successful in finding "color" to put in their little bottles.

law.

The fact that you have a "discovery" does not entitle you to the surface rights on the claim. These are vested in the United States government as administrator of the public lands. Without meeting some other requirements of the law you may not begin mining, build any structure, keep livestock, cut any timber or make any other disturbance of the surface.

Within the Illinois Valley area, there are a number of locations on the forest which are closed to mining location. Be sure of the area before spending time and effort in "locating" an area that is closed to entry.

A valid mining claim can be bought or sold, willed or inherited as can any other property. However, if you buy or sell a claim, remember that you acquire only such rights as are authorized by the mining law. A "quit-claim" deed is often used to sell claims, but only such rights as exist can be quit-claimed. If the claim is without a valid discovery or is otherwise defective, it is worthless and is not made any better by being bought or sold.

It is suggested that before prospecting, locating, or buying a mining claim on the National Forest you contact the nearest National Forest office.

Big Finds Listed In Southwestern Oregon

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was discovered in 1859, my Mattie Collins on the east fork of Althouse Creek. The piece of gold weighed 204 ounces, 17 pounds troy and was valued at approximately \$3,500. The present price of refined gold would have brought its value up to more than \$6,000.

Some of the other finds in local properties have been:

1858—Vaun nugget, \$800, found on Slug Bar near Browntown.
1892—Oscar Creek nugget, \$365, found by Boardman Darnelle.
1904—Klippel nugget, \$500, found in McDowell Gulch.

19—Oscar Creek, in the early 1900's several large nuggets, \$240, \$125, and \$100.

1934—Burns nugget, 34.37 ounces approximately \$1,000, found in the Stovepipe Mine on Brimstone Gulch, near Leland.

1934—A piece of float found on Footh Creek by E. R. Prefountain while placer mining, weighing out more than \$450.

There have been several notable "pockets" strikes from which large amounts were realized, among them by Scribner and Henderson, Wolf Creek district in 1900, \$50,000; the Briggs strike, Sucker Creek district in 1904, approximately \$35,000; and the Robertson, in the Galice district in 1926-27, variously estimated at \$100,000.

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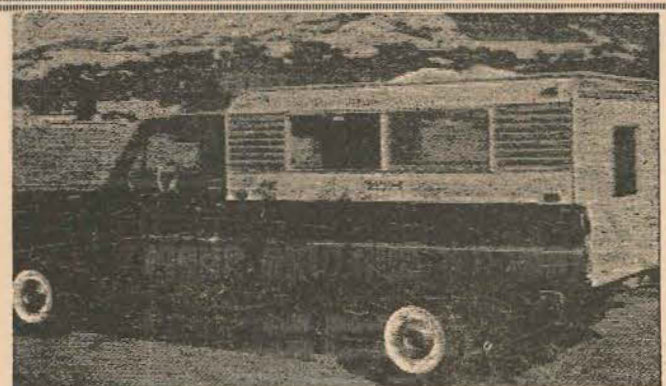
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Prospector's Future

—from the Ore Bin—
August 1971

Despite all threats to and problems of the industry, it can probably be predicted that large, well-established mining companies will survive simply because the nation needs them; further predict that any unnecessary controls will cause unnecessary expenditures with increased costs, which the public will pay either through higher taxes, higher prices, or both.

It is the small operator who is most vulnerable, the man who may lack either the money or talent to cope with innumerable problems. He needs to consider him for he is needed, too, as we also need the present non-producer, who may have only his dreams and little capital to contribute immediately to the nation's future. The prospector still exists. He looks through more knowledgeable eyes than did most of his predecessors and often uses more sophisticated tools, but his dream is still part of the American Dream. If environmental fears result in banishing the prospector with his dream from western mountains and deserts, something good and necessary will vanish from the

Mine Where Minerals Are

We need no crystal ball to see what will be written about us when this editorial appears. We'll be accused of siding with the miners in an unholy alliance to strip-mine coal within the city limits of Columbia " . . . in calculating disregard for the well-being of the community." If there's one thing we don't need, it's adverse publicity at a time when operating funds for State agencies are woefully short, but we cannot stand idly by when principles are at stake: we MUST become involved.

Mineral deposits are where you find them; sometimes they're in convenient places, sometimes not, but whatever they are they can

any dough or pancake batter as they contain ingredients which will kill the starter.

IN HUNKY-BUNK VALLEY

George W. Reynolds

In Hunky-Bunk Valley, past Lone Tree Hill,

Is Hunky-Bunk heaven, so peaceful and still,

Where you rise up each morning with a song and a smile
And breathe the fresh air that is there all the while.

Your cares fade away with the greatest of ease,
And the wind in the tree tops is only a breeze.

There's a cat in the valley with long whiskers and tail,
And he is in charge of the Hunky-Bunk jail.

The jail has no lock, no roof and no floor,
And the sides of the jail are one open door.

So, bring all your trouble, and have never a fear,
In Hunky-Bunk Valley, they'll just disappear.

When the sun, it is set, and you've watched its last glow,
Then it's time in the Valley to hoo-doo-hoo-oo.

Sweet dreams you may have at the Hunky-Bunk fair,
Out in the Valley past those hills over there.

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Government Makes Last Silver Sale

—from the Ore Bin—

The U. S. Treasury Department on November 10, 1970, brought to a close the sale of surplus silver offered through the General Services Administration. Awards of 1,567,899 ounces of silver resulted from the November 10 bid opening. A balance of approximately 23 million ounces remains in the Treasury, of which about 15 million ounces is in bars containing gold and must be refined. The remaining eight million ounces is in various forms and finenesses, most of which would require refining and processing to be of significant commercial values. Since the GSA weekly

western way of life.

It is believed that an improved environment is both necessary and possible, but we also believe that where no substantial, immediate, or irreparable hazard or damage is involved, that improvement must come in an orderly fashion, that the rule of reason must prevail so that in solving one problem we do not create others of equal or greater magnitude, that consideration must be given to preventing local economic disasters. Hopefully then we can avoid the possibility of what one news writer has termed "a national environmental recession."

sales program began on August 4, 1967, the government has sold, through competitive bids, 305 million ounces of surplus silver. Of this total, the Treasury supplied 212 million fine ounces obtained from the melting of silver dimes and quarters. The estimated profit to the government from the sale of silver under this program will be approximately \$147 million.

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