

SOURDOUGH

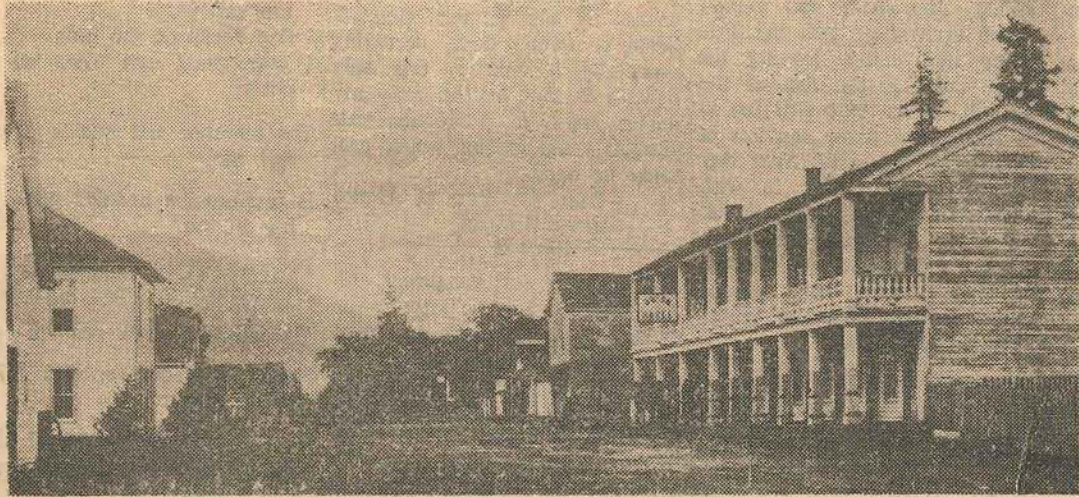


GAZETTE

VOLUME VIII, NUMBER 1, 1975

SOURDOUGH GULCH, JOSEPHINE COUNTY, OREGON

PRICE 25¢



Kerbyville, once the seat of Josephine County, seen when stagecoaches rolled down its dusty street on their way to Waldo and Crescent City.

Illinois Valley News photo

Stay Out of Old Mines

The temptation to explore old mine tunnels and shafts is understandably very strong. The dangers are also very real. Many mines have timbers to support the walls, but over a period of years they rot, and although still apparently sound may fail suddenly. Portions of mine workings will become hazardous due to alteration of minerals exposed to the air, and cave-ins are all too common. Some mines have water-filled openings below the be handled since it tends to get extremely sensitive to vibration. Unfortunately dynamite caps are bright and shiny and seem to have an irresistible appeal to children. The disastrous consequences are all too frequent.

tunnel level which may appear to be shallow puddles until stepped into. Decaying timbers and the alteration of minerals may produce air that is unsafe to breathe even though the danger cannot be detected by smell or sight.

The refuge provided by old mine tunnels has always been utilized by wild animals. Porcupines, pack rats, rattlesnakes, scorpions, spiders, skunks, bobcats and even bears have been encountered a short distance inside mines. Although it is not good practice and not a common occurrence, dynamite and caps are occasionally left in and around mines. The danger is obvious, and old dynamite should never-

If you must go into on old mine, station your partner outside or leave a note at the entrance telling who you are, what you are doing, when you expect to come out, and whom to call in case you do not return. It is also wise not to wear good clothes underground, since many mines have acid water dripping down, and nearly all are wet and slimy. One last thought. Leave your car keys outside the mine . . . someone may have to drive into town for help.

—from the Ore-Bin

Is It Gold

The positive identification of placel gold is of prime importance to a prospector. Gold is a heavy mineral and will hang back in a pan. Shiny flakes of mica, often mistaken for gold, are easily washed away. Flour gold may also be lost, particularly if any greasy film is present on the water. Gold is soft, and may be cut or flattened easily with a knife blade. Placer gold is usually yellow but may not shine like polished jewelers gold. Gold is commonly mistaken for either mica or pyrite, neither of which leaves a golden trace on a streak plate. Pyrite is brittle, has a black streak and is attacked by nitric acid. Gold is soluble only in aqua regia.

PHYSICAL PROPERTIES OF GOLD

Specific gravity: 15 - 19
Hardness: 2.5 - 3.0
Malleable and ductile
Color: pale to silvery yellow
Streak: pale yellow
Lustre: metallic

from Ore-Bin

A Strange Legend

There is a strange legend of the Sailor Diggins camp (later Waldo). As the sailors dug for gold in the gravel they uncovered white man's tools - especially a shovel - left many years before. The strikes at Sailors Diggins and Jacksonville in 1851 brought the first real gold rush to Oregon. Soon, mining towns had sprung up over Southern Oregon - Jacksonville, Phoenix, Allentown, Brownstown, Waldo, and Kerbyville. Other early gold mining towns listed were Buncom and Willow Springs.

—by Ruth Pfefferle

Short History of Gold In Josephine County

Historically, the recovery of placer gold in Oregon began in July, 1850, with the discovery at the confluence of Josephine Creek and the Illinois River in Josephine County (Spren, 1939). The deposits found in Rich Gulch near Jacksonville in January of 1852 touched off the first of a long series of "rushes" to various parts of the state. Placer gold has been mined continuously in Oregon ever since. Gold which had been accumulating in the streams for thousands of years was soon mostly gone. Low-grade areas were temporarily ignored in favor of richer claims. Later on the poorer sections of the streams were worked with more

elaborate and efficient equipment.

Over the years the placer miner has progressed from the simple gold pan, which was entirely adequate for the very rich stream placers first discovered, to the long tom, the rocker, the hydraulic giant with greatly enlarged and extended sluices, the connected bucket dredge, the "doodlebug" or portable washing plant fed by an independent power shovel or dragline, to a wide variety of earth-moving and gold-recovery devices nearly all of which are easily transportable and designed to work small, irregular areas.

—by Ralph S. Mason

State In Control Of Rogue Waters

The State Marine Board has assumed its jurisdiction over the navigable waters in the state and will be the only agency to issue permits for commercial use of state waters, said Jim Hadley, chairman of the board.

The Rogue River is a navigable stream, he added, and the board will establish operator license regulations which include such safety requirements as life saving equipment and safe boats.

The board spent several days in Gold Beach conducting hearings on proposed regulation of power tour boats on the Rogue River. One of the actions taken was to form a six-member com-

mittee to do a study of motorboat use on the Lower Rogue.

Jack Sim, county parks director, is Josephine county's delegate on the committee, other members represent BLM, Forest Service, State Scenic Water Ways, the Marine Board and one official from Curry County.

Hadley indicated the Marine Board has jurisdiction over use of the waters only, and that the land is owned by the state and federal agencies.

"There are other things going on now in Legislature and it is possible that our permits may eventually include land use, at least on state lands," he commented.

Happy Gold Panning

The Board of Commissioners makes it permissible for our citizens to enjoy the outdoors and fresh air by taking their gold pan up on county owned property along Coyote Creek and trying their luck for this beautiful gold dust that developed the West.

There will be signs showing where it is permissible to pan, but we must caution - this does NOT allow the use of sluice box-

es or dredges, or any mechanical operated equipment.

Remember this land belongs to all the citizens of Josephine County, so let's share it, and protect it, for the enjoyment of all who wish to spend a few hours a week in their retirement years - breathing clean air.

—Pete Loughridge, chairman
County Commissioners

The Magic Of Gold

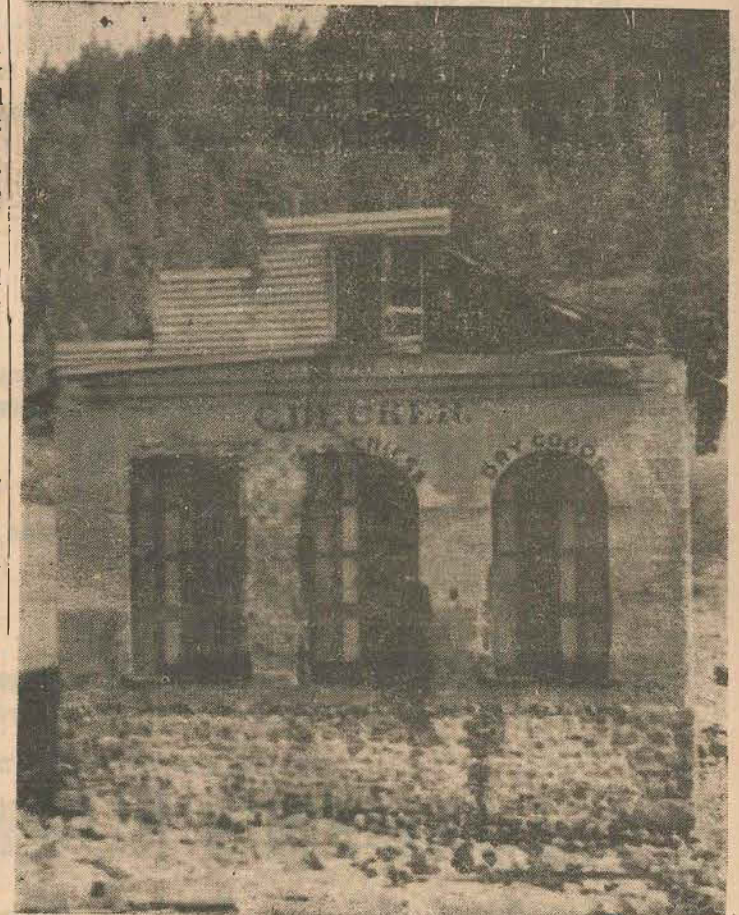
Gold is perhaps the first metal discovered by man. The fact that gold is widely dispersed throughout the Earth's crust, occurs in metallic form, and is attractive in color and brightness support the contention that it has been known to man for approximately 10,000 years. In recorded history, the washing of gold ores is depicted for example, on Egyptian monuments of the 1st Dynasty some 5,000 years ago.

The impact of gold on civilization is incalculable. It has influenced art, literature, economics, science and virtually every other field of human endeavor. The famous Greek legend of the Golden Fleece was based on an expedition in about 1200 B.C. to seize gold recovered, by the use of sheepskins, from river sands in Armenia. Gold has been used as currency and as a backing for paper money. In the Middle Ages, it helped lay the founda-

tion for modern chemistry, as medieval alchemists sought to convert base metals into gold.

Aside from its distinct color, brightness and virtual indestructibility, much of gold's desirability stems from its scarcity. Masses of rock rich enough to be termed ore are rare. Those that do exist are usually quartz lodes or veins. Ores may also be found in deposits derived from veins, such as river gravels and quartz conglomerate beds or reefs. The gold mined during the great strikes in California, Colorado, and Alaska came mostly from gravels or placers (a Spanish word meaning "sand bank"),

"No state shall . . . make anything but gold and silver coin a tender in payment of debt. . ." Art. I., Sec. 10-1, Constitution of the United States.



The Decker Store at Waldo long after the town's heyday. Gold was discovered here and the town (then called Sailor's Diggins) boomed. Now all that's left is the foundation of this store and some memories.

Illinois Valley News photo

Tales From The Tundra

Josephine County is well represented in the Miller House area east of Fairbanks, Alaska with Henry Speaker, Carl Sellens, Deke Miller, Robert Littlefield, and Bob Brown camped out on Harrison Creek. They are all either mining or getting set up for it. The long hours of daylight encourages the men to put in many hours a day getting out the gold from the creeks and benches.

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The following news is reported as seen by the eyes of a person new to Alaska and open to the different experiences one has there. First, about the Alcan Highway — there are problems driving that bugger during break-up when the ice melts during the day and freezes again at night. Three of us were driving two rigs, Littlefield's dump truck pulling a tandem-wheeled low boy trailer loaded with pipe, Robin Sherwood in a Datsun pickup pulling a 15 foot camp trailer and Harvey Dickey as supercargo, tire thumper and oil checker. We made it to Fairbanks in 8 days from Grants Pass with a number of hair raising or heart stopping experiences which we won't tell in detail. But a word of advice, if you go, leave the truck at home and travel by car, pickup, camper or motor home—weigh scales and permits and bonds for trucks is time consuming and expensive.

The scenery is beautiful and allow an extra day or two to enjoy it and take pictures. At least once. And carry good spare tires, the more the better as we had 9 flats, most all on the rear tandem wheels of the low boy. And if you have tandem wheels, hang a flap between them as the first tire shoots sharp rock into the back tire on that 1500 miles of unpaved road. Traffic is another thing where roads are narrow and steep and the big trucks go roaring along.

We found Fairbanks eventually, took care of some business in that boom town where street traffic is horrible, saloons all over the place and everybody in a hurry.

Leaving Fairbanks we drove out Steese Highway, first 44 miles blacktop but heaving from break-up, then narrow and steep in places gravel road to Miller House. We learned that Henry Speaker was a few days ahead of us. Due to a washout on the road he was forced to camp out at Chatanika. When road was fixed Henry moved on and a few hours later, the Chatanika store and station burned. Arriving at Miller House, Speaker got a friend with a big rig to clear the snow out of the pass that must be crossed. The big rig got stuck at the top in the ice and snow, so Speaker tied on his back batteries for his own bull-

dozer and hiked in several miles to his camp. After starting his cat, he drove it three hours back to the pass to tow his friend out of the snowdrift. Henry says it was a cold, cold ride on that open cat. But he got the road open and the next night three motor homes and camp trailer were on Harrison Creek.

A few days later when the Littlefield, Sherwood, and Dickey convoy arrived we took the little pickup into camp, leaving the bigger units at the foot of the last hill. There was still ice in the road, some snow and lots of drifts along the road. Next day took the camp trailer in with chains on the dump truck duals. Just made it. Road was thawing and getting soft in places. The long daylight hours speeds thawing but cool nights let things freeze a little again.

The first few days there we had hail and rain storms occasionally then the weather settled into long, long days with partly cloudy skies and reasonably warm. At this time did not really get dark, just a long twilight. You could read a book at 11:30 at night with artificial light. The Littlefield group set up camp, got water from nearby snowbanks as creek water flowing out the muskeg was heavily laden with rotting vegetable matter and THAT stuff was like taking a double dose of salts.

We helped Speaker set giants, chunk pipes, string pipe and set headboards for his new location and he was able to start feeding his giant on May 27. We went swimming on a Saturday at Circle Hot Springs in a huge covered pool. Water coming from the ground there is 137 degrees F. and the pool was a delight for guys like me who hate flopping into cold water. Four pools at different temperatures, and the closer to the intake, the hotter was the water. Hurrah! Coming back from the pool we stopped to do some trading for timbers with some truly nice people. Lon (Alonzo) and Edie Mathis live in a huge log house, have a garden, raise poultry and buy and sell everything imaginable. Sherrill, their house guest, seems to be champion wood chopper of those parts. She had a big stack growing as early as May. Edie was telling me about going to a funeral the next day. It appears that digging a grave in the winter up there is about impossible, so the decedent is cremated, the remains buried at a later time with a memorial service. In the account she said that persons who die in the winter are quickly placed in a sitting position so when they get stiff, they can sit in the plane that flies them out. One fellow died alone, straight out and a larger plane had to be used to make him fit. Temperatures in those parts hit 40 and 50 below zero, and though the snow is not terrible deep, that long haul into Fairbanks is not feasible much of the winter.

As a matter of safety, while working on the mining tasks, walking and inspecting the ditches, the fellows carry a hefty rifle. Grizzly bear are there, and

What's The Longest Word In The Dictionary?

Surprisingly enough, it isn't 'antidisestablishmentarianism' as many people believe reports The Geode. Instead, a 45-letter jaw-breaker connected with the mineral industry goes to the forefront on this one. The word is 'pneumonoultramicroscopicsilicovolcanoconiosis,' an ailment caused by inhaling very fine silicote or quartz dust; occurring especially in miners. Our only thought is that by the time any doctor tries to pronounce this ailment - his patient would probably be dead-

—from the State of Alaska Mines Bulletin

they are big and dangerous. Also, caribou may charge when surprised so the miners must stay alert to these hazards.

Littlefield's carload of pipe finally arrived June 5, by train and barge, so he is probably working like the dickens to get it strung together, the ditch ready and valves and giants set up. It is a lot of hard work, time consuming but once done is set for years with only a few days work re-setting the sluice box and realigning the pipe as needed.

Much more could be told of the adventures and day to day activities of the trip to Alaska and the mining set up, enough to almost fill an entire issue of the Sourdough Gazette. But in closing this account, a few words about Alaskan mosquitoes. Some stories are true, they are big and they are plentiful, especially as the weather warms and there is no breeze or wind to blow them away. They fly slowly, are easy to swat by hand but they are persistent. The story that one landed at the airport and took on 500 gallons of jet fuel before it was discovered he was not a 707, is not true. The fuel master claims it was less than 50 gallons and the mosquito had difficulty taking off. He says such stories are badly exaggerated in Alaska as they are in Texas.

THE GEOLOGIST'S TWENTY-THIRD

Geology is my major, I shall not want another.
It maketh me to go down in dark places;
It leadeth me to running waters, It ruineth my soles.
It leadeth me on the path of outcrops
For its name's sake.
Yea, though I search through the valleys,
I find rocks on the hills.
I fear great evil when on the cliffs;

The hammer and chisels discomfort me.

It preparast a bedding plane for me in the

Presence of my Brunton;
It anointeth my body with mud,
My collecting sack runneth over.

Surely to goodness, if I follow this vocation

All the days of my life, I shall be buried in a landslide forever.

—Robert C. Rasely

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Sourdough Gazette — 1975

from the Medford Mail Tribune by Eva Hamilton

"The Gold Rush of the 1930s" has never provoked the exciting tales associated with the early discovery of gold at Jacksonville, Gold Hill or the Waldo area in Southern Oregon. But what it lacked in thrills and romance it compensated for in "bread and butter," garnered from the leavings of those first miners.

The thirties were the years of the Great Depression and valley residents who remember that period have interesting reports of men who kept their families eating by sinking shafts under houses and streets of historic Jacksonville or panning gold in the streams.

Activity, however, was not limited to what became a threat to the streets of Jacksonville although the sinking pavements

claimed the most lineage in mining stories.

The first operation of any size in the Depression, according to recollections of Harry Skyrman, Medford lawyer and erstwhile miner, was by the late William von der Hellen.

Road Contractor

He was a road building contractor and when he found no jobs to utilize his equipment he "put it to mining." He chose the lower Althouse Creek area, dug and hauled the worked gravel to a washplant.

"He was the only person who made money because he had the equipment," Skyrman said.

Then came what miners called the "Doodlebug." It consisted of a floating washplant similar to the modern sand and gravel operation, with a crane to dig the dirt and deposit it on the washplant. It was inclined to bounce a bit, accounting for its nickname.

The first one operated in Jackson County was set up by Jack Horner of Seattle on Forest Creek near the mouth of Poorman's Creek. It was a three-man operation working three shifts with a minimum of three men on each shift. The digging shovel which loaded dirt onto the dredge encompassed 1/4 yards at a bite and when digging into the old pre-worked tailings delivered a bucketfull every 20 seconds.

Digging Harder

In virgin ground the digging was harder but the increase in value compensated, according to Skyrman, who as attorney and secretary for the company brought in the cleanup.

In 1939, Horner decided he wanted to sell. Ten Medford businessmen bought the operation. It wasn't as easy as that may sound. Skyrman borrowed \$5,000 through the late Eugene Thorn dike. He took it to pay expenses and went 'round the town talking the others into buying stock.

"We raised the \$25,000 we needed. I still have the cancelled check." Skyrman pulled it from his vault, adding, "I never destroy any evidence."

Recalling the good days and the bad, Skyrman said: "We did fine for a while operating when the stream was running. But it was a dry fall. When the creek ran out . . . there was that dredge sitting in the mud. We didn't get any rain until November. It wasn't pleasant going down the street. The men kept asking when are you going to start the dredge? My answer was 'When is it going to rain?'"

Different Story

"When are we going to get some money," came next. Then "Are we going to lose money?" Then the rains came and it was a different story. In two years each who had put in \$500 took out \$1,200. The same men who had been complaining thought they were pretty smart. When we weren't operating, it was all my idea," Skyrman laughed. "When the gold came in, it was their

idea."

During five years of operation the B-H dredge produced mint receipts totalling \$567,076.22.

In discussing Forest Creek which was worked by both hydraulic and dredging methods, Skyrman delved into its history. It produced an estimated \$1 million, according to "Gold and Silver in Oregon."

"It was originally known as Jackass Creek and was so-named on the maps. The reason was: one of the miners who spent much time in the saloons mined this very creek. One night he came in with more gold dust than usual . . . an extra amount. The bartender said 'Now don't make a jackass of yourself telling where you got it.' But he did and from that day forward the stream was Jackass Creek until officially renamed."

Price Increases

During the Depression the price of gold unlike that on other products increased, miners point out. It zoomed from \$20 to \$35 an ounce. The old Sterling Mine on the Little Applegate was a favorite area with the miners. During its heyday, 30 miles of ditch had been dug and the mine reputedly produced several million dollars. Later it was sold to Jackson County for taxes and the depression miners viewed it as public property. The county court "didn't have the heart to throw them off," Skyrman said.

Many with the gold they found and the gardens they grew, managed to survive that period. Those who sank shafts in Jacksonville where there was gold below the level explored by early miners found the town had no sub-surface rights and continued to mine. Some paid a royalty of 10 per cent or more to the owner of lots. They dug long drawout tunnels, Skyrman recalled. Then one day the citizens realized the streets were beginning to sink (some areas were honeycombed) and they put a stop to it.

A number of miners worked the Forest Creek area through the years. A successful one living in the valley is Charles C. Stearns, 522 West Fourth St., Medford. "A real miner," according to Skyrman, "and in a way, unique. While many men went into mining because they were unemployed, Stearns left a good position to respond to the lure of gold."

Verified By Stearns

This Stearns verified. He was a civil engineer for Butte County, California. Early in the depression he was responsible for 3,000 men. But he started mining in 1936 at Hay Fork, west of Redding. He did his first Oregon mining on the Thompson Creek property of Tom and Gene Mee. His move into mining did pay off. One month on Forest Creek, mining with the late Douglas Owens, he took out \$20,000 worth of the bright metal.

He also mined with Owens on the Kubli Ranch on the Applegate River and had had an equally lucrative experience.

"One of the requirements was that the miners return the top soil. We increased the farm land by 30 acres by working through the old Chinese diggings," Stearns said.

Dr. A. K. Stearns of St. Mary's,

Ohio, is the man Stearns credits with his change to mining. He was the Medford man's grandfather. He came to California in 1852. His group took out \$63,236.95. His share of gold was \$5,269.74. He continued to practice medicine and mine. The largest nugget was found on April 12, 1859. It weighed 54 pounds and assayed at 52 pounds, 20 ounces. It was cause for a three-day celebration, according to reports from Dr. Stearns' diary.

Nugget in Sack

Ira Wetherbee, one of the owners and operators of the mine, was quietly eating his lunch in the Dogtown (now Magalia) saloon when in came six of his men with the nugget in a burlap sack. They refused to reveal the take until Wetherbee promised to treat. Then they rolled to reveal the nugget. The bartender rolled out a barrel of whiskey and Dogtown went wild.

A replica of the wedge-shaped nugget, taken from the north slope of Sawmill Peak, was displayed in the State Capitol in Sacramento. A memorial plaque on the West Fork of the Feather River near Magalia points to the place it was found.

It's still a cause for celebration. When the Centennial observance was held in Paradise, Cal., Stearns drove the sully with the fringe on top in the parade. His sister, Lida Stearns, represented their grandmother, wearing her silk dress of the 1850s.

Source of Interest

Another famous miner was source of Skyrman's early interest in prospecting. He was Ed Schieffelin whose find at Tombstone, Ariz., gave the town its name. Schieffelin camped on the Skyrman ranch at Trail where the Medford lawyer spent his childhood. He went from there to Day's Creek where he was found dead in his cabin. On the table near a bottle of acid and a "very rich specimen of free gold" was his diary with this notation:

Federal Land Use Planning Bill

Jackson-Udall Bill

States would be bribed to follow federal "Guidelines."

This is a Federal attempt to dictate local law; amend "the powers not delegated to the U.S. by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the states, are reserved to the states—or the people."

Federal "guidelines" would regulate: 1) Dividing your land; 2) Any building or mining operation; 3) Changing use or appearance of any structure or land (even repairs!). "Areas of critical environmental concern" would control every type of terrain in the land.

June 11, 1974 Congress rejected this blueprint for bureaucratic dictatorship — but that didn't end it, they will keep trying.

—From Whose Land Is It?
by Vic Lockman

"Found it at last. Rained on the mountain last night."

Schieffelin was buried at Day's Creek, but his casket was later moved to Tombstone, Ariz., where his final resting place is marked with a large monument. The notation in his diary is still a challenge to prospectors.

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The Small Miner Valuing A Mine

by Arden L. Larson

The subject of the value of a mine is generally not all understood by the small miner. Since we do not go around buying mines very often, we are not in the business of appraising them. More often, we are selling the mine. Thus it is important for us to understand the viewpoint of the mine buyer.

First, a mine is not worth what it produces. How often have you

heard that such and such a mine produced a million dollars worth of gold? How the fellow who tells this tale often does not continue it far enough. The mine that produced this large sum of money might have lost money in doing it. It might have cost them two million dollars to produce the gold! However, our local mining historians ignore this fact and go on telling the world that the mine produced this much and inferring that the guy who owned it made a million dollars. This type of atmosphere has caused some very big letdowns for small miners when they receive an offer for their mine. It has also resulted in some very good properties remaining idle because some mining company didn't offer what the owner thought it was worth. Let us hope through better understanding that these mines can help alleviate our metal shortage.

Suppose that you have a mine with proven ore reserves of one million dollars in value. From my above discussion you know that it isn't worth one million dollars to sell it, so let me explain what it might be worth. Let us assume that this ore will take ten years to mine, thus you could produce one hundred thou-

and dollars per year from this mine. Now, that money is your total sales, you still have to pay for mining, milling, and all of the other costs.

For this example, let us assume that there is no capital cost. That is that the milling is done on a custom basis, thus you would not have to depreciate the cost of the mill. Further, let us assume that the necessary mining machinery has been brought in from another property where its cost has already been recovered. Thus we are giving this example as a real break, the only costs are, the direct cost of mining and custom milling.

Let us assume that the ore is worth fifty dollars gross value per ton. As we already said, we mine one hundred thousand dollars worth per year of two thousand tons. We will assume a mining cost of ten dollars per ton and a milling cost of five dollars per ton for a total direct cost of thirty thousand dollars per year. This would imply a profit of seventy thousand dollars per year but this is wrong. We have not figured in mill losses, smelter charges, freight, etc., so let's assume that we realize only sixty five per cent of sixty five thousand dollars. Thus the profit of this mine would be thirty five thousand dollars per year for 10 thousand dollars total.

So, what is the mine worth? Definitely not a million dollars or even half of that. It isn't worth three hundred fifty thousand dollars either, because that is all that will be returned to the buyer if everything remained exactly as it is today. Well, you all know that wages and prices are not going to remain the same, they are going to increase. The problem then arises of projecting cost increases and hoping that metal prices will increase accordingly. History has shown that this is not the case. The price of lead was higher 20 years ago than it is now! Thus in buying a mine there is a great deal of risk involved.

The mine, when it is reduced to a profit per year figure on a piece of paper, is just like any other investment. What is the real value of this investment today? This can be computed by several different formulas which discount these future earnings of the mine to day's dollars. What this means is that the profit of the tenth year is thirty five thousand dollars is not worth that much today. Let me explain it like this. Suppose I were to sell you ten hundred dollar bills to be delivered in ten years. Would you pay one thousand dollars to me now? No. You would think of all sorts of reasons why you shouldn't do that, in particular inflation. In ten years, the purchasing power of that thousand dollars would probably be much less than what it is now. Furthermore, you could take your money and invest it in a bank (a safe investment) at an interest rate of six per cent. Thus your bank book would be worth about eighteen hundred dollars in ten years. Or you could put six hundred dollars in the bank and in 10 years you have your ten hundred dollar bills. Remem-

ber, this is with a safe investment.

With this in mind, then what is the worth of that tenth year's profits? If you discount those profits at six percent, they are worth nineteen thousand five hundred thirty dollars in today's dollars. They lose almost half of their value by being ten years away. This whole method of discounting might make a little more sense if you compared it to an annuity that you might buy from an insurance company. In fact, the mine can be compared to an annuity of thirty five thousand dollars per year for 10 years. You could purchase an annuity of thirty five thousand dollars per year for 10 years for a little over one quarter of a million dollars.

Does this mean that the mine is worth that much? No, it doesn't because the annuity is a safe investment. There is such a large amount of risk involved in mining that the "value" of the mine must be further discounted due to the risk factor. A discount figure of fifty percent is not at all uncommon. Thus we have finally arrived at a value for this million dollar mine of one hundred twenty five thousand dollars.

You will recall that we gave this mine all of the breaks in not having any capital costs involved. If we were to put the burden of building a mill and buying mining machinery upon the cost of the mine, we would rapidly find out that we could not afford to buy the mine for anything because of the risk factor involved. Carried a little bit farther, if the mine were given to us, we couldn't afford to gamble the cost of a mill and mining equipment. It is no small wonder why big mining companies go after big mines.

Let us look at the guy who sells the mine. We have said that the mine might be worth one hundred twenty five thousand dollars under the right circumstance. Does that mean that he will make that much? No, it doesn't, mainly because the ore has to be found and proven. In order to consider expense in prov-

Sourdough Gazette — 1975

ing his orebody either by drilling or crosscutting to obtain a large number of representative samples of the ore. Thus his expense in the exploration and discovery of the ore body may easily exceed fifty thousand dollars. Even so, there is room for him to make some money.

The valuation of a mine is a difficult problem for both the buyer and seller. The understanding of the other fellow's problems is the first step to a successful business relationship.

"When a self-governing people confer upon their government the power to take money from some and give it to others, the process will not stop until the last bone of the last taxpayer is picked bare." Rapid progress is being made in that direction. "There are now 72.5 million Americans supported by some kind of government program. More people are riding the wagon than pulling it."

—from Living Issues

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Semiprecious Gems In Oregon

by Ralph S. Mason

Mining Engineer,

Oregon Department of
Geology and Mineral Industries

Statewide interest in semiprecious gems is evidenced by the numerous agate and mineral clubs. Nearly every city in the State has an agate club or at least a "rockhound" or two who can supply information on local areas. Although common agates are found in abundance over wide areas, the better stones are difficult to find, and the exact locations where gem-quality material has been found is usually a closely guarded secret known only to the discoverer. Luck plus diligence is the price of finding a really good stone. Most of the rhyolite areas of central Oregon are potential gem-stone source beds.

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Local inquiry should be made to determine ownership of land that is to be prospected. Ranchers and farmers are understandably hostile to "rockhounds" who trespass without permission, leave deep holes unprotected, damage crops, leave road ditches blocked, and tamper with gates.

In the Ochocos, mining claims containing thundereggs have been opened to the public by the Prineville Chamber of Commerce. Several private agate beds are also open to the public on a charge basis. The Oregon beaches are open to everyone, but vagaries of storm and tide cause continual changes which make hunting unpredictable. Agate hunting is probably best immediately following a storm, which may have uncovered a hidden stratum. The spring of the year is an excellent time to prospect in central Oregon. New material is often uncovered by winter erosion and not yet reburied by windblown sand or hidden by vegetation.

By far the greatest proportion of Oregon's semiprecious gems belongs to the quartz family. Agates, chalcedony, opals, jasper, petrified wood, thundereggs, and crystallized quartz have all been found in large quantity. Oregon is famous for its thundereggs. These rounded masses of rock weather out the rhyolites of central and eastern Oregon, and to the uninitiated, a thunderegg looks much like any other rounded rock. Only after it has been sliced with a diamond saw can the beauty of a good "egg" be determined. Thundereggs commonly consist of agate, which may be of any color and often intricately banded or figured. Those from a locality east of Burns may contain a pink band of cinabar, and "eggs" from the Mutton Mountains of Wasco County may have cavity linings thinly coated with a uraniferous salt which fluoresces a beautiful greenish-yellow color. Some agates in the Clarno area in Wheeler County have a gilsonite filling.

The value of semiprecious gems produced in Oregon is large, having been estimated by some authorities to be as much as \$1,000,000 annually.

This Is A Republic, Not A Democracy - - Let's Keep It That Way

Someone once said that the art of taxation is to pluck the goose in a way which obtains the most feathers with the least squawk. One way to approach the problem is to divert the goose's attention to other matters while

the plucking proceeds.

\$1.3 Million Annually Per Legislator ! ! ? ?

You may think it's costing only the \$42,500 annual salary to keep your congressman in Washington. You're wrong. The real figure is \$1.3 million annually for each of the 535 members of the two houses. It's all legal, because the Congress passed the legislation making it so. The legislative appropriations bill for the current year, approved by both

houses of Congress, is over \$700 million. Add the 435 members of the House to the 100 members of the Senate, divide that into the \$700 million, and you'll see—the average is \$1.3 million per legislator!

On top of a base salary of \$42,500 per year, members of the House and Senate receive a long, long list of "fringe benefits" covering all sorts of things you wouldn't even dream of!

—Utah Independent

Metcalf S. Bill 282
Senator Metcalf's Bill S. 282, with its leasing provisions, is attempting to destroy the small miner and prospector. This bill also has the support of Jackson and Udall, who do not appear to be aware of the fact that we need a strong mineral industry in this country to support our population and freedom. Representative Udall has gone on record against mining and is far out on Ecology - Environment and Land Withdrawals.

One realizes that we need Ecology and Environmental protection, but if the well-being of our people is not protected, neither the Ecology nor the Environment will be protected. So Freedom, Environment and Ecology will all go down the drain, and the non-thinking, non-reasoning will wring their hands screaming "What Happened?"

—Virginia City Crier

Things are never so bad that they won't get worse when government moves in to correct them.
—J. Kesner Kahn

1905 - Operations at the Takilma smelter are progressing satisfactorily. Ore is being delivered at the bins by Capt. McIntyre's teams at the rate of 100 tons a day and by the time the smelter starts operating there will be several thousand tons of ore in reserve stock. The smelter is to be blown in June 15.

1915 - It takes pretty good ore to stand a wagon haul of 40 miles to the railroad and then 150 miles by rail to pay all transportation charges and then return a profit to the mine owners. But that is the kind of ore that is being taken from the mines of the Waldo district. This ore comes from the Kerby Queen mine, formerly the Sowell property, in the Illinois Valley.

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Sourdough Gazette - 1975

GEST increases were actually occurring in the field of taxation.

The average person now has to work five months out of the year to just pay his taxes, direct and hidden.

Taxes and inflation are already your single greatest expense, greater by far than what you spend on food, shelter, or any other necessity.

The main cause of inflation is federal deficit spending. The worse government makes things for us, the better it makes things for itself.

Fellow geese, it is time to squawk!

—Review of the News

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Twenty New Members Initiated Into Waldo Mining District

from the Illinois Valley News
Waldo Mining District initiated 20 new members for a total of 82 in just three meetings.

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A letter was received from District Ranger John Hughes, Illinois Valley Ranger District, in which he stated, "I am looking forward to the opportunity of working with the members of the Waldo Mining District in promoting the production of vitally needed mineral resources, while protecting the National Forest environment."

In answer to this, the WMD asked to be informed of the date, time and place of any "Validity Tests" taken on mining claims in Waldo Mining District, as well as the mining claimants name and address.

The boundaries of the reorganized District were outlined. They are as follows: the Oregon, California State Line to the south; the Josephine-Curry County Line to the west, the Township line dividing Townships 38 and 39 to the north, the Jackson-Josephine County Line to the east.

The District is represented by

What Is Assessment Work?

Assessment work is work required to maintain title to a claim after a location has been made.

It consists of the expenditure each year on each unpatented claim of a minimum of \$100

worth of work of a mining nature or of work of a character clearly beneficial to the claim, except that in the instance of two or more claims which side line or end line each other, the total amount of required work for all claims may be concentrated on one claim provided that such work is clearly of benefit to all others. By definition, the assessment year begins at noon, Sept. 1 of any given year and extends until noon of Sept. 1 the following year. The required work can be done at any time during the assessment year even to the point of not starting until noon of the last day; however, if put off until the last minute, a person must then stay on the ground and continue work without interruption until it is completed in order to protect his interests. Failure to do the required assessment work is tantamount to abandoning the claim to the extent that the ground is then open for location in part, or totally, by another claimant.

Assessment work does not relate to, and should not be confused with, the discovery work required in perfecting a location. For example, the assessment year for a newly located claim begins at noon on the first day of September following the date of location. Thus, for a claim located on the 2nd day of September of a given year, no assessment work is required until some time during the assessment year beginning on the 1st of September of the following year. In other words, the act of location holds the claim in this example for a period of time one day short of a full year; therefore, since assessment work need not be done until the very end of the succeeding assessment year, the claim holder has the ground tied up effectively for the space of nearly two years.

When assessment work is completed, and within 30 days from the time thereof, a Proof of Labor deposition must be recorded in the mining records of the county in which the claim is situated, said affidavit showing: (a) The name of the claim or claims if grouped and the book and page of the record where the location notice of each such claim is recorded; (b) the number of days' work done and the character and value of the improvements placed thereon, together with their location; (c) the dates of performing the labor and making the improvements; (d) at whose instance or request the work was done or improvements made; and finally (e) the actual amount paid for the labor and improvements, and by whom paid, when the same was not done by the claim owner. Oregon law (517.220) stipulates that the foregoing affidavit, when duly recorded "is prima facie evidence of the facts therein stated." Also, that "failure to file such an affidavit within the prescribed time is prima facie evidence that such labor has not been done."

—from State of Oregon

What Is A Mining Claim

A mining claim can be thought of as a properly monumented and recorded acreage of ground on which there is an occurrence of some locatable and potentially valuable mineral of such nature that a prudent man can be deemed justified in spending time, effort and capital on exploratory work in the hope the occurrence may eventually be demonstrated to be of sufficient size and grade to be minable. The law does not stipulate that a locatable occurrence must be of minable size and grade at the time of discovery since, owing to the hidden nature of mineral resources, these factors can be

determined only by extensive amounts of subsequent exploration work in the form of shafts, tunnels, pits, trenches, test drilling, etc., however, only certain points are open to staking and there must be tangible evidence of a bona-fide prospect on each claim that is staked.

WHAT IS THE PROCEDURE FOR LOCATING A LODE CLAIM?

In essence, the first act is to post a notice at the point of discovery. Following this, the boundary must be marked at of the four corners and at the center point of each of the end lines by either posts or rock cairns. This must be done within 30 days of the date of posting and the minimum dimensions of the boundary posts must be 4 inches square, or in diameter, by 3 feet in exposed length above ground. Substantial rock cairns not less than 2 feet in height are acceptable substitutes for posts.

When all the foregoing requirements have been fulfilled, and not before, but still within the 60-day period from the date of posting, a copy of the location notice must then be filed with the county clerk's office in the county in which the claim is located.

The location notice for all lode claims must contain: (a) the name of the lode or claim; (b) the names of the locators; (c) the date of the location; (d) the number of linear feet claimed along the vein or lode each way from the point of discovery, with the width on each side of the lode or vein; (e) the general course or strike of the vein or lode as nearly as may be, with reference to some natural object or permanent monument in the vicinity, and by defining the boundaries upon the surface of each claim so that the same may be readily traced.

—from the State of Oregon
Department of Geology and Mineral Industries

"There is one indisputable fact underlying the previous statement. Without mining, we would not have highways, airports, or railroads, or the vehicles to use them. Nor would we have our high rate of food production or anything close to our present standard of living. We would quickly revert to the Middle Ages, which anyone, environmentalists, government agencies, and others harassing the mining industry, should be prepared to do. All activities of mankind are dependent on the mining industry. The true wealth of our nation comes from Mother Earth, and not the Federal Reserve."

Waldo Mining District meets the second Saturday of the month at the County Offices Building in Cave Junction at 7 p.m.

an attorney from Portland, William B. Murray, a member of the American Institute of Mining Engineers.

The technical staff is composed of Bernard Gabrielsen Ph. D (engineer); Christopher Buckley Ph. D (geologist); James M. Orr M. Sc. (geologist); Ronald Bernard M.Sc. (hydrology); David Hoare B.Sc. (mining engineer); Frank Allstrom M.Sc. (mining engineer); Mike Moran B.Sc. (geologist); and E. L. Kothny Ph. D (geochemistry).

Soon to be included in the technical staff are an isithyologist, a biologist, and a botanist, which the District says should dispel the hearsay that it is "just another bunch of dumb miners."

The mineral industry has been attacked by environmental groups as the great spoilers of the land, a WMD spokesman said. "We are depicted as horrible, greedy monsters, who hate everything and everybody, but our own selfish selves.

"Are the people who criticize us really being objective? How is the increased government control really going to protect the environment? Sometimes, in the haste to obtain control, environmental concerns are overlooked. Isn't it time for the accusers to answer for their own actions?"

"What about the accusation that miners are spoiling all the land? The U. S. Bureau of Mines, Department of the Interior, reports that from 1930 to 1971, all forms of mining utilized 3.65 million acres or 0.16% of the land mass of the U. S. Forty percent of this has been reclaimed. Highways in this period took up 22.6 million acres or six times more area than mining. Airports used 3.3 million acres and railroads 3.2 million acres; of these construction efforts each utilized almost as much as mining. In these 41 years, 63% of all of the total mining done in the U. S. has taken place.

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The Small Miner Money Sources

from The Mining Record
There is an old saying about the geological occurrence of gold. Gold is where you find it. I suppose the same saying could be applied to venture capital, but I don't think that is going to help a promoter raise money for his mine. So I will tell you small miners where I do my looking; perhaps you, too, can find financial help in one of these nooks

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or crannies.
The most often used route to raise a little money for a mining venture is through the unsophisticated investor route. Many of you guys have used this method; it is where a couple of pals of the miner say "Hell yes, I will put in a couple of hundred dollars." This method is a good one in the very early stages of development because the small miner can spread the risk (and potential rewards) among his friends. You are limited in just how much money you can raise through your friends by the number of friends like this you have. Of course, if you have a rich gold mine, you will probably have friends you haven't even met yet!

One of the biggest costs in developing a mining property is labor. Often-times, a person who doesn't have any money will be willing to work for an interest in the mine. This, then is very similar to the use of friends' money and shouldn't be overlooked when you are trying to figure out what to do.

The amount of money generally needed to properly evaluate a mining prospect is more than can be raised through your friends. Thus, a small miner must go promote his property to strangers. I would recommend that you go to the so-called sophisticated investor rather than a door-to-door approach. But who or what is a sophisticated investor?

I really don't think there is any firm identification to fit a sophisticated investor. I suppose that in the eyes of the court a sophisticated investor is a guy who is smart enough to look after his own money. It's sort of the opposite of "a fool and his

money are soon parted."

Generally, people in professional walks of life qualify as a sophisticated investor. They also make more money than the average person and thus have more to speculate with on mine ventures. The obvious sources are doctors, lawyers, dentists, professors and businessmen. The latter group should really be looked at when you go searching for money.

Businessmen are perhaps the easiest group to talk to when you try to raise money. They are much more aware of the difference between a profit and a loss than some people in other groups. It is easier to educate a businessman about mining economics than it is a doctor. A doctor very often has to be taught much about business also. This is simply due to the type of life they lead, always busy with patients but out of touch with the dollar and cents world (until you get his bill)!

I try to avoid interesting people in investing in mining if they have no idea of what is involved. Too often the results of this type of partnership is an unhappy investor, because he really didn't understand but thought he did, and an unhappy miner because he was too eager to take the first offer to help when it came. Remember, you have the mine, there is only one like it, but the money can come from many different types of people. So don't be greedy and don't let anyone else become greedy because of you. No one gets rich quick in mining.

Perhaps the most sophisticated of investors in mining are mining companies and the people behind them. You don't have to explain what a vein is to a mining company. You can walk in the door like one old prospector did. He walked into an office of one of our largest mining companies with an assay map under his arm and laid it on the desk in front of their chief geologist. He looked at it and said he didn't believe it. The old prospector had made a detailed map of old workings and had channel sampled every ten feet. His map indicated a large, low grade silver deposit. After checking the prospector's work, the company bought the property. The old prospector had to do nothing, the facts spoke for themselves, providing the person listening understood the language.

Often times a company may turn down a prospect because it is too small for them or not the metal they are looking for. If this happens to you, ask the guy if he personally is interested in investing or if he knows someone who is. Mining has the most effective grapevine there is; if you start showing your prospect to very many people, it doesn't take long for everyone to hear about it.

There are several people who advertise that they will help you find capital if you pay them a fee first. I really believe that a person can do just as well on his own by going to the same people these advisers go to. They talk with stockbrokers, investment houses, trust officers and the like. Very seldom does a

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Sourdough Gazette — 1975

THE PROSPECTOR'S WIFE

I never bought silk stockings,
I own no pantyhose.
I buy stout boots and blankets,
And sweat socks for my toes.
I never bought a girdle,
I've never worn a bra.
My silver hair's in braids
Beauticians never saw.
I've worn rough shirts and jackets
Thru this life of ease.
Along with dungarees.
I get them at the thrift shop
I've never bought a cola,
And aspirin, too, I skip.
The goodies on T.V.
Have yet to make me flip.
I never go to parties,
I'm never at a ball.
You'll find us in a cabin
If we're about at all.
My cocktail is pure water,
I breathe clear desert air.
I climb the highest mountain
And hunt the dry-wash hare.
Our friends are real nice people
Full of mining lore,
Whose talk is always prospects,
And never what I wore.
We haven't any neighbors,
There isn't any fuss.
We live a sweet uncluttered life
With just the two of us.
My husband wouldn't change a hair,
He always calls me Honey.
He loves me, just the way I am
Cause I don't spend no money.

person find speculative money in these places but sometimes a person makes the right contact.

I believe that the way to find money for a mining venture is to penetrate the groups of people who have speculative money. Talk with everyone about your property; you might just find the right person by chance. Talk to the people who do have money, talk with people who know people with money.

Finding money is not an easy task, ask any businessman. You must keep looking and looking. Persistence and perseverance are a trademark of the miner, especially the small miner. A person who gives up easily will never make it as a miner. If you believe sincerely in your property, you can find the money.

THE MINER'S CREED

by Arden Larson

I do not choose to be a common man, it is my right to be uncommon if I can.

I seek opportunity, not security.

I do not wish to be a citizen humbled and dulled by having the state look after me.

I want to take the calculated risk, to dream and to build, to fall and to succeed.

I refuse to barter incentive for a dole.

I prefer the challenge of life to the guaranteed existence; the thrill of fulfillment to the stale calm of utopia.

I will not trade my freedom for charity, nor my dignity for a handout.

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Merrill Lynch Issues Bullish Situation Report On Silver

The Wallace Miner, Wallace, Ida. May 29, 1975
Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith, Inc., has issued a surprisingly bullish situation report

on silver. The 17-page report foresees higher silver prices both for the near-term and long-term, Wafford Conrad wrote in the Chronicle

at Spokane. "Nearly two decades of production and consumption disequilibrium, coupled with the apparent extensive erosion of above-ground supplies, could support an eventual return of silver values to new highs," the report concludes. "In addition, the possibility of continuing inflation in the years ahead also favors higher trending silver prices over the long run.

"Assuming that a cyclical economic recovery begins later this year, we believe silver values could work higher during the second half of 1975 and perhaps reach or exceed the \$5 (an ounce) level by year's end. Thereafter, continually diminishing supplies of silver because of production deficits and likely growing demand by industry and speculative interests suggests a market environment that could support a \$6, \$9, or even higher silver price level during the years ahead."

Silver mine production has failed to meet reported industrial needs for 16 consecutive years, the report states. During this period, industry consumed an estimated 5.2 billion ounces of silver, while mine production totaled 3.8 billion ounces. The void was filled via sales of silver from other sources.

The passing of time has seen this shortfall continue to widen, the report says. During nine of the past 10 years, annual production deficits have exceeded the 100 million-ounce level and

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Underground Mine Museum In Plan Stage

The Wallace Miner, Wallace, Ida. May 29, 1975

Plans for an underground mining memorial museum at the Gene Day Park area at Osburn were outlined to the Kellogg Chamber of Commerce by Jim

during the past three years average annual deficit have exceeded 180 million ounces.

In addition, since 1972 mine production has filled only 57 per cent of industrial needs, compared to 70 per cent during the three previous years. This most recent figure represents the smallest percentage filled since production deficits were recorded. Indeed, the sharply higher overall price levels evidenced since the U.S. Treasury lifted the \$1.29 (per ounce) price ceiling in May 1967 have failed to change a worsening silver production picture when contrasted with use, the report says.

Silver mine production in significant quantities occurs in only a few countries, the report notes. Most are in the Western Hemisphere and collectively account for about 75 per cent of world output. Canada, Mexico, Peru and the United States are the major producers.

Idaho, Arizona, Utah, Montana, and Colorado have accounted for about 85 per cent of total domestic silver output in recent years, the report points out, adding: "The famous Coeur d'Alene Mining District in Northern Idaho produces about one-third of all domestically mined silver. The Sunshine mine, the largest silver mine in the United States is located in this district."

The report also notes that about 70 per cent of domestic silver mine production occurs as a byproduct of nonferrous metal mining, namely copper, lead, and zinc, and that this has contributed to a stagnant growth rate for many years.

The steady depletion of above ground supplies of silver focuses attention upon the need to develop silver resources in order to prevent possible serious supply dislocations in the years ahead, the report states.

Sourdough Gazette - 1975

O'Neal, Osburn radio announcer who has been working on the project with Robin Stanley, Silver Hills Junior High teacher.

Stanley had previously proposed a memorial to honor all miners of the district, O'Neal said and donations are being sought from Silver Valley residents for the project. He said there is no conflict with the Sunshine Memorial as that memorial specifically pays tribute to the miners who lost their lives in the Sunshine tragedy.

O'Neal said it is planned to widen and retimber an existing old tunnel near the park for about 30 feet and it will be supplied with both old and modern mining equipment and scenes to depict mining stages of the district.

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B.C. Taxes Keep Once Rich Mine Closed

The Wallace Miner, Wallace, Ida.
May 29, 1975

It's back to the mothballs for the famed Bralorne gold mine. When British Columbia's larg-

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est gold mine was closed in 1971 after 39 years of operation, rising costs of producing gold had made ore reserves uneconomical.

In 1973, with the price of gold finally climbing, Bralorne Resources, Ltd., decided to re-evaluate the Bralorne mine and adjoining Pioneer mine, which together had yielded more than 4.1 million ounces of the precious metal and paid more than \$32 million in dividends.

By the end of 1974, the company has spent \$1.7 million in rehabilitation and exploration work. The program was successful, according to the company's annual report.

It disclosed that recoverable proven and reasonably assured reserves in the upper portion of the mine (above the 3,900-foot or 26th level) now total 233,000 tons of gold ore grading 0.33 troy ounce per ton.

At the current price of gold, this ore is worth about \$13 million.

Funds generated from production of this ore could be applied to reopening the lower part of the mine, the report said. At the time of the 1971 shutdown, the 6,700-foot or 45th level graded 1.2 ounces gold per ton across an average 6.8-foot wide vein with a strike length of 530 feet, it said.

"Your management feels that the Bralorne mine could be in production in late 1975 were it not for a completely unrealistic Provincial tax load," stockholders were told. "Confronted with this situation, we have no alternative but to mothball this increasingly valuable asset until such time as the onerous Provincial tax legislation is either amended or repealed . . ."

Under British Columbia tax legislation enacted last year, the report explained, the mine is subject to a 4 per cent basic tax on gross income, plus an additional tax calculated at 50 per cent of all revenue in 1975 above \$127.09 an ounce for gold. It is this second or super tax which makes

The Committee To Restore The Constitution, Inc. is a national organization with headquarters in Fort Collins, Colo. and branches throughout the United States. They maintain that the road which Americans may follow toward recovery of national reason; redemption of individual purpose and restoring the security under Constitutional Law, is a trail marked by beginning at the local level.

a startup at this time impossible, the report said.

All exploration at the site has been suspended and the mine has been placed on a "care and maintenance" status until such time as a reasonable return on shareholders risk capital can be foreseen, it said.

"This decision was taken with extreme reluctance, particularly in view of the very serious need for employment in the Bridge River area of British Columbia," it added.

Silver Seals Used In Pumps For Rocket Engines

The Wallace Miner, Wallace, Ida.
May 29, 1975

Thirteen-pound sterling silver ring seals are being used by Rockwell International's Rocketdyne Division in rocket engine pumps that move liquid oxygen. The Silver Institute of Washington, D.C., has reported.

Liquid oxygen has to be handled with care, especially when it fuels a rocket engine programmed for trips into space where extreme changes occur in pressure, temperature and gravity, the Washington, D.C. organization said.

In designing a new rocket engine, it said, Rocketdyne found that a new kind of seal was required to handle liquid oxygen in the pump. Some of the materials normally used would make liquid oxygen explode and many failed to meet requirements in conditions of extreme cold.

Silver has been used before in cryogenic seals but they were much smaller than the huge new ring designed by Rocketdyne and made by Engelhard Industries, In Apollo 15, not only were

In Apollo 15, not only were small seals silverplated but also the shafts of pre-valves, threaded inserts in the fuel system, the wear plates on main and auxiliary hydraulic pumps, and piston shoes, it said.

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THINK COPPER AT BOTTOM
The Wallace Miner, Wallace, Ida.

May 29, 1975

A spokesman for Kennecott Copper says the company believes the copper market has bottomed out and will now start to improve. But spokesman Ken Kefauver declined to say whether this would mean return of any of the 1,200 workers laid off in Utah several months ago. But Kefauver said customer inventories were declining and there has been a slight improvement in copper sales.

Sourdough Gazette — 1975

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Mining With Slim

from the Illinois Valley High School Publication "Roots" by Jane Krauss, Denise Schmitz, and Gino Lanfranco

We hiked up to Slim McNaughten's house on a clear, cold day, expecting to pick up information and ideas about mining. We came back with that and a lot more. Slim was happy to have some company. Not many people know he is on a hill overlooking Sucker Creek. He lives alone in a rustic log cabin that he built with his partner, Shorty. He has been mining near this spot for the last 40 years and

he is a true expert. In addition to the mining, he chops his own fire wood for his wood stove, and he grows and cans much of his own food that he gets from his garden. He does go into Cave Junction once a month to pick up supplies, such as flour to bake his bread and rolls. "I go to town once a month, and that is enough for me of city life."

He is originally from New Zealand, but when he was 14, he stowed away to Australia. He told us about it. "Yeah, me and this other kid, we stowed away on a boat to Australia. We hid down in the coal bunkers. About half way there, the captain discovered us. The funny thing was, we thought we were the only stowaways on that ship. Heck, there must've been fifteen or twenty of us! The captain threatened to throw us overboard, just to put a scare into us, ya know. They put us to work and let us ride to Australia."

He came to America several years later. He resided in Canada for a while, and then traveled in the Pacific Northwest doing just about "everything from cattle ranching to logging." When his friend, Shorty, came to Sucker Creek and filed a mining claim, he moved to this area and started mining.

The mining Slim does is completely on an individual basis, no hydraulic pumps and hoses, no caterpillars and steam shovels. All he needs is his sluice box, a pick and shovel, a wheelbarrow, a gold pan, and plenty of running water. Slim described how a person like him would go about staking a claim to mines. "It doesn't cost anything to stake a claim. You have to find a mineral, and pan it, and see how it goes, and send it for assessment work. But you have to find a mineral on it. If you find one or two colors, then you can stake it. A claim is 600 feet wide by 1,500 feet long. You write out the stake, and put how the claim is laid out. So many feet east and west, and so many feet south. The claim I have down by Sucker Creek below my house is 300 feet east and 300 feet west, and 1,500 feet south."

We asked him how do you mine the gold once you have filed the claim? "Well, you can either pan with a gold pan or use a sluice box, which I use. To use a sluice box, you start with a box a foot wide and 15 or 16 feet long. The box is three-sided, and on the bottom you have ripples. They are made out of iron or steel, and under the iron ripples is an

Sourdough Gazette — 1975

old wool blanket. It is tacked to the wood bottom and these here ripples are nailed over them with a cleat. Then the black sand and all that stuff that is heavy will work to the bottom of the box as it is carried through the box by the moving water. The gold will be with the black sand. The water going over it all the time keeps the sand settling on the bottom of the box. And that there blanket will keep the sand from going through any cracks in the box."

"The cleaning of the box depends on what I'm putting through it. If I think I'm putting much through, I will clean it once a week."

"A person has got to have a pretty good head of water to take the heavier stuff over the ripples. You will fork out some with a sluice fork, I mean some of the larger rocks and materials."

"You dump (the dirt) in front of the ripples and then you use the sluice fork to clean out the bigger rocks. The water will take the smaller stuff through, and then when I go get another wheelbarrow and come back, she is cleaning herself. If I have a pretty good head of water, I will leave a few big rocks in the sluice box and keep it from washing everything out of the box."

"I put a dam to divert the water into the sluice so it will push the sand and rock through. When I open the sluice up once a week, I get very little. By the way, you have to do assessment every year, you know, or someone can come and reclaim it, and tell you to get off."

He told us that none of his claims have given him very much gold. "No one makes any money on this creek. There is color, but color can be found anywhere. You can get color around this house since this house is built on a gravel bar. In a sluice box you may have to put so much in it, and you get so little in return for all the work."

On gold panning Slim said, "Oh, you just put it in the pan and wash it good with your hands." And if the water is too damn cold, I use a stick. And you swish the dirt around in the pan in a figure-eight fashion and occasionally swash some dirty water out of the pan onto the ground. And the heavy stuff will go to the bottom of the pan. And you give it another figure-eight or two and swash some more out of the pan. And you keep on doing this til you have swashed all the dirt out and only have black sand and gold."

He then told us about hydraulic mining. "Well, these hydraulics are alright, but only if you have lots of water. They generally get a ditch dug with water in it and put pipe under the water, so the water will fall into the pipe and and flow through it by gravity. And they have a hydraulic nozzle on a bank and cut it to pieces.

They've got restrictions on them now, you know. Up around Grants Pass, they shut down a few hydraulic operations, because I guess they can really rip up those damn banks and such."

"I kinda had my own hydraulic system. Up the creek a ways, there is a little ditch, oh, it's not too big; well, I dammed it up and fixed it so it would channel towards the bank. I let it build up for a while, then I let it go. Boy, it really tore the side of that bank up, the creek was yellow for a long way down. But the government people don't worry about little miners like us, because we can't really hurt much. It's just these big operations they start to worry about."

"About the only place where anything in gold is being made nowadays is in the Dakotas, where the Black Hills are mined by big companies." We asked him what he thought of the current gold prices. He said, "I don't even know what they are lately. I've got some newspapers here yesterday, but I have not got the chance to go through them yet."

We told him that they had been over 200 dollars an ounce for a while, but were back to around 160 or 170 dollars now. He said he wasn't surprised, because so little gold mining is being done now. "Most of it is done for the fun of it; I got my Social Security too, you know."

Slim has taught us a lot about mining and life, but everytime we see him we are curious about why he still lives the way he does. "Well, I'm out in the hills and I like it out here and that is all I've done besides logging. I just like to I've out in the hills and get away from town. And through the years, I found I liked it out in the hills instead of bumming around the damn town."

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Beginner's Lesson In Geology On Quartz

A milky white, dense, very hard, mass-like variety of quartz is known to experienced prospectors as the barren "Bull Quartz." Flat quartz of a honeycomb or spongelike structure, with a somewhat rusty, yellowish appearing spots and cavities (bugholes) is the most promising guide to a valuable deposit. This iron stained variety is known as the "honeycomb" or "sugar quartz;" the crystals are very similar to sugar crystals. Often decayed pyrite or various colored remnants of some mineral can be seen embedded in this kind

of quartz or at times free gold detected. As a rule, this sort of mineralized quartz breaks up easily, if pounded with a hammer. Quartz is chemically an oxide of silica. Acids will not dissolve it. Its scale of hardness is 1; it will scratch glass easily; specific gravity about 2.7 and is about 7 times lighter in weight, and about 3 times harder than gold. Quartz does not break smoothly. When pure, it is transparent and has a somewhat glassy lustre. Quartz is one of the most difficult materials to melt. Quartz is one of the hardest and most durable substances and that's why it is found as float in the hills and creekbeds. Quartz is known to be the universal matrix of most ore-bearing veins and may be found almost always associated with the virgin vein gold or placer gold. There are many other varieties of quartz, such as: rose, pink, purple, blue, violet, milky white, reddish, yellow, green, black, banded, cloudy, smoky, colorless, glassy, etc. The various hues or colors of the quartz may be due to some form of iron oxides. Some are used as valuable gem stones by jewelers.

—from Gold Prospecting

—by Stephen Jacy

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Genesis - - 1975

In the beginning, God created heaven and earth. He was then faced with a class action lawsuit for failing to file an environmental impact statement with HEPA (Heavenly Environmental Protection Agency), and angelically staffed agency dedicated to keeping the Universe Pollution free. God was granted a temporary permit for the heavenly portion of the project, but was issued a "cease and desist" order on the earthly part, pending further investigation by HEPA.

Upon completion of his construction permit application and environmental impact statement, God appeared before the HEPA Council to answer questions. When asked why he began these projects in the first place, he simply replied that he needed to be creative. This was not considered adequate reasoning and that he would be required to substantiate this further. HEPA was unable to see any practical use for earth since "the earth was void and empty and darkness was upon the face of the deep." And God said: "Be light made." He should never have brought up this point since one member of the council was most active in the Sierrangel Club and immediately protest-

ed, stating "how was the light to be made?" Would it be a coal fired or nuclear fired generating plant? Would there be strip mining? What about thermal pollution? God explained the light would come from a huge ball of fire. Nobody on the Council really understood this, but it was provisionally accepted assuming (1) there would be no smog or smoke resulting from the ball of fire (2) at separate burning permit should be required and (3) since continuous light would be a waste of energy, it should be dark at least one-half of the time. And so God agreed to divide light from darkness and He would call the light "Day" and the darkness "Night". The Council expressed no interest with in-house semantics.

About future development, God also said: "let the waters bring forth the creeping creature having life, and the fowl that may fly over the earth under the firmament of heaven." Here again the Council took no formal action since this would require approval of the Game and Fish Commission, coordinated with the Heavenly Wildlife Federation and Audubongelic Society.

It appeared that everything

Outlook For Chrome Gloomy

The picture for chrome mining in the United States is gloomy - there has been no production since 1961 - Len Ramp, an Oregon State Dept. of Geology and Mineral Industries geologist, told the miners.

During World War II when chrome imports were hard to get, domestic chrome was produced and there was considerable mining in Northern California and Southern Oregon. Since 1961 when the government quit stockpiling chrome at Grants Pass, however, there has been no domestic production.

Chromite, a heavy brown and black mineral with chemical, metallurgical and industrial uses, is now imported from such countries as Turkey, Russia, and from Africa. A major reason for importing, Ramp said, is that costs of production, primarily labor are lower in those countries.

Chrome ores, which Ramp says are plentiful in Northern California and Southern Oregon, bring slightly higher prices than those of stockpiling days - an "attractive price if you can find a buyer," Ramp said.

OPTIMISM
Ramp says the industry should not quit trying to develop domestic ores. The chrome industry will help the economy, it is "new wealth" and in the miners' view, it "makes as much or more sense to subsidize the miners than it does farmers."

There is hope, Ramp said, in reports that Hannah, the corporation which operates a nickel mine at Riddle, Oregon, may develop a market for local chrome ores.

Ramp also discussed prospecting techniques for chrome and described the serpentine rock for-

mations in which it is found. He described the geology of this area - the Klamath Mountain Province - which ranges from mid-Humboldt county well into Southern Oregon and east to Siskiyou, Shasta and parallel Oregon counties. He showed slides of mining and prospecting areas and of the former Grants Pass stockpile.

One theory, that of the "drifting continents" he said, has been evidenced by chromite formations in this region. It is suspected, he said, that chromite was raised into the crust of the earth by the drifting of continents.

—from the Del Norte Triplicate

If all the productive industries (loggers, miners, farmers, etc.) would band together their combined strength and voice would be heard at the local, state and national level and put an end to rule by bureaucrats.

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was in order until God stated He wanted to complete his project in six days. At this, he was advised by the Council that his timing was completely out of the question. HEPA would require a minimum of 180 days to review the application and environmental impact statement, then there would be the public hearings and prior notices. It could feasibly take 10 to 12 months before a permit could be granted, providing all agencies involved cooperated to their fullest extent and did not receive a cut in their operating budgets during the interim.

And God said, "To Hell with it."

—from Gold Prospectors

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"Gold legalization is a major victory for those who favor a sound rational monetary system. But it is only one step in the right direction. Eventually, the U.S. must establish a monetary unit based on gold convertibility. If Western Civilization is to survive, then we must fight for a radical monetary reform—including above all a new gold standard. In the meantime, Americans will be able to choose between a continually depreciating fiat dollar and the world's oldest and safest form of money—gold. For the first time since 1933, Americans will have regained one of the most important liberties—to trust the wisdom and honesty of politicians or to trust the only money not subject to arbitrary increase by politicians. It has been said many times that gold is for people who do not trust their government.

After Watergate and continuing inflation, I think Americans in surprising numbers will choose gold."

In Readers' Outlook in The Utah Independent a writer gives ten suggestions for the Congress and the administration to act upon.

1. The primary cause of our inflation is the excess of government spending over its income. Give us, this year, a balanced budget including some REPAYMENT on our national debt.

2. Give us gold and silver backing our money and abolish the Federal Reserve Board. When excess currency is provided merely by starting up the printing presses of the FRB more money is required to purchase products and services.

3. Get us out of the United Nations. Our "Assessment" this year, 25% of the U.N. budget is \$66.1 million. We also pay 70% of their so-called "Emergency forces," 40% of its "Planning Fund," \$55 million for "Minor" U.N. agencies, \$141 million to international organizations generally with U.N. affiliations, etc.

4. Pass legislation to get the federal government out of competition with free enterprise. The economic law of competition would force prices down and production up if not hampered by government competition and subsidy.

5. Give control of education, welfare and medical aid for our citizens back to the individual states as intended by the 10th amendment to our constitution which limits the powers of the federal government to only those given them by the Constitution and the Bill of Rights.

6. Abolish Revenue Sharing. Under this federal rip-off only a portion of the money sent to Washington is returned to the states.

7. Stop all trade with and aid to those countries and their satellites whose avowed aim is to subjugate us into a one-world government.

8. Abandon the idea that "Society" is to blame for all criminal acts and reinstate the concept of making the punishment fit the crime. Abolish the Law Enforcement Assistance Agency and return the preservation of law and order to our local police.

9. Abolish the personal income tax as this source of revenue is no longer needed as the actions outlined above are taken.

10. Support and pass Senate Bill #3957 to terminate the long-standing "National Emergency" in our country. Since 1933 the President has had the power of one-man rule through "Executive Orders." No good man would want such power and no evil man should have it.

There are other things you can do, Gentlemen, to halt inflation and save energy but I'm sure you'll think of them after you have acted on the suggestions above.—Jack H. Porter, El Monte, Cal.

Senator Carl Curtis (R.Neb.) has introduced a bill (S.3913) which provides that whenever federal spending exceeds income, the next year's salaries of Senators and Representatives would be cut 10%! This is the sort of bill our "statesmen" are able to understand.

All activities of mankind are completely dependent upon the mining industry.

Weights & Measures

When buying or selling gold, silver, platinum, etc., the troy weights system is used. A troy ounce is about 10 per cent heavier than avoirdupois ounce. A troy ounce is not the same as the avoirdupois ounce. Just to put it plain . . . a troy ounce requires about one-tenth (1/10) more gold than avoirdupois ounce (the common everyday ounce).

1 troy ounce equals 1.097 avoirdupois ounce or 480 grains.

1 troy ounce equals 31.103 grams (not grains).

1 avoirdupois ounce equals 0.911 troy ounce or 437½ grains.

1 avoirdupois ounce equals on ly 28.35 grams (not grains).

1 gram equals 15.432 grains.

An avoirdupois ounce is lighter by 2.753 grams or by about 42.5 grains, than a troy ounce.

1 troy pound equals only 13-

166 avoirdupois ounces or 5760 grains.

1 troy pound equals 0.8229 avoirdupois pound.

1 troy pound equals 373.2 grams (not grains).

A troy pound is figured at 12 troy ounces (5760 grains).

TROY WEIGHTS

24 grains equals 1 pennyweight.

One pennyweight equals 1.555 grams (not grains).

20 pennyweights equals 1 troy ounce.

1 troy ounce equals 480 grains.

12 troy ounces equal 1 troy pound or 240 pennyweights or 5760 grains.

—from Gold Prospecting

Sourdough Gazette — 1975

GOLD

After spending some time
On this good ole' earth
And digging deep into the ground
You Learn a few things . . .
Get sore muscles and strain
But it's all worth it
After you've Found.

A bent-over back, some sweat
On your brow . . .
And an attitude "Never say die."
When into the pan
At bedrock and sand . . .

Some gold glitters into your eye!
Yes gold is a thing
That stirs in a man
And rustles him out of his sleep...
Yet little you realize
That while you do slave...
The water runs clear, cool and deep.

Now who can determine
And who is to judge
Which of these elements sure . . .
Both come from the ground . . .
One, not easily found
And the other an everyday cure.
So remember my friend
The deeper you dig . . .

The Gold gives its lure and its cue
But if not for the water
That splashes on by -
There'd be no Gold for me . . .
Or for you.

—Tellefson Wright
Written for the
Sourdough Gazette
June 1975



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Hitory Of Washington Early-Day Mine Camps Recalled

The Wallace Miner, Wallace, Ida.
May 29, 1975

Most of Washington's early-day
mining camps sprang up in the

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Development of So. Oregon

I. V. Ranger District Report

The development of southern Oregon, together with the discovery of gold at Sailor's Diggings in 1851, brought an immediate influx of prospectors, merchants, and opportunists of all types to the area, prompting a long and loud cry for transportation facilities. The only existing access to the area began in Portland, and use was costly and prohibitively long. The search for more immediate routes was logically directed toward the coastal areas.

P. T. Wimer, an enterprising postmaster in Waldo, began construction of a shorter, less difficult route to the coast after a trail and then a larger road had proved insufficient. Generally, this road followed the Oregon-California border and is now the same as Forest Service Road No. 4014. Completed in 1882, Wimer Road was the primary route

until the construction of Highway 199.

Today the Wimer Road can be found by traveling south on Highway 199 and turning right at the O'Brien Store which is 7 miles south of Cave Junction. At the junction of Wimer Road and the Cold Springs Mountain Trail, a large horse and mule corral and weigh station was constructed and represented the only practical spot along the northern and eastern portion of this trail. This stone corral, 400 feet long, 4 feet high, and 3 feet thick, was reconstructed by the Neighborhood Youth Corps.

Further along the Wimer Road is another historical site, Bain Station. Only minor remains of the original station are visible, but according to history, Bain Station was the site of the only robbery along the various routes to gold-rich southern Oregon.

Travelers encountered the culprits and the robbers were convicted and hanged in Kerby. This is the only legal hanging in Josephine County history.

Sourdough Gazette — 1975

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Exploration Drilling Resumed

The Wallace Miner, Wallace, Ida.
May 29, 1975

Because of "considerably improved uranium market conditions," exploration of the Midnite uranium property in Stevens County was resumed this year with four diamond drills, president Tibor Klobusicky informed share holders from Spokane.

In addition, he said, Midnite Mines this spring initiated a search for uranium on 20,000 acres held under contract in Stevens County. This program consists of biogeochemical and radio metric surveys, geologic mapping, and diamond drilling, he said.

In northeastern Washington became ghost towns, however. Towns such as Colville, Oroville and Conconully survived to serve farming communities.

None of the metal mining camps in western Washington's Cascade Mountains grew into permanent towns or cities, Moen said. Little remains at the sites and only at the old gold camp of Monte Cristo has an attempt been made to preserve mining equipment.

A list of early-day mining camps compiled by Moen included: Eureka (now Republic), Ruby City, Northport, Orient, Metaline, Metaline Falls, Bossberg, Electric Point, Leadpoint, Danville, Loomis, Turk, Cedarville, Deer Trail, Silverton, Curlew, Chesaw, Blewett, Liberty, Meagherville, Loup Loup City, Barron, Chancellor, Galena, Mineral City, Holden, Silver, Mazama, Ventura, Trinity, Molson, Trail City, Gold Hill, Union City, Gold City, Park City, Shawnee, Methow, Excelsior, Meteor, Covade, Waconda, Toroda, Bodie, Night-hawk, Golden, Stehekin, Embray, Bolster, and Belcher.

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Miners Rake DEQ Pollution Controls

from the Daily Courier

by Tom Gerson

Asking the audience to look at the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) from a viewpoint other than what is sometimes read in the newspapers, Richard Krieter, administrator of the Roseburg office of the DEQ told Josephine county miners his office shared many of their same goals.

Krieter, along with representatives from the Bureau of Land Management and State Fish Commission, were in Grants Pass to discuss the effects of mining operations on water in the county.

The DEQ administrator admitted his agency may have the reputation of being aggressive and bumbayant, but said it does not arbitrarily shut down indus-

try and people.

In his opening address, Krieter also said he expected some of the miners would violently disagree with some of the environmental laws and regulations regarding mining operation water discharges, but he hoped the meeting would resolve some of the differences.

The miners primarily were concerned with the effects of Oregon Law Number 468 dealing with acceptable means of point-source water discharges and the operation and maintenance of settling basins for commercial mines.

The DEQ is attempting to enforce standards for water discharges into state rivers and streams by issuing permits for discharge methods to control pollution.

Krieter's anticipated disagreement was confirmed. "Miners claimed the government agencies were in violation of rights of privacy, and many miners feared the regulations would endanger their livelihoods by requiring financial expenditures they could not afford."

Other miners were so vehement about the government intrusion, they threatened to meet any more government inspectors with shotguns.

William B. Murray, a Portland attorney who is providing legal advice to Josephine County Sourdoughs and miners, charged state officials with making invalid and factless conclusions about the effect of small mining operations on water pollution and fish habitat.

Murray also asked state officials about the justification for the permits to regulate discharge methods. Murray felt the amount of turbidity caused by the small miners was so proportionately less than natural causes that it does not justify the government concern.

Murray said before productive communication could take place the DEQ, BLM and the Forest Service must present factual evidence for some of their accusations and standards.

The attorney also wanted some answers on why the government wants to restrict and regulate gold mining operation when the country presently is in need of as much backing for its currency as it can get with regard to inflationary and devaluation trends.

Murray also felt pollution issues were becoming political tools as much as environmental concern.

Before productive talks could begin, the attorney firmly suggested the representatives of the

state agencies get facts stating just how many fish were being killed as a direct result of mining operations in an addition to figures indicating ratios of mining pollution to natural erosion and water runoffs.

The government officials also strongly suggested the sourdoughs and miners should organize to present their position to regulating agencies and pointed out that other industries as well as individual citizens are being effected by the environmental regulations.

Miners also are seeking representation on some of the regulating boards. Approximately 100 persons attended the meeting.

Gold Standard

by Roger C. Ramsey, Secretary
Waldo Mining District

I recently read an article in a newsletter from Cal-Ore Association of Miners in Crescent City which reflects my feelings on inflation and I would like to share it with you.

"In a free society, no man, group of men or government has the right to infringe upon the rights of others. This means that within a free society, the initiation of force is banned. All goals must be attained through persuasion and voluntary cooperation, and no goal may be achieved at the expense of any man, not for the good of another man, not for the good of the state and not for the good of society. A system of voluntary exchange is a system of laissez faire capitalism. Under capitalism, man's rights are supreme. They are defended by government, not violated by government.

"A gold standard is an integral part of a free society; a fiat standard, which we are now on, is an integral part of a controlled society. A gold standard cannot exist without the consent of individuals; a fiat standard cannot exist without the initiated force of government. A gold standard is based on voluntary exchange, the recognition of men's values and respect for private property; a fiat standard is based on compulsory exchange, the denial of men's values and the insidious confiscation of private property.

"Where a gold standard is welcomed by the best of men, the fiat standard is welcomed by the worst of men. Where the gold standard demands the earned, the fiat standard grants the unearned. Where a gold standard evolves from individual choice, a fiat standard evolves from government edict. Where a gold standard necessitates only that men be left free to act, to choose and to trade, a fiat

One Reason We're Broke Dept.:

Tom Anderson reports that 600 different lobbyists are carried on gov't payrolls. "They draw 15 million a year," he says, with one duty: "to squeeze more money out of the taxpayer." For instance, the Environmental Protection Agency pays 41 lobbyists \$944,000 to pressure Congress.

One out of every six civilian employees in this country has a job with gov't—federal, state or

local—and taxpayers pick up the tab to pay them \$135 billion a year. The gov't payroll has ballooned 60 percent in five years.

The White House Council on Environmental Quality has estimated that it will cost only one hundred and ninety-four billion, eight hundred million dollars in the next ten years to clean up the nation's air, water, and land.

"WHAT CAN LITTLE I DO?"

"What can little I do?" many people ask. They explain, "I am neither a writer nor a speaker, no one would listen to me."

Any citizen who doesn't do SOMETHING — the best he can — to save his country, to save freedom, isn't much of a citizen, or much of a person!

"What can little I do? — Enough ants can whip an elephant."

The Federal Reserve monopoly has a license to counterfeit. They create money out of nothing — back it up with nothing — and loan it to us with interest.

What this country needs is a good five-cent nickel.

—Ed Wynn

Our Government Does It Again

It is reported that a contract for \$20 billion worth of phosphates from Florida has been signed with the Soviet Government. This giant deal has been approved by the U. S. Government and will be largely financed by U. S. taxpayers' dollars. The phosphate giveaway is worse than the Russian wheat deal. Phosphate means fertilizer, and phosphate means explosives and munitions.

standard invites government to control, to regulate and to dictate men's choices, actions and the terms of trade.

"Gold limits the governments power to spend more money than it receives in taxes, and in doing so, gold limits the governments arbitrary power over the economy; gold checks artificial money and credit expansion; it prevents artificial booms which lead to very real busts; gold protects individuals from economically unsound government programs, and it protects citizens from the inflationary confiscation of private property. Not only is the gold standard the most practical monetary system yet discovered, it is a standard consistent with freedom, yet is the gold standard the today's policy makers either ignore or denounce."

I would just like to add that there are \$280 billion in Federal Reserve notes in circulation, which are printed by the Federal Reserve, which is a free entity exempt from Congress, thus the voting public. The lack of paper currency obviously isn't the problem. The lack of intrinsic value in our money, which is not backed by gold or silver, is the problem.

Sourdough Gazette — 1975

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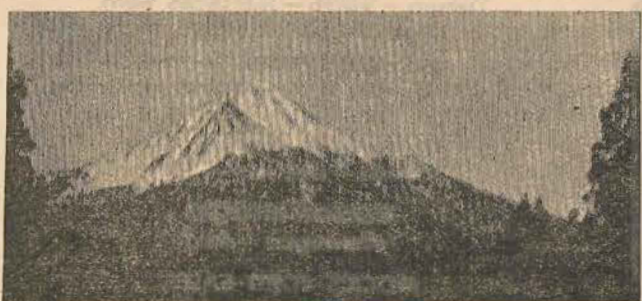
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The Silent Revolution

by Cal Steinberger

"The United States is presently being destroyed and replaced by a new and vastly different form of government known as "Metropolitan" or "Regional" government.

The death blow to states rights and local control occurred on March 27, 1969 when President Nixon announced by Executive Order that the country had been divided into 10 regions. The purpose of the 10 regions was to better coordinate the activities of all levels of government, President Nixon assured us! But a close look at this plan, long the goal of one-world socialist planners in the U.S. reveals that it will override state and local governments with a dictatorship of appointed regional bureaucrats!

(Mr Cal Steinberger, Fairfax, Oklahoma rancher, Director, Oklahoma Committee to Restore the Constitution, a corporation, gained national recognition by forcing Osage County Commissioners to withdraw from the Indian Nation Councils of Government, thus

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ending regional government in Osage County. Instrument of victory was a lawsuit filed in 1973 by the Oklahoma Committee to Restore the Constitution in District Court, charging board members with illegal use of tax funds to advance regional government in Osage County.)

Gun Control Means People Control

We should all be writing our congressmen and other legislators informing them of our complete opposition to any and all pending gun legislation. There are approximately twenty-five bills in Washington now concerning, in one way or another, the removing of guns from the hands of the citizens. There is a long range plan afoot to disarm all Americans.

They will start by outlawing the so-called "Saturday night specials," then it will be the outlawing of all handguns. Rifles and shotguns will be the last to go.

One thing we can be sure of is that gun traffic among criminals would flourish, laws or no laws. How many of you remember prohibition days? Gun registration has several drawbacks too, and besides, how many criminals are going to register their weapons? Keep in mind, there's more to this gun legislation than meets the eye!

Senate

87th Congress
Report No. 1984

Nothing in the mining laws requires a locator to proceed to patent. He may never do so, yet his estate is fully maintained in its integrity so long as the law which is a muniment of his title is complied with. Thus, although many miners obtained patent to their claims, many others, content to enjoy their right of possession to the exclusion of third parties, have not prosecuted their claims to patent. In some cases, claims did not contain quite enough valuable mineral to constitute a discovery within the purview of mining laws and justify proceeding to patent.

There is, however, no requirement in law that a mining locator proceed to patent. In Wilner vs U. S. ex rel Krushnic, 280 U. S. 306 (1930) the Supreme Court of the United States stated as follows:

"When the location of a mining claim is perfected under the law, it has the effect of a grant by the United States of the right of

Willamette Greenway

-- At What Cost

from Oregon Agriculture Preserving the Willamette River Greenway has been a controversial issue since the original legislation was introduced in 1967. There was not much disagreement that a Greenway should be initiated, the question was, "how?"

Proponents have maintained that the right of condemnation is needed to prevent change of use and to stop undesirable industrial and commercial development along the Willamette. Farm Bureau representatives sweated out a Ways and Means subcommittee work session in 1967 which was considering and finally adopted our amendment to prohibit the right of condemnation except for the designated parks. Scenic easements may be acquired on other kinds of property by condemnation if necessary to prevent change of use. Scenic easements may be acquired voluntarily on farm lands. If counties along the Willamette place adjacent farmlands in Exclusive Farm Use Zones, the Greenway will be preserved outside of incorporated areas without further cost to the state except for scenic easements on property other than farms.

This Greenway, except for the parks and public accesses already publicly owned, authorized by law or on which the state has options to buy, is on a "look but don't touch" basis. People may observe the Greenway from a boat or plane, use the parks (if they are ever developed), but may not trespass on the private property locked in the Greenway.

The Governor, however, wants people to be able to recreate on all "related adjacent lands" within 500 feet from "mean high water." HB 3225, introduced at his request, wipes out the present law and writes a new one. Land not in farm use (by a new definition of farm use), land where

present and EXCLUSIVE POSSESSION. The claim is property in the fullest sense of that term; and may be sold, transferred, mortgaged, and inherited without infringing any right or title of the United States. The right of the owner is taxable by the State, and is "real property," subject to the lien of a judgement recovered against the owner in a State or territorial court. The owner is not required to purchase the claim or secure patent from the United States; but so long as he complies with the provisions of the mining laws, his possessory right, for all practical purposes of ownership, is as good as though secured by patent." Cf. the act of July 23, 1955 (69 Stat. 367; 30 U. S. C. 601, et seq.) (Supt. of Documents, U. S. Gov't Printing Office, Wash. D. C. 20402)

a change in use is proposed or land that is offered for sale is subject to condemnation. Scenic easements on farm land are also subject to condemnation.

There are 286 river miles in the Willamette River Greenway according to the Greenway Plan. At 121.2 A/mile, the Governor wants to buy almost 35,000 acres. The land in cities and land already acquired would reduce this figure, but as many deeds call for ownership to the low water line, the number of acres will be increased, as HB 3225 says "500 feet from mean high water" and "all islands."

Even at farm use values, the cost will run into millions of dollars. If gravel operations and the value of gravel under farm lands are considered, the cost would escalate many times. The state should not be allowed to steal the aggregate under adjacent river lands for farm use values.

We believe the governor should back away from HB 3225 and use the available funds to develop the 35 miles already acquired. Why spend highway funds for more land when there is not sufficient money to maintain highways? Let's see what the State Parks Department will do with what they already have before giving them the right to buy more.

Out Of Control

Although government can serve many worthy purposes, it is now almost out of our control, warned Secretary of Treasury William Simon at a recent meeting of the National Association of Manufacturers.

"It comes neatly packaged in the guise of handouts and subsidies and protection from competition, but beneath the ribbons and bows is a lumbering, clumsy giant that is threatening the liberties and smothering the spirit which were once the foundation of America's greatness."

—from the
American Gold News

According To The Constitution

Our federal government, according to the Constitution, was supposed to be responsible for the common defense and not for our medical care; responsible for maintaining our domestic tranquility and not for our schools and their busing and educating; responsible for promoting but not for supplying our general welfare; responsible for preserving the blessings of liberty and not for imposing controls of requirement nor restriction on our private affairs and our businesses; responsible for forming a more perfect union of our several states and not for "unionizing" the states into one federal union monopoly. But because it has become so involved and so busy doing what it isn't supposed to be doing, it isn't doing what it is supposed to do.

Restore the Constitution to restore an American Government to the United States, or soon there will neither be an America nor Americans.

—Utah Independent

"The greatest glory of a free-born people is to transmit that freedom to their children."

—Harvard

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\$200 M Ore Seen for Montana Mine

The Wallace Miner, Wallace, Ida. wrote in the Chronicle at Spokane that ore reserve estimates May 29, 1975
Wafford Conrad, mining editor, in the annual report of Pegasus

Explorations, Ltd., indicate that the old Gold Reserve mine near Zortman, Mont., contains more than \$200 million worth of gold and silver at their present high prices.

The Vancouver, B.C.-based Pegasus acquired the mine two years ago from Gold Reserve Corp. of Spokane through the efforts of Frank Duval, Mica, and Vance D. McCarty, Spokane, who are on the Pegasus board of directors. Gold Reserve stockholders received Pegasus stock.

Pegasus carried out an exploration program and last summer entered a joint venture agreement with Placer Amex, Inc., wholly-owned subsidiary of the Vancouver-based Placer Amex, Development, Ltd.

The 1974 exploration program at the Phillips County property cost more than \$400,000 and was designed to confirm ore reserves, more clearly define ore boundaries and provide bulk samples for further metallurgical testing.

The program indicated 15,888,000 tons of ore containing an average of 0.043 of an ounce of gold and 0.42 of an ounce of silver for a total of 689,070 ounces of gold and 6,713,130 ounces of silver at a waste-to-ore ratio of 1.36-to-1, according to the report.

In addition to this open pit ore, it says about 2.6 million tons of ore averaging 0.12 of an ounce of gold and 0.5 of an ounce of silver per ton may be recoverable by underground mining methods. These underground reserves include a central core of about 500,000 tons averaging 0.396 of an ounce of gold and substantial amounts of silver, the report adds.

Additional drilling and metallurgical testing is planned this season by Placer Amex, John Burk, Pegasus president, says in the report.

The Gold Reserve claims yielded more than \$8 million worth of gold and silver between 1899 and 1932, according to the report.

Exploration work by Charles Whitcomb in 1899 resulted in the mining of a gold deposit on the Alabama claim and the discovery of a second gold deposit on the Independent claim, according to the report.

In 1903 a cyanide mill was erected near Zortman to treat the ores. The mill operated until 1918 and then was inactive until 1935 when the mine was reactivated.

It is reported that a contract for \$20 billion worth of phosphates from Florida has been signed with the Soviet Government. This giant deal has been approved by the U. S. Government and will be largely financed by U. S. taxpayers' dollars. The phosphate giveaway is worse than the Russian wheat deal. Phosphate means fertilizer, and phosphate means explosives and munitions.

The mine was operated profitably until mid-1942 when it closed because of World War II. In the late 1950s and 1960s an extensive program of surface exploration was carried out by American Exploration and Mining Co.

Sourdough Gazette — 1975

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