

TIMES ARE GOOD OVER MOUNTAINS

Across the mountains less than fifty miles away, lies the valley of Pine and beyond that some 18 miles is Eagle valley, two very fertile and prosperous farming communities that by air line are not very far away but by fair auto road the town of Halfway in Pine valley is 187 miles away.

Pine valley is having a rather prosperous time of it at present as four mines are in operation at Cornucopia, the mining town near the Granites where for 50 years gold mining has been carried on. Cornucopia has more than doubled in population in recent years and is a lively incorporated town of close to 500 inhabitants.

The Union mine, the Queen of the West, the Baker and the Last Chance employ enough men so that there is no unemployment problem in the valley while the mines provide a real market for fresh meats, vegetables, fruits and dairy products.

Halfway is a town of 400 population, modern in every respect with gravity water system and electricity altho the town has not changed a great deal in many years. It is a very good business center and the merchants are prosperous.

The valley, as well as Eagle valley, have much the same agricultural products as Imnaha valley. They raise tomatoes, beans, watermelons and other products.

These valleys are small but nearly every farm home has electric power, gravity water systems and all the conveniences of city homes. While they are comparatively close neighbors, few people in Wallowa valley really know much about them and the same holds true over there for the mountain range in between forms a barrier. With the completion of the forest road from the upper Imnaha and through Pine valley by way of Fish lake, there will be much more travel in that direction.

W. L. Flower and family drove to Pine valley last week to see his sister, and came back Saturday.

PLACER MINES IN OPERATION

More Properties Worked on Pine Creek Than in Three Years

Special to The Democrat-Herald
HALFWAY, Or., June 29.—There are more placer mines along Pine creek above Carson in operation than for years. Work on these mines opened earlier due to the open winter.

The first placer mine to open was the Anchorage Exploration company mine about two miles above Carson. W. H. Lillard, manager, hires seven or more men daily. The crews work the shaft at lower levels on bedrock.

On up the canyon at Boulder creek the Pine Creek Mining company has commenced one of the largest hydraulic operations ever started in the history of the mine. M. Stienmetz, engineer at the property, went to Canyon City in May and procured a steel hydraulic tower over 100 feet high. This has been set up on the ridge below the old Boulder creek house. The brush has been cleared off the slopes and water piped from higher on Boulder creek.

The company employs from six to 15 men.

A mile farther up the canyon the Far West Mining company is bringing in equipment to commence operations on the Cold Springs property. This placer, although operated by a group of Seattle men, has

more local men interested than either of the other workings. Last year the operations attempted unsuccessfully to install a dragline. This year they plan to continue working and hope to get results.

Almon Motley reports that he and his associates plan to commence operations on two lode mines, the Red Boy and Mountain Chief, in the canyon above the Queen of the West mill site. Last year the group did only development work but plans to ship some ore this year.

Clair Huff and his associates are continuing their work at the Algamated mine. The mine is situated on Little Eagle creek. This operation is a continuation of working the property.