

County Clamps Down on Old Mines

Delinquent Property to Be Sold; Flagstaff

About 10 mining properties in Baker county will go on the auction block in the next few weeks, an ultimatum issued by Sheriff F. V. Spence indicated this morning.

The action was taken in the drive to round up delinquent personal property taxes and is being taken, county officials indicated, against the idle mines where depreciation of buildings and machinery is very rapid and where the county desires to protect its interest.

First to go on the block will be the Flagstaff mine on Virtue flat at 10 a. m. August 4, the sale to be held at the property. Taxes in an amount of \$273 are due.

Second property going will be the Crown Point mine of which Harold Banta is trustee in the Bourne district. It will go on the block at 10 o'clock on August 7, said Mr. Spence. \$829.61 taxes are delinquent. Two two-story dwellings, a barn and some machinery are included in the sale.

The sheriff indicated that as fast as the sales could be arranged the posting on the properties would be done.

BUILDINGS AT MINE BURNING

Two Men Reported Trapped Under Structures at Flagstaff Mine

According to a report received here this afternoon from state police officers, two men, one of them believed to be a Mr. Nutter and another unidentified man, are reported trapped by fire underground at the Flagstaff mine, a short distance from Baker off the Baker-Homestead highway.

Men returning from a trip to the Friday mine reported to state police officers that they saw a smudge at the Flagstaff mine as they passed, but by the time they were able to get to the buildings, all of them were ablaze.

Stopping at the home of Leon Brown, where they placed a telephone call to state and county officers, they were told that two men were working underground today and were believed to be still under the blazing structures, unable to escape.

Full details of the blaze and absolute confirmation that the men are trapped were not available at press time this afternoon.

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Mine Timbering Burns, Flagstaff

Timbering in the Flagstaff gold mine, long idle except for leasing and small operations, was burning this week after a fire broke out underground and which for a time was feared to have trapped S. P. McReynolds and Charles C. Nutter, miners.

When word of the fire reached Baker Monday, firemen and police rushed out. It happened, however, that the two miners were working on an outside dump nearby at the time although they had been working in the Flagstaff the day before.

A lower tunnel provided draft and the winze roared like a furnace, witnesses stated.