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"BIG MINE AND THE FINEST COAL"

The Business Men of Havre Inspect the Coal Mines of the Havre Coal Mining Company and That is Their Unanimous Decision. They Saw "Oceans" of Coal and Hundreds of Thousands of Tons Ready to Be Mined, as They Wandered Through Miles of Tunnels Driven in Coal and Tell the Herald About It. Fourth Line Being Run for the Coal Road.

HAVRE'S GREAT INDUSTRY ASSURED

Tuesday was the prettiest day that has favored this community during the backward spring, and it was taken advantage of by a number of our business men to visit and inspect the coal mines of the Havre Coal Mining company that lie about two miles north of the city. Among those who went through the workings of the mine were Mr. Brodrick of the Plaidealer, Mr. J. J. Judd of the Judd cafe, Mr. Tom West the well known liquor dealer, Mr. H. W. Stringfellow of the Havre Commercial company, Mr. F. W. Gough of the Beckstead Drug company, Mr. F. A. Buttrely of the "Fair" mercantile establishment, Mayor Newman, Hon. O. G. Skylstead, county commissioner.

After looking over the surface workings, the party was shown through all the underground workings, entering through one of the incline entryways and passing through all the entryways, crosscuts and rooms and stopping here and there to inspect the system of development and mining, the formation and the coal seam. They were shown the way coal mining is done by the miners at work, and this was especially interesting, as there were few in the party who have ever seen coal actually mined and knew little of how the work is done. The condition of the mine in every way was a surprise to the visiting business men. They did not expect to find a mine so extensively and so systematically developed, nor did they think they would find so fine a seam of the best of coal opened up and ready for extraction with workings extending over some eighty acres, with abundant proof that the seam extends over the balance of the company holdings, and unanimous expressions of commendation accompanied those of surprise. When the gentlemen arrived at the mines and were ready to enter the workings, they expected to be outfitted with gum boots, oil slickers and mine hats, to protect them from the mud and puddles of the floor and from the dirty drippings of the roof, and were rather incredulous when informed that if they did not rub up against old timbers, they could go through the workings dressed as they were and not injure their good clothes, and this was proved to be the case, as they went through every opening dry-shod and clean. This is one of the several advantageous environments that go to make this coal property one of the best in the western country. There is no water to pump, and at the same time there is no dust of an explosive nature, nor

are there any dangerous or noxious gases to contend with, making the mine one of the safest and most economical to operate. The roof is a solid, undisturbed sandstone and the floor a smooth shale. The visitors first inspected the older workings that are nearer the surface, and as they advanced to the newer and deeper workings they observed the improvement in the quality of the coal and the widening of the seam, and it was their united opinion, when they had inspected the area opened by the further workings where the seam has widened to six feet and lies in perfectly horizontal position, that the permanent mine had been fully established, and that there could be no question as to the fact that Havre is to become a great coal shipping center as soon as the property is placed under operation of the moderate electric plant for the installation of which active preparations are well under way.

The party was conducted through the mines by Mr. Strain, Mr. Ayers and Mr. Bossuot, who explained the operation of the mine and how it will be operated when the electric plant is installed, and the visitors readily saw that under the new method the mine will at once become a big producer and a prominent factor in the building of the city of Havre, every one appreciating that the operation of a coal plant sending out a stream of coal that will run over five hundred tons per day will of necessity require a large number of miners and other underground and surface men, and as these are not afforded in the present population of Havre, they will have to be brought in, and that they will become permanent and desirable residents who will earn steady and good wages that will be disbursed among the various interests of the city and be of material benefit to everybody, no matter what his occupation or calling.

The business men also took a look at the proposed routes for the coal line over which the product of the mine will be hauled to the town terminals. Three preliminary lines have been run by Mr. Merrifield, and a fourth, further west will be run before a final selection of the route is made, as, while any of the lines afford a gravity run of the loaded trips from the mines to the railway, it is desired to secure as short and straight a route as possible and with as light a grade as possible. As soon as the surveys are completed, the route will be selected and grading will be com-

menced at once, and that completed, the ties and rails will be laid. Simultaneously with the adoption of the coal line, the site for the town terminals will be selected and the construction of the power and tipples building will be commenced, and with the completion of these the machinery will be immediately installed. The power plant will be established at the tipple and will receive its fuel by gravity, directly from the automatic screens. The steam power generated will be employed in the creation of electric power, and the machinery of the tipple, the coal car elevator, the coal road locomotive, the hoist at the mine incline and the mining machines will all be operated with the electric current generated. The underground workings as well as the surface buildings will also be lighted with electricity. It is expected that the new plant will be in operation before the first of August next.

On their return from the mine the business men were unreserved in their praise of the property and the proposed extension of its operations, and for the benefit of those citizens who have not visited the mines, the Herald is giving the opinions of some of those who have.

"Yes, I went out to look at the mines on Tuesday," said Mr. Lou Lucke. "You fellows have been telling us so much about the mines that I determined to take advantage of the pleasant afternoon and make the trip. The mines are very much more extensively developed than I thought, I guess that the area opened or developed is as large as represented. All of the workings that took several hours to traverse are in solid coal, and in the deeper workings the seam is fully six feet in thickness and of fine, bright, black coal that is not intersected with intrusions of bone. The mine air was good and there seemed to be an entire absence of gases and of coal dust, and at the same time the mine is practically dry, so that no pumping of water is required. When the mines get their electric operating plant installed, Havre will have one of the biggest coal mines in the state and it will contribute immensely to the growth and prosperity of the city, as well as a money maker for the owners of the property. Many a good town is supported wholly by one coal mine, and the addition of this industry, to the extent it is intended to operate it, and it surely has the field of consumption that warrants the operation, will be a boost that will push Havre

ahead of whole lot of notches."

Mr. Tom West said: "The coal mines of the Havre Coal Mining company are all that the newspapers have been representing them to be, I did not know if they were, and so I went out to see. The company has extended its development until it covers many acres of ground and all the tunnels driven are in a solid body of coal running from five feet in thickness to six feet, the vein of coal widening as the workings secured greater depth under the bench. The coal seam is clean and a bright black and when mined breaks out in great blocks. With nearly a thousand miles of market that is practically undisputed, the mines, when they get the new plant established, should be able to run up to their full capacity almost every month in every year. There seem to be millions of tons of fine coal out there and there is the market to take it as fast as it is taken from the ground and shipped to the different points, so why should not Havre have the biggest coal mine in the state? And, mind you, it is going to have, and a big coal mine can support a mighty nice little city of itself."

Mr. J. J. Judd inspected the mines with some knowledge of that line of industries, as he was located for some years in a large coal mining town, and he confirmed the general opinion that Havre, in the coal mines of the Havre Coal Mining company, has a mine that can and will supply the fuel wants of the northern part of the state for a great many years to come, and that with the new plant installed, the mines will have the ability to meet the demand; that the benefits to accrue to Havre can be appreciated when it is considered that it will take a large number of men to operate the mines and that these must be brought to the city and will become permanent citizens who will contribute their share to the growth and support of the city, its business men and institutions.

Mr. Frank Kaste said: "I was curious to know if Havre had a coal mine as has been represented by our newspapers, and I went out to see for myself. The mine is all right; it has the coal in endless quantity, and I can not see any reason why Havre will not have one of the biggest and the best coal mines of the state, when that mine gets to operating with the new plant that is to be established. In the deeper workings of the coal vein is six feet thick and a clean, fine coal that shines as

the flicker of the lamp runs over the face of the seam. That mine is going to be a big Havre industry, and there is no doubt of it."

Dr. Hamilton said that a visit to the mines was all that is necessary to impress one with the fact that there is a world of coal out there and that the coal is of the finest quality, as it is clean and jet black, as well as bright and having a fine, close texture, and that the more extended operation of the property, with a most modern plant, can not be other than a great success financially, as the market is ready to take every ton that can be mined and delivered; and that so far as the city is concerned, it will be the greatest possible boost for Havre.

Mr. F. N. Utter said: "I went through the mines and it was a revelation to me: 'That is a coal mine out there; not a rambling hole gouged out irregularly in an irregular deposit of coal. The development has been done systematically and well, the entryways and haulageways being run with a view to the opening of the coal area, so that there is now a great amount of coal that is ready to be mined, and there does not seem to be any question as to the continuance of the vein as it goes north, as it grows thicker and more solid as the workings reach deeper into the bench. The coal is there in apparently inexhaustible supply and with a market that is practically unlimited, the property, when operated under the new methods that are being installed, must become a great industry and will make Havre grow as perhaps no other obtainable improvement would."

Mr. Frank Cowan of Cowan & Boles, wanted to see a coal mine and he took advantage of the pleasant afternoon and drove out to the property. He said that "there's nothing to this coal famine scare in the future; the company has a world of coal out there, and it is mighty fine looking coal and a seam that is six feet in thickness in the further workings and apparently growing thicker, and clean, fine coal. When the electric plant is installed and the mine gets to putting out from 500 tons per day of coal, it will mean the employment of a large number of men and that much added business and population, so I do not see what Havre can want that is better."

Mr. H. W. Stringfellow took especial interest in the tour through the mines and he said: "I have not been skeptical as to the fact of the mine or the practicability of making it a big pro-

ducer, as I thought the coal was there and know, of course, that there is an abundant and an eager market, but I was surprised at the amount of development that had been accomplished by the Havre Fuel Company people, and the systematic and proper way, in which it has been done. The coal seam in the shallower workings is five feet in width, but as the development extends back under the bench, the coal widens to six feet and is a very pretty vein, being solid and clean and as nice looking coal as one can want for any of the domestic uses. It seems evident that the seam extends throughout the company lands, as the bench covers them and does not give any surface evidence of having been disturbed, so that the mines must contain coal that will last for a great many years even with a daily output running far over 500 tons. When the mines are placed in operation with the contemplated plant, Havre will have the most modern equipped and one of the largest coal mines of the state and this city will become the coal center for the great stretch of bench and prairie land that is traversed by the Great Northern railway, from the eastern line of the state to the mountains on the west—a field of consumption that will take a very large daily output of coal to satisfy. Havre is to be a coal producing town right away, as well as a railway center."

Mr. F. A. Buttrely said: "I enjoyed my trip to the coal mines immensely; the trip was one of both pleasure and profit in that it was interesting and proved to me that, with the operation of the property on the basis now planned, it will make Havre a much larger and a much livelier city, and that will contribute to the profit of every resident of Havre. The mines are much more extensively developed than I had thought, and the coal seam is as fine a vein of coal as can be found, at least in the western part of the country. The supply seems almost limitless; the openings we walked through embrace some two miles and there is solid coal everywhere that is ready to be mined whenever the company is ready to increase the daily output, and the coal that is in sight, without any additional development, will keep mining machines busy for several years before it is all sent to the market. The industries that make cities grow are those that require a large number of men for their operation, those that require a large percentage of labor to produce the

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JUDGE HEDGES ANSWERS LAST CALL

Judge Cornelius Hedges died early Monday morning of this week of heart disease. He was a pioneer of Montana, coming to this state in 1864. He served this state as United States district attorney in 1865, was territorial superintendent of public instruction for six years, and was the first state senator of Lewis and Clarke county. Mr. Hedges was born in Wetfield, Hampden county, Mass., October 28, 1831.

Mr. Hedges married Miss Edna Lafayette Smith, of Southington, Conn., July 7, 1856. He is survived by Mrs. Hedges and Willis A., speaker of the house 1905; H. H. a stockman of Valley county; Cornelius Jr., of Helena; Mrs. H. B. Palmer, of Helena, and Mrs. John M. Wooldridge of Boston, Mass.

Judge Hedges was one of the prominent masons of this state, and has been secretary of the Grand Lodge continuously almost since its organization. He was one of the founders of the Helena public library in 1868, and was president of the board of trustees since its existence. Judge Hedges was made a Mason in Iowa in 1859, and during the whole of his life in Montana he had been one of

the most active members of the order, giving it much of his time and attention. In 1865 he was one of the charter members of the Helena lodge, No. 1, and was elected its first master. The lodge was one of the three that united in forming the grand lodge of Montana in 1866. He was grand master in 1871, and the following year he was elected grand secretary, which office he filled until the time of his death.

Rev. Thomas W. Flowers, of Stevensville, a pioneer minister of the Methodist church died this week of paralysis. He was 78 years old and had been in Montana since 1871.

In response to a query from W. C. Freuitt, secretary state board of stock commissioners, Attorney General A. J. Galen, last Tuesday rendered an opinion relative to whether the state board of stock commissioners has the right "to use the moneys turned over to the state treasury to the credit of the stock inspection fund, are now available, for use, and may be used in the same manner and for the same purposes as if placed in said fund by a direct act of appropriation by the legislature.

CHOUTEAU MAN OUT ON PAROLE

Special to the Herald— Helena, May 1.—The first parole was granted on May 1 by the board of prison commissioners according to the parole system established by the last legislature to Ezra Trinkle of Fort Benton. Ezra Trinkle was sentenced to seven years in the state penitentiary for assault on his wife with attempt to kill, in August 1903. The governor was asked by numerous persons to pardon Trinkle, but the case was taken up by the board of prison commissioners with above result. Trinkle is paroled upon the following conditions: He shall not go beyond the bounds of the counties of Cascade, Chouteau and Fergus, during the term for which he was sentenced unless by permission of the board of prison commissioners. He shall report to the board at least once every three months stating his last post office address and giving the nature of his employment and shall during the remaining term of his sentence at all times be under legal control and custody of the State of Montana, and its board of prison commissioners.

HOW TO FILE ON COAL LANDS

The commissioner of the general land office has issued instructions to registrars of the local land offices concerning the selection of lands by state and territories under grants for educational and other purposes. Instructions have also been received as to disposition of lands withdrawn from coal entry. Lands heretofore withdrawn from coal entry and not released will be considered as coal lands. Coal filings made within 60 days prior to withdrawals from coal entry may be completed within the prescribed time by the statutes, less the time from date of such withdrawals to date of special written notice of the filing of maps and lists in the local land office. Lands not coal lands may be entered under any of the public land laws applicable to the particular tract. Each land office will be furnished with maps to show where the coal land lies.

Governor J. K. Toole has appointed former Associate Supreme Justice Geo. R. Milburn, a notary public in and for Custer county.

SUMMING RECORDS OF MANY MAYS

The following data, covering a period of 26 years, have been compiled from the weather bureau records at Havre, Montana. They are issued to show the conditions that have prevailed, during the month in question, for the above period of years, but must not be construed as a forecast of the weather conditions for the coming month.

Month of May for 26 Years.

TEMPERATURE.
Mean or normal temperature, 53 deg. The warmest month was that of 1887, with an average of 61 deg. The coldest month was that of 1892, with an average of 48 deg. The highest temperature was 95 deg. on May 23, 1886. The lowest temperature was 15 deg. on May 3, 1899. The earliest date on which first "killing" frost occurred in autumn, August 14th. Average date on which first "killing" frost occurred in autumn, Sept. 18th. Average date on which last "killing" frost occurred in spring, May 17th. The latest date on which last "killing" frost occurred in spring, June 6th.

PRECIPITATION
(rain or melted snow)
Average for the month, 1.93 inches.
Average number of days with .01 of

an inch or more, 9. The greatest monthly precipitation was 5.63 inches in 1899. The least monthly precipitation was 0.42 inches in 1897. The greatest amount of precipitation recorded in any 24 consecutive hours was 2.40 inches on May 2, 1899. The greatest amount of snowfall recorded in any 24 consecutive hours (record extending to winter of 1884-85 only) was 25 inches on May 1st and 2nd, 1899.

CLOUDS AND WEATHER.
Average number of clear days, 8; partly cloudy days, 15; cloudy days, 8.

WIND.
The prevailing winds have been from the southwest. The average hourly velocity of the wind is 10 miles an hour. The highest velocity of the wind was 63 miles from the northwest, on May 11, 1899.

Station: Havre, Montana.

Date of issue: April 30, 1907.

C. W. LING,
Official in Charge Local Office, Weather Bureau.

Louis S. Cohn of Butte, one of the best known cigar merchants in Montana, was married this week to Miss Sedie Windmiller, of Chicago.