

that direction, the man on the west end posted, and by the time the main-line organizer reached Kearney, Nebraska, on his return route, the signal went over the wires that stopped all further trouble in a few short hours.

Both of the "travelers" reached Cheyenne in due time, footsore and weary, with their own situations gone glimmering, but well satisfied with the work accomplished, and one of them has been in Butte quite recently.

Meaderville Assembly 3,775 is attached to District Assembly 98, with headquarters at Helena, and is in a flourishing condition. The assembly owns the hall in which it meets, and rents the lower portion of it for school purposes.

The Knights in Butte lost a valued member, a firm friend and indefatigable worker in the death of Dr. A. C. Bishop, of Pioneer Assembly, and all who knew him shared in the general sorrow occasioned by his demise.

Also Alex Louenberg, who had proven himself from first to last a faithful Knight.

In Granite the Miners and Laborers have a prosperous assembly and own their hall.

An application for a charter at Philipsburg has been sent in, and no doubt an assembly will soon be organized there with such men as Mark Bryan, publisher of the Philipsburg Mail, a staunch Union man, and other well-known Knights at the head of it.

George M. Bourquin is the general organizer for District 98, and is respected as a faithful officer and genial, gentlemanly brother.

The order, outside of its published declaration of principles, is charitable and protective in its object, caring for the sick and unfortunate, burying the dead and alleviating distress wherever possible. Notwithstanding the severe battles it has gone through, it stands in the front rank as an educator of the common people, and profiting by whatever mistakes may have been made in the past, the Knights of Labor will undoubtedly prove a prominent factor in solving the labor problem of the future.

R. M. H.

THE MINERS' UNION.

BUTTE has long enjoyed the reputation of being the greatest mining camp in the world, but it is not generally known that it also has the greatest local labor organization in the world.

The Miners' Union is a prominent feature of Butte. June 13, 1878, the society was first organized under the name of "Workingmens' Union," and assembled in a log house on Broadway, near where the Opera house now stands. At the first meeting 115 men signed their names to the roll and entered upon the work of organization. A. C. Witter was elected President; Peter

Allen, Vice President; John P. Sullivan, Financial Secretary; William Larkin, Conductor; Charles Wakeman, Warden; Edward Rooney, Treasurer.

Shortly afterward the place of meeting was changed to a house on the site now occupied by the Bonner building, on Granite and Main streets, and again moved, with the structure itself, to the corner of Quartz and Wyoming streets, where it remained until the substantial hall now occupied by the union on Main street, above Quartz, was erected.

The society was reorganized under the name of the "Butte Miners' Union." In 1885 the Miners' hall, a substantial brick building, the lower portion of which is occupied by stores, the postoffice, etc., was completed. The hall upstairs is one of the most commodious and best fitted in the city, and is used by the miners for their meetings, the Typographical Union, Trades Assembly, Knights of Labor, Stationery Engineers, Select Knights A. O. U. W. and Ancient Order of United Workmen.

New blood infused into the order gave it renewed life, until now it numbers a membership of some 3,000, which is rapidly increasing, and has a revenue of \$3,500 per month, or nearly \$1,000 per week. The union pays its sick or injured members \$10 per week during disability, and allows \$50 for funeral expenses. It has paid off all the bonded indebtedness incurred in erecting the building and at the same time has a handsome bank account.

A branch union has been established at Granite, known as the "Granite Mountain Miners' Union," working under the Butte charter, and is reported in a flourishing condition.

The membership of the order in Butte has doubled itself within the past six months, and but twelve deaths for the year.

The Secretary of the Butte Union visits the various camps at least once a month to ascertain the condition of affairs and keep everything in "union" order.

The present officers of the society are: President, Joseph Morris; Vice President, Eugene E. Kelley; Financial Secretary, Phillip J. Hickey; Recording Secretary, William H. Eddy; Treasurer, W. E. Deeny; Conductor, Michael T. Murphy; Warden, Thomas E. Hickey; Trustees, John Eddy, John Thomas, Dan Curtiss, Pat Kilbride and W. J. Barker.

As may be supposed, the Miners' Union is a "power in the land," and by its beneficence and ready aid extended to kindred societies in times of trouble, has endeared itself to all labor organizations, and commands the respect of the community at large.

The business men of Butte are among the most enterprising in the West and are giving a name to the city for energy and push that is unrivaled and lasting.