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Gets the Buckeye.

M. L. Fay Secures a Lease on Valuable West End Property.

WILL THOROUGHLY EXPLORE.

During the past week M. L. Fay has added a neat bunch of valuable west end lands to his holdings, including the Buckeye, a state lease originally held by Gen. Baker and wife, of Mankato, in section 36, 56-25, and comprising in addition thereto five forties in section 31, 56-24, adjoining the Buckeye on the east, and four forties in section 1, 55-23, joining the Buckeye on the south, the property located in sections 31 and 1 being owned by Messrs. Bovee and Delaight, of Minneapolis.

The Buckeye is one of the oldest of west end explorations, work on the property several years ago proving a large body of good ore, said to run very low in phosphorus and better than 60 per cent in iron. At different points on the southwest quarter of 36 three pits were put into ore at from 8 to 10 feet surface, the ore body showing an average depth of 124 feet.

The leases on the property mentioned were obtained from Capt. J. W. Robinson, of Necedah, Wis., who retains an undivided sixth interest therein. The property, under direction of Mr. Fay, will be thoroughly explored and developed, and with the known facts of the extent of the ore body it is a certainty that a large mine will be proven.

THE CONTINENTAL.

In an interview with a correspondent of the Minneapolis Journal, Percy Train, traveling representative of the Mining World, of Butte, in speaking of the Continental lead and silver property recently purchased by W. T. Bailey, of this city, and Capt. Harry Roberts, of Duluth, says:

"The Continental mine on Boundary creek, twenty miles from Port Hill and three miles from the Canadian line, will undoubtedly be developed into one of the greatest lead producing mines in the world. The property was sold not long ago to Duluth men, Roberts & Bailey, who are preparing to work it on a large scale.

"When I was up there recently Roberts & Bailey had a force of 150 men at work on a wagon road from the mine to Port Hill, the nearest point on the railroad. Since I have returned, I learn that the road has been completed, and now work will be pushed on the mine itself. Nothing could be done on a large scale until the road had been completed, for it was impossible to transport ore in quantity from the mine or to take supplies to it.

"The property is a silver-lead proposition. It has the biggest outcrop of ore I ever saw. It is about forty feet wide, and it runs almost without a break the length of three claims. The ore carries half an ounce of silver to 1 per cent of lead, and all taken out of the lead up to the present time has been of shipping grade. A shaft has been sunk 100 feet on the lead.

"Although the Roberts & Bailey mine is the largest proposition in that district, there are other promising prospects."

AT THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

An orchestra has been organized and will assist in the Sunday evening services at the Presbyterian church. Rev. Todd has been busy himself for the past week or two, writing and arranging music for this new aggregation of instruments. The musicians composing the orchestra are as follows:

Messrs. John P. Willing, cornet; D. W. Freeman, melophone; Frank Michan, trombone; M. Nelson, bass; A. Gunderson, tuba; H. H. Lien and Rev. Todd, violins; Prof. Schidlo, organ.

These musicians have all kindly consented to play for us, and we expect as a result that the music of the church will be greatly improved. Special "word sheets" have been arranged and will be placed in the hands of everyone present.

In addition to the orchestra, we expect to have one solo each evening. It is the aim of those having matters in charge to make the services of the church as bright and cheerful as possible. Gospel play-

ing, Gospel preaching and Gospel singing will constitute the order of service.

You are cordially invited to be present next Sunday evening; come seeking a blessing and you will not be disappointed.

NEW LEASES FILED.

There were two mining leases filed in the register of deeds office yesterday, one being from the West Missabe Land company to the Pitt Iron Mining company, of lands in section 11, 57-21, about two and one-half miles southwest of Hibbing.

In this lease it would appear the Eastern Minnesota is interested, the freight rate to the Allouez docks being given at 80 cents per ton and further provision being made that if the rate gets as low as 60 cents per ton the reduction shall be added to the royalties. The Pitt Iron Mining company, under the terms of the contract, shall mine no less than 50,000 tons a year, on a 20 cent royalty. The larger the output the lesser the royalty, and if the output reaches a half million a year the royalty shall be but 12½ cents.

The second lease is from M. D. Hall, et al, to Alexander Maitland, of Negaunee, Mich. It comprises lands in section 7, 57-16, providing for a minimum output of 50,000 tons on a 25 cent royalty basis.

F. O. E. OFFICERS.

The Virginia Aerie held its annual election on Sunday last, the following officers being chosen for the ensuing year:

President—T. R. Patterson.
Vice President—Thos. St. Cyr.
Secretary—W. R. Byrne.
Treasurer—A. E. Bickford.
Conductor—James E. Lockery, of Eveleth.

Chaplain—Geo. C. Smith, of Mountain Iron.

Inside Guardian—L. Brennan, of Mountain Iron.

Outside Guardian—Chas. Doran.
Trustees—Fred B. Rossom, Larry Brennan and Emil Wilson.

The membership of the Virginia Aerie at the present time is about 90 members, a falling off of about 30 members, due mostly to the "ousting" process instituted by State President A. P. Loomis, who paid the lodge a visit some two months ago. New members are constantly being added, however, and the organization is destined to be the strongest on the ranges.

KILLED AT NEGAUNEE MINE.

By a cave-in at the bottom of the old shaft of the Negaunee mine at the noon hour Tuesday, from thirteen to seventeen men were killed. Among the number was John Sullivan, a brother of Thomas D. Sullivan, for several years past an employe of the Auburn, who left for Negaunee Wednesday morning.

The story of one of the survivors, rescued shortly after the accident, is that the men were sitting around the pump at the bottom of the shaft when suddenly and without warning thousands of tons of ore came down.

The Negaunee mine has been one of the most unlucky mines in the Lake Superior district. Much trouble has been experienced in sinking and drifting, from water and quicksands. It was at this mine that one million dollars were recently expended in sinking a shaft to the ledge.

WILL BE A BIG SHIPPER.

Contractor Runquist has finished the Iron Range spur to the Stevens, the big new property of the Steel Corporation east of Biwabik and the property will be placed in readiness to enter the shipping list at the opening of navigation.

The Stevens will be worked as an open pit proposition. The proven ore body is said to be estimated at about 40,000,000 tons, and the property is expected to take rank among the heaviest of range shippers in a short time.

STILL BUYING.

The Chapin mine, at Iron Mountain, Mich., has been transferred to the Oliver Mining company, a subsidiary company of the U. S. Steel Corporation. The Quinnesec mine, another property which has heretofore been regarded as an "independent" property, has also been transferred to the same company.

LEASE FOUR ENGINES.

The Duluth & Iron Range have leased four of their large locomotives to the Pittsburgh, Bessemer & Lake Erie railroad, for the winter months. The lessee is a Steel Corporation road.

Should Reorganize

There is Work in Sight for the Virginia Business Men's Association

THAT DEMANDS ATTENTION.

At one time Virginia had a Business Men's Association. At the time of its disbandment, it was simply "adjourned," upon motion of a member, during the summer months. That was nearly three years ago. Is it not about time for the organization to again convene and pick up the broken thread? It is needed. A united whole would find ample work, questions of direct moment to the commercial and industrial interests of the city, at this time. It is not only the province, but the duty, of the business fraternity of any city to work for its upbuilding, but the feeble directed efforts of individuals avail but little as compared with the results of a unity of action in the same line.

With the building of the new Virginia & Rainy River railroad the possibilities of the city are brightened in many respects. We become the natural distributing point for a vast territory to the north and west, a territory which within the next twelve months will embrace a population of thousands of souls. But the natural advantage of our geographical location is not going to land the prospective business of this section unaided. It takes enterprise on the part of the citizens of a town as well. It is ours if we go after it unitedly. Shall we go?

The new railroad, in addition to opening up the finest section of agricultural lands in northern Minnesota, also opens to market the largest tract of standing pine in the state, conservatively estimated at 6,000,000,000 feet, together with millions of dollars' worth of other timber. This pine is to be cut and a great amount shipped outside the state for manufacture, but it is the avowed intention of the owners of large portions of the tract to put in mills at convenient points and manufacture the lumber in this section. Why not have one of the proposed mills located here? We offer every advantage—nature again assisting in the manner of a natural site, accompanied by a ready sale of all mill refuse, etc., offers inducements; might not those inducements be made stronger or shown in a clearer light?

Again, the new road must of necessity have extensive repair shops and other headquarter yards at some point. Virginia is the natural point, but geographical location might again be assisted in the particular phase of the outlook for our future growth and prosperity by the efforts of an association and assimilation of interests by the business element.

It was not, as we stated in a certain lecture last week, geographical location that made Chicago the porkopolis or Indianapolis the railroad center, but the push and vigor of its citizens. Virginia has in prospect not only an era of temporary prosperity—but a prospect which presents opportunity for our permanent and continued growth. Such a result is worth working for.

It is up to our business fraternity to consider the matter, and for them to decide whether they desire to act as individuals or as a unit, with full knowledge that in the latter course are the greater chances of success.

ONE ASSOCIATION MEETING.

At a meeting of the Ore Association held at Cleveland yesterday no action was taken on the question of fixing annual prices, for which the meeting was called. Some collateral questions were discussed, one being the possibility of an agreement on the price between all the old ranges and non-bessemer and Mesaba range ores, upon which there has been no established schedule during the past two years.

A committee was appointed to write up the details of the minor questions, and among them the matter of price on the two grades mentioned.

It is practically settled that the base price for old range bessemer ores will be the same as it was last year, when it was fixed at \$4.25.



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