

## STRAIGHT TALK

One H. Wisener Hammond is sending out a circular letter regarding the stocks listed on the Salt Lake Stock and Mining Exchange, and says in it that the time has come when a co-operative investors association is being formed for the purpose of examining, for members, any mining property in Utah and nearby states to report on actual conditions existing; to vote proxies of members at meetings of stockholders in the West; to select for members reliable mining stocks for investment; to select stocks on margin accounts not easily influenced by "slamming" at the market; to purchase for members any mining stocks free of charge, either direct from individuals "where, at times better prices prevail," or through such brokers as may be suggested, and where necessary or when desired, to assist in every way possible; to aid the Federal government in the prosecution of mining fraud cases arising from misuse of the mails.

Mr. Hammond states that on a recent trip East he met several hundred clients who were holders of Utah stocks and who requested him to join them in this undertaking "with the result that one thousand members will be easily secured." In this way, he says, a fund will be afforded sufficiently large to enable him to not only give all necessary attention to the work himself, but to employ all extra help necessary to further insure success. He continues that eight thousand holders of Utah and nearby states stocks, several thousand of whom know him or of him, are receiving the letter. Casually it is mentioned that \$10.00 per year will be the membership fee for the services, and urges that those receiving the letter register their membership immediately, remarking that remittances may be arranged later.

It is nice to know that there is some one self sacrificing enough to give his time and expert attention to the examination of western mining properties, for a nominal stipend of \$10,000.00, and possibly more. And rushed as he will be with the great mass of inquiries which will undoubtedly be sent to him, he proposes to take time enough to vote the proxies of members at

meetings of stock holders in the West. Not only that; all they have to do is to put up their money and lean on him and he will select for them reliable mining stocks for investment, and if they are to be carried on margin accounts he knows exactly what to put them into so that a break in the market would not affect them. But that isn't all. He is willing to purchase mining stocks free of charge, either direct from individuals or through brokers. That is very nice in H. Wisener Hammond. We have no doubt but that his clientele will appreciate his efforts to set them right and to save them the commissions they usually pay the terrible brokers for buying or selling.

His offer to assist in every way possible the Federal government in the prosecution of mining fraud cases arising through misuse of the mails is most laudable, and in that he has a lot of company, for there isn't anyone sincerely interested in the mining business who doesn't desire to offer similar assistance for the protection and upbuilding of the industry.

Until reading the Hammond letter we did not know that he was one of Utah's favorite sons, but his statement that several thousand of the eight thousand holders of Utah stocks to whom his letter is going to know him or of him would indicate that he has been keeping something quiet regarding his popularity and it wouldn't be surprising if, before the coming campaign is over, if he announces his candidacy for some modest office, say governor, or senate, or something of the kind.

We heartily commend Mr. H. Wisener Hammond on his enterprise and wonder why some one has not thought of something of the kind before. Perhaps others have, but lack the qualifications that distinguish Mr. Hammond as a mining expert, geologist, protector of the poor and needy, prognosticator, selector of "cinches" for investors unassailable on the worst of bear markets, and general all around oracle regarding mines and mining and the issues representing mining properties of every description.

If one has \$10.00 they had better send it to Mr. Hammond so that they may find out what is best to do about the securities or alleged secur-

ities they hold, and if they have only \$5.00, do the next best thing, and go to a fortune teller.

What is the matter with Salt Lake? It was this city's own proposition to establish a training camp here this summer, and when it was broached and the first meetings were called eleven hundred people signified their intention of joining. Up to Thursday night of this week exactly eleven had joined, or one per cent of the original number. Cards are being sent to merchants and business heads in general asking them to signify whether or not they will allow their employees to join the camp without jeopardizing their positions and a very small number of these have been returned properly filled.

The paucity of interest is most deplorable, for unless two hundred men are enrolled by the twentieth of this month the training camp will be moved to Denver, and the reflection on this city will be nothing short of a disgrace.

Every effort is being made on the part of some hard workers who are devoting their time and attention to it to making Douglas a brigade post, and if the training camp here falls through, we will have a slim chance of securing it. We have a great opportunity to make a success of the training camp with citizen soldiers coming from all of the surrounding states, and it is scarcely believable that out of a city of Salt Lake's pretensions less than a dozen had signified their willingness to join up to June 8th.

The entire expense for each man joining is only \$10.00 for the entire period, and it will be as much of a vacation as anything else, not to mention the spirit that should actuate every citizen at such a time as this.

Where are those who marched in the preparedness parade? Where are those who have been boasting of their patriotism and what they would do in the event of trouble? It is a real duty that every able-bodied citizen should attend to, and if the camp is allowed to go by the board it will be a lasting shame to the community. Make your application today and show the stuff you're made of. Don't procrastinate, there are only ten days more in which to advertise Salt Lake as an American city or something akin to foreign.

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