

# WHITE OAKS EAGLE.

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### THE ROCK ISLAND VIA WHITE OAKS.

The shortest route from Chicago to Los Angeles, Cal., will be formed by the extension of the Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific railway from Liberal, Kansas, to White Oaks, N. M., a distance of about 360 miles.

The length of the new route from Chicago to Los Angeles will be 2,196 miles, or seventy miles shorter than the Santa Fe route. Faster time can be made over the new route than the figures of mileage indicate, because the country in New Mexico through which it will pass is less mountainous than that traversed by the Santa Fe route.

The distance from Chicago to Liberal, Kansas, via the Rock Island road, is 868 miles. The line to be built from Liberal to White Oaks, N. M., will be about 360 miles. At White Oaks connection will be made with the El Paso & Northeastern railroad, the distance from White Oaks to El Paso being 155 miles. The Southern Pacific will be used from El Paso to Los Angeles, the distance between the two places by that line being 812 miles. This makes the total length of the new route from Chicago to the Pacific coast 3,195 miles.

It will also make, in connection with the Mexican Central, a new route from Chicago to the City of Mexico, which will be nearly 2000 miles shorter than any other line.—Kansas City Times.

Within the next few days the Rock Island and the El Paso & Northeastern railway surveying corps, working southwest and northeast, will have formed a junction of their respective surveys somewhere north of White Oaks, toward the Jicarilla mountains, probably not far from Luna Springs.

Some dispatches sent out from Clayton and other places in New Mexico two weeks ago about the line taken by the Rock Island surveyors are very misleading. The Rock Island's chief engineer is quoted as saying that he was headed for some point on the "Pecos road," when it should have been "Pecos river." These surveyors crossed the Pecos valley near Puerto de Luna, a week ago, headed for Jicarilla, where Chief engineer Sumner and his corps of E. P. & N. E. road surveyors were encamped Wednesday, so they cannot be far apart at this writing.

The survey made by the El Paso & Northeastern corps through the White Oaks country has been surprisingly satisfactory. The grade through the ranges there can be made with a little less than 1 1/2 per cent, which was a great surprise to the surveyors.

It is now conceded that the road will go via White Oaks instead of Capitan, to avoid the heavy 4 per cent grade on the Capitan line, already in operation and to get a more direct line to El Paso.

It is generally agreed that the work of construction will begin on the connecting line as soon as the survey is completed.

As to running a branch road north through the Gallina mountains and the Pinos Wells region, that will doubtless be the next move undertaken, after the completion of the gap between Liberal, Kan., and White Oaks. The value and extent of the mineral discoveries now so frequently reported from the Gallinas mountains will have much to do with this feature of the enterprise.—Citizen.

### WHAT EL PASO SAYS ABOUT OUR EXHIBIT.

John Y. Hewitt, president and manager of the Old Abe Company, S. M. Wharton, editor of the White Oaks Eagle, and S. A. Neid, contractor and builder, came down from White Oaks last night as a committee appointed by the citizens of that place to attend the mineral exhibit of White Oaks which was started to this city yesterday and was to have arrived last night, but through a mistake the car containing the exhibit was set out at Alamogordo and will not arrive tonight.

The exhibit consists of one ton and a half of minerals and a ton and a half of coal. When the Herald man expressed surprise at the amount of the exhibit, Mr. Hewitt said, "Oh, that is only the beginning of the White Oaks exhibit. There will be more to follow at different times in the future. There have been many false reports made about White Oaks and her resources and we intend to prove to the public that they are false. "When people talk of going to White Oaks there is some one ready to say 'Don't go there; there is nothing there,' and it has been said that White Oaks coal is full of iron and runs into big clinkers."

"We have in the exhibit a lump of coal 2x2 1/2 feet and 5 feet and 4 inches long, the length being the thickness of the vein. A look at it will convince you that White Oaks coal has no iron in it. We use it in the mine furnaces and have no trouble with clinkers."

One of the main features of the White Oaks mineral exhibit is a 25-lb. lump of ore that is a mineral Maverick. Samples of this ore have been examined by all sorts of experts but no body has yet classified it. President Hewitt, of the Old Abe Company, calls it shale, just to give it a name, but doesn't think it is shale. It is a strange combination being a dark blue looking rock permeated by many thin seams of pure white lime. These seams carry free gold in considerable quantities.—Herald.

The White Oaks exhibit for the Chamber of Commerce rooms arrived last night and secretary Russell has been busy with the committee from White Oaks placing the ores today.

Probably the finest specimens in the exhibit are two large blocks of coal from the mines three miles from White Oaks. They are about 2x5 feet and show the width of vein.

The rest of the display consists of copper and galena which carries gold, silver and lead and sulphur. The minerals have been examined by many miners today and pronounced very rich specimens.

The work of placing the exhibit was completed at 3 o'clock this afternoon and secretary Russell of the Chamber of Commerce arranged for a reception akin to a banquet at 4 o'clock.

The members of the Chamber of Commerce were requested to be present and meet the committee from White Oaks and express their thanks for the interest the White Oaks people have taken in El Paso's mineral exhibit.—News.

#### KILLED BY LIGHTNING.

A stroke of lightning killed 350 sheep and a Mexican herder on Three Rivers the other night. During the storm the herder, who was an employee of Ernesto Armiño, of Las Cruces, took refuge with his flock under a huge tree. While the storm raged, lightning struck the tree, killing the herder and 350 of the sheep bunched about him.

### A QUESTION OF PUBLIC INTEREST.

The question of water works for White Oaks has been discussed at intervals for several years, but always from a standpoint of financial profit to the individual who backed the enterprise. Recently it has been talked of as a question of public improvement; as a necessity not only as a means of service to the inhabitants, and as a requisite in adding attraction to the town, but as a protection against loss to property holders by fire.

Past experiences and heavy losses by fire have prompted property holders and all classes of business men to look a little more invitingly on the question of water works for the city. Those who own water near town have been investigating its resources, and computing the cost of pipe lines, reservoirs, etc., and plans for construction have already been pretty well matured in the minds of different individuals who have purchased water rights with the view of furnishing the city with water, sometime ago.

The EAGLE has been informed that Kansas City capital acquainted with conditions here has proposed to furnish the money for the construction of water works, and money is ready whenever the owners of the water right want to use it. Between \$4,000 and \$5,000 will be ample funds to furnish White Oaks with a first class system of water works, and the advance in property alone as effected by it would be worth many times that amount of money.

A survey of the south side of White Oaks Avenue is proof conclusive that property ten times the value of the cost of water works went up in the flames in a few hours, and those acquainted with the incident know that several thousand dollars worth of property across the street was only saved at the time by an army of water carriers working like Trojans to save it. Now that the town is improving and every house in it occupied, fire may be expected at any time, and the next experience may be ten times more destructive than any former one.

Why not every man who lives in White Oaks, and every business man in particular, make it a point to lend a portion of his time and a meager portion of his earning for one year to needed public improvements? All agree that this town is not surpassed in climatic advantages by any part of the United States, and could be made one of the most beautiful residence towns in the world by utilizing the water now going to waste in the mountains surrounding it. One of the great things needed to fill White Oaks with life and business is more attention on the part of our business men and property owners to public enterprise—the very first thing that demands their attention is a system of water works.

There is not a town in New Mexico as old as White Oaks and doing the volume of business that we do that hasn't water works, a public watering place for man and beast and shade trees at the proper places on its thoroughfares. A number of yards and homes in this city show what they could all be if water was available. A system of water works could be put in here at a minimum cost that would supply the town and also furnish an abundance for every mine in operation. Why not have it thus?