

Sylvan Valley News

Our County—Its Progress and Prosperity the First Duty of a Local Paper.

J. J. MINER, Manager.

BREVARD, TRANSYLVANIA COUNTY, N. C., FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 1906.

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Iron Ore in the Blue Ridge.

A Discovery which Will Help Brevard—Development to Begin at an Early Date.

The following from the Greenville News of recent date seems to indicate that something in the mineral line worth working has at last been discovered in the Blue Ridge mountains. This section has long been known as the "sample chest," for all known metals, but nothing has ever yet been found of sufficient quantity and quality to warrant the introduction of machinery to work it. We sincerely hope that this vein may prove all that its discoverers hope for it, because its development will be of vast benefit to this county—not alone in added business but in the development of various mineral leads which are known to exist here. We shall watch with interest the future of this "find."

Fourteen miles of iron ore, analyzing from 63 to 69 per cent, in the mountains above Greenville!

And the best part of the find is that there seems to be no ifs tied to the future development of these deposits which appear to be the richest of their kind in the United States, and second only to a pocket mine in Spain which shows a slightly higher analysis. When developed this city is the logical site for headquarters of the company, and it is not too much to hope for a big smelting plant. A railway to the mountains and across the ridges to the coal fields of the Central West would appear to be an incident to the development of the iron property.

The story seems too great to be true. It promises so much for Greenville and South Carolina that the reader is apt to feel like taking it with a little salt. And yet the ore is there. It has been analyzed by conservative chemists in Philadelphia, and of the several samples tested the figures are those mentioned, proving the ore to be of the best in the world. Only the report of an expert on iron mining is required to make the future certain.

Col. R. E. Johnstone, now a resident of Greenville, and one of the biggest lumber dealers in the South, discovered the deposits of ore on the side of a mountain road some months ago, while inspecting some of the vast tracts of timber in which he is interested. At first he paid little attention to the ore, but finding that the veins seemed to extend on indefinitely, he decided to follow up the deposits, with the result that the ore has been traced for fourteen miles. It is of two qualities. The first is very heavy and highly magnetic, while the other is non-magnetic and of a light brown color, known as brown hematite ore. The specimens analyzed in Philadelphia several days ago were taken from different parts of the mountain. There was no material difference in the percentage of iron secured, the ore from the deeper stratas showing up slightly better than that pick-

ed up on the surface.

If the examination made by the mining experts pans out as experienced iron miners believe it will, there is no telling what the developments of the property will mean for Greenville. Already it has been hinted by certain steel officials in Pennsylvania that \$5,000,000 would be given for the property as it stood, but Colonel Johnstone and his associates did not show any desire to sell and there is no telling how many millions of dollars may be hidden beneath the crest of the mountain. When it is remembered that iron ore analyzing as high as 45 and 50 per cent is considered worth working, the layman gets an idea of what this property in the Blue Ridge mountains may mean in the iron and steel business.

In all respects the property is favorably situated for development. While Colonel Johnstone, for business reasons, preferred not to tell just where the ore could be found, he intimated that the output would probably find its way down the mountains over a railway to this city. The construction of such a line would be a mere incident. Both coal and lime are needed in smelting iron ore, and these are within comparatively easy reach of the property, coal fields not being more than one hundred miles distant. Lime occurs in the form of stone in the vicinity of the iron veins.

The expert is expected to come down from Philadelphia in the course of a few days, and will be taken to the iron mountain by Colonel Johnstone. There he will pitch his camp and the investigation will begin. The idea of this expert's visit is to ascertain the extent of the ore veins and their position. This will be done by boring and pits, which will be sunk at intervals across the mountain.

Colonel Johnstone has no doubt but that the property will be developed. The only question seems to be, by whom. This depends on the offers the present owners get from the steel company. If the lump sum made for the property is large enough, there may be a sale, or on the other hand the development may be done on the royalty plan, or by a company organized by Colonel Johnstone and his associates.

Unless the ore lies differently from that found in Alabama or anywhere else, there are millions of tons in the mountains and it means the biggest thing that could happen for Greenville.

Lame Back.

This ailment is usually caused by rheumatism of the muscles and may be cured by applying Chamberlain's Pain Balm two or three times a day and rubbing the parts vigorously at each application. If this does not afford relief, bind on a piece of flannel slightly dampened with Pain Balm and quick relief is almost sure to follow.

For sale by Z. W. Nichols, Brevard and O. L. Erwin Calvert.

THE PEOPLE'S SOVEREIGNTY

Shall the Railroads Continue to Control the Country?

The recommendation of President Roosevelt to congress on the question of railroad rate regulation is not as strenuous as was expected, but if congress follows his suggestions in the law it will pass enough power will be given the interstate commerce commission to somewhat protect the people and shippers from the worst evils that have grown up under corporate domination. The simple question to be settled by congress is, Shall the people control the corporations they have created or shall the corporations be allowed to continue without supervision?

The sovereignty of the people must be restored, for it is an anomaly in a democratic republic to continue to allow its creatures, the corporations, to be independent of its control and permitted to continue to plunder the people who have unwittingly granted them the power. President Roosevelt has followed the declarations of Democratic platforms in his argument for control of the railroads, for he says:

"The laws of the congress and of the several states hitherto as passed upon by the courts have resulted more often in showing that the states have no power in the matter than that the national government has power, so that there at present exists a very unfortunate condition of things, under which these great corporations doing an interstate business occupy the position of subjects without a sovereign, neither any state government nor the national government having effective control over them. Our steady aim should be by legislation, cautiously and carefully undertaken, but resolutely persevered in, to assert the sovereignty of the national government by affirmative action."

"This is only in form an innovation. In substance it is merely a restoration. For from the earliest time such regulation of industrial activities has been recognized in the action of the lawmaking bodies, and all that I propose is to meet the changed conditions in such manner as will prevent the commonwealth abdiquating the power it has always possessed not only in this country, but also in England before and since this country became a separate nation."

That is good solid Democratic ground, and its adoption by an independent president is a hard nut for a Republican congress to crack. That it dislikes to undertake it is certain, but it hardly dares oppose it. The railroad corporations may quibble and suggest a compromise on this paramount issue, but congress has the power to protect the people, and nothing less will satisfy the voters. The Republican majority in congress is on trial, and if it compromises on any essential point and attempts to prevent the people from exercising their full sovereignty over the corporations the issue will be settled at the congressional elections next fall. The voters by that time will know who are to be trusted, and it is certain that the Democrats will not be found wanting.

Look Out For Squalls.

Look ahead for financial squalls out of the present clear sky. If Russia should fail to pay the interest on her \$2,000,000,000 of bonds held outside of Russia there will be a panic on the French and German bourses which would probably affect New York and London and make money tight for a time. Pay your debts and don't incur any more at present. This Republican prosperity that they boast of so much is like a child's balloon, and a pin prick will cause collapse. Unfortunately, too, the foundation is rotten, for it rests on special privilege and frenzied finance, in which the banks and trust companies and life insurance corporations are all combined with Republican politicians to plunder the people.

Result of Protection.

In France the government is investigating the cause of the decline of population, and a report to the economic subcommittee declares that the policy of protection has rendered the conditions of life harder. The figures amassed and analyzed show that "not 5 per cent" of the French people reap any advantage from the protective tariff, while all the rest pay tribute under it. It is estimated that on bread and meat alone this "unseen" tax takes \$10,000,000 a year from the people and a similar amount with most of the other necessities of life. Under such circumstances no wonder there is a reluctance to increase the number of mouths to be fed. Are we approaching like conditions from the same causes?

France intends to pat Castro on the wrist a few times before she slaps him in the face.

New York "State officials" are not genuine now unless they bear the trade mark "Made in Washington."

If Senator Tillman fails to get one of those 10,000 invitations to the White House wedding, he will feel snubbed.

Poultry Bigelow forgets that only Standard Oil magnates are privileged to handle legal questions flippantly.

A correspondent asks "Is there anything in palmistry?" Well, there is a pretty fair living in it for the palmists.

If the Panama people dig into the Isthmus as hard as they have into Bigelow, they may do something toward a canal.

If leader Williams cannot corral the minority in the House of Representatives, it is no use for any other person to try it.

It is tolerably safe to assume that the attorneys in the Green and Gaynor case, will not raise the question of tainted money.

Fairbanks still holds the Indiana organization against Beveridge. "Ice" evidently cuts more of a figure than "talk" in Indiana.

Arizona seems to prefer to be governed by Washington authorities, than to have New Mexico to that stunt. Do you blame her?

Speaker Cannon need not expect a complimentary notice in the next issue of the "Arizona Kicker." "Maud" will look tame by its side.

"Of course Dr. Roosevelt didn't have any license" says Mr. Spooner, "but Santo Domingo was crying for a dose of soothing syrup."

The Liberal landslide in England ought to make the American Democrats take heart. It just shows what the "outs" can do when the people get tired of the "ins."

They are making a good deal of fuss over the fact that both Senators Platt and Depew appeared in the Senate on the same day, although there is nothing in the record to show that they interfered in any manner with the regular order of business.

There is more Catarrh in this section of the country than all other diseases put together, and until the last few years was supposed to be incurable. For a great many years doctors pronounced it a local disease and prescribed local remedies, and by constantly failing to cure with local treatment, pronounced it incurable. Science has proven catarrh to be a constitutional disease and therefore requires constitutional treatment. Hall's Catarrh Cure, manufactured by F. J. Cheney & Co., Toledo, Ohio, is the only constitutional cure on the market. It is taken internally in doses from 10 drops to a tea spoonful. It acts directly on the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. They offer one hundred dollars for any case it fails to cure. Send for circulars and testimonials. Address: F. J. CHENEY & Co., Toledo, Ohio.

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