

cole who write a book of very fine \_\_\_\_\_ of the complete rush, and Alonzo Brown here and Ed Parker had an opinion and he wrote it, and Idaho historic books I have read through; but of all the accounts I've read through some come from Walla Walla. We were first a Washington territory before we became Idaho territory, and there is some very good records at Walla Walla available. It's quite a project to go over there and search them. There's really some good information available there, goes back in the '60s and '70s. I still think the best account I've had up to date or have ever seen was an account that was acquired by R. E. Lockwood, who was actually the backbone and the mainstay of the Weiser Signal when it started publication. He was a miner himself and quite accurate. What I've got from Mr. Lockwood is his story from a gentleman who was with the first party by the name of Rube Bosse. Some have spelled it B-e-s-s-e, but nevertheless, I believe it's the most accurate account because he seemed to be more common like. It wasn't elaborated on. Reading what Mr. Lockwood has recorded for his paper at that time, back in the '70s and '80s and up until he lost his life, seemed to be about the most accurate research we'd run into. Seems like actual fact, it's not elaborated on, but it really seems to be fact.

To start with, the Florence Gold Rush, as you all know, took place in 1861. By the way, Jim Warren had a cabin in Florence which did burn down. I have a picture at home of the cabin site. In the spring of 1862, the next year after the Florence rush, Jim Warren and 4 other men

left Florence as early as they could cross the big Salmon River. They made their way to about where Burgdorf stands now, and awful close to the mouth of Lake Creek. There, among themselves, now they're characters of a questionable quality all the way through--Jim was pretty much of a gambler type man and wasn't interested in hard work, and naturally they weren't interested in working sluice boxes in Florence like everybody else at that time. Well, they made their way just beyond where Burgdorf sets now, but according to old Rube Bosse's report it was awful close to Burgdorf. They had a falling out and Jim Warren pulled away from the other 4 fellows. They located about where the road crosses now going out to Ruby Meadows which later became Miller's Camp. They actually made the first discovery on that, the 4 guys that stayed that didn't go with Warren, \_\_\_\_\_ sell out. Warren went on by himself and he crossed over, undoubtedly he had to go through Secesh Meadows, and he crossed over a divide and dropped into another big meadow and camped.

Well, Warren pitched camp and started to pan for gold. He found fair prospects, panned out 7 pans of dirt, saved the proceeds, took some quartz samples and headed back to Florence. He reported his discovery to Hank Diefenbach, who later on ran the ferry at French Creek before the state bridge was put in, and he's been around that country a considerable time and you see his name appear in a lot of places; he used to be well known among the oldtimers there. He in later years ran the ferry at the wire bridge.

A party of 16 prospectors was formed to investigate the strike. Rube Bosse, Hank Diefenbach, of course Jim Warren, Fred Osgood and a brother. I never could find the brother's name; O. L. Whiting, a man by the name of Russell, a man by the name of Walls, and 9 others made up the party. They left Florence on July 15, 1862, and crossing the big Salmon they proceeded on to where Warren had made the strike in Warrens Meadow. It was a strike in the meadow, not up at where Warrens is at, at all. It was down in the middle of the meadow. Leaving there on July 15, 1862 I never did learn no more of what day they went back with their party. Nevertheless, they met the 4 partners they had fell out with.

This interview with Rube Bosse was quite confusing. He talks about wandering around so the 4 guys couldn't follow them, and they talk about going to the head of the Secesh, and I just wouldn't know, because the stories conflicted. It stands to reason that 16 guys couldn't give 4 guys the dodge, hardly. Anyhow, it does speak about the 4 guys coming back and reporting the strike. I had 2 different stories on that. At one time--the 4 guys names is available. I know a man in Boise that did that and he is the man I wish would come here and talk to you, his name is Bill Olson and he is certainly a historian, as a matter of fact he don't have a bunch of notes when he talks, he's got it all in his head. I think he'll come at a later date when the weather's nice, I think he'll come in here and talk on about any subject.

Getting back to The Warrens discovery. They left immediately for Warrens to start staking claims. After the 16 men hit the meadow they started staking claims. They staked claims for themselves and they staked claims for friends left in Florence. The party soon moved up the creek and found ground going from \$2 to \$4 a pan. That's what they called Osgood Flat, which later became Summit Flat, which actually is where the town of Warren sits now. The Osgood brothers panned a day and a half and took out 140 ounces, it is estimated. Well, the rush was actually on, and 8 men returned to Florence for some supplies and tools, which they apparently were very short on; they seemed to have not very much with them. The rest stayed to dig location holes. News of the discovery soon leaked out, and the four "hard cases" returned too, so apparently they figured they had a strike at Millers Camp or else they followed the 16 men into Warrens Meadows. You just can't make it out, it is just so conflicting sounding, one guy claims one thing, one claims another. Anyhow, the stampede started, not stopping until 600 men within the area, by September 25, in 1862 there were 600 men on the ground in Warrens Meadows. Warrens Meadows consists of about 600 acres that have been mined in the area, which don't look that big when you pull into it, but according to the mineral map surveys that's what it shows. I do have a map.

A miners' meeting was called, and by unanimous decision Jim Warren was offered his pick of the claims, and the one he picked turned out to be the poorest claim in the camp, hardly even a color. Warren never stayed

long in the camp. Being of a roving nature, he never realized any money from his strike. So then, through curiosity I traced Warren to some extent. He went from there to Bannock, got in trouble, seemed like he was, apparently, in trouble a lot of times, and the last time, clear up on the tail end of the show, he was at South Pass, Wyoming in a big fracas with Indians, so I quit.

The first winter set in, and most of the miners returned to Florence and on the Salmon River to winter. The good pay dirt lasted until 1870<sup>8</sup> when it started to play out, and this year the quartz discovery started a new rush.

Question: You mean 1870, Mr. Carey?

Answer: 1870, yeah. Everything here has got to be in 1800s, and I see I've got 19 down. The rush that's on now is the Bum's Rush.

In the year of 1870 they started a new rush, and George <sup>HEARST</sup>Hurst, the millionaire governor of California, who is the father of William Randolph <sup>HEARST</sup>Hurst, the publisher, came into the camp. He gave it new life, and the

*quartz?* → courts properties were opened up, and by that time the chinese started to flock in to work the old placer ground, which would be the second time it was worked. The chinamen worked in the bottom and the good ground which was along the hill where the water was available was still being worked by the white men.

I've got a report here I should read right now of the money that was taken out. This is a mint report from 1912. This is by Ruben McGregor and E. M., United States Mineral Survey at Elk City, Idaho in 1912. Gold production from Salmon River country was producing 1/10th of the gold produced in the United States up to 1912. If anybody's ever interested in this I'd sure be tickled to show it to them. The map shows where the gold was taken out. I have it there at my home. Florence Basin yielded half a million dollars in quartz and \$80,000 in placer. Buffalo Hump had a million dollars in quartz, no placer. Dixie yielded \$250,000 in quartz and \$4,000,000 in placer. Elk City, \$750,000 in quartz, and \$20,000,000 in placer; Warrens, \$2,000,000 in quartz and \$62,000,000 in placer. Now if there's any question, you'll have to stop by my house, I have the reports up to 1912 as to the amount of money that was extracted out of there.

Question: Does that include what they took out of the creek?

Answer: No, up to 1912. I got that here too. That was later. That was a considerable amount too.

Comment: I think they might be interested in knowing how long some of those tunnels are in some of those mines around Warren.

Answer: By golly, yeah. I got that information but I didn't bring it with me. The Rescue did have a lot of tunnels, but the Little Giant

didn't seem to have. I never had more than 250 feet, that's all I ever had on that, but the Rescue Mine has got a lot of tunnels, if I remember, it's close to a mile. I can give you the yield here in just a minute if I can find it in my notes here.

Question: The Unity had a lot of tunnels too, didn't it?

Answer: Yeah. Actually, what I was going to do was go back up to more after the discovery. Maybe I can find my figures down here.

Anyhow, George Hurst started the next spending spree in Warren after the placer mining started to die out. There were about 6 mines that he poured money into, the Unity was one of them, I think \$127,000 yield while it worked. It played out about '92. Now I don't want to contradict myself, I've got it written down here.

Question: How many mines were there?

Answer: I'm getting the money ahead of everything else; course that comes first now anyhow. You mentioned the Baumhauf, Fisher and Idaho Dredging Company, dug 18,000,000 yards of dirt and the mint report is \$4,000,000. That's gross.

Comment: Any of the workers there all knew by the way they handled the \_\_\_\_\_ sacks whether there was gold \_\_\_\_\_.

After the rush was on, the first string of packstock through with merchandise, which was immediately after the stampede started, was a man by the name of Joseph Haynes. He was a partner of Three-Fingered Smith. Three-Fingered Smith did make the strike in Slaughter Gulch, of which he panned the dirt out of a wash where the creek had washed out after a big runoff in high water. At the mouth of Slaughter Gulch is where they unloaded the pack string and built a very crude cabin and unloaded the first string of mules and unloaded the merchandise. That was the first building up and the first store merchantile business set up in Warrens, during a strike at the mouth of Slaughter Gulch. They later called it Sherman for awhile. Down where Warren sits now, they called that Richman<sup>and</sup>. There were two factions at that time; that was the second year of the Civil War and that was still a controversy going on among the people at that time. The town of Sherman soon passed out for two reasons. One reason was they all moved down to Warren; that was all pay dirt underneath the town of Sherman and Warren did happen to be on dirt that didn't seem to be worth anything.

Question: Was it worked?

Answer: Yes, it was. The other was very rich dirt underneath where the first town was started at the mouth of Slaughter Gulch.



Joseph Haynes, as the partner of Three-Fingered Smith, and that year Judge Pole, maybe some of you are familiar with Judge Pole, he was the first recorder there, he was fresh out of school, later was a judge in Lewiston, in the Territorial Legislature, etc. He and his partners, with Joseph Haynes and Three-Fingered Smith, put up a quick log cabin and called the store Smith and Company. It was at the mouth of Slaughter Gulch. That was the first load of supplies that was ever unloaded at the town of Warrens, was Haynes. Apparently there's quite a lot of stories connected with his getting through with the stock. Apparently there were tracks going every place, so he'd follow one set of tracks going to the stampede, and that wasn't getting there so he'd change over. He had quite a time with his pack string getting there.

Well, Judge Pole appointed himself as the first recorder, but he didn't stay with it very long because it started out at \$1.50 a claim and finally got cut to \$1.00 so he quit it, he could make more money mining

Slaughter Gulch got its name from the cattle butchered there. The first cattle in the camp were brought in by Jack Splong and a man by the name of Mr. Barnes. In my Salmon River book, the little red book, I talk about Barnes coming through the Boise Basin with cattle. If you read that book you'll see that Jack Splong is the gentleman who wrote \_\_\_\_\_ and wrote an awful lot of the early history books in the State of Washington, especially the Indian wars and fighting. 'Course, it's one of the finest books I ever read in my life. Mrs. Akins in Riggins has

the book, it's getting pretty old and nearly impossible to get hold of, I guess. His brother, Mose Splong, was instrumental in the Boise Basin discoveries. If you look at him and Grimes, he was with the Grimes party when that was discovered and when Grimes was killed. You get to looking, you see where Mose Splong--well this Jack Splong was a brother to him.

They trailed the cattle from The Dalles, but that was not the first year of the strike, I think that dates back to about '63 or '64, because they had an awful time with the cattle. They had an awful time getting there and they had to winter one winter on the Salmon River--had an awful time trying to swim them, trying to do this and trying to do that. By the time they got the cattle to the Boise Basin the mine strike was playing out and the miners were coming back. They got the cattle as far as the second Packer John Cabin in Round Valley below Cascade. They stopped there and Barnes rode on to Boise Basin to see if there was a market for the cattle and he met the miners coming out and they had to turn around with the cattle and come clear back through Long Valley down through what they call the Salmon Meadows, back down into Florence to dispose of some of them there, and wound up in Warrens with the last of them. This is quite a pathetic story when you get to reading it.

That's off the subject again, nevertheless, if you want to check any of this out that's a good reference, of Jack Splong and this book.

Well, Alonzo Brown has another history and biography and has quite a lengthy report on the history of the gold discovered in Florence and Warrens both, if you read it. He appeared here the first year with a man by the name of Sterns, and he started the first store where the town of Warrens now stands. It was later to become the main town, which was called Washington for awhile. The county seat was moved to Warrens in 1868 from Florence. They rented a cabin, and Frank Schlisler and Don Mathison were hired to build a jail. B. F. Morse appeared to be the recorder of the longest duration. He was the father of Otis Morse who stayed with the town, well, practically a lifetime. I've got a notation here and I can't read my own writing. In 1890, Otis Morse and his mother Mrs. Kelley arrived in Warrens. I think I've just seen Otis's obituary as he just passed away recently. It's close in there somewhere, that's when he appeared on the scene. Now I want to stay farther back on that.

The first blacksmith shop was erected by a man by the name of Edwin Sherman. He built the blacksmith shop and started work in earnest in 1865. He worked until 1873. He had a wife and children in the old country. With what he saved up over that length of time he sent for his family and moved out of Warren and went and bought across from the John Day Ranch on the Salmon River, what's called Sherman Bar, and there he raised his family. Some of the boys are still living in that country there. There's lots of Shermans around Grangeville, sons of Edwin Sherman.

Now I'd like to go to Grostin and Barnard, who were the bigtime packers. Benson and numerous other small strings appear on the scene. Grostin and Barnard were at the late '60s and early '70s, and really the big merchants from Lewiston, direct through, packing through with a big string. They moved their stock of groceries from Florence over to Warren and opened up a business where the main town would sit. This same store of Grostin and Barnard was later taken over by the merchants of my time which have been George and Elmer Patterson, old man Kelley and on down to that time. That was the continuation of the Grostin and Barnard store. They also did terrific amounts of packing. In running through the reports here I see where during the Sheapeater War Grostin and Barnard had 150 mules leased to the military packing supplies to the soldiers during the fighting. Seventy of the mules were lost or killed and the Government paid him \$100 a head for each mule and it was returned. That apparently shows that it's unimaginable the amount of livestock that was used in keeping that many people going as the money came out of the ground. I see Cal White had two large strings of horses of pack and studding. He used horses which he leased from the Indians and then packed with them. Benson, Grostin and Barnard were the big packers. They kept big strings going and was apparently no end to their endurance with them.

The first winter of 1862, the last string of groceries that went into Warrens was taken in in December and it was almost impossible. They like to never got in, but when they did they thought they'd never get the horses out; but they did get them back as far as French Creek. I have the report on that, what a trip it was. You read about these hard trips, you know, and

I don't think I ever made a trip in there in my life that wasn't a hard trip. There ain't no such thing as an easy trip when you come into Warren.

Anyhow, I put a note down here that a road come in the late '80s and early '90s and that took the long pack strings out, the freight teams did. I got a note down here saying that the truck and the car took the oldtime freighter out; now the helicopter and the airplane is taking everybody out of the back country as far as horses are concerned. It's just actually that way. Grostin and Barnard held the mercantile business in Warrens to a large extent of the business until 1900. Then Elmer and George Patterson took over and stayed until old age. Otis Morse came next, then Jim Harrison during the last stampede, during the '30s and '40s when the dredges dug in there.

There were numerous packers in here. Bear Pete, who had a cayuse-hay \_\_\_\_\_ packstring \_\_\_\_\_ long as his outfit \_\_\_\_\_ which Bear Pete Mountain and Bear Pete Lake, Bear Pete Trail, etc., are all named after Bear Pete. I was up to Burgdorf last summer just looking around, and it made me very disgusted that from Burgdorf up--there's Bear Pete Mountain and that country, and new signs along the road, and they've dropped Bear Pete out and have Bear Peak on it--dropped poor old Bear Pete out. Well, Bear Pete is quite historical there, and I wish somebody would talk to somebody who would change the signs back. Bear Pete spent two years trying to drain one of those lakes to get some placer

water at one time in the early '90s. His name is Pete Brockenut and he was a past master at telling good bear stories. They are really good bear stories. So I would hope somebody sometime would restore those, and honor Bear Pete on those signs, because the mountain is there, a landmark to Bear Pete.

Question: Is that the mountain looking out from the springs?

Answer: West of Burgdorf along that trail up Lake Creek.

Question: Did you ever suggest that to the Forest Service?

Answer: Well, I was planning on it, if somebody would listen to me.

There's another thing. Jim Warren and his 4 associates claim they're the ones that named Secesh Meadows, but it's a very vague report I have, and could be questionable either way. I do believe from what I've read and researched that they actually did find Millers Camp, which later was known as Larson's Camp, later known as Ruby City, Ruby Meadows. I think the four guys that fell out with him did make that discovery. It indicated that.

Well, I've got trails traveled during the gold rush into Warren. The main trails, that is. I can go back to the money again on what was taken

out of what mine, which maybe I should do. George Hurst actually financed the money for the Unity Mine and about three more mines in there. I didn't copy the names down here, but there's 6 mines. One way and another, directly and indirectly, them mines all produced considerable. It's amazing how much they produced when you actually read what gold was checked through the mint report. Considering what you've got to do with, hauling everything in there from Weiser, which was the end of the railroad. There was a big lot of the stuff that was hauled in.

Question: Was it hauled in-- Is that what you have on the trails there?

Answer: Yes, I can go on that now.

The two main trails to Florence were Shears Ferry and the one crossing at the mouth of Carey Creek called Wire Bridge Crossing; also Carey Brothers, which is no relation of ours, they spelled their name different. They were Englishmen, John Carey and Jim Carey. They put in a ferry and a bridge there. That bridge shows up the first time in 1872 when a survey party came down the Salmon River with boats looking out for available routes for the Gilmore and \_\_\_\_\_ Railroad Company. The first mention I've been able to get was over the wire bridge to see about the ferry. That trail came from Florence down and at that time Wind River was called Meadow Creek and was called that for a long time. Now it's Wind River. Wind River ran in up at what would be called the Mc\_\_\_\_\_ place, and I guess it's all Wind River now, but it went down to what

was old Meadow Creek and Wind River just stopped; that was the meeting place where it ended. That trail crossed at the mouth of Wind River and went up Carey Creek, then swung to the right and went into Studebaker Saddle. I went over the old trail afoot and it was so full of logs I could hardly make it, but there is an awful indication that thing is cutting waist deep in that old dirt and still shows there. Trees have been chopped off with ax, there's no saws all the way through on it. There was a watering trough there, you could water your horses without untying them or unpacking them, one end of it built up so you could ride by and water.

Luke Stockton thought the water trough had been there 52 years, still working, so that kind of fascinated me, 52 years and still be working, so I went up to see, and sure enough, it was getting pretty rotten, but was still working. That old trail is very plain where it drops into Studebaker Saddle and the trail comes up over Marshall Mountain and runs out by Carey Dome. The other trail crossed at Shears Ferry which would be underneath Kelley Mountain where the Hard Ranch is now. The trail at the wire bridge. The wire bridge was built in 1891 and it went down in 1902 by a big windstorm on November 13. Before that bridge, there was a ferry there, and I don't know any particulars, I never tried to find out anything about any dates on it or what, but it was first run by Hank Diefenbach who was in with the first discovery at Warrens and a man by the name of Rogers, and the last was a Mr. Knott. He at one time owned the Scott Ranch which was known as Knott's Ranch. He ran this ferry and I do have a picture of the house there, it burnt down in 1910.



I got the picture from old Jake Stover who was living in it when it burned down in the winter of 1910.

Well, Frank Schlisler, who built the first sawmill on what's known as Schlisler Creek that runs into Warrens Meadows, a water-powered mill, built that in 1868. He had a daughter born at the mouth of French Creek in 1871, who was the first white child born there. They had another daughter later on who was sent to a girls' school and died with diphtheria which was very sad. Both children--the one daughter was the first child born at the mouth of French Creek in 1871. There's a Schlisler Creek above Wind River and there's a Schlisler Creek that comes into Warrens Meadows.

Norman P. Wiley had the first sawmill on what is called Steamboat Creek. He also mined there. Everybody knows who he was, he was the second governor of the State of Idaho. He done 2 years of an unexpired term and then done a full term. Of course he was quite prominent all the way through. Apparently he had quite a lot to do when they had the county seat in Warrens.

*change*  
 \_\_\_\_\_ brother Bob froze to death in 1892 going over on the trail to Logan Creek. At that time there was sort of a mining boom on there and they call it the Alpine District. There was another brother that was killed in a wagon accident at Garden Valley at a lot later date.

I think what I'd better do now is knock it off here and let Mr. Akins

talk awhile, it won't get so monotonous. I can go on and on here like this. Don't you think that would be a good idea? You'd like to hear something different for awhile, this gets old, maybe.

Question: \_\_\_\_\_ on Warren Smith, he was froze to death there at the old Smokehouse on Elk Creek, right?

Answer: Bob Smith. Either '90 or '92, I've got it down.

Warren died at the old Hackett Ranch while he was living at the South Fork. He's buried there where Three-Fingered Smith is buried. I had a real good picture of Warren Smith.

Comment: I was always under the impression it was Warren who froze to death, but it was his brother Bob?

Answer: Yes, younger brother.

I didn't elaborate on Three-Fingered Smith, which I should have. He definitely shows up here everywhere you go. He shows up in Florence, he shows up in Warrens, and he shows up on the South Fork, and he took the first piece of land that was ever located in that country, the title shows. He shows the first title on the Frank Smith place. <sup>I searched</sup> ~~The first~~ <sup>that was</sup> every record there was in that country, the first location.

Question: Isn't he the same Smith that was mixed up with the Indians down in Cascade, crawled such a long ways to find survival?

Answer: Yes, that was in '78. The same Three-Fingered Smith appears all the way through. I also have his obituary when he died, about '92 or '96, right along in there. The one boy, Warren, had some education. ~~My~~ *Their* mother left, which took me a long time to find out what ever became of him.

Question: Well Warren was the only one, as near as I can find out from Henry that had an education. Henry couldn't read nor write, either one.

Answer: That might be a good thing. If some of the rest of us couldn't read so good we might be better off.

Question: Did you say Warren Smith was the first white child?

Answer: That's what he told my mother. Apparently, from the date when Henry was born, he pretty near had to have been.

Question: What year was he born?

Answer: His brother Henry was born in 1867. On what's called the Hettinger Ranch now, but it would be the Frank Smith place. Frank Smith, by the way, is an uncle, a cousin of Three-Fingers Smith.

Three-Fingers Smith died at the mouth of Elk Creek. That's where he was on the tail-end. He turned the ranch down cold. So Fred Shaeffer tells me, he turned it over to Frank Smith if he'd take care of the kids after he passed away.

At the time we moved off the ranch, and we lived there 6 years at the Frank Smith place, the only one of that family that was left that I remember of was Dan Smith. He'd come in once in awhile to visit and just see the country. Frank Smith was gone. I don't know whether he's at Council or whether he's still alive or not.

Question: Was that on the South Fork then?

Answer: Yes

Question: Some of the people here didn't realize where some of these places are.

Answer: Yeah, that was on the South Fork.

Question: An awful lot of the history of Warrens actually ends up on the South Fork of the Salmon and on back in the Big Creek area and on through. <sup>Question</sup> John has ~~mentioned the Smeeds.~~ <sup>Smead</sup>

*you haven't mentioned the Smeads?*

Answer: That's another lecture here. When I get the floor again I'll tell you about the history of Pony Smead. ~~Smeads.~~

*I'll just have to yield to Mr. Aitken*

Somebody spoke something about George Rebo<sup>ot</sup> who was the discoverer of the Little Giant mine in Warrens. He was also the discoverer of the placer grounds

(Tape changeover)

in 1882 and they was shut down in 1902. The Little Giant mine produced \$250,000. It sure don't seem like it to look at it up there now, but nevertheless, it's in the report That was the money that was taken out from 1882 to 1902. That also did keep the town going at that time.

Somebody asked me about some more mines there; but George Hurst was actually the financier of the Charity mine which was owned by Noah Davies, George Darr and George <sup>T</sup>Gibbetts. I was going to give you the figures on that mine, but I just can't find them here. They're right here. I know how much money was taken out of the Charity mine because really the quartz mine died out by 1892 and a large dredge was hauled into Warrens in 1892. There was a bucket dredge and a dragline, a steam shovel and a bucket dredge was hauled in there.

Question: About how many people lived in there when it was really going?

Answer: Well, it fluctuates. There was 42 people worked at the Rescue mine.

Question: Were there thousands of people living up there when all of them were going?

Answer: It kinda surges. There'd be years there would be an ungodly amount then pretty soon there wouldn't be hardly anybody, 'cause it would play out, see? But it seemed to go in surges. When the Charity mine boomed, I just read here, \_\_\_\_\_ 200 men mined out it and the other

mines \_\_\_\_\_ quartz over a period of 35 years mined out \$250,000.

Well that made a surge where the population would go up and then it would go way down again. \_\_\_\_\_ with a bucket line and steam shovel hauled in. It surged up, but they never matured, there was never no yield there that showed up at all.

*Walt Hinkley*

Comment: John Otis Morris showed me records here a few years ago before he left Warrens that between the years of '94 and '98 there were as many as 5,000 people lived there \_\_\_\_\_

Question: How many chinamen were in there at the time?

Answer: At one time I read a record saying 600, and one time it was 800, and all I do have is coming from the six companies in San Francisco, which seems to be something to do with the Tong connections someway. Every chinaman belonged to some company. They was under some company and there were 6 main companies. Through them is the only record I've ever seen that it gives any record at all of the chinamen. But there's an awful lot--you can't imagine until you get to looking--at the amount of people that was there. You just can't believe it. Sounds like a big wind if you tell anybody there was that many people there. When you go into it and see how many people at different times was voted on, how many people was registered, you can't imagine the amount there was there before they left.

Herman Blackwell

Comment: They claim there was 6,000 people wintered over here at Deadwood.

Well, there was a lot of people in Florence at one time, too. That's another story. That's a big one. But here's something I'd like to state that might interest somebody. You always run into something and get clear off the subject. But it's worth recording, you can't overlook it, either. I ran into this here and it certainly fascinated me. It was a diary and report by Captain John Stanley. I've got it briefed out here, it won't take me long but I'll read it to you.

Captain of a gold-seeking party, 23 in all. They left Warrens July 5, 1863 to prospect the headwaters of the South Fork and the Middle Fork. Nothing was found until they reached Stanley Basin. It was named for the captain, John Stanley. There they hit pay dirt. <sup>Bear</sup>~~Their~~ valley was alive with salmon and lots of bear were reported in the area. The party had all mined in Florence the previous year. It went on to say that it was beyond imagination how many salmon was in the streams, and the bear as they went through Bear Valley. It said that apparently that's how Bear Valley derived its name. Stanley Basin was named after Captain John Stanley, and he left Warrens with a big searching party. They did have, apparently, an awful time to get up to the headwaters of the South Fork. It told how many days they was trying to get through there, doubled back, and on and on and on. But that's where Stanley Basin got its name. The party started at Warrens in '63, that discovered the Stanley Basin.

There's one more--I'd like to get this money off my chest here. Give me



a push. The last big placer operation in Warrens was in the 1930s and 1940s when the war shut the dredges down at Baumhauf and Fisher. It turned over 18 million yards of dirt and grossed 4 million dollars. From 1867 to 1871, quartz mills yielded \$127,000. There was a big power plant built at the mouth of Elk Creek, I believe Mr. Epley over there lives now. It was a 600 horsepower power plant. The line went from there to Warrens which ran the Rescue mine and also derived the power for the dredge boats the last time it was mined in '30 to 1940. That was just to arrive at the money that was taken out, I didn't want to go into the history of that.

I'll give you the figures on the Little Giant mine. From 1882 to 1902 when the mine shut down, it mined \$250,000 in quartz. The Unity mine was the big payer. I've already give you the figure on there, it was \$127,000 mined there from along in 1867. Now the Rescue was the biggest mine there in front of town. I've got the figures on it here, but I can't find it. The Rescue was actually the big producer and it did pay off.

Question: When did the Unity close down, John? Did that close down before the war?

Answer: No, it was real early. It was a real heavy producer and it

Closed early

*Joe Bennett*  
*Cruise*  
 Question: A. R. Cruise told me one time when Jay Susick was super-intendent, they were going to send him back east for more money, and they figured ~~on a time raising it~~ <sup>he was high grading</sup>, so they had a meeting there in Boise and Cruise and somebody else was supposed to go check Susick's suitcase, and they found \$3,000 in gold in it. They took it up and showed ~~ti~~ <sup>it</sup> to Susick, and he said, "Well, what are you going to do about it?" And they said he was the best man they had to go back east and pick up the money so they didn't do anything about it. They let him keep the gold.

Answer: Well, that's a good idea. Safe \_\_\_\_\_

Question: Could you tell us a little bit about when you were living up in Warren? *(Carrey)*

*Carrey*  
 Answer: Well, it's not really much of a story.

Question: Was it really kind of fun? Just some of the everyday things that happened, you know? The school up there, and things like that, just what the people were doing \_\_\_\_\_

*Carrey*  
 Answer: I've got this money here I've got to get rid of.

*Aiken*  
 His folks sent him to Warren to go to school. He was about 5 or 6 years old, or 7. A guy won a horse in a poker game and give it to him, so he just heads back down on the South Fork \_\_\_\_\_

He wouldn't tell me what kind of reception he got when he got down there, but \_\_\_\_\_

In 1867 the Rescue mine was located. I got the locator's name on file at home. That's the one right there in town. Until 1871 quartz was milled yielding \$127,000. That's the early figure. Well then that mine worked up under Jay Susick. Jay Susick was the promoter of it and he mined it clear up until the last until it shut down. I've got it down here. On the start that mine was rich.

The Unity was rich too, it was a rich mine. The Rescue was the mine that was the longest of any of them and held out the longest. It was worked clear up into the late '20s. I've got the closing down date here.

Question: They ran the Rescue clear up until the war, didn't they?

Answer: Yeah. Susick was working 42 men there, I've got down here, and running the mill, at the time the mine finally shut down. But the George Rebo mine, the Little Giant, was quite a producer from '82 to 1902, that's \$250,000, a lot of money in that kind of time for those dollars. O.K., that's enough of that.

Question: Tell us about when you were living there.

Answer: I don't know what to say. I come up to go to school in Warrens and apparently the first year I didn't make it. I had to stay alone and