

—≡≡≡ The Old Timers ≡≡≡—

The Potochniks

In our October, 1929, number there appeared a likeness and brief history of Frank Potochnik, born in Jugo-Slavia, in 1884, who, however, is not related to the brothers herein referred to.

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Leonard Potochnik, employed in Mine No. 8, Rock Springs, since 1904, was born in Austria in 1871, coming to the United States in 1891. He is a brother of Frank, whose picture is also on this page, and is an Old Timer, too.



Leonard Potochnik.

Leonard manifests a deep interest in the North Side Catholic Church, and is also connected in a fraternal way with several Benefit Associations.

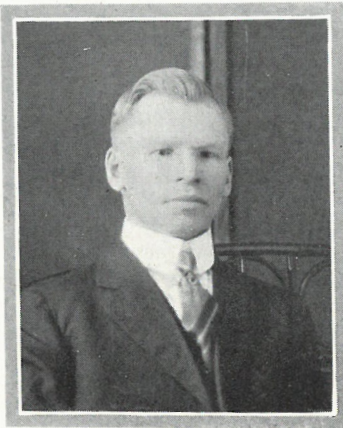
There are four children in the family, two daughters married and two sons living at home with their parents.

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The subject of this short sketch is Frank Potochnik, born in Austria April 2, 1882. He arrived in the United States in 1902 and about three years later entered the service of the Coal Company at Rock Springs. He has journeyed back to the Fatherland twice and on his second trip he was married, his wife following him to this point as soon as necessary arrangements could be consummated.

There are two children to bless the union, Frank and Amelia, aged 5 and 3, respectively.

Frank is a member of the Old Timers' Association.



Frank Potochnik.

Last Chinese Old Timers Go Home

THE last three of our Old Time Chinese were retired July 9, and left for their home in Canton, China, July 17.

The three Chinese, two of whom worked in No. 4 Mine, and one in No. 8 Mine, Rock Springs, signified some time ago a desire to be retired so that they might spend the rest of their days in China. Previously, thirteen Chinese had been retired and returned to their native land, in Canton, China.

During the early days, one thousand Chinese were employed in Rock Springs; now but one is



Left to right: Leo Ong, Leo You, Leo Yick.

left, Yee Litt, a comparatively young man, employed in No. 4 Mine.

Saturday evening they were entertained at a farewell dinner at the Grand Cafe, quite a number of prominent people of Rock Springs being present to wish them "God Speed" on their journey. Mr. D. G. Thomas, who was better known by the early day Chinese than any other man in Rock Springs, a former Union Pacific Coal Company official, was in attendance, and gave a very interesting talk of his experiences while acting as a Mine Foreman with seven hundred Chinese under his direction. He spoke in very complimentary terms of the fine traits of the Chinese, their honesty, integrity and loyalty.

Mr. George Young, ex-President of the U. M. W. of A., Mr. George B. Pryde, Mr. I. N. Bayless and Mr. T. H. Butler also gave short talks and wished the three Old Timers a safe journey and many years of happiness with their relatives and

friends in China. A telegram from Mr. Eugene McAuliffe, wishing them a happy voyage and long and prosperous life, was read.

These Chinese, during the years they have lived here, have become thoroughly Americanized, as exemplified by the request made by Leo You to the writer before leaving. He requested a small American clock for each of them, and upon being asked why it was necessary for them to have such a clock, he stated that during all the years they had lived in America, every morning at half past five, the clock went "ling-a-ling-a-ling" and that they would be unable to get up at the proper time in the morning if they had no "ling-a-ling-a-ling" with them in China.

They sailed from Seattle on July 23 and will arrive in their native country about one month thereafter. The good wishes of their many Rock Springs friends will be with them on this long journey home, and one can imagine them and the other nine who have preceded them talking often of Rock Springs and the friends they have left behind.

Tom Thumb Geyser in Yellowstone National Park

The Department of the Interior has issued a bulletin on the practically unknown miniature geyser above named, which information is passed on to our numerous readers who contemplate visiting that natural wonderland yet this season. It reads:

"Probably only five of every hundred persons visiting Yellowstone National Park ever heard of Tom Thumb Geyser, but if the National Park Service can bring it about, every person that visits the Grand Canyon area from now on will not only hear about it, but will see it, if he has a good reserve of energy.

"Tom Thumb shares honors with the Fairy Geyser and one unnamed spout. Each of these three is distinguished by its diminutive size and almost constant activity. To reach the tiny basin of geysers, one must follow Uncle

Tom's Trail, the longest and steepest regular trail in the park. The trail leads right to the bottom of the Grand Canyon, and after reaching the last observation one must still descend a hundred feet in order to get to the edge of the Yellowstone River.

"Right on the edge of the river is the Tom Thumb. Its cone is only about three feet in height and right at the top is the tiny vent which sputters and pops and steams and fumes throughout the year. To find the Fairy Geyser one must look into the waters of the river itself, for the cone of this spout is entirely submerged, and only its tiny stream of water and steam shooting out over the hurtling waves indicate its presence there.

"From Uncle Tom's Trail an unmatched view of the lower falls, 308 feet of churning water, can be seen, as well as a striking view of the canyon. To make the trail more attractive and easy for visitors, rangers have recently put in one new observation platform, three flights of stairs and new surfacing on the trail. A new platform is also being constructed above the upper falls further up the river."

June Accidents

(Continued from page 321)

onto a conveyor a piece of rib coal fell, striking on the right foot. This accident was avoidable. Facemen should keep the ribs trimmed in the face area. Foot injuries cause a large amount of lost time.

How Bell Invented the Telephone

(Continued from page 329)

ideal—Universal Service. All that is left of the original telephone is in the National Museum at Washington. The wire over which the first message was sent is in the museum of the American Telephone and Telegraph Company.

(Note: This article has been compiled from the speech of Thomas A. Watson, delivered at the Annual Meeting of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers in New York, May 18, 1915.)

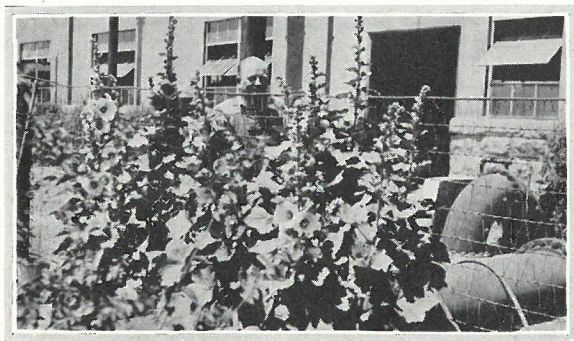
Who Was the Other?

A soldier went to the colonel and asked for leave so that he could help his wife with her spring cleaning.

"I don't like to refuse you," said the colonel, "but I've just received a letter from your wife saying that you are of no use around the house."

The soldier saluted and turned to go. At the door he stopped, turned and remarked:

"Colonel, there are two persons in this regiment who handle the truth loosely, and I'm one of them. I'm not married."



Just a section of the flower garden alongside our Power Plant, Rock Springs. The man in the background is J. S. Preese, President of the Old Timers' Association.