

EARLY HISTORY OF CLOUD COUNTY BY H.E. SMITH

IN BUSINESS HOURS

“I saw that your father, in whose face was an unwanted glow, and in whose eyes shone an unusual brightness, was becoming much interested, and foremost in making inquiries and getting at facts and figures.

His ordinary coolness and reserve were gone. He had permitted himself to come under the magnetism of the plausible individual who wished to draw us into his scheme of fortune making, and was completely carried away by his representations.

“I, too, saw golden visions, and when your father said, ‘Gentlemen, I mean to go into this thing, I was the first to respond, ‘So do I.’ Our example was infectious. We had the reputation of being prudent, far-seeing men; and the fact that we saw money in an undeveloped copper mine had a strong influence upon those present, none of whom had the remotest suspicion that our judgment was obscured and our vision distorted by wine.

“There were ten individuals present at that meeting. Under your father’s lead and mine, the preliminary organization of a joint stock company was made, and a committee appointed to procure a charter. The capital was to be two hundred and fifty thousand dollars, divided into five thousand shares at fifty dollars each, the money to be paid in by installments as needed.

As shown by full estimates and the results accomplished in leading mines, not fifty thousand dollars would have to be expended before paying returns were obtained. The stock would then rise to par, commanding fifty dollars a share for ten paid in.

“Your father headed the subscription, putting his name down for two thousand shares. His faith and example were potent with me, and I followed with a thousand more. In a few minutes the whole subscription was full, and we had a compact organization of ten men, two of whom, your father and I, held the controlling influence; our proportion of shares being three-fifths of the whole number.

**Register of Deeds
Judy Lambert
(continued)**