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WATER WORKS

Splendid Plant Now Nearing Completion.

ON GRAVITY SYSTEM

Abundant Supply of Pure Mountain Stream Water—Construction of Flume, Reservoir and Mains—Streets on Which Mains Will be Laid—Town Will be Served in About Three Weeks.

Early in the summer W. L. Vinson secured the franchise from the town of Sumpter to construct and operate a gravity system of water works for fire protection and domestic use. He also succeeded in getting control of the two valuable water-rights of Pole and Wind creeks. Pole creek is situated three miles north of Sumpter and flows into Powder river on the Sumpter and Bourne road. Wind creek is nearly one mile above Pole creek, and also flows into Powder river. The waters of these two mountain streams are of the purest quality. The creeks are fed by living springs the year round and the water is almost absolutely pure. Pole creek furnishes about twenty-five miner's inches and Wind creek furnishes over fifty-four miner's inches of water all the time; which is largely increased from the melting snows during the spring.

Preliminary surveys were begun late in August, to determine the most feasible plan and route for a flume and pipe line to bring this water to a reservoir site above the town. After running several different lines and comparing the merits of each, the engineer, Arthur Philbrick, made a final location of the line from Pole creek to the reservoir site, and then submitted plans of the works to Mr. Vinson for his approval.

The general plan of the works for a supply line is a covered flume 15,000 feet long. In connection with this flume line and about one mile north of town is an inverted syphon 810 feet long, crossing a canyon 125 feet deep. The flume is constructed of 1 1/4 inch kiln dried lumber, faced on the inside of the flume. Its dimensions are 11 1/2 inches wide by 9 1/2 inches high in the clear, inside. The boxes are well strapped together by 2x4 straps, built in 16-foot lengths and set on 3x4 mud sills and laid on a true grade of 1 in 500, the entire flume being covered with a 15-inch cover, to be again covered by not less than one foot of earth on top. This flume is laid in a ditch excavated deep enough to take in the entire flume and when covered with earth and the snows of winter will be beyond all possible danger of freezing.

The inverted syphon is constructed of the best quality of sheet steel, double riveted water pipe, dipped in a bath of asphaltum pipe coating. The joints are the usual lead joint, caulked perfectly water tight. At the bottom of the syphon is a 4-inch blow off valve to wash out any silt which may accumulate in the bottom of the pipe line.

Work was begun on the ditch for the flume September 22 and has been vigorously prosecuted ever since. The excavating is now all finished, including some 600 feet of rock work.

Nearly one-half of the flume construction is also completed and with good weather and no further delays in getting

lumber from Baker City will be all completed within another week.

The most expensive portion of the work and the most valuable to the town is the reservoir, situated at the head of the gulch above Mill street, at an elevation of 200 feet vertically above town, thus affording 86.8 pounds pressure to the square inch in the business portion of town. The excavating for the foundation of the dam was begun September 27 and work has been pushed steadily with a force of from 30 to 50 men ever since, until now it is nearly ready for the final lining of cement.

This reservoir dam is one of the most substantial constructions in the state, and is an original design of Mr. Philbrick, the engineer. It consists of a log crib work, built on a true semi-circle, the cribbing being filled with well tamped material from the excavation. In dimensions the dam is 40 feet across the base in the deepest part of the reservoir, 24 feet high, and 6 feet wide on top. The semi-circle of the dam has a diameter of 120 feet across the top, while the depth of water will be 22 feet. The cribbing of the dam is all notched and laid together like a well-built log cabin, and the logs are all peeled and drift bolted together with one inch wrought iron drift bolts. The cross logs all point toward the center of the reservoir. The inner surface of the slope of the dam will be covered with 3-inch plank spiked to the log cribbing and laid smooth. The surface will then receive four inches of best cement concrete.

The entire inner surface of the excavated bedrock will have a thick coating of grout and finished cement lining of the best Portland cement. There will be a cement walk constructed all around the finished structure, with an iron railway built on the inside to keep out small boys. Just outside of this walk the Townsite syndicate will grade a circular driveway all around the reservoir.

The main pipe line leading down Mill street as far as Granite will be 10 inches in diameter. The main on Granite street will be 8 inches in diameter. The main pipe on Mill street from Granite south to the end of South Sumpter will be 8 inches in diameter. There will be a 6-inch main on North street from Cracker to Bonanza; an 8-inch main on Granite street to Cracker; a 6-inch main on Auburn avenue from Cracker to Bonanza; a 6-inch main on Austin street from Mill to Bonanza; a 6-inch main on Cracker street from Auburn to the end of Riverside addition; a 6-inch main on High street from Mill to Cracker; a 6-inch main on Sumpter street, and 4-inch mains on Fairview and Bonanza streets, the Bonanza street main, running from North to Austin street.

The pipe used will be the very best double-riveted steel, made by Messrs. Wolff & Zwicker, of Portland, and all dipped in asphaltum and tested before leaving the shops by a severe hydraulic test.

There will be 30 fire hydrants to set at most convenient corners for quick action in case of fire. These hydrants will be all double-nozzle hydrants of the most modern design constructed.

Gates will be placed at proper intervals and points along the line, and the entire system will be a circulating system, with only two dead ends.

All of the pipe and other materials will arrive in Sumpter within the next two weeks.

It may seem incredible to some, but Mr. Vinson declares that with favorable weather he will have pure mountain water in the streets of Sumpter early in the month of December, or within three weeks from date.

ROBT. ANDERSON CLUB

Republicans Organize Under Appropriate Name.

A number of republican residents of Sumpter met last evening in the offices of the Townsite syndicate and organized a club, by the election of Edward Everett Young as president and John M. Murphey, secretary. W. L. Vinson, Charles S. Warren and Cato J. Sohns were appointed a committee on membership. After a general discussion of questions political, a set of resolutions were adopted which declared substantially:

That the name of the organization shall be the Robert Anderson club, for the hero of Fort Sumpter.

That politics should not enter into the affairs of the club so far as dictating the municipal policy of the Town of Sumpter is concerned; declaring that the Jeffersonian test should be applied to candidates for office; "Is he honest."

That President McKinley's administration be endorsed and that he should be re-elected; and the seal of approval was fixed to the gold standard, protection and expansion.

That the proper place for citizens opposed to these principles is in the democratic and populist parties. Again it was avowed that politics should not enter into municipal elections, that the best man should be chosen for office, but in national affairs nothing but republican principles should prevail.

That Oregon has had great men at the national capital; that for Edward D. Baker and General Joseph Lane the members have the greatest veneration and respect and that Harvey W. Scott is their choice for United States senator.

ANOTHER SAWMILL HERE.

W. L. Vinson Has One About Ready to Begin Operations.

W. L. Vinson is having built a small saw mill just north of town, the output from which will be used principally in his own mammoth enterprises. It will be in operation within a week.

Its first work will be to get out timbers and lumber for a bridge across Powder river, at the foot of Granite street. This structure will be 366 feet long, connecting the original townsite of Sumpter with Vinson's addition west of the river. Its eastern approach will rest on the Granite street grade at its intersection with Cracker street. It will be eighty feet in width, with a driveway fifty-six feet wide and twelve feet walk on each side for foot passengers.

When this bridge is completed, look out for a flurry in the local real estate market.

New Map of Sumpter Gold Fields.

The O. R. & N. has issued a new map of the eastern Oregon gold fields, in which Sumpter is given due prominence for the first time, being indicated by a red spot covering about a section of land. The map contains the names and location of many mines not heretofore included, and in other ways it is improved and brought up to date. It will accompany the new write-up of the district by that unapproachable, inimitable author of descriptive literature, Colonel P. Donan.

Description of Sumpter's Progress.

The Oregonian has written to Mayor Gleason for a 200 word article descriptive of Sumpter's progress. Although Mayor Gleason is closely identified with this town's progress, he doesn't claim to be

much of a hand at telling the story, so he handed the communication over to the tender mercies of General Warren. That gentleman has formulated a reply in his happiest characteristic vein, and if it sees the light of publicity through the columns of the great exponent of Oregonian moss-backism, it will be the warmest, most dazzling story that ever run the blockade into that dull, stale, flat and unprofitable publication.

VINSON'S GOLD DREDGER.

Contract Let for Constructing the Largest in the World.

W. L. Vinsou has let the contract to the Hammond Manufacturing company, of Portland, to construct for him a dredge to work Powder river placer ground near this city. Six months will be required to required to build the dredge, which will cost \$50,000 and will be the largest of its kind in the world.

Mr. Vinson owns about two miles of ground along the river channel, several hundred feet wide. This averages about forty feet of earth to bedrock, which is estimated will go thirty cents per cubic yard.

J. H. Stoddard owns thirty acres of similar placer ground a short distance south of his home on Mill street, on which Archie Downie and a Chinaman have been working for a few days, removing ten feet of surface earth which covers the pay dirt. Saturday afternoon he made a test wash of twenty feet, from which he secured two ounces of very coarse gold, worth about \$16 an ounce. This is the character of ground which Mr. Vinson proposes to get at with his dredge.

New Electric Light Machinery Arrives.

A large force of men are now employed placing poles throughout the city, on which to string wires for arc and incandescent light wires which will be needed for the largely increased and improved service to be inaugurated as soon as the new machinery is installed, a large consignment of which has already arrived. This machinery will be placed in the power house where it now stands and remain there until spring, when it will be moved to a brick power house to be built on the west side of Powder river.

Is Baker Jealous of Sumpter?

This is the way Max M. Shillock estimates the state of public feeling in Baker City relative to Sumpter, in his correspondence to the Portland Telegram: "Instead of being jealous of the boom enjoyed by the thriving mining camp of Sumpter, the people of Baker City are rather glad of it, knowing that whatever activity may tend to open up the vast mineral resources of Oregon's new Eldorado must benefit Baker City, the metropolis of this section and the distributing point for the entire mining country. Bakerites, therefore, say 'go it, old girl,' and Sumpter keeps going."

Something New Under the Sun.

Something new in the advertising fake line has struck this town, operated by a gentleman profoundly versed in human nature. He calls his scheme the Ceiling Advertising company. The advertisements are placed on the ceilings of barber shops, so that the patient in the operating chair, if he will keep his eyes open while having his elongated cuticle amputated, can't help from gazing on these trade announcements. Who said that a horse can be lead to water but can't be made to drink?

Johnson & Davis, confectioners, on Mill street, offer their own make of Turkish nuget, chocolate and bon bons.