

THE SUMPTER MINER.

VOL. I.

SUMPTER, OREGON, JANUARY 10, 1900.

NO. 18.

VINSON'S ENTERPRISES.

Mines, Real Estate; Water and Light Plants.

ALL ARE ON THE MOVE

His Associate, Thomas K. Muir, in Sumpter to Remain.—Magnolia Mill in Operation.—Lost Machinery for Little Giant Found.—West Side Addition Will Soon Be Placed on the Market.—Progress on Electric Light and Water Plants.

W. L. Vinson, with his associate, T. K. Muir, who will hereafter be better known in this vicinity, has returned to Sumpter. They will put in the greater portion of their time here in future. The many enterprises projected and virtually completed by Mr. Vinson now requires close personal attention. Their first trip from Sumpter was to the Magnolia mine, of which little has been said of late, though there is no other mine or mining company in eastern Oregon that has made more rapid strides toward that much desired stage of development from which the operators can expect great things in the way of production, dividends, etc.

Last Saturday the machinery in the new Magnolia mill was set in operation for the first time, causing the ten stamps therein to begin their work of pounding out the values from the ore, of which that mine contains large bodies, the entire extent of which is yet unknown, though that which is in sight is sufficient to make any man or company rich for life. The mill put in motion is said to work like a watch—simply perfect—and as a little souvenir of the first run, Mr. Vinson scraped off the plates a ball of dry amalgam, which when rolled into a small ball about the size of a walnut, weighed seven and one-half ounces, and when retorted produced a twenty-seven dollar button. They are now turning out bullion and concentrates beyond all expectation of the owners.

The Magnolia has some 3000 feet of tunnel work, all driven on the vein, giving about 350 feet of depth on the one property, with values running from \$15 to \$150.

On the adjoining claim, the Ajax No. 1, which is part of the Magnolia group, and on which the mill is situated, work was begun last September, and has been pushed with great rapidity, everything warranting extensive prosecution with a large force of miners. At this time 500 feet of work has been accomplished, including several cross cuts, which have shown up true veins, with values as high, or even better than in the Magnolia. About thirty men are yet employed, though this force can be soon reduced and the same results reached.

For over a month the Little Giant mine has been kept back on account of the non-arrival of a carload of machinery to complete the twenty-stamp mill thereon. Within the past week, however, it was traced, found and will be delivered here in a few days and then rushed to its place of installment. The Little Giant is well known as a fine mining property and good reports can confidently be expected from

it when the mill is running, everything pointing to a steady production from its ores. This property is owned by an English company, of which Mr. Vinson has had direct charge, and Mr. Muir is its local representative in this country. Both were out to the mine within the past week and were much gratified with what is going on there.

Water has been turned in the water-works mains to test them, and as soon as some minor repairs are made, consumers will be supplied. The work of installing the new machinery in the electric light power house is progressing rapidly and soon the city and other customers will receive an excellent and adequate service.

W. L. Vinson's new offices on Mill street, above THE MINER building, have been completed and made ready for occupancy, and will be moved into by the first of next week, or sooner. Various private rooms for the engineers, bookkeepers, clerks and Mr. Vinson himself, are provided, making the largest and most complete office building in eastern Oregon. As soon as Mr. Vinson is installed in the new place, his West Side addition to Sumpter will be thrown on the market, the plats having all been completed and placed on file.

The new bridge at the foot of Granite street, detailed description of which has before been given in this paper, will be commenced within a week or ten days. A portion of the timbers have already been sawed and all would have been finished but for the demand on the mill for lumber to complete the electric light plant, water works and new office building. Mr. Vinson gives the assurance that the bridge will be pushed to speedy completion when once they get at it, as has all other of his enterprises up to date.

Thomas K. Muir is recently from London, England. He is the business associate of Mr. Vinson in nearly all of his extensive enterprises about Sumpter, and has come expecting to locate permanently, taking an active interest in the many projects which Mr. Vinson has under way and contemplates for the future. Socially, financially and every way Mr. Muir is the kind of people wanted here.

W. O. W. Public Installation.

Tuesday night in Ellis' opera house Nugget Camp No. 408, Woodmen of the World, held public installation ceremonies. E. C. Steffen, P. C., acted as installing officer. These neighbors will serve the camp during the ensuing term: S. Durgan, C. C.; C. Ferry, A. L.; J. B. Stoddard, banker; W. J. Fleegle, escort; L. Knapp, watchman; W. A. Green, sentry; F. Breon and G. Taliafero, managers. Neighbors D. B. Fisk and J. B. Messick, of Baker City, made interesting and appropriate addresses. In the ladies' sawing contest, Miss J. Steadman won the prize, a beautiful gold emblem of the mystic circle. These exercises were followed by a ball, pronounced by participants to be an unqualified success.

Fire Meeting This Evening.

A meeting will be held in Ellis' opera house this evening to perfect the organization of the Sumpter Fire department. At the meeting held last week Otto Herlocker, N. C. Richards, Frank Jewett, Tom Gray and J. F. Shelton were appointed to prepare a report on what is required and the best method of securing the same. This committee will report this evening and the work of organization probably completed. The fire apparatus is daily expected to arrive.

Watch next week's issue of THE MINER for announcement of Vinson's West Side addition to Sumpter.

COUNCIL MEETINGS.

Healy Succeeds Austin—Other Appointments.

At the annual meeting of the council last evening, all of the newly elected officers were sworn in, and entered upon the discharge of their duties.

P. D. Healy was chosen to fill the unexpired term of John Austin, now city marshal.

Dr. Brock was chosen city physician. The proper committee was instructed to draft ordinances defining the duties of city physician and health officer.

At the request of Treasurer Hawley, who has been sick for some time past, all books and documents of his office were turned over to A. P. Goss, whom he has appointed as his assistant.

Saturday evening the regular weekly session of the council was held, when a lot of routine work was accomplished. An ordinance was passed amending the ordinance fixing the duties of recorder. This amendment provides that this officer shall in future receive all moneys paid to the city and turn same over to the treasurer within a week after their receipt.

Monday evening a special meeting was held, when George Baker was appointed health officer, special policeman and building inspector, at a salary of \$60 a month, until an ordinance covering the case can be drafted and passed.

An ordinance was passed amending an ordinance prescribing the duties of treasurer.

Road to Granite Incorporated.

Articles of incorporation of the Hilgard, Granite & Southwestern Railway company were filed at La Grande last week. At a meeting of the stock holders the following officers were elected: President, Robert Smith; vice president, F. S. Stanley; treasurer, J. M. Church; secretary, E. W. Bartlett, all of this city. The road will start from Hilgard, a point on the O. R. & N., seven miles west of La Grande, and run up the Grande Ronde river sixty miles to Granite, the center of a very rich mining district. It is announced that work will begin next Monday and that the road will be pushed to completion.—Press dispatch.

Prominent Railroad Men in Sumpter.

A party of prominent railroad men reached Sumpter Friday, returning that night to Baker City on a special train furnished by W. L. Vinson. They had boarded the noon train, but Mr. Vinson wouldn't stand their work, and hauled the whole outfit off. They were Joe McCabe, vice president and general manager of the Columbia River road, A. D. Charlton, assistant general passenger agent of the Northern Pacific; W. H. Mead, general western agent of the Northwestern; J. C. Clock, occupying the same position with the Wisconsin Central, and H. C. Bowers, manager of the Hotel Portland.

Saw Mill Shut Down for Repairs.

The Sumpter Lumber company's mill is closed down for a few days for repairs to the engine. A few valves in the cylinder were badly worn and were taken to the Baker City Iron works to be planed and readjusted. The plant will resume operations Saturday.

Smelter Machinery Shipped to Sumpter.

A. W. Ellis received yesterday the bill of lading for the smelter machinery which

is to be erected in Sumpter by the Union Smelter Manufacturing company, of St. Louis. It was shipped from that city January 4, and weighs 51,851 pounds, which, as Mr. Ellis remarked, doesn't look much like a "toy." The company's expert, Charles Laughlin, left the following day and is expected to arrive in Sumpter any day, now. The work of erecting the smelter and placing it in operation will be rushed as fast as money and men can do it. H. Meinhard, the gentleman who was representing the company here last fall, will be the manager.

W. C. Calder Has a Broken Rib.

W. C. Calder returned the latter part of last week from a trip up north, to Spokane and Rosslind. For some days he had been suffering with a severe pain in his chest. Dr. Pearce made an examination and found that one of his ribs had been partially fractured. This was done Christmas morning, while returning from a fire up on the hill east of the school house. He coasted down the hill with a small boy sitting on his back. There were some rough places on the track and he received some severe jolts.

Friday Night Dancing Club.

The Friday Night Dancing club has been organized and will give its first bi-weekly hop this week, at Ellis Opera house, to which invitations have been issued. The patronesses on this occasion are Mrs. Richards, Mrs. Murphey, Mrs. Wheeler and Mrs. Vinson; reception committee, Tom C. Gray, Dr. Anderson and C. H. Marsh; floor committee, C. E. Robin, L. V. Swiggett and Claude Basche. A. M. Keltie is secretary and A. P. Goss treasurer of the organization.

Known in Every Mining Region.

"Coolgardie" Smith, known in every mining region from the north to the south pole, has come to Sumpter, accompanied by a younger brother, who is also an enthusiast on mines and minerals. These gentlemen will remain here, make this their headquarters, visiting the various districts surrounding until they are as thoroughly familiar with the conditions and opportunities as they are wherever else they have been.

O. C. McLeod & Co., Brokers.

O. C. McLeod, who has been successfully operating in Sumpter mines and realty for several weeks past, has, with R. C. Pentland, of Spokane, formed a partnership and will continue the business under the firm name of O. C. McLeod & Co., with offices opposite the Basche building.

Sumpter Club House.

Carpets have been laid on the Sumpter club room floors; the furniture and "chemicals," as General Warren calls an important part of the outfit, have arrived, and in a few days a meeting will be held to decide when the club house will be formally opened. More than half of the members have paid their fees and dues.

Col. Ray Returns to Sumpter.

Colonel S. W. Ray, the recent purchaser of the Ibez mine, has returned here from a three weeks pleasure trip to southern California, looking and feeling the better for his trip. The Colonel says, however, that he is glad to get back to Sumpter, and will remain here for some time, at least.

For Sale at a Bargain.

One high grade Kimball piano, good as new. Only in use six months. Apply to P. D. Healy, the shoe man.

The Mint saloon, corner Center and Sumpter streets, serves the best brands only of wines, liquors and cigars.