

# THE SUMPTER MINER.

JUL 18 1916

VOL. 1.

SUMPTER OREGON, SEPTEMBER 13, 1899.

NO. 1.

## TOWNSITE SYNDICATE

**MEN OF MONEY AND EXPERIENCE INTERESTED.**

**About 700 Acres and 100 Lots Purchased By Northwestern Capitalists—W. C. Calder, Secretary and Treasurer, General Charles S. Warren, General Manager—Will Make Sumpter a Great Camp.**

For some six or seven months past shrewd observers, men who read aright the commercial and industrial signs of the times, have seen the almost limitless possibilities of building a flourishing city here at Sumpter. Its position relative to the marvelously rich mines in the surrounding territory, the present transportation facilities, which make this the distributing center for a vast area of mineral producing country, the topography of the tributary mountainous regions, virtually an edict of nature that this camp shall continue to be the distributing point, combine to promote the recently inaugurated era of prosperity and progress and to insure its continuance, intensified in degree and increased in scope.

Among those with the ability to comprehend local conditions, grasp the situation, draw correct deductions and see the possibilities was W. C. Calder. He recognized the fact that the time in his affairs had arrived, which, if taken at the flood, would lead on to fortune. He took advantage of the opportunity, resigned a lucrative position, settled here and began to sell merchandise and negotiate for the purchase of mines and real estate—a fortunate move for Sumpter and this entire district, as well as for himself.

Regarding his private business, MINER readers are not concerned, but he has, in conjunction with General C. S. Warren, of Spokane, engineered and consummated a transaction in which all are interested.

About three weeks ago it was announced that a syndicate of Butte, Spokane and Roseland capitalists had bought up most of the unoccupied townsite and all of the adjacent acreage available for additions to the town. This purchase consists of about 700 acres and 100 lots in the original townsite plat. The deeds run from Thomas McEwen and Clark Tabor, W. A. Ellis and J. T. Parkinson to W. C. Calder. The deeds to this property have not yet been filed, so the consideration is not known, those interested preferring not to make this detail public. The reported and generally accepted figure is placed at \$100,000.

The deeds are now and for some time in the future will remain in escrow. Transfers will for the present be made by warranty deeds from the former owners direct to the purchasers, that the abstract of title may be complete and perfect.

Up to the present time this landed interest has not been incorporated into a stock company, but is designated as the Sumpter Townsite syndicate, of which General Warren is general manager and W. C. Calder secretary and treasurer. These are the only names publicly and officially connected with the deal, though it is generally supposed that some well-known capitalists of several northwestern cities are largely interested.

General Warren is expected to arrive

in Sumpter any day now, when he will doubtless make known the plans of himself and associates in detail, so far as they are of interest to the public. Speaking generally on this point, Mr. Calder says that the first thing the syndicate intends doing is to survey its lands, select certain tracts for immediate platting and begin to sell lots and work for the interest of the town and country, sparing neither money nor labor to hasten the growth of Sumpter and the development of the country from which it derives its support; incidentally not neglecting to inform a waiting world that we are ready for business.

Mr. Calder assures THE MINER that the men who are back of this enterprise have ample capital to push it to a successful issue; that they have made their money very largely in just such deals and are therefore richly equipped with experience, which is quite as valuable as money itself in such an undertaking. One plan decided on proves this to be a fact. It is the intention of the syndicate to permit others to share in the profits from the advance in values in realty by placing lots on the market at reasonable price. Furthermore, to men who have the reputation of being enterprising, successful real estate operators, acreage will be sold, thus enlisting the aid of both capital and interested experience in the great work of advancing the interests of the town. Already two or three such deals are pending with men in Spokane, on Puget Sound, in Butte and British Columbia. To anyone who has watched the progress of western towns; have seen a liberal spirit in their management build them up, and on the other hand, a selfish attempt to hog-it-all policy, at first retard the growth and finally kill the most promising proposition, will recognize at a glance the wisdom of this plan.

The name of General Warren is, in itself, a guarantee that all business will be transacted on strictly honorable lines, as well as with broad gauge intelligence. He is a man whose name is synonymous with success; his title of general was won on the battlefield, and he has served his country with equal honor to himself and benefit to its people. His private business life has been in harmony with his public career, and Sumpter is fortunate, indeed, in having General Warren's interests so closely identified with its own.

### FIRST BANK OF SUMPTER.

**Projectors Here and Will Begin Operations at Once.**

J. W. Scriber, of the Farmers and Traders National bank of La Grande, and his associate, J. H. Robbins, accompanied by their attorney, J. D. Slater, are here for the purpose of finishing all detail matters and letting the contract for the erection of the new bank, to be known as the First Bank of Sumpter, the plans for which call for a handsome one story brick 25x60 feet, of modern design, that would be a credit to any city in the Northwest.

The new institution will begin business with a paid up capital of \$20,000, to be increased as soon as the occasion will justify, which THE MINER is free to predict will not be long. Mr. Scriber states that a good portion of the stock will be taken up by local parties, who will also form a part of the directory.

Mr. S. R. Hayworth, a prominent contractor of La Grande, is with the party to assist in closing the contract. Work will begin at once and be prosecuted to a speedy finish. Before many weeks the bank will be open for business.

## WILL BUY MINES

**ENGLISH CAPITALISTS AND SCIENTISTS HERE.**

**Captain Bley and Dr. Selwyn Inspect Properties in the Sumpter District—Second Visit of these Gentlemen to this Camp—Through W. L. Vincent's Efforts They are Interested.**

Among the many mining experts recently visiting the Sumpter district was the eminent civil and mining engineer Dr. Alfred R. C. Selwyn, C. M. G., F. R. S., of British Columbia, a gentleman ripe in age and experience, having begun his professional career at an early age in England under the government. Thirteen years spent there in his profession qualified him for promotion and he was appointed to an important position in the geological department of Australia, where he served for seventeen years, when the Canadian authorities importuned him to accept a still higher position with the government there, that of director of the Canadian geological survey, which position he held until the age limit caused his retirement. The doctor is now a resident of Vancouver.

Capt. O. Bley, a wealthy resident of Liverpool, where he is interested in many of the great shipping companies, came over to the United States last spring, with the intention of making some mining investments, and was here early in March, and with Dr. Selwyn visited many mining properties, though snow was deep all over the country. So favorably was the Captain impressed that he returned home and arranged to come over again this fall and with the genial Dr. Selwyn arrived in Sumpter Sunday. Having seen most of the producing mines before, the gentlemen are now bent on acquiring some properties and visited the Magnolia and the Little Giant Monday. While Captain Bley neither denied nor affirmed it, rumor says he has acquired a large interest in the latter and maybe other properties. However, he expects to return here from a contemplated visit to the Yellowstone park early in October, make his final plans and sail for the old country the last of October. In the meantime Dr. Selwyn has gone to visit a son at Weiser, whom he has not seen for fourteen years. Young Mr. Selwyn is engaged in banking in the little Idaho town.

While Dr. Selwyn is very approachable and courteous, it was not easy to secure any information regarding his visit to this section in the interest of Captain Bley. But as to the favorable impression the mining outlook has made on the gentleman, he was very free to express it, and on approaching him the first words he uttered were: "You have a great future here, both as to mines and the promising town of Sumpter." The doctor then went on to say that he verily believed the placer ground hereabouts had not been thoroughly developed, that they had not been worked deep enough and that the proposition of the dredging company going to the bottom of said grounds was in his opinion the very thing to do; that the history of other gold bearing countries has proved that deep placer mining will pay, as well as quartz.

It is gratifying to know that the gentlemen are well pleased with the natural advantages of this section as a great mining center, and the town of Sumpter as a general supply and distributing point, and

both are bound to be great in the near future.

Through the efforts of W. L. Vinson one of Sumpter's most enterprising citizens, these gentlemen were originally induced to visit this district and invest some money. He brought them in from Baker City on a special train Sunday evening and entertained them while here. Whether or not they have yet, they will eventually invest largely in and around Sumpter, and to Mr. Vinson is due the credit. The proudest boast of an ancient Roman was that he "had brought many prisoners home to Rome." Well, times and standards have changed a trifle since then, and under the present conditions he who can truthfully declare that he "has enticed many dollars home to Sumpter" will come pretty near being strictly in the local swim.

### OPENING SOME GOOD MINES.

**Captain Thompson Developing the Bunker Hill, Keystone and Belle.**

Captain C. H. Thompson, now closely identified with the Sumpter mining district, and more particularly the Bunker Hill mine, has returned here after a trip to the coast cities and Spokane. In an interview with THE MINER representative the Captain says the crosscut in the Bunker Hill is now showing up splendidly and the ore is beginning to show satisfactory values as the result of development, which is in full accord with this great vein, as is exemplified in the wonderful showing on the North Pole, Columbia, Golconda and Ilex mines. In fact, not a failure has ever been made on this vein and every property on which development work has been done is today a paying mine.

A new road is being built from the Ilex road to the lower tunnel of the mine and a full set of buildings will be erected at once, as it is the intention of the management to concentrate all the work on the Lilac claim. The buildings now owned by the company are on the other side of the ridge and will be used to accommodate the men working on that side, as this property is so favored by nature as to be able to drive tunnels directly on the vein from either side of Bunker Hill.

The tunnel on the Lilac is about 400 feet vertically lower than the one on the Bunker Hill, and it is for this reason all work will be centered there.

Other properties being actively developed by Thompson & McQueen is the Keystone and Belle. These are the direct easterly extensions of the famous Bonanza; in fact the east end line of the Bonanza and west end line of the Keystone are identical. A crosscut tunnel is being driven to cut the Bonanza ledge and is now in over 300 feet, and is being pushed night and day. It was estimated that the vein would be reached at 360 feet, but Captain Thompson says he visited the property on the 13th instant and so much water was coming out of the face—in fact almost boiling out of the drill holes—that he expects to encounter the ledge in a day or two. As the Bonanza working tunnel is only 500 feet from the one they are now driving on the Keystone, and as the vein in the Bonanza at that point is over 60 feet wide and almost directly under their center stake, it is reasonable to expect that the Keystone tunnel will not only cut the vein, but will add one more to the list of mines which are the pride of the Sumpter district.

The Idaho Statesman can now be found on sale at Folsom's cigar store.