

THE SUMPTER MINER.

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C. H. MARSH and J. W. CONNELLA.

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FARMERS around Walla Walla are reported to be buying mines. It's a long shot proposition that they get a choice collection of "gold bricks."

DOWN at Vale, the county seat, the first issue of the Malheur County Herald was published September 22, by W. Plughoff. It is both all home print and all right.

NEWSPAPER people in the Grand Ronde valley are luxuriating in fruit, contributed by charitable neighboring farmers, and the local columns are crowded with sugary words of thanks.

THE Baker City Democrat editorially announces in mixed metaphor the arrival here of the "boomers." Strange to say, however, though true it is, the boom arrived sixty or ninety days ahead of the alleged boomers.

THERE is a prospect near Sumpter, now being developed, that the owners thereof have had the reckless hardihood to christen, "The Black Cat." This seems to be perilously suggestive of that dangerous feline, the wild cat.

OVER at Mountain Home, Robert Noble sold his wool clip this year for \$150,000 cash, the weight of the wool being 1,000,000 pounds; which statement would lead one to judge that it assays about as rich as Golconda rock.

BAKER CITY papers are now engaged in extending the Sumpter Valley railroad beyond this town to John Day valley. That rich empire to the west and southwest of here will undoubtedly some day have a railroad—but not this year.

IF THE dust on the mountain roads were only the "yellow stuff," the single standard of what the Good Book declares is the root of all evil, every hundred yards in these parts would suffice to liquidate the national debt; yes, after the Philippines are conquered.

THERE are thousands of men all over the country looking for a favorable location in which to engage in business or invest money. Sumpter can catch the crowd by merely letting the world know the simple, unadorned truth regarding conditions here.

IT IS "written in the stars" that this Sumpter town and Sumpter mining district shall have a veritable boom. It is not an artificial one that has been carefully devised and worked up, but one that the conditions command, and therefore is justified by all natural laws.

RATHER than being envious of the praiseworthy growth of her Alpine sister city of Sumpter, the vast majority of the people of Baker City, at least all of our truly sensible people, are proud of the most energetic and thrifty place of its size in the Northwest.—Baker City Democrat.

THAT story which comes from Cincinnati, about Dewey's son taking to the wild jungles "across the Rhine" because a good-looking girl "kissed him for his dad," is too gauzy to stand washing. Young Mr. Dewey is a drummer, or commercial tourist would perhaps sound better in his case.

H. S. WOOLEY, of Idaho City, has been sentenced to pay a fine of \$250 and costs for violation of the law of the last session of the Idaho legislature requiring notices to be posted on mines showing the

conditions under which they are worked. Mr. Wooley will carry the matter into the district court.

A RECENT issue of the Oregonian published a picture of F. R. Mellis, of Baker City, one of Oregon's commissioners to the Paris exposition. A better selection for the position could not have been made and Baker county will come pretty near being represented as long as he is looking after its interests.

IN THE Eastern Oregonian of recent date is published some remarks by President C. W. Nibley, of the Sumpter Valley road, which makes pleasant reading for the people of this town. He says Sumpter is the best town in eastern Oregon right now, is going to be better, and he is thinking seriously of coming here to live.

REPORT comes from Portland that the English Development company, of London, has secured control of the smelter there, which was built ten or a dozen years ago and only run for a short time. It is said to be the intention of the new company to modernize and enlarge the plant and begin operations at an early day. The management expect to draw largely on Idaho and Eastern Oregon for ores and will soon put buyers in this territory.

THE statistics regarding the receipt of mining machinery in Sumpter during the past three months, which were published in THE MINER last week, tell the story of the great mining development in this district, that can be neither credited to the boomers nor charged to "mere newspaper talk." Nowhere in the West is the mining industry so profitably active as it is in the Sumpter district at this time. Were the mines and prospects here located in Colorado, there would be another wild Cripple Creek stampede; were they in Washington this distributing camp would have a population of 5,000.

THE editor of the Crowley, Mississippi, Signal evidently knows a good thing when he sees it. He traveled through Oregon with the national editorial excursion last summer, and this is his miniature pen picture of the state:

"Oregon savors of everything beautiful, delicious and desirable. No matter how exaggerated to you may seem the stories of this wonderful state, believe them, for they cannot be overdrawn. One can have but a vague conception of what Oregon is without seeing it. With all the grandeur of its scenery, the wealth of its mines, the magnificence of its flowers and its fruits, it is a state unique, complete."

IN A private letter to one of the publishers of THE MINER, John F. Dore, of Seattle, the most brilliant lawyer on the Pacific coast, actually asks where Sumpter is; says he can't find it on the map. Ninety days ago few people outside of this immediate vicinity or those who have business connections in these parts ever heard of the town. During the past few months, however, since some live mining operators learned of the marvelous mineral wealth of the district, and divulged what has apparently been kept a secret for some years, Sumpter's fame has been gradually growing. And yet, mining has been a profitable industry here for more than twenty years. THE MINER has, however, constituted itself a committee of a thousand or so a week, on publicity, and Sumpter's shining light no longer remains under a bushel.

Copper Smelter for Union County.

County Recorder J. M. Gilkinson informs us that the New York parties who recently purchased the Copper Queen mine in this county east of Union for \$50,000, expect to arrive here inside of the next thirty days to commence the erection of a large smelter at their mine.—Union Republican.

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