

**SUMPTER VALLEY EXTENSION.**  
**Short Logging Branch Will Be Built from McEwen Only.**

This paper learns from a source, the accuracy and authenticity of which cannot be doubted, that the line of the Sumpter Valley railroad will not be extended beyond Sumpter in the near future. In fact, President Eccles is reliably reported to have declared that the company has not even in contemplation such a move; that the reports of surveying parties in the field have their source in the envious wish being father to the thought.

The road will, however, doubtless construct a branch from McEwen, several miles in length. This branch will be built solely for the purpose of reaching a tract of excellent timber land; will be operated exclusively as a logging road, for the reason that there is neither passenger nor freight traffic in that direction.

There is no doubt that the rumor of the extension from Sumpter is entirely without foundation.

**Forest Fires Near the Columbia.**

Forest fires have been burning in the vicinity of the Columbia mine for several days past. Monday there were some wild rumors afloat around town regarding their origin; to the effect that they had been started by malevolently inclined persons, that large quantities of wood had been destroyed, and that detectives had been employed to discover the guilty ones. Tom McEwen was up in that vicinity yesterday and he says he heard nothing of such report there and he believes there is no truth in them. Forest fires are not uncommon at this time of year and this seems to be one of the usual origin; nor is it unusually destructive. The Columbia mining people sent out all the men they could spare to fight the flames, and at last accounts had the fire under control.

**Night Police Force Increased.**

At the regular meeting of the city council Saturday evening, besides transacting a lot of routine business, four policemen were put on the night force; John Austin captain; Giffon, Al Wenrick and Frank Amel, patrolmen. Previously there had been only one special on.

**Red Boy's \$50,000 Monthly Output.**

Mr. Clark Tabor, of Godfrey & Tabor, owners of the Red Boy mine, came in yesterday and brought with him a good sized fortune in gold, the result of one month's operation of the mine and its 20-stamp mill. The month's clean-up, while

not authoritatively given out, is known to be very close to \$50,000. The scales at the First National bank, which register upwards of 2,000 ounces, were too small to weigh the treasure. The gold, after being deposited in the bank, was weighed on ordinary hardware scales, borrowed from the large hardware establishment of P. Basche. It has leaked out that the money metal weighed close in the neighborhood of 3,000 ounces, which at \$17 per ounce is over \$50,000.—Baker City Democrat.

**The Little Giant's New Machinery.**

The first installment of machinery, consisting of two carloads, went up to the Little Giant mine Tuesday, this being the beginning of a magnificent 20-stamp mill for that property, operated by W. L. Vinson for the English syndicate. While the writer is not yet personally familiar with this property, it is current from stories heard from those better posted that it is destined to become one of the largest producers in this district. Certainly if developed on the scale of other ventures controlled by Mr. Vinson and his associates, the mine will not be long in making a favorable record.

**Sold His Lot Too Soon.**

J. P. Meyer, a traveling commercial man from Portland, arrived in Sumpter yesterday. He was bewildered to see such a change since he was here four months ago, when he sold a house and lot on Granite street, where are now a cigar store and McEwen's stage office, for four hundred dollars. It is now held at \$2,500. Mr. Meyer is bewailing his luck, for he says Sumpter is all the talk outside and there is bound to be a city here.

**W. L. Vinson off on a Business Trip.**

W. L. Vinson, the energetic promoter of this district, leaves tomorrow for a hurried visit to Portland, Seattle, Spokane and possibly the Montana cities, expecting to be gone a week or ten days. Following his trip, the already busy Sumpter Valley railway will haul here several carloads—if not train loads—of new machinery, pipe and miscellaneous material for the building of Mr. Vinson's various projects in the city and vicinity.

**New Photographer Here.**

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