

THE SUMPTER MINER.

VOL. I.

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WIRE TO BAKER

Gen. Warren Offers to Build a Telegraph Line.

FAIR PROPOSITION

To Be Operated by the Sumpter Townsite Syndicate in Connection with the Western Union for Three Years—That Company Now Considering the Matter.

General Warren, general manager of the Sumpter townsite syndicate, has made a proposition to the Western Union Telegraph company to contract a line from Sumpter, to connect with that company's wire at Baker City. That the offer is bona fide is proven by the fact that no unreasonable conditions are imposed.

He merely agrees to string the wires at once; the townsite syndicate to operate the line in connection with the Western Union, for three years, and at the end of that time sell to that company at actual cost, provided the big concern will promise not to construct an opposition parallel line.

This offer was made about two weeks ago by letter to J. J. Dickey, superintendent of the western division, stationed at Omaha. He has received a reply to this letter stating that the offer is a favorable one, and that it, together with a copy of THE SUMPTER MINER, in which the necessity for such a wire is explained, had been forwarded to Frank Jaynes, Pacific coast superintendent, with the request that he look into the matter and report at an early date. No word has yet been received from Superintendent Jaynes, there not having elapsed sufficient time.

And, speaking of telegraph lines, General Warren has made formal application to President Melvin Stone of the Associated Press, a personal friend of his, for the franchise of that great news purveyor, both at this point and Baker City. But on this point the General is not very communicative, and it is impossible to surmise just how high a journalistic card he has up his sleeve.

Fame of Sumpter Growing.

The name of Sumpter is being heralded around the country. Last week the staid little town of Centralia, Washington, was taken by the ears on account of a private letter and a copy of THE MINER which were received there by a gentleman from a well known business man of Sumpter. Emisaries were at once dispatched to this town to see if the reports of its present and future prospects were as represented. In all probability the half of Centralia will be coming here before the close of the year. E. C. Finch has also been shedding the light over in that section recently.

New Mining Company.

A new company has been organized to work the Hard Scrabble group of claims, comprising the Trade Dollar, Verde, Banner and Hard Scrabble, located on the west side of Silver creek and supposed to be on the Columbia-Climax vein. These claims are on a slate belt and with proper development, which is assured, have every evidence of making a paying mine. J. R. Pittwood, of Spokane, who has other interests in this section, and who is an enthusiast over the district, is, with other Spokane associates, at the head of

the new organization. The capital stock is \$50,000, and this low capitalization marks a favorable feature, which will recommend it to investors. Among the stockholders is noticed many of leading Sumpter citizens and about two hundred thousand shares were disposed of today. Work on the property will begin at once.

Build a Dozen Residences.

Last week THE MINER published the statement that it was reported around town that some one intended building a dozen residences here, but his name could not be learned at that time. It has since been ascertained that Messrs. Harrison and Barchard are the gentlemen who will make this wise investment. They recently arrived in Sumpter from Rossland, British Columbia, where they have been operating in mines for several years, making an important sale some weeks since. They have bought lots in the vicinity of the school house on which to build these houses.

CHEAP RATE TO SPOKANE.

O. R. & N. Sells Round Trip Tickets From Baker for \$15.65.

THE MINER received a telephone message from Portland last evening stating that the O. R. & N. road, with its characteristic liberal enterprise, learning that many miners in this section of country wished to attend the Spokane fair, had made a rate of \$16.65 from Baker City to Spokane and return. This is only a few cents over half fare.

Tickets will be on sale Thursday, (tomorrow) the 5th, and Monday, the 9th, good for six days from date. Though these tickets will be sold only on the days named, they will be good any time during their life, those sold on the 5th until the 11th, and those issued on the 9th until the 15th.

Notice of this action on the part of the O. R. & N. has been sent to all the camps in this district, and it is hoped that many will take advantage of the opportunity to go to Spokane, the throbbing heart of all mining enterprise in the Northwest, and there bark for this, the richest gold district in all the Inland Empire.

Imperial Has 400 Feet of Good Rock.

On the Imperial group, in the Cable Cove camp, work is busily going ahead, preparatory to taking out and making large and constant shipments of ore during the coming winter. The product of this property goes mostly to the Northport smelter for treatment. Drifting in over 600 feet has given the Imperial people over 400 feet of vertical depth, where they find good values. Comfortable quarters are now being constructed and this mine will doubtless make a record this winter.

Sampler Meeting With Success.

Messrs. Fritz and Arthur report that their sampler proposition is meeting with much favor with the business men of Sumpter and a gratifying measure of financial success. The capital stock has been fixed at \$6,000, which will be used principally for buying and installing the plant. Arrangements have about been perfected for securing the working capital. It is perhaps safe to say that the sampler will be in operation before January 1, 1900.

Tunnel on the Free Coinage.

A contract has been let for 100 feet of tunnel work on the Free Coinage property in Cracker Creek district. The vein has been cut, showing eight to ten feet of good ore.

DEAL IN THE DIGGINGS

THORNBURG BROTHERS SELL TO DENVER PEOPLE.

Price Paid for 360 Acres, \$23,500—Will Expend \$25,000 in Improvements—Work Begins at Once and Will Continue All Winter.

Monday Grant and Elmer E. Thornburg consummated the sale of the Thornburg placer claims, including 360 acres, located eight miles from Granite, on the north fork of the John Day river, the purchasers being Denver parties, who have organized and will operate under the name of the Thornburg Placer and Lode Mining company of Denver, Colorado.

The consideration was \$23,500, of which a large portion was paid down. The new management will expend over \$25,000 by the middle of next summer to improve the property; putting in new derricks, ditches, saw mill plant, pipes, etc.

W. S. Duncan, of Duncan brothers, Denver, will be the local manager and will begin work at once with a large force of men.

Elmer E. Thornburg has worked these claims for the past ten years, during which time about \$50,000 has been taken out, with but a small force of men and no machinery.

The saw mill and other machinery was ordered this week. Work will continue all winter.

Live Man Coming to Sumpter.

W. F. Cobban, of Cobban, Casey, Day Co., Butte, Montana, has been in Sumpter and vicinity for several days, acquainting himself with the surroundings. He intends to locate here as soon as he can make a hurried trip home and return. Mr. Cobban's company is the strongest and oldest established real estate, mining and loan brokerage concern in Butte, and he will engage in the same business here, recognizing this as the most promising field in the Northwest for a live man in his line.

Kahler & Hawley, New Firm.

W. R. Hawley, who some weeks since sold his hardware store, together with the building and lot, to the Basche Hardware company, has bought an interest in the postoffice store from Kahler & Co. The firm will in future be Kahler & Hawley. They will begin in a few days to take an invoice of the stock. This makes a strong team, and the already large business will surely expand into still greater proportions.

Will Build an Episcopal Church.

Rt. Rev. B. Wistar Morris, D. D., Episcopal bishop of Oregon, and Rev. Clarence H. Lake, of Baker City, returned yesterday from a trip through the mountains to the west. As a result of the Bishop's visit to Sumpter some days since, a movement has been inaugurated, with Mrs. General Warren as the leading spirit, to organize an Episcopal congregation and build a church here. The townsite syndicate has offered to donate the lots.

New Words to an Old Tune.

In the State for September, which is issued always at the end of the month, L. Bush Livermore, of THE MINER, has a poetic gem, "On Guard While the Nation Sleeps," a song sung by the sea winds, of Uncle Sam's new possessions; "and the tune of the song is an old one, * * * but the words of the song are new,"

say the poem. Mr. Livermore has published many clever prose stories in the various magazines, but this is his first published poem; though it is hoped that it will not be his last, for he has the poet's felicity of expression, as well as his imagination.

Killed by Explosion at the North Pole.

Sunday morning R. C. Belatt, a miner at the North Pole was killed by a premature explosion of a blast, and Frank Kunock was seriously injured. The deceased was from Ohio and had worked at the mine only about one month. He was a K. P. and Woodman of the World in good standing. Nothing is known of his family. The body was brought to Case's undertaking establishment Sunday afternoon. Kunock is improving and will recover.

C. J. Johns' Freight Receipts.

During the month of September C. J. Johns received at his store here in Sumpter, 307,038 pounds of freight. Of this amount thirteen full carloads of merchandise were billed direct to him, the remainder being in cars with other people's goods. And that is the size and shape of the business which live Sumpter merchants are transacting these days.

SUMPTER LOTS NOW FOR SALE.

First Offering of the Sumpter Townsite Syndicate Properties.

The Sumpter Townsite syndicate has for sale and offer to the public 100 lots within the original townsite of Sumpter, terms on which may be had by application to W. C. Calder, or Charles S. Warren.

The syndicate will also put on the first of its syndicate additions, comprising 1000 lots, within the next ten days. The prices will be reasonable, with terms to suit purchasers. Nothing reserved, but first come, first served.

Two engineering parties are now in the field, under Irving Worthington and W. K. Wheeler, and are making rapid progress with the work.

Sumpter Rock at Spokane Fair.

P. E. Poindexter is now in Spokane with an excellent collection of ore from the Sumpter district, on exhibition at the fair. It is on some of this ore that the small stamp mill will be operated, to give an object lesson in practical mining. It was selected for this purpose because it was known to be the best free milling rock in the Northwest.

Drift for the Rich Golconda Chute.

The Golconda people are preparing to cut a station at the 300-foot level and drift for the rich pay chute which still exists at the 200-foot level. If they tap this pay chute and it still holds the same width and values as at two hundred feet, this property will undoubtedly be one of the richest gold mines in the world.

Business and Social Club.

The meeting called for last Friday evening to organize a business and social club was adjourned for one week. Notices have been mailed to many citizens inviting them to be present at Ellis hall on the evening of the sixth for the purpose of making preliminary arrangements.

Calder Advertising the Town.

W. C. Calder is expected home tomorrow from Portland. Already newspapers are beginning to arrive, in which he is quoted as singing the praises of Sumpter, in his quiet, convincing way. Its a safe surmise, however, to declare that he has been misquoted in the East Oregonian. It is not necessary and it is not his method to jump on to any other town.