

## OUR RICH ROCK

**Attracts Much Attention at  
Spokane Fair.**

**Pronounced the Most Comprehensive and  
Elaborate Exhibit There.—Sumpter the  
Most Important Camp in Eastern Ore-  
gon.—Occupies One-Fourth of all the  
Mineral Space.**

By far the most comprehensive and elaborate exhibit in the mineral department of the exposition is the private collection of Fred R. Mellis, which he brought here from Baker City and which was materially augmented by ores from the celebrated Sumpter camp, collected for the occasion by Paul Poindexter. The total exhibit, representing every mine and every important prospect in eastern Oregon, is in charge of Messrs. Mellis and Poindexter. Mr. Mellis is the mining commissioner from Oregon to the Paris exposition of 1900, and resides in Baker City, Oregon. Mr. Poindexter is a prominent mining operator in the lively and bustling mining camp of Sumpter, Oregon. Ores, gold specimens and concentrates (the latter are on the road) are in the exhibition from the following districts: Sumpter, Cornucopia, Baisley-Elkhorn, Rock Creek, Sparta, Eagleton, Virtue, Rye Valley, Mabel, Gold Hill, Pochahontas, Pine Creek, Snake River and Seven Devils.

The most important of all these camps and the one which attracts the most attention at the present time, is the Sumpter camp, which must be subdivided into the following districts: Bonanza, Cracker Creek, Red Boy, Granite, Greenhorn, Robinsonville, John Day, Quartzburg and Susanville. Sumpter is reached by the Sumpter Valley railroad, a distance of thirty miles from the main line of the Oregon Railway & Navigation company's line at Baker City.

"The largest producing mines (estimated) in these districts," said Mr. Mellis last evening, "are the Bonanza, \$300,000 per annum; Red Boy, \$300,000; North Pole, \$200,000. The Golconda is shipping carloads of high grade ores and is installing a Bryan mill. The Cougar is erecting a 100-ton cyanide plant, the May Queen a 10-stamp mill, the Little Giant a 10-stamp mill, the Magnolia a 10-stamp mill, the Maiden's Dream a 10-stamp mill, and the Great Northern a 5-stamp mill. The Ibex has a 20-stamp mill in contemplation, and not less than ten other owners are figuring upon or have ordered stamp mills for their mines.

"In the Cornucopia district, fifty miles by wagon road from Baker City, the Union-Companion group, owned by J. C. Searles, is the most important property. Last year's production from the property was \$375,000.

"The Baisley-Elkhorn is steadily hammering away, and depositing from \$8,000 to \$10,000 in gold per month.

"The old Virtue is now in the hands of the Virtue Consolidated Mining company, which is getting everything in shape to pump the water out and sink several hundred feet deeper in quest of the yellow metal. The banner cleanup of the Virtue was in 1895 when, during the months of April, May and June, \$111,000 was deposited to the credit of that mine."

Splendid placer mine specimens ranging in value all the way from \$1 to \$200, are shown in Mr. Mellis' glass showcases, from the Humboldt, Nelson, Elk Creek, Pine Creek, Sumpter, Gimlet and other placer mines.

The most valuable mine in the Mabel district is said to be the Carroll B. Thirty-nine thousand pounds of ore from that

mine are expected today at the exposition grounds, where it will be crushed and milled by the 5-stamp Hammond mill which is about ready to commence operations. The ore is high grade and free milling. The mine is owned by C. J. Johns and James Baisley.

Hundreds of small and large specimens are contributed to the eastern Oregon display by the Sparta, Rock Creek, Eagleton, Pochahontas, Gold Hill, Snake River and Seven Devils districts.

The whole display is beautifully arranged and is one of the most important features of the exposition.

The space occupied by eastern Oregon is exactly one-fourth of that assigned to the mineral department. Ranged along the whole front are six glass show cases, containing gold specimens, country rock and geological specimens, samples from thousands of prospects and mines from eastern Oregon.

One of these showcases is devoted to ores from the Golconda mine, an inscription on a card above this case bearing the following legend: "Golconda ores, \$40,000 per ton." Incredible as this may appear, it is literally true. The gold can be seen sticking out of big chunks of quartz. The Golconda is situated six miles from Sumpter, or thirty-six miles west of Baker City, and is owned by J. G. English, formerly a large holder of Le Roi stock.

The place of honor—the long center table—is devoted entirely to the Sumpter camp. Huge blocks of quartz from the Bonanza, Red Boy, Golconda, Columbia, North Pole, Badger, Imperial, Magnolia, Ibex, Bald Mountain, Inter-Mountain group, Little Giant, La Bellevue, Herculean, Black Dwarf, Banzette, Climax, Phoenix, Mammoth, Present Need, May Queen, Ornament, Golden Eagle, and scores of other big mines are distributed all along to 40-foot space, with an equally long shelf below to help carry the overflow. All along the wall space of 50 feet are placed big and small pieces of quartz, every piece carefully labeled, from the Union-Companion, Chloride, Baisley-Elkhorn, Red Jacket, Last Chance, Flagstaff, Carroll B., Robbins-Elkhorn, Collateral, Virtue, Cyclone, Peacock, Del Monte, Hop Gold, Iron Dyke, Sheep Rock, Decoran, Jupiter, Blue Jacket, Crystal Palace, Gold Hill, Gold Ridge, Emma, Montie, Silver Ridge, Copper Queen, Silver Crown and hundreds of other claims and mines, the big specimens on the lower and the smaller pieces on a narrower upper shelf. Included in the above are Baker county building stone, marble, kaolin and coal formations.

The whole exhibit is topped off with a monster sign fifty feet in length, bearing the legend: "Eastern Oregon Gold Fields."—Spokesman-Review.

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**SUMPTER, ORE:**

## W. S. BOWERS ABSTRACTS

**Real Estate, Loans and Insurance. Mining Patents Obtained**

Years of experience in Baker County Records.  
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