

# The Sumpter Miner

Official Paper of the Town of Sumpter.

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THAT the O. R. & N. is planning to enter Sumpter there is scarcely a doubt.

CONSTANT repetition of the dogmatic assertion that "Baker is the Denver of eastern Oregon," by papers published at the present county seat, does not make it a fact.

THOSE "penniless schemers" who infested this town a few months since, much to the annoyance of "we substantial citizens," seem to be more or less in it at present.

FOR a month past the weather here has been so mild that willows along the river have budded, after having been thoroughly frosted by the week of cold weather in October.

SUMPTER is the Mecca for capitalists, both those who are looking for permanent investments and those who are looking for an opportunity to make quick clean-ups on a speculative flyer.

A PRESS dispatch from New York states that at the meeting of the Short Line directors there, on the fifteenth instant, Edward H. Harriman was elected president and W. D. Cornish, vice-president of that company.

PENDLETON'S enterprising spirits subscribed the money with which to buy the material for a bridge across the John Day river near Susanville, in the hope of getting trade from that section. Although Sumpter seems now to have a cinch on this trade, it will not do to neglect making every effort to hold it.

THE boom in Sumpter realty continues with no signs of abatement, and each day brings people from every part of the Northwest on their way to that mountain town. Arriving there, they see nothing but confidence expressed in regard to the future of the town, and evidence of the town's backing in the shape of gold bricks pouring in from the mines, in amounts ranging from \$10,000 to \$20,000 from a dozen or more monthly producers. —Seattle Industry and Mining.

MALHEUR county, which was carved from a portion of Baker, still owes this county about \$5000, but has decided to resist the payment thereof. Its case is stated in the Ontario Advocate as follows:

"At the time Malheur was cut off from Baker county, this county assumed a proportionate part of the indebtedness of Baker county at that time, about one-third of the total indebtedness, we believe. Since that time it has transpired that a portion of that indebtedness was wrongfully incurred, and a portion of the Baker county warrants have been declared by the courts to be void. It has occurred to the county court of Malheur county, therefore, that an equal portion of the debt assumed by Malheur county at that time must have also been wrongfully assumed, and that this county should be allowed rebate on the debt due Baker. To the end of making an amicable settlement with Baker in this matter, the county court sent I. H. Holland to Baker to confer with the county court there last week, and ascertain what rebate Malheur would be allowed for her portion of the

nullified warrants. Mr. Holland not being able to reach an agreement with the Baker court, Malheur county secured the services of an attorney and will proceed to get at the matter legally."

HE WHO builds here a substantial house, equipped with all modern conveniences, is the one who will reap the greatest profit from his investment. Soon there will be no demand for cheap, make shift structures and they will either not rent at all, or at a price that will not pay a reasonable interest on the money they cost. This may appear to be a far fetched conclusion, judged by the present persistent demand for anything in the shape of a house, but this has been the history of all new towns that have become permanent and prosperous and will surely hold good in Sumpter. Not only this, but cheap structures also prevent the lot on which they are built and the surrounding property from advancing in value as rapidly and as surely as in districts where a better class of buildings are erected. Although true as to residence sections, it is more particularly applicable to business streets; for merchants who handle large and valuable stocks of goods cannot afford to pay both exorbitant rent and insurance. It is not a question of what they might be willing to do—it is an impossible business proposition, and the cheaper the building, the higher the insurance rate is an underwriting axiom.

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