

THE SUMPTER MINER.

VOL. I.

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NO. 20.

GROUND BROKEN FOR SMELTER.

ENTIRE PLANT NOW AT THE
SUMPTER DEPOT.

The Company's Engineer Directing the Installation of the Machinery.—A Spur Will Be Built to the Smelter Site.—Probably Be in Operation Within Sixty Days.—A Good Thing For the Camp.

On Friday last Charles Laughlin, erecting engineer for the Union Smelter Manufacturing company, of St. Louis, accompanied by his assistant, Charles Tiedemann, arrived in Sumpter for the express purpose of installing the smelter plant which reached here about the same time, and is only awaiting a side-track or spur to be run to the building site to be unloaded.

In a short conversation with a MINER representative, Mr. Laughlin said he would begin breaking ground for the plant yesterday or today, and, reasonable weather permitting, he would be ready to treat the Sumpter district ore within sixty or seventy-five days.

The installation of a smelter at Sumpter, however small its capacity at first, is undoubtedly a step in the right direction, and it is hoped that it will prove a success to its operators and a boon to the small as well as large mine owners.

The principal idea now of the builders in erecting a plant of the capacity intended is to demonstrate that their smelter can successfully treat the ores of this district, and they emphatically state their willingness to increase it to any size as soon as the business demands. Mr. Laughlin says they can turn out a copper, galena or iron matte, either of which will answer as a base, and all of which are here in plenty; that full arrangements have been made with the railroad companies to have coke delivered here in carload lots; and as soon as the matter has been demonstrated to the mining people that the smelter will do what he says, they will add a refinery, which will turn out the bullion, and the bullion taken to the bank can be converted into United States coin right here in Sumpter.

The advantages of a smelter to small properties whose ore value only run \$10 or \$12 or even less—for want of greater development work or for other reasons—need scarcely be mentioned. Men can bring such products to a smelter near at hand, get the returns, and go on with the development of their properties from month to month; whereas, were there no smelter here, these same ores might remain on the dump forever, because the cost of shipping them hundreds of miles, added to the cost of treatment, would eat up their values.

The Portland Telegram had to say recently: "A great many properties in the Sumpter camp have delayed development pending the provision of a cheap and satisfactory ore treatment. The Cable Cove district, which abounds in tremendous ledges of ore of high value, but of refractory nature, has been especially slow to develop because of the absence of a contiguous smelter. Throughout the entire district the percentage of gold saving on stamp mill plates is not high. The North Pole mine operating 20 stamps, saves very little on the plates, its values being in the concentrates. The E. & E. saves

but 25 per cent on the plates. The Columbia's 10-stamp mill saves 40 per cent on the plates. The Red Boy saves 85 per cent; the Bonanza 75 per cent, and by no means all of the remaining values is in these instances saved in the concentrates. A certain percentage inevitably goes off in the tailings. This percentage is a clear, dead loss, and can only be obviated by treating the ore by the smelting process. It is not presumed that this will be done universally in this camp. Those mines operating stamp mills will probably continue. Their valuable concentrates, however, which are now being shipped to smelters at Trail, Tacoma, Everett and San Francisco, will quite probably be treated at home."

Voters Attention!

The registration books for Sumpter precincts have arrived. Judge E. C. Steffen has the set for the South and Stott & Shelton those for the North precincts. Voters have until May 15, this year, to register, but are asked to come forward at once and record their names, that some calculation may be made on the vote to be cast in June. In brief, the dividing line between the north and south precincts is Granite street, but the full text of the boundaries will be given next week.

Adler's Book Store Opens February 1.

The store room in the L. Potter building is now receiving the fixtures and will be occupied February 1 by Carl Adler's book and stationery house. W. L. Beirneau, from Mr. Adler's Baker City house, and who will have charge here, was in town today and says their stock is packed ready to ship, and when opened here will add another first-class business to Sumpter, giving the public any article desired in that line.

Coming Here From Baker City.

J. B. Griswold, the pioneer merchandise, harness and saddlery man of Baker City, has also discovered the possibilities of Sumpter as a trade center, and has leased the ground floor half of the new building next door north of the express office, where he will be doing business within a week. And still they come.

Abstract Office for Sumpter.

Recorder Gellatly left Tuesday for Sumpter, accompanied by his sister, Jennie, who will begin work immediately upon a set of abstracts which Mr. Gellatly is making of that country. Roy Avery left for Sumpter Monday, accompanied by Joe Blumberg, and other Corvallisites expect to follow shortly.—Union-Gazette.

Views of Sumpter.

Parker's studio at Baker City has finished a series of views of the town of Sumpter and vicinity that, for photographic art, are perfect gems. THE MINER office has received a set of these views and can recommend them to parties desiring to know what Sumpter looks like. Address Parker's Studio, Baker City, Oregon.

Blue Bird Claim Sold.

The Blue Bird claim, two miles west of town, was sold to outside parties Friday. There are some excellent prospects just across McCully's fork from Sumpter with surface showings second to none in the country. It is only a matter of a short time when there will be working mines within sight of town.

Sacking Rich Ore at the Diadem.

J. K. Pardee reports that they are now sacking the rich ore found in the Diadem property and will soon begin shipping it. He further says the last assays from some of this product run \$318.80.

LARGE DEALS IN DIRT.

Lively Local Realty Market
During Past Week.

The past week has been the most satisfactory one to manipulators of Sumpter realty since the actual activity commenced, and while the aggregate amount of the sales have been heavy, every real estate man in Sumpter reports deals under way and to be consummated within a week to ten days, that will greatly increase the weekly business. The Sumpter Townsite company yesterday sold nine lots to one party in their first addition, several single lots to various buyers, among which was the 50 foot business lot opposite David Wilson's brick building on Mill street, below the depot. S. A. Arata, the wholesale liquor man of Portland, was the purchaser of the latter and has contracted to erect thereon a substantial brick building by early spring. This same purchaser has also arranged through the Townsite people, a lease of the Wilson brick building, in which to establish an exclusive wholesale liquor house, and Mr. Arata left here today for home to ship his stock, expecting to return in a week, claiming that within two weeks he would be open and ready for business.

At W. L. Vinson's office the sale of over fifty lots in their new addition is reported since the property was placed on the market. As soon as the new bridge is in and building activity has begun, this addition will be the scene of lively operations.

Among other transactions of the week C. S. Van Duyn sold to Deputy Postmaster Kahler the west 26 feet of lot 7 block 3, on the north side of Sumpter street, for \$1600.

Goss & Swiggett, in the Sumpter Bank building, have several large deals pending that they expect to close within a few days, but report \$7400 in various transfers this week.

Fritz & Uwyer are known to have made several good sales, the aggregate amount of which could not be learned.

Mohr & Mayer have only been open for business two or three weeks, but report business getting better each day. Three thousand dollars in miscellaneous trading have changed hands through their office the past week.

Numerous private sales are also of daily occurrence.

Representatives of Large Capital Here.

D. J. McDonald, mining engineer and examiner for the Governor Mackintosh syndicate of British Columbia, is here looking over several mining properties that are up for consideration by the latter. It is to be hoped they will soon become the owners of one or more of the large mines hereabouts. Representatives of other large Canadian and eastern capital are known to be in the district and it can be confidently expected that some heavy transactions will be recorded soon.

C. J. Johns Believes in Expansion.

C. J. Johns' purchase of the Sumpter Hardware company's stock, together with the building and ground, gives to Sumpter one of the largest general merchandise houses in eastern Oregon, as when added to the already large establishment conducted by Mr. Johns, he will have a store frontage of 100 feet by the same in depth, not to mention the storage capacity of his warehouse on the railroad tracks. Carpenters are now at work cutting arch-

ways between the dry goods department and the hardware store adjoining, virtually throwing the entire premises into one. A complete system of cash carriers, reaching to every nook and corner of the various departments has been ordered and will soon be installed, so that one man in the office can handle this important feature of a large business, thus saving the work and time of the salesmen in the stores. The hardware stock is to be enlarged at once and special attention given to the plumbing and steam fitting department, where plenty of competent men will be employed, thereby giving quick service at all times.

Souvenir Book on Oregon.

Mrs. Edyth Tozier-Weathered has returned to Sumpter with a view to interesting the business men here in a work of art descriptive of the state, including this section, to which she hopes to devote six or more pages of reading matter, illustrations and advertisements. As has been mentioned, this lady journalist, who is secretary of the Portland Press club, will attend the International Press club convention to be held in New Orleans March 1, and expects to distribute these souvenirs where they will do the most good, on that occasion.

Removal of the Former W. C. Calder Store.

The new management of the W. C. Calder stock of merchandise will begin the removal of goods into the new store room this week. The new establishment will be known hereafter as the Hobson Mercantile company. The handsome store room just completed and the also handsome business handed down to them by Mr. Calder should and undoubtedly will make plain sailing for the new concern.

Wholesale Liquor House For Sumpter.

Arata & Company, of Portland, have leased the brick building of David Wilson on South Mill street for an exclusive wholesale wine and liquor house, and will open for business not later than February 15. This firm is an old established one in Portland, and will bring a complete and first-class stock of goods here, which will be necessary in doing business with the Sumpter trade.

Development at the Ibez.

Manager A. L. McEwen, of the Ibez, was in town Monday and reported fine progress being made at the mine. They are now engaged in pushing the lower drift from a depth of 210 feet, to prove the ore chutes in the upper levels.

They are also pushing ahead the tunnel in the Pyrites claim of the Ibez group, in the hope of discovering new ore bodies.

Another Brick Building.

The Townsite company on Thursday last sold the triangular lot immediately north of the railroad track on Mill street, to Jones & Yerger, the contractors, who, according to the conditions of the sale, will immediately begin the erection of a brick business building thereon, containing two store rooms, 20x70 and 16x40 respectively, the same conforming to the shape of the lot.

New Grocery Store Opening.

E. P. Bergman, who recently leased the store room in the Woods building, formerly occupied by Mrs. Britten's restaurant, has returned with his grocery stock and expects to throw open his doors for business as soon as the goods are in place.

Stock Certificates.

THE MINER office is fully equipped to supply mining corporations with handsome stock certificates, prospectuses, seals and stock journals and record books.