

THE SUMPTER MINER.

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NO. 24.

MAIN LEDGE OF THE DIADEM.

CUT ON THE 80-FOOT LEVEL, 40 FEET FROM SHAFT.

Full Seven Feet in the Face of the Drift. Ore Averages \$300 in Gold.—Can Take Out \$50,000 in Thirty Days.—Three Carloads Already Sacked.—Hoisting Machinery For Deep Workings Ordered.

Superintendent Charles Bonner, of the Diadem, came to town this forenoon to inform the owners of that property, General Warren and Messrs. Pardee, that he had encountered the main ledge; that it is rich and thick.

It was cut on the eighty-foot level, forty feet from the shaft; is full seven feet in the face of the drift and will average \$300 in gold to the ton. This ore carries a larger per cent of copper than any yet encountered and possibly less lead. Much of the rock runs considerably higher in gold, assaying in places as high as \$500.

Superintendent Bonner says that with the force of men now working he can take out \$50,000 in thirty days. He now has sacked on the dump three car loads, which will be shipped as soon as the roads to the mine are in condition to haul to advantage and transportation can be provided for.

General Warren is, of course, considerably elated over this good news, because success has been so soon attained. He says: "At an early day we will be taking out thirty tons a day, that will be worth not a white chip less than \$9000. At present we are hoisting with the primitive crank, but have ordered from Frazer & Chalmers hoisting machinery that will reach down 800 feet. We'll show 'em how to play ball—and now is the time to give the exhibition."

Smart Talk for Newspaper Patronage.

J. Nat Hudson left last Saturday with his printing outfit for Granite. He made a smart talk for business here—which will probably also have its effect at Granite. It runs about like this: "My friend, Mr. Shutt, claims to have a sort of an exclusive franchise to run a paper at Granite, based on the allegation that all of the business men there have signed an agreement to give him their undivided support. I am going to publish a paper in that camp and, of course, must have business from somewhere. I can get considerable from Sumpter and Baker City. What will people on the outside think, if they see a Granite paper with no patronage from its home town, and filled with Sumpter advertisements? And people on the outside are going to see my paper, too; for it will go everywhere—possibly even to hell, but its circulation on earth will be unlimited." Mr. Hudson says he will publish the first issue Friday. Mr. Shutt's outfit is also on the ground, and there is a race to see which publication's birth will first eventuate.

Ex-Governor Black Locates in Sumpter.

Ex-Governor Black, of Utah, for some time past a resident of Spokane, has come to Sumpter to remain permanently. He was here several months since and decided that the future of this camp looks sufficiently bright to attract him hither. Governor Black expects to take charge of W. L. Vinson's extensive real estate interests here and give an object lesson in

booming up a proposition, in which he has had long and successful experience. He is enthusiastic over the mines of this district and declares that their ever increasing output will support a city here ten times the present size of Sumpter, and that the town can not grow too fast to keep up with mining development, the latter having had about twenty years the start, with a recent great impetus. That the great mining center of the Blue mountains will continue to be at Sumpter, as at present, he hasn't the slightest doubt, and gives convincing reasons for this belief.

JOB LOT OF PIPE DREAMS.

Unknown Railroads, Unborn Towns and Airy Smelters Frighten Baker.

While the citizens and public bodies of Baker City are asleep others are at work. A well authenticated report comes to the Republican that a new mining country in the John Day, in Grant county, will be opened before another twelve months rolls by, with a new town that will not only surpass in importance Granite and Sumpter, but will be a hot rival of Baker City as a supply center and mining camp. The same authority says that within nine miles of Baker City will soon be built a large smelter and a new town on the line of rail transportation, and that from this town a system of railroads will be built to the various mining camps east and west from which the ore will be drawn for treatment. It is surmised from this that Baker City in the near future will be more or less a side track.

The new townsite in the John Day will be located on the main line of a new transcontinental railroad to be built into Portland south of the mountain ranges on a down grade along the Columbia. It will cross the Short Line in Idaho near Pocatello. It is the great Burlington road that is seeking an entrance into Portland.

Assurance is given that the new smelter town is a go. The question now before Baker is, will she meet the new competition, or sit down in the same old ruts and trust to providence to shave the lamb as lightly as possible?

Sleighting Party to the Ibox.

A sleighting party from Sumpter was entertained by Manager A. L. McEwen at the Ibox mine Sunday, among whom were: Mr. and Mrs. Thornton, Mr. and Mrs. Sweetapple, Miss Katherine Myers, Messrs. Penhale, Hoseason, J. Frank Shelton and McArdle. An enjoyable lunch was served at the mine by Manager McEwen.

Miner-Journalist Operating Here.

D. R. Young, publisher of the Kootenai Mining Standard, at Rossland, British Columbia, has been here for a week, compiling information of the resources of the district and city for a leading article in his journal. Mr. Young has also secured several choice mineral claims near Sumpter, which will be heard from at a later date, as work upon them will begin as soon as the snow is gone.

G. W. Jett Taking the School Census.

G. W. Jett, acting as deputy for School Clerk Foreman, is now taking the school census of this district. It must be completed and the returns in by the first Monday in March, that the state and county school fund can be apportioned.

The hardships of the day are more easily overcome after a hearty breakfast. Ralston's Health Foods are the most nutritious. Hobson Mercantile company.

Sumpter souvenir spoons. F. C. Brodie, watchmaker and jeweler, Opera house block.

PROGRESS ON SMELTER

Will Probably Be in Operation in Six Weeks.

All the machinery for the smelter is now on the ground. It had to be hauled from the depot in wagons, the Sumpter Valley Railroad company having refused to extend a spur less than a hundred yards to the site.

A force of men and teams is grading for the foundation, on the edge of a deep ravine, where the slag will be dumped. On the opposite side of the ravine sampling works will be constructed later.

Charles Laughlin, the constructing engineer for the company, is in charge of the work, assisted by Charles Tiedemann. They think the plant will be ready for operation in six weeks. Its minimum capacity will be twenty-two and a half tons a day, which can be increased to forty. The power, crusher and condensed air capacity are all far in excess of the other parts of the plant, so that the plant can be increased without impairing the usefulness or stopping the operation of the original outfit.

Mr. Laughlin says that he is gratified to find a sufficient variety of ores tributary to Sumpter, to insure the success of the smelter. Iron and silica are here in abundance. The company will burn its own lime and the rock, it is claimed, is conveniently situated and the supply unlimited. Wood for charcoal has been bought and an expert will soon arrive to take charge of the kilns.

H. Meinheim, the gentleman who represented the manufacturers here last fall and promoted the enterprise, will arrive next week.

Many Prospective Mine Buyers Here.

E. J. Dwyer, than whom there is not a more far seeing or shrewder operator in this or any other camp, and one who knows what is going on around him, withall, says there are more people in Sumpter at the present time who are looking for investments in mining property, than at any time since his arrival here last fall. These people come from all sections of the country and have money with which to buy. The great difficulty encountered at this time in negotiating a sale is that few properties on the market have sufficient development work done to even show the existence of a ledge, and owing to the snow, the surface indications can't be examined. All these new comers report that they are merely the advance guard from their respective sections and that in the early spring many more mining men will arrive.

Townsite and Mining Company.

T. R. Needham, who recently came here from Juneau, Alaska, and E. M. Ward, a former resident of Portland, who had a successful season in Dawson, have secured the former quarters of the First Bank of Sumpter, where they will engage in the real estate and mining brokerage business, under the name of the Lawton and Sumpter Real Estate and Mining company.

Equipment For Sumpter Rough Riders.

First Sergeant M. E. Thornton received a letter from Captain T. King Muir, dated February 15, stating that he had passed his examination and his commission would be issued as captain of the Sumpter cavalry troop in a few days. As soon as he turns over the property of the Portland infantry company, of which he has been

captain, he will return to Sumpter. Captain Muir states further that the equipment for the Sumpter Rough Riders, so far as government property is concerned, has already virtually been issued and will be shipped shortly. In accordance with his instructions, Sergeant Thornton has had the measure of all the members of the troop taken and made requisition for sixty-five uniforms and all accessories.

W. L. Vinson Taken Suddenly Sick.

W. L. Vinson returned to Sumpter Sunday afternoon. Monday he was taken suddenly ill, and for a while it was feared that it would prove serious, possibly fatal. He began to improve yesterday, however, and his early recovery is now confidently predicted, much to the relief and gratification of his many friends. Mr. Vinson, it is hoped, will soon be well enough to devote his splendid talents and exhaustless energy to his business affairs here. The town and district need such men. He has already done much for both and will do still more in the next few months, and for himself.

Raffling School Piano.

Marshal Austin is selling chances on the piano owned by the public schools, which will be raffled on the evening of February 22. He will sell as many as possible at one dollar each. The school needs the money. President Robbins of the First Bank of Sumpter did the handsome thing by taking ten chances and writing on the border of the paper an agreement to return the instrument to the school, in case either number should win. General Warren's attention was called to this and he gave his approval by doing likewise.

Stranger Looking For a Real Estate Man.

He was a stranger in town and was looking for a real estate agent. How he was overlooked by the latter will never be satisfactorily explained. He stopped a gentleman on the street and enquired where one of this numerous tribe could be found, apparently not having thought to cast his eye around for a sign. He seemed to be amused at the reply received: "I'll bet ten to one you can't throw a rock in any direction from where you stand without hitting one." Whether or not he made a purchase and thus laid the foundation for a fortune is not recorded.

Nothing Done About Electric Franchises.

The McGrew electric franchise ordinance was not taken from the table at the council meeting Saturday evening, and nothing was done in the matter at all. The judiciary committee was instructed to procure a potter's field. A special meeting of the council was held Monday afternoon for the purpose of granting Fred Ritchie a variety theatre license.

Will Push Development Work.

Messrs. Hennessey and Martin, of Spokane, arrived in town today. They own several promising properties near the Bonanza, on which development work has been in progress for some time past. Their intention is to increase the working force and open up the mines as rapidly as possible.

Special Agent Interior Department Here.

C. E. Loomis, special agent United States Land office, is in the district on official business. It is reported that Mr. Loomis will have considerable business to transact for the government in this vicinity during the next few months, and will spend more or less of his time here in the future.

Every piece of type in THE MINER plant is new and strictly up to date. A back number job can't be done in this office.