

BENEFIT SUMPTER.**Patrick Clark Wants To Buy
a Mine in This District.**

D. Brenshan, who represents Patrick Clark, of Spokane, perhaps the most extensive and successful mining operator in the Northwest; whose arrival in Sumpter was mentioned in these columns two weeks since, has returned north. Mr. Brenshan is the personification of the idea conveyed in the expression, "says nothing and saws wood." His job, however, is to say nothing and look for good mining properties.

Several gentlemen now in this camp who knew him well in Republic, talked with him while here, but the only thing he would say regarding the business which called him here, was that he had come fifteen days too soon. There is still some snow on the higher peaks, on the northern and western slopes, and as he doesn't care to take chances on snow propositions and wishes to examine the district thoroughly, he will come again within thirty days.

Mr. Brenshan avoided newspaper men, so THE MINER could get no interview with him. It is learned, however, that he came here to examine a certain property, the owner of which had been in correspondence with Mr. Clark regarding its sale. The claim is one of which a satisfactory examination could not be made and no definite agreement was reached. That the gentleman was favorably impressed with the district, however, is certain, for before going he informed a broker here, one whom he has known for a long time, done business with in other districts and in whose judgment and integrity he has confidence, just what he wants and said that if he should get hold of such a property, to wire him and he will come down again at any time.

No man in the West could come to this district to operate who would do it more good than "Patsy" Clark. He has made a success of mining and, therefore, has unlimited capital at his command. He has a large following of "scalpers" who would pawn the coats on their backs to play at his game, knowing that "Clark stocks" are sure to be extensively traded in, and that where there is a demand, there is also an advance. For this reason, the stock of every company with which he is known to be interested has ready access to the list of every mining exchange from Spokane to Toronto. It is time some Sumpter stocks were being quoted in the daily reports—it is good advertising for a camp.

EASTERN OREGON ORES.**Satisfactory Smelter Tests Have Been
Made in Leadville.**

Tests of Oregon ores sent to Leadville, Colorado, have been completed, showing beyond doubt that they can be profitably treated. Following is a copy of a letter received in Portland. It was written by Mr. Loder, of the Southern Smelting company, to John S. McDonough, president of the concern, at Denver, and gives the result of tests made by E. T. Bradford and Mr. Loder, whose process Mr. Bradford will use in Portland. The letter follows:

"We have this day completed the analyses of ores sent to us from Oregon. We have been very careful in making these determinations, and the results are absolutely as herein stated. Nearly all of these ores are very desirable for pyritic smelting. Numbers 5, 8, 9, 10 and 11 are very desirable ores, containing within themselves sufficient calorific values for their practical reduction, the silicic acid (silica), iron (carbon) and copper, making a very desirable blending. In fact, there is

nothing that we can see that is detrimental to the smelting of any of these ores by the pyritic method. In fact, we have spent considerable time on each of these determinations and are thoroughly satisfied that there is nothing detrimental to the smelting of the ores. The copper alone in the ores would more than pay the entire cost of reduction, leaving the gold and silver practically as a profit. There is only one ore in the entire lot that shows an excess zinc. This percentage would be so reduced in blending that the percentage of zinc would not cut any figure whatsoever in smelting. Our man, Mr. Gallaher, is a thorough and competent chemist, understanding what is required of this class of work. Mr. Gallaher does all of our work for the plant here, and has given entire satisfaction."

The announcement that the ores are susceptible to smelting by the pyritic process is very important. Of equal importance is the news that the copper in the ores will pay all costs of smelting, leaving the gold and silver for profit.

Citizens of Portland familiar with the situation say that all bar is now removed to the establishment of a smelter in Portland. Mr. Bradford is evidently well satisfied with the result of the tests, and it is thought that he will return to Portland in a short time to complete arrangements.—Portland Telegram.

MOUNTAIN WATER STORAGE.**Vast Benefits Which Would Result
Therefrom.**

Some one who, evidently, was thinking more about how the stuff would read than of the importance of imparting information of value, has written the following more or less pertinent surmises about water storage, which has recently been published in a number of papers:

A great share of the West is today almost as much an undiscovered country as it was before the cry of gold was heard in California. Mountains of untold richness lie undeveloped and desolate, surrounded by burning plains and barren wastes. Not only gold but the baser metals are locked in countless tons in the rocky bosom of the western Sierras. And why are they not mined? Why does not capital flow in and make the boulder and the earth unburden their treasures for man's use? Why? Because of lack of transportation. Torrents of immense volume rush down the slopes during the period of melting snows and spread away in glittering streams through the brown valleys; anon they are but dry beds of sand supporting no life nor growth.

Yet were the vast bulk of this waste water stored in mountain reservoirs, it would afford perennial supply, capable of irrigating millions of acres of land whose great fertility has lain dry and dormant for thousands of years. Then would the mines be developed. In sections where irrigation has forced its way, there railroads have gladly followed, and with the soil yielding the necessities of life to man and beast in abundance and with cheap transportation at hand, mines have been developed and added millions to the mineral output, which would otherwise have lain dormant forever.

Big Dividends Paid by Mining.

The Homestake mines of Dakota have paid \$875,000 in dividends last year. They have paid since starting the sum of \$8,088,750. The Boston & Montana distributed among the shareholders last month \$2,225,000; which makes \$14,500,000 in dividends from the start. The Anaconda company has paid \$12,150,000. The entire dividends paid last month by the mines of the United States and British Columbia was \$5,690,889.—Mining, Spokane.

"The Portland," conducted by Woodward & Hammond on Mill street, is a representation of its name. A visit will convince any skeptics.

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