

THE SUMPTER MINER.

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SUMPTER TO GRANITE.

ROAD TO BE PUT IN PERMANENT EXCELLENT CONDITION.

About \$5000 Already Raised For the Purpose—E. J. Godfrey, the Leading Spirit In the Enterprise—Old Route to Be Followed Except For About Four Miles Beyond the Summit—Profitable Investment For Sumpter.

E. J. Godfrey, of the Red Boy mine, has for some time past been working on the proposition to improve the Sumpter-Granite road, so that the heavy hauling and great volume of freighting that goes over that thoroughfare can be continued at all seasons of the year, and with greater facility than at present. It now looks as if his efforts will be crowned with success.

At his request, Messrs. J. H. Robbins, C. J. Johns, Tom McEwen and Claude Basche went around town yesterday afternoon with a subscription paper, and in an hour raised \$550. This amount will be increased to \$1000, which the committee says can be raised without difficulty. All moneys will be paid to Mr. Godfrey, who will devote his time and labor to its intelligent expenditure.

Granite will give \$1000, Lawton \$500, Alamo \$350, Baker and Grant counties each \$1000, and Mr. Godfrey will make a liberal donation, so about \$5000 is already assured. This amount of money will make wonderful improvements on the road.

The route to be followed will conform very nearly to the present one as far as the summit, only diverging where bad places, that are impossible to keep constantly in good condition, can be avoided. Beyond the summit the road will be changed entirely for a distance of about four miles, where it now passes through the low lands. Engineers will lay out this new route around the foothills.

It is hoped that this is merely the inauguration of an extensive system of road building, that will result in this district having the best and most complete system of wagon roads in the west. Every dollar that Sumpter business men expend in this way will be wisely and directly advantageously invested—will bring in immediate and rich returns. It will also be a permanently profitable investment, for they will fix for all time where the mining and distributing center of these rich gold fields will be.

The thanks of the district is due to Mr. Godfrey for his public spirited enterprise in this direction.

Probable Sale of Water Works.

A deal for the sale of the Sumpter Water company's plant is being negotiated, which, THE MINER is reliably and authoritatively informed, will probably be consummated at no distant day. It is being worked on lines that will prove advantageous to both the present owner and the prospective buyer. In case the deal goes through, all of the company's obligations will be liquidated and W. L. Vinson will be firmly placed on his financial feet again.

One Way to Sell a Mine.

When the astute mine boomer now wants to sell a worthless mining property, he "starts" a "mining paper" in Iowa or Illinois, buys a file of some old

established mining journal to clip from, and give a "technical" aspect to the production, and in a few weeks announces that he has "the largest circulation of any mining paper in the world." When the mine is unloaded, the paper ceases to exist, and the game goes on. The whole thing has the same relation to legitimate mining and legitimate mining journalism that the wrecker's fire along the bench has to the government lighthouse.—Mining Press.

BUYING MINING STOCKS.

Public Rarely Invests in the Good Things When They Are Cheap.

The Spokane Spokesman-Review says: "The best phase of the renewed demand for mining stocks is the fact that it comes from men who have made a success of mining and investing in mining properties. They are buying shares in good mines at prices below those paid here eighteen months ago for wildcats. If the general public were shrewd, which it seldom is in mining matters, it would step in and take some of the good things when they are cheap."

The Miner heartily endorses the above, because in a few words it most pointedly shows the mining stock situation. In a time when there is a general slump, like the existing one, which has reached bed-rock, the good, the bad and the indifferent shares reach what might be called a common level, as the investing public lose confidence for the time being in all, and they go to begging for a purchaser till shares of merit in strong companies, whose properties are certain to become dividend payers, are sold for a mere tithe of their real value.

These shares, like water, are certain to find their proper level. There are scores of such shares on the market today which are selling for only a very small part of their intrinsic value. What better or surer form of investment could there be than to purchase these and hold for a rise? It would be wisdom to do what is being done in Spokane. All the signs point to a rising market before long, and then those who do not wait too long and thus let the golden opportunity get by, will secure a large profit.—Rossland Miner.

Diadem Vein on Brindle Horse Claim.

Superintendent Grimes, of the Diadem, came to town Monday and reported another important discovery on that property. President Pardee accompanied him back to the mine and returned home last evening. He reports that the Diadem ledge has been uncovered on the Brindle Horse claim, 350 feet from the line between the two claims; at a depth of 400 feet below the ore body on the Diadem, as taken by a barometer. The Brindle Horse is lower down the mountain than the Diadem. Where the vein was last exposed it is three feet wide. A 500-foot tunnel will be run at this point.

Favorably Impressed With this District.

K. P. Casper, traveling correspondent of the Mining and Engineering Review, an experienced miner as well as an excellent correspondent, has visited all of the camps surrounding Sumpter and expresses his favorable opinion of the district unreservedly. He has been accompanied by a photographer and in the next issue of his paper will appear an illustrated article of much interest and importance to this region. Printers' Ink credits the Review with being one of three engineering journals in this country that has the most rapidly increasing circulation.

FOURTH OF JULY CELEBRATION.

Mass Meeting at Opera House Thursday Evening.

Several public spirited business men have canvassed the town to a more or less extent on the subject of holding a Fourth of July celebration here. They report that the feeling is almost universally favorable to the proposition, but as is always the case in such matters, everybody seems to be waiting for some one else to take the lead.

These gentlemen, Messrs. Neall, Bellinger, Harley Wood, Ellis, Stinson and other prominent citizens who have discussed the matter, request THE MINER to state that there will be a mass meeting in Ellis Opera house Thursday evening for the purpose of arranging for this celebration, and to urge upon all who are interested in the matter the importance of attending.

It is the intention at that time to appoint the various committees to take charge of the celebration, and formulate some plan for making this more than the ordinary firecracker event. Special attention will be given to including in the program numbers that will interest miners, such as rock drilling contests, and liberal purses will be offered for these trials of skill.

The scale on which the day will be celebrated will, of course, depend on the extent of the interest manifested by citizens at the start, followed by liberal subscriptions. If all take a hand, there will be no trouble in getting up the crowd attracting celebration of eastern Oregon. There is no question but what many people throughout the Inland Empire would take advantage of an opportunity to visit this new wonder and record breaking mining camp. No better way to advertise the town at this particular time could be devised.

Another Bridge Across Powder River.

A. W. Ellis has finished the bridge across Powder river, on Bourne avenue, which runs through the Vinson addition, in which he is largely interested. This furnishes the Bourne traffic a good road into the city, by following the avenue named in its honor and crossing the river again over the bridge on Granite street. Roy Miller, who is interested in and is handling the Vinson addition, has made a number of important sales of that desirable property, the two most important being to the Sumpter Transportation company, for its barns, warehouses and offices, and to the Foundry company. Under Mr. Miller's skillful and energetic management, this addition will soon be built up.

Lime Rock Quarry Right In Town.

The smelter people are developing the deposit of lime rock recently discovered on Warren Heights addition, within the corporate limits. Two men are at work in the quarry and considerable progress has already been made. Charles Laughlin says he has never seen rock that carries a higher per cent of lime, and it is of a good quality, too.

Special Meeting of the Fire Department.

At a special called meeting of the fire department last evening, fifty-eight old and seven new members signed the constitution and by-laws. The mayor and

city council were invited to become honorary members of the department. The committee appointed to solicit subscriptions for the purchase of a fire bell reported encouraging progress, nearly \$300 having been collected. It is thought that the \$200 in the hospital fund will be turned over to the department. The fire alarm was sounded to call the members together, which had the desired effect; though it startled the town somewhat.

Hobson Mercantile Company.

The Hobson Mercantile company has rented and is now occupying both the Wilson and the Jones & Gagen brick blocks, south of the railroad tracks. Elsewhere in THE MINER today this enterprising house announces its reopening tomorrow evening. Jesse Hobson, the manager, says that notwithstanding his present comparatively out of the way location, he prefers it to the old stand in the heart of the business district. He saves enough on insurance alone to employ a solicitor and increase his advertising to such an extent that he is confident there will be no perceptible decrease in business. Besides, he is not now kept awake nights with the ever present fear of fire. In future substantial brick and stone structures will be built in the business section, because it will pay to build such. Merchants carrying large stocks can't afford to pay both high rents and exorbitant insurance rates. The recent fire has done that much good.

Chance Meeting of Pioneers

Mr. and Mrs. Robbins were in town Monday visiting their son, J. H. Robbins, president of the First Bank of Sumpter. Mr. Robbins, the elder, was a pioneer in eastern Oregon, arriving here in the early 'sixties, residing at Canyon City during the first placer gold rush to that camp. He afterwards lived at Granite and Robinsonville. He and his wife were on their way to Lawton, where another son resides, and where they will remain during the summer, at least. While here they met Mr. Lynch, former owner of the Sumpter Grocery company's store, another early pioneer and an old time friend whom they had not met for a number of years.

Work Progressing at Electric Power House.

All of the old machinery has been taken out of the electric power house. It is being replaced by the best modern makes, and President Cannon knows what the best is. About a dozen men are at work installing this new machinery. It is hoped that it can be started up some time next week. Wires have been strung and street lamps hung and the town will now not be much longer in darkness.

This Town Is Distressingly Healthy.

Local physicians say that Sumpter is distressingly healthy at the present time. There is not only not a case of contagious disease in town, but pneumonia seems to have run its course, and there are but few cases of fever. Out in the hills there is some sickness, pneumonia being mostly prevalent.

The Columbia beer, brewed in Sumpter, is today as good as any made.

The City Green house, at Baker City, furnishes choice cut flowers.

Ask for the Columbia beer, brewed in Sumpter.

Go to Fenner & Worthington for all kinds of engineering.

Columbia beer, brewed in Sumpter, is second to none.