

WHY AMERICAN ROARS

Seeks a Cowardly Opportunity to Vent Personal Malice.

Last week the Blue Mountain American neglected to pay its usual attention to sewing circle rows and the quarrels between neighbors' children and took another flyer at maligning the town and trudging its officials, attempting by cowardly insinuation to make it appear that they are a pack of thieves who are looting the treasury. That paper's policy, as THE MINER has once or twice pointed out and proven, is to injure this town; its method being to create discord and discension, hesitating at no trick, however mean and contemptible, to accomplish this.

Its last assault on the credit of the town and the honesty of its officials is based on the false allegation that the recorder refused to permit its representatives to see his books. From this known falsehood it draws the desired conclusion that these books would reveal something detrimental to the reputation of the town officials. Following its own instinct, of course, the natural inference is that somebody has been stealing something—hence all that senseless noise.

This is why representatives of the Blue Mountain American were not allowed to see the books of the recorder. At the meeting of the council on the evening of July 7, the first meeting after the close of the second fiscal quarter, the recorder's quarterly report was not ready, as it should have been, and the council granted him one week more in which to prepare it. The American knowing of this, knowing also that he would be busy during the coming week working on these books, saw an opportunity to create a disturbance and forthwith availed itself thereof, by demanding that its representatives be permitted to expert the books, when it was well known that the official could not grant that demand. To make this part of its work look less coarse, the American says that its intention to investigate the city's finances reached the ears of officials and they concocted this excuse to permit the public from being informed of their boodling. The paper failed to state, however, whether they learned of its avowed intention through some occult mind reading power, or whether it started out to expert the books with a brass band and a town crier.

Anyway, when the accountant and the ignoramus who mutilates the language in its columns appeared at the recorder's office and delivered their ultimatum, that official explained the situation and told them that after he was through with the books they could inspect them in his presence. He took occasion to further inform Cassidy, the language mutilator and hired blackmailer, that he, individually, couldn't keep the books in his possession a moment, because he knew him to be a crook who couldn't be trusted for a moment on any proposition. His Butte slot machine record would seem to bear out this charge, and his face would prevent him from working on any reputable newspaper.

Under these manufactured circumstances, of course the recorder is given a vulgar roast. But these circumstances were worked for this end. The recorder is the man they were after and, of course, some excuse was necessary to make the attack. The real animus is not found in his refusal to show his books, but is because of his report to Dunn's Commercial agency regarding the financial status of the concern, which is in a shaky condition, owing to the fact that the people of this camp, recognizing the fact that its mission was originally and still is, under the

present management, to do all in its power to injure this community, have withheld their patronage to such an extent that it is decidedly on the bum. Its patrons, like itself, are town knockers, and its friends malice permeated nonentities.

Elsewhere in THE MINER today is published the recorder's quarterly report. He has been in office six months and this is his second report, which is published in these columns, as was his first, and as will be his third and fourth. The American makes a particularly agonizing wail because only one report has been made heretofore. It is here informed that there are only two "quarters" in six months.

THE MINER will not insult Mayor Gleason and the members of the city council by defending them from the implied charge of theft made by the American. There has been few municipal governments run so wisely and economically as that of Sumpter. Readers who are interested can examine the recorder's report and see for themselves how well the affairs of the town have been administered.

Additional Machinery for the Columbia.

The Columbia Mining company, at Cracker Creek, through its president and manager, E. W. Backus and Frank S. Baillie, has given an order to the Risdon Iron Works, San Francisco, for new machinery to make a 20-stamp mill out of the 10-stamp plant now in operation on the property. This new equipment includes 14 6 foot Johnston concentrators, making 16 of these concentrators that will be installed in the enlarged plant. The new machinery will make five carloads. An increased mill capacity at the Columbia has been long needed and now that it is to be done, we may soon expect to see the output of gold from this great property the equal every month of any mine in the eastern Oregon gold fields.—Baker Democrat.

"The Portland", conducted by Gus Woodward on Mill street, is fully a representation of its name. A visit will convince you of this.

Go or send to the City Green house, Baker City, for choice carnations; thirty-five cents per dozen. Roses fifty cents per dozen.

Quartz and placer location blanks of the most approved form for sale at THE MINER office.

Keep your money in Sumpter and drink Columbia beer—a home product.

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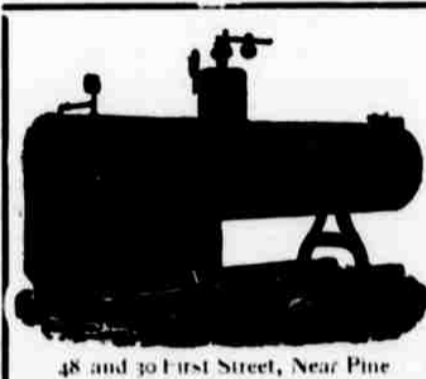
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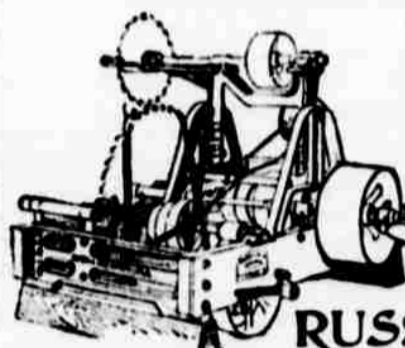
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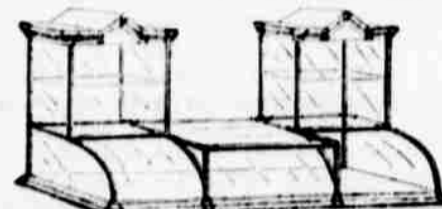
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