WATER WORKS SOLD.

R. E. Strahorn, of Spokane, the Purchaser.

One day last week R. E. Strahorn bought the Sumpter water works from W. L. Vinson. The price paid is not made public. It is somewhere between $50,000 and $70,000. This is the investment which THE MINER mentioned two weeks since as being negotiated by Mr. Strahorn.

The new owner controls a number of water plants in Oregon, Idaho and Washington, and he says this is undoubtedly the best gravity system on the list. He will begin at once to improve the plant. The first step in this direction will be to extend the water mains, so that everyone in town who wishes to use the water can be accommodated with its service. The mains will be extended through the entire built up portion of Columbia street at once, followed by extensions in the southeastern portion of town.

It is estimated that more than 25 per cent of the water supply finds its way into the reservoir. This will be remedied without delay; first by going to bed rock at the source of supply, and second by fluming the ditch its entire length. This will necessitate the expenditure of a large amount of money, and furnish work for many men.

The organization stands about as formerly, with the exception that W. L. Vinson has resigned as president and general manager, being succeeded by C. A. Johns, as president. R. E Strahorn has been elected vice-president and will have the general management of the company's affairs. Superintendent Cornfield will remain with the company. The personnel of the office force has not been decided definitely, though it will remain unchanged for some days.

Mr. Strahorn is a good man for this town. He is public spirited, liberal and enterprising. He has already demonstrated this in one or two matters of general public importance.

Since the consummation of the sale W. L. Vinson, the original promoter of the enterprise, has been in Sumpter and vicinity most of the time, and says emphatically that this will be the scene of his further operations. He has several large and important deals pending, for the transfer of mining properties, which he expects to close soon. His faith in the district seems unbounded and he says there is no other place with a future to compare with this, otherwise he would certainly discover it and go there.

Going "Quartz Crazy" in Harney.

The widespread fever of the mining industry is gradually making its way into Harney county. Prospectors, radiating from the great mining centers of eastern Oregon, are following the mountain ranges in every direction, and the unexplored resources of our county are beginning to receive active attention. Without doubt the mountains adjacent to Burns contain mineral wealth in abundance, and only thorough and intelligent work is needed to develop it. Every citizen of Burns and of Harney county should lend every reasonable effort to the encouragement of thorough investigation of the mineral possibilities of the country adjacent to our doors, for its successful development would mean enhanced opportunities for all.—Harney County News.

Grizzly Stock on the Exchange List.

R. C. Pentland returned Friday from Portland, where he has been for several days past on business connected with the Grizzly Gold Mining company, of which he is secretary. He succeeded in placing some of the stock at private sale. This company has been entered on the Oregon Mining Stock Exchange, and a few sales made at three cents. Speaking of this, the Telegram says: Several blocks of stock changed hands at the morning call of the Oregon Mining Stock exchange today. A feature was the listing of the Grizzly, which appeared upon the stock board for the first time. Five thousand shares sold at 3 cents. The mine is located in the Sumpter district, and has considerable development work to show for itself. It is in a good district and believed to be a good proposition. The officers are J. J. Penhale, president; Albert Geiser, vice-president; R. C. Pentland, secretary, and Eugene Sperry, treasurer. Brokers upon the exchange are getting telegraphic orders from the eastern cities in addition to the orders from Colorado. The influence of the exchange is beginning to be felt, and is proving a valuable advertising medium for the Northwest.

No Money in This Mail Contract.

Messrs. Haight, Kelsay and Bolton, of The Dalles, bondsmen of B. F. Miller, sub-contractor of the Heppner-Canyon City stage line, forfeited their bonds last Monday and are now forever relieved of responsibility in seeing that Uncle Sam's mail matter is carried from there into the interior. Mr. Miller became heavily involved and recently filed a petition in bankruptcy, which means that his creditors, who are said to hold in the neighborhood of $5000 against him, will loose perhaps 75 per cent of their money. The bondsmen, upon learning the condition of affairs; hoped to be able to stay the inevitable result, and they took charge of the line themselves, running it about four weeks. This brief experience cost them over $1000, and after worrying half their lives away over the big elephant, they concluded that the cheapest way out of it would be to pay the amount the bonds called for—about $9000—and get out of it, which they have done.—Canyon City News.

Poor Service on Heppner-Canyon Route.

Since the bondsmen of B. F. Miller gave up the mail route between Heppner and Canyon City, the most of the towns between those two places have been without mail facilities. This has been especialy true between Monument and Canyon City. But one mail has passed over this route during the past week, and that was paid for by the citizens and business men of Long Creek. The Eagle is informed that Postmaster Vaughan, of Heppner, has contracted with H. A. Thompson, of that place, to carry the mail through from that point to Canyon City until different arrangements are made by the Kentucky contractor, or by the government. Mr. Thompson has been delivering the mail daily as far as Monument and will, as soon as stock can be put on the line, carry the mail through to Canyon City daily, as previously stated.—Long Creek Eagle.

Good Ledge in the Halifax.

D. D. Hinton and G. V. McHaley, of Hamilton, are the fortunate owners of what promises to be one of the best properties in the Susanville country. This property is known as the Halifax ledge, located near the reservoir on the head of Deep creek. They have a force of men at work on the property and have sunk a shaft to the depth of 60 feet. At this depth they have a well defined ledge five feet in width and exceedingly rich in gold, and so rich is some of the ore that the metal is plainly visible to the naked eye. Mr. McHaley and Mr. Hinton will inspect their property while on an outing tour in that country, and it is quite likely that arrangements will be made for extensive development work. The present appearance of the ledge is very encouraging to them, and as a natural result, they are highly elated over it.—Long Creek Eagle.

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