

THE SUMPTER MINER

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NO. 11

HEALEY BLOCK BURNED

FIRE DISCOVERED EARLY THIS MORNING BY A LODGER.

Building Insured for \$1500—Several Occupants Hold Policies for \$1400 More—Loss Not Estimated—Some Narrow Escapes—Splendid Work of the Fire Department.

The Sumpter fire department is all right. It demonstrated this to be a fact again this morning, for the third or fourth time.

Shortly before four o'clock Mrs. Jackson, who occupied a room in the Healey block, corner of Center and Granite streets, discovered that the building was afire and gave the alarm. The fire had caught between the ceiling and the roof, from a defective flue, and the whole upper portion of the building was ablaze when the hose companies arrived.

The only delay in turning on the stream was occasioned by the fact that the nozzle on the hose kept in the house near the school building had rocks in it; probably put there by some of the pupils. Soon, however, two good streams were playing on the fire, which was confined to the one building in which it originated. Better work could not have been done, as there is adjoining it, with no space between, a row of frame buildings that were apparently built to burn. The department worked promptly and intelligently. The weather was cold and the firemen deserve great credit for the hardships endured so willingly.

The building is owned by P. D. Healey. It was insured for \$1500 with Mrs. Hickcock's agency, \$800 in the Liverpool, London and Globe, \$500 in the Home and \$200 in the Agricultural. This will probably cover the loss, as the fire damage is confined to the second story, the roof being entirely destroyed. The first floor is badly damaged by water.

The corner storeroom is occupied by Cox & Co's saloon and gambling house. Nearly all the fixtures were removed. They carried no insurance. This is a case of lightning striking twice in the same place. The firm was burned out last spring, when this camp was visited by the most destructive fire in its history, occupying a place which it then owned, on the opposite corner.

In the rear of Cox & Co., facing on Center street is Henry Finger's place. He carried \$500 insurance in the Liverpool, London and Globe. He sustained considerable damage by water.

The other ground floor room was occupied by L. Harris' fruit and cigar stand. The owner lives in Portland and the business is managed by Louis Moses. The stock is insured for \$400 in the Phoenix, represented here by E. L. Manning. Nothing was moved from this place and water got in its work.

The second story is operated as a lodging house by F. O. Lee, under a sublease from Henry Finger. The first named owned the furniture, which was insured for \$500 and almost entirely destroyed. The latter owned the partitions, uninsured.

H. K. Wheeler's news stand adjoined the building to the east. This is a small one-story building, also owned by Mr. Healey. It received little damage, but water ruined considerable of the stock,

fully covered by insurance. Mr. Wheeler was negotiating last evening for the sale of his business, but the deal is not yet consummated.

Several of the roomers in the lodging house had narrow escapes, getting out in scant apparel. None saved their personal effects.

The total insurance is \$2000. It is impossible at this time to estimate the loss. It will, however, amount to considerably more than this. The building will be repaired as soon as the loss can be adjusted by the insurance companies.

MYSTERIOUS LIFE AND DEATH

Annie Clement Passes Away; Also Her Property.

Annie Clement, known here as Mrs. St. Johns, landlady of the lodging house over the Club, died last Thursday, after a lingering illness. A sister from Denver was with her at the time of her death. Since then another sister has arrived from Seattle, and a friend of the family, Mr. Edwards, from British Columbia.

All kinds of rumors have been floating around regarding this case, first as to the original cause of her sickness, subsequently the progress of the illness, and pertaining to the disappearance of her personal effects. It is stated that the cause of her illness was poison administered by someone else than herself. Then, if you will listen to curbstone gossip, you will hear that other doses were administered by attendants as she gradually grew worse. Dr. Brock, the attending physician, is of course, not taking the public into his confidence. He admits, however, that there were some puzzling features connected with the case.

During the dead woman's illness there were a half dozen or more nurses and to some of these suspicion attaches. THE MINER has heard names mentioned, which it will not repeat, because no official steps have been taken to apprehend the guilty ones; if, indeed, there are such.

It is said that much of her personal property has mysteriously disappeared; trunks full of expensive wearing apparel, elegant rugs, pictures, \$180 in money and a thousand or fifteen hundred dollars worth of diamonds. A portion of the latter have been found in the Bank of Sumpter, hypothecated for \$400. The local police was notified ten days or more ago regarding this phase of the mysterious business, but a suspicious lack of interest was manifested and nothing done to stop the looting or detect the culprit. This has given rise to much unfavorable comment regarding these officials.

The body will be shipped back to the old home in Illinois today.

Dr. Brock, on petition of one of the sisters, has been appointed administrator of the estate, consisting principally of the furniture still left in the house. He has not yet accepted the charge, however. It is thought that the estate will scarcely pay the indebtedness, unless the stocks, which the woman is said to have had, can be found.

No inquest has been held and, apparently, none will be. THE MINER can learn nothing authoritative in reference to the intentions of the authorities, as to whether or not the case will be investigated.

Prompt attention to orders for cut flowers and floral pieces. City Green House, Baker City, Oregon.

Five quart bottles of Olympia beer for \$1.00 at Henry Finger's.

Beware of, but ask for it—Giant Powder

MILL FOR MAMMOTH.

Has Arrived and Will Be in Operation December 5.

This morning the first lot of machinery for the Mammoth mill was hauled out to the mine. The remainder of the plant is now at Baker City and will arrive here in a day or two and be taken to the mine without delay. This is a Bryan mill, sold by the Joshua Hendy Machine works, of San Francisco.

Secretary Reed stated to a MINER representative today that the mill will be in operation by December 5. All the buildings are completed, ready for the reception of the machinery. It was in the Mammoth that the richest strike ever known in the Northwest was made a few weeks since.

The ten stamp mill for the Bald Mountain, owned by the same people, but under separate organization, has not yet been shipped from San Francisco. The Bald Mountain is one of the most extensively developed properties in this district and will be a big producer from the day the stamps begin to drop.

Assessment Work on Overlapping Claims.

Where two lode locations owned by one or the same parties overlap, the assessment work for both may be performed on the ground covered by both, and may consist—at the option of the owners—of one piece of work or improvement. But it must represent an expenditure of at least \$200; or if upon ground overlapped by three claims, of \$300, etc. But the nature of this work must be such that, in the opinion of the owner, it will tend immediately or ultimately to the improvement or development of both claims. When this aim is in his mind when the work is performed, the requirements of the statute are met, and it makes no difference if it is ultimately shown that his judgment at the time was in error, or might have been better.—San Francisco Mining Review.

Pendleton Men Buy Malheur County Land.

Several large real estate transactions have been consummated at Ontario this week. A sale was made Monday to C. C. Hunt and W. L. Gibson, of Pendleton, of 520 acres, situated nine miles from Ontario. The consideration was \$12,580. The land lies along the Owyee ditch, in Malheur county, and will be seeded in alfalfa at once. Substantial improvements will be made. Mr. Hunt is a son of the railroad man, G. W. Hunt, and Mr. Gibson has been connected with the Frye-Bhrun company, a meat market concern in Seattle, Washington, for the past five years.—La Grande Chronicle.

Suit for Damages Against the Golconda.

Charles Finnigan has brought suit for twenty odd thousand dollars damages against the Golconda Gold Mining company. While working in the mine last spring a wire rope broke, striking and injuring him seriously. He claims that it was on account of the negligence of the company, in using a defective rope, that the accident occurred. The case will probably be tried at the December term of the Circuit court.

Finish Fight in the Tenderloin.

Last evening two of the tenderloin belles had a difficulty, it is reported, over the usual cause, both playing the same man for a favorite. One named Lillie Davenport got the other, Madge or Blanch or

something of that sort, Lynch down and kicked in a couple of slats. The men standing around the dance hall did not interfere. It is said that the Lynch woman had a fight about a week ago and was only partially recovered from the injuries then received. Judge Felix says that a warrant will be sworn out this afternoon for the arrest of the women.

Hilgard-Granite Road Again

W. T. Chalk, a prominent Seattle railway surveyor, left yesterday for the west, after a somewhat extended sojourn in this city. He was called here on a railroad case to testify. Yesterday's telegram recalling him west, in his opinion, meant the resumption of operations on the new railroad from Hilgard to Granite, Ore., of which he is chief engineer. The surveys have all been completed on this line, but, pending the election, work was suspended. He believes operations are to immediately commence, and if so, he says there will be no stoppage till the line is completed.—Statesman.

Coasting Season in Full Blast.

About four hundred children are now constantly coasting down the "school house hill" and every incline sidewalk in town, making life for pedestrians one grand hustle to keep from being run over by the rising generation, and mangled. THE MINER would not dare to interfere in the sport, even if it had the inclination—which it hasn't—but timidly suggests that the youngsters be kept off the crowded business streets and sidewalks with their rapid transit sleds, that come rushing along like they were falling from sky story buildings.

Townsite Company's Building.

Painters have about finished with the Sumpter Townsite company's new building, and a handsomer little office structure is not to be found in eastern Oregon. That portion to be occupied by the company has been partitioned into convenient apartments, reception room, private offices and "separating parlor," as General Warren used to designate the room where checks were exchanged for warranty deeds. The company will move into its new quarters Monday.

Sanger Mine Buys 1000 Cords of Wood.

The contract has been let to Baker City people to furnish the Sanger mine at Sanger with 1000 cords of wood, and yesterday a number of men with supplies left the city for the mine. This large wood contract indicates that the old mine under the management of J. K. Romig is to be operated on an extensive scale.—Democrat.

Lessons in Lace.

Mrs. Marsh, next door to MINER office, will give practical instructions in lace work. Materials and hundreds of patterns to select from.

"The Portland," conducted by Gus Woodward on Mill street, continues to merit the name of the popular gentlemen's resort of Sumpter.

When you travel the Bourne road remember Barnard has all the latest remedies or dust in the throat.

Five quart bottles of Olympia beer for \$1.00 at Henry Finger's.

Genuine Olympia oyster cocktails to order at Henry Finger's.

Henry Finger serves genuine Olympia oyster cocktails to order.

Always reliable—Giant powder.