

# THE SUMPTER MINER

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## QUARTZBURG DISTRICT

### PROMISING COUNTRY TRIBUTARY TO PRAIRIE CITY.

**Famous for Its Placer Mines in Early Days—Now Delving for Quartz—Though Crude Reduction Methods are Employed, Some Mines are Worked Out—Talk of a Smelter.**

On Dixie creek, some seven miles from Prairie City and about forty from Sumpter, is the Quartzburg mining district, once famed for its rich placer mines and now attracting much attention because of its quartz deposits, carrying gold and copper.

There are two distinct mineral zones in the district. In one the formation is a diorite and the ledges are very small, seldom reaching a foot in width, irregular as to width and values, with free gold near the surface, generally getting base with depth. The other zone could be called the copper belt, where the ledges are very wide, reaching fully 100 feet on the Sherbondy group. The formation is a porphyry, locally called phonolite. The big ledges are all accompanied by a porphyry dyke, which is considered a sure indicator of permanency and values.

Among the small ledge mines the Present Need is the only one that is being worked to any extent. It was acquired a short time ago by Fred Morey, son of Hon. P. F. Morey, of Portland. They have recently completed a modern self discharging arastra and are pushing work on a tunnel to tap the ledge at a depth of over 400 feet, which will be the only deep workings in the camp. The results will have a bearing on future development. This property has produced \$30,000, worked in a crude way, and there are tailings and ore sufficient to turn out at least \$15,000 more. The upper levels have been stoped where the ore is free and the base is left.

The Keystone, adjoining the Present Need, is one of the "has beens" of the camp. In early days it was a good producer, but through leasing and bad management it has been stripped and considerable outlay will be necessary before work on it can be resumed.

The Little Denver, adjoining the Keystone, was a good one, but when the surface was washed off, there was little left as an inducement for future work.

The Conger, on Conger ridge, has two well defined ledges, showing much regularity and continuity throughout the tunnels, which are 150 and 200 feet. Ore has been taken from this property running several hundred dollars to the ton. It is being worked under lease by Howell and McIntyre.

A tunnel has just been started for the Bison ledge, but nothing beyond assessment work will be done this season.

On the Sam Jackson group, recently purchased by the Dixie Mining and Smelting company, work has been started on a 400-foot tunnel.

The Copper King group, owned by United States Marshal Houser, is being developed by a tunnel.

On the Willie Boy group a tunnel to tap the ledge at good depth has been started.

The Copperopolis has built a road in to its property and erected buildings on the claims.

F. S. McDede has a very promising

claim on Wickieup creek, on which he is running a tunnel.

John Myrdal has a very promising copper claim, on which he is pushing work. He has several feet of copper assaying 18 per cent, with good values in gold.

Lee Bernard has done some work on two copper claims and has started a cross-cut tunnel to gain depth. The surface showing is good, the rock showing horse-flesh and chalcopryrites of copper.

The largest and most promising group in the district is the Sherbondy property, owned and operated by Byron Sherbondy. There are four claims in the group, so situated that they can be mined at great depth with a tunnel. The croppings show a ledge of over 100 feet in width that can be traced for several hundred feet. The principal work is a 350-foot crosscut tunnel that shows up large bodies of high grade copper ore. There is an eight-foot streak of porphyry, interlaced with mineral, that gives an average assay of \$28. The ore in the main ledge runs from \$40 to \$113 and as high as 84 ounces of silver has been obtained, but with depth the silver disappears and the gold values increase. The copper is mostly black oxide, with some pyrites and horse flesh. There are a number of open cuts and shafts, showing up the property thoroughly. The development under way now is a tunnel recently started, to tap a ledge upon which little work has been done, but which has an excellent surface showing. They expect to cut the ledge before the first of the year.

There are several other similar properties in the camp, but little beyond location work has been done on some, while others are worked out. The owners of the properties have no conception of their actual values and hold them so high that men with money will not bother with them. Prospects on which there is absolutely no showing are held at \$2000, and old worked out claims as high as \$3000. There is not a stamp mill worthy of the name in the district. There is some talk of a smelter, but it is considered the dreamings of promoters who wish to profit from it.

#### From Orphan Asylum to Governor.

Ex-Governor A. H. Burke, of North Dakota, at present United States land office inspector, with the whole country as his territory, was in town yesterday. He had just come in from Burns, where he had been looking into the affairs of the land office there. The long stage ride over bad roads had knocked him out and he laid up here a day for repairs, leaving in the afternoon for the Sound. Governor Burke is the best type of a self made man, a splendid gentleman. He was an inmate of an orphan asylum, a waif on the streets of New York city, one of the youngest volunteers in the Union army, rising to the rank of captain, was the first governor of the state of North Dakota and made a spotless record in that position.

J. P. Wallace, general manager of the Monmouth Development company, is especially commissioned to secure large producing gold and copper mines.

All kinds of pies, cake, bread, etc., at Brechtel's bakery, opposite depot and in Neill building. Orders promptly filled.

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

Something to depend upon—Giant powder.

Always reliable—Giant powder.

## BIG STRIKE IN THE LEO

### Strong Ledge Assaying \$32.20 to the Ton.

A rich strike was made last week at the Leo group of claims, situated on Beaver creek, about two miles from Alimo post-office. This mine has been in charge of W. R. Ball, who is part owner.

The strike was made on a ledge that was discovered about two weeks ago, and shows some fine ore on the surface. They have made an open cut across the ledge from eight to ten feet and have found no hanging wall yet. An average sample from the ledge assayed values amounting to \$32.20. There are three or four ledges on the property of five claims, and all of them give good values. The width of the ledges on an average is ten feet.

Owners of the mine had a 125 foot tunnel run this summer, which shows up three strong ledges that average \$4.00 a ton at a depth of fifty feet.

This property is only one of a hundred prospects in this district that is going to make large mines in the near future. A four or five hundred-foot tunnel will be driven on the Leo this winter, that will tap every ledge in the mountain.

About a mile from this property, in the Jerome, on the Little Beaver, L. C. Wilson, one of the owners, uncovered a rich lead last week.

#### Inventor of the Garvin Stack Furnace.

John C. Garvin, formerly of Denver, but for the past three years an operator in the northern camps, Alaska and British Columbia, was in town yesterday. He will make Baker City his headquarters for some weeks, visiting the different mines, in the several districts where the cyanide and chlorination process is employed, for the purpose of introducing the Garvin stack furnace, invented by himself. He claims for it some striking advantages, especially its cheapness in the treatment of ores in connection with the cyanide process. Mr. Garvin says a number of the mines in eastern Oregon produce ores for which his roaster is especially adapted.

#### Swiggett-Potter Nuptials.

L. V. Swiggett and Miss Flora Potter were married this afternoon, Rev. Mr. Shannon officiating. Their intention to be married today was known to but few of their friends. They left at once for the east and will be gone several months. L. V. Swiggett goes to Boston and other eastern centers of congested finance, for the purpose of floating a mining deal or two. He spent some weeks on the Atlantic coast last summer investigating this matter and now hopes to consummate a good deal.

#### MUSICALE AND BAZAAR.

##### Delightful Entertainment Friday Evening for Benefit of Methodist Church.

The musicale and bazaar to be given by the ladies and friends of the Methodist Episcopal church Friday evening at Ellis opera house, is occupying the time and energies of a large corps of workers. Miss Ina B. Wright, the gifted vocalist, of Baker City, will delight the music loving people with some selections. Pleasing features of the evening will be the Daisies' dance, by twelve little tots in costume, and the drill of the Japanese girls with umbrellas. Every number will be worth the price of admission.

The Japanese booth will be in charge of

Miss Anna Myers, assisted by twelve young girls in Japanese costume.

Misses Emma Worswick and Edna Van Duyn will have charge of the doll booth, where will be found pretty dressed dolls of all sizes.

Miss Edna Miller, at the candy booth, will offer for sale delicious home made candies.

The refreshment table will be in charge of Mesdames Hamilton and Shannon.

At the domestic booth will be found articles both ornamental and useful for the busy housewife.

Articles suitable for Christmas presents may be found in the various booths.

#### DIADEM CONTRACT LET.

##### Wire Received From Butte to This Effect Last Evening

General Warren telegraphed last evening from Butte that the provisions of the contract with Charles Bonner to drive a 600-foot tunnel on the Diadem had been approved by the syndicate that is putting up the money for the work, and the papers in the transaction executed. Mr. Bonner will probably go out to the mine tomorrow and get ready to begin operations. J. T. Pardee left for Butte last week and this is the result of his conference with the Montana capitalists. It is said that he recently succeeded in reorganizing the company, and now has associated with him in the ownership August Heinze, the famous Montana copper man.

The contract with Mr. Bonner is for a 600-foot tunnel, which is to be driven on the ledge. Five months are given for completion of the work, and the contractor may use his own discretion as to the number of men to be employed. This will progress rapidly, as the formation is very loose. Much talk is found in the vein, and the country rock, while of the slate species, is reported more decomposed than in the Bonanza district, and therefore more easily handled. Removal of it will be of less difficulty than timbering the tunnel.

When the tunnel reaches a point under the shaft there will be 300 feet of backs. There upraises will be made to block out whatever ore lies between the tunnel and the surface. If this work develops the material now expected, construction of a mill and other preparatory work for operations will commence immediately. Diadem ore is easily crushed and runs high in free gold. From tests made near the surface it is estimated that at least 75 per cent of the ore values will be saved on the plates.

#### Cobalt Does Pass Into the Matte.

The question as to whether or not cobalt, as it is combined with other metals in United States Marshal Houser's Standard mine, will pass into matte has been discussed much of late by scientific men. C. R. Townsend, assayer at the smelter here, has reduced 300 pounds of this ore at the little iron furnace operated by Valentine & Co. down on the railroad track, and demonstrated that the cobalt does pass into the matte. The 300 pounds of ore were reduced to thirty of matte, which assays high in gold, silver, copper and cobalt. Mr. Townsend desires THE MINER to state that he is prepared to demonstrate with this little furnace whether or not the small per cent of lead in Cable Cove ores will pass into the matte, carrying the gold values with it; which he will do, with from 100 to 500 pounds of ore, at the cost of the experiment, about twenty dollars.

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