

THE SUMPTER MINER

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BEGINNING TO BUILD.

ACTIVITY IN THIS LINE IS NOW MANIFESTED.

Brick Hotel to be Rushed to Early Completion—O'Rourke and Newlands Will Erect a Business Block on Granite Street—Numerous Small Buildings Going up—All to Supply Actual Demands.

Contractor David Wilson is expected to return in a few days, when work on the new hotel will be resumed and carried to completion. The sudden burst of spring weather has caused new life and activity in all lines of business, including building matters.

Preliminary arrangements are about completed for the erection of a new store building adjoining the Sumpter Drug company on Granite street, to be occupied by O'Rourke & Newlands as a general market place for the sale of groceries, provisions, fruits, meats, fish and game. Cold meat storage facilities will be provided and the public furnished with every thing in the line of edibles to be had in a large city.

J. B. Stoddard says 36,000 feet of lumber has been ordered for this building, which is to be 25x80.

G. E. Allen will build a handsome new residence, for which the lumber order has been placed.

L. J. Hazelwood is finishing the small building on the corner of Mill and Auburn streets, opposite the Griffin hotel, which has been rented by a new comer, whose name is unknown, for business purposes.

The building adjoining the Neill Mercantile company on Mill street has been remodeled and will be occupied by a new mining brokerage firm and the Wisconsin Gold Mining company.

The Sumpter Lumber company has secured other lumber orders for residences and improvements, to be delivered at once. Mr. Stoddard reports the shipment of eight cars of lumber in the past week and six cars more to go immediately. Heavy orders for mining timbers for the Golconda, Bald Mountain, Quebec and various other mines are making things lively at the mill.

New people have been coming in recently in large numbers, many of whom are securing homes and places for small business, until every available house in town has been taken. All this beginning of a busy and prosperous year has come about without much mention or attention being paid to it, but has been predicted by THE MINER, based on the large number of enquiries it has received and answered during the last few months. This paper is conscious of having done its duty in this regard and is honest in believing there will be an unprecedented rush of new people to Sumpter and the various mining districts tributary this season.

High Grade Gold Mining Company.

O. C. McLeod has finally succeeded in landing that High Grade deal, on which he has been working for several months past. Owing to some trouble about the title to the property, the consummation of the transaction was long delayed. He has organized in Portland the High Grade Gold Mining company, with Hon. D. M. Watson, president; T. W. Younger, vice-president; Hon. Dell Stewart, secretary and attorney; J. E. Morson, assis-

tant secretary; W. A. Holt, treasurer. The latter is teller of Wells, Fargo & Co's bank. The directors are the above named, F. A. Knapp, foreman of the Southern Pacific shops, George Sulzer, a Minneapolis lumberman, W. W. McCreeley and O. C. McLeod. The president is master mechanic of the Southern Pacific. Some very rich ore has been taken from the ledge on this property.

FIRST BANK WINS THE CASE.

Jury Awards Verdict Against Owners of the Ibez Mine.

Last evening the jury awarded a verdict to the plaintiff in the case of the First Bank of Sumpter against E. N. Briggs and Arthur Hill, which had been on trial in the Circuit court in Baker City for several days. Attorney Richards, of Sumpter, represented the bank and Attorney Johns, of Baker City, the defendants.

This is the case in which Simcoe Chapman, agent for Messrs. Hill and Briggs in the management of the Ibez mine, made a draft for \$3,000 under power of Attorney, as he had been accustomed to doing for months past, which draft was protested.

These gentlemen and their agents had had some misunderstanding, which was the reason for not honoring the draft. Their defense in court was that Mr. Chapman applied the money to his individual uses; but of course, the bank case was not affected by this plea. The general supposition is that Mr. Chapman scented a freeze out game and secured this money to protect himself. In the meantime the First Bank of Sumpter was "holding the sack."

Messrs. Hill and Briggs are expected here today or tomorrow, when they will go out to the Ibez and inspect the property. It is thought that some definite policy will then be adopted for handling this rich property; either to continue development, or sell.

Basche Hardware Co.'s Improvements.

The Basche Hardware company has put in the latest thread cutting machine and a four-horse power Pelton water motor to operate it. The machine will cut the outer thread on any size pipe from one to six inches. Shortly another machine will be installed to cut inside threads. A traveling crane, to be operated by this same water power, will be put in right away, to handle heavy piping and other goods. M. E. Swan has fitted up a display piece to show what can be done in the plumbing line by the house, that looks like a Christmas tree, with its steam whistles, cocks and other brasses used in the business. The Basche company is prepared for the largest business in its many years of existence. The large warehouses on the railroad tracks are stocked to the rafters with goods and more are daily arriving.

Brass Band Financial Statement.

At the request of some subscribers, the Sumpter brass band management submits the following statement of its finances. Receipts, cash from citizens, \$60.30; from members, \$17.50; loaned by the Bank of Sumpter, \$35.10; total \$112.90. Disbursements, music, \$5.60; instruments, \$96.50; freight, \$9.15; lights, \$1.50; total the same; bills payable, \$24. Other instruments are needed which will cost \$35.

See those new shirts at Neill Mercantile Co.

Always reliable—Giant powder.

ON SCHEDULE TIME.

Every Indication of the Arrival of Spring.

The warm weather and sunshine of the past few days have melted much snow, and down every incline, especially in the streets of this camp, streams of water have been rushing.

This has been the occasion of considerable comment among weather experts, the general opinion being that this is an "early" spring. This may be the case in the experience of those who arrived here along with "the west wing of Price's army," but not so with those who drifted in with the crowd a year and a half ago. In THE MINER of a year ago, dated March 7, the statement is made that the snow had disappeared except from places sheltered from the sun's rays.

This is not the case today. There is still a foot of snow remaining in the valleys and the hills are still covered deep in their white winter mantle. The roads, however, except near the summit, are free from snow and wheels have largely taken the place of runners.

Merchants report that the distinctively spring trade has commenced. Prospectors are outfitting for the season's work, and that is even higher authority on the subject than either the goose quill or the condition of furs.

J. J. Hinton came in Sunday from the placer mine of Thomson, Lambert & Stuart, on Three Cent gulch, near town, where he is working. He reports that every twelve hours they use the water is good for \$100. The day before coming in he took out a \$2.50 nugget in a pan of dirt. Placer mining is now in operation generally all over the country, as the early warm weather has been the means of melting the snows until plenty of water is now running. The Goss brothers and several others started work on their various placers east of Sumpter, on Elk creek, several days ago and good reports are coming from there. It is rumored that the big placers of A. W. Ellis, across the river from town, will be put in operation soon.

Developing the Burnt Cabin Group.

A. F. McDeed writes THE MINER from Quartzberg encouraging news about the Burnt Cabin group, which he has been developing this winter. In starting a crosscut tunnel to cut a north and south ledge, he chanced to run square into a blind lead with an east and west trend. This he has now followed sixty-five feet and expects within the next twenty feet to encounter the vein which he started out to cut. Still further on, he says, there is another and stronger ledge. The ore in this blind lead, on which he has been drifting, carries good values in gold and copper and occasionally he encounters a kidney of galena. The group consists of three claims, which has four known ledges, all of which carry values. The tunnel now being driven cuts all of these, giving all the backs one could wish for. He has ten tons of good ore on the dump.

New Buildings for the Gipsy King.

At the monthly meeting of the directors of the Gipsy King Gold Mines company, held yesterday in Sumpter, it was decided to send out a crew of men at once to erect what buildings will be required for the miners' quarters when active development shall begin in a short time, to continue indefinitely thereafter. Sufficient funds are now on hand from the sale of treasury

shares to begin this work and by the time the snow has melted enough to warrant going on with practical mining without wasting time and money, the management expects to go at things actively and but a short time should pass until the Gipsy King can give a good account of itself.

A. W. Ellis' Window Shade Invention.

That window shade device invented by A. W. Ellis is possessed of real merit. Its great advantage over any other now on the market is that the shade can be rolled up from the bottom, lowered from the top, or both at the same time. Every one knows that this is a convenience in a window shade arrangement that they have often longed for. Mr. Ellis now has one in operation at his home on North street. Like all such devices, it is simple in construction and the observer wonders why he hadn't thought of the idea himself. The ordinary shade and fixtures are used with this attachment.

More Mining Machinery Arrives.

The Sumpter Transportation company started a wagon for the Bonanza mine today with an immense boiler, weighing 17,500 pounds. It was transferred from the car to the big truck yesterday. There is also at the depot for the Bonanza a carload of other machinery, consisting of a stack, piping and smaller parts. The compressor plant for the Golconda has arrived in Baker City and is expected to reach here today.

Jones Family Reunion at Shoshone.

Al Jones and wife returned Monday from Shoshone, Idaho, where they spent a week at a family reunion of Mr. Jones' mother, five brothers and two sisters eight in all, who were scattered ever the west and as far east as Nebraska. One of the brothers and the mother live at Shoshone, where the former is in the sheep business. Al returned improved in health, and says his mother who was very ill is also getting better.

Railroad Bridge Washed Out.

The Saturday afternoon train due in Sumpter at 3:05 was halted a short distance east of McEwen, owing to the Stoddard bridge being washed out, necessitating a transfer of passengers and baggage. With their usual luck, the Sumpter Valley people had an engine and caboose on this side of the bridge, which was at once put in use, bringing the passengers here.

Knights of Pythias Lodge Forming Here.

A local lodge of Knights Pythias, with a charter membership list of twenty-five or thirty, will be installed here in a few days. The list is in the hands of Brig. Ballentine and those who have intended signing same and have not done so, can see him within the next three or four days, before same is sent away.

The Capital Hotel is again under the management of Mrs. George B. Tedrowe, which fact guarantees the best of service to all patrons.

Those who know the comforts of a good hotel, always patronize The Capital; Mrs. G. B. Tedrowe, proprietor.

Only the best brands of liquors and cigars at the Club saloon of Dunphy & Gertridge.

See Neill Mercantile Co. for shoes.

See Neill Mercantile Co. for clothing.

Mining deeds for sale at this office.

Never fails—Giant powder.