

**ENTHUSIASTIC IOWAN.**

**Says the Sunrise Will be Continuously Developed.**

Emile Felgner, after remaining five days in and around Sumpter, left Monday for his home in Dubuque, Iowa, going first to the coast. He is one of the largest eastern stockholders in the Sunrise Mining company and the object of his Western trip was to inspect that property. He spent two days on the property, sampling the ledge in the shaft from top to bottom, it being all in ore, and walking over the hogback on which this ledge is exposed at intervals for a distance of 5000 feet.

On his return from the Sunrise, Mr. Felgner stated to a Miner man that he was more than pleased with the property; that before examining it he could not convince himself that he had gotten in on a really good thing on the proverbial, bedrock, ground floor figures, but that then he was convinced that the Sunrise is just what it had been represented to him in the prospectus and correspondence with Seymour Bell and W. C. Calder, who are directing the affairs of the company.

He expressed himself as entirely satisfied with the way both the money and the work had been handled, and stated that he thought there is no doubt but that all the capital necessary for the immediate, continuous and extensive development of the Sunrise would be forthcoming from himself and associates, as it shall be needed.

THE MINER learns from a reliable source, however, that the gentleman from the Hawk Eye state did raise quite a row around the company's offices in this camp because, as he expressed it, the local managers "had been giving the stock away at three and four cents." This information is corroborated by the fact that the Sunrise company has announced that it will raise the price of its treasury stock from four to ten cents September 15.

The farming community of Powder river valley was visited by Mr. Felgner, in company with W. C. Calder, Sunday, after having inspected some of the producing mines in several of the surrounding districts, and he was even more enthusiastic over the realized possibilities of that section than he was over our mineral resources—doubtless because he knows more about agriculture than he does of the great, royal industry of mining for precious metals. On this subject he said:

"The one great drawback to this eastern Oregon country of yours is that it is too easy for its inhabitants to make a living; they get lazy and quit working. Take either your rich farmers or prospective millionaire miners back east and turn them loose broke and they would starve to death in six months. You people out here can form no conception of how intense competition has grown there in every field of human endeavor."

**WAGE SYSTEM THE BEST.**

**In Working Mines it has Stood the Test of Ages.**

Considerable discussion is taking place as to the value of the contract system. By some it is lauded as a panacea of all troubles so far as getting a good day's work out of a miner. The advantages of leasing are also dilated upon. Both systems are compared favorably with the day labor system. In discussing the various systems it is too frequently the case that the disputants become special pleaders for the system

they may be advocating and claim more than they really believe. This is incidental to all argument. However, so far as the various systems of working a mine are concerned, it is well known that none of the systems are of modern origin; all have stood the test of time, and all have their advantages under certain conditions. It is certainly not a good business policy to become wedded to one particular method of work and force it into one's business regardless of whether it is really the best policy. One can frequently see all three systems of mining work, contract, leasing and day labor, all working in the same district, and not unfrequently in the same mine. Each is possibly doing all that can be expected. It will therefore seem that each system possesses some merit not possessed by the others.

Take the leasing system for example: it is often the case that a mine contains some old workings practically worked out. By day labor it is difficult to secure good service on account of the difficulty of supervision and the expense of timbering and so fourth. In such a case the leasing system becomes by far the cheapest and more satisfactory. On the other hand, in the actively worked portions of the mine few mine managers would adopt such a system. The output is too irregular, and the manager loses a great deal of his control over the workings. Altogether it is unsatisfactory.

It is undoubtedly the fact that both the leasing and contract system act as an incentive to the workers. On the other hand, they both require much more effective supervision and in both, unpleasant and efficiency destroying quarrels may more frequently arise, especially if the men are not quite making ordinary wages. In spite of the drawbacks, the two systems have advantages in particular cases far outweighing day labor.

When it comes down to a system which is universally applicable, no system can approach that of day labor in conjunction with a perfect system of cost keeping. Good wages, fair treatment and close attention to costs are after all, hard to beat. A fact frequently overlooked is that no system of work is possible unless it meets with the concurrence of the employes. The worker sells his labor in the best market, comfort being reckoned as a portion of his wages. A system in which he does not concur will inevitably result in men leaving such a system and seeking a place where they are more satisfied. The manager will possibly lose many good men. A system good for both employer and employe will frequently meet with opposition from the latter. There is nothing to be gained by attempting to force it upon him. Tact has to be used and the change, if made at all, made gradually. It is essential that, in any system, the hearty concurrence of the workers be assured. This is true whether of contract, leasing or day labor, and it is folly to become hidebound and to try to force a square peg to fit a round hole.—Mining Reporter.

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Notice on page 10 what THE MINER offers immediate subscribers.

T. G. Harrison, agent for Giant powder company.

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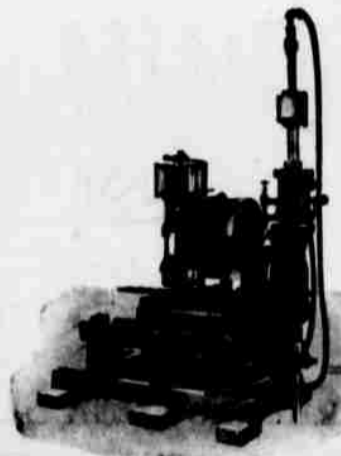
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