



THE SUMPTER MINER

BEGIN WORK ON SMELTER.

ORDERS RECEIVED TO QUARRY STONE AND BURN BRICK.

Last Payment Made on Site—Contracts Secured For Daily Supply of Ore—Proposed Capacity of Sampler Will be Doubled and Probably That of Smelter Also—Shy on Ore Bonus Asked.

Word was received here Monday by Professor Eberman from Dr. Mueller, now in Baltimore, to begin at once getting out stone and burning brick for the smelter.

Last week the final payment was made to J. W. Braun for the site, consisting of 160 acres of land adjoining town on the south.

These two facts indicate very clearly that the efforts of the gentlemen who are promoting this most important and beneficial of all enterprises in eastern Oregon have been crowned with success and that before the close of the present year our ores can be treated here at home, without giving all that the smelters leave to the transportation companies.

The new brickyard is on ground owned by the smelter people and paid for, as stated above. Work will be commenced in a few days building the first kiln, which will contain one million brick. The stone for the foundations, granite, will be quarried near where the smelter will be located, and this work also will be started at an early day.

The MINER is informed that Dr. Mueller and his associates have experienced little or no difficulty in raising all the money necessary for this proposition; that, as a matter of fact, the stock offered for sale has been largely over subscribed, and the difficulty now confronting them is to make a satisfactory allotment. Capitalists of Iowa, Milwaukee and Baltimore have become interested in the company.

Already contracts have been secured for a daily supply of ore sufficient to tax the capacity of a 100-ton smelter, and so rapid is development work being pushed throughout the district that the management now has under consideration the problem of whether or not it would be wise to double the proposed capacity from the start. So far as the automatic sampling plant is concerned, this has already been decided, and it will be capable of handling 400 tons a day, instead of 200, as was first proposed. The sampler will be erected first, so that ore can be purchased and a large stock accumulated by the time the smelter is ready to treat it, not later than January 1, 1903.

There has been an unaccountable reluctance on the part of mine owners in contributing ore to the bonus asked for,

and the 3000 tons have not yet been subscribed. On its own authority, THE MINER suggests that nine owners will find it a profitable investment to get their names on this list of those who have aided the great industry by donating a small quantity of ore. Though it is generally conceded that a corporation has no soul, it is nevertheless true that the management is endowed with human attributes, and nothing can be lost by such an evidence of good will.

Messrs. Mueller and Eberman have a banquet "coming" to them from this town.

Golconda's Great Rich Ore Body.

Mayor Robbins and J. A. Howard returned from the Golconda last evening, bringing with them several hundred pounds of the rich ore recently uncovered there. An interesting interview accorded the writer by these gentlemen today would fill this page, were it done justice; but lack of time and space forbids more than a brief notice here. Superintendent Meikle has demonstrated the accuracy of his theory, that this rich pay shoot dips at an angle of fully forty-five degrees. He has uncovered it at a point 250 feet distant from where it was encountered in the 200-foot level, 100 feet from the surface, and traced it to an outcropping 300 feet further up the mountain side. Knowing its direction and dip, he is driving for it on both the 400 and 500-foot levels. If it is found where he estimates it will be, then this marvelously rich ore body will be proven for a distance of 1200 feet, will supply the 20-stamp mill for five years and the Golconda will unquestionably be the most valuable mine the world has ever known.

Snow Creek Deal Consummated.

Arthur Brown returned several days since from Portland, where he went with Mr. and Mrs. A. G. Pratt, of Hammondsport, New York. To day he stated to a MINER representative that the deal for the Snow Creek group, mention of which was made in these columns last week, has been closed, and the money paid. He will go to the property tomorrow and survey it, in order to more intelligently plan the development work, which will be done by tunnel; 300 feet crosscut and 400 on the ledge, he thinks; but can't state accurately until the survey is made. Mr. Brown will remain here and personally superintend the work.

Off For Fort Hall Reservation.

Eugene Bartholf and Wm. Rummery left the other day for Pocatello, Idaho, to be on the ground at the opening of the Fort Hall reservation, on the seventeenth. They expect to return the last of the month. Mrs. Bartholf accompanied her husband. Several years ago when a lot of prospectors invaded this reservation and were driven off by United States soldiers, Mr. Bartholf was one of those "sooners." At that time he made several discoveries, and he hopes to legally locate them at this time. He says they showed very promising ledges.

TALK OF THE TOWN.

G. M. Weigel, the baker, left Saturday for his home at Vancouver, accompanied by his son.

Judge C. G. Leyburn, a prominent attorney of Minneapolis, is spending a few days in Sumpter.

Miss Amy Haines, of Baker City, is the guest of Mrs. A. W. Ellis, at her home on North street.

Mrs. I. D. Haines, of Baker City, who has been visiting with Mrs. Spaulding, returned home Saturday.

The Knights of Pythias have issued invitations to a ball to be given at Ellis opera house on the evening of Friday, June 13.

C. H. Fisher, the man who sells "all kinds" of mining machinery in eastern Oregon, is spending a few days in Sumpter.

L. H. Start, the mining man, left here Saturday for Alaska, where he will prospect the country between Yakutat and Copper river.

Professor James Hammond, of the New York School of Science, is in Sumpter collecting specimens of woods, insects and ores.

Miss Helen Hayden, of St. Joe, Missouri, arrived in Sumpter this forenoon, to spend the summer with her aunt, Mrs. McCammon.

Mrs. Brock and Miss Jessie reached home yesterday from Salt Lake, where they have been for some months past, the latter attending school. Dr. Brock went to Baker City to meet them.

Mr. and Mrs. S. S. Start and little son left Monday afternoon for Elgin, Iowa, in response to a telegram announcing the serious illness of Mrs. Start's sister. S. S. will return in less than a month.

L. V. Swiggett and wife returned a few days since from the Atlantic seaboard. Mr. Swiggett says he thinks he has turned another mining deal, and will know for sure in a few weeks, when his people arrive to examine the property.

At a meeting of the directors of the Constellation Gold Mining company, held last Wednesday evening, these officers were elected: H. S. McCallum, president; C. H. McCulloch, secretary; John Cupid, vice president; J. D. Goss, treasurer.

Thomas F. Barbee returned Monday from the east, Iowa and Salt Lake, where he has spent most of the winter. He says air drills will be installed in the Crown Point at an early day, and that the long tunnel will be pushed into the main ledge by August 15.

R. E. Strahorn Sees Encouraging Signs.

R. E. Strahorn is spending a week in Sumpter, giving his personal attention to the extensive improvements now being made in the water works. He says that water will be turned into the sup-

plemental reservoir, at the head of Pole creek, in about two weeks. There is a very much heavier wash there than was expected, it having been found necessary to dig down twenty feet to get a bedrock foundation. Mr. Strahorn thinks that now, the election being over with, certain enterprises that will be of great benefit to this town, which he has already talked of, can now be taken up and carried to a successful issue. He says that the disposition of citizens to improve their homes and build better ones is the most encouraging indication of a good town and a permanently prosperous mining district that can possibly be asked for. That is what Sumpter people are now doing to a gratifying extent.

F. W. Bradley Buys The Ibez.

It is reported that F. W. Bradley, of San Francisco, who owns a controlling interest in the Bunker Hill and Sullivan mine, in Idaho, the Badger, in the Susanville district, and the Tacoma smelter, has bought the Ibez, about seven miles from Sumpter, the most extensively developed mine in eastern Oregon not equipped with a reduction plant. Mr. Bradley is one of the best known mining engineers in the west, and is reported to be the only man in America who is competent to intelligently expert a great property and has the money to pay for it, if it looks good to him. The fact that he is buying mines in this district is altogether encouraging.

New York Banker in Sumpter.

George W. Wheeler, senior member of the firm of Wheeler & Co., bankers and brokers of New York, arrived in Sumpter this forenoon. Mr. Wheeler is financing the Blue Bird Mining company, owning a group of claims adjoining the Red Boy. He will make his first visit to the property tomorrow. He says he is prepared to do anything that is necessary to make a producing mine of the Blue Bird, and will decide at an early day what work will be necessary to attain this end. Mr. Wright, one of the locators and owners, went to Baker City to meet Mr. Wheeler, but missed him. They will go to the mine together tomorrow.

C. Y. Burr Found Dead.

C. Y. Burr was found dead in his home on Sumpter street last evening. He had been around town during the day. Death resulted from a complication of heart and kidney troubles. It is reported that he has about \$7000 insurance on his life, in fraternal orders principally. His only known relative is a sister, who lives in Portland. It is also reported that C. W. James, of Baker City, is named as the beneficiary in at least one of the policies. He has been his friend for years and paid his dues and premiums. Coroner Snow came up from Baker City this morning and held an inquest, the verdict being that the cause of death was heart failure.

Mining deeds for sale at this office.