



# THE SUMPTER MINER

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## TO RUSH WORK ON THE SMELTER

### DR. MUELLER RETURNED FROM THE EAST YESTERDAY.

**Plant Will be as Perfect as Can be Built—  
Necessary Funds Secured and Super-  
intendent of Construction Engaged—  
Machinery Manufacturers Figuring on  
Contracts—Preliminary Plans Prepared  
—Men Who "Pay the Freight" Will  
Arrive in a Few Days—There is  
Another "Hen On."**

Dr. E. W. Mueller returned to Sumpter yesterday from an extended trip east, as far as Baltimore and New York, where he went on business pertaining to the smelter, which he, Professor Eberman, Killen, Warner & Stewart have successfully promoted. He announces that he will make Sumpter his home in future, and devote all of his time towards rushing to early completion the big customs reduction plant and operating it after it is finished.

The preliminary plans for the smelter have been drafted and machinery manufacturers are now preparing bids to be submitted at an early date. While east Dr. Mueller consulted with builders of smelters in Denver, Milwaukee and Chicago, securing information regarding the most approved modern machinery. He leaves today for Spokane on a similar mission, returning the latter part of the week, and will soon have to make another trip to Denver, on the same business.

The machinery required will amount to about 100 tons. No dates as to when the first shipment will arrive, when ground will be broken or when operations will begin can now be given; but Mr. Mueller says that everything will be rushed as rapidly as possible; that when it is completed it will be as perfect and up-to-date a 200-ton smelting plant and 400-ton sampler as it is possible to build, and that the money to pay for it is provided. One of the best known and most successful smelter builders in this country has been engaged as superintendent of construction and he, with his family, will arrive in Sumpter at an early day and establish a home here. Shortly after his arrival the work of grading for the foundation will be commenced.

Out at the brick yard 15,000 brick are being moulded every day and by next Monday fires will be started in the first kiln, of 200,000. Others will be built and burned without delay.

Within a few days the eastern capitalists who have furnished the money for this enterprise will visit Sumpter; Dr. Mueller says for the purpose of holding a director's meeting and electing permanent officers of the company. They will

very probably do so, but that is not what brings them some thousands of miles from home. They are coming here to investigate another, a bigger proposition, regarding the nature of which none of the gentlemen connected with the enterprise will give the slightest intimation—will not even acknowledge that there is another "hen on."

These people are large capitalists, prominent in the financial world, and have the means to carry through to success any enterprise that they may undertake, installing a great electric power plant, buying the Sumpter Valley road, or building one of their own.

### Big Cleanup at Buck Gulch Placers.

Yesterday W. R. Hawley displayed \$600 worth of gold dust taken from the first five sluice boxes on his Buck Gulch placers. A week or ten days since he took \$800 from the same boxes. There are sixteen in all, eleven of which have not yet been touched. The cleanup of bedrock and all the sluice boxes will be made in a week or ten days, when, it is thought, several thousand dollars worth of gold will be secured. Messrs. Hawley and Amos and Joe Weaver bought this property from Devore & Asbury last fall, and increased the water supply by digging a ditch a mile and a half long. He thinks he will take out enough gold this year to pay for the property and improvements. The former owners worked the ground, with a limited water supply, for a number of years, taking out from \$2,000 to \$3,000 in about six weeks that water was available. And there are other such opportunities all around Sumpter, waiting for men of enterprise and some money.

### Found a \$400 Pocket of Gold.

Monday the First Bank of Sumpter bought \$400 worth of gold taken from a pocket found in a quartz ledge. Cashier Roy Miller declined to state from what property it was taken, but said it was found not far from Sumpter. It is one of the interesting human nature studies displayed in mining camps, that no one wishes any publicity given to the fact when he finds a pocket, and the bank which buys the gold maintains a professional secrecy akin to that imposed upon a physician—under certain conditions. This particular lot, as is the usual character of pocket gold, is porous and light, only about one-third the weight of the same bulk of nuggets.

### Needs More Powerful Sucking Plant.

J. M. McPhee returned from Seaside last week, where he had been with his sick wife. He has decided to replace the sinking and pumping plant on the Wizzard with much more powerful machinery, as the one now there is not capable of operating both the pumps and a cage, which will have to be put in at no distant day, as it is the intention of the company to erect a mill in a few months. General Manager McPhee says a large body of ore has been uncovered, that runs from eight to twelve dollars.

## RESUME WORK ON THE DIADEM

### General Warren and Governor Spriggs Arrive From Butte for That Purpose.

General Charles S. Warren and Hon. A. E. Spriggs, arrived in Sumpter this forenoon from Butte, Montana. They, with A. L. McEwen and W. C. Calder, left at 12 o'clock for the Diadem mine. The General says that work will soon be resumed on this property, and done right this time.

Instead of continuing the tunnels, a shaft will be sunk, and it will soon be determined whether or not the Diadem is the making of a mine, or is merely a bunch of rich stringers. Several car loads of ore have been shipped from the Diadem that sampled about \$127. Two years ago, when General Warren first took charge of the property, he had about 500 pounds of the ore in his office here, and made the standing offer that if any one could find a piece of rock in the entire lot that would assay less than \$100, he would be given \$100. No one ever won the money.

This A. E. Spriggs, who accompanies the General on this trip, is the nervy thoroughbred who, two or three years ago, when lieutenant governor of Montana, during the temporary absence of Governor Smith, appointed W. A. Clark United States senator, a few hours after he had been deprived of his seat in that body, after that long, sensational trial, with which all are familiar. Mr. Spriggs is here at this time as the representative of the Butte stockholders in the Diadem. They now own 700,000 shares of the stock and will open up the mine. He was in Sumpter July 4, three years ago, when there was so much snow in the Cable Cove district that he couldn't get to the California mine, and that is why Montana people don't own that great property today.

He looks after the mining interests of H. L. French, one of Montana's millionaires, who is reputed to back Patsy Clark, the big operator at Republic, in any deal he chooses to go into.

General Warren has recently returned from Tonopah, Nevada. He says that is a great mining camp, but the most God-forsaken country to live in he ever saw; that this is a paradise in comparison. Recently, when returning from a ten mile drive there, his son Wesley found three horned frogs and two lizards in his coat pocket. It is dry and hot and dusty; water is dearer than whiskey—and that is a condition of affairs that tortures the General's temperate soul. Regarding the movements of his friend and himself, he said: "Mr. Spriggs will return to Montana as soon as we get back from the Diadem,

to make his report. I will remain here some days, straightening out my business affairs. As soon as I get an opportunity, I want to have a big medicine talk with you."

### Stamp Mill For the Cracker-Oregon.

Joseph L. Michaels, of Minneapolis, president of the Turnagain Arm Mining company, which owns and operates the California mine, is in Sumpter on one of his periodical trips of inspection. It is understood that he has under consideration the problem of erecting a reduction plant on the property, probably a concentrator. Mr. Michaels is also interested, individually, in the Cracker-Oregon, though he is not an officer in the company. In this connection, Everett Brown, the local managing director, says that it has been definitely decided to put in a stamp mill on this property and that work on same will begin at an early day. The company has raised the price of Cracker-Oregon stock from fifteen to twenty-five cents per share. The change in the price was accidentally overlooked this week in the advertisement.

### President of the Baby McKee Here.

Louis Baer, of Cincinnati, president of the Baby McKee-Last Chance, came in from the mine today, accompanied by General Manager Townsend. This is Mr. Baer's first trip to eastern Oregon. He expresses himself as much pleased with the country in general and the property in which he is interested in particular. He leaves for home this afternoon. Regarding the mine and the future policy of the company, he declined to talk, referring the interviewer to Mr. Townsend. That gentleman said: "There is nothing new to report. We will continue driving the long tunnel until we cut the vein."

### Came to Sumpter to See a Big Mine.

D. W. Cassidy, Albert Dollmeyer and W. E. Nelson, of Minneapolis, were in Sumpter last Thursday and Friday. The first named two were induced to come out to eastern Oregon by Mr. Nelson to investigate the porphyry dyke proposition near Malheur City, of which mention was made in these columns two weeks since. They were entirely satisfied with the property and will join issues with Mr. Nelson and develop it. They came over into the Sumpter district for the purpose of seeing a big mine, and while here visited the Golconda.

### Work at the North Pole Extension.

W. H. Tibbals, of Salt Lake, one of gentlemen who recently bought the Yosemite group of claims from A. W. Ellis, and incorporated a company under the name of the North Pole extension, arrived in Sumpter several days since, accompanied by his expert, D. P. Rohlfing, and will soon begin active development work on the property.

The most powerful and popular explosive—Giant powder.

Best brands of cigars at Hoffman's Bakery.