

## The Sumpter Miner

PUBLISHED EVERY WEDNESDAY BY  
J. W. CONNELLA

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It is the universal opinion of well posted men that the creation of the immense, senseless forest reserve will be at least a ten year handicap imposed on this state in the march of progress. It is also believed that the whole scheme is a gigantic job concocted to give some favored timber land dealers an opportunity to make gigantic fortunes at the expense of the public.

THE entire state of Oregon has cause for self congratulation over the fact that C. S. Jackson, for many years publisher of the East Oregonian, has butted into the daily newspaper field at Portland, smashing the newspaper monopoly so long held and so dictatorially abused by Harvey Scott. Mr. Jackson has the ability and is reported to have the necessary money to make a success of the enterprise. This is a proposition he has worked on for several years past, and his friends over this way in eastern Oregon are pleased that he has finally attained the long cherished object of his ambition.

MANAGERS of the state fair at Salem and the carnival at Portland have begun their annual grand jolly of the country papers, sending out passes that can't be used, enclosed in a circular letter of verbal taffy, asking for free advertising. The paper that swallows this transparent bait is one of those creatures that a popular saw alleges is born every minute. Every body and institution connected with these more or less fake shows, except the newspapers, are paid for their services, and if the press would charge for what it does, its representatives could pay their own way and cease to be considered objects of charity, business nondescripts and social second fiddlers.

ALL the gold fields of eastern Oregon will be benefited by the action of the Red Boy Consolidated putting its dividend paying stock on the market. It will be bought by hundreds of people all over the country and the drafts for dividends which they will receive are sure to be the best advertising literature ever sent out from this state; they will constitute prima facie evidence of the fact that this is a gold producing region, which promoters have heretofore been forced to demonstrate to capitalists by elaborate proof, based on human testimony. And while the company is thus doing a good service for the entire district, it is also itself reaping a benefit, by securing money with which to quickly complete a great enterprise that will save thousands of dollars in the operation of the mine and bring in other thousands as revenue from the sale to other mines of electric power.

THE Lead and Zinc News, of St. Louis, stated yesterday, so an Associated Press dispatch reports: "What will be the greatest lead combination in this country is now nearing consummation. While its promoters are more than ordinarily reticent, it is definitely known that the scope of the merger will include most of the large white lead plants east of the Mississippi, the principal pipe and sheet lead plants, and a number of companies manufacturing products in which lead forms one of the chief components. Included in the merger will be the Union Lead & Oil company, which was organized last year by the

Ryan-Whitney coterie of capitalists, with a capital of \$10,000,000, and which controls the Bailey process of manufacturing white lead. Overtures made to induce the National Lead company to join the merger are said to be favorably looked upon by a portion of the directorate. Behind the merger are the Ryan-Whitney and American Smelting & Refining company interests. Options have been secured on a number of corrodng plants of the country, notably the Chadwick company of Boston and the Raymond company of Chicago. If the merger is completed successfully it will control the lead manufacturing interests of the country and, indirectly, through its alliances, the pig lead market. The plans of the promoters favor a corporation with a capitalization of not less than \$40,000,000. The papers will probably be filed in New Jersey during the next sixty days, although definite announcement of the status of the merger is looked for before the expiration of that time. The lead producing properties in southeastern Missouri, Colorado and the Coeur d'Alenes will not be included in this merger, but will be the basis of a second corporation, with a capitalization of not less than \$25,000,000, to be consummated after the manufacturing merger has been effected.

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