



THE SUMPTER MINER

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NO. 2.

IMPROVING CITY WATER SYSTEM

Another Dam Being Built and Ditch Dug to Increase the Supply.

Robert E. Strahorn is pushing improvements on the Sumpter water system in such a manner that in a few days the residents need have no fear of a shortage for all time to come.

The company has built a dam across Wind creek, about one mile above its junction with Powder river. From this dam a ditch conducts the water around into Pole creek, where a dam started on bedrock is built across the canyon a distance of 250 feet and is at present twenty-five feet in height. Fifteen feet more will be added to the height of this dam in time. It will be used as a storage reservoir, the fluid being drawn into the city reservoir as may be required.

Near the mouth of Wind creek, another dam is being constructed to hold all water that flows from springs between that point and the dam one mile above. In a few days this spring water will be conducted to the ditch leading to the city reservoir.

These improvements will create a water supply sufficient for a city of 4,000 people in the driest part of the year. Should the population increase, the supply can be greatly augmented by the erection of storage dams at intervals along Pole creek, of which the company owns nine miles.

Regarding the electric light plant, Mr. Strahorn states that all the machinery will be renewed very soon and the system will be put in first class condition for day and night service after these improvements are made.

PROGRESS ON THE ALAMO.

Twenty Stamp Mill to be Built When Ore Body is Struck in Lower Tunnel.

James P. McGuigan, president and general manager of the Alamo Consolidated Mining and Milling company's property, was in the city on Monday.

The lower cross cut tunnel is now in a distance of 780 feet, and it is anticipated the ledge will be penetrated in a short time.

This company own five full claims and a fraction on the north east slope of Quebec mountain at the town of Alamo, 23 miles from Sumpter.

No. 1 tunnel is near the top of the mountain and cuts the vein 75 feet in depth. From this tunnel level a raise is made to the surface and a level run on the vein 120 feet. A winze is also sunk 75 feet and a cross cut from the bottom proves the vein to be 20 feet between walls.

No. 2 tunnel is 200 feet vertically below No. 1, and follows the course of the

vein 680 feet. Numerous cross cuts show the vein to be from 25 to 30 feet wide at this point. Samples taken range in value from \$6 to \$20 in gold per ton. Over 200,000 tons of ore are blocked out above this level.

It is the intention of the company to build a 20-stamp mill near the mouth of No. 3, or the lower tunnel as soon as the ore body is opened up from that level, which will be some time this fall.

Susanville Items.

F. A. E. Starr has recently made several trips to Susanville, where he has extensive interests of considerable value. The camp has quite a prosperous appearance and only requires better transportation facilities to be a hummer. The Badger, property of the Bunker Hill & Sullivan Mining Co., of Wardner, Idaho, is now working fifty-three men. Ore is being extracted from a shaft 500 feet in depth, is crushed by rolls and concentrated. The product is auriferous galena and iron. This product is hauled by wagons to Whitney, on the S. V. Ry., for shipment to the company's smelter at Tacoma.

General Warren's Latest Venture.

General Charles S. Warren has organized the Butte-Tonopah Mining company in San Francisco. The directorate of the company are, ex-Senator Lee Mantle, of Butte, Montana; Dr. J. M. Merrill, of San Francisco, formerly identified with the Granite Mountain mines; T. L. Addie, general manager of the Tonopah Mining company; Roger Dougherty, of Tonopah, superintendent of Lease No. 2 on the Mizpah vein; D. J. McDonald, of Rosland, B. C.; Dr. F. O. Chamberlain, of Bakersfield, California, and John Gerber, of Lincoln, Colorado. The head office of the concern will be in San Francisco.

Arrastra Mine Working.

Charles S. Miller, manager for the Old Arrastra Gold Mining company, was in town last week. This company's holdings are on Granite creek, about a mile and a half east of the Cougar. Mr. Miller reports plenty of high grade grey copper ore in sight which carries considerable gold. The work on sinking the shaft has been delayed somewhat during the past week, on account of a considerable inflow of water. A new pump, of sufficient capacity, has been ordered and the work of sinking will be pushed as rapidly as possible.

Building at Golden Wizard.

J. M. McPhee, superintendent of the Golden Wizard mine, near McEwen, is in town today. He states that operations at the mine are at present confined to building. An engine house, shaft house, bunk house, barn and mill building are well under course of construction. He is also building a new road up the canyon and the Sumpter Valley railway is putting in a spur to facilitate the transportation of machinery. The new sinking plant has been ordered and will arrive by the time he is ready for it.

THAT E & E DEAL.

Latest From the South Pole and Oregon Monarch.

The recent visit of J. H. Robbins to Portland caused a rumor to be circulated that the Sumpter banker had made a deal with Jonathan Bourne for the famous E. & E. mines and plant, located in the Cracker Creek district. Mr Robbins was seen in regard to this matter by a MIXER reporter yesterday, and quite willingly gave his version of the story.

It has been an open secret for some time that Mr. Robbins has had the E. & E. property in view as a mining investment, and Mr. Bourne himself has made the statement that Mr. Robbins was negotiating for the same, but up to the present nothing has been decided. It is also well known that Alexander Baring, the London banker and owner of the celebrated North Pole mine, adjoining the E. & E., has had a desire to acquire the property, but it appears the Sumpter financier in this deal, like some others he has been in recently, moved faster than the wealthy Englishman and if any one has a call upon the E. & E., it is the Sumpter man.

Mr. Robbins states that personally he has a great deal of faith in the E. & E., but that the affairs of the company now controlling it are in such a condition that it would necessitate a law suit, or a foreclosure, which is really the same thing, to untangle the complications. Besides this, it would require a huge outlay of money to put the mine and works in proper shape. This Mr. Robbins has confidence enough to do, but does not feel justified in advising his associates to go into such a scheme at this time.

Asked as to the plans for the future development of the recently incorporated South Pole mines. The answer was that the work of running a tunnel in on the vein from the Rock creek side was now under way and preparations were being made for extensive development under direction of W. W. Robbins, the company's consulting engineer.

On the Oregon Monarch, near the Red Boy, compressed air was turned onto the Leyner drills yesterday and the long crosscut tunnel being driven to cut the several leads above is being crowded forward as fast as men and machinery can perform the work. No development has been done on the rich blind vein encountered about three weeks since in this tunnel, as it was cut so near the surface. It is the intention of the company to develop this rich find later on by sinking.

Gipsy King Sacking Ore

W. H. Mather was in from the Gipsy King on Saturday last. For some time he has been occupied with a force of men increasing the capacity of the camp preparatory for a winter's work, and en-

larging the shaft so sinking can be carried on more expeditiously. Water power has been developed to run the hoist and pump. A carload of high grade ore will be shipped soon. It is now being sacked. The Golden Rule company, near by, will work continuously during the winter.

NEIL SORENSEN GOES EAST.

Will Purchase Machinery for the Friday and Maxwell Mines.

Neil J. Sorensen, of the well known firm of Sorensen & Co., left for the east last Monday. He may not extend his visit beyond St. Paul and expects to be absent three weeks. En route, he will examine the Friday mine, at Pearl, Idaho, where an extensive strike was recently made in the lower tunnel. The quantity of ore developed in this property justifies the erection of a stamp mill to treat the same. Mr. Sorensen will purchase the plant before he returns; also let contracts for mining timbers and other necessary supplies, so that continuous work can be carried on during the winter.

Last month George W. Poague, of Fargo, North Dakota, one of the stockholders of the Friday mine, thoroughly examined the property for himself and other holders of the stock. When seen in Sumpter by a MIXER representative, Mr. Poague expressed himself as highly pleased and certainly was of the opinion that the company had a valuable mine in the Friday. The additional improvements now under way are probably due as a result of Mr. Poague's favorable report.

Mr. Sorensen will also, during his trip, purchase more stamps to add to the ten already on the Maxwell mine; also a power plant and additional concentrating machinery for this mill, which will cause the Maxwell to take rank among the extensive producers of eastern Oregon.

Work Begun on Deadwood Property.

Messrs. Bucknum and Wilson have secured the old Deadwood property, the north extension of the Morris patented claims, three and a half miles north of Greenhorn City. Last Friday a force of men and supplies were taken out to the property and active work begun. This mine has produced \$15,000 in the past. The values are seventy-five ounces of silver per ton, besides gold and copper. Fourteen tons of ore are now on the dump.

Jumbo Mine Sold.

M. K. Young, of Clifford station, was in town yesterday on business. He recently sold the Jumbo and five other claims on Pine creek to W. H. Meade, of Spokane. Mr. Meade has already commenced operations on contemplated development work. He will put in a stamp mill and other improvements at once and open up the claims on an extensive scale. Mr. Young does not give out for publication the amount he received for his claims.