



THE SUMPTER MINER

OVERLAND AND ESMERALDA

WORK RESUMED ON THESE TWO PROPERTIES.

M. E. Bain Turned the Trick While East—Reached Home Saturday—Has a Hen on That Will Hatch Out a Large, Lucious Bird for Sumpter—Worked at the Head of the Lakes.

M. E. Bain returned Saturday from a two months trip east. He first went to the state fair at Minneapolis, where he played a leading role with the Killen, Warner & Stewart aggregation, in advertising the gold fields of eastern Oregon. They had an excellent small collection of gold rock, dust and nuggets and many thousands of pieces of literature regarding our mines. They distributed the latter and showed the former as corroborative evidence of the truth of printed statements—and their own. Mr. Bain says he is sure much good was accomplished.

From there he went to the head of the lakes and, with Duluth as his headquarters, he visited the surrounding towns, in Minnesota, Wisconsin and Michigan, doing missionary work, in conjunction with Mr. Snyder, who is widely and favorably known all through that region. He says the country is prosperous and that the lumbermen are acquiring an appetite for mines.

As an evidence that he did business while away, immediately on his return he put forces of men to work on the Overland, adjoining the California, in the Cable Cove district, and the Esmeralda, Cracker Creek district.

Mr. Bain has controlled the Overland for about a year, but owing to one or two unfortunate, unavoidable complications, has not made satisfactory headway in developing the property. He says that now, however, his troubles in that direction are all over with, and he will rush that promising prospect into the list of producing mines as fast as money and work can do it. Already a good vein of ore is uncovered, from which shipments can be made with little additional work. Large ore bodies could be reached at a depth of 1000 feet, by running a 600-foot tunnel from the California lower workings.

Just before leaving for the east, Mr. Bain secured an option on a large block of Esmeralda stock. Since his return, he has taken this up and, as stated above, put men to work there, extending the present working tunnel further in the vein. At one point on the ledge there is a 35-foot shaft, the bottom of which is in three feet of ore that averages twenty-five dollars in gold per ton. Mr. Bain has one or two other big

deals on, to consummate which he will probably have to leave for the east again in about a week. One of these will be of great interest and benefit to Sumpter, particularly and directly.

On his trip west he was accompanied by C. O. Baldwin, who is here to invest money, Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Rogers, Mr. and Mrs. H. O. Swain, all of Duluth.

REPORTS FROM THE FRIDAY.

Stamp Mill Being Installed; Timbers Delivered for Underground Work.

Otto Herlocker was in Baker City Sunday and had a short talk with Neil J. Sorensen, who passed through on his way from Chicago to Portland, where he will attend the state Knights of Pythias meeting, as a representative from the Sumpter lodge. He and Mrs. Sorensen, who has been visiting friends there for several weeks, will return home Saturday or Sunday.

On his way west Mr. Sorensen stopped over at Boise and made a trip up to the Friday mine, at Pearl. He confirms the report, frequently published of late, regarding the great activity which now obtains in that camp, for which the extensive operations now being carried on at the Friday is largely responsible.

The stamp mill for that mine has been purchased and is now being installed. Stamps will be dropping at a not distant day. It has been definitely decided to sink the shaft another 100 feet, which will give a depth of 230 feet; also to run 600 feet more of levels, which will put in sight large quantities of high grade ore. Timbers for all this work have been delivered on the ground.

The superintendent of the famous Checkmate mine, which adjoins, after inspecting the Friday recently, stated that it is even a more promising mine than the Checkmate was at the same stage of development.

Elmer Cleaver Buys Half of Willie Boy.

E. E. Cleaver came in last evening from the Quartzburg district. On this trip he bought for the Copper Ridge Mining company the one-half interest of E. W. McIntire in the Willie Boy group of six claims. This property adjoins that of the Copper Ridge, which is situated next to Zoeth Houser's Standard. The ore in this ledge runs high in both gold and copper, and a big, rich mine is going to be developed there some day. Mr. Houser is now concentrating ore from the Standard at the old Laurance mill, near by. The concentrates are said to carry \$136 in gold and plenty of copper.

Timber and Homestead Filings.

Timber and homestead filings, as well as final proofs, can be made before Charles H. Chance, United States commissioner, office in First Bank of Sumpter building, Sumpter, thus saving applicants expense of a trip to La Grande.

Use Giant powder, fuse and caps.

IRRIGATION STATISTICS

Special Agent of Census Department in Sumpter.

C. J. Blanchard, special agent of the census department at Washington, is in Sumpter today. J. A. Hilliker, owner of the Monte Cristo and Goldbug groups, an old acquaintance at Minneapolis, found him at Baker City several days since and took him on a trip through the Cracker Creek district, going in from Haines. They climbed the divide this morning and came to Sumpter from Bourne.

Mr. Blanchard's mission to the Inland Empire at this time is to secure additional data for the department regarding irrigation. He is dealing entirely with facts as they exist today, and has nothing to do with the scientific side of the problem. His work is to secure facts and figures relative to the different kinds of crops grown on irrigated lands and the quantity; the number of miles of irrigating ditches, capacity of reservoirs and all information obtainable as to the water supply.

This information will be used largely by the Geological survey, in making its plans and estimates on the irrigation system which the general government has undertaken for the semi-arid sections of the West.

In this connection Mr. Blanchard imparted the interesting bit of information that there is now available for irrigation in Oregon alone \$800,000. For this, he says, the state has Congressman Tongue and Senator Mitchell to thank. The former, especially, persistently insisted and finally succeeded in inserting in the irrigation bill the clause providing that at least fifty per cent of the revenue received from the sale of public lands, be appropriated for irrigation purposes. Mr. Blanchard is a newspaper man in Washington and probably knows exactly what he is talking about, on this phase of the subject.

The irrigated lands will be subject to homestead entry and will be disposed of at the usual price, plus the proportional cost per acre of irrigation improvements. This money will again be turned into the same fund, providing practically a perpetual source of revenue for this important work. The government will confine itself almost exclusively to the construction of storage reservoirs, and the settlers themselves will have to dig the ditches.

Mining Man of Wide Experience.

E. Simpson, a mining man who has operated in many camps in the west and of late years has mined principally in Montana, was in Sumpter a couple of days last week. He came here to see Superintendent J. H. Brown, of the

Oregon King, with whom he is interested in a property near Malheur City. It is a very rich free gold proposition, not very extensively developed, though with enough in sight to justify the erection at an early day of a small stamp mill. Mr. Simpson says he knows all the mining districts of the west that have made any sort of a record as gold producers, that eastern Oregon is the peer of the best of them, everything considered, and that Sumpter is the throbbing heart of the great industry. He was associated with Arthur Browne, the mining engineer, in Montana, and says that gentleman has few equals and no superior in his profession. Mr. Simpson left direct for the Malheur mine, to arrange for commencing operations.

Another Big Deal On.

Bernard McDonald, of Roseland, B. C., mining expert for Governor McIntosh, and Bela Kadish, proprietor of the Baker City sampling works, passed through Sumpter last week, en route, they declared, for a hunting trip to Harney lake. But, somehow, they got switched off from that destination and landed in the Greenhorn mountains, where they put in several days examining a mining property. Neither cared to talk about the matter on their return a day or two since. There is another big deal "on."

Two Strikes in the Maxwell.

At the Maxwell last week two good ore bodies were encountered, both in the 1800-foot working tunnel. These are the ledges that the old company had sought in vain for many months, at this depth. The veins had been explored in the upper workings, but down below could not be found. The first was found after driving twenty-seven feet, the other fifteen feet beyond, after cutting through the first ledge. Both are said to be satisfactory, as to size and values, though the management is not disposed to talk about the strike. Otto Herlocker was at the property when the last vein was encountered. He admits that "there is nothing the matter with the rock."

Commercial College at Baker City.

Eastern Oregon Commercial College and School of Shorthand and Typewriting begins in Baker City Oct. 13, 1902. A complete course in bookkeeping, business arithmetic, shorthand and typewriting; also all the Normal branches. Tuition reasonable. Write M. O. Perry, principal, Baker City, for prospectus.

All the ladies of Sumpter and vicinity are invited to call at Mrs. Chipp's Millinery Parlors, opposite Basche's, and inspect her new line of fall and winter hats, opening beginning September 17.

The celebrated Guld's—"the beer of good cheer"—always on draught at Dunphy's The Club.

Wouldn't that jay yer? What? Giant powder.

Mining deeds for sale at this office.