



THE SUMPTER MINER

PROGRESS AT THE SMELTER

Many Men and Teams at Work—Building Operations.

If any one has harbored the idea that the smelter which is being erected here is of the kindergarten, toy class, his mind will be quickly disabused of that erroneous impression by walking three-quarters of a mile down the railroad track and inspecting the work now in progress there.

More than fifty men and a dozen teams are employed, grading the steep hillside, assembling material, laying the massive stone foundation and erecting buildings. The laboratory and office building is now rapidly nearing completion. It consists of seven large rooms; one for the dry, another for the wet assays, the general office and the superintendent's office, draughting, weighing and sample rooms. As is the custom with all smelters, the fire assay will be employed to arrive at the value of ore bought. The acid process the company will use for checking up, also the general rule.

The work of erecting the smelter building proper, separated by about 200 feet from the laboratory, is now being commenced. That portion to be devoted to the automatic sampler will be the first to be completed, and the machinery installed therein without delay. The work is being rushed as fast as possible and the buildings will be completed about the first of the year. Already several carloads of machinery have arrived, including the gigantic rock crusher. Other carloads will come in every few days, until all is here. It is now being unloaded at the foot of the hill, from a temporary side track. The permanent spur will be constructed high up the hillside in a few weeks, and some of the machinery will have to be reloaded and hauled up on cars. From this track all ore will be dumped into the bins.

The present smelting capacity will be 200 tons. The management is now contracting for ores, and it is reliably stated that almost enough has been secured, on the basis of a certain number of tons being delivered daily, to insure a regular supply equal to the capacity of the plant. It might be well for those who own properties from which they can now or soon will be able to ship, to interview General Manager Mueller or Superintendent Neel, that they may be sure to secure a market for their output.

THE MINER is particularly pleased to be able, from observation and an opportunity to judge through business relations, to predict that there will be little or no friction between the smelter

and the miners. The gentlemen in charge are fair, square, honest business men, who would scorn to resort to any questionable methods to get a financial advantage of any one—and that is saying more for them than can be said of some people who buy mineral bearing rock, the entire import of which the writer is fully cognizant.

Bunch of New Handsome Offices.

All of the rooms in the new Wilson brick block, six in number, have been rented and five are already occupied. J. H. Robbins has the two on the Granite street corner, fitted up in elegant style and with every conceivable convenience for his mining office. Dr. Brock is in the next one, partitioned into separate apartments for reception and consulting rooms, handsomely furnished and equipped with all the nerve racking instruments of his profession. The Water and Electric companies, both in charge of E. E. McCammon, occupy the next room, having moved his office from Center street. The Alexander Clothing company, of Baker City, has rented the next one and will put in a stock of goods at an early date. Robbins Brothers, mining engineers and assayers, have the alley corner room and are fitting it up with all the appliances of the business.

Expensive Advertising Matter.

W. H. W. Hamilton left Saturday on his semi-occasional pilgrimage east, through to the financial glutted centers on the Atlantic seaboard, to turn a dozen or so mining deals. He says he is taking along with him a bunch of the best propositions that were ever layed before a mine-hungry eastern syndicate—not a gold brick in the lot; but every one of them the making of a mine. He also carried with him the most expensive collection of advertising matter that ever left eastern Oregon; that cannot fail to convince the most skeptical that this is a great gold producing region. It consists of \$1000 worth of artistic jewelry made of native gold, nuggets, pocket gold and polished quartz. He will give this away where it will do the most good.

Machinery for the Blue Bird.

Wheeler & Co., of New York, bankers, brokers and hustlers, who are financing the Blue Bird Gold Mining company, that owns a rich property adjoining the Red Boy, write THE MINER under date of October 28, that they had that day bought from the Sullivan Machinery company two carloads of machinery for that mine, paying cash for the same; that the company does not owe a dollar and has plenty of money for all contemplated work in the treasury. This two carloads of machinery does not include the stamp mill. It has not yet been decided as to what make of mill is best adapted for the ore. As soon as this is settled, one will be bought and installed without delay.

TALK OF THE TOWN.

A son was born to Mr. and Mrs. Charles Van Duyn Sunday morning, Dr. Brock attending.

A. M. Keltie was in town today, kicking himself for having moved from Sumpter to Baker City.

Professor Eberman left Monday for Portland, on business connected with the smelter. He expects to be absent about a week.

Al Geiser is in Sumpter trying to buy some choice business property at a price four times greater than he sold it for three years ago.

John Briggs is down from Olive lake, visiting his family for a few days. He is superintending the work of developing that great water power.

Judge Layburn, of Minneapolis, representing a syndicate that bought an interest in the Goldbug-Grizzly, has been in town for several days past.

A. T. Harris, manager of the Geiser Grand at Baker City, sized up the situation today. He denied, point blank, that he has a covetous eye on Hotel Sumpter, without winking said eye.

M. E. Bain left yesterday afternoon for the east, to promote a big mining deal that he has on the string. He will make his headquarters in St. Paul for some weeks, until he gets the money in his hands.

Mr. Roberts, who has made many friends in eastern Oregon during the last few months, while selling Remington typewriters for a Portland firm, has accepted the position of private secretary for Mayor J. H. Robbins.

County Recorder Bob Henry was circulating among his friends here Saturday. He says the business transacted in his office last month was the largest since the county was organized—some three hundred years ago, more or less.

H. P. Hall has bought the Rimbol restaurant on Mill street and will run it on the short order plan and keep it open all night. Mr. Hall is an experienced hand in the restaurant business and will no doubt make it a popular eating house.

Neil J. Sorensen, general manager, and W. J. Johnson, treasurer of the Elkhorn Consolidated company, which owns and operates the Maxwell, came in from that property yesterday. They report that the recent strike is getting better every day.

Dr. E. W. Mueller returned Saturday from Portland, where he went with the eastern Oregon delegation to protest against the Blue mountain forest reserve iniquity. Yesterday he went out into the Greenhorns, to look at the face of a tunnel and an ore dump.

Mrs. Spaulding, accompanied by her grand daughter, little Miss Madge Ellis, left yesterday for Boston, to spend the

winter with her daughter, who is attending the conservatory of music there. Mrs. A. W. Ellis accompanied them as far as Baker City, returning today.

Anthony Mohr went to Baker City Monday, to meet his wife and little daughter, who have come out from Milwaukee to make Sumpter their future home. Mr. Mohr has bought from A. P. Goss a residence on Columbia street, near Auburn, which he is now occupying.

Dick Neill says the Neill Mercantile company sold more goods and handled more cash during October than in any other month, with one exception, since the company started in business here, three years ago. The exception was last December, which, of course, included the holiday trade.

Judge Fasset, of Omaha, has been in town several days this week, talking with D. L. Killen about old times, when he lectured on law to a class of which Mr. Killen was a member. He will return home and to the bench as soon as the stamps now being installed on his Greenhorn property begin to drop on his rich free gold rock.

Robbins Brothers, Engineers and Assayers.

W. W. Robbins and Chester C. Robbins, brothers of Mayor Robbins, have formed a partnership under the name of Robbins Brothers, and will open an assay office in the alley corner room in the new Wilson block on Mill street. Two glass partitions are being put in and no expense is being spared to make it one of the most complete offices for assaying in the northwest. Both of these gentlemen are experienced mining men and understand their business thoroughly and will no doubt do a flourishing business as soon as they can get in shape to transact business. They expect to be ready within a week or ten days. W. W. Robbins will act as consulting engineer and C. C. will do the assaying.

A. P. Goss Coming Back to Sumpter.

A. P. Goss, president of the Bank of Sumpter, who for some months past has been personally looking after the affairs of his branch bank at Canyon City, spent several days here this and last week. Some time since he sold the bank over there, but agreed to remain with the institution until the new owners could get the run of the business. His friends in Sumpter will be pleased to learn that he will return here about December 1, to remain permanently. Although he already owns a half dozen or more residences here, he will build a home for himself and wife, one that they can enjoy the comforts and luxuries of life in for years to come.

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

T. G. Harrison, agent for Giant powder company.

No headaches from Giant powder.