

The Sumpter Miner

PUBLISHED EVERY WEDNESDAY BY
J. W. CONNELLA

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ANNOUNCEMENT.

Owing to the increasing demands which other business interests make on my time, rendering it impossible to longer do full justice to this paper, I have decided to retire from the management of *THE MINER*, and will be succeeded December 1 by James Logie. Nothing could be gained by commenting here on the work which *THE MINER* has done for this town and district during the three years and more of its existence. That its efforts have been appreciated, its ever increasing business demonstrates. The feeling of friendship between the paper and the people of this community is cordial and sincere. They have been mutually helpful to each other and there is today no moral indebtedness on either side.

Mr. Logie, who has been connected with the paper for several months, and who came here from Denver with the intention of assuming entire control should local conditions, after investigation, prove satisfactory, brings to the work the energy and enthusiasm of a younger man, backed by years of successful experience in the newspaper business; aided by ability and adaptability of a high order. When the people of Sumpter come to know him thoroughly, they will better appreciate his worth. There is no question but what the paper will much improve in several respects under his management.

James Logie will collect all bills and pay all accounts.

J. W. CONNELLA.

No where in the world today is there more business and industrial activity than in the gold fields of eastern Oregon. Of course, the rapid development of our mines during the past few years and the resulting large increase of the gold output, is the cause of all this activity. This general revival in mining industry has resulted from business conditions prevailing all over the world. People of small means have been forced to invest their money in mining, especially gold mining, for the reason that any other safe investment yields little or no interest, and the huge combinations of capital controlling trusts have so recklessly watered their stocks that they have forfeited the confidence of the general, outside, public. The wise ones of moderate means know they have not an equal chance with the men of millions, that it is a clear case of "big fish eat little fish." Only the verdant sucker of late risks his money in Wall street speculations, and the alleged financial papers, organs of the wolves who manipulate stock deals, are complaining because so much money is being diverted from the coffers of these brokers into mining enterprises.

Here in this district the unprecedented industrial progress furnishes an interesting study in natural development. The opening up of the mines has put in sight thousands of tons of ores, to extract the values from which the fire process is necessary. As a result, a smelter is being erected here in Sumpter, the mining headquarters and center of the gold fields. In order that both the smelter and the producer of low grade ore can make a profit, cheaper transportation than is possible by wagon is found to be a necessity, and men of large capital have furnished the

money with which to construct railroads to the refractory rock districts. A mining operations have increased, fuel has become scarcer and dearer and now there are several water-electric companies in the field, installing plants for furnishing cheap power for the mills and drills and railways.

Recently, a syndicate of Philadelphia capitalists, learning that all of these enterprises are making money, have organized a close corporation to operate mines, mills and an electric railway. It is very probable, too, that a smelter will also be included in their comprehensive plans, to treat their own ores, as well as that of others.

The Sumpter district is booming. It is a "natural growth", as the worshippers of conservatism delight to express it; but it is a boom, just the same.

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