

The Sumpter Miner

PUBLISHED EVERY WEDNESDAY BY
JAMES LOGIE

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SALUTATORY.

In assuming charge of THE MINER it is not my intention at this time to give any lengthy outline of the policy I propose to follow. I shall endeavor to keep THE MINER up to the high standard heretofore maintained and to improve it whenever I see an opportunity of doing so. It shall be my aim to keep THE MINER fully abreast of the growth of Sumpter and shall advocate what I deem to be for the best interests of this city and mining district. I hope to be able to retain the friendship and patronage of the old friends of THE MINER and to increase the number as I become better acquainted with the people of this section, and that our business relations may be both pleasant and profitable.

JAMES LOGIE.

The selection of guardians of the city's welfare for another year has been settled, and nearly everyone who has the interest of this mountain environed gateway to fabulous fields of gold at heart, is satisfied with the result. The affairs of our expanding town have been entrusted to men of probity and intelligence. The interests of everyone will be safe guarded by those who have by this means been elevated above their fellows, and it is the duty of all to accept the verdict of the people and strive to assist those in power to advance the city of Sumpter to the place where she belongs.

TODAY we record another casualty resulting from the careless use of firearms. Volumes of advice could be written on this subject, and we presume the "didn't know it was loaded" excuse would be given. In this day of cheap and modern make of guns, every bright boy considers his happiness not complete until he is the proud possessor of a magazine rifle. Many sad accidents would be avoided were parents and guardians to adopt the principal of the Dutchman who would not allow his boys to go near the water until they had learned to swim. Were older people to teach their boys how to handle a gun and caution them as to carelessness in handling the same, no doubt fewer fatal accidents from this cause would happen.

Would it not be splendid policy for the mining men of Sumpter and vicinity to organize some kind of an association for their mutual benefit?

The mining interests of this district are now such an important factor and are advancing by leaps and bounds.

By means of proper organization, those directly interested in the advancement of this great industry could meet at stated periods, exchange ideas and secure a consensus of opinion on what was best to further the interests of the industry.

Oregon, to many is considered an agricultural state; mining is, perhaps looked upon too much as a secondary consideration. Therefore it behooves the mining element to unite and present their claims for recognition.

Sumpter, beyond question, is the leading mining center of Oregon, and it should be the foremost city in pointing

out the way to further the interests of mining.

To a majority of people in the effete east, and in other localities as well the mining camps of the great west are looked upon as a harbor for ruffians and the toughest element that the entire country can produce.

They appear to think that miners and others connected with mining are walking arsenals, traveling around loaded down with six-shooters and with a Bowie knife in their teeth.

We do not dispute but that in times past, many of the western camps possessed some very tough characters, and that a great many lawless acts were committed.

The same can be said of the great cities of the Union and of other places.

In the mining sections of eastern Oregon, we are safe in saying there is less violation of the law than in many farming communities.

Sumpter, as live, wideawake and rushing municipality as it is, as far as crime is concerned, is about as quiet as a New England village.

We have the usual number of peace officers here, but their living does not come from administering justice to evil doers. In fact one of our justices of the peace when he found his income from the office was so small, thought of turning his attention to gambling so as to make a living but reconsidered the matter and compromised on the real estate business. People from a distance who contemplate settling in or visiting our mining camps will find their person or property is as safe as any where in the world.

Looking the Country Over.

Walter De Varila, consulting mining engineer of Grants Pass, has been in the Sumpter district for several days. He has made an examination of the Monumental mine on Granite creek for eastern capitalists, and is taking note of mines and mining in eastern Oregon generally. Mr. De Varila is the manager of the Oregon and California Gold Fields Co., Victory Mining Co., and A. C. Placer Mining Co.

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