



# THE SUMPTER MINER

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## PURCHASED BY NEBRASKA PEOPLE

### BLACK JACK GROUP IN THE RED BOY DISTRICT.

**A Syndicate of Lincoln, Nebraska, Capitalists Acquire Six Valuable Claims—They Will Vigorously Develop the Same—Killen, Warner, Stewart Company are Interested—Stock all Taken in Advance.**

One by one the embryonic bonanzas of this rapidly advancing district are being acquired by far-seeing men who, after a thorough examination of the country, decide to secure a reasonable share of its mineral wealth, confident that by proper and systematic development, the future will bring them all the reward they could reasonably ask.

Among the latest clusters of eastern Oregon wealth producers to pass into the control of a live, wideawake syndicate, is the Black Jack group of six claims, designated as follows: Independence, Congress, Senator, Grey Rock, Oceola, and Black Jack.

This group is situated south of the prolific Red Boy mine, and is the southern extension of the Oregon Monarch group, carrying the same gold charged veins as its Croesus-like neighbors.

This latest addition to the swelling list of wealth distributors, was not snapped up with undue haste. But the property was secured after the most diligent and searching investigation on the part of its purchasers. It appears negotiations have been in progress for some time.

Last fall Judge M. D. Reese and I. H. Hatfield, of Lincoln, Nebraska, visited the Sumpter gold fields. While here their attention was called to the Black Jack group. On their return to this section a few days since, they were accompanied by Professor H. H. Nicholson one of the most eminent mining engineers of the west.

Professor Nicholson made a thorough examination of the property, and, although he was paid a handsome fee for his services, coming here solely to make this report, he was so favorably impressed with the Black Jack mines, that he has made overtures to become a member of the syndicate.

This company will be incorporated according to the laws of Arizona. Its capitalization is placed at 1,500,000 shares, with a par value of \$1 each. One half the stock will be treasury shares and the remainder is to be the property of the owners.

It is authoritatively stated that all the treasury stock has been taken in the city of Lincoln, Nebraska, therefore it is not likely that any will be placed on

the market. The Killen, Warner, Stewart company are stockholders, but it is given out by the Nebraska people that this financial company need not act as fiscal agents under the circumstances, they being simply stockholders on account of their great faith in the value of the property.

The Black Jack group has been here tofore owned and worked by Timothy and Joseph Sheedy, and it was from these gentlemen that the present owners purchased the same.

Timothy Sheedy will remain with the company as one of its members. He evidently thinking too much of the property to part with it entirely.

While in possession, the former owners did considerable development work. One tunnel has been run 100 feet and another 125 feet. Besides these openings, naturally a great quantity of prospecting work has been done; all of which enhanced the prospective value of the claims to a considerable extent.

When Professor Nicholson's report is submitted to the company, the directors will finally decide on the plans for development. It is their intention to commence at the earliest possible moment, and prosecute the work with unusual energy, as they firmly believe they have secured a property which will be a continuous dividend payer for generations after it has gone through the systematic development stage.

## ON THE LAST CHANCE.

### Extensive Developments Now Being Performed.

Oscar Townsend, manager of the Baby McKee and Last Chance mines in Cable Cove district, was in the city yesterday.

All the work being done by his companies at present is confined to the Last Chance.

A two compartment shaft 4½x9 feet in the clear, is now being sunk at the junction of the Eagle and Last Chance veins. This shaft has attained a depth of 55 feet and followed down four or five stringers of very fine ore.

A crosscut is now being run to the hanging wall where a large body of ore is supposed to be.

After this work is completed, the shaft will be sunk to the 100 foot level and a drift run under the old tunnel, which will give them a vertical depth of 230 feet under the old workings.

### First National Bank of Sumpter.

The First Bank of Sumpter will commence doing business as a National concern on the first day of February, next. Part of the books and stationery have been received but the checks have not arrived. All legal formalities have been complied with, the charter duly granted so that on and after the date given above, this financial institution will be known as The First National Bank of Sumpter.

## ON CRACKER EAGLE.

### What is Being Done at This Property.

W. H. Jackson, superintendent of the Cracker Eagle mines, was in Sumpter today.

He states that the crosscut tunnel now being run has penetrated the vein a distance of 80 feet at 100 feet depth.

Good values exist all through the vein as far as explored, but it is evident that still richer ore will be found on the foot wall, which is supposed to be twenty feet distant from the present face of the crosscut.

The values of the ore have been improving continually since the tunnel left the hanging wall.

It is quite probable another crosscut will be run 200 feet deeper so as to explore the vein more thoroughly.

Before this is done preparations will be made to sink on the ore body, as arrangements are now being made for the machinery for this purpose.

### EMINENT JURIST HERE.

**Noted Nebraska Judge Invests in the Gold Fields.**

Judge M. D. Reese, Dean of the law department of the University of Nebraska, and formerly Chief Justice of the Supreme court of that state, spent several days in Sumpter and vicinity during the past week.

This is not the judge's first trip to the eastern Oregon gold fields however. He paid this section a visit last fall when he became so convinced of the greatness of the country that he invested in the Stice gulch placer mines, and since then has become interested in the Cracker Eagle Mining company.

Outside of these holdings, the judge has a timber claim which he proved up on while here, and he has become a heavy stockholder in the Black Jack mining company just formed.

This eminent jurist, teacher and scholar, is a gentleman of pleasing personality, easy of approach and evidently firm in his convictions.

There can be no doubt but that the people of this district should congratulate themselves that such an influential gentleman of high standing has formed so favorable an opinion of this country that he not only invested his own capital here, but will no doubt, more or less influence his friends to do the same to greater or less extent.

### Keep on Improving.

The Killen, Warner, Stewart Company evidently believe in improvement and expansion. They have in great measure remodeled their commodious offices in the townsite company's brick building on lower Mill street, and made

several changes which gives them much more room for their rapidly increasing business. Their reception room has been fitted up with railings, a new high desk and many other features have been added which makes the transaction of business there considerably more convenient.

### RICH STRIKE ON ELDORADO.

**Big Vein of Free Milling Quartz in a Greenhorn Mine.**

An important strike has just been made on the Eldorado group in the Greenhorn.

This is the property recently bonded by John T. English, who is now visiting at his former home, Danville, Illinois.

The find was made in a crosscut from the bottom of a shaft 100 feet in depth. Eight feet of quartz had been penetrated at last accounts and no wall encountered, so that the dimension of the ore body is as yet unknown.

This ore runs well in free gold, but as no assays have been made, its exact value has not yet been determined.

This is undoubtedly the same shoot as that now being worked in the Don Juan property, adjoining.

A fine sample of this quartz can be seen in Baldwin & English's office in the Hotel Sumpter building.

## AT THE SMELTER.

### Notes of Progress on Sumpters Reduction Plant.

Neither weather, holidays nor any other agency prevents continuous work being carried on at the site of the Oregon Smelting and Refining Company's Smelter below town.

About 100 men are busily engaged in completing a works which is of more importance to every person residing in the mining district of eastern Oregon than any other project now going on or in contemplation.

The grading on two of the benches is now complete and the third bench is nearly done.

Buildings entirely cover the lower bench, while the frame work for the briquetting plant is up on the second bench and is being hoisted in.

The sampling mill of 700 tons per diem capacity, is partially completed and the foundation for the ore bins have been laid.

Soon the dust chambers will be finished, also the brick foundation for the immense steel stock, which will be from 120 to 130 feet high.

At the general office building, everything is finished, including the assay office and laboratory, and this branch of the works will soon be occupied and in operation.