



# THE SUMPTER MINER

## OREGON MINES EXPLORATION CO.

### CONCERN THAT HAS ACQUIRED THE SNOW CREEK MINES ON GREENHORNS.

After Thorough Exploration and Complete Examination, New York People of Wealth Purchase a Valuable Greenhorn Mine—They Will Fully Develop the Property—Over Half Million Dollars in Sight.

Fred D. Smith, manager of the Snow Creek mines in the Greenhorns, came in from that property yesterday, having spent several days giving directions as to the work now in progress there. When Mr. Smith was east a few weeks ago in consultation with the company, it was decided that he spend most of his time in managing operations at the mine.

The crosscut tunnel is now in a total length of 600 feet. An upraise has been made connecting with a new shaft, which gives the workings all the air required. The making of this air connection has retarded development in other parts of the mine. At present the face of the tunnel is 225 feet in depth from the surface.

Recently the company which has acquired this valuable property, has been incorporated. It is styled the Oregon Mines Exploration company. Capitalization \$1,000,000, par value \$1. The incorporation was perfected under the laws of Arizona. Principal office of the company at Bath, Steuben county, New York. Robert J. Davison is the president, John H. Bowiby, vice-president, and Aaron G. Pratt, secretary-treasurer. The two former officers reside at Bath, N. Y., and Mr. Pratt at Hammondsport, N. Y.

Previous to incorporation, four individuals of the present company purchased the mine and have paid for its development from that time up to the present.

All developments prove that there has been very little change in the character of the ore from the surface downward; it being almost entirely free milling. In fact the ore is considered to carry a higher per centage of gold than is free, than any other mine in eastern Oregon.

A carload of this ore, from the seventy foot level, was shipped to the Baker City Sampling works last September, which gave returns of \$100.39 per ton. It is not the intention of the company to ship the ore, but allow it to accumulate on the dump until such time as they decide to build a stamp mill. This latter improvement, however, they have no desire to hasten, as the company have ample means to thoroughly

and systematically develop their mine, and they will equip it with a reduction works whenever they desire so to do.

The width of the vein which the company have been exploring, is at least 105 feet between walls. In this distance, following the course of the tunnel, three or more ore shoots, or channels, have been cut. These pay shoots lie from thirty to forty feet apart. As soon as possible the main tunnel will be extended 150 farther by contract, and a force of men will be put to work drifting on and developing the ore channels now exposed in the tunnel already completed.

Last December, A. B. Browne, mining engineer, examined this property and submitted a report, including among other facts, the quantity of ore in sight at that time. The gross tonnage he placed at 39,554 tons, but to come within any possible variation, he made a deduction and placed the quantity at 28,370 tons. Valuing this ore according to the average values on the lower level, the ore reserves above the lower tunnel were \$580,140. Since Mr. Browne's report was handed in, the quantity of ore in sight has been considerably augmented.

### RESUME WORK ON THE CLIMAX.

#### An Embryo Mine in the Vicinity of Granite.

Work will soon be resumed on the Climax group three miles north of Granite owned by the Eastern Oregon Gold Mining company of Spokane. The property of this corporation was fully described in these columns a few weeks ago. Work has only been closed down about a month, pending the letting of a new contract.

Mr. Wait Wade, of Granite, has received instructions from the company to purchase the necessary air pipes and any machinery required to ventilate the crosscut tunnel now in 300 feet and which will have to be driven at least 300 feet further before it strikes the main vein.

This property has vast reserves of ore in the two upper tunnels. The company is well financed but they have little to say to the public about their affairs. When this lower tunnel reaches the vein, there is no question but that they will have one of the big mines of the country.

#### Delegation Goes To Salem.

At an informal meeting of a few of the principal mining operators of the Sumpter district, held in this City on last Monday evening, it was decided to send a committee of three to Salem, whose duty it will be to scan all bills now before the legislative assembly and recommend such legislation as may be deemed best for the mining industry in the state. The committee appointed consists of N. C. Richards, E. J. Godfrey and D. L. Killen. These gentlemen left for the state Capital this afternoon.

## IS NOW A NEW CONSTELLATION

### MARYLAND COMPANY TAKES OVER CONTROL IN CABLE COVE PROPERTY.

Constellation Consolidated Mining Company Acquire Constellation Group and Form a Strong Incorporation Under the Laws of Oregon—Developments Will Continue Without Interruption—Will Sink on Ore Body.

There has been a reorganization of the Constellation mining company which owns a Cable Cove group, located about fourteen miles north of Sumpter. This new incorporation, which has taken over the old concern, is styled the Constellation Consolidated Mining company. It is incorporated under the laws of Oregon with a capitalization of 2,500,000 shares having a par value of \$1 each. For three months past, Mr. James Higgins, of Cambridge, Maryland, and who represents moneyed people of that state, has been directing additional developments on this property. The results have been so flattering that a new incorporation has been formed as above set forth.

Maryland capitalists own the control in the consolidated company, although some of the largest local stockholders retain their interests. Among these are Mayor C. H. McColloch and banker A. P. Goss; Mr. Goss, in addition to his holdings in the old company, has purchased a large block of stock in the new incorporation.

For a long time the value of the Constellation group, which consists of ten mineral claims, has been known, and many overtures have been made to the owners during the past year for the property, but those holding stock in the company preferred not to part with their entire interests.

Last summer, a thirty day option was taken so that a representative of the millionaire mine owner, Captain Delamar, might make an examination. This gentleman failed to reach here in time on account of having pressing business elsewhere, consequently the option lapsed and the directors, deciding not to renew it, or doubtless long ere this a controlling interest in the property would have been in the possession of that mining King.

Previous to Mr. Higgins beginning operations, a considerable amount of development work had been performed. Two shafts had been sunk and a tunnel run some distance. All of this exploitation was in ore. Under Mr. Higgins direction, this tunnel has been extended 110 feet, still following the ore body. It

is claimed by well posted mining men, that this ore shoot extends for a long distance in the mountain beyond the present face of the tunnel.

Three other ore shoots are known to exist on the property which have not yet been explored so that their value is known. The vein on which development work has been carried on is from eight to ten feet in width, the ore body, or pay streak, ranging from two and one half to five feet in width. The vein is a strong one and quite uniform; giving every evidence of being a true and lasting fissure.

It is the intention of the company to sink on the ore shoot now developed and block out immense reserves before they plan for the erection of reduction works. The property is fully paid for and the company is clear of debt and has quite a development fund on hand, therefore they are in no rush to place their ore on the market.

These ores are of a concentrating nature assaying from \$15 to \$40 per ton in gold. Judging from tests made on ores from the California mine, in that vicinity, the average of concentrator of the Constellation ores will be five tons into one.

### AFFAIRS AT THE SMELTER.

#### This Important Enterprise Will Soon be in Shape for Business.

Last Saturday the office furniture and about all the archives of the Oregon Smelting and Refining company were moved from their former quarters in Hotel Sumpter to the new office building of the company at the works below the city, where superintendent and metallurgist Neel and his staff are now located.

Dr. E. W. Mueller, the general manager, has for the present taken office room with Mr. W. H. Heppie, editor of the Eastern Oregon Gold Fields, in the block occupied by the Killen, Warner, Stewart company, where he will be found for some time in the future.

At the works a full crew is kept busy putting the finishing touches on much of the work. The crushers in the sampling mill have all been placed in position, and the line shattering rapidly being put in place. A force of masons are busily engaged building the brick work around the boilers.

The handsome and commodious office building is all completed and, as stated above, occupied. Soon the laboratory will be in shape so the company can purchase and refine amalgam, gold and silver bullion, etc.

#### Sumpter's Public School.

The last of this week will complete the fifth month that the city schools have been in session. At the beginning of the term 190 scholars were in attendance. Now the rolls show there are 287 pupils divided among the different departments. There are five teachers besides the principal, Prof. Yoder.