

BEAR GULCH PLACERS.**Hobson Mercantile Company
Has Started Operations on
This Property.**

The Bear Gulch placers operated by the Hobson Mercantile company, started up this week, and a force of men will be kept steadily at work throughout the summer. The placers prospect well on the surface and the indications are that this fall will see a good cleanup. The water has already started running in the ditches. Several good pieces were taken out this week.

The Hobson company has some quartz prospects on Deer Creek which are also to be worked this season as soon as the snow gets out of the way. These claims have fine surface showings and the plan of the company is to do a lot of development work this summer. Operations will probably be started next month.

SUMPTER AHEAD OF THEM ALL.**Secretary Gwinn, of Oregon Wool Growers' Association, Says Camp Looks Good.**

J. H. Gwinn, of Pendleton, secretary and treasurer of the Oregon Wool Growers' Association, and special agent for the New York Life Insurance company, arrived in the city this week to look after the business of the insurance company. The company is represented locally by Manning & Welsh.

Mr. Gwinn says that the leading business men of Pendleton are interested in the Sumpter district. He is familiar with the mining camps throughout Oregon, Idaho and Washington and regards Sumpter as having the brightest outlook of them all.

WATER THROUGH DITCHES.**Oregon Placers Will Make a Big Cleanup
This Year.**

Herman Schulmerich, superintendent of the Oregon Placers, operated by Neil J. Sorensen & Co., was in the city a few days ago and reports satisfactory progress. The water is almost through the ditch, and ready for piping. The company has a good force of men at work and will handle a large amount of gravel this summer.

Inasmuch as there was a heavy snow fall last winter, no scarcity of water is expected during the season's operations. All the supplies have been sent in and the company is in a position to prosecute work vigorously. A big cleanup is expected this fall.

RAPID INCREASE IN BUSINESS.**First National Bank's Statement Shows
Healthy Condition.**

The statement of the First National Bank to the comptroller of the currency, printed elsewhere in this issue, shows a very healthy condition of affairs and a decided increase in business since the publication of last month's statement.

The institution began business only March 1, and has steadily built up since it was started.

New Fire Insurance Company.

C. W. Hawhurst, of Portland, special agent for the New Zealand Fire Insurance company, was in the

city this week and appointed the J. H. MacCallum company local representative.

The Mormon Temple.

The Mormon temple at Salt Lake City is no doubt the most substantial and well constructed religious edifice in the United States, if not in the world. Corner stone laid April 6, 1853, cap stone April 6, 1892 and dedicated April 6, 1893, over forty years of constant labor being consumed in its construction. This magnificent structure 200 feet long, 100 feet wide is built entirely of Utah white granite, beautifully carved, symbolic of the Mormon faith, surmounted by six towers, the highest being 230 feet from the ground, supporting a bronze statue of the angel Maroni. The cost of this building is about \$6,000,000. There are many other attractions at Salt Lake City of interest to the traveler or tourist where a day can be well spent. The Rio Grande is the only Trans-continental route passing directly through Salt Lake City, where a stopover is allowed on all classes of tickets. The service of the Rio Grandelines is unexcelled. Three trains daily between Ogden and Denver, carrying all classes of modern equipment. If you are contemplating a trip to the east, write the undersigned for information regarding rates via the "scenic line of the world." W. C. McBride, General Agent, M. J. Roche, Traveling Passenger Agent, 124 Third St., Portland, Oregon.

Stockholders Meeting.

Notice is hereby given that a meeting of the stockholders of the Byson Gold Mining company will be held at the office of N. C. Richards, Attorney-at-Law, City of Sumpter, Baker County, State of Oregon, on Friday, the 8th day of May, 1903, at the hour of 10 A. M., to elect officers and transact any other business that may come before the said meeting.

H. W. SLOAN, President.

Timber and Homestead Filings.

Timber and homestead filings, as well as final proofs, can be made before Charles H. Chance, United States Commissioner, office in First National Bank of Sumpter building, Sumpter, thus saving applicants expense of a trip to La Grande.

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