



THE SUMPTER MINER

DEAL TO TAKE OVER HARDWARE STORES.

Prominent Sumpter and Baker City Business Men Associated to Acquire Basche's Holdings in Both Cities.

A deal is now pending which it is definitely understood through reliable sources, is likely to be completed within the next few days for the organization of a joint stock company composed of prominent Sumpter and Baker City business men to take over the holdings of the Basche Hardware company, now doing business in both cities. Mr. Basche, it is stated, will retain a large interest in the stock of the new corporation, and it will still be known as the Basche Hardware company.

This move is undertaken from the fact that the business has grown to such proportions that it is deemed advisable in order to increase the general scope and more properly

cover the field. The capital stock of the new company, it is said, will be placed at \$125,000. Those concerned in the transaction here are reluctant to give out details, as the deal has not yet been closed, but it is stated, there is no doubt but that it will be in a very short time.

The Basche Hardware company owns large stores at both Sumpter and Baker City, and is conducting the largest retail hardware business in the state. Outside of a few firms in Portland the company represents the largest general hardware trade in Oregon, and the present incorporation will provide a means of more properly taking care of the business and increasing the field of operation.

THINGS DOING AT HIGHLAND.

Snow Disappearing And Lead to Be Opened Up Through- out Property.

News from the Highland mine is to the effect that the drift which is being driven as rapidly as possible, is in fair grade ore and looks permanent. The snow is fast disappearing around the Highland and it is understood that as soon as the snow is gone that the company intends to do considerable work in the way of opening up the lead in a great many places throughout the property.

Another tunnel will also be started further up the mountain and above the Bannock Burn. This new proposed tunnel should reveal large bodies of exceedingly high grade ore.

The president of the company is going to visit the Highland this week in company with a party of stockholders.

A great amount of development work is going on in the nearby mines and great activity has been displayed

immediately around the Highland since this company acquired this property. The Chloride mine is still working in very fine ore and the Maxwell has ten or twelve men at work. It is understood that it is going to start its mill in the very near future. The Maxwell mine is a well developed property; there is over a mile and one-half of tunnel which has uncovered a number of very large ore shoots.

The above information regarding the Highland was received unofficially through reliable sources, as President Sorensen did not care to discuss the situation for publication.

CONTINUING DRIFT AT CRACKER SUMMIT.

Air Pipes Being Put in to Relieve Low Ventilation.

Superintendent Jackson is still continuing the drift in the Cracker Summit. Lately he has been troubled with low ventilation and is putting in an air pipe to remedy the defect.

Four feet a day is being made and the work is being pushed ahead with satisfactory results.

Placer Working.

G. H. Fought and G. L. Harvey returned yesterday from the Cornet

and Pine Creek placer districts, and report the placers in that region working with a good flow of water. These gentlemen own placer ground on Cornet creek on which work is to be started soon.

TO ORGANIZE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

Meeting Called for Wednesday, May 20, at
The Ellis Opera House.

It has been decided to postpone the meeting for the organization of the chamber until next Wednesday night, May 20. The call for Monday night had to be reconsidered on account of the absence of Chairman Richards. Then Friday night was selected, but this was found to conflict with the K. of P. entertainment in which many of the leading prospective members will participate. The meeting is now called for next Wednesday at 7:30 p. m., to take place at the Ellis Opera house.

Over a hundred have signified their willingness to join the organization by signing the subscription list which was circulated. Its success is assured beyond any reasonable question.

GOOD WORK AT THE STANDARD.

Company to Erect Extensive Treating and Reduction Plant in Early Fall.

Most satisfactory results have been obtained by the Standard Consolidated Gold Mines company since the new management assumed charge of the development work. The drift on the Standard vein, late reports from the property state, is opening up some fine ore bodies showing high values in gold, cobalt and copper.

Work is also being prosecuted on the Cleveland-Willie Boy crosscut. It is expected that the vein will soon be reached on this level, giving a depth of 350 feet. The Cleveland-Willie Boy vein is one of the strongest gold bearing veins in the district. Any quantity of ore is on the dump ready for shipment or treatment.

It is the present plan of the company to erect in the early fall one of the largest treating and reduction plants to be found in the country. The fact that the company has one of the big propositions in the district will warrant a mill of extensive proportions.

THE I. X. L. AND HIDDEN TREASURE.

STAMP MILL TO BE INSTALLED RIGHT AWAY.

Superintendent Kelly Returns and Will
Resume Work at Once—Sawmill Will
Probably be Put in—Cross Vein to be
Opened Up Connecting Properties—
High Averages.

F. T. Kelly, superintendent of the I. X. L. and Hidden Treasure, in the Greenhorns, returned yesterday from Spokane, after an absence of several months from the district. He leaves immediately for the properties with a crew of men to start work.

A steam mill with a capacity of five stamps is to be installed at once. The machinery has been ordered and is now on the way. It is expected to have the mill in operation by the middle of June. Superintendent Kelly stated that it is probable a sawmill will also be installed later in the season.

Both properties are well developed. On the I. X. L. there is a 200 foot shaft and 400 feet of drifts; on the Hidden Treasure, the shaft is down 110 feet with 200 feet of drifts. Averages from \$10 to \$15 have been obtained, with some exceptionally high assays from picked samples. When operations were suspended last February a cross vein connecting the parallel veins in the two properties was being opened up. This connecting vein is 400 feet in length, and it is the purpose of the management to resume operations at this point.

Superintendent Kelly spent much time while away in Spokane, Seattle and Tacoma. He says that great interest is expressed regarding the Sumpter district in these cities. A great many are already interested in mining properties here and more capital is likely to flow in from these points.

PUTTING IN NEW IRON AT SNOW CREEK.

Company Arranging for Its Permanent Workings.

The Snow Creek company is reironing its tunnel. The present eight-pound rails are being taken up and replaced with twelve pound rails. A 6x12 drainage box is also being put in, and the company is arranging for its permanent workings.

It is probable that this preparatory work will occupy about a month, during which development operations will naturally have to be suspended.