

## The Sumpter Miner

PUBLISHED EVERY WEDNESDAY BY  
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Entered at the postoffice in Sumpter, Oregon, for transmission through the mails as second class matter.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES  
One Year ..... \$2.00  
Six Months ..... 1.25  
ALWAYS IN ADVANCE.

The people of Sumpter are to be commended for their generous response to the call for aid from the distressed community at Heppner.

A great many people think by investing a few hundred dollars in mining stock they are laying the foundation for a substantial fortune which will materialize almost as soon as their stock certificates are issued. It is true that many mines have paid from their earliest operation, but a majority of the great ones of the country have not, and the fact remains that it takes time, capital and judicious management to place the average property on a paying basis. There is probably no field of investment in the world which has yielded such enormous returns as mining. Mining perhaps has more millionaires to its credit today than any other industry, yet at the same time these fortunes are not the work of a day, but of years of perseverance and conservative management of the mining properties which have yielded them.

The general talk about a depression which may follow the present commercial activity is held by some to be mischievous, having a tendency to destroy public confidence. The Journal for Investors, however, takes an opposite view of the matter on the theory that "a watched pot never boils, and a commercial panic which is anticipated and prepared for, will probably never occur." Speaking further along this line it says: "The very fact that business men are studying present indications, and recognize a possible change from the present high tension of activity may serve to render any sudden and disastrous panic impossible. That trade will not continue for many years to come to be as good as it is now may be taken for granted. But while men are moderately cautious no sudden and serious reverse is likely to occur. While some decline in trade may be wisely anticipated, it is still possible that trade may continue to be moderately good for a year or two. In the central and western parts of the country agricultural conditions are said to be very satisfactory. As a rule, farmers have more money than they ever had before, and are in a more prosperous condition. Many of them have reduced their mortgages and paid off their debts. While farmers are prosperous and agricultural prospects are good any very serious trade depression is not to be anticipated. The rapid concentration of wealth is the most serious condition that confronts the nation at this moment."

### Viewers to Start Work Friday.

John Doan and V. R. Mead, the viewers recently appointed for the Burnt River road, who with the county surveyor are to report to the county commissioners, will take up the work Friday, and they hope to have the matter completed by July 1.

## IN LINE FOR THE FOURTH.

### Committees Have the Work Well in Hand and a Big Time Assured.

The various Fourth of July committees have the work well in hand and the program is rapidly taking shape. Details, however, have not yet been completed, and the entire program is not yet ready for announcement. Funds are rapidly coming in and the financial committee is assured that the subscriptions will exceed \$1,500.

The parade will be one of the leading features. Ten or more Sumpter merchants will provide floats, and several will come from Baker City, besides the big delegation of visiting Woodmen and the various local fraternal orders which will join in the parade.

A. J. Stinson, chairman of the drilling committee has formulated the following set of rules to govern these contests:

Double hand—Time 15 minutes; hammers not to exceed eight pounds in weight; number of drills not to exceed fifteen; steel must caliper seven-eighths of an inch; the last two drills will be allowed to be swedged back not over four inches from face of bit, and said bits must caliper seven-eighths of an inch; the teams in contest will be allowed to change at will; in all changes the striker will not be allowed to follow his partner down but once under penalty; no fostering will be allowed; teams will be allowed but one coach and water tender; coach shall be time-keeper for team; the decision of the official time-keeper shall be final; any team drilling through the rock can start a new hole but must use drills of the original fifteen; said hole will be measured to the lowest drill cut shown in rock; the entrance fee for team in said contest shall be \$10 and no entries shall be made after 12 o'clock p. m. on July 3; all entries to be made to A. J. Stinson, chairman drilling contest; all teams entering the contest must have been residents of Eastern Oregon for sixty days prior to the 1st of July, 1903.

Single handed—Time fifteen minutes; hammers not to exceed four pounds in weight; not over fifteen drills will be allowed; steel must caliper three-fourths of an inch; last two drills bits must caliper three-fourths; no swedging will be allowed; but one coach will be allowed; entrance fee \$5.

Boys' double handed contest—No entries will be accepted when age is over fifteen years; the same rules will govern the contest that govern the men's double handed contest with the exception that hammers must not exceed four pounds in weight and steel must be three-fourths of an inch. All entries must be made by 9 o'clock a. m. July 3, 1903. Entrance fee \$2.50.

The committee has not definitely decided the purses in the above contests, but it is stated the first prize in the double drill will probably be \$400, in the single \$100, and \$75 in the junior. There is also to be a firemen's contest between Sumpter and Baker City, but the prize is not stated.

Walter Cronin, chairman of the dance and music committee has

secured the Sumpter band and an orchestra for the 3rd and 4th, and in addition the White Swan band of Baker City will be here with the delegation from the sister town.

### SUMPTER GROUP.

A Good Showing Being Made on the Property.

A considerable showing has been made on the Sumpter group, owned by Walter Cronin, M. K. Scott and others, and located six miles northwest of the city. The property includes six claims and has now 275 feet of tunnel, two shafts and one open cut.

There are two parallel ledges, 400 feet apart, one of which is forty feet in width and the other fifteen. Average assays go from \$5 to \$45.

### School Election.

The school election held Monday afternoon resulted in the election of Mrs. M. B. Mercer as a member of the board, and a tie between N. C. Richards and George E. Allen. Sim Durgan was elected clerk. Only a light vote was cast. The legal way of deciding the tie is to draw lots.

### Drove to Heppner.

F. O. Bucknum and W. C. Calder left today to drive through the country to the scene of the Heppner disaster. Mr. Bucknum's mother-in-law, Mrs. Elder, and several of his relatives are thought to be lost.

Miller cap protectors. T. G. Harrison agent for Baker, Grant and Union counties.

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