

**POPOCATEPTL  
ON THE MARKET.**

**The Rockefellers And The  
Greens Bidding For The  
Smoker.**

A fanciful story has been going the rounds of the Sunday press concerning the negotiations for the transfer of the title to Mt. Popocateptl, in Mexico, that terror of the geography class and of the spelling bees. This volcano is owned by Gen. Gaspar Sanchez Ochoa, acquired as a reward for political and military service. It is reputed to contain millions of dollars' worth of sulphur, and the price at which it is offered for sale is only \$5,000,000. According to the story, there are two rival bidders for this ready-made and self-renewing mine. John D. Rockefeller's name is associated with the deal as backing one of the parties to the negotiations. The other possible purchaser is said to be John P. Green and his multi-millionaire brother, Samuel Green, of Pittsburg. One plan for the exploration is to build a cog-wheel railway down into the heart of the volcano, dip out the sulphur without the aid of human hands and bring it to the surface, still red-hot, from the bowels of the earth. Briefly the scheme is this:

Tunnel the volcano at the height of 600 yards below the lip of the crater. Through this string a cable-way made of steel wire an inch thick, bearing buckets every 100 feet. These will dip up the sulphur going in and bring it to the surface coming out, the great rope traveling 200 feet a minute. This plan alone will cost \$500,000 to install.

There is another scheme proposed. This is to send the cog-wheel railway over the lip of the crater and then straight down into the middle of the sulphur mine below.

But engineers fear that the heavy supports required and the crumbling condition of the summit would cause the supports to give way, and thus ruin the entire undertaking.

This deposit of sulphur has been mined for many generations in a primitive way, and in addition to the usual "yellow" in the story, there may be some truth. The sulphur deposits are replenished from below as fast as taken out, and there seems to be no limit to this automatic mine. Sulphur brings in the market now \$40 a ton, and if this plentiful source falls into the hands above mentioned it is not likely to be cheapened by any foolish over-production. — Mining World.

**PINE CREEK PLACERS.**

**Season Over on Account of the Scarcity  
of Water.**

The Democrat says that F. W. Eppinger, of the Queen City Furniture company of this city, and manager of the Merchants Mining company with scene of operations at Pine creek in the Upper Burnt River section, is in the city for a few days. Mr. Eppinger says the mining season at Pine creek is over for this year on account of a scarcity of water and that this season has been the shortest in the history of the country. "The Merchants' Mining company," Mr. Eppinger said, "has had a good run this year even though

the season has been short. Our claims have produced about \$11,000 and this we consider very good, all conditions taken into account. By another year we will be better prepared to operate on a larger scale." Mr. Eppinger has a fine collection of gold and quartz nuggets, one of which indicates the existence of a rich ledge that very likely is the source of all the gold found in the diggings.

**RED BOY DEAL STILL PENDING.**

**Reported That Mr. Godfrey is Going to  
Alaska to Look After Interests There.**

It is stated by those in a position to know that the sale of the Godfrey and Tabor interests in the Red Boy to Bonanza stockholders is still pending, but no official information can be obtained as to the exact situation. That the deal is being negotiated there is every reason to believe, but just what the result will be is difficult to speculate upon.

It is reported that Mr. Godfrey is going to Alaska to look after some mining property which he owns there and which it is supposed he will push in case he gets out of the Red Boy. It is known, however, that Mr. Godfrey has not left, as he is in the city today, and his going is only a matter of rumor.

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