

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.

It is up to the mine operators of the district who are ready or nearing the ore shipping point to expedite matters as rapidly as possible and get their products in readiness to send to the Sumpter smelter, now that the siding is to be completed at once. The matter of blowing in has been held back for lack of ore due partly to lack of rail transportation facilities. But already several mines are hauling in their ore and concentrates, and it is thought if the others fall into line that the plant can be started at an early date.

Speaking of mining as an investment and the efficiency of mine superintendents, the Mining World says: "Mining today is probably the most profitable of all industries. We speak advisedly on this question. We have no reference at all to the stock jobbing end of the business, and the purchase of shares in well-managed companies pay much greater returns than any other line. The competent superintendent (and here should be no others employed) knows his mine as the banker knows his cash on hand or the merchant his stock of goods. Every mine of any importance needs a mine superintendent just as much as a manufacturing concern needs a manager. He must be thoroughly versed in the operation of a mine, knowing its many features, and capable of making it produce to its greatest capacity, always keeping sufficient ore reserves ahead for continual operation. A good mine superintendent is always in demand. The United States stands at the head with an army of the most able mine superintendents in the world, and the best investment a mining company can make is to fully compensate its mine superintendent. He is worth every dollar paid him."

The objections urged by Mr. Wing, assayer in charge of the Seattle government assay office, in an interview found in another column of this issue, regarding the reticence observed by certain mine superintendents and managers relative to their operation and output, are well taken. The Miner, and perhaps every other mining journal in the country, has had the same difficulty with which to contend. The attitude is not only unreasonable but it is detrimental in many instances to those directly interested. A mining paper is like any other trade periodical. It endeavors to publish the news relating to this industry in some particular district, or of the country at large. Its subscribers are largely persons who have money invested in mining properties, and who buy these papers with a view to keeping themselves informed in regard to the management and operation of such properties. The publication of this news is not only simple justice to them and the paper which serves the public in this way, but to the entire commercial world

since all industries are more or less related to each other.

A wholesome law has just gone into effect in Washington which will have a most decided tendency toward restraining the operations of the "wild-catter." The law states: "Any superintendent, director, secretary, manager, agent or other officer of any corporation, or anyone pretending to be such superintendent, director, secretary, manager, agent or other officer, who shall wilfully subscribe, indorse, verify or otherwise assent to the publication either generally or privately to the stockholders or to other persons dealing with such corporation or its stock, and wilfully make untrue and fraudulently exaggerated report, prospectus, account or statement of operations, values, business, profits, expenditures, or prospectus or other paper or document intended to produce or give or having a tendency to produce or give to the shares of stock in such corporation a greater value than they really possess, or with the intent to defraud any party, person or persons generally, shall be deemed guilty of an offense against the laws of the state of Washington, and upon conviction thereof shall be punished by imprisonment in the penitentiary not less than one or more than five years, or in the county jail for not more than one year or by a fine not exceeding \$2,000, or by both."

ST. ANTHONY BRANCHES OUT.

ACQUIRES THE BRYAN AND HELEN ORE GROUPS.

Cash Consideration for Both \$35,000—Officers and Representatives of Company Here Add Thirteen Claims to Holdings—Twenty Now in All—Work Being Pushed.

A delegation of representatives of the St. Anthony Consolidated Mining and Milling company from Chicago and other eastern points concluded a ten days' visit to the district yesterday and returned east, having closed a deal Monday night at Granite for the Bryan group of eight claims in the Alamo district, adjoining the St. Anthony, and lying between this and the Oregon Monarch, for which a cash consideration of \$20,000 was paid. Besides this a deal was closed with William Waugh, for a three-fourths interest in the Helen Ore, a group of five claims situated in the Red Boy district. Mr. Waugh retaining a one-fourth interest in the property. The consideration was \$15,000.

The party was composed of George A. Hills, Chicago, president of the St. Anthony; Dr. F. A. Wheeler, president of the National Chemists' Union, Chicago, treasurer; Robert E. Hills, member St. Anthony advisory board, Chicago; Frank H. Hills, Northeast Pennsylvania; George H. Bowers, Hartford, Connecticut; and H. W. Maxwell, of Houghton, Michigan. It was a merry aggregation, and besides dispatching a lot of important business the members of the party seemed to thoroughly enjoy their trip. They were armed with all kinds of musical devices and other instruments of torture, and furnished amusement for the

natives of Granite during their stay there. Both Mr. Frank Hills and Mr. Bowers are enthusiastic Elks, and while fishing in the vicinity of the mine they succeeded in landing a splendid set of antlers from the mud and mire of the creek. These they placed over one of the buildings of the property, and named it Elks Cottage. Mr. Maxwell is a student at the Houghton School of Mines and a classmate of K. O. McEwen, of McEwen & McEwen, this city, assayers and mining engineers. Mr. Maxwell will complete his course in December when he will locate here in connection with the mining company.

Development work is already under way at the Helen Ore, and operations will be started at the Bryan group in a short time. Mr. Waugh has these and also the St. Anthony under charge. In the three groups the company now has control of twenty claims. On the Bryan between 400 and 500 feet of ore has been opened on the surface, and there is a tunnel 100 feet long.

A good deal of development work has been done at the St. Anthony. There is an old tunnel of over a thousand feet in length on one of the veins, but this has been temporarily abandoned, and a new tunnel was started the first of the year on a parallel vein. This is now in 450 feet and it is stated that remarkably fine ore is being encountered. The ledges are a continuation of the Alamo system. A crosscut is to be started soon to the parallel vein which it will strike in about 300 feet.

The members of the party were very enthusiastic over their property, and stated that development work on the three groups is to be carried on with all possible haste.

GETTING READY FOR MILL.

Bunk and Boarding Houses Going Up and Lumber for Mill Ordered.

E. J. Thorp, superintendent of the Blue Bird, is rapidly getting things in shape for the reduction plant which is to be installed soon. He is putting up bunk and boarding houses, and doing a lot of other preliminary work.

In addition to this he has let a contract for a large amount of timber to be used in the construction of buildings to enclose the mill. The machinery is expected to arrive within the next sixty days. Plans have already been completed.

Mr. Thorp left yesterday on a business trip to Portland.

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