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COUGAR WILL RESUME AT ONCE.

Mill To Be Put in Commission And Development Prosecuted Vigorously.

Major J. W. Larkin, and D. R. Evans, of Spokane, main owners of the Cougar mine, arrived in the city this week and left for Granite to make arrangements for resuming operations at the property, which has been idle for the past six months. A deal was pending for its sale, but negotiations were declared off some time ago, and Messrs. Larkin and Evans state that they will shortly begin operations themselves and put the mine on a paying basis at an early date.

The Cougar is equipped with a 250 ton a day dry crushing and cyaniding plant, which is to be put into commission at once, and in addition development operations vigorously carried on.

WORK STARTED AT CRACKER-HIGHLAND.

Reorganization of Company Effected and Development Begins.

Work was started today on the property of the Cracker-Highland Gold Mining company in the Cracker Creek district. A reorganization of the company was effected this week, and the purpose of the present management is to push development operations on a more extensive scale than hitherto. Following are the present officers of the company:

President, Henry Cummings, Milwaukee; vice president, W. G. Perkins, Indianapolis; secretary, John C. Davies, Sumpter; treasurer, A. P. Goss, Sumpter; consulting engineer, C. H. Fenner, Sumpter.

The property of this company is located in the Cracker Creek district lying between the Portland Gold Mining company and the Little Cracker company. The group is situated on what is known as the Minneapolis ledge, and is separated from the Golconda and other well known properties by the Cracker Creek gulch. The ore is the characteristic Cracker Creek product, which is two well known to deserve separate mention.

The present plan of development is to continue the drift tunnel on the

ledge to tap the rich ore shoot uncovered on the Minneapolis, and also to sink a 200 foot shaft. The ore shoot, it is estimated can be reached within a distance of 200 feet.

These preliminary operations will, it is thought, in a short time, determine the situation and character of the ore bodies and place the company in a position to outline the permanent workings.

Grant Property.

F. W. Northrup came in from the Grant claim, Cable Cove, last week where he has been working. The Grant is owned by Mr. Northrup, A. C. Otness and W. H. Mather. It has an eighty-five foot drift which shows a shoot one foot wide carrying high values. The ledge is five feet in width.

LEAD CROSSCUT AT BUCKHORN.

Four Feet of Lively Looking Quartz Encountered.

The lead at the Buckhorn, a sister property to the Blue Bird, was cut last Friday, showing a four foot body of lively looking quartz. The samples are not in from the mine, and the values, therefore, have not yet been determined. However, from outward appearances, General Manager Wright states that high values may be looked for.

The vein was encountered at a distance of 415 feet from the entrance of the tunnel, and at the point crosscut a vertical depth of 125 feet is obtained. A drift southward on the vein has been started in order to explore the ore bodies, and later the ledge will be drifted on in the opposite direction from the crosscut.

MARTHA WASHINGTON GROUP.

Work Will Be Started in a Short Time on Property

Work will be started within the next few days on the Martha Washington, located in the Cable Cove district. The group has five claims in it, and is owned by Charles Warren, Fred W., Northrup, and Tom C. Gray.

Mr. Northrup came in from the property a day or so ago with several samples of rich gold sulphides taken from the vein. The ledges are well defined, and the group promises good results with development.

The Annalulu.

S. W. Frost, who has charge of the Annalulu, was in the city during

the Fourth of July celebration. He is continuing work at the property, and it is stated that a large force will probably be put on within the next few weeks.

REPORTED SALE OF TWO MINES.

Don Juan and Quebec Said to Have Changed Hands.

T. W. Davidson and A. B. Browne, who have been in the east for some time, are expected back next week. It is reported that they have consummated the sale of the Don Juan in the Greenhorns, and the Quebec in the Alamo district. Both are well known properties.

Mr. Davidson's son, W. E. Davidson, of Marr & Davidson admits that there is some ground for the report, but declines to discuss the matter.

Psyche Superintendent Here.

Superintendent W. W. Elmer, of the Psyche, was in the city several days this week. While Mr. Elmer says it is not the policy of the company to give out news regarding the operation of the mine, in detail, everything is going very satisfactorily at present.

TO TAKE OVER EVERETT SMELTER.

Deal Said To Be Pending Between Charles Sweeney and Rockefeller.

According to the Everett Daily Herald there is a deal on between Charles Sweeney, the well known Spokane mining man, and the Puget Sound Reduction company, which if consummated will result in the acquisition of the Everett smelter by Mr. Sweeney and business associates. The smelter is owned by the Rockefellers. It was built by them in 1891 and is operated under the style of the Puget Sound Reduction company.

Mr. Sweeney spent several days last week looking over the property, and it is stated there is a strong probability of the deal's going through. It is further stated that the purpose of the transaction is a movement on the part of the independent miners of Eastern Washington, Eastern Oregon, Northern Idaho and parts of Montana, with whom Mr. Sweeney is associated, to break away from the American Smelting and Refining company, known as the smelter trust, and control a smelter of their own. Mr. Sweeney is largely interested in these districts.

HIGHLAND ORE GETTING BETTER.

Company Making Preparations For Extensive Winter Operations.

Reports from the Highland state that the high grade ore shoot continues to improve with every shot. The employees of the mine spent the Fourth in the city. The management of the company is now getting out timbers and shipping in supplies of all kinds preparing for winter work.

A large amount of ore has accumulated on the dump and it is stated that the company contemplates beginning shipping at an early date.

A party of easterners is now at the property making an investigation with a view to investment. A great many have taken advantage within the last few months of the free trip offer made by the company, and without exception all have been well pleased with the mine, making substantial investments in the stock before leaving.

The price of Highland stock will be advanced by the company on the 17th of this month. The present price is eight cents. The advance has not been stated.

Back From Portland.

W. P. Swarts, of the Holthoff Machinery company, returned yesterday from a business trip to Portland. He will remain in the city a few days and make a trip to Idaho in the interest of his company.

WORK STARTS SOON.

Burnt River Road Will Be Built At An Early Date.

The board of county commissioners has ordered the collection of the money subscribed for the building of the road between Sumpter and the Burnt River valley, and work on the highway is to proceed at once. Sumpter, the neighboring country, and also the Burnt River people, have liberally contributed to this fund and the necessary means have been provided for pushing through the enterprise.

The road will not only prove a great commercial benefit to this city but also to the rich country which it taps, since it provides an outlet to a productive territory which has hitherto labored under the disadvantages of bad roads and a roundabout way of reaching a market.