

IN OPERATION

BY JANUARY 1.

OREGON ELECTRIC POWER COMPANY PUSHING WORK.

Contracts Let for Power House Near Sparta and Also for Machinery—Lumber for Flume From Eagle Creek Already Prepared and Nearly all the Poles Ready—Initial Capacity 3,000 Horse Power.

H. A. Andrews, of Chicago, vice president of the Oregon Electric Power company, whose seat of operations will be near Sparta, was here last week in the interest of the concern. Mr. Andrews states that the work is getting well under way and that if nothing unforeseen takes place the big plant which is to furnish power and light throughout a large scope of country will be in operation by the first of the year. Mr. Andrews was accompanied by A. B. Frame, of Portland, general manager of the company.

The contracts for the building and machinery have been let and the actual work of construction is to begin in a short time. Practically all the poles have been gotten out already, and all the lumber for the flume which is to carry water from Eagle Creek to furnish operative power, has been prepared. A saw-mill has been running all summer cutting this supply. The power house will be a stone and cement structure 40x100 feet, and the initial capacity of the plant will be 3,000 horse power. There will be a building and flume capacity, however, which will admit of increasing to 10,000 horse power if the demands require. Orders have already been placed for Westinghouse motors, and the other machinery, the wire contracts have been let, and Mr. Andrews states that it is the policy of the company to push constructive work just as rapidly as possible.

Water for power will be conveyed from Eagle Creek, a distance of four miles, in a 5x10 foot flume. This gives a head of 320 feet, and will furnish 16,000 cubic feet of water a minute. The source of supply is said to be never-failing.

The purpose of the company is to furnish light and power wherever there is a demand within reach. The present lines for transmission contemplated are from Sparta to Keating with branches to Baker City, Sumpter and Bourne; another from Keating to Union and La Grande, and from Sparta to Irondyke and Cornucopia. The company has a light franchise in this city.

MARTHA WASHINGTON GROUP.

Ledge Carries Uniformly High Values and Development Proceeding.

Fred Northup, who is one of the owners of the Martha Washington group in the Cable Cove district, states that the recent work which has been done on the property proves that it has the making of a mine beyond doubt. The main ledge is over five feet in width, and there are several smaller veins paralleling this.

The main lead has been proved by

open cuts, short tunnels and shafts, and Mr. Northup says it unquestionably carries uniformly high values. The owners of the property mean to continue development work throughout the season.

Special Land Examiner Here.

Thomas McNutt, of La Grande, special examiner for the government land office, was here last week and examined eleven applicants who have recently made proof. Mr. McNutt passed through the city on the Fourth enroute to Granite to look up some matters in connection with his office. While there he was sick several days, delaying his return.

Mill Man Does District.

G. B. Crooks, of San Francisco, representing the F. W. Baum company, dealers in assay, mine and mill supplies, spent several days in the district last week, soliciting trade. He did a good business and is impressed with the operations of the camp.

NEARING THE VEIN.

Stated That Formation Indicates As Much.

Charles Warren Jr., of the Valley Queen, came in from the property last week and states that from the appearances and general indications of the formation, it is altogether probable that the main ledge will be reached within the next few days. The crosscut being driven for the ledge is now in about 275 feet. In driving this distance several rich stringers and shoots were cut which will be explored later.

In addition Mr. Warren states also that a winze is being sunk from the No. 2 level, to provide stopping ground. No. 2 will give a depth of over 250 feet on the main ledge and open up a large ore body. Operations are being pushed steadily ahead.

DIXIE MEADOWS MILL.

Machinery to be Delivered Within Thirty Days.

The annual meeting of the stockholders of the Dixie Meadows Gold Mining company was held at the office of the company at Prairie City, Oregon, last Wednesday. Directors were elected as follows: G. H. Kight, Dr. V. C. Belknap, R. C. Reese, E. A. Belknap, of Prairie City, and Dr. H. P. Belknap, of Prineville.

Following the election of directors, these officers were elected: G. H. Kight, president; E. A. Belknap, vice president; S. I. Belknap, secretary; Dr. V. C. Belknap, treasurer; R. C. Reese, superintendent.

The development of the property owned by this company will be continued as in the past. The members will soon all be out for the building for their new 100-ton reduction plant, the machinery for which will be delivered at the property on the completion of the Dixie Meadows road, which will be in about thirty days.—Blue Mountain Eagle.

Number of People Employed in Mines.

It is estimated that over 8,000,000 people find employment in the mines of the world. These it is stated create employment for about 40,000,000.

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