

## The Sumpter Miner

PUBLISHED EVERY WEDNESDAY BY  
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ALWAYS IN ADVANCE.

OFFICIAL PAPER OF THE CITY OF SUMPTER



The mine operators of the district are most of them busily engaged in getting in their winter supplies. While a great many prospects and smaller properties will close down for the winter, a majority of those under process of development will continue operations throughout the year. A great deal of work has been done this season. A great deal of machinery has been purchased and installed, and a great deal more will go in before cold weather begins. This has been indeed a prosperous season for the district. More work has been done so far this year and more money invested by Eastern people in Sumpter properties than for any other like period in the history of the camp. The district is prosperous. Its growth is steady and sure. Eastern people coming here for the first time are amazed at the magnitude of our mineral resources. They are satisfied with their investments, and are even more sanguine than the operators themselves.

By all means Sumpter should send a delegation to the sixth annual meeting of the American Mining Congress at Deadwood and Lead, South Dakota, called for September 7 and 12, inclusive. Mayor McColloch has been authorized to appoint three representative mining men to attend. But he is somewhat at sea here. He does not know whom to appoint. The men who have been sounded as to their willingness to go state that it is not a matter of expenses which keeps them away, but they have not the time to spare. While this is a healthy indication, they could very well afford to take the time. Just why Portland has called a mining men's meeting on the same date is a little hard to figure out, but the relative importance of the two meetings should leave no doubt in the mining man's mind as to which he should attend. The Portland meeting has a worthy end in view, but it would save over all right until after the adjournment of the National body.

There is a specimen of genus homo known in the accepted phraseology of every day parlance as the knocker, who flourishes in most localities, and from which, it is to be stated with regret, that Sumpter is not entirely free. The habits of this invidious, insidious, crafty, treacherous, sly beast of prey are too well known to deserve extended comment. Almost every mining operator has been up against him under one guise or another, knows to what limits he will go, and is thoroughly conversant with his nefarious methods. Specifically the knocker may be divided into two classes. The first, and the least reprehensible, is the man who knocks on general principles, perhaps just because he can, or because he entertains a feeling of antipathy toward a given community or toward the world at large. This feeling partakes of the nature of pessimism to a great extent and is not usually indulged in for any private gain. To the second class belongs the man who

knocks your business or your reputation, not because he is advised in the premises or because he wishes through honest or conscientious motives to warn a fellow man from becoming interested with you in a business way or from associating with you socially, but because he seeks to further his own private ends and takes this disreputable, dishonorable means to accomplish his purpose. One man may warn another against an investment through motives of pure friendship and without an axe to grind himself. That is different. This man cannot be categorized as a knocker, and no reference is here made to him. It is the person who knocks for individual gain that is meant. In a mining country the evil effects of this practice are perhaps more clearly seen than anywhere else. While condemning the knocker in general terms, The Miner could mention several important deals which have fallen through here for the reason that they received some well delivered raps. Again, there are a few persons here connected with mining properties who will exhaust their vocabulary in belittling every other mining proposition except their own. The knocker is a shortsighted fool who does not seem to realize when he undertakes this method to advance his own interests he is adopting a course which is bound to become retroactive. If for no other reason than that of pure revenge the man who has been thus injured will attempt to play even, and the knocker cannot tell when he will receive a blow just as hard as the one he gave. And again, unfair comment is bound to have its adverse general effect on the district at large. The average mine operator here knows the truth of these statements. He knows that he has to meet his eastern clients at Baker City and convey them to his property because he is afraid they will fall into the hands of the knocker. The Sumpter district is one of the most promising mining sections on the globe. It has many good producing mines and hundreds of properties which will later develop into producers. It is to be doubted if an army of knockers could blight the prospects of the camp, but they surely have a most pernicious effect toward checking its growth.

### HIGH VALUES.

#### Gold Bug Is Making a Fine Showing— Camp Well Equipped.

President T. S. Van Vleet, of the Gold Bug, returned a few days ago from the property with a line of samples taken from the sixteen-inch ore shoot in the drift, which showed exceedingly high values. The lowest assay was \$977.60 and the highest \$1192. The ledge is three and a half feet in width and its average values the rest of the way run from \$4 to \$25.

The drift is now in over 200 feet. Work, however, is being concentrated on the crosscut to gain greater depth. The camp is now equipped for continuous operations.

#### Death of Judge Felix.

Judge W. W. Felix died Saturday of pneumonia after a brief illness. Judge Felix served a term as justice of the peace here and was well known throughout the county. He was 38 years old and unmarried. His parents reside in Illinois. The remains were buried from the Case undertaking parlors Monday afternoon, Rev. Wilder officiating. Interment in Sumpter cemetery.

#### Well Pleased.

George W. Aiken, of Philadelphia, who is interested in Geiser-Hendryx properties, spent a few days in the camp this week, leaving yesterday afternoon. Mr. Aiken says he is well pleased with the outlook of the district.

## FINANCES IN GOOD SHAPE.

### Recorder Start's Report Shows Excellent Condition of City In Money Matters.

Few cities the size of Sumpter can boast of such financial conditions. According to the statement submitted to the council by Recorder Start, the balance now on hand over and above all indebtedness is \$2,335.06.

Following is the financial statement at the close of business July 31:

Resources—General fund . \$4,179.88  
Street and road repair " . 184.00

Total . . . . \$4,363.88

#### Liabilities—

Outstanding warrants,  
1898 to 1903, inclusive . . \$2,028.82

Balance on hand . . \$2,335.06

At a continued meeting of the council held Wednesday night Cook, Edmison & Summers were awarded the contract for the improvement of Auburn street, between Center and Ibex, at \$1,325.35, this being the lowest bid.

G. D. Rickard was appointed special patrolman in the place of George Whitesell, resigned. The necessity of having a night fire patrolman during the dry season while water is so scarce was considered. City Marshal Rand, acting on this advice, appointed E. H. Horner to the place.

### SINKING AT AUBURN.

#### Thought That Bedrock is Being Nearer —Now Down 209 Feet.

Superintendent J. E. Reed, of the Auburn Deep Mining company, states that the shaft being sunk is now down 209 feet, and he expects to encounter bedrock at any time.

It was on the webfoot formation at Auburn during the placer days where such rich deposits were found, and it is believed that if the previous period of enrichment was equal to that which placed the gold on the webfoot, the bedrock when reached will yield similar returns.

#### Gold Pockets.

Gold pockets occur under many conditions—in black slate, in talc, in diabase, at contacts, in limestone and in diorite, but usually where two or more veins or seams converge. There are usually three separate fissures, crevices or veins. First is the vein of quartz proper. This is usually barren except where the pockets occur. Next is the crossing—a seam or small vein or crack—cutting across the vein and third the gold seam, the latter being important. It strikes nearly parallel with the vein and dips toward it. Where these three unite the pocket of gold may or may not be found. The occurrence of pockets is very uncertain under any circumstances; and, although the searching for pockets has been reduced to almost a science, the element of luck is an important factor. —Mining and Scientific Press.

#### Cracker Highland Official Here.

W. G. Perkins, of Portland, vice president of the Cracker Highland, arrived here this week to look after the interests of the company. In company with Dan Cahill he left yesterday for a trip through the Greenhorn district.

#### Left For Chicago.

Engineer A. B. Browne left yesterday on a two weeks' business trip to Chicago on matters connected with his mining interests.

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—AT—

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