

TO ERECT SAWMILL.

Henry Hewitt, Jr., Millionaire Lumberman, Here to Perfect Details.

Henry Hewitt, Jr., of Tacoma, the millionaire lumberman, arrived in the city this morning from a trip to Idaho, where he was looking after his timber holdings in that state. When seen by a Miner representative this morning, Mr. Hewitt had not conferred with his associates here and therefore was not in a position to speak definitely in regard to the future plans of the Sumpter Lumber company of which he is president. However, he said:

"My son W. H. Hewitt, has been here for the last month, and Seymour Bell has the general management of the company here. They are conversant with the situation, have the matter well in hand, and I am disposed to rely on their judgment relative to size and capacity of the mill which the company proposes to build and will build in Sumpter. I am well satisfied with the situation here, and I will say this, that we are going to put up just as good a plant as the conditions warrant, and from what I have been able to learn this means a first class sawmill with all modern machinery. The site, I believe, will be the same as was formerly selected while J. B. Stoddard was connected with the company and had its management, and on which some work has been done.

"Just what the capacity of the new mill will be or when we will begin its construction, I am not prepared to state. I want to confer with the management here first and as I said before I am disposed to be largely guided by the judgment of the company's local representatives. With a growing town like Sumpter, to which a large and prosperous mining country looks for its supplies, the local demand for timber, it would seem, is bound to be good, and our first object will be to furnish the trade here with rail shipments as an after consideration.

"Sumpter looks good to me, from what little I have seen of it. It has the reputation of being one of the best mining camps in the country, and it certainly is a brisk town from a business standpoint."

Mr. Hewitt will be in the city about a week perfecting the plans of the company. From outside sources it was learned that the company will not probably undertake the construction of the new mill before spring, but it is stated that there is no doubt the plant's going in.

Mr. Hewitt is one of the wealthiest timber and sawmill men on the coast. He is connected with the St. Paul and Tacoma Lumber company, one of the biggest concerns in the country, has interests in various other firms; besides his timber holdings are estimated to be over two billion feet.

FIRST REFINED SILVER.

A press dispatch from Nelson, B. C., dated the 7th instant, says: The

first shipment of refined silver ever sent from Canada was sent out today from the refinery at Trail. This is the first time in the history of the dominion that silver has been extracted from ore and refined in this country, and the success of the new method adopted by Manager Aldridge of the smelter will mean a revolution in existing plants. The silver was shipped to San Francisco. The system under which it was produced was invented by a young man of twenty-three, who, after trying in vain to interest capitalists in many parts of the United States and Canada, met Mr. Aldridge and succeeded in convincing him of the merits of the invention. Mr. Aldridge, laid the matter before the heads of the C. P. R., and finally secured permission to install a small ten ton plant for experiment at Trail. The present shipment is the first result, and it is understood that he plant will be greatly enlarged.

BLUE GRAVEL COMPANY COMPLETES TRANSFERS

Early Spring Operations Contemplated by New Concern.

A. J. Stinson, secretary and treasurer of the Oregon Blue Gravel Mining company within the past few days has completed the transfers of certain townsite property to the newly organized corporation.

The purpose of the company now is to thoroughly prospect the channel through the lots acquired from the Townsite company to determine the direction and character of the work to be inaugurated in early spring. The course of the channel holds through the main part of the city. It will be worked on the vacant lots in the northwestern and southeastern portions. Extensive operations are contemplated.

CALIFORNIA ROASTER.

Furnace is to Be Built at Once, Says Manager Belman.

Manager Belman of the California has started work on the reverberatory furnace. The excavating has been practically completed and the brick work is to begin at once. The roaster will adjoin the mill on the south.

Work has been started framing the timbers for the building, and the brick work on the furnace will proceed. All the material is on the ground.

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