

FAVORABLE OPINION.

Black Hills Man Thinks The Camp Is All Right.

E. B. Sawyer, cyanide superintendent of the Horseshoe mine in the Black Hills, who has been spending the last week in the Greenhorns looking up the mining situation, left this afternoon. Mr. Sawyer is an old university friend of D. L. Killen and E. F. Warner, of the Killen, Warner, Stewart company. He is very favorably impressed with what he has seen here. He says:

"The time I have spent in the district gives ample grounds for forming a fairly just conclusion in regard to the situation here. From what I have observed I am free to say that I regard this as one of the best camps in the country. The mineral zone here is of vast extent and unquestioned richness. The natural resources in the shape of gold bearing ledges are here beyond any doubt, and their development is only a question of time and money. While I made a general survey of the camp, the most of the time I was here was spent in the Greenhorns, which district I regard in a very favorable light. The visit afforded me an opportunity of seeing my old college friend, D. L. Killen, whom I have not seen for some time. This is my first visit to Sumpter, and my impressions of the district are most favorable."

TRUST WILL ABSORB ALL THE PROFITS.

The advanced price of lead will not benefit mine owners who dispose of their product to the American Smelting & Refining company, judging from a recent statement by Daniel Guggenheim, chairman of that corporation. He, with other officers of the company, is making a tour of the northwest. While at Salt Lake recently, he was asked as to the report that the mine owners will be paid higher prices for lead, and replied:

"The matter is one that must depend largely on investigation. There is a great deal more behind the question than is readily apparent. It would be difficult to explain it to many of the miners. Briefly, it hinges upon this: While it seems apparent to the miner that at the present price the company is paying for lead we are making great profits upon that metal, nothing is further from the truth; for it must also be remembered that we dropped out the price of treatment to an undreamed of figure.

"When silver went down so low we let our price of treatment down also, so that the mines could be kept running. We never dreamed that we could treat ores as cheaply as we are treating them today. So

when you take that into consideration you can see that what profit there is in lead is far more than offset by the low treatment rate. However, we will take the matter under advisement and it will be up to the directors."

Commenting on the future of the copper market, Mr. Guggenheim said that to assume that the withdrawal of the amalgamated company's output would other than advance it would be ridiculously illogical. The supply at this time, indeed, has been reduced to a point that is uncomfortably near the line of danger and with the consumers rushing in to restock there is no doubting what the effect upon the price of the red metal would be. In his opinion the outlook for copper was never so assuring as at present.

TO START WORK ON GOLDEN WIZARD MILL.

L. O. Miller, of Three Rivers, Michigan, president of the Golden Wizard company, arrived here yesterday to look after matters relating to the construction of the new mill on the property. R. L. Fray, vice-president of the company, was also expected, but was unavoidably detained, and cannot come for about thirty days.

As stated a few days ago in the Miner, the contract for building the new plant has been let to Laidlaw and Steadman. This firm will start work excavating for the foundation Monday. The buildings are to be gotten under way as soon as possible.

It will be a Merrill mill of 100 tons capacity and the machinery, it is stated, has already been ordered for San Francisco.

DISCOVERER OF FERRIS- HAGGERTY MINE HERE.

Ed Haggerty, formerly of Grand Encampment, Wyoming, arrived in the city today. Mr. Haggerty is the discoverer of the well known Ferris-Haggerty property at Grand Encampment and an old friend of Phil Reardon, formerly superintendent of the Alpine.

Mr. Haggerty will remain here several days and look over the district.

SINKING ON THE VEIN AT BEAR GULCH.

Wade and Camp, operating the limestone property at Bear Gulch, are now sinking on the ledge. The shaft is down thirty feet, and the same quality of ore which has recently called much attention of this property, continues. The values appear to increase with depth.

The company is making preparations to continue work all winter.

Still Eating Strawberries.

Leon Lockwood left at this office Tuesday some ripe strawberries that were just gathered from the garden of his mother, Mrs. Clara S. Lockwood. For size and beauty these berries that have just ripened equal those of the early crops, though the crop isn't nearly as bountiful. A berry five and three-fourths inches in circumference is rarely excelled in size. This is exactly the size of the one brought to this office that was grown by Mrs. Lockwood.—Blue Mountain Eagle.

TO OPERATE THE DEAD MULE.

Messrs. Topping & Whittier Will Start Prospect Work in Few Days.

Messrs. Topping and Whittier, who recently took a bond on 160 acres of placer ground in the Dead Mule gulch, are preparing to do extensive prospect work in the near future. The plan is to prospect up the main gulch, in order to define operations for the spring. The property is already equipped with one giant, and the present operators are figuring on bringing in another ditch, which will increase the water supply and greatly lengthen the season. The season this year was only about four months, and the additional ditch, it is figured, will lengthen it to nine months.

Mr. Whittier, who with Colonel Topping recently made a visit to the property, has this to say concerning it:

"It is our intention, after thoroughly prospecting the diggings, to start extensive operations. We already have sufficient evidence of the richness of the ground to warrant our going ahead in the matter. A short time ago we put in something less than a day panning and got over \$6 from a small amount of gravel.

The former operators, I understand, got \$50,000 from five acres. The ground is practically untouched and it is our present intention to operate on an extensive scale in the spring."

The Dead Mule has been operated to advantage, as the output of the former company has shown, and the present owners state that they intend inaugurating work on an extensive scale in the spring.

HOW THE WEST WAS BOUGHT BY "KING TOM"

In the November Scribner is a history of the Louisiana Purchase, by Noah Brooks. It reads like a strange romance now. For \$15,000,000 Messrs. Livingston and Monroe bought from the agent of Napoleon a tract of country including the mouths and sources of both the Mississippi and Missouri, so much land that by the purchase the area of the republic was doubled. Still, when the news came months later, President Jefferson, while exalted over it, feared that the purchase was unconstitutional and a storm of protest rose over half the republic against it. Then the question arose as to how it was to be governed and then, too, the cry of imperialism was raised and Jefferson was called "King Tom."

That history ought to make all Americans thoughtful. It was the moving of the finger of destiny, but the nation's eyes were blinded, they could not see the purpose, they had no conception of how momentous was to be the outcome of the transaction. It was in a little way as it is when the waters are called up from the breast of the ocean, carried on the winds to the mountain tops and

precipitated in snow and ice, there to remain through uncounted years, to receive other deposits of snow and ice until a glacier is built up, and then, when the time is ripe the beating of the sunbeams and the earth's rotation starts the frozen mass in flow, back to the sea, and the mountain tops are ground into soil, out of which is to grow food to support millions of mortals, which at the time the snow fell and for millions of years thereafter, existed only in the mind and the plans of God.

A mighty wilderness was bought and a provincial people, unconscious of the majesty and promise of the vast addition, derided the purchase, sought to impeach the motives behind the purchase and stormed because of the immense sum to be paid out of their taxes for it. Still the Father of Waters was rolling down before their eyes; they knew something of the wealth of the Rhine, the Danube and Don; they were familiar with the history of the valleys of Asia and of the Nile, but they could not comprehend that the purchase included a valley compared with which no valley of the old world is worth mentioning. Still the fathers were intelligent men and brave and true men, but their horizons were narrow, their visions limited.

That was but 100 years ago. Many of the grandchildren of that old race are still living, but how marvelous the change. That valley supplies half of Europe with food now; it supplies the mills of the old world with textiles; the gold and silver and lead of Montana, Wyoming, half of Colorado, the Dakotas, Missouri, and Iowa, all from that purchase, make a mighty factor in the world's commerce and finances—it is an empire stretching out blessings to all the world, making a home now for twice as many people as at the time of the purchase inhabited the whole republic, and still it has but just begun its expansion.—Goodwin's Weekly, Salt Lake.

CROSSCUT THE VEIN AT ASTORIA GROUP.

A. C. Loy and son came in last night from the Astoria group, owned by E. E. Hauser, Al Jones and J. T. English, having finished their assessment work for the year. In doing this work, they cut the ledge on the Astoria claim, showing a width of seven feet in good ore.

The property is situated in the Little Cracker district and its showing is regarded by the owners as extremely satisfactory.

Lowered Price of Barb Wire.

Ed Dixon, the government land agent who has lowered the price of barb wire in this neck of the woods, left for Portland today, on important business. His many friends in Wheeler, Gilliam and other Eastern Oregon counties whom he has not yet visited need not feel delighted, as he is an important sort of chap, and is coming back.—Fossil Journal.

Confectionery.

Fresh Candies and Fruit, Choice Line of Cigars and Tobaccos, at
STURGILL'S.