

DEVELOP 2,300 HORSE POWER

W. A. McNaughton Tells of His
Great Water Plant in The
John Day Country.

W. A. McNaughton, who, with his wife, has been in Sumpter for several days past, showed The Miner some interesting photographs of the work he is doing over in the John Day country, in the way of developing a great water power. These photographs demonstrate the fact that substantial work is being done, showing the dams, headgates, ditches, etc.; also one of beautiful Strawberry lake, from which a portion of his water supply comes.

Mr. McNaughton says he is going to develop 2,300 electric horse power. From John Day river he gets 7,000 inches of water, with a fall of 831 feet in three and a half miles, with 1,200 feet of pipe. From Strawberry lake he gets 3,000 inches of water, with a fall of 890 feet in two and a half miles of ditch.

There will be three power houses; one about a half mile from Hot springs, at the confluence of John Day river and Rail creek, and two on Strawberry creek, a mile and a half apart.

Having completed his dams, he now has men at work digging ditches and getting out poles, on which to string his transmission wires. A small sawmill is also being put in on Strawberry creek, at one of the power stations, to be used for cutting lumber for flumes, buildings and so forth.

The company has already secured all necessary franchises from Grant county and when work has progressed sufficiently to demonstrate satisfactorily to the most skeptical that the thing is a go, franchises will be asked from Prairie City, John Day and Canyon City. The first named is only a few miles away, while the latter two are about twenty miles distant. He will furnish both light and power, and there is no doubt but what a market will be found for the entire power generated, for that country is developing rapidly and this enterprise is going to play an important part in its future growth.

Mr. McNaughton is backed by San Francisco capital. He will keep work going all winter and hopes to have his dynamo in operation by July 1. Mrs. McNaughton left Friday afternoon for San Francisco, where she will spend the winter. Mr. McNaughton returned Saturday to the scene of operations.

Cost of Treating Ores Growing Less.

Thirty years ago ore running less than \$40 a ton could not be handled at a profit in the Idaho Springs, Colorado, district. Today ore in big bodies running as low as \$6 a ton may realize a profit to the miner under favorable circumstances. All of this is due to improved mining and milling facilities, as well as decreased treatment charges of the smelters and transportation companies. This improvement is constantly going on, enabling the miner to get better savings for a less cost and the future assures still greater profits in mining. Several of the

more intelligent mine managers are anticipating this where ore bodies are encountered which are too low grade to be treated at a profit under present conditions.

ONCE PROUD CHIEF SCORNED BY TRIBE

Poor Old Peo, of The Umatillas, Object of Aversion By His People.

To illustrate in what utter disgrace Chief Peo, of the Umatillas, is now held by his people, it is only necessary to repeat a short conversation between a full-blood young Indian of the reservation and a representative of the East Oregonian.

In writing a short sketch of the old chief, for his sixty-first birthday anniversary, which he celebrated on November 12, a reporter of this paper asked this young Indian in question several questions concerning Peo's life and family. The Indian answering about a dozen leading questions in good English, and then growing tired of the quizzing, suddenly quit talking, grew sullen and pulled his blanket about his shoulders in a proud, defiant manner, and in a changed tone of voice said:

"Why do you ask so many questions about this old dog?"

The reporter explained that Peo was sixty-one years old on that day and that it would be nice to publish a short sketch of the chief on his birthday anniversary.

"How do you know he is sixty-one years old today?" demanded the young Indian.

"He told me so," was the reply.

And then in a scorn that it is impossible to portray in words this proud Umatilla drew his blanket over his mouth, scowled magnificently and, as he turned to walk away, almost hissed: "Nobody believes what Peo says."

The sentence contained volumes of local history, familiar to every man in Pendleton and vicinity, who has noted the decline of the old chief. The younger Indians have been taught to hate him on account of his faithlessness to the hereditary trust imposed upon him. He is a byword among the tribesmen. None of them keep him company. He rides to town alone, sits on the street alone and rides home alone at night.

He stopped to talk to a papoose, strapped to its mother's back, on Main street a few days ago, when the young mother haughtily wheeled away and left the old man talking to himself.

He is breaking fast this winter. His hair is growing whiter and his eyes more dim. The wind chills him more easily and his visits to town are not so frequent.—East Oregonian.

Visit the Overland Today.

M. E. Bain, manager of the Overland company, accompanied by Dr. Roy, of St. Paul, president of the company, and Father Roser, of Salt Lake, and Father Rulquin, of St. Paul, left this morning to visit the Overland property, in the Cable Cove district. Both Father Rulquin and Father Roser are interested in the property, and are here with the president to make a general inspection of the operations.

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